

**Pittsburg Unified School District**  
**Educational Services**  
**DELAC MEETING 10/19/2020 via Zoom**

**Present:**

**Foothill:** Martha Buenrostro

**Heights:** Carmen Amezcua, Martha Torres

**Highlands:** Mónica Vallejo, María Rosales

**Los Medanos:** Irma González

**Parkside:** Ana Karla Reyes

**Willow Cove:** Miguel A. Alvarado, Helio Moreno,  
Maribel Carranza

**Stoneman:** Lillia Álvarez, Gudelia López

**Marina Vista:**

**Hillview JH:** Yazmin Cano, Aidee Cisneros, Martha  
Torres, Mónica Vallejo, Martha Buenrostro

**Dora Rodriguez** adrina dauther

**MLK, Jr. JH:** ZaRinah Tillman-Perry, VP

**Rancho Medanos JH:** Silvia Portillo, Miguel  
Alvarado, Helio Moreno, Irma González, Adriana  
Medina, María Chávez, Sandra Aguayo, Dulce  
Bernal, Yanet Toledo, Cecilia Olmos, María  
Rodríguez

**PHS:** Helio Moreno, Gudelia López, Martha Torres,  
María Chávez, Maribel Carranza, Martha  
Buenrostro, Cecilia Olmos, María Rodríguez,  
Catalina Cruz, María Rosales

**PUSD:** Dr. Janet Schulze, Superintendent

**Educational Services:** Sandra Guardado, Lorena  
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**Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Alvarado our DELAC president introduced himself per Mrs. Guardado request, and welcomed everyone.

Mrs. Guardado welcomed everyone and asked members for permission to record the meeting. Everyone agreed. She also asked the members to introduce themselves and to mention what school they are from.

Dr. Schulze introduced herself also and welcomed everyone.

**Approval of Minutes**

The members reviewed the minutes from the September's meeting. First motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. D. Bernal and seconded by Mrs. M. Rosales. Members were asked to approve by using the thumbs up in the chat and minutes were approved.

**Distance Learning Update - Dr. Schulze.**

**Information from the Contra Costa County Health Department – Covid-19**

Dr. Schulze mentioned to the members that she hoped everything was O.K. with their families. She mentioned that she would talk about the health conditions from the county. She asked the members if they had any questions during her presentation to please add them in the chat, so that they could be answered.

Dr. Schulze showed the presentation with the California map and a graph showing the color coded information by counties and explained that is the way the cases of Covid-19 are tracked in CA. She asked the parents if they were familiar with this graph. Also if they had seen this map? All the information on health and Covid 19 is organized by counties. [www.coronavirus.cchealth.org](http://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org)

**Purple:** Widespread (More serious)

**Red:** Substantial (Considerable importance)

**Orange:** Moderate

**Yellow:** Minimal

The color green does not exist, indicating that there are no existing cases.

On this map you can see that Contra Costa is substantial because the cases in our county have decreased but it is also important to look at the map by cities within the county, since Contra Costa is a fairly large county. What matters to us is what is going on specifically in our city of Pittsburg in comparison to the county.

She explained that when a county stays off the RED indicator for two weeks continuously, they could consider re-opening of schools. In the past two weeks our county has been in the orange level which allows districts to have in person instruction with students. The decision to resume in person instruction is left to the discretion of each district. So, you might have heard of schools reopening. She mentioned that in Contra Costa County, there are some schools who have reopened but most of those schools are private schools. She emphasized that there are no public schools in our county that have opened for in person instruction. There are some public school districts that are making plans to start to bring small groups of students in the upcoming months.

Dr. Schulze continued with her presentation and looked specifically at the number of cases in our city ([www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/actualizaciones](http://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/actualizaciones)), Pittsburg. She shared that positive cases for the last 14 days per 100,000 population:

- In Contra Costa the average is 75
- In Pittsburg the average is 149.4

Based on the fact that the number of positive cases is almost doubled in our city versus what is happening across our county, means that we have to be careful and meticulous when considering resuming in person instruction.

Dr. Schulze shared the website with the members so that they could reference this information later. The information is available in Spanish. She continued by reviewing the information with regards to how the numbers look (positive cases) when looking at Gender, Age Group, Ethnicity, and Race. The highest positive cases are among the Hispanic / Latino and Black / African American communities. This is also an important factor to consider in our district, given the population of students we serve are predominantly Latino and African American.

Mrs. Buenrostro had a question regarding the total of positive cases in the Latino population.

Mr. Moreno explained that even though the population of Latinos in Pittsburg is only 26% almost half of them (43%) have had a positive case of Covid-19.

Mrs. Chavez then asked, so does that mean that as a group are we more at risk?

Dr. Schulze showed another graph. The Asian population makes up 18%. And of that 18% only 6% of them have had a positive case. So, you can see how much more it is impacting the Hispanic / Latino population than the other groups, so the risk is higher for this group. On the same site you can also see that the age group that is most heavily impacted is 19-30 and that the positive cases are higher among women than men. She also highlighted the cases by month and noticed how the positive cases increased in July. The numbers have decreased but in our community it is still higher than in other cities in our county. Dr. Schulze encouraged the members to spend some time looking at all of the information on the website to become more familiar with all of the information it has to offer.

Dr. Schulze also shared a link that has helpful tips on how to reduce the spread of Covid-19 and how to protect yourself. She mentioned, as a Superintendent, she regularly meets with the county health department and doctors to get updates and information regarding Covid-19 and how to minimize the risk. She encouraged the members to go to the local testing centers in our area that offer free Covid-19 testing and also take the opportunity to also get the flu shot. It's important that you stay healthy and help minimize any kind of risk and health concerns. Dr. Schulze mentioned that we partnered with the County Health Department and provided translation services for a

webinar with county doctors that made a presentation regarding Covid-19 and how to minimize the risks of infection. Mr. Alegria and Mrs. Gomez helped with the event.

Mrs. Guardado mentioned that all of the information that Dr. Schulze covered is what is being taken into account when our district considers the option of reopening schools.

Dr. Schulze added and reassured the members that she is well aware that Distance Learning is not the ideal method of instruction but it is the safest choice given the number of positive cases in our community. Staying in Distance Learning minimizes the risk for our students as well as for our staff members.

Mrs. Guardado reminded the members that Dr. Schulze recommended to the members of the Board of Education at the Board Meeting in October to continue in Distance Learning until the end of December, this does not mean that we will be back in January, but rather than the option to remain is distance learning or resume in-person instruction will be discussed at upcoming Board meetings.

Mrs. Buenrostro made a comment regarding being concerned about the impact the cold season will have on Covid-19 and expressed that she feels it makes the most sense to remain in distance learning since it is safer for everyone. Dr. Schulze responded that it is possible that cases go up in the cold weather but we shall see what happens.

Mrs. Chavez made the request if we could have the County Health Doctors hold another webinar in the upcoming weeks/months given that we will have the flu/cold season happening at the same time of Covid-19 and the impact that might have on the positive cases.

Dr. Schulze stated that it was a good idea. She meets every week with other superintendents and the Contra Costa County Health Department doctor and will make the recommendation to have another webinar.

Mr. Alvarado asked, given that our community is being significantly impacted by the virus and for that reason the recommendation has been made to remain in Distance Learning, is there a way that funds from Title 1 be used to help provide additional support for our students who are struggling? Given that the majority of the people who live here are essential workers and need to go to work they are not available to help provide support to their kids during the instructional day. This is obviously affecting our children since the amount of support and attention they receive while in distance learning is not the same as when in person. What can the district do to support these students to ensure that they do not continue to fall further and further behind. As parents we understand that it is safer to stay in distance learning but our children's education should not be sacrificed because of it.

Dr. Schulze explained additional supports that are being put in place to help address the needs of our students. There are two initiatives within the next couple of weeks that will be implemented to support secondary students. One of those programs will be Paper, which will help provide academic support (in all subject areas) to 6th - 12th grade students via a texting function. Students will be able to chat with a trained academic instructor to receive academic support in the content area that they need. Students will also be able to submit their essays and receive feedback within 24 hours. Given that this is a virtual service, via text messaging, this support will be available to students around the clock (24/7). The other program is BluePrint, which was the math summer program that we offered to our students (5th - 8th) this summer. We will be continuing partnering with them to provide math support to our 6th - 8th grade students. High school students who are enrolled in Algebra 1 will also have the opportunity to receive additional targeted support from BluePrint.

Mr. Moreno asked if these supports were going to be made available to all students or if students are going to be recommended to these support programs. He also wondered how the student's teachers will receive feedback from these tutors regarding how the students are progressing or the kind of support they are requesting.

Dr. Schulze stated that all students (6th - 12th) will have access to the academic support Paper offers. Students can individually request support by initiating a text conversation with a Paper tutors. Most of their tutors are graduate students who have been trained in assisting students and work through problems without just giving them the answers. The student's teachers will receive reports letting them know the type of questions that students had or what they received support in. We will be training the teachers in the upcoming weeks. With regards to the support through BluePrint, information was shared with families to sign up for this support. This support will run more like an after school program with small instructional groups. Families/students can sign up for this support and teachers will also be recommending students. For students who need support in Algebra 1 there will be the opportunity for the family/student to request the support but mainly students will be recommended by their Algebra 1 teacher.

Mr. Alvarado expressed his appreciation for the academic supports that are being put in place to help the older students and asked what could be put in place to help support the younger students, especially since we need to make sure that they master fundamental skills that will help them be successful later on. He is afraid that elementary aged students are going to continue to fall further and further behind and it will significantly impact them as they get older. Mr. Alvarado also requested additional support for students with IEPs and around the area of social emotional well being.

Mrs. Guardado thanked Mr. Alvarado for his comments and the request to continue to look for ways to best support students with IEPs and provide social emotional support.

Dr. Schulze mentioned that we still have contracts with therapists and they provide support to students in small groups virtually. She recognizes it is not the same to receive support virtually as it is in person but we are making sure that students still receive the services and support they need. Students with disabilities are also being provided additional support by school aides that have been trained to work with students.

Mrs. I. González stated what is being done to help motivate students during distance learning, since she knows it is harder for students to remain focused and find the motivation to do well and might fail courses and fall behind which will impact their graduation standing.

Mrs. Guardado encouraged members to participate in the different parent workshops that are being offered to parents to be able to work with their students. Mrs. Preciado offers an array of workshops that help address some of these concerns. Mrs. Guardado also explained that at the secondary level students have access to school counselors that they can reach out for additional support both social/emotional or academic. Counselors are running groups and meeting with students the days that they are not scheduled to attend class.

Given the number of questions or input being given Dr. Schulze made the recommendation to hold another meeting to focus just around what is working in distance learning as well as what we need to improve on and identify additional supports/give suggestions. She recommended that we meet again next week, Monday, October 26 at 5:30 to just discuss this topic and have the opportunity to listen to you and your recommendations. She acknowledges that we are in a difficult situation, and that's why she thinks it is important for us to take time to listen to you and help me identify ways to support our students.

The members agreed and appreciated the suggestion from Dr. Schulze to have dedicated time to discuss just one topic.

Mrs. Bernal thanked Dr. Schulze for being so considerate and dedicating time to listen to them as parents and ask for their input/suggestions. She also shared with the members a free academic resource where students can get additional help, [understood.org](http://understood.org)

Mrs. Toledo shared that at Los Medanos students with IEPs are receiving additional support for aides and that support is helping students. She also emphasized that Mrs. Preciado has worked hard to offer a lot of different workshops to help parents with students of all ages.

Mrs. Zárate asked if as a district we are monitoring the time teachers are actually providing instruction. She said that there seems to be some teachers who are using all of their class time to deliver instruction and some that only meet to explain to the students what they have to do and then log off. She wondered if as a district we had a system to monitor the minutes of instruction.

Dr. Schulze mentioned instructional schedules were created to outline the instructional minutes by each level and the expectation is the same across the district. She stated that if they notice a big difference among the time of instruction to work with their site administrators and make them aware of their concern.

Mr. Alvarado wanted to clarify that when he speaks he is not just advocating for the needs of his children but rather the needs of our students in the district. He stated that he shares his own experiences to help surface and voice the needs that need to be addressed.

Dr. Schulze thanked all of the members for their input and comments and encouraged them to attend our Monday meeting to continue with providing input and suggestion on how to best support our students.

Given the time, Mrs. Guardado asked the members if they wanted to continue with the agenda and discuss the next item, Responsibilities of DELAC, or if they preferred to table the presentation and move it to our November meeting and proceeded with the ELAC reports. The members agreed to move that presentation to the November meeting.

## **ELAC Reports**

**Foothill:** Mrs. Buenrostro reported that they had a meeting this week but she could not attend. Mrs. Chamorro mentioned to me that a DELAC Rep. was identified.

**Heights:** Mrs. Torres reported

- Had our meeting on 10/15/20, only 4 parents attended along with Mrs. Phan and interpreter.
- ELAC responsibilities were discussed

**Highlands:** Ms. Vallejo reported

- Had their first ELAC meeting for the year and they discussed the purpose and responsibilities of ELAC
- Shared that distance learning is going well

**Los Medanos:**

- Had their first meeting and discussed Robert Rule's and structure of meetings.
- Had their elections to select their parent representatives

**Parkside:** Mrs. Reyes reported

- Meeting was on October 6 and discussed the purpose and function of ELAC

**Marina Vista:** No representative present

**Stoneman:** Mrs. Alvarez and Mrs. Lopez reported

- First meeting was on October 6 and had a presentation regarding the purpose of ELAC/DELAC
- There are several positions opened but a President and VP have been selected

**Willow Cove.** Mr. Moreno reported.

- Meeting on October 13
- Presentation on ELAC and responsibilities of the position
- Parent representatives were selected and introduced

**Hillview:** Mrs. Torres reported.

- Information about nominations has been shared but haven't had first meeting

**MLK:** Mrs. ZaRinah Tillman-Perry was present at the meeting but was unable to stay for ELAC reports.

- First meeting was held.

**Rancho Medanos:** Mrs. Chavez and Mr. Alvarado reported that they still have not had their first meeting.

**PHS:** Mrs. Chavez reported that they still have not had their first meeting.

Mrs. Guardado shared with the members that the school sites were working to create their Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) to meet the needs of their students. Part of the process is to get input from ELAC and the School Site Council approves the plan. As ELAC members they should have the opportunity to give input with regards to how to use the funds to meet the needs of the English Learners.

Mrs. Guardado reminded the members of our Monday, October 26 at 5:30. The zoom link will be shared with them.

Next regular DELAC Meeting November 9, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.