

Pittsburg Unified School District
DELAC - District English Learners Advisory Committee
Meeting via Zoom
September 13, 2021

Present:

Foothill: María Magallón, Martha Carabantes,

Highlands:

Heights:

Los Medanos: Evelyn Costacurta

Parkside:

Willow Cove: Mirtha Rivas, Miguel Ángel

Álvarado, Yaneth Samperio,

Stoneman:

Marina Vista:

Hillview JH: María Toribio, María Magallón,
Aidee Cisneros, Martha Carabantes, Dulce Aguilar,
Kitzia Zárate

Rancho Medanos JH: Miguel Ángel Álvarado,
Yaneth Samperio, Dulce Bernal, María Chávez,
Adriana Medina

MLK, Jr. JH:

PHS: Mirtha Rivas, María Toribio, María Chávez,
Adriana Medina, Martha Carabantes,

Black Diamond High:

PUSD: Dr. Janet Schulze, Sandra Guardado,
Lorena Asdourian

Welcome and Introductions:

Mrs. Guardado welcomed everyone. Mrs. Guardado waited a few minutes to let members come in the meeting started at 5:37 p.m. She explained that this meeting is not considered an official meeting.

October 18th would be the first official DELAC Meeting because by that time the schools would have the new representatives. Please remember the first official meeting would be on October.

This meeting would be an informational meeting to give you the opportunity to ask questions or clarification on any information you have received. So, far I have received questions regarding our district's health protocol and what we are doing to keep our students and staff safe.

County Health Guideline and Protocols:

Mrs. Guardado presented information regarding the County Health Guidelines and Protocols. She explained that the presentation has a lot of information and it helps them understand how the guidelines and protocols that the state and county set are then implemented in our district.

Mrs. Guardado informed the members that this information is reviewed at every school board meeting. Our Superintendent, Dr. Schulze updates the Board and community on important information every board meeting. She shared that this information was presented to the Board on 9/8/2021.

Board and Community Update. Slide 1

Agenda. Slide 2.

- State Updates and how they apply for PUSD: Vaccination mandate for employees
- COVID-19 testing options in PUSD
- Review of State & County update on Extracurricular Activities, including sports and band, and how they apply for PUSD
- Virtual Independent Study Update
Local Context: Pittsburg Case Rates, Vaccinations Rate
- PUSD Cases
- Questions and answers.

State Updates. Slide 3.

- Governor Newsom Announced a New Order on August 11th
- Order Requires all School Employees to be Vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to weekly test proving they are not positive for COVID-19
- Must be in compliance by October 15th
- Timeline for PUSD: Employees submit proof of vaccination by Friday, August 27th,
- Weekly testing for non-vaccinated or non-response starts the week of September 20th

On August 11, the governor gave an order that all school employees must show proof of vaccination or be tested weekly. Employees have until October 15 to submit proof of vaccination. Our district informed our employees about the vaccination requirement and requested our employees to submit their proof of vaccination by August 27th. Weekly testing will start the next week on the 20th of September.

Current Testing for COVID-19 in PUSD. Slide 4.

- Districts are not required to offer COVID-19 Testing
- PUSD is Offering No Cost COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic scholars and staff with the company Agile Force (they provide the staff)
- Location at North Campus
- Continuing to test student athletes and those participating in some extra-curricular activities; open for PUSD staff and scholars. We are not offering open Community Testing

Our district is making testing for asymptomatic employees and students athletes and those participating on approved extracurricular activities. This is being offered despite not being required to do so.

Current Schedule: COVID-19 Testing for Asymptomatic Staff and Students. Slide 5.

- North Campus 351 School Street

Students or Staff who have symptoms or feel ill should test with their health care provider or a Contra Costa County Health testing site <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-tested>

Day	Time	Group
Monday	4:00 pm – 5:00pm	PUSD Staff & Students
Tuesday	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	PUSD Staff & Students
Wednesday	11:00 am – 3:00 pm	PUSD Staff & Students
Thursday	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	PUSD Staff & Students

Mrs. Guardado emphasized that this testing is only available to employees and students that do not have any symptoms.

New Option for COVID-19 Testing starting Sept. 13th. Slide 6.

- Predicine
- One day per week at each school site (3 at PHS) 7:30-4:00
- PCR testing 7:30-4:00
- Predicine staff conducts the testing
- Starting in PUSD week of September 13th

- Release form submitted once
- Week of Sept 20th: Implement mandatory weekly testing for employees who are unvaccinated, declined to state, or did not submit the form: no need to submit any testing proof
- Employees do not need to use the one at their school site; can go to County Health or other testing site and will have to submit testing proof to HR
- Open for Employee Testing for Vaccinated Employees as well
- Will also do asymptomatic testing of scholars/ testing of scholars on modified quarantine

Starting next week we will also be providing testing services at each of the school sites. We contracted the company Predicine to help us administer tests to asymptomatic employees and students.

State and County Health Update: Slide 7.

Extracurricular: Athletics, Band, Music:

- On Sept 1st, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released the updated guidance for School-Based Extracurricular Activities, including sports, band, chorus, clubs
- Indoor Events: Masks required for everyone (adults and students)
- For playing of instruments that cannot be done with a face masks (wind, brass) and For sports where wearing a mask during play has been determined to pose a hazard (competitive cheer, gymnastics, swimming, water polo, wrestling) one of the following is required:
 - Conduct the activity outdoors
 - Perform at least weekly screening for COVID-19 for all (including vaccinated)
 - Use modified coverings (bell coverings) for wind and brass instruments and maintain 6 feet social distance
- Large Indoor Events Effective Sept 20: changed definition of large event requiring proof of vaccination or negative test requirement for attendees from 5,000 to 1,000

Contra Costa County Health: Further Guidance for Sports and Extracurricular. Slide 8.

- Contra Costa County Health issued further guidance on Sept 2nd
- New guidance strongly encourages use of masks for all participants (coaches, players, spectators) in outdoor sports, regardless of vaccination status
- Encourages unvaccinated to get tested for COVID-19 regularly

Mrs. Guardado emphasized that for any indoor events for students and adults, the use of mask is required.

How this applies to PUSD Extracurricular Slide 9.

- Continuing with: testing of athletes: weekly testing for unvaccinated athletes and coaches; weekly testing for all in indoor sports where masks cannot be worn (wrestling)
- Explore expanding weekly testing to Band for indoor playing
- Ordered bell coverings for instruments
- Limiting crowds at games (under 50% capacity)
- Requiring visitors (students, coaches) to wear masks at outdoor games
- Limiting concessions
- Livestreaming home games via television

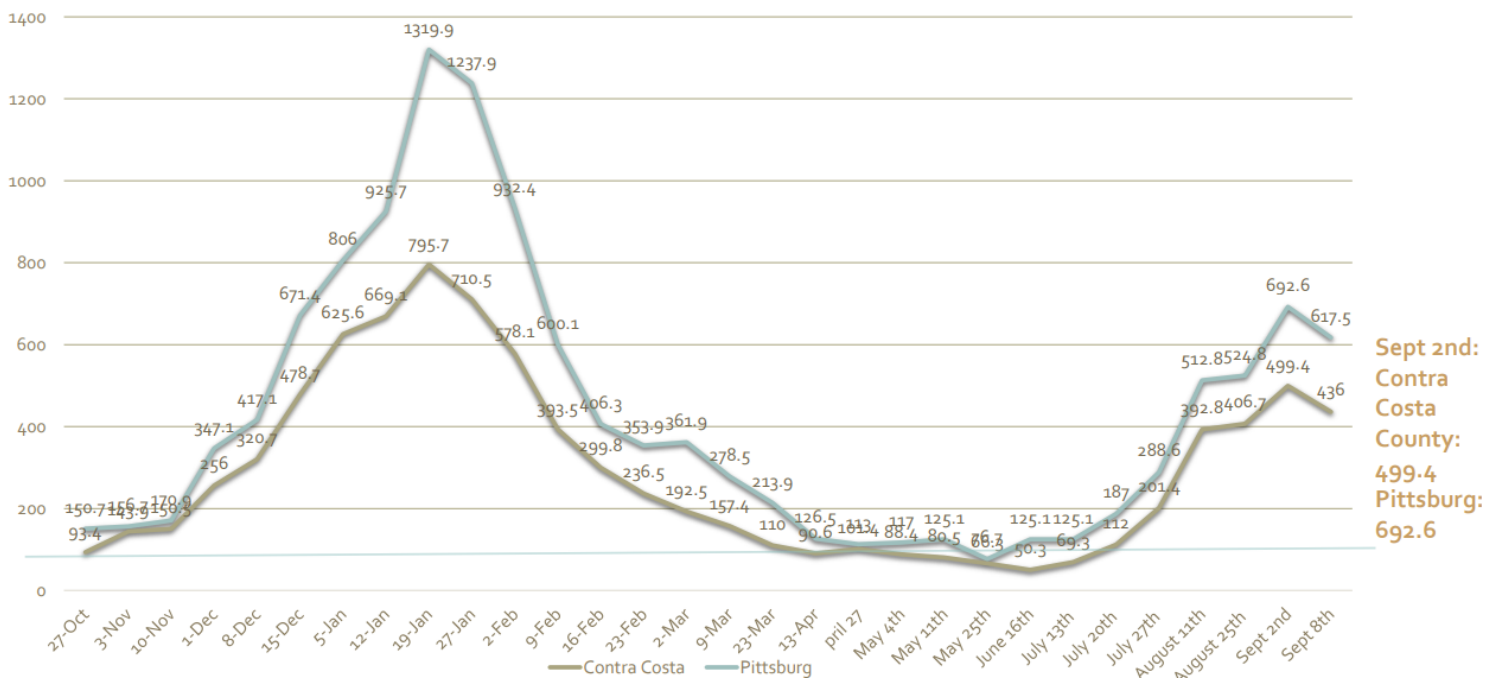
Virtual Independent Study AB130. PUSD Slide 10.

- All families who applied by the July 28th deadline were accepted into the PUSD Virtual Independent Study Program

- PUSD hired 7 Virtual Independent Study Teachers
- Families who applied after were placed on waitlist
- Students with disabilities must have an IEP first to determine placements
- Waitlist Options include:
 - Wait for spot to open in PUSD, attend in-person
 - Transfer to District with openings (dependent on space)
 - PUSD Option B: contracted IS with Edgenuity Teachers for secondary and Stride Teachers for elementary
- Current Virtual IS enrollment numbers: 438 scholars
 - Numbers are fluid: parents may request to return to in-person and district must place within 5 days
 - Parents can request IS at any time

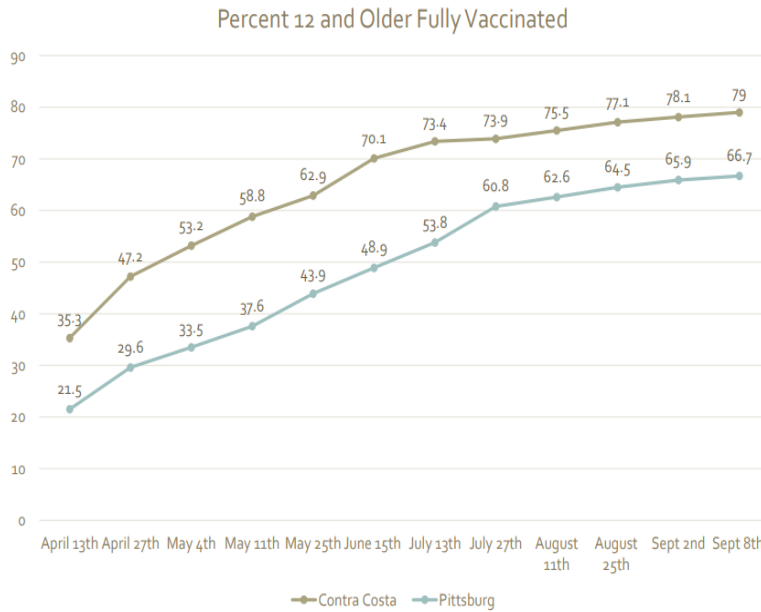
Cases Over 14 Days per 100k Population: Contra Costa County and Pittsburg 10/27-09/8/21 Slide 11.

**Cases Over 14 Days Per 100k Population:
Contra Costa County and Pittsburg 10/27-09/08**



Mrs. Guardado explained that this graph shows the number of cases in our County and specifically in the city of Pittsburg. The cases have continually been higher in our community (Pittsburg) than the county.

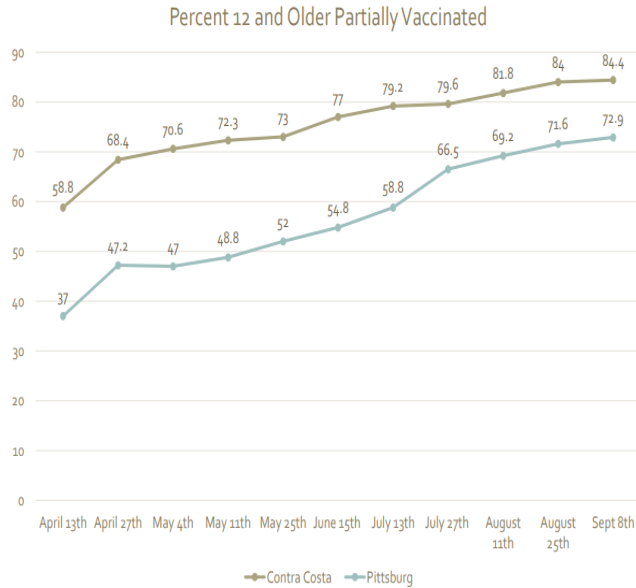
The percentage of 12 years old and older fully vaccinated is as follows: Slide 12.



Source: Contra Costa County Health Department
<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-vaccinated>

Mrs. Guardado stated that this graphs shows the percent of the population in our County and community. The next graph will show the percent of partially vaccinated individuals.

The percentage of 12 years old and older partially vaccinates is as follows: Slide 13.



Source: Contra Costa County Health Department
<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-vaccinated>

PUSD COVID-19 Cases – Dashboard, as of Sept 8, 2021. Slide 14.

School/Location	Reported Active cases on sites		Total Student Cases (No longer Active Cases) January 1, 2021	Total Student Cases (No longer Active Cases) January 1, 2021
	Students	Staff with Access to school Or District Sites		
Black Diamond High School	0	0	2	0
District Office	0	0	0	0
Foothill Elementary E.	0	1	6	2
Heights Elementary E.	0	0	5	3
Highlands E.	2	1	0	0
Hillview JH	3	0	7	6
Los Medanos E.	0	0	4	3
Marina Vista E.	1	0	4	1
North Campus (Across from PHS)	0	0	0	0
Martin Luther King, Jr., JH	3	1	2	0
Parkside E.	8	1	5	2
Pittsburg Adult Education Center	0	0	1	1
Pittsburg High School	13	2	22	11

Pittsburg High School- Sports	0	0	10	0
Rancho Medanos Junior High	0	2	11	1
Site Support Services Center	0	0	0	5
Stoneman E.	3	0	3	1
Willow Cove E.	5	0	16	6
Total	38	8	98	42

NOTE: Total cases DO NOT include active cases. We are ONLY tracking and reporting employees who are working in-person. If multiple sites are impacted by one active case, site with most exposure will be listed.
Last Updated 9/8/2021

PUSD COVID-19 Cases Dashboard

<https://www.pittsburg.k12.ca.us/page/11914>

Mrs. Guardado shared that this information is updated every Friday. This is done to be able to not only keep track and as a way to keep our community informed on the number of active cases per site and show how we are doing as a district. Mrs. Guardado mentioned, PUSD has a population of about 11,500 students so to have only 38 active cases is pretty good.

Mrs. Guardado asked the members if they had any questions.

Mr. Alvarado stated that he was concerned on the amount and kind of work that is being assigned to the students who are being placed on modified quarantine. He feels like the assignments do not match what the students in the classroom are working on. So he feels like the students are getting punished or being left behind because they are not working on the same or similar material from those in class. Plus it is really hard and confusing especially for students to complete on their own if they have an IEP. Can something be done to help provide the students on modified quarantine access to their teacher via zoom. Wondered why students who are at home couldn't log in and follow along on zoom.

Mrs. Guardado mentioned that unfortunately we do not have the capability to be able to teach students virtually when they are home on modified quarantine. She encouraged that the students try their best and complete what they can and to maintain communication with the teacher to let them know about what is being completed or not completed that way they can maybe assign alternative assignments

Mr. Alvarado asked why we could not come up with a hybrid type of model to offer students who have to stay home. It is just not fair that these students do not have access to their teacher for no fault of their own.

Dr. Schulze thanked Mr. Alvarado for sharing his concerns and stated that she understood that this is not ideal for our students.

Mr. Alvarado mentioned that is difficult for students to return after a long absence because they are so behind of what has been going on in class since the packets they were completing really don't have much to do with the current material.

Mrs. Chavez mentioned a suggestion, if they have a laptop, could a video of the instruction be made of the work that they would do in the week. This is a suggestion, I don't know if this is possible, but can teachers create instructional videos and explain the work the students has to complete and assign it via google classroom. Teachers can maybe create weekly videos and it can help those students who are stuck at home.

Mrs. Carabantes stated that she shared the same concern and wondered if something could be done to prioritize the needs of the students who are having to stay home. She wonders with all this new technology why can we find better ways to include the students at home with those in person.

Mrs. Guardado transitioned the meeting to discuss about the things that are working in our district.

Mrs. Guardado shared that she is delighted to have our students back in the classroom. In person instruction is the best kind of instruction and it is necessary to help meet the needs of the students. It is a joy to see them and hear in them in our schools.

Dr. Schulze shared on the chat that we have hired 3 counselors for our elementary schools and are looking for 1 more.

Mr. Alvarado mentioned, it is good to see the students happy and they come home happy. They are fulfilled going to school.

Another member mentioned that her student's grade have gone up, he is focusing on his homework, and she also keeps him away from the video games. She is happy that students are back at school but still worries about the virus and possible exposure. But she is hopeful that as long as we follow precautions, it would be O.K.

Mrs. Chavez thanked the district for enforcing and reminding the use of the mask to the students.

Mr. Bernal also agreed. Something good: Google classroom, homework, seeing good friends, use of mask. At Rancho Medanos the teachers and students are doing all possible to protect he students. She also emphasized the need for crossing guards and making sure we have them at the busy interceptions to help us keep our students safe.

Dr. Schulze commented that we have a contract with an outside agency for crossing guards and continually meet with the city to address road safety and concerns about dangerous interceptions.

Mrs. Bernal expressed her concern for the students that walk to Rancho Medanos, she does not feel like they have a very safe path to walk on especially with one of the private paths now not being accessible.

Meeting Dates.

Mrs. Guardado went over the identified meeting dates for this school year and reminded the members that our first official DELAC meeting will be on October 18, 2021. Each school site is supposed to have their new DELAC representative identified by October 8th. Mrs. Guardado encouraged the members to think of topics and information they would like to see covered in our meetings this year and to bring those ideas to our next meeting.

Mrs. Guardado shared information from Mrs. Preciado regarding all of the upcoming parent workshops that will be offered.

Mrs. Carabantes asked about the elementary counselor positions. Mrs. Guardado stated that as a way to be able to provide SEL support to our elementary students. 4 counselors are being hired to work at our elementary sites, each counselor will work at 2 elementary sites. So far we have hired 3 counselors and are looking to hire the 4th one.

Dr. Schulze mentioned that we have also hired a nurse for the district and are looking for a social worker. The survey data showed that this was something highly valued by the parents as a need and therefore the district is working to fill all these needed positions.

Mrs. Guardado thanked the members for attending and for all of their input. We will welcome our new DELAC representatives at the next meeting and start with our regular ELAC reports. She shared with the members that for now our meetings will continue to be held virtually until it is deemed safe to start meeting in person.

Meeting adjourned at 7.45 pm.