

Latino Parent Advisory Committee

Family Resource Centers

1661 Pacific Avenue Stockton, CA 95204 (209) 933-7470



January 20, 2022 Virtual Meeting

Minutes

1.0 *Welcome* - Mrs. Martha Hernandez (Vice President) welcomed all members and guests and called for a motion to start the meeting at 9:36 am. The first motion was made by Angeles Cortez and seconded by Sandra Arreola. Motion approved. Parents were advised that the meeting would be recorded for record keeping purposes only. If someone did not want to be recorded, they were given the opportunity to turn off their camera. Martha Hernandez read the meeting rules. It was asked that they keep their microphones off to respect everyone, to wait for the presenter to open the session for questions and to open their microphone only when they want to participate.

3.0 Changes to the Agenda - Mrs. Martha Hernandez called for two motions to make changes to the agenda. The change would be from Enrique Munoz to Martha Hernandez, since the president was absent during this meeting. The first motion was made by Adela Hernandez and seconded by Shirley Garcia. Motion approved. Mrs. Martha Hernandez welcomed the Superintendent, Mr. John Ramirez Jr.

Superintendent, Mr. John Ramirez Jr., greeted those present. "First of all, happy new year to you all. I hope that with everything that is happening you are enjoying this year. I want to give you a brief report on the number of COVID infections after the winter break. We are seeing that this week it is being controlled a little more as they are not reporting it. Let's wait to see what they tell us this weekend. Based on how it is affecting us, we have put in place different procedures in order to keep our schools safe. We have also been working with the unions to be able to move teachers into classes where they are needed. Since there are many teachers who are getting sick, we are working with the department of services at the state level. One question parents are asking me is why aren't schools closed? and the reason is because we must have requirements to be able to close the schools. That depends on the state and county. In this case, if the cases of contagion begin to drop, there will be no emergency. Hopefully it doesn't affect us with many infected people. We are working with the nurses".

Lucila Mendoza asked the Superintendent if the parents could ask him three questions, to which Mr. John Ramirez, Jr. replied that he was willing. "The first question is that, as a district, we are not being informed about the cases that are going on, so how come the district is neglecting the children? How are asymptomatic children being allowed to attend classes? The way that the CDC is doing it is not very clear, could they bring experts to talk about it? Why don't we have a number of the ones infected?"

The Superintendent responded, "The process we follow is the one dictated by the state. We have not allowed parents to enter the schools to avoid contagion. What is emergency? I do not have the authority to close or say where the emergency is. This comes directly from the state. The children who are outside, we do not know. We did not put the pandemic; the pandemic came to us. We are trying to provide more help, we are looking at how to put classes after school, we had summer classes to be able to move forward. Next week, we will provide data on how we are progressing academically." Mrs. Angeles agreed with the Superintendent's response.

The Superintendent had this to say: "What I want you to hear is that money is coming in to us for three years. We want to see how we are going to elevate this, we are going to see how we are going to promote a student from kindergarten to sixth grade, from seventh to eighth grade, and how we are going to graduate our students. And we're going to expand on this, since we started with Stagg, Franklin, and Edison. What we are seeing is that this pandemic is not so fatal. We do not know when the end will come, we are waiting for information from scientists. We had over 5,000 students attend in-person classes, and that's good. And in virtual classes it was not successful."

Mrs. Martha Hernandez commented that we are short of time and there will only be one more question and then to be able to continue with the agenda. Mrs. Rosalba Mendoza made the comment that she considers that we are in an emergency since it is something that the CDC is saying. They shouldn't wait until the students are in the hospitals, we see that school district staff are getting sick, teachers are getting sick, lunch staff are getting sick, students are getting sick, why do we wait for this get bigger? Why do we have four students sitting at the same table? If we have money for three years, why aren't we creating a plan now to deal with what is happening now?

The Superintendent Mr. John Ramirez, Jr. thanked Mrs. Rosalba and asked the attendees if they had more questions to write them in the chat so that a meeting could be held later. He tried to answer the question by saying the following: "Thank you for the point of saying that we are all parents; I have a son in high school, my daughter is a substitute teacher, and they are there every day.

When I say that we need an emergency to close the schools, I am not saying that what is happening right now is not an emergency. You have to separate these two things. Don't think that I don't think there is an emergency. Before everyone returned from vacation, me and the cabinet were working even on weekends to be prepared and to see what was needed.

As far as suggestion goes, every night and weekend our custodians clean and sanitize classrooms, and in schools where there have been positive cases, they are cleaned multiple times. They are working Saturday, Sunday, they work even on holidays. We're collecting applications to be able to expand our programs, expand summer school, and we're going to give you the data for this year and last year so you can see that there has been an improvement to the fact that we're teaching in person. Right now I am alone in my office because I am alone, but we have implemented the use of masks when students are inside the classrooms.

I do not want you to think that I separate one emergency from another, I am complying with the requirements at the state level. Next Tuesday we have a board meeting, I will not be able to meet with you that day, but if you look for another day we can have a meeting. Send me days and times when you can."

Mrs. Martha Hernandez asked the Superintendent the following question. "Are you only going to meet with us to answer the questions that are in the chat or are we also going to meet with the health department?" The Superintendent replied that the most efficient thing would be for them to ask him the questions, for the parents to have their questions already prepared on any topic they have doubts and meet for one or two hours with the departments that can give them answers.

Mrs. Martha Hernandez asked if the Family Resource Center is going to be in charge of scheduling the next meeting with the Superintendent, to which the Superintendent answered yes.

Finally, Mrs. Martha Hernandez thanked the Superintendent for his presence and stressed that he will always be welcome at the meetings. She also pointed out that all questions be written in the chat so that they are prepared so they can be answered.

2.0 Roll call by Martha Hernandez

The following schools were represented:

- 1. Edison Lucia Vega
- 2. Franklin Angelina Aranda
- 3. Grunsky Sandra Arreola
- 4. Hamilton -Claudia Cruz
- 5. HCA Martha Hernandez
- 6. Hong Kingston Luz E Avila
- 7. McKinley Francisca Vargas, Veronica Merino
- 8. Merlo Claudia Cruz
- 9. PLA Maricela Nunez
- 10. PYA Angelina Aranda, Irma Rubio
- 11. Pittman Adela Castro Perez, Nancy Huante-Tzintzun
- 12. San Joaquín Shirley Garcia, Adela Hernandez
- 13. SECA Francisca Vargas, Veronica Merino
- 14. Weber Lucila Mendoza, Veronica Merino, Patricia Mosqueda

A total of 24 parents were present, including guests Angeles Cortes, Maria Medina, Julia Flores, Alicia Cedio, Claudia Ortiz, Rosalba Mendoza. Also present were Dr. Israel González, Director of Equity, Superintendent Mr. John Ramirez Jr. In addition, the staff of the Family Resource Center office: Motecuzoma Sánchez, Director, Stephanie Zulueta, Secretary, Maggie Canela and Robert Olivarez Jr., Parent Liaison. Also, Alicia Lopez, Interpreter; Dr. José Cárdenas and Nicolette Gonzalba, Counseling Programs Specialist; and Hugo Hernandez, Presenter of the House of Culture CHUC for a total of 34 in attendance.

Mrs. Martha made a clarification regarding the questions that will be asked to the Superintendent at the meeting. She mentioned that, it is not that people will not be given time to ask their questions if they did not write them in the chat, but it is recommended to write them down ahead of time to be able to move forward and be within the time that they are going to have in the meeting.

Mrs. Irma Rubio asked for a motion to extend the time of the meeting and clarified that only the topics that are on the agenda will be discussed. The first motion was made by Veronica Merino and seconded by Julia Flores. Motion approved.

4.0 Reading and Approval of the Minutes- (Irma Rubio)

Mrs. Irma Rubio commented that they had 3 minutes to read the minutes that they can see on the screen and that they were sent by email from the last meeting. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes. The first motion was made by Adela Hernandez and seconded by Francisca Vargas. Motion approved.

5.0 Old Businesses- (Martha Hernandez)

5.1 Name of Latin X (Irma Rubio) - By majority vote, we have a new name. Now we are Latino PAC with 14 votes in favor and 4 in opposition. There were a total of 18 participants, the vote was carried out through the chat, the chat votes went directly to Stephanie Zulueta, Parent Liaison and the witness at that time was Alicia Barraza Orozco, official member of Latino PAC and representative from Harrison School. There are documents to answer any question.

Ms. Angeles Cortes commented that she did not remember at which meeting the name change had been discussed, so she was not aware that a vote had already been taken to make the change from LatinX PAC to Latino PAC. Mrs. Lucila Mendonza clarified that the Latino name has to have the PAC, since they are a branch of the PAC. Mrs. Irma Rubio clarified that when the vote was made, it was done with those present and it was approved.

5.2 Statutes (Irma Rubio) - The changes that were made were from the name of LatinX PAC to Latino PAC in articles I, II, III section 4 and 5, V, and VIII.

5.3 New Logo (Martha Hernandez) - Mrs. Martha Hernandez presented the new logo. The logo remains the same and only one letter was changed, the X for the o.

6.0 New Business -

6.1 Election Results - Mrs. Martha Hernandez mentioned that in the last meeting they had elections and the results of the elections were shared.

President - Lucila Mendoza with 15-4 votes Vice President - Irma Rubio with 15-3 votes and one abstained Secretary - Martha Hernandez with 13-4 votes and two abstained Parliamentarian - Lucía Vega with 13-6 votes

Mrs. Martha Hernandez thanked all the members for the support and trust they gave them. Mrs. Stephanie Zulueta thanked the past officers for their support and thanked them for their service to the Latino PAC.

6.2 The CHUC House of Culture, Hugo Hernandez - Mrs. Maggie Canela introduced Mr. Hugo Hernandez, representative of La Casa de la Cultura CHUC (Creating Unique and Capable Homes) who is going to give a presentation on the workshops he offers. After the presentation it will be decided if we want to take his workshops.

Mr. Hugo Hernandez thanked for being able to present to the members of Latino PAC and mentioned on how it took him 25 years to have a home full of love, peace, and tranquility. His mission now is to support parents so they can create a home full of love, peace and tranquility. He created a three-session, two-hour workshop that teaches how to take care of yourself first as a parent and then to their children and family members. There are three courses, the first is about identity, why and the importance of personal and professional goals. In this first workshop they will be given activities and tasks to put into practice at home and will serve to prepare them for the second session. The second session is about the triangle of life that is, physical health, mental health and social health. The third workshop is about being parents and how to raise autonomous, self-sufficient and independent children. At the end of the workshops they will be given a list of 20 activities that will give them the knowledge and later to put what they have learned into practice. The workshops will be virtual. Mr. Hugo asked if they had any questions but there were none. Mrs. Maggie Canela asked that if members are interested in attending Mr. Hugo Hernandez's workshop, to please send him a text or write in the chat that they are interested in the workshop.

6.3 LCAP Presentation, Dr. Israel Gonzalez LCAP Director - Mrs. Martha Hernández introduced Dr. Israel Gonzalez, LCAP Director.

Dr. Gonzalez informed that the last Wednesday of each month he has presentations for the community on the LCAP topic. The first will take place on January 26 at 5:30pm. The last time he was in a meeting, he presented on LCAP funding, but he wanted to go through the first part quickly so he could move on to the next topic. The funds are received by the state and the amount is based on a high-needs student formula defined by students who are English learners, who are in foster care and who are low-income to provide those grants and be able to pay the teachers.

He outlined the allocations and said that most of the LCAP funds should be at least half way used by now. He also showed the plan and stated that the priorities are made in three goals. Before introducing the three goals, he presented the percentages of students enrolled in the unified district. He highlighted that 68% are Hispanic, 10% are African American, 8.7% are Asian, making them the largest groups. Combined, 84% are low-income students. He presented the summary of LCAP funds.

The last time he presented in October, he talked a little bit about the ESSER III funds which are funds to improve schools, the impact of COVID and he showed the graphs from the surveys and the areas that came up as focus topics that are not part of from LCAP. For the LCAP, there are three priority goals, the first is to increase student achievement, the second is healthy and equitable learning environments, and the third is meaningful partnerships. Dr. Gonzalez stated that among the three goals, there are 80 actions.

The first goal has 36 actions, and is focused on increasing student achievement by providing high-quality first instruction supported by a multi-tiered support system to graduate every young person college, career, and community ready.

The second goal has 26 actions and is focused on the Unified District providing equitable and healthy learning environments that enhance social-emotional and academic learning for all students using a multi-layered system of supports. This second goal uses \$182,278,082 for teaching and instructional staffing, and \$9,535,249 for administrator restoration for K-8 sites.

The third goal has 18 actions, and focuses on the Unified District creating a culture of inclusion and collaboration with families and community stakeholders that will create meaningful partnerships focused on increasing student engagement and family participation and the community in support of leadership development at all levels. For example, \$2.8 million was allocated to music teachers to have music programs in schools. \$1,051,919 was also allocated for student leadership and engagement experiences so students have the opportunity to be leaders in their schools. Those were some of the 80 actions that the LCAP has, and all the information is available on the Unified website.

To end the session, Dr. Gonzalez highlighted that the most important thing is that they are going to receive \$12.4 million from the state, since they noted that all the districts in the state of

California had a big problem of lack of personnel in the schools. So, to all the districts that qualified, they gave funds to increase staff. The Unified District will look at how it can use those funds to increase staff who provide direct services to students at schools with low-income, English learner, and/or foster youth enrollment that exceeds 55%. Possible staffing would be hiring bilingual aides, additional counselors, psychologists and mental health professionals, intervention teachers (reading, language arts, and math), after school tutors, student support specialists, additional site administrators, curriculum experts, SEL (Social Emotional Learning)

Mentors, Social Service Case Managers, Extra Custodians. What parents are asked to do is to complete a survey to hear the opinion of the community through the link http://gg.gg/2022_CAPex_1s Dr. Gonzalez lastly provided the dates for the following LCAP Compromise Conversations and the link http://gg.gg/2022_LCAP to attend these meetings: January 26, 2022 at 5:30pm February 23, 2022 at 5:30pm March 30, 2022 at 5:30pm

April 27, 2022 at 5:30pm

Mrs. Martha Hernandez asked if there was a deadline to complete the survey and Dr. Gonzalez replied that it had just been opened, and they plan to keep it for 6 weeks. He stated that a survey was also carried out for the students since their voice is very important, and in a few days they have already received more than 300 responses with information on what they need. Of all those responses, the majority are saying that they need help with math.

Mrs. Martha Hernandez asked that the presentation be shared with the parents present at the meeting and Dr. Gonzalez agreed to email it to the Family Resource Center so that they could share it.

6.4 Department of Counseling Dr. Jose Cardenas, Program Specialist - Mrs. Martha Hernandez welcomed Dr. Jose Cardenas, Program Specialist.

Since they were short on time, Dr. Cardenas shared some links in advance in the chat <u>https://www.smore.com/ekcr7</u> and thanked them for being at the meeting. He shared what is being done in the counseling department, and that an email newsletter is being shared with all parents and teachers. For example, the week of February 7-11 is the week to celebrate the work of counselors and to spread the word that they are available to students. It was noted that counselors are talking with students about having good mental health, mental health basics, understanding mental health, healthy coping skills, and how to get help.

So far, they have had over 150 suicide events, where students have asked for help and they as counselors have been there to help those students. He stated that in the month of February the registration of the eighth grade students will take place, so they will start talking with the students about the next school year. Also, included in the newsletter is a different option for students like the California Conservation Corps, which is a paid program for youth ages 18-25, where youth can learn different skills and abilities so they can work and discover the career they like the most.

Dr. Cardenas shared that they will have a new platform to be able to share scholarships and FAFSA information. The platform will be open from February 1 to March 1 for all 12th grade students. Thus, students will be able to apply for more than 90 scholarships. School counselors are helping students fill out the FAFSA forms and have workshops after school so they can help parents fill out those forms. The workshops will focus on helping parents who have students in grade 12, but if you have children in grades 9-11, you can also be present to prepare for the years to come.

The state also has events to help parents fill out financial aid forms. He showed a graph where it is seen that 32% of the students have submitted a financial aid form and only 27% have completed part of the processes, which are high percentages compared to the percentages available from the county and the state, but they are still very low percentages, since the goal is 70% or even 100% delivery of financial aid forms. Next school year there will be a law that requires all students in California to fill out their financial aid application, and if they don't, the district will have to answer to the state for why they didn't follow that law.

Dr. Cardenas ended his presentation by stating that the counseling department is also in the classroom with the students, and they focus on learning emotional health, create groups, hold virtual meetings, for example they have had more than 8 virtual meetings, and they have also been visiting houses, all with the purpose of serving the students. He mentioned that they are available to listen and help students in whatever they need, so please do not hesitate to contact them for whatever you need.

7.0 Reports- Mrs. Martha Hernandez shared the following reports.

7.1 PAC- One meeting on February 3, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

7.2 AABPAC (Maggie Canela) - Meeting on February 9, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. AABPAC have plans to have a festive day with performances, music, and information. We don't have a date yet, but once they have a date, it will be announced.

7.3 CAC (Monique Guerrero) - Yesterday we had our CAC meeting and someone spoke about how to have better mental health and it was a great presentation. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the presentation, please contact Mary Perez in the special education office at (209) 933-7484 ext.1232 and email meperez@stocktonusd.net The next meeting will be February 16; She included the Zoom link in the chat (Parent Educational Presentations! (PEP!) Meeting Agenda February 16, 2022 12:30 - 2:00pm Meeting ID: 234 116 4951* Password: SPED) everyone who is interested in special education, please join these workshops and spread the word. There are also raffles and the director gives them the opportunity to talk about their experiences and ask questions.

Mrs. Maggie Canela shared that Mrs. Monique Guerrero is a very involved person in special education and she will be available every Monday from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the Family Resource Center. And she's going to be there on her personal time so that all parents who are interested in information or support in special education can get it and get advice.

8.0 Announcements (Martha Hernandez) - The next Latino PAC meeting will be on March 24, 2022, from 9:30 am -11:00 am. The link is the same and you can get it on the website of the Family Resource Center. Remember to share your email in the chat so that you can receive the agendas, minutes, and emails with all the information. Mrs. Maggie thanked her for coming to this meeting as it was a very long meeting with many things on the agenda. She reminded them that if they want to be part of the workshop with Mr. Hugo Hernandez, to please text, email or call the Family Resource Center if they want to be part of those classes.

9.0 Adjourn - 2 motions were requested to adjourn the meeting at 12:12p.m. First motion Francisca Vargas and seconded by Adela Hernandez. Motion approved.

These minutes were prepared by Lucila Mendoza and Nasya Castanon.

Family Resource Centers/ Centros de Recursos Familiares Maggie Canela • Nasya Castanon • Robert Olivarez Jr • Motecuzoma Sanchez • Mark Scrivens • Stephanie Zulueta