

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Superintendent's Community Advisor Council
Monday, December 3, 2012

Meeting Notes

1. **WELCOME**

Beth Berndt, SCAC Facilitator, called the meeting to order.

2. **MEETING NOTES (October 29, 2012)**

The meeting notes were approved as submitted. A SCAC guest inquired about the Education Foundation included in a budget discussion at last month's meeting. Below is additional information regarding the Education Foundation (R.E.A.C.H.) provided by Chrystie Adams, Vice President of R.E.A.C.H.:

The R.E.A.C.H. Foundation is a new non-profit education foundation formed by district parents who have held a variety of leadership positions within PTAs for many years. Our focus is aimed at retaining current successful programs in our school district, as well as introducing new programs designed to strengthen student performance and prepare them for the demands of the 21st Century marketplace

*Our Mission is to develop and provide **Resources** for the **Enrichment of Academics, Arts and Athletics** for our **Children** to reach their ultimate **Heights!***

***Our nonprofit foundation is seeking volunteers and donations to meet the goals of this mission.** Any funds raised by R.E.A.C.H. go directly to enrich the learning of PYLUSD students.*

You can also support our schools by participating in our first annual ShamRock n' Run 5K & 2K Fun Run on March 17, 2013. Go to our web site www.reach4pylud.org for more details.

3. **GOOD NEWS REPORTS**

Brookhaven teachers are participating in the 100 Mile Club to help combat childhood obesity. The goal is to help students experience fitness and personal success through attainable physical fitness goals. The students that participate will walk or run 100 miles at school during the school year. The sixth grade is preparing for the Barnes and Noble holiday fundraiser. Money raised from the sale of food, books, Nook Tablets, music, and gift wrapping will support school events and programs.

Bryant Ranch's third grade students will participate in a Stargazing party December 13. This event is always a lot of fun and provides an opportunity for students to apply what they have learned in the classroom.

Esperanza's orchestra and choir participated in the Winter Holiday Concert November 28 and 29. December 13 is the Holiday Drama Showcase and on December 20 the Choir Holiday Concert is at Valencia High School and the Band/Orchestra Holiday Concert is at EHS. Congratulations to all the students and faculty involved in the music program. The fourth annual Esperanza cheerleading showcase will be held December 9. There will be performances from many local cheerleading squads and the EHS squad will perform their competition routines. For a fourth straight year, Esperanza has been recognized as a GRAMMY Signature School Semi-Finalist. This program is sponsored by the GRAMMY Foundation and awards music programs based on their level of excellence in all musical disciplines.

Fairmont students donated over 600 pounds of Halloween candy to a local dentist, Yorba Linda Dental Arts, to be distributed to the troops overseas as a part of Operation Gratitude. Included with the candy donation was 80 handwritten letters of support to the troops. One student, Jake Headley, won a new bicycle from the dental office's random drawing. Student Council is currently collecting toys and gifts for three district elementary schools for their less fortunate students. Students also participated in "hat day" before Thanksgiving. Students paid \$1 to wear a hat and \$620 was collected to be used for playground balls and equipment.

George Key students will be treated to a luncheon hosted by the Rotary on December 7. The Rotarians demonstrate their generosity by sponsoring the luncheon and providing gifts to all students. An invitation was extended to staff to visit this much anticipated and appreciated event.

Glenknoll's PTA has partnered with the staff in promoting the Positive Behavior Intervention program. Kindergarten and first grade students are enjoying the online reading program, Ticket to Read. Glenknoll is proud of their attendance record, the third highest in the district.

Kraemer's Jog-a-Thon was held on November 2 and over \$14,000 was raised. The funds will be used for field trips and will include a trip to the LA Zoo for seventh grade and a trip to the Museum of Tolerance for eighth grade. Dance, color guard, and the band went to Disneyland on November 30 but because of the rain were not able to perform. The Holiday Concerts Basket Raffle will be held on December 18 in Valencia High School's auditorium.

Lakeview's motto this year is "Roaring to Achieve." Their "paws-itivity" shows when they R.O.A.R. (Respect each other and yourself, On time and on task at school everyday, Achieve your personal best...never give up, Responsibility is key for success). Fourth and fifth grade students continue to build their leadership groups; Lion Pride for GATE student enrichment, GLEE (Great Leaders Everyday in Everyway) promoting school spirit/community outreach, and peer mentors who serve as big buddies helping younger students with social/emotional skills. Teachers are implementing Best Practice for Building 21st Century Skills incorporating cooperative and creative ways for students to learn.

Parkview received a great report from the WASC accreditation visit on November 5. Appreciation was expressed to Principal Rosie Baldwin, Loree Begin, Assistant Administrator, teachers, parents, and students for their hard work to make this visitation successful. A field trip is scheduled December 4 to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a greatly anticipated talent show will be held December 19 at the Forum Theater.

Rose Drive was very pleased to surpass their goal of raising \$25,000 at their Jog-A-Thon by collecting \$34,000. This will help fund Ticket to Read and other programs and events for the school. A martial arts class and a music program utilizing keyboards are being offered after school. A new sound system is being installed in the MPR which will greatly improve the enjoyment of future assemblies.

Travis Ranch held their Internet Safety parent workshop on November 14. An overview of the program was provided. Another workshop is planned for February 6 and the Orange County Sheriff's Department will provide two presentations; one for students and one for parents. For additional information you may contact Investigator Wade Walsvick at wwalsvick@ocsd.org.

Tuffree students continue to support school-wide donation programs. This month donations of food and gift cards will be given to families in need in their own school community. Student groups meet at lunch with counselors and interns to learn about cultures, diversity, peer pressure, and media influences. Students have available an online bullying reporting email address that can be used anonymously to report suspected bullying. Career counseling workshops are available to seventh graders during their elective classes to discuss college and career exploration. The instrumental and vocal ensembles have been invited to perform at Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm. A jazz and vocal ensemble will perform a collaborative selection that has been commissioned just for them. Students continue to participate in the community outreach program for cancer patients and school fundraisers are supporting the Connect the Dots program.

Van Buren's Book Fair begins this week and a family night, Street Taco Night, will be held December 5. A successful Jog-A-Thon provided \$23,000 to help support programs for the students.

Yorba Linda HS congratulates their fall sports teams and coaches: Men's Water Polo finished 5-1 in a 3-way tie for first place, Women's Volleyball was the 2012 Empire League Champ, Women's Golf was 2012 Empire League Champs, Women's Cross Country finished second and Men's Cross Country finished third in League, Women's Tennis was the 2012 Empire League Champ. Joe Walls was the Orange County Register's Athlete of the Week this past week. The band and color guard took first place trophies from the Loara Field Show in Anaheim and was invited to participate in the 2012 Field Championships. A very successful homecoming game and dance were held October 19 and 20. YLHS is proud they have been nominated for the California Distinguished School award. Their CST scores played a part in this nomination. Last year the juniors participated in Cal State University's Early Assessment Program (EAP). The EAP assesses students on their current level of college readiness in the areas of English and mathematics. The current senior class has 198 students who have demonstrated they were ready for CSU college-level English and 129 demonstrated they were ready for CSU college-level math. On November 13, students and teachers participated in a comedy sports event at the school. Everyone had a good time and appreciated the teachers' participation. The YLHS Drama Department is presenting "The Miracle Worker" December 11 through December 15 at the Forum Theatre.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Domene reported three of the district's schools have been nominated for the California Distinguished School award; El Dorado High School, Yorba Linda High School, and Yorba Linda Middle School.

Dr. Domene congratulated all four of our comprehensive high school football teams for their participation in the Southwest Division of the CIF Southern Section playoffs this year.

Dr. Domene reported the district is in the process of hiring two Energy Managers who will be funded from savings accrued by the district from energy conservation. The managers will help implement proven ways the entire district can conserve energy and will promote conservation models with employees.

- **Budget** – a PowerPoint showed California's budget outlook and compared California funding to the national norm. Dr. Domene expressed his appreciation for the passage of proposition 30 but did clarify that the district would not receive additional funding. The passage of proposition 30 only prevented an \$11.6 million mid-year cut. To meet budget challenges, which include declining revenue and loss of income due to state deferrals, increased costs, declining enrollment and increases in health and welfare costs, the PYLUSD will need to make reductions in the upcoming year. This is the sixth consecutive year of budget cuts. Staff is now waiting for the Governor's January budget proposal to determine the next steps the district will need to make in budget planning for 2013-14. Discussion followed on various meetings taking place with government officials and various citizen groups as well as district representatives.

A SCAC guest asked if Dr. Domene and staff had seen an article in the Orange County Register that specifically mentioned PYLUSD as having issued \$22.1 million in capital appreciation bonds in 2011 and that the district will have to repay \$281 million by the maturity date in 2049, or \$12.73 for every dollar borrowed. Dr. Domene said the Los Angeles Times and Orange County Register ran articles about Capital Appreciation Bonds, one of many types of bonds issued by school districts. The writers chose to focus solely on CABs in isolation and not on school districts' bond programs in their entirety. The articles criticized school districts for issuing these types of bonds that, in some instances, require them to pay back up to 15 times the principle. With regard to the PYLUSD, the combined bond issuances will have a repayment ratio is 3.45, much lower than the average school district which is closer to 4.1. Dr. Domene added that he is working on an educational article for the district's website to clarify this information. Dr. Domene added that recently the district was able to take advantage of historically low interest rates to achieve significant savings on the Series B and

Series C bonds while not extending the life of the bonds. By refunding the remaining Series B and C bonds, the district saved property owners approximately \$6 million.

5. CTE ACADEMY NIGHT (JANUARY 10, 2013)

Cary Johnson referred to a CTE academy night flyer attached to the agenda. All four comprehensive high schools will provide information on their individual academy to parents of incoming freshmen on January 10 at the YL Community Center. The academy program is expected to be another tool to ensure students graduate career and/or college ready. A question was asked regarding the differences between academy and career courses. Mr. Johnson explained the academy courses are available to all students, however, the completed academy program allows students to achieve industry certification. A question was asked regarding prerequisite classes at the middle school. Mr. Johnson responded that there are no prerequisite classes for middle school students prior to applying to an academy.

6. CHOICE TRANSFER TIMELINES

Richard McAlindin referred to the School Transfers 2013-2014 School Year brochure. The initial application period for Choice transfers is January 22 through February 1 for the next school year. There will be one additional transfer window beginning June 17. Mr. McAlindin clarified the differences between a Choice transfer application and an application to attend a CTE academy.

7. GLENKNOLL CHARITY

Rosemary Gladden distributed an article regarding third grade students at Glenknoll that are giving back to their community by collecting supplies they donate each month to the Homeless Intervention Shelter in Placentia. If you would like to help, please contact Mrs. Coulombe at Glenknoll Elementary, or you may contact Homeless Intervention Shelter directly at 993-5774.

8. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

A SCAC guest shared that on December 15 the City of Brea's Community Center will host a Drumming Circle. Cal State Fullerton currently has an excellent production of *Carousel* running through December 16. The Chance Theatre in Anaheim Hills is currently featuring the Broadway production of *Little Women* through December 23.

Chrystie Adams (Vice President of R.E.A.C.H.) reported that R.E.A.C.H. has partnered with School Spirit Pays, a credit card processing company that will donate to R.E.A.C.H. 25 percent of their profit from credit card processing fees from merchants who sign up with them. The ShamRock n' Run is March 17, 2013. Registration is now available online at www.reach4pylusc.org. Anyone who registers online before the event can donate \$5 of the registration fee directly back to a school of their choice.

A SCAC representative requested staff respond to the Orange County Register article regarding the Capitol Appreciation Bonds to correct the misinformation relating to PYLUSD. The opinion was expressed that a letter to the editor giving an outline of the entire picture was warranted to provide the community a fair depiction of the situation. Dr. Domene said this is under consideration.

Because of the time constraint, the agenda item "Strategic Plan Overview" will be placed on the January SCAC agenda.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, January 28, 2013