

SDMC Minutes for Jane Long Academy and Las Americas 12/8/21

This was the second quarter meeting of the 2021 – 2022 school year for the Jane Long Academy and Las Americas SDMC. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Moreno at 4:20.

Dr. Moreno began with a welcome and roll call. Dr. Moreno discussed the continuing arrival of new students at Las Americas Newcomer School including a large population of students coming from Afghanistan. In order to help with these new students, we have a new translator from Amaanah Services to provide translation and assistance with the students and parents who speak Pashto.

Dr. Moreno then moved on to an update on the long-term English Learners (ELs) attending Jane Long Academy. A Beginning of Year (BOY) assessment was administered to these students and the goal for this year is to have 43% of students show an increase in their language acquisition and level of English. Students are preparing for a Middle of the Year (MOY) assessment to measure student progress.

Dr. Moreno then moved on to update on the magnet programs and high school program at Jane Long. The first round of magnet applications was already due, and the second round has an upcoming deadline. Over 100 students have chosen Long Academy as one of their top three choices. Students in the pharmacy program at Long are failing their HCC courses because they don't want to do the work, they think it is too much work. Community member Imraan had a question about whether students understand the value of the courses they can take through HCC. Dr. Moreno replied that a career day or some presentations might be possible to help students understand the future value of their courses.

Dr. Moreno then moved on to state that Jane Long did not meet their enrollment numbers, but she was able to cut unfilled positions. This means that the school does not have to pay anything back but also that there are not any extra teachers available on staff.

Dr. Moreno shared that the first progress measure for the School Improvement Plan (SIP) was due Nov. 30th. The measures were discussed with Department Chairs. ELA is not where Dr. Moreno would like it to be. There is some ESSER money to provide extra tutorials at a 3 to 1 ratio with students and more tutor positions are available and listed on the school website.

Then Dr. Moreno moved on to the orchestra winter concert which will be held during the day on Wednesday 12.15. There will be two performances, one at 2:30 and one at 3:15, the performances will be free. Mr. Rice, orchestra teacher, shared that they are hoping to get a bigger performance together for the end of the year as we experience growing pains of starting up a new music and art program.

Ms. Luna, parent representative, shared that she is still pursuing getting a PTO established. She stated that it has been difficult because there are a lot of parents who have good ideas but there has not been a lot of action so far. Dr. Moreno offered to connect Ms. Luna with Ms. Joseph who is working on improving parent engagement and relationships.

Dr. Moreno then discussed student incentives for STAAR testing. Dr. Moreno has asked the science and social studies teachers to ask students about possible off campus incentives for performance on the STAAR subject tests. Everyone takes the math and reading tests so those will have campus-based incentives for performance. Dr. Moreno mentioned the importance of having incentives in place ahead of time so that students have a goal to work towards.

Lastly, Dr. Moreno asked for questions and Ms. Luna mentioned in the chat that a career talk to students about medical coding, pharmacy, and more sports and clubs would be a good idea. Mr. Burroughs also asked in the chat about work done by Texas A&M volunteers last weekend at Las Americas. Dr. Moreno mentioned that the volunteers did some painting, murals, and work in the garden.

The meeting finished at 4:52. The next meeting of the SDMC will be Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 4:15.

J. Long Academy and Las Americas Middle School

SDMC Meeting

DATE: _____ 12/8/21 _____

MEMBERS

Member Name	Title	Signature
Marie Moreno	Principal (JLA/LANs)	Present
Lynell Decker	ELL Specialist (JLA)	Present
Sara Wrye	ELL Specialist (LANs)	Present
Kerry Rice	Fine Arts Dept (JLA/LANs)	Present
Mirella Salas	Community Member	Present
Ryan Villarreal	Community Member	Present
Timothy Burroughs	Community Member	Present
	Business Partner	Present

Imraan Haisan		
Maricel Tobar	School -based Staff (JLA)	Absent
Lindsey Brook	School Based Staff (LANs)	Absent
Dori Brasher	Non-Instructional Staff (JLA)	Absent
Maria Garcia	Non-Instructional Staff (LANs)	Present
Andrew Zeringue	Classroom Teacher (JLA)	Absent
Christian Hernandez	Classroom Teacher (JLA)	Present
Victor Saenz	Classroom Teacher (LANs)	Absent
Ceren Cengiz	Classroom Teacher (LANs)	Absent
Kimberly Joiner	SPED Chair (JLA)	Present
Andrea Valencia Hernandez	Schoolwide Student Clubs (JLA)	Present
Sandra Luna	Parent (JLA)	Present
TBD	Parent (LANs)	Absent