



**EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**District Advisory Committee Meeting (DAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 18, 2022**

**DAC Members Present:**

Al Abarca -Rivera Elementary  
Diana Lemus -South.Ranchito Academy  
Yesenia Gonzalez -Valencia Academy  
Rosanna Cabrera -STEAM Academy  
Brenda Gonzalez -Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy  
Christine Saavedra -ERHS

**District Personnel:**

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz, Director of Secondary Education  
Olga Montano, Administrative Secretary  
Jenny Coronado, Administrative Secretary  
Kimmie Sandoval, District State and Federal Programs Clerk

**DAC Members Absent:**

Laurin Gonzalez Segovia -Birney Tech Academy  
Julianna Aguirre -Durfee Elementary  
Liliana Blackmon -Rio Vista Elementary  
Lesly Tavera -North Park Academy  
Hector LaFarga -Rivera Middle School  
Annette Furlough -Salazar High School  
Vacant, Magee Academy  
Vacant, North Ranchito Elementary

**Community Members:**

Rosalia Luevano

**Guests:**

Dora Soto-Delgado, Director of Student Services;  
Billie Saavedra, Director of Food Services;  
Margaret Renteria, Assistant Director of Food Services;  
Emily Renteria, Student Representative from ERHS;  
Jersey Martinez, Student Representative from Salazar HS (*Zoom*);  
Ana Melgar, Principal, Magee Academy (*Zoom*);  
Rachel Aguirre, Principal, North Ranchito Elementary (*Zoom*)  
**Esther Mejia, Board Member**  
**Dr. Teresa Merino, Board Member**  
**Jennifer Prado, Parent**

**DAC and DELAC joined together**

**Call to Order**

Called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Ms. Christine Saavedra  
Ms. Christine Saavedra led the flag salute.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to Approve: Ms. Rosalia Luevano  
Second: Mr. Abarca  
Quorum: **Yes**

**Approval of the April 20, 2022 Minutes**

\*Correct Mr. Abarca's name  
Motion to Approve: Ms. Rosanna Cabrera  
Second: Ms. Rosalia Luevano

## **Welcome**

Dora Soto-Delgado, Director of Student Services, introduced Billie Saavedra, Director of Food Services; Margaret Renteria, Assistant Director of Food Services; Emily Renteria, Student Representative from ERHS; on Zoom, Jersey Martinez, Student Representative from Salazar High School; Ana Melgar, Principal at Magee Academy; Rachel Aguirre, Principal at North Ranchito Elementary. Ms. Soto-Delgado thanked the audience for their participation and for allowing her to express the purpose of the meeting. Ms. Soto-Delgado wants the students and families to be made aware of the student wellness policy, what is in the policy, and whether or not the policy needs improvements.

## *New Business:*

### **I: Student Wellness Policy Updates:**

Ms. Soto-Delgado explains that the last time this policy\*\* was discussed in front of a committee in the 2017-2018 school year and that it was in need of an update given the circumstances that the world underwent. She explained that the reason for organizing these meetings is to inform the public about these policies. Ms. Soto-Delgado also recaps the recommendations that were asked in the previous board meeting, which are: addition of health insurance referrals, federal regulations regarding beverages (food was already included), the installation of potable water districtwide, school food sale restrictions, access/review of the effectiveness of the policy, the addition of the “My Plate” data, and lastly the addition of the Smart Snack calculator. Since the policy states that the committee is required to review the policy once every three years, Ms. Soto-Delgado explains that it was postponed due to distance learning. The policy committee also requested that the district apply for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant. The district did apply, however, it was not awarded. Ms. Soto-Delgado reassures that the district will reapply.

\*\*Adopted August 7, 2018

### **A. Physical Education Content Standards:**

Ms. Soto-Delgado said that the state requires the following:

#### **Elementary School** -200 minutes of physical education required every 10 days

- Emphasize the way students move through space and time in their environment, the continuity and change in movement, and the manipulation of objects through time and space and with accuracy and speed

#### **Middle School** -400 minutes of physical education required every 10 days

- Emphasize working cooperatively to achieve a common goal, meeting challenges, making decisions, and working as a team to solve problems

#### **High School** -2 years of Physical Education (20 credits)

- Culmination of K-8 experiences in physical education
- Incorporate higher order thinking and advanced skilled performance

### **Physical Fitness Test:**

- Comprehensive battery of health-related physical fitness tests for students in California

- 5 Parts:
  1. Aerobic Capacity (mile run in a specified amount of time or pacer test which is a maximal test involving continuous running between two lines 20 meters apart in time to record beeps).
  2. Abdominal strength and endurance (curl ups which are a variation of a situp).
  3. Upper Body Strength and Endurance (pushups).
  4. Trunk extensor strength and flexibility (trunk lift - lift chin off the ground (12 inches) while lying on stomach).
  5. Flexibility (2 options - sit and reach while sitting down meeting a reach of standard number of inches or reaching behind your back with both arms and having hands touch behind the back).

The tests were suspended in 2019-2020 and in the 2020-2021 school year; the state does not require make-up testing.

### **Changes to the Physical Fitness Test 2021-2022 School Year:**

- Body Composition is no longer required. It eliminates the data collection of birth, sex, gender, weight, height, or BMI. In addition, the state removed the maximum amount of oxygen the body can use during an exercise to estimate the maximum aerobic capacity. With the elimination of these requirements, it becomes easier for the students to accomplish the Physical Fitness Test.
- Reporting of student performance using the Healthy Fitness Zones is no longer required

### **No Need of Reporting:**

- Height and weight, including body mass index
- Use of gender
- Use of age

Participation will be included in the School Accountability Report Card.

Ms. Soto-Delgado provided data of student participation in the Physical Fitness Test.

### **B. Student Nutrition Information**

Billie Saavedra and Margaret Renteria introduce their talking points: national lunch and breakfast program requirements and standards, meal pundits and subgroups, and challenges in food service. Student nutrition is the most reviewed federal and state program.

- On minimum days, students are offered grab n' go bags, so they can have their lunch on their way home for the day.
- Breakfast in the classroom (BIC). Margaret announces that this program has been very successful.
- Middle and High schools will have a nutrition period, except on minimum days
- Fixing Windows at ERHS to feed students through them.
- \$500,000 in grants. Has been received and will be used for new refrigerators, bags for students for BIC and Grab n' GO, warmers, etc.
- Starting the paperwork at CEP so Students can eat for free for four years, all fees for college exams, applications, AP exams will be waived because of this program.

### **What to expect for the 2022-23 school year**

- Student surveys to gather information of strengths and areas for improvement will be given to

- students and parents.
- Development of School Health Councils -each school is different. What can you do for your school?
- Student Wellness Summary Report

An informational paper was passed out outlining the requirements that the state has for schools to give to students.

### **Questions/Comments:**

Al Abarca: In the past, you have been restricted as to which distributor you could use. Have you been given permission to go and find other distributors to purchase what you can't get ahold of?

Billie Saavedra: We do have some flexibility, but once again, we have to watch our bottomline. It is a bit difficult. There is one company for commodities and raw products for schools. That company can't provide good service for all of us. We are hoping that there might be another company out there. We do have some flexibility. We have been using Costco for the past two months for our bread products.

Christine Saavedra: My son gets lunch on Thursdays because his last period class is close to the cafeteria. Can the school give out breakfast the day before if opening the school earlier for breakfast is not an option?

Billie Saavedra: Breakfast and Nutrition are considered the same thing. If kids show up for breakfast at the beginning of school, then they will be turned away for their Nutrition period. The state requires us to provide two meals a day.

Jennifer Prado: My son tells me that there are inconsistencies in the pairing of food because there is not enough for everyone. For example, pizza with smashed potatoes. How can the parents be involved in helping the school have enough food for everyone?

Billie Saavedra: We get food production records to track the amount of food that is eaten and the amount of food that is lost. There is no requirement for pairing foods.

## **II: Middle School Science Adoption Update**

Introduction of the Science TOSA -Laura O'Dell

The adoption is set for 6 years. The K-8 adoption process is specifically authorized by the State Board of Education (SBE).

- Integrated Science: Three domains, all three years.
- Different developmental needs.

*The group takes a field trip to meet with the Amplify team to meet the new science program. The team gives the group a presentation.*

The Amplify team presented on the core science program. If approved, it will become the standard science program for all middle school classes. Amplify takes science and places the student in the center of that lesson. Examples of what students will be doing in the classroom are: analyzing and researching, breeding spiders to create the perfect silk using a virtual simulation, figure out why the rate of skin cancer is higher in Australia than any other place in the world, and so much more. Kids work like scientists. They are given a real world problem for which they have to find a solution.

## **California K-8 Instructional Materials Adoption**

- The State Board of Education (SBE) is authorized to adopt textbooks for grades 1-8 under Article IX of the California Constitution.
- SBE approves instructional materials via a specific process outlined in the California Education Code.
- Mandate: “Submitted materials [from publishers] be evaluated for consistency with the criteria and standards in the SBE’s curriculum frameworks”.
- LEAs select from SBE approved programs.

### **Questions/Comments**

*(for the Amplify team)*

Christine Saavedra : Do students work on their own most of the time?

Amplify team: Students work on their own most of the time, but each lesson has a group component to it. While working on the simulations, the teacher might have them work with partners.

Diana Lemus: I know the 6th grade curriculum has kits. Does the 7th and 8th grade curriculum have kits?

Amplify team: Yes, every unit has kits and the kit has all of the materials needed. Each kit has enough materials for 200+ kids.

Yesenia Gonzalez: Will they have access to Spanish resources?

Amplify team: Yes, this is available in English and Spanish by simply toggling the language.

Monica Alvarado: Everything seems nice and all, but what happens when someone doesn’t understand what is going on? Will there be assistance for those students who are struggling?

Amplify team: Yes, there is assistance on the teacher’s edition and possible encounters that might arise to help the teacher troubleshoot. There is also help for English Learners.

Monica Rosete: I love it! I would have loved to learn that way and I am very proud and happy that my kids will be able to learn with these materials.

Diana Lemus: How much time is required for each lesson?

Amplify team: We designed each lesson to be about 50-55 minutes. Students might be too excited and that lesson may take two days. The pace for the entire year is 145 lessons a year and the year is longer, so this allows you extra time to get them all done. The timeline for teachers is step-by-step.

Al Abarca: As far as the technology that the students have, how did the technology work with the textbooks?

Laura O’Dell: It worked wonderfully. Some chromebooks were outdated, but most students were able to run the simulations. If there were glitches, then that was something that students could work with partners at the teacher’s discretion. Nonetheless, the logistics of it all were just fine.

Al Abarca: Will there be space to house all of the supplies for the different lessons?

Laura O'Dell: I don't have an answer. That is a school principal question.

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz: One thing that we have been discussing with Ms. Olga Montano is the old text materials and what we are going to do with them. We are going to sell to a company to clear out space in teacher classrooms. We're also going to discuss with Ms. O'Dell to find storage space for all of the teachers to store the materials. A possible option is purchasing mobile cabinets.

Al Abarca: I also noticed that along with the powerpoint it also had the google slide presentation that was the exact same thing. Was it integrating, as far as the assignments that students had to turn in, was that also along with the google suites or was something else?

Laura O'Dell: It is integrating with Google Classroom. A certain lesson will be assigned to Google Classroom which will send them directly to that lesson so they are not wandering around this big ebook looking for things.

Al Abarca: Last question, are books being used in the classroom and chromebooks at home for homework? How does that look?

Laura O'Dell: It's a combination of both. It depends on what situation the teacher is in. You could use it as a hybrid. It's really adaptable. If we ever had to have distance learning again we would be able to do both.

Jennifer Prado: I'm wondering if there is a way for GATE students to be paired up with other GATE students?

Laura O'Dell: We requested that each lesson have opportunities for students who want to dig deeper. That would also be at the teacher's discretion.

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz: We tend to not group kids homogeneously because there are learning advantages to being paired with other people. We are also trying to teach them those soft spots because when they get into the real world, they will not have the luxury of working with people that work like they do. We want to have the opportunity for kids to be challenged and this is a challenge that will benefit students working with other students in different capacities with different skill sets.

### **III: LCAP Updates**

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz: If you would like to join us June 1st we will have the LCAP review. LACOE will review our LCAP on May 31st and give us feedback. We will then bring it to you and the community to get feedback before we take it to the Board. Ms. Chavez-Diaz goes on to explain that they have been gathering the data but it is not all there. May 26 is the last LCAP meeting, she encourages the community to join the meeting.

### **IV: Superintendent Search Discussion**

Ms. Saavedra recaps the previous meeting. No information can be legally disclosed at this time.

Rosalía Luevano: The Board members did state that they will soon explain their roles and decisions but at this moment they cannot. She is disappointed with the lack of information presented by the Board members. She also expresses her amazement at realizing that the board members are factless to the ins and outs of the actual schools. Ms Luevano expresses that elections are coming up soon and that is where their voices will be heard.

**Other Business:**

Jazmin Chavez-Diaz: DAC bylaws state that we have to hold six meetings at a district facility. DAC bylaws also dictate that the meetings have to happen on the third Wednesday of the month; which is the same week that board meetings are held. Could we amend the bylaws to not have that requirement and give us some flexibility so we could hold them at different times?

Ms. Chavez-Diaz asks the committee to discuss the amendment of the bylaws and move forward at the next meeting.

*(The committee discusses and share personal stories)*

Ms. Chavez-Diaz gave details about the banquet in appreciation of the committee.

Ms. Chavez-Diaz states the next meeting will be June 1st; which will be the last meeting of the year.

The committee shared their opinions and personal stories about the students that were awarded scholarships.

*Reminders: Informational meeting May 24th about the students moving from Ellen Ochoa to ERHS.*

**V: Adjournment:**

**Motion for Adjournment:** Christine Saavedra

**Second:** Rosalia Luevano

Time: 8:25PM

Minutes by: Jenny Coronado and Magali Lomeli