

Santee School District
Foreign Language Committee
Minutes
Thursday, December 13, 2012

Ground Rules – Review

Mr. Heck welcomed the group. Mrs. Martin reviewed the ground rules of the committee.

Review and approve October Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the November 8, 2012 meeting. Suzie Martin moved to approve the minutes. Jeanie Thill seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Heck explained that it was necessary to narrow the direction of the committee, and to have two priorities in order to stay focused. The committee agreed on the following:

1. Create or recommend an enrichment program which will be available to students in the District
2. Having a dual immersion program available to students in the District

Next is the timeline – 2012-2017. Within these 5 years, what is an attainable goal? The committee may do more but we need to have an attainable goal.

Enrichment– A goal would be to have at least 1 enrichment program implemented that touches all 9 schools within 5 years. One pilot enrichment program will begin in at least one grade level in at least one school by the year 2014. Hopefully every school would have at least one enrichment program. It could possibly be different at every school.

Immersion – In the next 5 years an immersion program may be offered to at least one school in the district. By 2014, at least two immersion Early Admission to Kindergarten (EAK) or kindergarten classes may be offered in at least one school.

Research Share Out - Enrichment

Suzie Martin reported that Tylene Hicks had contacted GUHSD and they recently adopted a new Spanish adoption and there is a possibility they may pass on their previous curriculum to our district.

Dan – At Arovista School in the Brea Unified School District they have an after school Spanish class with multiple grade levels.

Jeanne Thill - The 4th and 5th grades at Cajon Park have a Universal Access (UA) rotation. That could be a foreign language opportunity. It's a possibility for exposure. There are many programs available online for free.

Elena Levens-Craig asked if there is research to show that 1 day / week is effective? Mr. Heck stated that there are pros and cons to enrichment and immersion. It's a difference between exposure and proficiency in the language.

Milka spoke with Sally Fox, Coordinator in Bilingual Services at the San Diego County Office of Education. She has a great deal of knowledge about different bilingual programs. Milka will contact her to see if she's able to come to the next meeting to discuss the immersion program. The committee agreed that they would like to have her to present to the committee.

Suzie Martin reported that Rosetta Stone is being used at PRIDE Academy and the Alternative School. Suzie Martin volunteered to visit and possible video tape the lessons at PRIDE.

Terry Heck stated Carlton Hills has exploratory Spanish as part of their 8th grade wheel – 6 weeks/5 days per week.

Immersion

Mr. Heck shared an article on bilingual skills and how that helps with future employment. He'll email the committee.

SDCOE Red Carpet tour 2/6/13 – bus going to 2 different schools – one 2-way and one 1-way immersion program. Anyone interested in attending should contact Terry Heck.

The committee collaborated to develop and organize a Foreign Language Resource Grid with the different types of programs that have been researched to date.

Terry will come back with research on what other schools have done for curriculum. (Year 3 we would propose to start an immersion program – how many teachers, etc. He will share what other schools have shared with him.

Each member will take a section of the grid and bring back some artifacts.

Milka – FLES and possibly schedule her friend

Terry Heck – Pieces of immersion (full day model)

Suzie Martin – Will videotape Rosetta Stone and provide survey draft to the committee

Dianne El-Hajj – Itinerant teacher

Jeanne Thill– Rosetta Stone

Dan – District demographics

Two other questions

How do you start an immersion program and keep the neighborhood feel?

What about the possibility of teacher displacement?

Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 8:10 p.m.