



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

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 3:45 p.m.  
PYLUSD Board Room

### TAC MINUTES

#### **WELCOME**

**Dr. Linda Adamson, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services**

Dr. Adamson welcomed everyone to the final TAC meeting. Everyone is preparing for the end-of-year activities. Dr. Adamson shared information about her recent site visits.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Dr. Mike Matthews, Superintendent**

Dr. Alex Cherniss was hired as the new superintendent from Palos Verdes Peninsula District. Dr. Matthews has worked with him in the past on several issues. His start date has not been finalized, but he will work to ensure a smooth transition.

Dr. Rick Lopez, with mixed emotions, announced that he has accepted a position with Claremont Unified, under the direction of Dr. Jim Elsasser. The Board took action to place Dr. Lopez on alternate duties, and appointed Nancy Blade as the interim assistant superintendent of Human Resources. Dr. Cherniss will make the recommendation for a permanent replacement.

Mr. Dave Giordano announced his retirement, effective September 2023. This leaves time for hiring and smoothly transitioning the new assistant superintendent of business services. The district will begin advertising for this position in approximately two weeks.

The district has received two different requests from charter schools to operate within the PYLUSD boundaries. Orange County Classical Academy (OCCA) submitted a Proposition 39 in lieu facilities agreement, or "alternative agreement", to lease facilities from our district in fiscal year 2023-24 and listed four potential school sites, including Bernardo Yorba Middle School, Esperanza High School, El Dorado High School, and Rio Vista Elementary. Their proposal is to operate a secondary school starting with grades 6 thru 9 in year one, and then expand each year by one grade level over the course of the four year proposed agreement. The district is currently evaluating available space at the proposed locations, and has requested additional information from the charter school so that the Board can make an information decision regarding this request. The district also received a formal charter school petition from California Republic Leadership Academy (CRLA) which was submitted on April 19, 2023. CRLA is proposing to operate a K-8 charter school within district boundaries beginning the 2024-25 school year. There are detailed requirements and timelines provided for in Education Code section 47605 that school districts and charter schools must follow regarding charter school petitions. The first important requirement is that the Board must hold a public hearing within 60 days

of receipt of the petition to determine the level of support from teachers, other employees of the district, and parents. The next important requirement is that the Board must take action to approve or deny the charter school within 90 days of receipt of the petition, unless both parties agree to an extension of 30 days. At this time, CRLA has not requested PYLUSD facilities. The district will provide additional updates on these requests in the future.

The Board passed two resolutions at the April 11 meeting to recognize the classified and certificated employee groups. Dr. Matthews emphasized that PYLUSD is a spectacular place - the teachers, classrooms, facilities, and staff are outstanding. He expressed his love and appreciation for the opportunity of being a part of this remarkable district.

## **PARENT UNIVERSITY**

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

Mr. McAlindin shared information about two upcoming Parent Night events through OCDE. There is a Fentanyl Awareness Day ([flyer](#)) in Costa Mesa on May 9; this is a no-cost event where participants will take part in a brief training, then be provided a box of Narcan to take home. The district will continue to work on providing another similar event closer to home. There is also a Cyberbullying and Digital Drama ([flyer](#)) information night that will be presented online on May 16; there is no cost for this event.

## **LCAP UPDATE**

**Dr. Linda Adamson, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services**

Dr. Adamson gave an update on the draft LCAP presented to the Board on April 25. There were several good questions and suggestions made. The LCAP team will make some revisions and take it back for final approval at the June Board meeting. Dr. Adamson thanked the TAC group for their time and feedback on the 2023-24 LCAP.

## **EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS EVENT**

**Renee Gray, Executive Director, SPED/SELPA**

The Exceptional Educators Event is an event that started four years ago. Parents are asked to nominate a certificated or classified employee that has made a significant impact on their student. There are 27 honorees this year. The event also honors one principal each year, as well as students who exemplify exceptional character in the way they conduct themselves with special education students. This heartwarming event will be held at the PDA on April 26 at 6pm.

## ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

- When is Linda Vista scheduled to receive its new technology boards?

*Linda Vista is scheduled for May 24. (Jeremy Powell)*

- Some elementary school sites have music and PE on the same day. There is no space to put them all on rainy days, since they both use the MPR. Is it possible to schedule these on separate days of the week to limit the impact during the rain?

*There are several variables to consider. Ed Services will work with the program coordinators to make any possible schedule changes for next year in an effort to reduce the impact. (Dr. Linda Adamson)*

- Why aren't the district's schools not consistent with 6th-grade placement: grades K-5 for elementary and grades 6-8 for middle schools? Students in 6th grade that are part of middle school have 5 days of PE, while elementary school 6th-grade students have only 2 days of PE per week. The middle school also offers elective opportunities that elementary 6th-grade students do not have access to. It is not equitable across the district.

*There are many factors to consider, including family preferences. It is important to keep in mind that many parents prefer their 6th-grade students to remain in an elementary school setting. A change of this magnitude would not be made suddenly or without significant consideration and community input. It is also a decision that would considerably impact enrollment at various sites and require the movement of teachers. Finally, it would be up to the Board to take the initiative in taking the first steps to pursue this shift. (Dr. Linda Adamson)*

- The El Dorado 300 building wanted to thank Jeremy Powell for working so hard on Tuesday, as the staff came in with no internet in the building, due to a power outage. He saved the day!
- Fairmont also wanted to thank Jeremy and give kudos to the technology team for the smooth rollout of the new classroom technology. The team was quick, helpful, and clean. They did a fabulous job and Fairmont is grateful and loving the new technology.
- A question was raised about why school sites are charged so much to rent tables and chairs for school events since the materials belong to the district.

The District does not charge internal user groups for tables and chairs. Any questions regarding fees charged to external groups can be directed to Paul Juarez, Director, Use of Facilities Department *(Dave Giordano)*

- Will there be an event to celebrate and say goodbye to Dr. Rick Lopez?

*Yes, there is an event being planned. (Dr. Mike Matthews)*

- A question was raised about offering remedial summer school, especially for English language learners and newcomers.

*The district has new funding through ELOP this year, which should address some of those groups, as well as foster youth and homeless students. The district has intentionally chosen to focus on enrichment activities this summer as the Blast summer program offered two years ago, which was highly academic and remedial in nature, did not have many participants. The enrichment program still incorporates an academic focus but with more of an engaged and hands-on component that is more likely to capture students' interests and encourage participation. Credit recovery is offered for middle and high school students through the summer school credit recovery option. (Dr. Linda Adamson)*

- There was a commitment from district leadership a few years ago to eliminate combo classes for all Title 1 schools yet they continue to be scheduled.

*There is a great amount of thought, research, and energy that goes into that. There is a strong desire to limit the number of combo classes, but it is also important to offer competitive wages. Supplemental and Title I funding provides additional resources to break combos where possible, as well as providing instructional support coaches, additional AST teachers, and hourly RTI teachers to reduce class size and provide intervention. (Dr. Olivia Yaung)*

- Can the combo classes have support teachers come 5 days a week and for more days/year?

*Hourly teachers are limited to the number of days per year that they can work, which is less than 75%. This translates to 129 days. (Dr. Olivia Yaung)*

- A question was raised about when field trips are paid through POs, and the school sites submit an expected number of students. However, sometimes there are last-minute additions (e.g. a new student in class). What is the correct way to pay for those additional students?

If a purchase order was issued for a school field trip and a specific number of students, and later additional students were added, the purchase order should be increased to reflect the additional students and corresponding cost adjustment. Any questions regarding purchasing or purchase orders can be directed to Don Rosales, Director of the Purchasing Department. (Dave Giordano)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Fall 2023