



## Community Transmittal

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Dear Lompoc Community,

### LUSD in the News

<https://keyt.com/news/education/2021/08/16/lompoc-high-school-students-come-back-after-more-than-year-away-due-to-covid/>

[https://lompocrecord.com/lifestyles/lompoc-students-get-back-to-school-and-bus-drivers-learn-new-routes-while-parents-express/article\\_ba998827-4ab1-5a64-a71b-856b8160ec2f.html?fbclid=IwAR2I2d\\_s5MNPJkT0KbNbYMPlokV0jm\\_9OyhJXyEAI0Uf2ITB1BuI-vfqqCo#utm\\_campaign=blox&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social](https://lompocrecord.com/lifestyles/lompoc-students-get-back-to-school-and-bus-drivers-learn-new-routes-while-parents-express/article_ba998827-4ab1-5a64-a71b-856b8160ec2f.html?fbclid=IwAR2I2d_s5MNPJkT0KbNbYMPlokV0jm_9OyhJXyEAI0Uf2ITB1BuI-vfqqCo#utm_campaign=blox&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social)

[Chamber Honors Efforts of Lompoc Valley Medical Center's COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Team | Local News - Noozhawk.com](#)

### Welcome Back to School

School sites were decorated Monday morning with balloon pillars from Lompoc's Party Shop to celebrate the start of the school year. Many families took advantage of the photo opportunity and were taking pictures of their children as they entered campus. Staff seemed to like the festive nature of the balloons as well. See below for an email received Monday afternoon:

*Thank you both!*

*I also wanted to say how happy it made me when I saw the balloons at greeting our students at VMS. 😊*

### Site Visits

We were able to visit each campus this week and were in over 30 classrooms.. Seeing students using the new classroom furniture, collaborating, and enjoying school was a highlight of the week. Campuses are filled with positive energy, helpful front office staff, new SEL counselors, joyful students and busy principals. Everyone is jumping in to help out where needed and to ensure our students are learning in a safe and supporting environment.

### Enrollment Meetings

We meet daily with our elementary administrators to discuss class sizes and enrollment at each of the sites. We are working to minimize combination classes, even if that means keeping some of our classes smaller than normal. Given what students and staff experienced last year, we want to make sure we maximize the learning opportunities and minimize the disruption to any learning. We have elementary teaching positions posted on EdJoin should we need to hire for any "trouble spots" where we have higher enrollment in classes than we would like.

### **Class Sizes**

Thanks to an early start to hiring, we have been able to minimize the need for combination classes this year and keep class sizes smaller than traditionally, even with a retirement incentive. This is especially true in our 4-6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms, which have class sizes more like our TK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms. In Kindergarten our average class size is 19, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade 20 students, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade 25. Traditionally K has been at 22, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> at 24, and 4-6<sup>th</sup> at 33. We have very few combination classes as well with less than five across the entire District. As you can see from some of the recent articles in the newspapers, this is not the norm.

[https://www.noozhawk.com/article/santa\\_barbara\\_schools\\_class\\_sizes\\_larger\\_teacher\\_shortage\\_20210820](https://www.noozhawk.com/article/santa_barbara_schools_class_sizes_larger_teacher_shortage_20210820)

### **COVID Exposure**

This weekend we have spent over 30 man hours working on our plan to test exposed students. Now that we have had students test positive and have direct contacts, which we learned of late Thursday evening, we have worked to roll out our testing for sites. It has been a tremendous amount of work. We have also requested additional help from the state with personnel to assist with testing. We are hopeful they are available soon. With over 120 Classified vacancies unfilled, our staff are stretched very thin to do their existing jobs let alone adding this to their plate.

### **Vaccine Clinics**

We have scheduled vaccine clinics at our four traditional high schools. In addition, we are hosting one at Hapgood Elementary School. The idea was to try to get all the main areas of Lompoc covered by a clinic. Clinics will be 2:00-5:00 p.m. Members of the public may attend and we are also working on student permission slips. We wanted the time to be during the school day and then into the evening so that students could participate if they chose. The schedule is as follows:

August 30: Cabrillo High

Aug 31: VMS (2:00-4:00 p.m.)

Sept 1: Lompoc High

Sept 2: Hapgood Elementary

Sept 3: Lompoc Valley Middle School

### **August 12 Professional Development Day Feedback**

We received 130 responses to the feedback survey from August 12.

*Of the teachers who completed the survey:*

- 92.5% agree or strongly agree that the PD session was relevant to their job
- 88.4% agree or strongly agree that the session will help them do their job better
- 90.8% agree or strongly agree that the content will improve student outcomes

The teachers shared that they enjoyed and appreciated the workshops focused on trauma-informed practices, classroom management, and positive behavior supports. The staff who attended the make-up webinar with Orenda are excited to collaborate with their teams on the matrices and unit assessments. Teachers appreciated the curriculum training and hope to have differentiated training in the future. Staff also shared that they would like to have more time to collaborate with their team and to continue with SEL-focused workshops. Ed Services looks forward to taking all of this feedback into consideration for the next District-wide PD day scheduled for November 12.

### **Curriculum Alignment Project & Assessment Update**

This year all TK-12th grade teachers will have access to standardized benchmark assessments via NWEA Map Growth. NWEA MAP assessment system relies on inclusive design principles, shows student growth over time, is individualized, and provides opportunities for fair assessment of students with IEPs and students who are English Learners. Elementary students will be taking the Math assessment 3-4 times this year. We have assessments available for all to access in Literacy, Science, and Fluency. To support reading and math, elementary teachers and students will have access to Accelerated Reader, Lexia Core5 and PowerUp, and Freckle Math. All staff and students have access to several software programs to enhance instruction such as Ed Puzzle and Kami. Starting next week staff will begin teaching their first common unit (ELA for Elementary, ELA and Math for Secondary) developed based on priority standards at the summer institute. In mid-September teachers will be trained on how to administer the Unit 1 assessment in the Illuminate system and teams will have their first Data Reflection Session.

### **Teacher Support Providers**

The TSPs have been busy helping our new educators get prepared for the start of the new school year. They are focused on building relationships with their newly hired staff and will then launch into the Impact Cycle. Below is an email we received on Saturday.

*Hi, Bree!*

*Just wanted to let you know how much I'm loving having a TSP.... I have Amanda Wildhagen and she helped me in my classroom today and I'm just so thankful to have her support. She's a real gem. Thanks for having this program for teachers.*

### **LUSD Community Collaboration**

On Friday August 13, Pupil Support Services administrators Brian Jaramillo and Paul Bombersbach met with representatives from community agencies, including local physicians, County Public Health, CADA, FSA, North County Rape Crisis Center, CALM, and others. LUSD shared the plans for opening schools, the safety plan of the District, and recent information on masks, vaccines, and COVID testing. The agencies shared information about resources for families in the community and updates about their programs.

### **Lompoc Adult School and Career Center (LASCC)**

Lompoc Adult School and Career Center (LASCC) is promoting the availability of LUSD Paraeducator jobs and the training offered in LASCC's Paraeducator training program. Bilingual, promotional flyers are being printed by Lompoc's Inklings and delivered by the USPS over the next few weeks to over 15,000 households throughout the 93436 and VAFB areas.



**Are you looking for a career pathway that has:  
¿Está buscando una carrera profesional que tenga:**

- Good pay / Buenos ingresos
- Local opportunities / Oportunidades locales
- Work schedule that supports parents of school-age children / Horario de trabajo que apoya a los padres de niños en edad escolar
- Advancement opportunity / Oportunidad de Crecimiento
- Benefits / Beneficios

**Lompoc Adult School  
805-742-3100  
[www.lusd.org/las](http://www.lusd.org/las)  
las@lusd.org**

**A Paraeducator Career might be for you!  
¡Una carrera de paraeducador podría ser para usted!**

**Did you know Paraeducator careers typically: / ¿Sabía que las carreras de paraeducador normalmente:**

- Pay \$30,137 annually / Ingresos \$ 30,137 anualmente
- Are in VERY high demand locally / Tienen MUY alta demanda a nivel local
- Follow the school-year schedule / Sigue el horario del año escolar
- Include benefits / Incluye beneficios
- Can be a pathway to education careers / Puede ser una vía hacia carreras educativas

**Start your Paraeducator Career Now with Lompoc Adult School's FREE Paraeducator Certification Program / Comience su carrera de paraeducador ahora con el programa GRATUITO de certificación de paraeducadores de Lompoc Adult School**

- FREE Cutting-edge Paraeducator training / Capacitación GRATUITA para paraeducadores
- Preparation for Paraeducator hiring exam / Preparación para el examen de contratación de paraeducadores
- Interview practice for Paraeducators / Práctica de entrevistas para paraeducadores
- Self-Paced, online format - start anytime / Formato en línea a su propio paso: comience en cualquier momento
- Certification to provide to employers / Certificación para proporcionar a los empleadores
- Online instructor support / Apoyo de instructor en línea

### **IEPs for Students whose Parents request Independent Study**

School sites, supported by Special Education Coordinators Joseph Ledoux and Jamie Johnson, are holding IEP meetings for students whose parents have requested independent study. The IEP team discusses the parent request, educational options, the student's disability and goals, and determines an educational offer that allows the student to make adequate educational progress. The goal is to ensure the student's needs are met, while attempting to accommodate requests made by the family and the medical needs of the student.

### **SEL Counselors**

On Thursday, August 19, Brian Jaramillo, Luisa Parkinson, and Joseph Ledoux met with the SEL Counselors to support the implementation of SEL curriculum and SEL tiers at the school sites. Each site is at a different stage of implementation, but all sites recognize the need for SEL strategies at this time. All elementary and middle schools have an online Second Step curriculum that teachers can use to build the SEL skills of their students. At this meeting, the SEL counselors collaborated on their role at the site and what strategies have been working so far to support students and teachers. The SEL Counselors will be meeting together as a group once a month, as well as meeting in smaller groups twice a month

### **City of Lompoc MOUs**

We are in the process of developing two joint-use Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the City of Lompoc. Both MOUs are related to the LVMS campus.

The first MOU is a renewal of a previous agreement that began in 1991 regarding the use of the softball fields adjacent to Olive Avenue. In this ten-year agreement, the City maintains the two regulation-play softball infields on the southwest and northeast corners of the fields, as well as the fence lines, dugouts, irrigation systems, portable restrooms, and the trash receptacles near the backstops. The District agrees to permit the City to maintain these infields during non-school hours, and at no cost, gives the City priority use of the fields during non-school hours at times when they are not in use by the District. We expect it to go before the City Council for approval

on September 7, 2021, and then it would be presented to our Board for final approval on September 14, 2021.

The second MOU is new and is based on the District's desire to instate a formal agreement regarding a long-standing verbal arrangement that has allowed the District to use the City-owned Civic Auditorium, and the City to use the District-owned LVMS Gymnasium, both at no charge to one another. As you may know, both facilities are situated on District-owned land; however, the land that the Civic Auditorium sits on is currently leased by the City until June 2035.

In this five-year agreement, the City allows the District, at no cost, priority use of the Civic Auditorium when it is not in use by the City, and the District allows the City, at no cost, priority use of the Gymnasium during non-school hours when the Gymnasium is not in use by the District. District staff will open, close, clean, and maintain the gymnasium, and City staff will open, close, clean, and maintain the Civic Auditorium. Like the other, we expect this MOU to go before the City Council for approval on September 7, 2021, and then it would be presented to our Board for final approval on September 14, 2021.

### **The Central Kitchen is Back in Action!**

Child Nutrition Services was busy this week with the reopening of schools. Our talented cooks made entrees like homemade turkey adobo for the high schools and marinara for lasagna at the elementary Schools. We are so happy to have our students back at school to enjoy hot meals and fresh produce.

Please remind your colleagues, family members, friends and neighbors that all students eat breakfast and lunch free this year!

### **Transportation Update**

Currently we are short three drivers, three attendants, one mechanic and two additional wheel chair bus drivers. EdJoin has the posting, but we are not getting any luck with applicants.

On Tuesday, August 17, Lyon Electric came and filled out a grant for five electric school buses. He with the help of our mechanics and Transportation administrators assisted in providing bus information in order to complete the grant. The grant would cover 100% of the infrastructure for the charging stations. We should know in about four to six weeks if we are getting a grant for one or all five buses. Very exciting!

Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald  
Superintendent of Schools