



EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
District Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2021

DAC Members Present:

Laurin Gonzalez Segovia, Birney Tech Academy
Julianna Aguirre, Durfee Elementary
Adam Lara, Magee Elementary
Liliana Blackmon, Rio Vista Elementary
Alejandro Abarca, Rivera Elementary
Diana Lemus, South Ranchito Dual Language
Rosanna Cabrera, STEAM Academy @ Burke
Brenda Gonzalez, Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy

District Personnel:

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz, Director of Secondary Education
Luis Danny Perez, Resource Teacher
Olga Montano, Administrative Secretary
Jenny Coronado, Administrative Secretary
Kimmie Sandoval, State and Federal Clerk

Community Members:

DAC Members Absent:

Vacant, No. Ranchito Elementary
Vacant, Valencia Academy of the Arts
Vacant, North Park Academy of the Arts
Hector LaFarga, Rivera Middle School
Vacant, El Rancho High School
Annette Furlough, Salazar High School

Guests:

Dr. Frances Esparza, Superintendent
Marianne Sarrail, Chief Business Officer
Zan Mason, Principal, Ruben Salazar High School
Billie Saavedra, Director of Food Services
Margaret Renteria, Assistant Director of Food Services
Connie Hernandez, Food Services Department Secretary
Rosalia Luevano
Christine Saavedra

Call to Order

Called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz.
Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz led the flag salute.

Welcome

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz welcomed parents.

Motion to Approve Agenda:

Second:
Quorum: No

Approval of June 09, 2021 Minutes:

Motion to Approve:
Second:

New Business:

I. DAC Roles & Responsibilities

1. Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz went over the following:

- Roles and Responsibilities of DAC
- DAC Meeting Responsibilities
- Current Positions
- DAC Officers & Duties
- Voting Ballet

II: DAC Officer Elections

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz took the nominations for the following positions.

Nominees:

Chairperson:

1. Rosalia Luevano
2. Christine Saavedra

Vice-chairperson: Adam Lara

Secretary: Diana Lemus

Parliamentarian: Al Abarca

Community Member: Christine Saavedra

*Voting will take place at the next DAC Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021 if there is a quorum and all positions have been filled at each school site for DAC representatives.

III: Food Services:

Mrs. Billie Saavedra gave a presentation on the Food Services Department

What's New for 21/22

- All students eat at no cost for the whole school year
- No meal applications are being submitted/collected
- Income eligibility information is being collected for funding purposes through Student Data Confirmation
- Looking into the possibility of CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) for all school sites starting 22/23 school year

What Has 21/22 Brought Us?

● **The Bad**

- Labor Shortages
- Food Item Shortages
- Paper item shortages

Orders are being placed up to six weeks in advance and the Food Services Department still cannot receive items. The district is currently paying up to three times the price for some goods. Ms. Margaret Renteria mentioned that they are trying their best to continue to provide quality service to our students.

● **The Good**

- Increased meal participation at most school sites
- With all students eating at no cost, students are no longer worried about being labeled as free or reduced (needy)
- Students will no longer carry a negative cafeteria balance

IV: Other Business, as needed:

LCFF/LCAP Update

- The State of California funds public education through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
- The LCFF establishes base, supplemental, and concentration grants
- Monies allow school districts, like ERUSD, to better serve the populations of high needs students.
 - English Learners
 - Foster Youth
 - Income eligible

Ms. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz thanked DAC representatives for being great partners in creating this three-year plan. She mentioned that there were twenty-two meetings held with stakeholders that included DAC representatives, students, administrators, teachers, and other community groups. She stated that this is a three-year plan and it's based on local funding.

The following LCFF/LCAP Update was given as well:

- LCAP Goals 2021-2024
- LCAP next steps

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez-Diaz provided future DAC meeting dates:

November 17, 2021
January 19, 2022
March 16, 2022
April 20 2022
May 18, 2022

Questions/Comments

Mr. Al Abarca asked if Goldstar Foods is the only food distributor.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra explained why Goldstar Foods is the only food vendor for the district at this time.

Mr. Al Abarca asked if there are any other options for vendors.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra stated that they have looked into other vendors. Unfortunately, these vendors were not able to come up with fifty percent of items requested.

Mr. Zan Mason complimented Mrs. Billie Saavedra's program and appreciates that food is offered to everyone. It's made a big difference on campus (Salazar High School). Mr. Zan Mason noted that just about all of the students get food. The number of students getting lunch has increased week after week.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra commented that participation at Salazar has increased as well as at El Rancho High School. Close to a thousand lunches are being served at EL Rancho High School daily.

Dr. Esparza commented that she thinks this offers students the opportunity to not have the stigma that they are needy or low income; it's for everyone and everyone is the same. She thanked Billie for all of the work she has done to get the district this far.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra mentioned that it is really important that parents fill out the Information Eligibility Form on the student data confirmation because that is how school site funding will be allocated for the district. It's very important now since meal applications are not being submitted. She requested for DAC representatives to share this information with their school site.

Mr. Adam Lara asked since this program has been a success, if there is a plan moving forward or if this is dependent on federal dollars in terms of sustainability.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra stated that prior to the pandemic, there were a lot of students who qualified for Direct Certification. Direct Certification is for families that receive some type of federal, state, or county aid which automatically qualifies them for free or reduced lunch. There is a need in this district for this program to continue for the next four years.

Ms. Brenda Gonzalez asked for clarification on meal applications and whether they are beneficial to fill out.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra explained that this current school year is operating on the SSO summer operations program. Under this type of program, meal applications do not have to be collected. The regular national school lunch and breakfast program is not being offered so meal application submissions are not required. Meal applications should not be collected under this program because it allows everyone to be served for free this school year. If applications were collected, families would be identified as to whom qualifies for free or reduced lunch and who does not.

Mrs. Rosalia Luevano asked for clarification on filling out the Information Eligibility Form and if parents had to go back to the student data confirmation to fill it out.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra stated that the Food Services Department will be working with the IT Department to identify students who have yet to complete the information and will be sending out a letter to have parents fill out the income eligibility form to ensure the district receives the highest possible funding for LCFF.

Mrs. Lillian Blackmon asked if there is a deadline to apply for the application.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra stated that the sooner we receive the Information Eligibility Form the better. She noted that they need to be received by the end of November.

Mr. Adam Lara asked if there was a possibility to bring back the larger scale meal pickup for students during winter and summer vacation.

Mrs. Billie Saavedra mentioned that she would like to offer the five-day food kits, but it will depend on staffing.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz promoted the Facilities Community Forum that will take place on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 6:00pm via Zoom.

Dr. Esparza invited members to attend to receive information and ask questions they may have on bond projects, the pool at El Rancho High School, locker rooms, and athletic fields.

Mr. Adam Lara asked if DAC meetings will resume in person or virtually for the remainder of the year.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz stated that meetings are held virtually based off of guidelines, but hopes to return to in-person. Once meetings return in person over at South Ranchito, dinner will be served at 6:00pm followed by the meeting at 6:30pm.

Dr. Esparza informed DAC representatives that the district is working to create a Family Resource Center for parents. It would be open during the day for parents who may work evenings.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz shared the future location for the Family Resource Center. She noted how parents can come to receive support, learn ways to support their children, and really create a hub for the parents within the district.

Dr. Esparza commented that it would also get parents to participate in different activities at the schools, and they could come in and help make things for events.

Ms. Laurin Gonzalez Segovia asked if the Family Resource Center is currently open or if it will be.

Dr. Esparza stated that it is not currently open, but it will be.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz informed DAC representatives that there will be computers in the Family Resource Center. There will also be an area for teachers to drop off items they may need support with.

Mrs. Christine Saavedra made a comment about how volunteers can sign up through ParentSquare to help out and help each other as parents.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz mentioned how this brings us to one of the positions in our ELO as part of the LCAP which are the parent liaisons that will be at every site. There will be a liaison at every single school to support and be a liaison between the school and the parents. ParentSquare will be used to its fullest capacity to ensure partnership with parents and to inform them on what's happening on campus.

Dr. Esparza shared that postings will go up soon for anyone who is interested in becoming a parent liaison.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz mentioned that El Rancho Unified School District is hiring, so if anyone is interested they may fill out an application.

Ms. Rosanna Cabrera asked if the parent liaison positions are permanent.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz informed representatives that this position is part of the ELO so that funds it for one year, but it is in the LCAP so it will be funded for the next two years.

Mr. Adam Lara asked how these positions are promoted.

Mrs. Jazmin Chavez Diaz mentioned that each position is posted at each school site, social media, and EdJoin.org.

Dr. Esparza mentioned that jobs are posted at Rio Hondo College, East La College, Cerritos College, and Indeed.com as well.

V: Adjournment:

Motion for Adjournment:

Second:

Time: 5:45PM

Minutes by: Kimmie Sandoval