



ESOL Parents Leadership Council (PLC)
Tuesday, September 17, 2024
Meeting Minutes



Location: Largo Public Library: 120 Central Park Dr, Largo, FL 33771

Room: Jenkins Wing C

Meeting time: 4:30 5:30 p.m.

ESOL Parent Leadership Council (PLC) Purpose:

- ✚ Provides EL families with an opportunity to take on a leadership role, volunteer, and provide input information to the district 's EL Plan
- ✚ Provides EL families leadership training and orientation on the district's ESOL program monitoring procedures
- ✚ Provides EL families with parent involvement options
- ✚ Informs EL families of opportunities to be represented on school and district advisory committees
- ✚ Obtains feedback to help improve the educational services for EL students
- ✚ Connects EL families with meaningful educational and community resources to help meet their children's and families' needs

Meeting Attendance:

- Diana Lopez, parent -ESOL PLC Chairperson
- Marina Rumiantseva, parent
- Bianca Gandin, parent
- Dianelys Ruiz, parent
- Sankis Knyazyan, parent
- Katherine Brenes, parent
- Mayumi Kams, parent
- Ericka Reckenwald, ESOL Family Outreach Coordinator Pinellas County Schools
- Katherine Kelly, Community Services Librarian, Largo Public Library

School Names:

- Plum Elementary School
- Southern Oak Elementary School
- Highland Lake Elementary School
- Sutherland Elementary School
- Lake St. George Elementary
- Frontier Elementary School
- Palm Harbor University

Meeting Summary

- Meeting started at 4:30 p.m.

1. Welcoming and Introduction:

- Ericka Reckenwald, the ESOL Family Outreach Coordinator, opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. She thanked everyone for being present
- All attendees were parents of EL (English Learner) students from a K-12 Pinellas County Schools.
- Parents introduced themselves, shared about their place of origin, student's grade, and the name of their school.
- Ms. Reckenwald introduced Ms. Lopez, ESOL Parent Chairperson. Ms. Lopez introduced herself and talked about her experience as Pinellas County School ESOL parent. She shared her desire to work together to assist other ESOL families and made herself available to support any EL parents.

- After Ms. Lopez, Ms. Reckenwald explained the purpose of the ESOL Parent Leadership Council (PLC).

2. ESOL Parent Leadership Council (PLC) purpose:

- Ms. Reckenwald explained the purpose of the ESOL Parent Leadership Council (PLC) and covered the following points:
- She emphasized the importance of active participation and representation of EL parents in the council to collectively support the needs of PCS EL parents and students.
- She provided information about opportunities for parents to join school and district advisory committees.
- Meeting Schedule: She mentioned that the ESOL PLC will meet two to three times per school year, with meetings scheduled for the fall and spring. She formerly invited and encouraged parents to join the committee and be an active member so together we can better support EL families and students in Pinellas County Schools.

3. Introduction of PCS District English Learner (EL) Plan

Ms. Reckenwald provided an overview about the Pinellas County Schools EL Plan. She shared:

- ESOL processes, services and resources available for English Learner students and their families in Pinellas County Schools
- Talked about opportunities for parents on how they can get involved at the school level
- Asked for parents' feedback on how Pinellas County School District can improve services for ESOL families

4. ESOL Family Outreach Support

- Ms. Reckenwald shared the information and details about the ESOL Family Outreach S1 events to support EL parents and students. Ms. Reckenwald also shared about the ESOL Community Resource Fair 10.09.24. She explained the purpose of the fair, and she invited all parents to join the fair and invite other families. She also asked for volunteers to assist at the event. She also shared about available school resources to support families and students:
 - Virtual tutoring for ELs
 - Let's Talk about Pinellas County Schools virtual sessions
 - Pinellas County Schools Facebook Page in Spanish
 - Parent Helpline

5. Open Agenda

- Katherine Brenes, parent, volunteered to join the committee and serve as the vice EL chairperson. All parents present agreed on this decision. Ms. Reckenwald and Ms. Diana Lopez, parent -ESOL PLC Chairperson thanked Ms. Brenes for her willingness to serve on the committee.
- Parents also responded to a short survey to help improve EL services in PCS and shared allow new ideas to promote the ESOL Parent Leadership Council.
- Other resources/information shared at the meeting (in English/Spanish):
- Pinellas County Schools ESOL Community Resource Fair October 9 flyer.
- ESOL Classes for adults
- Flyer for October ESOL Parent Leadership Council meeting.
- Other ESOL materials with meaningful information for parents
- Flyer of free upcoming community events for families in Pinellas and other meaningful resources

6. Closing:

Next ESOL PLC meeting: Wednesday, October 9th, 2024

Time: 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Location: Clearwater East Public Library, 2465 Drew St, Clearwater, FL 33765

Meeting ended at 5:30 p.m.

Any questions about this meeting, please reach out to:

Ericka Reckenwald, ESOL Family Outreach Coordinator

Pinellas County Schools | E-mail: reckenwalde@pcsb.org

Ph: 727.588.6415 (Parent Helpline -English and Spanish)