

# Foreign Language Committee

Thursday, October 10, 2013

**Meeting Called to Order:** 3:35 P.M.

**Members/Introductions:** Terry Heck (CH), Tylene Hicks (CH), Suzie Marin (CP), DiAnn Albert (PRIDE), Jeanne Thill, Cathy Tolnay, Lynne McCarthy, Stacy Gonzales, June Richards, Susanne Swartz

## **Norms/Ground Rules:**

- Start and end on time.
- Divide research tasks/workload.
- Allow members time to speak and get their point across.
- Be culturally aware (we all come from differing backgrounds).
- Stay on task/topic (No bunny trails/bird walks).
- Everyone's opinions have value.
- Silence cell phones.
- Keep moving/focus for progress.
- Allow for majority vote to rule when progress/decisions have to be made.

**Purpose:** *Explore and recommend the best foreign language instruction options to best meet the needs of Santee children.*

## **Meeting Minutes:**

- Welcome and Revisit Committee's Purpose
- Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from May 9, 2013.
- District Parent Survey – Feedback – Some of the questions were cut off (back copy), but the main gist was understandable. Can we underline the word immersion in #2, and the word enrichment in #3 to draw attention to that focus? With regard to question #5 on transportation, will bussing be provided for those who cannot transport their children? (Due to the cost of transportation, no bussing will be provided. Would you be willing to provide transportation for your child?) Possible question #6 based on the Lakeside visit – “If an immersion program is not offered in our district, are you planning on sending your child to another school to provide an immersion opportunity?” Will the survey only be sent to current parents or will preschool be offered the survey as well? Looking at question #1 – With the importance of “my child” versus all the children in Santee? Maybe mention that there is no additional charge to families if they are interested? Possible extra question - Does your child currently attend or will attend a Santee School in the near future? Change the date at the bottom of the survey.
- JH Spanish Textbooks donated from GUHSD for enrichment classes. Three schools in the district are now using those books to teach a cultural/Spanish class: Carlton Hills, Chet F. Harriet, and Rio Seco.

- **Focus Area: 3 Enrichment Options** – On-Line Teaching/Classes – Programs like Rosetta Stone (\$109 per license), Live Mocha (\$52 a month, per student) – Roving Teacher for Enrichment – how will this work or look at your site, smaller schools might benefit more because the teacher can reach a majority of the students/larger schools – less would be reached – Many parents are leaning toward an after school enrichment class (Teacher stipend) – Possible concern: Is this a graded subject/program/elective? Can we talk to colleges to offer internships (for free?) for students to practice their craft? The morning program offered at PRIDE (through GUHSD) – Is SSD paying or is GUHSD? Would they consider offering the same option after school? If we offer, better to do all primary or all intermediate, than try to offer one grade level or another? Possibility of two days a week after school? Whichever enrichment is offered, Junior High should look extremely different from K-6, JH should be more “Classroom/Textbook Based” in order to mirror High School. Club Meetings to continue a roving job that gave them a taste?
- **Focus Area: 3 Immersion Options** – Tabled till next meeting.
- WE NEED MORE PARENTS!!!

**Next Steps:**

1. Looking for additional parents for the committee.
2. Talking to other teachers and parents, ask for ideas and feedback.
3. Look for possible grant opportunities for foreign language.

**Meeting Concluded:** 5:00 P.M.

**Next Meeting:** November 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M.