

**Pittsburg Unified School District**  
**Educational Services**  
**District Advisory Committee (DAC) - MINUTES**  
**October 18, 2022**  
**5:30 – 7:00 pm (1<sup>st</sup> Meeting in Person)**

**Attendees:**

**Foothill:**

**Heights:**

**Highlands:**

**Los Medanos:**

**Parkside:**

**Willow Cove:**

**Stoneman:** Carol Archie

**Marina Vista:** Elizabeth Belleci

**Hillview JH:** Alma Rodríguez

**Rancho Medanos JH:**

**MLK, Jr. JH:**

**PHS:** María Zárate, Alma Rodríguez, Ben Taylor, Marion Barnor

**Black Diamond High:**

**Ed Services:** Shelley Velasco, L. Asdourian

**Guest:**

**Called Meeting to order:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mrs. Shelley Velasco. All in attendance introduced themselves.

- Alma Rodríguez, I have my son at PHS and daughter in Hillview. I am also involved in ELAC, DELAC and DAC I have known Mrs. Velasco for a long time.
- Libby Belleci, I am a teacher at Marina Vista I have taught general education and special education
- Ben Taylor, English teacher at PHS, filling out for someone to bring back information to our School Site Council.
- Marion Barnor, I am a parent that like the success not only of my children but for every child in America. I am from Ghana. I just accepted a nurse position in the district. I am not sure it this would be conflicting. Ms. Velasco commented that it would not. I have a daughter in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and nieces at Rancho Medanos.
- María Zárate, I volunteered in the preschools and starting attending DELAC since my child was 10, now she is 25. I am here for my kids and the community; I am here because I am part of DELAC. I have student in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade at PHS. I am also getting input from the students.

We want the best to the students. A student present mentioned that Mrs. Velasco had been the best principal he has known.

Mrs. María Zárate, mentioned that at the DELAC meeting, there was talk about parents volunteering at PHS.

**Changes to the Agenda.** Mrs. Velasco mentioned that after the parent engagement policy, we would vote for the “In person Meetings or via Zoom” and then asked the members to make a motion. Mrs. A. Rodríguez made the first motion to add the voting for in person or via Zoom meeting. And Mrs. E. Belleci seconded it to do the change to the agenda.

**Review of the minutes:**

Mrs. S. Velasco mentioned that the Review of the Minutes is a requirement. We go through a federal review. They approved the minutes because they know that they are scripted, but a collaboration from the parents and members of the committee.

Mrs. S. Velasco mentioned these minutes were for the DAC/DELAC Meeting of May 16, 2022. Time was given to members to review the minutes that were also send via email earlier. The first motion to accept the May 16, 2022 minutes as recorded was made by Mrs. A. Rodríguez and it was seconded by Mr. B. Taylor. Everyone agreed to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved.

Mrs. S. Velasco mentioned that in the absence of Ms. T. Ameral the chairperson, she would run the meeting.

### **Responsibilities of the District Advisory Committee:**

Mrs. Velasco distributed copies of the Bylaws. She asked the members to look at the first page. Responsibilities. What DAC does is to assist the school district to bring cooperation and coordination. DAC does not have veto authority; we do not enter in contract. It is an advisory group to make recommendations and to be the voice for each school site and takes this back to your school site councils. To share what information is given here and recommendations. DAC provides information and provides input for the district plan, our feedback will be added to the plan. The voice of this committee would be added to the plan.

DELAC has been working with Child Nutrition Services. We could bring speakers to this group, like the superintendent or other administrators.

The chairperson position is a two-year term. Ms. T. Ameral is the chairperson and Mrs. Marion Barnor and Mrs. Susana Osafo are co-chairpersons. The following information is just for you to know that whoever gets elected is for a two-year term.

### **Elections of officers: Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson (2-year Term)**

The notes are taken by Mrs. Asdourian.

### **New Business: Topics to be covered this year**

Mrs. Velasco mentioned that she wanted the members to brainstorm.

Are these things still things that you want to cover?

- CCEIS Plans to address over identification of AA students with disabilities.
- Ethnic students or studies
- Categorical expenditure
- We had a presentation form HR Human Resources by Matt Chamberlain about hiring in our district.
- Community
- Some of the things that we did address and did not address last year.

Dr. Schulze came in to the meeting to say hello.

Are there any other topics you would like to cover?

Mrs. Rodríguez requested “Safety”. She is concern about the safety of the students with everything that is going on about the shooting.

It does not seem that it would get any better. We need help emotionally, safety in the schools for the students. That’s why we come to these meeting. I would like to talk about traffic at dismissal at the high school. Other parents agreed.

Mrs. Rodríguez commented that it has been challenging to hire teachers at the high school, they need at least five teachers. Why do we accept kids from other cities? We have more traffic.

Mrs. Belleci commented. When you say safety. Do you mean from outside in.?

Mrs. Rodríguez mentioned. Everything. Safety also from student to student. Safety overall.

Ms. M. Barnor. A situation, it is a trauma for someone to go to the bathroom. It is unacceptable. This is from an outsider. I was very happy when you talked about safety.

Mrs. Velasco mentioned. Many kids were exposed at home with a computer.

Someone commented. It is not the bullying part. It is more at the middle school. It is the threat the school gets. Everyone Airdrops on the phone threatening information. Kids think it is funny.

Comment: The guns can be stored in the backpacks and students may not want to talk. It is also that there are drugs in campuses, marijuana. Today the fire alarm went off because someone was vaping. The students are also selling.

Mrs. Velasco. This is a situation that we cannot solve but we can talk to someone like Ms. Alicia Bush our district safety coordinator and Ms. Maggie Gonzalez our campus resource officer at PHS.

Mrs. M. Zárate recommended that we could start talking to students about the dangers of drugs at an earlier age from elementary schools. Students are smoking now that marijuana is legal for adults but not for students.

Mrs. M. Barnor requested to have a session or assembly to talk to the students to show a video or see the side effects of drugs. Don't shy away, the school knows what is happening at the school but are not doing anything. Some students had meth.

Mrs. Velasco agreed that we need to start at the elementary school.

Mrs. Velasco mentioned that when you hear a personal story, from someone it is more impressive. We could bring someone to talk to the students.

Mrs. M. Zárate. We need to empower our kids. If students have low self-esteem they do drugs. I know of a teacher from elementary that talked to the students in a circle. We are a community; we need to be together. That is why we are here to give our ideas and help. Now we have students in Kindergarten that parents may be smoking in their cars and the students come to school smelling like marijuana.

Mrs. M. Barnor. We have so many things that we are teaching. We need to update our curriculum and teach about drug addiction. Drugs are dangerous.

Regarding the shooting at some schools. The law says you cannot drink at 18 but you can buy a gun.

Mrs. S. Velasco, would talk about the schedule with Dr. Schulze, Ms. Alicia Bush, and Mr. Whitmire.

Someone mentioned: Topics on the agenda: Beyond Red Ribbon.

Mrs. M. Zárate. There are many kids misbehaving. The sooner you inform the parents, maybe the Parent liaison could do more communication with parents.

Some teachers at PHS are using Parent Square. Does Parent Square translate?  
Yes, 18 languages. Some parents want to stay with Dojo.

Mrs. A. Rodríguez mentioned, I have to add safety for all the schools' levels.

Mrs. S. Velasco mentioned, we may want to invite DELAC. We may have a Summit. We will get a notice to DELAC to see if they want to know.

Fights. Other students are coming to campus from other cities. Antioch, Concord after class. In the mornings, when we are coming from the side of MV or this area there is a lot of trouble at School Street and Harbor.

-How many students do we bring from other cities? Open enrollment.

-Resource Officer.

-To include Black Diamond also.

Mr. B. Taylor commented. If we only take students from Pittsburg. Last year was about 20% of the population was out of district.

Mrs. Velasco mentioned this is a good question to ask. It is a number I can ask student services. Great topics, Mrs. Velasco mentioned.

When we have this meeting.

- Safety
- Drug Prevention
- Overcrowding
- Volunteer in the cafeteria.
- 30 minutes' lunch in not enough

Mr. B. Taylor. We only have one lunch period. I have friend in another high school of 2000 students and they have more lunch periods.

Mrs. M. Barnor. We also can open more snack bars in North Campus. There is not enough staff in the cafeteria. There is brunch. Students don't like the food from the cafeteria. We have vendor and the students like the foods. Tacos and *eloteros* area success.

Lots of talk about timing and population. There are students not being on time after lunch, because they were on line in the cafeteria.

Mrs. M Barnor. We are paying taxes for our students in Pittsburg. Some of the topics:

- Safety
- Drug Prevention
- Parent communication.
- Lunch – timing Talking to Eric Peyko has been mentioned.
- Better food and make sure is fresh. Prepackaged is not good.

We are wasting a lot food.

Ms. Zárate notice they are improving.

Mr. B. Taylor. The timing of it.  
Shelley, this is something we will not solve tonight.

### **Uniform Complaint Procedure**

**This is something that has to be shared at your School Site Council.**

This a process that the district has for parents and employees to file complaints.  
The parents have access to this complaint.

Question. Can you be more specific?

Anytime a parent has complaint of discrimination, or harassment. There is a process outside of the school site.

Mrs. A. Rodríguez mentioned if the name of this document could be changed the name of this document. Instead of uniform Complaint Procedure to name it another name so people do not think it is about school uniforms.

### **Preference of the way we continue to do the DAC meetings:**

**In person ---- or in Zoom\_\_\_\_\_.**

Members voted by ballot to request meeting in person or zoom.

Comments from a parent, we need more communication. Some schools need to have communication with parents to let them know.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022. Mrs. Velasco will try to get in contact with all the people.

Mrs. Barnor commented. They will tell us thing they would do. They need to implement what they say they would do.

Mrs. S. Velasco: They need to listen and time to respond.

Mrs. S. Velasco mentioned that Mrs. Asdourian will continue to reach out about the meetings.  
Someone mentioned. I like being part of this committee.

### **Parent Engagement Policy - table to next meeting.**

Mrs. A. Rodríguez made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

It was Seconded by Mrs. Belleci. Everyone agreed to end the meeting.

### **Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

**Closing** - Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.