

**Pittsburg Unified School District
DELAC Meeting
January 23, 2023**

Foothill: Katy Carreon Barba, Maria Magallon,
Martha Carabantes

Heights:

Highlands: Katy Carreon Barba

Los Medanos:

Marina Vista: Tasharie Ameral

Parkside: Claudia Barrera

Stoneman: Katy Carreon Barba, Anita Rosales,
Marilu Montesinos, Carol Archie

Willow Cove: Miguel Alvarado

Hillview JH: Alma Rodriguez, Yazmin Cano,
Maria Magallon, Aidee Cisneros, Anita Rosales,
Marilu Montesinos

MLK, Jr. JH:

Rancho Medanos JH:

PHS: Alma Rodriguez, Martha Carabantes,
Miguel Alvarado

Black Diamond: Susana Aguilar

PUSD: Sandra Guardado, Nubia Aguilar, Maria
Gomez

Welcome and Introductions:

Mrs. Guardado greeted all of the members and Dr. Schulze said a few words to welcome everyone back to the first meeting of the new year. Mrs. Guardado went over the agenda items that will be discussed in today's meeting. Went around the room and everyone introduced themselves and the school(s) their child(ren) attend and grade level. Had a few parents from DAC present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Mrs. Guardado asked everyone if they had a chance to go over the minutes from December 5th DELAC meeting that were emailed to everyone. Mrs. Barrera motioned to approve the minutes. Mrs. Magallon seconded the motion to approved. Minutes were approved by everyone.


Presentation by Child Nutrition Department:

Child Nutrition staff present: Andrea Keeler Assistant Director of Child Nutrition, Liz Oberender Supervisor, Patricia Collazos Supervisor and Angelia Nava Director of Child Nutrition. Thank the committee for inviting them to the meeting.

Mrs. Nava commented that they have added new menu items for all schools. New law passed that all k-12 schools provide two meals breakfast and lunch no cost. They have change programs behind the scenes to provide the meals. Working with HR to recruit new staff and provide professional development. Dates on slide (refer to presentation slide 2).

Behind the Scenes 2022/2023

- Spring/Fall 2022:
 - added **new menu** items at ES/MS/HS
- Fall 2022:
 - AB 130 Implementation
 - Community Eligibility Program implementation
 - Recruitment
 - March 2022
 - June 2022
 - October 2022
 - Training
 - Professional Development
 - August 10/October 10
 - Building Capacity
 - October 18 and 19
 - New partnerships
 - Spectrum
 - PUSD Work Force Development: Student workers



New partnerships with spectrum. Workforce development at Pittsburg High School - student workers now in place. Students 16 and over can apply. Currently have 14 student workers since October. Mrs. Oberender trained them for a month and they work 6am to 8am and also 45 minutes at lunch. Feedback from them is that they like it. It is a paid position at PHS only. Question: parent asked what grades can apply. Must be 16 years old and have a GPA is 2.0 that means current Juniors and seniors at Pittsburg High School (PHS). Staff who really enjoy providing services to your students.

School garden coordinator has a Masters degree in biology and water conservation. Barrera asked if she goes to all schools. Response was no just the schools that have grant funding that includes five schools and PHS. Based on school criteria that qualifies them for the grant. Did mention that they used to service all schools but went from 2 full time staff to one staff that works 4.5 hours a day and have 1 additional support person for 10 hrs. Can't cover all sites so do the 5 sites to meet grant requirements. Mrs. Barrera ask about the criteria and wants to see the criteria that is needed to be met for schools to qualify for the grant.

Went over meal planning: cooking fresh meals and incorporating fresh ingredients. Half of what we do is legally required for meal planning and can't deviate from. Food items must meet certain criteria. New things - elementary school introduced scratch cooking (refer to presentation slide 9)

Meal Planning

Scratch Cooking:
 ✓ cooking our own meals and incorporating whole, fresh ingredients, rather than pre-assembled or processed meals and meal components.

New:
 ✓ not existing before; made, introduced, or discovered recently or now for the first time.

- ES
 - Beef Chili Beans w/WG Cornbread
 - Grilled Cheese Sandwich
 - Minestrone Soup
 - Veggie Sticks with Ranch Dip, String Cheese & Crackers
 - Beef Sloppy Joe
 - Fall Salad w/WG Dinner Roll
 - Tamales
- HS
 - Beef Chili Beans w/WG Cornbread
 - Grilled Cheese Sandwich
 - Minestrone Soup
 - Veggie Sticks with Ranch Dip, String Cheese & Crackers
 - Beef Sloppy Joe
 - Fall Salad w/WG Dinner Roll
 - Baked Potato Bar
- MS
 - Grilled Cheese Sandwich
 - Minestrone Soup
 - Veggie Sticks with Ranch Dip, String Cheese & Crackers
 - BBQ Chicken with Street Corn
 - Fall Salad w/WG Dinner Roll
 - Tamales

Scratch cooking

What's NEW

Procurement
 Locally sourced foods
 Food Vendors

New to Middle school BBQ chicken with sweet corn, at PHS have new baked potato bar and nacho bar 2 new windows to be able to service more students. Vendors that we select provide locally source items. Vendors go through a viding process required every 3 yrs. Map of local source produce from the San Joaquin County: Modesto and Linden, Fresno County: Fresno, Reedley, Huron and Kingsburg, Tulare County: Lindsay and Exeter, Madera County: Madera and Chowchilla. (refer to presentation slide 10)

Locally sourced foods: Farmers list (refer to presentation slide 11). Do we use produce from the garden at the school? Mrs. Nava responded - Yes, with other local produce to provide for everyone in the school since we don't grow enough. Black diamond used to have a green house. But was destroyed due to someone breaking in and living in it.

Slide brands of food used. Same brands parents use at home as seen listed on presentation. Not using substandard items. Their products have to meet certain standards. Mr. Alvarado commented that not all those products provide by certain vendors are not always the healthiest option. Would like to see less commercial products used by most of the population and more organic foods and commercial food with less salt. Mrs. Nava said he is welcome to come to one of our school sites to look at the process as compared to the processed food. The chicken nuggets may be the brand sold at the store but may not be the same since they have to meet certain standards to be used in the School.



Food Vendors

Commodity Processors



Food Vendors

Non-Commodity

Slides of names brands that are used (refer to presentation slides 12-13). Selected good brand choices that if we weren't willing to eat it then we wouldn't feed it to our students. Child Nutrition sustain themselves financially. Like any business we face issues. Staffing, limited on choices, supply chain issues. Example use Costco running out of toilet paper now its eggs. Hard finding subs for staff. Asking if anyone is interested in working we are hiring.

Students don't have to pay for breakfast or lunch. High school students would have to pay for vending machine items such as sparkling water, bake chips, and other a la cart items. Mrs. Barrera asked about the form meal applications now referred to as the education benefit form. Needs to be filled out every year. Form no longer connected to child nutrition but used for school district funding purposes. Mrs. Rodriguez as if child nutrition had any EBT information. Response was that they know what it is but no they don't know how the state or government determines who gets those. Mrs. Barrera- back to the education benefit form. Click on the form in Aeries when completing the registration process but you can bypass without filling it out. She asked why can't we set it to require to complete. It can't be made non passable right now. That form right now is not part of aeries can be link. We could never require for parents to fill it out. Sandra - there is certain information that we can't keep track of as a reason why we can force them to fill it out during the registration online process.

In the past district funding was based on the old form. That is why we had a major push in October every year to get parents to fill out the form. Good news this year's information was based on last year's. State gave the leeway to use last year's data. That is why there was no push this year to fill out the form. Mrs. Rodriguez always tells parents to fill it out that is good to get funding for the district. Will the state or you be using as a guidance for the money. Mrs. Nava responded that yes we have to, the benefit form isn't going away. We send flyers out on the benefits of filling out the form. Schools that have a parent liaison. Mrs. Rodriguez commented that Hillview is a community school with a lot of Spanish speaking parents but no parent liaison but miss how it used to be, there is no community, feel like there is no one to help us. Need a Spanish speaking parent liaison.

Mrs. Carabantes, question thanking child nutrition for coming but at the end of the day it isn't us that have to be eating the food. Parent question: I ask myself if you have done a survey directly to the students to get their opinion on the food to avoid so much food going to waste by being thrown away. Mrs. Nava responded that yes, they do a survey at all grade levels. Sometimes the survey is part of the programming that is done after school. They are also working on a QR code and once it's translated to Spanish it will be available on the school menus, website and also available at the school. Parents will be able to scan it with their phone and answer questions regarding child nutrition, giving the option to provide feedback on food choices and respond with their children's feedback.

Mrs. Barrera asked if they had results from the surveys of what schools were surveyed with the students' feedback. Mrs. Nava responded that they do, Andrea has some collated information related to grant stuff and she herself, Mrs. Collazos and Mrs. Oberender have met with the superintendent and student group super sac, as well with Mr. Whitmire and the student leadership group and had a taste testing. Mrs. Keeler deals with the survey at the elementary and middle school grade levels. Since there are results available, Mrs. Barrera asked if the results were available for them to see and also asked when the survey was last done? Every year child Nutrition staff go out and do a snack committee - a student nutrition advisory committee which is made out of student leadership which are usually the students that are recommended by school sites, face to face communication and students are picked by the school not child nutrition staff. Had situations where child nutrition has brought in vendors and they've done tastings where the students tell the staff what they liked and what they didn't like. It's a large group at PHS and smaller groups at the elementary and junior high levels. At the end of the school year through the afterschool program they do a survey of what vegetables they like or don't like, amount of exercise students does and other related questions, that is then sent to a copy that generates the report and tells Child Nutrition how they are doing every year. Been doing it the last 10 years and they use that information to decide where they need help at and in what grade levels. Mrs. Barrera said she would like to be able to see the results.

Mr. Alvarado said he has some experience in merchandising and when we were taking of face to face groups and suggested 3-4 sessions of focus groups at each school site to get a variety of feedback and the opinions from the students that can be shared and that parents can verify what the students are saying, not that they don't believe the staff but would like to be able to get that information and verify with their students. For years the DELAC members have asked for an explanation of why so much food gets thrown away and to this day have not received a clear response. For a few past months now a few menu items have been out of stock, such as yogurt, he had an incident with the cafeteria worker where he asked for yogurt but was not available for the children to take even though they had it and was told that it would be taken home by staff. He's wondering since it's an easy item to hand out not needing any extra prep work why can't it be easily available with fruit for kids to just take and move the line along. Mrs. Nava asked for clarification, because she wasn't aware that staff was taking food items home and asked if he is willing to share a name and site so she can check on the situation. This was discussed at the high school and investigated from a previous meeting as child nutrition was unable to see any discrepancies in the number ordered vs the number that was distributed.

Mrs. Carabantes asked if there were limited quantities of menu items ordered, for example the tamales that were added to the menu this year. Situation of there not being enough, the first round of students in the cafeteria were able to get a tamale but by the time the second group came in they were all gone so kids that were looking forward to it don't get a chance to actually eat something they like. I imagine it must be terrible for the kids, fortunately she is able to make them at home for her children but that isn't the case for other children. Mrs. Rodriguez also mentioned that it also happens at Hillview with pizza and chicken sandwiches running out and asked if it's possible to order more of the menu items that the children like instead of the items that get thrown away. Mrs. Nava said staff is trained at each site to order based on the need of items, obviously if it's not being done correctly then additional training is needed at those sites. Mrs. Aguilar commented that tamales are not

offered at Black Diamond as a menu item. Mrs. Nava said they recently changed the menu for the second half of the year. New items available since the menu rotates.

Parent has a question about the food offered at the after school program. Her child has commented that the meal he receives in the after school program is usually a chocolate bar or bags of chips and or bread. Mrs. Nava said she would check with Foothill, her child's school, because they have an after school program supper menu and snack menu that they provide. Mrs. Barrera said there are several after school programs. Mrs. Nava responded that they all get the same meal options. Parent said that her child's after school program isn't walking them over to the cafeteria to get the food. They will follow up with the school site.

Mrs. Rodriguez commented that she doesn't agree with the way the surveys are being done since her kids are not in the afterschool program or in leadership. How can you make a decision taking into account just certain student opinions? She doesn't believe that it's fair. Mrs. Nava responded that she agrees and that as soon as the QR code is ready for the new survey she will personally bring her a copy so her children can also provide their opinion.

Mr. Alvarado stated that there is obviously something not working correctly because the evidence is that there is still a lot of food that is being thrown away. Mrs. Nava responded that they can only provide the food based on feedback they have received; they cannot force the students to eat the food. She said thank you to members for providing their thoughts.

ELAC Reports:

Foothill – communication to keep parents informed of the goals to get students reclassified and the criteria that must be met to get students reclassified.

Highlands –

Los Medanos –

Marina Vista –

Parkside – nothing to report because they have not had any parents attend. Mrs. Barrera is asking for suggestions on how to get parents to attend the ELAC meetings. Parent suggested that at heights in the past they have offered small gifts to encourage parent participation. Another suggestion was to offer a free dress pass to the students whose parents attend a meeting since students love free dress days. That way it is the students themselves convincing the parents to attend the meeting.

Stoneman – There was no one present to run the meeting. Parents did see donuts and coffee but no staff to run the meeting. Staff member was not available to attend due to personal reasons and therefore there was no meeting.

Willow Cove – December meeting - committee members were elected. introduction of Julian the new community coordinator and Mrs. Hernandez. Mrs. Campos spoke about ELPAC, and spoke about iReady. January no meeting took place. Mrs. Campos discuss having a clever and google classroom presentation at the school like Mrs. Guardado did for the DELAC members. Mrs. Rodriguez suggested to invite Mrs. Bush to their ELAC meeting to discuss school violence since there have been a lot of school violence at Hillview this year since they feel it's worse than at PHS.

Hillview –

MLK Jr. –

Rancho Medanos –

PHS – Mrs. Rodriguez: ELOP spoke about how students can sign up. Get help to apply for college and financial aid. Parents asked if it was possible to present the information at the middle schools too since the program is helpful for parents and incoming ninth grade students. Mr. Alvarado passed out a form asking for members' help to collect signatures to present the worries and concerns and suggestions as parents that they have over the large population at the high school to present to the school board and the city. Asked everyone to take a copy and bring back with the signatures to the next DELAC meeting next month. Would like to present at the next city council meeting in March.

Announcements/Update:

Mrs. Guardado asked since we didn't get to the ELPAC presentation at today's meeting we can do one of two things. The next DELAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7th at 6pm with the DAC committee. We can either have a meeting on Monday, February 6th for about an hour to discuss the topic or we can meet one

hour before the February 7th is set to start to discuss the topic. Decided to meet at 5pm an hour before the February 7th meeting begins.

Our next DELAC Meeting is Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm