

Los Angeles Unified School District
Virgil Middle School
ELAC Meeting
November 6, 2013

8:30 A.M.

Minutes

- I. Welcome/Call to Order Laura Reyes, President
Meeting was called to order at 8:31am in the Parent Center. Laura Reyes, President, welcomed parents.
- II. Flag Salute Membership
- III. Roll Call/Minutes Carmelina Gonzalez, Secretary
8 members were present and 4 were absent. Quorum was established. The members present were: Laura Reyes, Magdalena Ortiz, Carmelina Gonzalez, Lourdes Cortes, Esteban Guerra, Olivia Huerta, Maria Rivera and Esperanza Suarez. Guests present were: Wendy Serrano, Categorical Coordinator and Sylvia Zuniga, PSA Counselor.
- The minutes from 10/2/13 were read in silence. A motion to approve the minutes with no corrections was made by Magdalena Ortiz and seconded by Maria Rivera. All members were in favor.*
- IV. Principal's Report Jim Kodani, Principal
Mr. Kodani was not present at today's meeting. No Principal's report was made.
- V. Coordinator's Report Wendy Serrano, Bilingual Coordinator
- VI. Parent Center Report Carmelina Gonzalez, Parent Representative
Ms. Gonzalez reminded parents about the workshops and classes available through the parent center. She invited parents to participate. Currently, they are being encouraged to sign up for the following classes: Parenting Classes (Wednesdays at 8:30am), Citizenship Classes (Mondays at 8:15) and Pre-Algebra Math Classes (Fridays at 11:40am).
- VII. Attendance Report Sylvia Zuniga, PSA Counselor
Ms. Zuniga talked about the importance of regular school attendance. She reminded parents that regular attendance in school is required by law. All students from ages 6-18 must be enrolled in a school according to the educational code. 3 non-excused absences and/or 3 unexcused tardies of 30 minutes classify students as truant. LAUSD has set the attendance rate at 96% and expects that 76% of the student body meet that goal for the

2013-14 school year. 83% of all Virgil students currently maintain an attendance rate of 96%. Every 5 weeks students with perfect attendance will be rewarded with a “Tasty Treat”.

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

a. Recommendations to School Site Council

Two recommendations were made to the SSC. The first recommendation states: ELAC recommends that Virgil MS offer more opportunities for students to receive tutoring in English, Reading, Writing and Math. They made this recommendation after reviewing CST data that showed a high need for all students in the areas of ELA (particularly for Reading and Writing). This year the state-sponsored program that offered free tutoring for students of low income families was cancelled, leaving many of our students without options for tutoring or extra help. The motion for take this recommendation to SSC was made by Magdalena Ortiz and seconded by Lourdes Cortes. All members were in favor.

The second recommendation states: ELAC recommends that we continue to offer students awards and incentives (such as tasty treats and certificates) in order to motivate them to attend school every day. We also recommend that we increase the amount of time our PSA counselor is at Virgil MS to 5 days/week. The justification for this recommendation is that VMS has made great improvements and surpassed the district’s attendance goals in the last few years. We want to make sure these gains and achievements continue. The motion to take this recommendation to SSC was made by Olivia Huerta and seconded by Maria Rivera. All members were in favor.

b. Budget

No budget items were presented today.

c. Single Plan for Student Achievement

X. Announcements

Some important dates were shared with parents.

- *11/11 – Veteran’s Day*
- *11/25 – 11/27 – Unassigned days*
- *11/28 – 11/29 – Thanksgiving Day Holiday*
- *12/23 – 1/13 – Winter Recess*

XI. Public Comments

XII. Adjournment

Maria Rivera motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:35am and Magdalena Ortiz seconded it. The next ELAC meeting is scheduled for 12/4.