

DELAC Minutes  
Draft  
September 27, 2018

Opening: Lisa Tanita, TOSA of EL and Intervention opened the meeting at 8:38 am.

Members Present: John Dargan, Pamela Nualart, Pia Thune, Alexandra Bras, Winnie Yip, Penny Lee, Ashley Choi, Rumi Baca, Aya Horiguchi, Mariko Murphy Cora Cruz, Rita Peano, Francine Onof Paes de Barros, Yorogs Adamis, Hiroko Ikuta, Shivani Mehrotra, Maria Elena Villegas-Wuelfing, Carolina Weissenback, & Tatiana Esteves, Akiko Ogihara, Ai Sandblom.

Welcome and Introductions: Lisa Tanita asked everyone to introduce themselves and what school they represented. She thanked everyone for coming and participating in the DELAC and International Day.

The Agenda was then reviewed. Ms. Tanita asked if there were other concerns and questions to add.

Agenda:

- Introductions
- International Day
- Vision and Goals
- Timeline and Process
- Structured English Immersion
- How Best to Support Your Child

International Day

- Akiko Ogihara and Ai Sandblom, co-chairs of this year's International Day shared detailed logistics.
  - October 20, 2018, from 2 – 4 p.m.
  - Set up will be 1 – 1:50 p.m. (Tables will be there at 12:30). You can unload by car until 1:40 p.m. Clean-up is 4 – 4:30 p.m.
  - This year there are over 24 countries represented.
  - We are also publicizing through school sites, PTSA, and teachers.
  - 35 tables have been ordered from the district as well as a stage and av/microphone. There is one table per country. If you need more than one table, contact Ai or Akiko.
  - A passport has been created for participants. They will receive stamps for each country they visit. When done, they will be able to participate in a raffle drawing.

- At your tables, you can have bite-sized food (no nuts), your flag, map, decorations, books, dolls. Bring your own canopy and chairs.
- There was a discussion of the layout of the facilities and detailed logistics of participants bringing their own extension cords and chairs.
- The district will provide paper goods, small water bottles, and stamps for booths to use for the passport.
- Entertainment has been added this year. There will be dance and music from the countries of: Greece, Korea, India, Israel, & Turkey. If you know of any other groups, please contact Ai or Akiko by October 6.
- Raffle prizes are being collected. If you have businesses that donate or sponsor your booth, please let Akiko or Ai know by October 10 so they can be publicized on the passports. Actual prizes can be given to Akiko by October 18.
- New this year is a photo booth. It was requested to send in Hello in your language to Ai and Akiko. Hashtag #mbusdintl
- Mira Costa's International Club, EL Tutoring Club, and a Girl Scouts troop will be participating by providing community service. The girl scouts will help with recyclables. The International Club and Tutoring Club will help with set up, clean up, the welcome table, and raffle drawing booth.
- There will be an evaluation meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in the district board room.
- There was a discussion on the purpose for International Day. While it is wonderful to celebrate and embrace the rich cultural diversity of the International community, everyone was encouraged to invite an "American" family to broaden and fully include the entire community.

Lisa Tanita then shared that there was an opportunity to also be involved with the DAC (District Advisory Council) which meets once a month. She asked for a volunteer or a team of volunteers to share in this role. Alexandra Bras and Pamela Nualart said they were involved last year, but cannot this year. They said they would work with Lisa Tanita to identify a few people who may share this role. A 10-minute break was taken at 9:35 a.m.

After the break, Lisa Tanita shared about the district vision and goals for English Learners as well as the timeline/process of how students are identified and assessed.

MBUSD Vision: English learners will fully and meaningfully access and participate in a 21<sup>st</sup> century education from early childhood through grade 12 that results in their attaining high levels of English proficiency, mastery of grade level standards, and opportunities to develop proficiency.

### MBUSD Goals:

- Develop proficiency in English
- Give access to core curriculum as rapidly and effectively as possible by placing with certified teachers while receiving English Language Development support

### Timeline and Process

When students enroll, they complete the Home Language Survey. If they answer with any language other than English on the first three questions, we are required to assess their English language proficiency. A notification is sent home to the parents that this assessment will occur in the first 30 days.

The Initial ELPAC is only given to new students to the California public system and students are then identified as Initially Fluent in English or an English Learner. Currently, there are 115 English Learners in MBUSD and they represent 27 different languages. If we included reclassified students, there are 32 languages. At each school there is a wide variety of cultures and languages. There is not one language that has more than 6 students who speak the same language. We are proud of all the rich cultural diversity.

Each spring, a summative ELPAC assessment is given to ALL English Learners to monitor their progress. If they perform well on this assessment, state assessments, and teacher assessment will be evaluated to see if the child meets the reclassification criteria. If they do, parent feedback will be requested to approve the reclassification.

Mrs. Tanita asked if there were any questions about the assessment process.

### MBUSD's EL Program - Structured English Immersion

Mrs. Tanita explained Structured English Immersion is a classroom setting where English learners receive instruction through an English language acquisition process, in which nearly all classroom instruction is in English but with a curriculum and presentation designed for children who are learning the language. Teachers use SDAIE (Specifically Designed Academic Instruction in English) strategies and the workshop model to personalize instruction. Instructional resources range from vocabulary games to technology tools to cooperative learning strategies. Students are taught the ELD standards which are broken into three parts: Interacting in Meaningful Ways; Learning about How English Works; and Using Foundational Literacy Skills

Mrs. Tanita explained that at MBMS and Mira Costa have an English Success class to teach ELD standards to augment the structured immersion in their other content classes. At Mira Costa, they also have an online Air Tutors program to

support English Learners in content classes. A question was asked if Air Tutors is available for RFEP and IFEP students. Lisa Tanita explained that right now it is for English Learners, but will look into it.

#### How to best support your child

After viewing a video on the positive effects of the bilingual brain, Mrs. Tanita shared ways to support students at home. She encouraged parents to continue to speak in their native language.

She shared at each school site, there are Personalized Learning Collaborators to help facilitate personalized learning for students.

#### Comments and Suggestions from the Group

John Dargan encouraged families to check into the Music programs at MBMS and Mira Costa. He shared how Music is an international language and how being a part of a "tribe" helps the transition to middle school. He further went on to explain that Music is something that they do not necessarily need English for, but can develop a healthy growth mindset. It was then brought up that perhaps the secondary musical groups could be a part of the entertainment schedule for International Day.

Alexandra Bras brought up the need for a handbook for newcomers to help international and newcomers to transition to life in Manhattan Beach. There was also a discussion on creating an ambassador type program for them. Lisa Tanita said that we can start developing this at our next meeting on January 10.

The meeting ended at 10:50 a.m.