

Academy for Academic Excellence
School Site Council/English Learner Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 20, 2025

1. Call to Order – Brandi Peterson 3:37pm.

2. Roll Call

First Name & Last Name	Representing	Start Term	End Term	Attendance
Chet Richards	Principal	09/07/2018		Present
Kathryn Lucas	Teacher	10/24/2024	10/17/2024	Present
Kristel Stocker	Teacher	10/24/2024	10/17/2024	Present
Varteni Krikorian	MS/HS Vice Principal	09/21/2023	10/17/2024	Present
Maria Fierro	Class. Staff	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Present
April Vincent	Parent	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Present
Maya Rivas	Parent	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Present
Brandi Peterson	Parent	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Present
Elizabeth Chapman	Student	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Absent
Ward Halwani	Student	09/21/2023	09/21/2025	Absent

3. Public Comments

No public comments were received.

4. SSC Business – Approval of Minutes

Correction noted: The next meeting date listed in the previous minutes should have been 3/20 instead of 5/8. Additionally, the motion by Richards and second in the second paragraph of Questions/Comments should be removed.

Motion: Lucas moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Second: Peterson.

Vote: All in favor – motion passed.

5. ELD Planning Updates

Discussions included the need to incentivize teachers who cover ELD classes, possibly through additional compensation. Interviews are ongoing, and the importance of CLAD certification was emphasized. While previously mandatory, some newer credential programs no longer include it, making it a valuable qualification.

Teachers currently supporting ELD students are using the i-Ready platform to target score improvement. Ms. Western (high school) is bilingual and fulfilling that role. Ms. Foulks is CLAD certificated and works with MS. The school is also considering hiring a bilingual instructional aide to pull out students for language support.

It was noted that improving Dashboard indicators, particularly in ELD and chronic absenteeism, remains a school priority. Questions included whether the school currently has bilingual teachers. A parent shared that earlier ELD support would have been helpful when their children were younger.

Richards suggested that hiring an EL paraprofessional to work across grade levels during UA time could become an April goal.

6. LCAP Updates

Mr. Richards outlined LCAP Goals:

Goal 1: Prepare students for secondary success. Budget allocations include resources such as PARSEC (for research), testing (SAT, test prep), Learning A-Z, ELD teacher stipends, new teacher training, summer PD, paraeducators, and the attendance clerk.

Goal 2: Foster student engagement, well-being, and an inclusive environment. Supported activities include field trips, esports, summer STEM academy, AP testing, "Tomorrow's Talent," robotics, and cybersecurity apprenticeships.

Goal 3: Implement strategies for a safe and secure environment. Initiatives include school uniforms, CSOs, the Catapult emergency system, the StopIt app, Rombus, an athletic director/administrator supporting security, and CKH.

The general fund is used for school operational costs. A more detailed budget review is scheduled for May.

7. Ethnic Studies Update

A gallery event was held the previous evening to share progress on the Ethnic Studies program. A committee is developing strategies for implementation, with a focus on ELA integration. Ms. Nguyen has led these efforts effectively. Although attendance was low, the presentation was livestreamed and recorded for later viewing. It will also be shared at the upcoming "Parents and Pastries" event.

Questions/Comments:

Regarding ELD, a question was raised about whether all teachers need to be CLAD certified. While not currently required, incentives may be offered to encourage certification. The school plans to cover the cost of the three required classes, which typically take 6–9 months to complete, and may provide additional compensation.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Brandi Peterson. Second: Maria Fierro.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:59 PM

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025