

## **Berkeley Unified School District**

### **Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) – Joint Advisory Meeting Notes**

**Date: January 15, 2026**

**Location: Longfellow Middle School & Google Meets (Hybrid)**

**Time: 7pm–7:30 p.m.**

#### 1. Welcome & Opening

- Meeting opened in hybrid format with both in-person and virtual participants.
- Chair welcomed members and thanked everyone for the strong in-person turnout.
- Participants were invited to gather while technical setup was completed.
- Purpose of the meeting reviewed: introductions, PAC business, and follow-up from the earlier Joint Advisory session.

#### 2. Introductions

Participants introduced themselves, their school affiliation, and role.

##### Online Participants

- Cyd Friedman – Student Representative, Berkeley High (IB program; BUSD student)
- Erin Egan – Sylvia Mendez Elementary Representative

##### In-Person Participants

- Michael – Emerson PAC Representative; liaison to Emerson SSC
- Cielo – PAC Chair; Willard parent
- Nicole Harris – King Middle School parent; Berkeley High graduate parent
- Oxford Representative – Oxford Elementary

- Tenley – Washington Elementary (new to BUSD)
- Carrie – BAM; also TK parent and SSC member
- Joya – LCAP/Title Programs Facilitator, BUSD
- Ardel Thomas – Berkeley High parent; former Oxford PAC member
- Lena Sweeney – BUSD educator/administrator
- Justin – Sylvia Mendez Alternate; Longfellow and Sylvia Mendez parent

### 3. Approval of Minutes

- Motion made to approve minutes from the previous PAC meetings.
- Motion seconded.
- Minutes approved unanimously.

### 4. Election of Co-Chair

- Background shared that prior co-chair Jesse moved away, leaving a vacancy.
- Michael (Emerson) was nominated to serve as PAC Co-Chair alongside Cielo.
- Vote held; Michael elected as Co-Chair.
- Appreciation expressed for his willingness to support facilitation and organization.

### 5. Strengthening Communication Across School Sites

#### Shared Question Document

- Cielo introduced a new working document with prompts for PAC members to:
  - Speak with principals and teachers at their sites

- Gather questions before meetings
- Share insights across elementary, middle, and high school perspectives

#### Post-Meeting Feedback Form

- Anonymous option available
- Designed to collect:
  - What is working
  - Recommendations
  - Questions or concerns
- Chairs invited ongoing feedback via email or in any comfortable format.

#### Purpose

- Leverage community knowledge
- Ensure PAC conversations reflect all sites
- Build stronger two-way communication between district and families

#### 6. Shared Purpose & Vision

- Members affirmed that:
  - All are working toward the best outcomes for BUSD students
  - Perspectives differ by grade span, and all voices are needed
  - Consistent quorum and participation are important
- Emphasis on learning from one another about programs such as Bridge, AVID, and others.

## 7. Overview of Upcoming PAC Presentations (LCAP-Funded Programs)

Joya reviewed the schedule so members can prepare questions in advance.

### February Meetings

1. RTI Literacy Coaches & Math Coaches
  - ELD curriculum and program overview
2. OP & Restorative Justice Counselors
  - Career Technical Education (CTE)

### March Meetings

- AVID and Bridge Programs
- LCAP Mid-Year Update
  - Will align with Board presentation; PAC can preview data and questions

### April Meetings

- McKinney-Vento (students experiencing homelessness)
- LEAP Program
- Culture, Climate & Attendance

### Notes

- Special Education is not scheduled for a formal presentation because LCAP supplemental funds do not directly support those positions.

## 8. Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC)

- cielo will attend SBAC as PAC representative and report back.
- SBAC meetings are:
  - Open to the public via Zoom
  - Allow public comment
  - A good opportunity to learn about district budgeting and connect across sites

## 9. Participation & Engagement

- Members noted that in-person format increased turnout and energy.
- Interest expressed in:
  - Holding at least one additional in-person or celebratory meeting

## Participation

- District staff made personalized outreach calls to increase representation.
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## 10. Closing

- Appreciation expressed to online participants Syd and Erin.
- Members thanked for time after a Joint Advisory session.
- Meeting adjourned with conversation and community building.

## Action Items

- PAC members:

- Use shared question document at school sites
- Bring questions to February program presentations
- Encourage survey completion at each site
- District:
  - Share funding/LCAP presentation and budget overview
  - Continue scheduling program speakers
  - Provide information upon PAC request (including Special Education topics)