



## **PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Thursday, February 24, 2022, 3:30 p.m.  
PYLUSD Board Room

### **TAC MEETING MINUTES**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Dr. James Elsasser, Superintendent**

Dr. Elsasser opened the meeting by thanking members for their time in serving on the TAC. On February 16, the executive team completed their "Prize Patrol" and recognized deserving employees from certificated, classified, and management groups. Those employees will be highlighted in this week's Good News report.

Congratulations went out to El Camino Real High School, as they were officially named a Model Continuation School. There will be an awards ceremony in March for those middle schools designated as a California School to Watch. This will include PYLUSD's Yorba Linda Middle, Bernardo Yorba, and Tuffree. All four high schools participated in the recent Orange County Academic Decathlon. Both Valencia High School (2nd place) and Esperanza (7th place) qualified for the state finals. El Dorado High School student Isaiah Quintero won the Central Division CIF championship. There are many accomplishments to celebrate. Congratulations to all!

#### **REACH FOUNDATION**

**Melina Michaels, President and Gisele Nguyen, VP of Academic Programs**

Melina Michaels and Gisele Nguyen reviewed the history and current programs of the REACH foundation. The educational non-profit for PYLUSD is currently in its tenth year and continues to provide learning opportunities for students in Academics, Arts, and Athletics. The teacher grant applications are currently open through March 31, 2022. Upcoming events include the annual Shamrock-n-Run (March 20) and Middle School Track Meet (April 6).

#### **STAKEHOLDER SURVEY**

**Richard McAlindin, Assistant Superintendent, Executive Services**

Mr. McAlindin expressed thanks to all who had already participated in the survey. School reports are generated so administrators can analyze data to identify goals specific for their sites. The survey window has been extended one week (March 4th). Everyone is encouraged to complete the survey if they haven't had an opportunity to do so.

#### **COVID UPDATE**

**Richard McAlindin, Assistant Superintendent, Executive Services**

There has been a significant drop in Covid cases, which follows the Omicron variant trends across the nation. As of today, there are 66 student cases and 19 staff cases. The governor is scheduled to make an announcement on Monday, February 28 with a timeline as to when masks will become a recommendation for K12 students. The District has been consistent from the beginning in following the guidance provided by the CDPH and OCDPH.

## **TECHNOLOGY SURVEY UPDATE**

**Jeremy Powell, Chief Technology Officer**

Mr. Powell reminded the committee that technology needs every teacher to provide their feedback in the survey. One common question was about ActivInspire. ActivInspire works on Windows 10. It is currently unknown if it will work on Windows 11, but it is not expected that Promethean will support ActivInspire and Windows 11. The LTSC version of Windows 10 that Technology installs will be supported by Microsoft until January 8, 2029. Another common thread was about microphones. The current microphone is an infrared system. The new system will be radio frequency and will no longer need to be in direct visibility of the receiver. Mr. Powell has walked every classroom to see what changes should/could be made and intends to respond to each change request. He urged teachers to take the survey if they had not done so.

## **MULTICULTURAL STUDIES**

**Gina Aguilar, Director of High School Education**

There is a group of secondary teachers representing the high schools that have been working on the Multicultural Studies curriculum. It is the first course that is completely teacher created, writing all of the lessons themselves. There are 6 units of study, representative of the varying cultures within our District. It will be presented to the Board in April for initial approval. If approved, the curriculum will be on display for two months. If approved, the curriculum will be on display for two months, which may also include the hosting of a community forum. It will go back to the June Board meeting for final approval. As a reminder, it will be an elective course for 11th and 12th grade students only.

## **ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

1. ***Can the CBEST be waived for substitute teachers?***

Please direct those that need a waiver to Rick Lopez. There are many variables, including the type of assignment. (Rick Lopez)

2. ***Is the District looking at keeping class sizes reduced?***

The District lost more than 1500 students during the pandemic. There were few reductions in staff; there were many additional staff hires. The District was able to leverage one time monies. There will need to be adjustments in staffing to mirror the loss in enrollments. The plan is to make the changes over a two year process. (Rick Lopez)

3. ***Fifth grade math placement is done early in the second semester. Is there any way it could be pushed until April?***

After further review, we can push the fifth grade math placement deadline to **March 25th**. The current window is February 15- March 18 and we can only extend the deadline an additional week for several reasons. Middle school needs to review the placement data, use multiple measures, give teachers time to look and give input, send out parent notifications and give middle school counselors time to create master schedules after gathering all the data. (Dr. Liz Leon/Keith Carmona)

4. ***Can the Music and PE teachers have access to Aeries?***

Technology is considering the option for music teachers to input grades for next year. They will also look into giving Aeries access to Music/PE teachers. (Jeremy Powell)

5. ***What is the protocol on assemblies/field trips going to the Board for approval?***

Anything that requires a contract, or involves students going out of the county, or over air/water must go to board. (Gina Aguilar)

6. ***Can there be a single board memo for schools going on the same field trips?***

Yes they can, as long as the timeline is the same. (Dr. Liz Leon)

7. **Teachers expressed thankfulness for smaller class sizes this year. It made such a big difference for a year when students are bridging learning gaps.**

8. ***Is “Step Up to Writing” still the District writing program?***

Yes, it is. The original planned training sessions during the school day were not possible with the sub shortage. There will be an optional training for K-6 offered after school on 3/31/22 from 3:30-4:30pm in the Training Lab (Dr. Liz Leon)

9. ***DBQ online has disappeared from Clever. What happened?***

It was discovered not to be licensed. (Jeremy Powell)

10. ***Classroom Smartboard shuts off everyday at 2pm.***

Please contact the Help Desk to resolve the issue. (Jeremy Powell)

11. ***Can academic support teachers work outside with students?***

Ed Services will get clarification on this. We are working with schools to provide clarification and flexibility (Dr. Liz Leon)

## **Adjournment**

Richard McAlindin adjourned the meeting at 4:45pm.

### Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 31, 2022

3:30 p.m.

Board Room