

LOMPOC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Transmittal

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Dear Lompoc Community,

LUSD in the News

https://lompocrecord.com/business/six-lompoc-community-leaders-honored-for-outstanding-pandemic-response/article_fd2e18c9-abfc-5966-aa0f-11fd89745b44.html

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics Planned for Various Lompoc Schools | Local News - Noozhawk.com

School Site Visits

We visited various school sites this week where we visited classrooms, school cafeterias, and walked campuses for facility needs.

Superintendents Meeting

At this week's meeting we were provided with approved templates from Santa Barbara County Public Health for (1) when close contact is vaccinated (2) when close contact is eligible for modified quarantine and (3) when close contact is not eligible for modified quarantine and must be quarantined. We disseminated Q&A information to our school nurses. SBCPH also provided information they require from a school when there have three or more unrelated COVID cases in a 14-day period.

COVID Training

Many of us attended the COVID refresher training offered by SBCEO. We discussed case rates, quarantine requirements, vaccination mandates and staff testing. We have taken many of the resources provided and modified them to meet Lompoc Unified's needs and disseminated them to our sites.

COVID and Student Testing

Whenever we have a student that has close contact with another student who has tested positive, we can allow the student to remain in school if they are asymptomatic and we test them during the ten (10) days following exposure. We have tested students at CHS, Hapgood, Buena Vista, Lompoc Valley Middle School, Lompoc High School, and Clarence Ruth due to contacts with positive cases. We have tested nearly 400 students just this week. This is a tremendous amount of work, but it allows students to remain on campus and not have to quarantine for ten (10) days. Parents are notified prior to the testing and can opt out. If they opt out, the student must do the required 10-day quarantine. We have also been deemed eligible for help from the State due to being a "high-needs" district. This means that the State will provide us with personnel to assist with testing. The amount of personnel and their arrival date have not been communicated to us. We are hopeful that it will be soon!

We have also received word that there is a state-wide shortage of COVID tests. Therefore, we will be limiting non-essential school activities that could be considered high-exposure, such as school dances. Once our case rates lessen and we have a larger supply of tests, we can revisit this decision. Our priority is minimizing the disruption of student learning.

Vaccine Clinics

We have had to cancel our scheduled vaccine clinics at our four traditional high schools and Hapgood. Those that have signed up for a vaccine will be redirected to Albertsons. Albertson's canceled the clinics due to low participation. As a reminder we did press releases, Parent Square messages and also used our social media to advertise the events.

Wednesday Accidents

As you probably know, on Wednesday there were several large accidents on Highway 101 and there were many teachers who were stuck in traffic. We acted quickly and deployed staff to assist at various sites to ensure classes were covered while the teachers worked to make their way to Lompoc. We sent out the following message:

A warm thank you to everyone who helped LVMS COVID testing go smoothly this morning and to those who assisted with coverage for our staff who were caught in the accident on Hwy 101.

We really appreciate the rally and support!

Leadership Meeting

We held our bi-monthly Leadership Meeting with our various LUSD leaders. We discussed SEL Counselors, COVID testing of students, quarantine requirements, assuring that our communication plans align with Santa Barbara Public Health guidelines, Classified personnel hiring, technology integration, Social-Emotional Learning, assessment systems, the standards alignment project, master scheduling, interventions, and budgets and curriculum updates. Leaders were then provided over an hour to collaborate with their peers in breakout rooms; secondary and elementary. It was evident in the share out that the work we did during the Summer Institute is already paying off with increased rigor in the classrooms and focused PLC conversations that are focused on standards and teaching strategies.

It has been an incredibly exciting and busy start to the 2021-2022 school year and our school administrators are truly committed to improving outcomes for the LUSD community.

Enrollment Meetings

We continue to meet regularly 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.

<u>ESSER III</u>

School districts, such as LUSD, that receive Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds under the American Rescue Plan Act, referred to as ESSER III funds, are required to develop a plan for how they will use their ESSER III funds. LUSD is currently developing the ESSER III plan and it will explain how funds will address students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, as well as any opportunity gaps that existed before, and were worsened by, the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be opportunity for community input in the coming weeks via Advisory committee meetings and an online survey. A public hearing will be held at the Board Meeting on October 12, 2021.

Partnership with EAB

Last year LUSD partnered with EAB (Education Advisory Board) to support our efforts in the area of literacy, equity, and to ensure we implement evidence-based practices in classrooms. This year EAB is supporting our continued development and refinement of District plans to address learning recovery and acceleration. The EAB team will assist the leadership team in identifying goals, priorities, and selecting research-based programs and practices to support expanded learning and tiered intervention framework as part of the ESSER III plan.

LUSD SEL Counselors

SEL counselors met on Thursday with their PLC team. Each counselor has been assigned a PLC group of three schools to share ideas from their site, discuss common plans, and review data. This week, the PLCs discussed each sites implementation of SEL curriculum, creating a SEL counselor schedule for each site, referral forms for staff, pending questions, and site visits for the counselors to collaborate further. The SEL counselors have been an integral part of helping students return to a full schedule of in-person instruction at every school site, providing crisis intervention, presenting SEL concepts in the classrooms, and getting to know students during lunch/breaks/recess.

Welcome to 2021-2022 Special Education Staff

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Executive Director, Brian Jaramillo, held a voluntary welcome back presentation for special education staff. The presentation shared the special education supports for sites and teachers, including office staff, Program Specialists, Coordinators, programming, and substitute support. Please see a portion of the presentation below:

LUSD SPECIAL EDUCATION 2021-2022

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!!

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome
- 2) SPED Office
- 3) SPED Administration and Support
- 4) Additions/Support
- 5) Updates
- 6) Focus Areas

ADDITIONS/SUPPORT FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

2 Full-time Teachers to sub for testing 2 Additional Psychologist positions that started 2020-2021 Linda-Mood Bell training and programming Monthly Program Specialist meetings for teachers Individual Support from Program Specialists as needed Administrators trained in Connecting the Dots last year Voluntary legal updates coming

UPDATES FOR 2021-2022

Independent Study--discussion at IEP and offer of FAPE Grade Retention--discussion at IEP and offer of FAPE IEP meetings--zoom or in-person by parent choice Compensatory Services requests--form (<u>English</u>) (<u>Spanish</u>) LRE % Calculator: <u>New Form</u> for 2021-2022

Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition

Pupil Support administrators Brian Jaramillo and Paul Bommersbach met with the Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition to discuss current strategies to reduce violence and continue to plan engaging the Lompoc community in the discussion and planning. At the meeting there were representatives from the City of Lompoc, LHS, CADA, CALM, FSA, and the Promotoras. The Coalition discussed summer services provided to students, current services available, and additional

strategies to engage the community. On Thursday, August 26, Brian Jaramillo and FSA representative Paul Katan met with Technical Support Advisor Sandra Espadas for her feedback and guidance on the process as well. There are services available for students that are either victims of violence or at-risk of becoming perpetrators of violence. Community members may reach out to Student Services in the District office for more information.

California Adult Education Program Board Meeting

On Thursday, August 26, the Northern Santa Barbara County Adult Education Programs Consortium held its regular board meeting. Board members include LUSD staff Elaine Weber and Brian Jaramillo. Agenda items included approval of budget expenses and expense reports, as well as a discussion of three-year plan templates, governing documents, and a current marketing contract. The next board meeting will be held on Thursday October 28, 2021.

Lompoc Community Education Foundation Walk-A-Thon

The following information was sent to all LUSD staff on behalf of the Lompoc Community Education Foundation (LCEF). We hope you can join us as well.

Let's have some *Fun Raising* money for teacher mini-grants and scholarships for graduating seniors from Lompoc!

Join us September 4 - 12, 2021 for our Annual Fall Fundraiser! This year it will be a self-paced Walk-A-Thon. Choose one day or walk all nine (9) days for a chance to win some prizes in several categories.

- Download our sponsor worksheet, walk your favorite walk, and feel good knowing each step is going to fund scholarships for graduating seniors and mini-grants to teachers for books, math games, musical and art supplies, sports equipment, and more for the schools in our community.
- Use your phone to record your steps, mileage and route.
- Submit a snapshot of your walk(s) or provide a written explanation listing your walk's distance and general location for a chance to win!
- Prizes will be awarded to the walker with the longest walk; most creative map photo (think walking in a giant pretzel or geometric shape); most money raised; most number of individual sponsors; funniest video; most Facebook Live views; best hat or costume.
- The deadline for submissions is September 18.
- Sponsor sheets with walking details may be emailed to <u>lompoccommunityedfoundation@gmail.com</u> or dropped off at Surf Connection.
- Pledges will be accepted via PayPal, <u>lef@lusd.org</u>, or checks and cash may be dropped off at Surf Connection located at 1307C North H Street for the entire amount on the sponsor worksheet.

Invite your family and friends to join in the fun or to pledge! For more information or to download a sponsor sheet please visit

<u>https://sites.google.com/site/lompoccef</u> or email us at lompoccommunityedfoundation@gmail.com.



See you at the Walk-A-Thon!

Maintenance & Operations Update

The Maintenance Direct online work order system lists 650 open work orders. Our maintenance team is busy taking care of these work orders. Our custodial teams are supporting students and staff. Among a variety of issue, here are some of the problems our M&O team have been solving:

- The crew is repairing the roof and ceiling at Hapgood. See photo below
- The grass & wire projects were recently approved and Miller Landscape will start at LHS on Monday, August 30.
- The LHS dance studio project has been approved and the contractor is awaiting materials.
- The El Camino camera project has had the cameras installed and the contractor will hold training this week for the site.



Transportation Update

We have been adjusting routes according to student counts and times to get students to and from school more efficiently. Most buses have students two (2) in a seat so they are not so crowded. Due to staff shortages and additional routes, we have mechanics, dispatcher, supervisor and manager all driving buses.

Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald Superintendent of Schools