

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: April 24, 2026

Location: Virtual Meeting

Chair: Michael Hackett

Presenters: Ade Melgoza (Counselor), Xochitl Duenas (Teacher/Coordinator)

Staff Liaison: Joya Balk, Lena Sweeney

1. Call to Order & Welcome

- Opening: Michael Hackett welcomed the committee and read the BUSD Mission Statement: *"To enable and inspire our diverse student body to achieve academic excellence and make positive contributions to our world."*
- Community Updates: Lena Sweeney shared that the annual PAC celebration is scheduled for May 28, 2026. Michael encouraged high attendance, noting the quality of the food and the importance of community building.

2. LCAP Supplemental Funds Discussion

Joya Balk presented a feedback activity regarding the LCAP Supplemental Funds (targeted at low-income students, English Learners, and foster youth).

- Context: The activity involves categorizing current actions (e.g., Literacy Coaches, AVID, Bridge, ELD support) into three categories: Maintain, Adjust, or Remove.
- Committee Feedback:
 - Adjustment Nuance: Michael H. noted that "Adjust" should be clarified to specify adjusting upward or downward.
 - External Partnerships: Michael suggested seeking outside sponsorships (e.g., for items like backpacks) to offset operational costs for programs like OFI (Office of Fresno Initiatives).
 - New Member Perspective: Christina C. noted that while the information is dense, the dynamic nature of the presentations makes all programs feel essential, making it difficult to suggest cuts.

3. Special Presentation: The Puente Program

Presenters: Ade Melgoza and Xochitl Duenas

Program Overview

- Mission: A UC-sponsored program (40+ years old) designed to bridge the gap for Latino and underrepresented youth to access four-year universities.
- BUSD Scope: Currently in its 4th year in Berkeley, serving Longfellow Middle School and Berkeley High School (BHS).

Middle School Component (Longfellow)

- Demographics: Serves 90 students (Grades 7–8). 47% are first-generation college-bound; 60% are socio-economically disadvantaged.
- Instruction: Students remain with the same English teacher (Ms. Pan) for two years.

High School Component (BHS)

- Cohort Model: Lives within the Academic Choice (AC) community. Students start in 10th grade and stay with the same teacher (Ms. Duenas or Mr. Kowalski) through 11th grade.
- Success Data: Class of 2025 data showed 75% first-generation college-bound and 33% of students supported by an IEP or 504 plan.
- Three Pillars:
 1. English: Rigorous BIPOC literature and a heavy emphasis on college essay writing.
 2. Counseling: Monthly "college knowledge" workshops, A-G eligibility tracking, and individual family meetings.
 3. Leadership/Service: Student-led Puente Club and a community service requirement focused on holistic growth and resume building.
- Experiential Learning: Frequent field trips to campuses (e.g., upcoming trip to UC Santa Cruz).

4. Administrative Items & Closing

- Public Comment: None provided.
- Announcements: * The SBAC Meeting is scheduled for April 29th (4:30–6:00 PM).
 - Minutes approval deferred to the end of the meeting/next session.
- Adjournment: The meeting concluded with a reminder to review the LCAP tracking documents provided in the chat.

Meeting Resources & Chat Links

- [Puente Presentation Slide Deck](#)
- [LCAP Mid-Year Data Update](#)
- [2024-27 LCAP Tracking \(Budget & Metrics\)](#)
- [SBAC Meeting Link \(April 29\)](#)