

ENGLISH LEARNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Importance of School Attendance  
2024-2025

Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Alma Alvarado, ELAC president, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Alma Alvarado led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments were provided by:

- **Maria Isabel Gonzalez:** Spoke about ensuring that all bus cards (TAP) are updated with accurate information to support student use.
- **Alejandra Guzman:** Spoke about the cell phone policy, stating that enforcement should not occur since it has not been mandated by the federal government.

**ROLL CALL**

Glenda Flores, secretary, took roll call with six ELAC members present: Alma Alvarado, Monica Arrazola, Maria Isabel Gonzalez, Maria Baltazar, Sara Canjura and Glenda Flores.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Juan Romero, EL Designee, distributed and shared the previous meeting minutes via Zoom. Members were given four minutes to review the notes. A minor correction was made to the Spanish version of the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Monica Arrazola and seconded by Alma Alvarado. The results were 6 members voted in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions. The motion was approved unanimously.

**PRESENTATION: Importance of School Attendance**

Sandra Gonzalez, PSA counselor, presented information to ELAC members and guest on the Importance of School Attendance, including:

- a. **Funding:** The Impact of attendance on school funding.
- b. **Parental Guidance:** Educating parents on excused absences, truancy, and the effects of chronic absenteeism.
- c. **Strategies:** Ways parents and schools can collaborate to promote regular attendance.
- d. **Legal Obligations:** Details from the California Education Code (Ed Code 48200), requiring children aged 6-18 to be enrolled in school, attend daily, and arrive on time.

### **23-24 School Experience Survey Results**

Juan Romero reviewed the previous year's School Experience Survey (SES) data, highlighting:

- Trends, strengths, and areas of improvement.
- Notable success in parental participation and the goal to maintain or exceed this level.
- Continuing the strategy of offering a free dress day for students whose parent complete the survey.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The following recommendations were proposed by ELAC:

- a. ELAC recommends assigning an attendance buddy or mentor with weekly goals for EL students in the Basic Band.
- b. ELAC recommends monthly recognitions for EL students who improve their attendance.
- c. ELAC recommends identifying students with basic or chronic attendance issues who need additional support and inviting them to participate in a support group to assist with their adjustment and attendance.
- d. ELAC also recommends that if a position becomes available during the school year or the following year, the school hires Ms. Lee as a full-time teacher instead of a substitute.

A motion was moved to approve the ELAC recommendation by Maria Isabel Gonzalez, seconded by Alma Alvarado. 6 members voted in favor, 0 members voted against, 0 abstentions. There was a unanimous vote. The motion to approve the recommendations was approved.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Juan Romero provided the following announcements:

- a. The next ELAC meeting will be held on January 15, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Maria Isabel Gonzalez and seconded by Monica Arrazola. The results were 6 members voted in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

These notes are respectfully being submitted by Juan Romero on December 6, 2024.