

**Governor's Advisory Council on English Learners
Minutes of Meeting Held On May 14, 2019**

The Governor's Advisory Council on English Learners held a meeting on May 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Delaware Department of Education, Townsend Building, 401 Federal Street, Dover, DE 19901.

The following Council members were present: Javier Torrijos, Guy Danjoint, Michael Rodriguez, Terri Sharpe, Steven Amendum, Oribel McFann, Brody Bluemel, Margie Lopez-Waite, Ana Viscarra-Gikas, Bridget Amory, Valentina Maza

The following Council members were absent: Heather Cramer, John Marinucci, Sen. David Sokola, Rep. Sean Matthews, Dusty Blakey, Clara Martinez, Georges Odaris, Robert Rescigno, Allison Castellanos and Maria Matos

The following individuals were also present: Maria Paxson, Kelly Hageman, Cary Knight and Jacqueline Wager

1. Welcome and Introductions

At 6:00 p.m., Javier Torrijos called the meeting to order.

2. Review and Approval of March 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Javier Torrijos directed Council members to review meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Oribel McFann-Mora and seconded by Bridget Amory for approval of the March meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously and meeting minutes were approved.

3. DDOE Updates

The Department of Education provided an overview of some key initiatives that are occurring including professional learning that is underway such as the creation of seven self-paced Schoology courses focused on English learners, SIOP training and the SIOP model school program.

The Department of Education provided demographic data for those students enrolled in the teacher academy pathway.

4. Recommendation for the Opportunity Funding

Members discussed the Opportunity Funding and ideas to allow for improved outcomes for English learners. Several members expressed the need for additional educators to become certified and/or receive training on best practices for English learners. Members discussed the need for the funds to be closely tracked and the expenditures to be well chosen. The

Departments shared the current accountability structure and the creation of the Opportunity Funding Toolkit to support districts/charters in appropriately using the funding. The members determined that they would like to be part of the oversight committee that will be formed as a part of the overall Opportunity Funding evaluation system. It was determined that the Council would write a letter to express interest in participation. The Council also determined that they would write a letter of support for the approval of the Opportunity Funds through the Joint Finance Committee.

5. New Business

Subcommittee 1 shared the work that occurred in the session immediately preceding the full council meeting. The group shared draft recommendations that were created by the subcommittee. Additional committee did not have any updates to present.

6. Philadelphia Language Access Plan Presentation

Orlando Almonte, Language Access Program Manager from the Office of Immigrant Affairs in Philadelphia presented to the Council on the process used when implementing the requirement for all city agencies to have a language access plan. Orlando explained some of the challenges and areas of learning from the implementation process. Orlando will provide the Council with the supporting documents.

7. Preparation for Next Meeting

Javier requested that all subcommittees make an attempt to meet prior to the next Council meeting.

8. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

7. Adjournment

At 8:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the Townsend Building, 401 Federal Street in Dover.