



## Parent Advisory Committee

General Meeting  
November 16, 2023  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

SUSD Administration Building Boardroom



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### *Minutes*

**1.0 Welcome** - President Karesha Boyd called the meeting to order at 5:37pm. Member Lorena Duran, Secretary made the first motion, and Monique Guerrero seconded it. All members were in favor. Motion was approved.

**1.1 Meeting Norms** - Monique Guerrero presented meeting norms.

Meeting Norms for SUSD PAC Parent Advisory Committee:

1. Respectful Communication:

- Please turn phone volume off
- Speak one at a time and avoid interrupting others.
- Use respectful language and tone.
- Listen actively and attentively to others' perspectives.

Consequence of Action: If a member consistently interrupts or uses disrespectful language, they may be given a warning then asked to leave the meeting if it continues.

2. Active Participation:

- Come prepared and contribute to the discussion.
- Share ideas and opinions constructively.
- Encourage equal participation from all

3. Timeliness:

- Arrive on time for meetings.
- Notify the chair of committee members in advance if unable to attend.

4. Constructive Feedback:

- Provide feedback in a constructive and respectful manner.
- Focus on the issue at hand rather than personal attacks.

Consequence of Action: If a member consistently engages in personal attacks or fails to provide constructive feedback, they may be given a warning and, if necessary, asked to leave the meeting.

5. Decision-Making:

- Strive for consensus whenever possible.
- Respect the final decision made by the majority.

These meeting norms are designed to ensure a productive and respectful environment for all members of the SUSD PAC Parent Advisory Committee. Consequences of action will be implemented as necessary to maintain the integrity of the committee and its objectives.

**2.0 Roll Call** - Secretary Lorena Duran asked members and guests to sign in their name, and the school represented, and conducted roll call.

The following Executive Board Officers and Members were present:

**Karesha Boyd** - President, **Lorena Duran** - Secretary

1. **Franklin H.S.** - Lorena Duran (Secretary)
2. **Grunsky** - Sandra Arreola
3. **Harrison** - Monique Guerrero
4. **Hong Kingston** - Karesha Boyd (President)
5. **Kennedy** - Karen Garcia
6. **Kohl** - Lily Lo
7. **Mckinley** - Marilou Dongon
8. **Pittman** - Patricia Mosqueda
9. **PYA** - Lorena Duran (Secretary)
10. **Taylor** - Letricia McLaren, Nedrick Mclaen
11. **Weber** - Patricia Mosqueda

10 members were present. SUSD staff guests: Tiffany Ashworth, State and Federal Administrator; Christina DelPrato, Social Work Assist from Foster Youth Services; Silvia Garcia Manzo, Social Services Case Manager from Families in Transition; Esperanza Molina, Lam Nguyen, Antoine Green from Families in Transition and Sergeant Angie Andrews from SUSD Public Safety.

**3.0 Changes to Agenda** - Karesha Gaines notified members of the following changes to the agenda:

1.1 Meeting Norms - Monique Guerrero, CAC's Representative is substituting for Earlisha Gaines, Parliamentarian.

3.0 Changes to the Agenda - Monique Guerrero, CAC's Representative is substituting for Martha Hernandez, Vice president.

6.1 SUSD 100-day Report - Dr Michelle Rodriguez, Superintendent will not be presenting today.

7.1 CAC instead of Vice president is CAC Representative.

9.0 Public Questions or Comments - Monique Guerrero, CAC's Representative is substituting for Martha Hernandez, Vice president.

**4.0 Read and Approve Minutes**

**4.1 General PAC Minutes- October 5, 2023:** President Karesha Boyd asked members to review and approve minutes dated October 5, 2023. Minutes were shared on the screen; a printed copy was shared for all members present. President Karesha Boyd asked for two motions to approve minutes. Monique Guerrero made the first motion and Lorena Duran, Secretary seconded it. There were no Nays.

**5.0 Old Business -**

**5.1 Bylaws** - Karesha Boyd, President, encouraged members to bring input on updating PAC's bylaws.

## **6.0 New Business**

**6.1 Foster Youth Services** - Mrs. Christina DelPrato, Social Work Assist from Foster Youth Services introduced her team. It was shared with the PAC the total number of enrolled students in this program, 322 students. Mrs. Milan went over the students' Educational Rights. She made note on the importance of Donations, which are always accepted. Mrs. DelPrato shared the students' rights to get educational support. She put emphasis on the student's right to immediate enrollment, this includes enrollment without a birth certificate. The right to remain at their school of origin, and the student's right to have transportation to remain at their school of origin. Moreover, she went over the 18-month Active Case procedures, the time in which the student is receiving services. She went over the following protocols: outside agencies need to be approved; they cannot come on campus without approval.

The following questions were answered by Mrs. Delprato:

Karesha Boyd, President: I would like you to touch on what foster care from the educational aspect looks like and how the student's education is constantly disrupted, and give us an average about how many homes can they possibly go to on average, so people on education can get a better understanding? Mrs. Delprato: For example, we have a parent, a resource parent come in, she is attending Lodi Unified to attend our district because it is convenient for her. We are going toe to toe right now because it is in the best interest of this child not to change their school. They had been at Oakwood for 3 years, so that is huge. They have been at their school for 3 years consecutively. I had a student the other day, a 2nd grader that had been at 8 schools, that is a lot of change. 8 schools, 3 homes not including their biological family. So, think of that 2nd grader, you are 8 years old and have to move to all those schools. It is never fun to have to be the brand-new kid at school, right? I am here in front of you, I am a little nervous. It is not easy to think of a little 8- year-old walking into a new school coming from a new home, so we want to limit that, so that is why we are there, Eloisa, myself, we come in. I am so thankful we have resource parents, that it is not about you. It is about the kid, and we are there to make sure that they do not have all those changes, we see that very often. We are very passionate about it, that they cannot make that change without the educational rights holder and the child saying, I am ok with the school change. On average most of the children are placed at, it depends on how open the case is at, 2-3 times during the school year. They have unique behaviors because they are hurt, they do not know how to express themselves, so maybe they run out of class, or maybe they act out at home, so that their resource parent says, I cannot do it with this child and they get put in another home, so it happens pretty often. To add, Eloisa, myself, we attend SST meetings, we ask for SST meetings, which are student's support team meetings to figure out support plans for the children. So, say, they elope, and they leave class all the time, we are there to advocate and ask for support, for things like that. We attend the IEPs, all of that.

Karesha Boyd, President: I would like you to touch on how jumping from home to home can change test scores around? Mrs. Delprato: We are where they are, adjusting to a place to stay, a different environment. So, in the morning if they are not ready. Right and the teacher teaches a little differently, seating a little different, so, that definitely affects them. I want to go back, you said Kinship Care, that is a word that I did not share and that it is important. Kinship is when a child is removed from their home and placed with a family member. So, the first goal of CPS is to place the child with a family member. I don't even know where to begin as far as how it affects their education, but it does. So very often students that are in foster placement have IEPs, they have diagnoses of things like emotional disruption, oppositional defiance disorder, they come with those things, and some things are added up

while in the district with the services that we have here. The majority, 70% of our children, do come with those. Needing extra support services where they have behavior intervention plans. Every district has different plans, written differently, some come with one on one, some come with mental health services. So, when they come to our district, we try to provide comparable services, and do the best that we can. I have to say that we are a larger district, far more than the outer areas. So, we do a pretty good job of supporting them in their educational needs.

Karesha Boyd, President: Can you closeup with how to help a foster youth at Stockton Unified School District? Mrs. Delprato: Come and see us, we are at Centralized Enrollment, because when there is a chance of placement they have to come to central enrollment, and meet with Eloisa or myself, almost immediately. We talk to them, then we go out and visit them at their school sites. Inviting us is great because you can spread the word that we are there to help and support them. We work closely with the Special Ed. Department, so if they need help with an assessment, we work closely with the counselors so if they need an SST or behavior intervention plan or 504. Come in to see us, we can definitely help them and guide them.

**6.2 Families in Transition** - Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo, Social Services/ Case Manager from Families in Transition introduced herself and the team. FIT's team consists of 4 case managers, Destiny Alvarez, SSCM, Homeless Liaison, she works with students that feed up with Edison. Antoine Green, SSCM, works with students that feed up with Chavez High School. Esperanza Molina, SSCM, sees all students that feed up into Stagg. Mrs. Silvia Garcia -Manzo, Social Services/ Case Manager works with all students that feed up to Franklin High School. Lam Nguyen, SWA, most families will see him when coming to Centralized Enrollment. He conducts pre-assessments. Davina Avila, Office Assistant. Mrs. Garcia-Manzo explained that McKinney Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Children who are double-up, families living in a motel/hotel, trailer park, car or park. Families who are unsheltered or living in substandard housing, families living in shelters or transitional shelters. Also, unaccompanied youth or runaway youth not under the physical care of parent or guardian qualifies under the Vento Act. Once a family is identified under the McKinney Vento Act at that point the FIT department comes in and provides services. Some of the services that are provided are: immediate enrollment and School of origin (15 months), Case Management/Advocacy, school supplies (uniforms, backpacks, shoes, hygiene), transportation support that looks like RTD passes and SUSD transportation. Also, they are provided with resources and referrals from other agencies. To make a referral you can do it online or by calling 209 933-7028 EXT. 8482.

The following questions were answered:

Karesha Boyd, President: With FIT, I noticed that you guys really focused on the High School area more. Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo: It is easier to say it that way because we work with the whole district, so elementary and High School. When I say I focused specifically on any school that feeds Franklin, so it will be like Montezuma, all the schools that feed Franklin. I have 12 schools, 2 high schools and then 10 elementary schools, and every case manager has their area. It is just easy to say it that way, but we work with elementary and high school.

Karesha Boyd, President: I want to know are you on the campus because a lot of kids are homeless or in transition, but is it visible and accessible? Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo: Our main focus when it comes to remove any type of educational barriers, the barrier of enrollment, we do go out to the schools. It is really hard to be at every school, but we do our best to communicate, and really work with the families and see what's going on to really remove that barrier. Our higher focus is our Tier 3, so we are broken up with working with tier systems, so Tier 1 is our families that maybe are double-up or that are a little

more secure as far as housing. Tier 2 is living in hotels/motels. Maybe moving around a little more and Tier 3 is when a child is living under the bridge, maybe. We are trying to get them in a shelter or somewhere at least more stable. Our main focus is on Tier 3, but we are here to support the other tiers, but as you can assume tiers 3 need more of our attention.

Karesha Boyd, President: For those who would like to support you, how would they do that, how would they make that happen, from other departments, different community organizations, how would that look like? Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo: As far as in the district we work a lot in collaboration with CWA, foster as well. We have foster students that are returned into the home and now the parents might be living in a transitional living situation, at that point that family can be fostered and receive services because of the living situation. So, they can be both departments. So, being housed in the same location is definitely nice. We can definitely have those conversations. Cristina and Eloisa, we can see how we can better support the family, and with CWA we work a lot with them as well, because a lot of times they are seen children been absent for time periods and a lot of times students are absent like that, it is because there is something happening in the home. There is a disruption. They are either moving from a shelter or from somebody else's home. A lot of times those are flags for us, saying this family is no longer in that address that was on file, so they send a referral to us. Counselors do that as well. Many of the staff would do that and our correctional officers as well. As far as the community goes, we work a lot with the community agencies, shelters are definitely contacting us saying we have this student, there is this family that just came into the shelter. They have some students that were attending Sacramento, now they want to enroll here, how can we get them to enroll. We will tell them to come over and then we enroll them right away. So, that is one of the ways we work with the community. Lam does a great job going out to the community and just find out what is out there for them right now and how we can bridge that for them.

Lorena Duran, Secretary: Can you go over the statistics over the household income? For what I understand, more than 60%, maybe higher, of our households live with less than \$15,000 in the district, only fifteen thousand. How many students do you serve, and does that reflect the reality of our district? Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo: I won't be able to answer completely that question. So, as of right now we have about 1,500 students. I think our numbers had definitely been much higher. Being a department with 4 case managers, definitely we have to identify when they come in. Sometimes we are not able to identify everyone right away. We do our best to try to identify those families. Any families are hard to identify. As far as the statistics part, I cannot give you an exact number, but I know that with the rise in housing and mortgages, and a lot of families losing housing, we know that creates more homelessness. Having families to double-up for financial reasons. We look at housing right now, the houses are so high, and our interest rates are so high, so a lot of our families are in the low-income, do not have the means or sometimes even the credit to be able to get those, something more permanent. Some of our families definitely are trying to get into some sort of housing, but one of the problems that they encounter, one of the berries is that they either have good jobs and they don't have the credit and needed the credit to get in to they have the credit , but they don't have the deposits to get into the housing. So, that is one of the biggest reasons I feel our families are in need to double up a lot of times or live in situations where they pay three thousand dollars to stay in a motel, but don't have the credit to get into a house, or you do not have the history, work history for it. So, definitely being in California does not help and then everybody in the Bay Area, everything is making our houses higher up, but that is something that is more out of our control, right. Another person: The majority of our caseloads are double-up, the poverty guidelines, most of the families are recipients of county resources, which are Cash Aid, and the reality is that the housing market. A lot of our families are renting a room with 5, 6 because that is the only way they can survive, and those families are eligible for our program. The other thing is that the housing situation, we do not have enough shelters, the housing authority is limited to

the resources that we have available like Sierra Vista. Vision Builders build only what they can build, Section 8, they only open their list for 5, 6 days. Silvia is really good at sending emails and messages to the families so they can apply. So, even for families when they get a Section 8 voucher, it is hard to find housing because of the competition. Sometimes those vouchers expire, so, it is difficult for our families to get into housing, plus a lot of the families are exploited because they are paying 300, 400 for one room, a studio, not even a studio, sometimes a garage. Sometimes families are renting someone's backyard, setting up their tent. So, the population is hard to deal with. By law we have to paste this poster at all schools, they have to be in the main office and explain what Silvia was talking about, what is Vento, which is a federal law that once the family discloses to the school their housing situation, we are supposed to provide services. This is a nationwide federal law. So, we distribute these posters in the community, with community based organizations and that is our goal, and this is how you can help to disseminate the word, because a lot of our families do not know that their children are protected by this federal law.

Monique Guerrero: I work for an agency. When I want to refer parents, I do not give them a phone number because half the time they do not call, so I call with them. So, is there someone available to answer the call? Mrs. Silvia Garcia-Manzo: Yes, there is always someone available. Lam is usually out in enrollment removing the barrier, doing the assessment before the case manager comes out. You can always send an email, use the link. Either one of those will get directed to whoever the case manager is assigned to the school site. Karesha Boyd, President asked the secretary to make note that we want this information to be publicized.

**6.3 Secretary Nominations** - Lorena Duran, Secretary shared with the PAC, that due to personal and family reasons she is stepping down as the Secretary of the Parent Advisory Committee. Karesha Boyd, President invited members to make nominations for the Secretary position. Nominations are due December 6, 2023. Elections for this position will be conducted on December 7, 2023, at the PAC's meeting.

## **7.0 Reports**

**7.1 CAC** - Monique Guerrero introduced CAC, "it is parents and professionals, regular and special educators, agency personnel, and other community members come together in a common effort to ensure that children with disabilities have the chance they deserve for an appropriate education". Next meeting will be November 29 at FRS from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in zoom and in person. The next topic will be

**7.2 AABPAC** - Karesha Boyd, Vice President of AABPAC invited members to join in the preparations for Martin Luther King Jr Day. She encouraged members to contact the AABPAC on Facebook, reaching out to AABPAC's President Thaddeus Smith III or by contacting the FRC. On December 14 the AABPAC will have their meeting.

**7.3 Latino PAC** - Patricia Mosqueda, President of Latino PAC announced the January 25, 2024, Meeting at 9:30- 11:00 am at FRC. Mrs. Mosqueda invited members to the Winter Storytelling event to enjoy craft activity making, special book reading with Author Leticia Ordaz, while learning more about the different holiday traditions. This event will be on December 8, 2023, at the FRC, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

**7.4 DELAC** - Next meeting will be on November 29 at 9:30am School for Adults Auditorium 1525 Pacific Ave.

## **8.0 Announcements**

**8.1** Next PAC Meeting is Thursday, December 7, 5:30-7 pm

**8.2** Sergeant Angie Andrews from SUSD Public Safety invited members to volunteer and to donate during their Toy Drive in partnership with FIT. They will collect toys from local Walmart and distribute them before Christmas. Sergeant Angie Andrews talked about the importance of donations for Thanksgiving, she mentioned that gift cards are greatly appreciated.

**8.3** FRC - at 1661 Pacific Avenue. School for Adults

- Nutrition Classes. Mondays Nov 27th and Dec 4th 9:30am - 11:00am
- Transgender & Non-binary Awareness workshop will be on Nov. 17 at 9 am in English and 10:30 am in Spanish.
- Next Free grocery Distribution will be Dec. 13, from 11AM to 1PM

**8.4** EL Parent Engagement Hour will be virtual Dec. 21st, 9:30 am

**9.0 Public Questions or Comments** - Karesha Boyd, President invited members to ask questions or make comments.

The following questions were asked: Patricia Mosqueda. Latino PAC President: My question is related to the past meeting, why don't we have this meeting via zoom? Today on Latino PAC meeting, a lot of parents shared that, why they removed this meeting from having it from zoom, and if it will be possible to have this meeting throw zoom? Karesha Boyd, President: Thank you for your question. Member Patricia Mosqueda: We do not answer questions, we take them to our officers' meeting. That question was answered before.

**10.0 Adjournment** - At 6:58 PM, President Karesha Boyd adjourned the meeting. Patricia Mosqueda made the first motion and Lorena Duran, Secretary seconded it. Members were in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.