

Goleta Union School District
DAC Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2024 Meeting, Ellwood School
8:45am – 11:00am

Minutes taken by Christy Rockwood, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

DAC Committee Attendance

Present Absent

Dr. Diana Galindo-Roybal, Superintendent		X
Dr. Vicki Ben-Yaacov, GUSD Board President	X	
Amanda Martinez, Asst. Supt, Pupil Services	X	
Shawn Dahlen, Director of MOT	X	
Ben Hazen, Transportation Supervisor	X	
Ned Schoenwetter, Ellwood School Principal	X	
Evyn Van Homer, UTPG Representative	X	
Elizabeth Saucedo, GVL Community Representative	X	
Katie Bonfilio, Brandon School Representative/DAC Chairperson		X
Nick Villegas, El Camino Representative	X	
Lisa Caffery, Ellwood Representative	X	
Lynnae Onishi, Foothill School Representative	X	
Kelly Griffin, Goleta Family School Representative	X	
Stacy Demmin, Hollister School Representative	X	
Karina Martinez, Isla Vista School Representative	X	
Celeste Kafri, Kellogg School Representative	X	
Greta Bruneel, La Patera School Representative	X	
Rico Casillas, Mtn. View School Representative/DAC Vice-Chairperson		X

1. Opening of Meeting – Amanda Martinez, Assistant Superintendent, Pupil Services

Ms. Martinez opened the meeting at 8:47 A.M. and asked the committee what their favorite Olympic sport is. If they had to choose one to compete in, which one would it be?

2. Approval of the DAC Minutes from February 15, 2024

Motion to approve minutes: Lisa Caffery

Seconded by: Lynnae Onishi

Minutes approved unanimously

3. Transportation – Ben Hazen, Transportation Supervisor, Shawn Dahlen, Director of MOT and Amanda Martinez, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services

Mr. Hazen and Mr. Dahlen both introduced themselves and gave their background with GUSD. They shared a presentation which included the following talking points (for more details, please see the full presentation online on [gusd.us/parents/district committees/DAC](http://gusd.us/parents/district%20committees/DAC)):

- Overview of the transportation department
- Bus routes
- Summer school
- Current school bus fleet
- School bus sizes
- Fleet maintenance
- Electric school buses
- Fleet safety
- Transportation staff
- School bus driver DMV and CHP requirements
- School bus driver shortage
- School bus driver salary
- Transportation programs

4. Ellwood School Tour and Presentation – Ned Schoenwetter, Principal

Mr. Schoenwetter introduced himself and shared a presentation which included (for more details, please see the full presentation online on [gusd.us/parents/district committees/DAC](http://gusd.us/parents/district%20committees/DAC)):

- Ellwood School history and demographics
- Professional Learning Community (PLC)
- GROW Program
- PBIS work
- Student leadership
- Family science night, Caine's arcade, art-knitting contest & huge puzzle, Fun Fridays

The committee split up into 3 groups and toured the school.

6. Representative Discussion/Announcements/Reports

Celeste Kafri asked to see the LCAP notes that were taken during the DAC/DELAC meeting on February 15th. She also stated that she has been reading about how the most effective teams are structured and requested that the committee talk about how they can use these ideas to make DAC as impactful as possible. She would like the parents on the DAC committee to have more say in the topics presented at the DAC committees.

Ms. Martinez and Mrs. Rockwood explained that topics are chosen months prior to the start of the new school year and that there are certain topics that must be covered. Annually, at the DAC meeting in May, the

Superintendent gives the committee an opportunity to give input on which topics they would like to have on the agenda for the following year. If the Superintendent feels that those topics are relevant, they may be put on the agenda.

Lisa Caffery asked what the purpose of the DAC meeting was?

Ms. Martinez and Mrs. Rockwood explained that this information can be found in the DAC Bylaws, but also went on to explain that this committee is not only for parents to learn about each of the schools and processes of the district that they can bring back to their PTAs, SSCs or parent groups, but it also provides a forum for parents to discuss areas of concern, importance or celebrations with the Superintendent.

Greta Bruneel stated that parents at La Patera school were unhappy that the DESSA Mini results were sent home with students in unsealed envelopes and that parents would like more context on the DESSA Mini.

Ms. Martinez explained that a ParentSquare was sent to all parents, explaining the process which gave complete information about the DESSA Mini. Mrs. Bruneel, along with a few other committee members, acknowledged that they do not read all of the ParentSquare messages so they could have missed that particular notification.

Stacy Demmin has a child who was in the red on the DESSA Mini, was not offered follow-up and had to ask for follow-up. She would like to know what parents are supposed to do with the information? She suggested that this information be shared with them during parent/teacher conferences.

Ms. Martinez made a note of this and said that she would speak with Leadership about the way that the results are distributed to parents.

A motion was made at 11:13 A.M. to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Lisa Caffery

Seconded by: Greta Bruneel

PARKING LOT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q: Many school Boards around the country post meetings on YouTube, including SBUSD. Can we start doing this at GUSD so DAC/parents are better informed?

A: The video option was considered and it was determined that the audio version hybrid was the most cost effective approach while still providing access to all of the Board presentations and information to the public.

Q: Can we find out the total transportation cost, including staff?

A: As of 3.29.24 we have spent \$1,104,497 on transportation and are budgeted to spend \$1,570,988.

Q: Can we find the number of pupils served? 554 Eligible Students?

- A:**
- 298 General Ed Riders
 - 40 Special Ed Riders
 - 67 After School Program Riders

Q: If we can't send a bus to pick kids up, what is the alternative?

A: We are obligated to provide transportation to Special Education Students per Educational Code. We are also obligated to provide transportation to students in the afterschool program per State ASES requirements for students from low-income families. Our GUSD Board Policy requires transportation for families who live a distance of 2 or more miles from their neighborhood school. If we do not provide transportation, our attendance rates would probably decline substantially as some families do not have transportation. Public transportation may be an option for some families, but we have very young children and public transportation or walking 2+ miles would not be a viable option.

***Please Note – To view detailed PowerPoint presentations from DAC meetings, they can be found on our website at:
gusd.us / Parents / District Committees / District Advisory Committee***