

MIPAC Meeting Minutes – September 1, 2016

Attendees – MIPAC Parents (both outgoing and incoming): Audrey Shaw, Rosalie Kuhlmann, Agustin Del Alamo, Juintow Lin, and Jennifer Pang; MIP Teachers: Laura Curtiss-Welsh, Julie Fong, and Annie Chang; CUSD guests: Debbie Carrillo, Director of Student Support Programs, and Natalie Baptiste, Coordinator for Language Acquisition K-12; Curriculum Specialist: Jie Gao; Principal: Greg Hauser; Guests: Debbie James, Danielle Mosh, Paula Yousef, Susanne Dachgruber, Kathy Sales, Stacy Cartledge, and Jennifer Ting. Absent: Daniel Wong and Ami Barrett (MIPAC parents).

Meeting called to order at 2:07pm.

Greg made a motion to approve the minutes from the 6/3/2016 MIPAC meeting, which had been sent out via email. Agustin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Jennifer will email the approved minutes to Erich List (FoMIP Communications) for posting.

The MIPAC bylaws were revised to reflect the new structure of MIPAC for the upcoming year. Instead of having 3 lead teachers on MIPAC (there are no lead teachers since the hiring of the Curriculum Specialist), there will be one Teacher Representative on MIPAC (who could be the Curriculum Specialist). The majority consensus of the 5 parents on MIPAC will represent the parent vote, the teacher representative will represent the teacher vote, and the principal will represent the administration vote. Each of these 3 votes will have equal weight in MIPAC decisions. Jennifer made a motion to approve the revised bylaws (which had been sent out via e-mail for review and comments prior to the meeting). Agustin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Jennifer will email the approved bylaws to Erich List for posting.

Based on Superintendent Vital's request for us to define the "what" of our program, MIPAC prepared a list of 57 immersion schools around the country and volunteers were assigned schools to call between June and the end of August. Because the timing was over summer break for most schools, we were only able to contact 22 of these schools. Audrey posted all of the responses that were submitted by volunteers on a Google drive, and the homework assignment for all MIPAC members is to read these documents before our next MIPAC meeting on Sept. 8th. CUSD has also been given access to this drive, and we are asking them to read through the information collected thus far and continue the research with schools that have yet to be contacted. Jie Gao has also done research on her own, including phone calls with public school Mandarin programs that have been established for many years (Portland, Minnesota, Utah). Portland and Minnesota both use a 2/2/2 model (i.e. 2 classes taught in Mandarin in each of the middle school years). The classes taught in Mandarin are Social Studies and Mandarin Language Arts. Portland tried to teach science in Mandarin, but they discovered when the students get to college and try to take higher level science classes in English, it's too hard for them. She also noted that AP tests are available in both traditional and simplified characters.

Debbie Carrillo (CUSD) asked how soon we could get our proposal to the district, and requested it by mid-September. They are hiring a 3rd party data research company to help define the K-12 Mandarin immersion program in CUSD. This research company (Hanover) will incorporate the results of our summer interviews, our parent surveys from previous years, and our feedback regarding curriculum, and they will also do some research on their own based on the scope of the project (which is to be defined

by CUSD next week). If we have any questions that should be considered (other than those in our summer research questionnaire), we should e-mail them to Greg. Agustin cautioned that Hanover should not use the Spanish immersion program as their starting reference point, and Debbie said they will be analyzing the Mandarin program before they even begin to look at the Spanish program. The goal is for CUSD to share the project parameters with parents during the Language Immersion parent meeting on Sept. 7th (from 5-6 pm at the district office). The results of Hanover's research will be part of the board presentation when the topic is discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting.

CUSD has a Language Immersion Advisory Committee that encompasses both the Spanish and Mandarin programs. Members of this committee are parents, principals, teachers, and district admin. They come together to address "hot topics" to help avoid misunderstandings. It also helps with transparency and creates ways to build communication and collaboration. They have asked for two parent reps from each school, but some schools have one and our school happens to have three. The 3 parent reps from Bergeson are Susanne Dachgruber, Jennifer Pang, and Audrey Shaw. Jie Gao and Greg Hauser will also attend when possible.

Because of the school of choice window, and also because our program has 5th graders, there is a time crunch to get this research done and a decision made. A subcommittee of the LI Committee, the Mandarin immersion subcommittee, has been formed to assist with this purpose. They will meet for 45 minutes prior to the LI Committee meetings each month for the duration of this current task. In addition to district admin, Mr. Hauser, and Ms. Gao, the parent members of this subcommittee are Danielle Mosh, Kathy Sales, Susanne Dachgruber, Dave Djahaverian, and Melissa Hodge (a Spanish immersion parent who can provide perspective – to be confirmed).

New MIPAC member installation – Rosalie Kuhlmann is replacing MIPAC parent Daniel Wong, and Juintow Lin is replacing FoMIP representative Audrey Shaw. MIPAC must select a chairperson, co-chair, and recording secretary each year. Audrey motioned for Jennifer to be chairperson for the upcoming year and Agustin as co-chair. Rosalie volunteered to be recording secretary. Juintow seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

Juintow asked Debbie Carrillo whether CUSD's intention was to take MIP through 12th grade, and Debbie's response was that this is not something being questioned, and that it is a K-12 program.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

Next MIPAC meeting will be on Sept. 8th from 12-1pm (Jennifer will ask Erich to post this information).