A close up of a logo

Description automatically generated**A.L.L. General Meeting Agenda**

**February 6, 2024**

* Topics: Senior Roundtable
* Call to Order: 6:33 PM
* Spanish Language Assistant Program presentation by Mark Perez, SVUSD’s Director of Language Acquisition & Intervention Programs and Ines Garcia, Spanish Embassy (ISA)
  + Ines represents ISA (International Spanish Academy) and was at this year’s DELE presentation.
  + SVUSD and ISA are looking for one or two families to host a Spanish Language Assistant. This is a student from Spain who will spend time at each DLI school in the 2024-2025 school year.
  + Host requirements: must provide transportation to and from the schools. Assistant must have a bedroom of their own and are not expected to do housework.
  + This current school year we were unable to find a host family and had to cancel the assistant for 2023-2024.
  + Host families do receive a stipend. It’s a great opportunity to experience a different culture, friendships, and education.
  + The Spanish Language Assistant is a university student who wants to go into teaching. They would be in the U.S. from September through April on a Cultural Exchange Visa. They will go to school 4 days per week and often travel on the weekends.
  + Mark Perez will send an email to DLI families about the program. Interested families can reach out to SVUSD, their principal, or Leigh as well.
  + The SVUSD Language Acquisition Department offers support throughout the process.
* Principals’ Reports
  + Gates (Sra. Clearwater) - Cynthia Micka is a Parenting OC finalist for Top Teacher. Gates is getting ready for Kindergarten enrollment, and there are many interested families.
  + Los Alisos (Mr. Marzilli) - Finals are coming up on February 29 and March 1. 8th Grade registration for high school will take place in March.
  + Laguna Hills (Mr. Hinds) - Winter Formal is this week.
* Laguna Hills High School Senior Roundtable facilitated by Bill Hinds, LHHS Principal
  + 4 kids presented: Charlie McKeegan, Alex Versteegh, Sophia Ramos, and Brenda Tepatzi. They come from diverse backgrounds and experiences in the program.
  + The students shared about their overall experience in the DLI program.
    - Charlie: has been in immersion since kinder, it’s been super cool to be with fellow immersion students his whole life, like family.
    - Alex: they have their own culture, a shared language and community in the program, shared experiences in high school and all the way down to kinder.
    - Brenda: being in immersion is something different that others don’t understand, it’s special, the students are connected to each other.
    - Sophia: socialization, lifelong friends, she grew up speaking Spanish, but the program has helped her to read and write with proficiency, you get used to the workload and can manage it.
  + The students shared about their experiences in other aspects of school.
    - Charlie: he’s senior class vice president for ASB, vice president of Choir, and does a bunch of things, it’s important to try new things in high school, you’ll never know what you will like until you try it.
    - Sophia: is in the music program, also in the International Baccalaureate (IB) to get her IB diploma, in Hispanic Honor Society, it’s a learning experience to be involved and try new things.
    - Brenda: In the International Baccalaureate program as well, takes the most rigorous coursework, takes honor and AP classes, wrote an extended essay, immersion has helped with her subjects, she’s also in Model United Nations, which helps with problem solving, and in Hispanic Honor Society, connecting with the Spanish culture is a big part of things.
    - Alex: has been wrestling for 4 years, a lot of underrepresented students join wrestling, and he’s been able to connect with his teammates, he’s grown into leadership, and the program takes commitment.
  + The students shared advice they would give to their younger selves and answered the question: how important is it to stick with the program?
    - Charlie: being able to stick with something that long is one of the best feelings, he feels proud.
    - Sophia: try to make friends and have fun, life lessons and life skills are important, and connections with friends in the program, and being able to communicate with people.
    - Alex: don’t worry about the ups and downs, embrace the journey, and you will find yourself.
    - Brenda: would encourage younger students to focus on their goals, be proud of themselves, be open, and try new things, balance school life with fun time.
  + Open Forum with audience participation.
    - Alex lived a year in Columbia and was able to go to school there. He was able to jump right back into the program at the beginning of high school.
    - Question: If you are from a Spanish speaking home, how has the program impacted your English proficiency?
      * Brenda: able to learn more easily in the program.
      * Sophia: exposed to English at a young age, didn’t have difficulty learning.
* Treasurer’s Report (Treasurer, Vanessa Aragon)
  + Presented Financial Summary Report: $13,087.24 in year-to-date fundraising, year-to-date expenses are $2,020.78, total remaining is $11,066.46. A.L.L. has $30,620.04 in the bank.
    - Vanessa made a motion to approve the Financial Summary.
    - Heidi Bolaños seconded the motion.
    - Motion passed.
* Executive Board Reports
  + President, Leigh Hansen
    - A.L.L. Website Update - new website is live.
    - Need Volunteers for the Nominating Committee for next year’s ALL Board, explained that the nominating committee looks for candidates for Executive Board positions and presents them at the election meeting.
    - Need Volunteers: Festival de los Niños, 8th Grade Celebration, Senior Recognition Ceremony
      * Karen Boepple offered to help with the 8th Grade Celebration. Leigh will reach out to her.
  + Vice President of Operations, Claudia Rodriguez Zinn
    - Festival de los Niños planning is underway, and it’s going to be a great event.
  + Vice President of Ways and Means, Silvia Lorena Flores
    - Working on fundraising ideas, will host a yard sale at the next Viernes Sociales at Gates.
* Upcoming Events:
  + OSO Fit Fun Run
    - Saturday, February 24th, 7:30 AM at the Norman P. Murray Community Center in Mission Viejo
    - Register at [osofit5k.org](https://osofit5k.org/) and select “A.L.L. (Advocates for Language Learning - SVUSD)”
  + April 16, 2024 - A.L.L. General Meeting - Summer Fluency/Literacy Continuation Resources & Board Election for 2024-2025 School Year
  + May 3, 2024 Festival de los Niños 4:00 - 7:00 at Gates Elementary
  + May 14, 2024 8th Grade Celebration 6:00 - 8:00 at Los Alisos Intermediate School - Blue Quad
  + May 16, 2024 Senior Recognition Ceremony 5:30 - 8:00 at the Laguna Hills Community Center
* No other business was discussed.
* Meeting Adjourned at 8:01 PM