
From: DELAC
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 12:43 AM
To: Anne Marette
Cc: Matt Turkie; Azarel Iniguez
Subject: 9.2 District Parent Advisory Committees: District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

Importance: High

9.2 District Parent Advisory Committees: District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) by DELAC Council: Llova Ayala-Santamaria, Leana Sanchez, and Velia Mercado

We appreciate the patience of those in attendance at our first DELAC meeting of the school year. To facilitate virtual DELAC meetings, we need support. There's a difference between empowerment and "making a way out of no way." It has been argued that "making a way out of no way" is the spirit of growth mindset, resilience, and fortitude. However, that is why character development programs are just another way of teaching our marginalized students how to navigate systems of oppression rather than dismantling the systems of oppression for and with them. Please provide us with district resources such as a representative or liaison from the technology department to oversee our Zoom DELAC meetings and MOC interpreters for language-accessibility to empower DELAC and ELAC.

We would also like to thank the district for the recent addition of automated language-accessibility options when calling the main line at the district office. Our members have the following questions:

- How long will it take to receive a call back when leaving a message?
- How will you advertise to families that this is now available?
- How will you build district capacity to support the influx of multilingual callers?
- When will this be applied to all district phone numbers, particularly school sites?

Currently, the message references the pandemic. All lines across the district, including school sites, should maintain multilingual support, even after the pandemic. If a language other than English is selected and not supported at the school site, it should be rerouted to a district interpreter or a third party agency to facilitate communication. Nobody should be turned away from district or school site support due to a language barrier.

As we prepare for the new school year, Multilingual will be offering its annual English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) trainings. This is an opportunity for sites that do not currently have an ELAC or need a refresher. We'd like to bring attention that ELAC is its own entity and not an agenda item during School Site Council meetings. Now more than ever, every school that is mandated to have an ELAC must also have ELAC member names, meeting announcements, minutes, and documents publicly available on their school website. DELAC is working with Multilingual to update our webpage so it includes names of schools requiring ELAC and DELAC membership, as well as, the hyperlinks for ELAC information posted on each school's website. Any communication from the district or school site must be language-accessible within our district's top five languages, including communication from administrators and classroom teachers. This will require building the capacity of MOC Center to facilitate two-way language support.

We would also like to personally thank Superintendent Aguilar, Board Member Vang and Board Member Garcia for participating in our first meeting and extend our invite to all board members. Our meeting dates are posted on the DELAC website.