



Advocates for Language Learning General Meeting Minutes

Date: December 17th, 2022 Time: 7:04 p.m.
Meeting held via teleconference

Board & Chairperson Attendees: Leigh Hansen, Sylvia Maria Fernandez Franco, Olga Hofreiter, Ira Pulverman, Claudia Sandino, Mauricio Dangond, Bill Hinds, Cesi Vega, Cindy Allen, Eileen Ventura, Elisa Manese, Erin Foellmi, Katie Ryan, Marcielle Gosselin, Mark Perez, Michelle Mendoza, Nic, Rebecca, Sarah G., Dylan Drake

Introduction from A.L.L. President – Leigh:

- Greetings and introductions

Principal's Report: Mr. Hines, Principal of Laguna Hills High School

- Recap of State Championship win by LHHS Football team
- Presentation of slides detailing changes and improvements coming to the school
- Presented the immersion classes students will take in each grade
- Discussed the DELE exam and benefits
- Presented the enrollment numbers for DLI program from Gates to LHHS
- LHHS Showcase is coming up on Monday, January 23rd

Questions from Attendees:

- Question from Marcielle: How do we prevent students leaving the program, which is happening as students progress through the program?
 - Drop off rate is improving post-pandemic; an exit survey is being created to understand the reasons people are leaving
- Question from Sylvia: What happens if a student doesn't take the DELE?
 - Mr. Hinds: The DELE is a certificate; they will still get the ISA Diploma. However, the student can still take the exam even if their first language is Spanish
- Question from Cesi: Is there support to help pay for the exam fees, and educate all of the families about the DELE and financial support available? Suggested a career fair to help students find jobs after high school.
 - Mr. Hinds let her know about the support from ALL
 - Leigh suggested that ALL consider covering exam fees for all students
 - District contact Beth Borkowski, any questions can be directed to her
- Question from Elisa: When is the best time to take the DELE?
 - Mr. Hinds: whenever a student is ready for the DELE they can take it, any year
 - High school teachers encourage students to take it early to get it out of the way so they can focus on the more challenging courses later on
 - Mark Perez: We encourage the students to spread out the testing so it doesn't become overwhelming- however, they can take at any time

- Question from Erin Foellmi: Is the DELE a straight pass/fail?
 - It is a certification, not an exam. They can take it multiple times.
- Question from Katie Ryan: How does LHHS encourage biculturalism given some racist behaviors at Gates and Los Alisos?
 - Mr. Hinds encouraged parent to reach out to discuss concerns
- Question from Dylan: How important is it for students to go to all 3 DLI schools?
 - Student will not get the ISA Diploma, but they will get the certificate

Secretary's Report – Dylan:

- Motion made to approve the minutes from 10/111/2022. Motion seconded, motion passed and approved.

Olga Hofreiter – Assistant Principal at Los Alisos:

- Honor roll celebration for students received A, B, & C grades
- December 23rd is the Pawsitive Party

Principal's Report: Sr. Clearwater:

- Visitors from Spanish Consulate came to Gates
- Leadership program starting at Gates for 5th and 6th grade students; will be leading Spirit Week the last week of December
- Adrian Rodriguez was named Gates teacher of the year
- Bilingual CAFE conference in Long Beach, open for parents and teachers to attend
- Pajama Day – December 23rd

President's Report – Leigh Hansen:

- New position has opened up for Vice President of Operations
- Need chairperson for 8th Grade party and the senior dinner
- Volunteers needed for the Spring fundraiser and Dia del Nino

Marcielle Gosselin – Spring Fundraiser Chair:

- Saturday March 3rd is the date
- Flyers with more info will be coming soon
- Volunteers are needed, all encouraged to attend

Meredith Chase – VP of Operations:

- Dia de los Muertos is the current event in progress
- Chairperson for event is Christina Garcia Versteegh
- Save the date & info flyer went home with Gates students today
- Another flyer will be sent home with information about the traditional dance

Ira Pulverman – Treasurer:

- Financials from the month of November 2022 were reviewed
- Total income was \$9,625.06 raised mostly through donations

- Cash position 26,083.66 in cash at the end of November
- Motion was made to approve the November 2022 financial summary
- Motion is seconded and passed
- Ira noted that the ALL board approved donating \$490 to purchase new books for Gates

Upcoming Events:

- Next General Meeting: Tuesday February 7th at 6:30pm, this will be the Senior Roundtable
- Dia Del Nino
- Senior Dinner
- Oso Fit Fun Run on February 25th, 100% of registration fees will go to ALL is users select that charity

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm