

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Superintendent's Community Advisory Council  
Monday, September 17, 2007

Minutes corrected on 10/24/07
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Minutes

**1. WELCOME**

Dr. Marie Otto, SCAC facilitator, welcomed SCAC members and offered the opportunity for self introductions. She encouraged regular attendance at monthly meetings and stated that SCAC members make a significant contribution in sharing their perspective on what is happening at their school sites and across the district. She encouraged members to bring questions and concerns to the SCAC meetings.

**2. GOOD NEWS REPORTS**

Van Buren portables were painted over the summer and the underneath supports were stabilized.

Mabel Paine Elementary School received a grant from the Yorba Linda Community Foundation for \$1,000. The money will go to the Mind Institute for classes K-5. Also, after the floods a wall was put up in the kindergarten area to prevent further flooding and that is now being removed.

Kudos were given to the Rose Drive staff on their 35 point increase on their API score.

Valencia High School's Tiger-of-the-Year, Ms. Patricia Widener, participated in the National Chemistry Olympiad Study Camp at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado. She was selected as an alternate for the U.S. in the international competition to be held in Moscow later this year. Valencia's Chemistry students ranked third in the county in the Chemistry CST results for the 2006-2007 school year. The AVID program has 155 students enrolled at this time and staff is working with these students to develop the skills necessary to become eligible for college. Finally, the art building and girls' locker room were completed.

Glenknoll won the Governor's Fitness Challenge for Orange County by having the highest number of students complete the challenge. The school received a grant in the amount of \$1,000.

**3. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Superintendent indicated how pleased he was that the SCAC members volunteer their time to participate in the group and that the district highly values each member's representation. He also mentioned that agenda items can be e-mailed to Connie Parker ([cparker@pylusd.org](mailto:cparker@pylusd.org)).

Dr. Smith reported a very smooth school opening. He has visited each school campus and many classrooms. It was evident that everyone worked very hard to ensure that the schools were ready for opening. PYLUSD is one of the few districts that bring their teaching staff back the week before school starts in order to provide time for staff development and classroom preparation. Candy Plahy, Director of Staff Development, will attend the next SCAC meeting to describe the staff development available to teachers.

**4. FACILITIES/CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Dr. Smith then asked Dr. Craig Olson to add a few words regarding the school bond initiative being placed on the February 2008 ballot. Dr. Olson gave historical background on the Measure Y modernization and the reasons why this current bond initiative is needed. Dr. Smith shared information regarding projects that would be completed if a bond was to pass.

Mary Weddle extended an invitation to all SCAC members and their guests to attend the Bond Steering Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 20, at 5:30 p.m. in the District's Board Room. She explained how important it is to have community support since the district cannot promote the bond initiative. Several comments were shared from the floor on what a difference modernization has made at school sites.

Mike Bailey reported on Valadez Middle School and Yorba Linda High School – both schools are on time and on budget. Valadez Middle School is well into construction and it is hoped the roofing will be in place well before the expected inclement weather. The school is still on schedule for meeting the intended opening date of September 2008. At the Yorba Linda High School site grading and earth moving has been completed. Pads have been certified and progress is being made to move to the next phase of construction.

## **5. BOARD GOALS**

Dr. Smith shared the district's six areas of emphasis for the 2007-2008 school year and the guiding principals that are posted at all schools. He briefly discussed each area and why it is considered to be a priority. It was brought to the attention of the council that a Prentice Hall School workshop, featuring Dr. Louisa Moats, regarding school-wide interventions for improving literacy, will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **4. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

- In response to an inquiry regarding supervision ratios at elementary schools during recesses and lunch, Dr. Smith reported that the district does not have a particular teacher/pupil ratio for playground supervision, but individual school sites work with district personnel, teachers and the principal to develop a safety plan for supervising students.
- In response to an inquiry, Mr. Domene indicated that last year a nutrition policy was established. Mr. Domene also spoke with Jim Moore, Director of Secondary Education, and he indicated that parents are encouraged to support the district's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks or baked goods which they may bring for class parties or celebrations. Class parties should be held after lunch time when possible. Parents are encouraged to limit the foods and drinks that do not meet nutritional standards and to try to include a healthy food alternative. Included in the minutes is the district's "Wellness Wagon" which provides guidelines for classroom parties and fundraising events.
- In response to an inquiry regarding an incident at Yorba Linda Middle School, Dr. Smith commented that district staff is still working with the Brea Police Department. Any further information will be posted on our web site when it does become available. The safety tip sheet that was sent home to parents following this incident will also be included in the Back-To-School packet next year. SCAC members expressed their appreciation for the communication they received regarding this incident.
- In response to an inquiry regarding an overhang at George Key School, Mike Bailey indicated that he is still waiting for approval from the office of the architect.
- In response to an inquiry regarding AERIES for elementary schools, Doug Domene indicated he will have Bob Blackney, Director of Technology, provide an update at the next SCAC meeting.

- In response to an inquiry regarding the duplication of forms in the Back-To-School packet, Doug Domene reported that some items had been eliminated but will have Bob Blackney report at the next SCAC meeting regarding progress in this area. Another concern regarding the difficulty of reading the emergency/health cards filled out by hand was also expressed.
- In response to an inquiry regarding Booster Club fundraisers, Dr. Olson indicated that Booster Club guidelines have been established and shared with principals and athletic directors who, in turn, are communicating these guidelines to Booster Club leadership.

#### **4. NEXT MEETING**

**Monday, October 22, 2007**

District Board Room