

District English Learner Advisory Council
November 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Educational Resource Center
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order

Bonner Montler, Coordinator of Assessment and the English Learner Department, called the meeting to order at 9:20a.m. Mr. Montler provided a continental breakfast.

2. Reading and Approval of May Minutes

Mr. Montler reviewed the DELAC meeting minutes from the September 27, 2013 meeting. No additions were recommended. Eva Gonzalez motioned to approve the minutes and Nada Sawaya seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted.

3. Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Sessions–Eileen Moreno

• **English Language Arts**

Eileen Moreno discussed how the CCSS will provide college and career readiness in English Language Arts. The CCSS will help students demonstrate independence, build strong content knowledge, and allow them to respond to the many demands of the audience. Reading will focus on a wider range of texts that are more challenging. Writing will include argumentative, informative, and narrative. Speaking and listening will focus on effective communication formally and informally.

4. Effective Parent/Teacher Conferences

Bonner Montler discussed the parent teacher conferences that will take place December 9-13th. He presented a handout from the Colorin Colorado website that explained what to do before, during, and after conferences. Mr. Montler showed the “Colorin Colorado” website. He mentioned that translations for conferences are available. Prearrange for a translator if one will be needed.

5. Catch-Up plans and Trimester Assessments Suspended

Mr. Montler explained that there will not be Catch-Up Plans this year or Trimester Assessments. The Catch-Up plan needs to be reformulated for the new common core standards. The current trimester assessments are outdated and need to be readdressed.

6. Spring Assessments

Mr. Montler declared that this year the CST will not be given except for science. 3rd – 8th graders will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment this spring as a practice to show students what is expected. Students will have access to glossaries for word translations. Students who have been in the U.S. less than one year won't take the language arts portion of the Smarter Balanced Assessment just math.

7. Questions and Concerns

A question about the criteria used to reclassify students without trimester assessments was asked. Mr. Montler stated that CELDT scores, previous year CST scores, and teacher input will be used. A question was asked about whether schools have a sufficient quantity of computers. Mr. Montler responded that the district has a plan for preparing.

8. Next DELAC Meeting

The next DELAC meeting was set for February 7, 2014 at the ERC Board Room from 9:00-10:30 a.m.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.