

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Superintendent's Community Advisory Council
Monday, October 13, 2014

1. WELCOME

Candy Plahy called the meeting to order. Dr. Domene introduced Kevin Lee, new Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING NOTES (September 15, 2014)

The meeting notes were approved as submitted.

3. GOOD NEWS REPORTS

Bernardo Yorba welcomed new principal, Ken Valburg. The second annual Anti-Bullying Musical performance under the direction of voice music teacher, Mrs. Nason, and drama teacher, Mrs. Swarm, will hold day and evening performances October 21. Dodgeball tournament games are played during morning break and the winner of the student competition will face off against the winner of the staff division for the school championship. The New Student Luncheon welcomed new students to BYMS with a pizza lunch and introduced them to staff and programs that can assist them with their transition to a new school. The first PTA-sponsored Spirit Party was held September 30 and 37 students were invited, by staff, to attend based on their display of positive attitudes and behavior. Food and beverages were provided to the students and all walked away with prizes as well. The BYMS Marching Band performed in the annual Placentia Heritage Day Parade October 11. Math teachers, Mrs. Stack and Mr. Fain, sponsored a new Board Game club this year. Students will learn to play several of the new, challenging board games such as King of Tokyo and Block Party.

Brookhaven's 2014-2015 student council members have been selected and are looking forward to promoting student activities this year. October 23 is the Fall Festival and Halloween Dress-Up Family Social. The annual Book Fair also opens on October 23.

El Camino Real's class of 2013-2014 had a total of 92 graduates and received \$8,050 in scholarship money. This year staff welcomed 198 students to the new school year. Back to School night was October 8. Parents and students are encouraged to join the PTSA organization and were reminded that dues money supports student scholarships. In order for a student to receive a scholarship, the student must be a member of El Camino Real's PTSA.

El Dorado is hosting an out-of-state college fair for 53 colleges October 13. Juniors and seniors will have an opportunity to visit the fair, ask questions, and gather information.

Fairmont PTA hosted over 100 students at their first monthly Principal's Luncheon. Students have been collecting pledges for the annual Jog-A-Thon to be held October 24. Chromebooks have arrived and classes enjoy using them. The school has 2 carts and each cart has 40 Chromebooks. Teachers are now taking attendance online and it is going very well.

Glenknoll will hold its annual Book Fair October 13-16. Students are looking forward to the Battle of the Books. Group signups are October 16 and students will read a book in preparation of answering questions about it during the Battle of the Books event. Winners will receive a gold, silver, or bronze medallion. Students are also participating in the reading program. Students fill in circles for every 15 minutes they read. Once the sheet of circles is filled in, they turn it in at the library and receive a prize. Everyone is eagerly anticipating the Fall Festival October 24.

Glenview held a very successful Back to School Night and Book Fair. The students are very pleased and excited about the playground makeover. A Glenview Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 8.

Golden's after school activities have begun. Activities include basketball, martial arts, robotics, chess, tennis, and young Rembrandts. October 3 was the first Pizza With the Principal luncheon. Principal, Mrs. Turk, read to all students in September and plans to continue that each month. She continues to focus on both fictional and expository texts. This past month all books read were Caldecott Award winning books. Mrs. Hope and Mrs. Mulcahy are piloting a first time Science Olympiad team this year through the Orange County Department of Education. Mrs. Rago, second grade teacher, and Mrs. Mulcahy, fifth grade GATE teacher, were both observed by administrators this past week. Mrs. Mulcahy demonstrated an ECM (Extending Children's Mathematics) lesson while Mrs. Rago demonstrated CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction). Administration from El Dorado's elementary feeder schools and Tuffree were highly impressed with the level of academic engagement and academic vocabulary. Golden's largest fundraiser of the year, the Jog-A-Thon, will be held October 17. Currently 80 percent of the student body has contributed to this fundraiser.

Lakeview PTA sponsors a weekly after-school program; currently Lego Robotics and Sculpture classes. Students are designing and building robots from Legos or students are designing and creating bracelets and necklaces from beads they have sculpted from clay and then woven with wire and thread. The upcoming Jog-A-Thon fundraiser is October 27, as well as the kick-off to Red Ribbon Week. All week long students will participate in activities that promote healthy life choices and the strength to say no to drugs. October 30 is the fourth annual Science Fair and Reflections artwork show. Once again great judges have been secured for the Science Fair. Students are excited about this year's Reflection Art theme: "The world would be a better place if..." The Reflections Art show will take place October 30. This year's PTA membership is up from last year with 428 members. This is a significant number with a student enrollment of 510. Lakeview continues to be a model school for PBIS and its "Roaring to Achieve" theme. Staff added a costumed mascot on campus and is encouraging "Random Acts of Kindness" to involve every student, every day and provide a safe and enriching environment for all students to achieve. Staff has been adding to professional growth with the implementation of learning activities imbedded into SMART technology from classes taken at Learning.com in order to continue to promote digital citizenship among all students.

Linda Vista's second annual Trunk or Treat on October 17 has expanded this year to 23 cars, dance floor, craft table, DJ, and Mad Scientist table. The annual Book Fair is October 27-31, students will participate in Red Ribbon Week activities October 27-30, and the Jog-A-Thon October 31. The first cart of 40 Google Chromebooks has been received and is always signed out as it goes class to class. Last week a class of fourth

graders helped kindergartners log onto the Chromebooks for their first time and type sentences into a Google doc. Everyone is looking forward to getting a second cart generously paid for by the PTA.

Mabel Paine is one of only three schools in the county offering Girls on the Run (GOTROC), an after school running club, designed to empower girls. Head coach, Ms. Kerr, a Mabel Paine teacher who is also a runner, is assisted by another teacher, Ms. Luchesi. Both are certified coaches through Girls on the Run. A team of 14 girls in Grades 3-5 meets twice a week to learn life skills through fun, engaging, lessons designed to celebrate the joy of movement. At the end of the 12 weeks, the girls and their coaches complete a 5K run to celebrate their success. Research shows that this program has helped girls to significantly improve in positive body image, enjoyment of physical activity, commitment to physical activity, eating attitudes and behaviors, and self-esteem. This year Mabel Paine has adopted a college theme to instill a mind set that all students can be college bound. Each classroom represents a college chosen by the teacher. Mondays are designated as college day and students and staff may wear their college gear. In addition, each classroom has a cheer the teacher and students created to unite them as a college team. Students in Grades 4-5 learn the "A-G" requirements and will visit local colleges and research tuition and degree programs. The PTA just purchased 12 Chromebooks and will purchase 12 more in the near future with the goal to provide an additional Chromebook cart of 36 for use in the upper grades.

Melrose will participate in the Great California ShakeOut October 16 and will host a Coffee with the Principal October 24. Everyone is looking forward to SERVE Day November 8 when Eastside Christian Church will help to beautify the campus. Melrose is proud of their 2013-2014 District Attendance Award. This is the third year in a row that Melrose has won this award. Grade levels have started a recycling competition. Melrose was most appreciative of the school supplies donated by Bank of America. McKenny Vento had 50 families participate in a field trip where they also received a uniform, backpack, winter jacket, undergarments, and a gift card for Payless Shoes.

Parkview went on a field trip October 7 to Crystal Cove State Park and attended a tide pool presentation. The Boosters have organized a new fundraising program through Scrips and everyone is looking forward to raising money for Lego Robotic supplies and a shade structure for their theater practice and recess times.

Rio Vista's new website is now live and the teachers will soon have websites as well. Back to School night was very successful with staff welcoming parents to the new school year. Last week was the annual Book Fair which was a very popular event. A new PTA Board has been elected and they are looking forward to supporting students and staff this year. Rio Vista will hold weekly mini-trainings on topics such as the integration of technology to prepare students for Smarter Balanced Testing in the third grade. Mrs. Beresford, Mrs. Asthon, and Mrs. Moss have received funding through Donors Chose to fund a reading project. Mr. Huarto has donated earbuds for all kindergarten classes for the iPad implementation.

Rose Drive honored Orange County Sheriff Deputies who were present for the Patriots Day ceremony September 11. Staff and students will participate in Red Ribbon Week October 20-24. Dress up days for students are planned and will include Sock it to Drugs (wear crazy socks) and Say Boo to Drugs (orange and black clothing). The Orange County Sheriffs will be on campus one day that week also providing activities. This

year's Jog-A-Thon is October 24. Last year the \$32,000 raised funded student programs for the year. Student participation incentives include swapping teachers and a teacher pie eating contest. Everyone is looking forward to the Fall Festival November 21. Rose Drive is participating in the PBIS program and a teaching rotation discussed expectations for identified areas. Staff was trained in September and there has been great feedback from teachers, parents, and students.

Sierra Vista received a grant that will promote a Running Club. Students will receive an award for every 25 miles logged. Cal State Fullerton student teachers start on Monday and will help in classrooms until the end of the month. The Sierra Vista teachers appreciate having extra help with students.

Travis Ranch had over 200 dads and kids at the Watch DOGS event, "Going Bananas!" After the dads' orientation, both dads and kids enjoyed banana splits. An Eagle Scout has finished painting numbers on the roofs of the school buildings as part of the Travis Ranch Safety Plan. Staff is getting ready to launch an after school ST Music program in November for Grades 1-4. The middle school band did an amazing job at the Placentia Heritage Day Parade. The ASB is planning the *Step it UP!* Event for October 24. Everyone was invited to a parenting presentation, *Sibling Rivalry to Sibling Harmony*, October 29 at 7 p.m. in the Travis Ranch MPR.

Tuffree's Book Fair this past week was a big success. The librarian reported it was the best Book Fair in a long time. This past Friday morning was Breakfast with the Band. Friends and relatives of the Tuffree Band and Color Guard were invited to preview the band's performance prior to the Placentia Heritage Day parade. The band did a great job at the parade Saturday morning.

Valencia is proud to recognize 36 students for achieving National Merit Recognition (3 National Merit Semifinalists, 30 National Merit Commended Student Program, 2 National Hispanic Recognition Program, 1 National Achievement Scholarship Program). VHS recently hosted the regional FIRST Robotics "Fall Classic" competition with over 50 teams from 35 schools coming from all over Southern California. It is the first time the event has been hosted by a high school in Orange County. Robotics will soon be a fifth pathway option for students enrolled in the Val Tech program. Tiger University is off to a great start in supporting students in the requirements of acceptance to universities. Upcoming sessions scheduled are devoted to supporting students with the college application process. Tiger Tutoring was launched this fall, providing support in all content areas. Over 100 students have been in attendance at each session. Fall season athletics are off to a great start with 4 teams ranked in the top 10 of their CIF division. Kyle Gabriel was selected to join the SCVA All-Southern Honor Choir.

Van Buren will hold their annual Jog-A-Thon October 24 and hope to attain their goal of raising \$26,000 for student programs. Every morning Racing Roadrunners can walk around the blacktop and receive sticks as they walk; 8 sticks equal 1 mile. Musical Theatre returns and students will be performing in *Cinderella*. This year at least 95 students have signed up to participate, the most ever. Also this year, Van Buren is preparing for its 50th anniversary celebration March 19, 2015. The theme is *Through the Decades* and is scheduled to coincide with Open House.

Wagner's Jog-A-Thon is currently underway. Wildcats will show their school spirit Friday by wearing pink. Students have been challenged by teachers that if they do not get discipline referrals, Mr. Blankenship, first grade teacher, will dress up as an ice cream cone and students get to decorate him.

Woodsboro students can participate in the following programs: FIBO Art after school program October 20-November 17, the Newton Science Lab after school program November 4-December 2, Family Night/OC Astronomers November 18, Holiday Market Week December 8-12, and Holiday Vocal Music program December 11-18. The online ART program has now launched. The PTA created several incentive programs to help promote this new program. The fall Book Fair is now open and Family Night is Thursday with Angels and Chick-fil-A prizes to be given away. A school-wide Science Night is planned in November. There is a new student-created math club for Grades 4-6, Math Circle.

Yorba Linda High School congratulates its Science Department for great results on the CST. Eighty-five percent of the students scored at the proficient or advanced level, the highest in the district. Staff welcomed 948 parents to Back to School Night and 1,000 students attended the Welcome Back dance. Approximately 200 parents and students attended the Mustang University Senior College Night. This week, the counseling department will host a college fair for juniors and seniors. Approximately 55 colleges from across the country, Canada, and the United Kingdom will participate in that event. The Mustang Band and Guard hosted the Travis Ranch Band and Guard at last week's football game. Students enjoyed a pre-game pizza party and playing together at the game. The Mustang Band and Guard both finished first at the Valencia Field Show this past Saturday, and the drum line took a second place finish.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **District Band Pageant – November 5, 7 p.m.**

Dr. Domene invited everyone to attend the District's band pageant at Bradford Stadium. This is a wonderful opportunity to see our middle and high school bands, dance teams, color guards, and identification units put on an amazing show.

- **Parent University**

Dr. Domene encouraged everyone to go online and look at the opportunities the District is offering to our parent community. After posting an interest survey this past spring and summer the following four areas were selected for the Parent University: Navigating the College System, Student Academics, Parenting Support, and Student Safety. Dr. Domene highlighted a few of the classes currently offered. Classes begin this week and Richard McAlindin is now working on spring class offerings.

Dr. Domene thanked the School Board for their participation in the Placentia Heritage Day parade October 11. Dr. Domene shared that he watched our bands compete in front of the judges' stand and they all did an amazing job.

The new AFJROTC at Esperanza High School began the year with 35 students but currently have 58 participating. Students are already marching and recently won a competition.

The Great American ShakeOut is October 16 and District office staff will join our school sites in participating in the drill at 10:16 a.m.

Many of our schools are doing fun, educational events. At El Dorado High School, for instance, an all-district college fair, Pathways to the Future, is October 29 at 6:30 p.m. College admissions, financial aid, test prep, and career planning are just a few of the topics that will be covered. For more school events, please check the District's website.

Bernardo Yorba Middle School is joined by Kraemer and Yorba Linda Middle Schools publishing their school newspapers online.

5. PYLUSD APP

Dr. Domene demonstrated the District's new PYLUSD App that will be available for download within the next few days. This is the latest communication effort by the District to provide up-to-the-minute news on district events and notifications. Dr. Domene thanked Rosemary Gladden for all her work on getting the app ready to roll out and for her work on Facebook and Twitter.

6. ACCELERATED MATH PROGRAM

Cary Johnson introduced Katie DeGraffenreid who used a PowerPoint presentation to help illustrate changes to the PYLUSD math program as a result of the implementation of Common Core State Standards. These changes have included a more focused approach to instruction with fewer standards and more cohesive instruction from grade level to grade level. The presentation clearly outlined the opportunities for students to be successful in mathematics. Mrs. DeGraffenreid also distributed the PYLUSD Math Pathways brochure and Math Pathways chart. Discussion followed on various scenarios regarding passing/not passing particular levels of math, how math placement is determined, and parent notification regarding placement. Information is posted on the website and distributed at school sites. Dr. Domene encouraged parents who have questions or hear rumors regarding the math program to always check with their principal or contact the district office for clarification. A question was asked regarding students retaking a math class to improve a grade. Mr. Johnson responded that generally does not happen because of graduation class schedule requirements. Saturday School is an option as well as taking an online course to improve a grade. A question was asked regarding what options students have that are dealing with impacted schedules. Staff has recognized the need to assist students with impacted schedules and may offer Geometry in the summer and intervention classes for those that are struggling.

7. HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE NIGHT

Cary Johnson shared that this year's High School Showcase Night (formerly CTE Academy Night) is responding to parent requests for more information about each schools' academic programs and the desire to have more time at each session. This year, in addition to each comprehensive high school showcasing their Academy, a more comprehensive information session will be provided. Thursday, November 6, El Dorado and Esperanza High Schools will meet with parents at the Yorba Linda Community Center. Session 1 begins at 6:30 p.m. and Session 2 begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 13, Valencia and Yorba Linda High Schools will meet with parents also at the Yorba Linda Community Center. Session 1 begins at 6:30 p.m. and Session 2 begins at 7:30 p.m. A question and answer session will follow each high school presentation. The

High School Academic Showcase night was moved from January to November to provide adequate time for parents considering a school transfer. The first School Choice transfer window is January 12-30, 2015.

8. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

A question was asked regarding the food bank at Topaz Elementary and if it was available for other schools. Dr. Domene responded that the food bank was part of a grant and available to only one school site. Topaz Elementary was chosen as the site. However, the food bank is open to all students and families in PYLUSD.

A SCAC guest distributed a Parenting Series flyer presented by the Placentia Library District. The classes run until May and on the back of the flyer are several books related to the class topics.

A suggestion was put forth to district staff to provide PYLUSD information flyers to the Placentia and Yorba Linda libraries to be available for their respective communities.

The R.E.A.C.H. Foundation will hold a Meet and Greet October 15 and provide an overview presentation of the R.E.A.C.H. Foundation's goals and objectives. The PYLUSD Ice Bucket Challenge has raised approximately \$2,500 and the ShamRock 'n Run 5K and 2K fundraiser is March 15. R.E.A.C.H. is hoping to sponsor an annual Spelling Bee event at the district level in order to move qualifying students to the national level to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee held annually in Washington D.C.

NEXT MEETING

November 17, 2014
District Education Center, Board Room