

Strategic Plan Goal Committee #3 Minutes
Tuesday, February 3, 2009
District Office Board Room

Strategic Plan Goal #3: *Our students are prepared for a multicultural and multilingual world*

Those in attendance: Matt Murray, Tod Gunter, Jean Bohl, Gary St. George, Gillberto Lara, Raul Vandenberg, Lisa Thilmont, Molly Michalec, Marla Villavencio, Darlene Kisler, Lori Nakaoka, Jim Laski, Shawn Hovey, Brian Sturges

I. Discussion about how to implement programs & what to implement:

- ✓ Do we only consider after school programs?
- ✓ Teachers feel this should be a part of the regular curriculum even at the elementary level
- ✓ Majority feel that we need to offer two if not three languages Spanish and French (?)
- ✓ School day would have to be lengthened to accommodate this being a part of school day curriculum unless it is short periods of time and not full courses
- ✓ Are we going to have languages begin K-12 or start at another level?
- ✓ Do we make this mandatory or elective to introduce bilingualism?
- ✓ Are we going cultural or are we going language learning?
- ✓ Possibility of having a roaming teacher go into classes to teach language in all classes
- ✓ What languages do we offer?
- ✓ Culture is introduced in social studies
- ✓ Reintroduce geography in high school

II. Concerns about how to implement programs:

- If we only consider after school programs there is concern that we would lose a lot of student interest
- Parent concern about the many activities that already happen after school
- How do we implement more into the curriculum when we already have full schedules?
- Are we talking language or culture?
- If we make language mandatory there is concern that some students will not be successful
- We have a Dual Immersion program that parents have already opted not to have their child in, so we may be upsetting parents who do not want their student in a language program
- Can there be options to opt out of a mandated language program?
- What happens to special ed. students who are already struggling?
- Are we focusing too much on Spanish and not all cultures?

III. Focus Area Summary

A. Promote Language and Culture Education through coursework

1. Offer vs. mandate
2. Reports
 - a. After school: Lisa, Gary
 - b. During the school day: Shawn, Marla
 - c. Chicano studies: Gilberto, Raul
 - d. For native speakers: Gilberto, Raul
 - e. Rosetta Stone: Jerry
 - f. Culture boxes: Molly, Lisa

B. Cultural Exchange / Interaction

1. Reports
 - a. Exchange and abroad programs: Tod, Matt
 - b. Electronic exchange: Jerry
 - c. Culture boxes: Molly, Lisa
 - d. DI program: Matt
 - e. Teacher education: Brian, Molly

With Both categories being connected to curriculum

IV. Proposal to the Board:

1. Students will receive structured language and cultural programs K-5 within the school day.
2. Increase the language courses at the Middle School by offering language acquisition courses in 6th grade.
3. Offer additional language opportunities in after school programs K-12.

V. Next Steps

- A. Solidify proposal to the Board
- B. Attach price tags
- C. Go to Wish B (Cultural Exchange/Interaction)

**Next Meeting date: March 31, 2009 from 3:45 PM – 5:45 PM
At the District Office in the Board Room**