



Community Transmittal

1301 North A St.

Lompoc, CA 93436

Phone: 805-742-3320

Fax: 805-737-1703

Dear Lompoc Community,

LUSD in the News

<https://www.ksby.com/news/local-news/lompoc-students-learn-about-renewable-energy-by-building-their-own-windmills>

<https://lompocvision.com/wp-content/Issues/September-2021/2/index.html>

COVID Outbreak Investigations

During the week of September 27- October 1, COVID positive cases of students and/or staff were reported daily to Santa Barbara County Public Health. As a reminder, once three or more students or staff at a single site test positive for COVID from a different household within a 14- day period, Public Health opens an Outbreak Investigation to monitor the cases and provide recommendations from the County. As of October 1, six different LUSD schools remain in the outbreak investigation process. Seventeen (17) staff or students reported testing positive over the past week. Contact tracing and testing of students and staff who are close contacts continues. Close contacts participate in a modified quarantine so that they are able to attend school.

United Boys & Girls Club

We met with the United Boys & Girls Club to discuss ways that we could support one another. We are looking at how we can provide extended after school programs as well as structured recess programming to further assist our sites in keeping students active and positively interacting with one another.

Superintendents Meeting

At this week's meeting we discussed the upcoming vaccine mandate and COVID testing. In addition, there was a long discussion about learning loss.

SEAC (School Employers Association of California)

I attended a webinar hosted by SEAC, "The Trials and Tribulations of the New School Year: Understanding and Breaking Through the Conflict and Controversies Over Masks, Vaccines and Critical Race Theory". Fall 2021 will go down in history as perhaps the most controversy-laden return to school we have ever seen. Vaccine and mask mandates (and opposition to them) and the debate over critical race theory are just two of the issues education leaders are confronting. How are they coping and responding, and how is the public feeling about these issues? The SEAC panel of experts was able to shed some light on the situation and provided guidance to education leaders on how to manage these conflicts.

Leadership Meeting

On Thursday, all administrators participated in a training facilitated by Orenda discussing lesson design and how to maximize student learning. This will be the same training our teachers receive during our November 12 District-wide PD day.

Standards Alignment Project

On Friday, Elementary Teachers, Dual Immersion Elementary Teachers, Secondary English and Secondary Math Teachers, including Special Education staff, participated in the first day of Unit 1 Assessments. This data is what will be used next Wednesday during our first District-wide PLC time, where staff will have a data-reflection session assisted by Orenda staff. There are guiding questions that all teachers will use to help guide the discussion. We have reminded everyone that the purpose of the Data Reflection is to identify what's working, identify areas of need, and brainstorm and agree on an action plan between this meeting and the next unit test and data reflection session on what teachers want to try to address the areas of need. We continue to stress; this is NOT a "gotcha." Rather, it is an opportunity to work collaboratively with peers to identify how we can use our combined knowledge to try to address areas of weakness.

The data reflection sessions are forward-looking where staff continue to look forward and work toward improvement rather than remaining stuck in the past and using data as a "whooping stick," as we have all seen done and we know how that negatively impacts morale.

Unit 2 assessments are being created by Elementary Common Core Council and Secondary Common Core Council members. These councils met last week to work on the unit 2 assessments so that they will be ready for staff to review at Wednesday's meeting as well.

PLC

This week we had our first Districtwide PLC where teachers analyzed data from the first common District-wide assessment. District administrators were at each of the sessions to assist and provide support. The teachers had some apprehension at the start of the process, as would be expected at our first District-wide PLC with established protocols. However, across all sites, by the end teachers were excited to have the opportunity to look at data, collaborate on next steps, and work with their colleagues.

The below email was sent on Wednesday evening:

This message is for all Secondary ELA, Secondary Math, SpEd, Elementary, Dual-Immersion Teachers:

Our first Standards Alignment Assessment and corresponding Data Reflection Series is in the books! Thank you for your hard work on this. We knew it wouldn't be perfect, and we know there are lessons to be learned. All in all, though, we are excited with our first District-wide assessment and corresponding PLC to review the data.

Feedback is important and allows us to always continue to improve! Thank you so much for sharing feedback with your site administrator, Orenda rep, LUSD staff member, or TSP who attended your DRS this week! Please be sure to include all feedback, suggestions, questions, and concerns in the GROW and GLOW survey.

So with that, please feel free to offer a GLOW and a GROW by completing this survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelpbwiuaHqAZlyhIR-WwzfWo92JOF-WHfECXw_jG9zWbOG4w/viewform?usp=



Countywide Meetings

We participated in the county-wide Curriculum and Instruction meetings as well as Human Resource meetings. C&I discussed new legislation, State testing, tutoring and more. It was a great opportunity to collaborate with our colleagues across the county. The Human Resources meeting spent time on COVID staff and student testing, new legislation, and then collaborating with colleagues.

Interviews

We held interviews this week for an English teacher for LVMS and an elementary teacher. Both applicants were a fit and they both accepted as well!

HR Newsletter – September 2021

Please see the attached HR Newsletter for September. ATTACHMENT #1

Community Resiliency Model Training

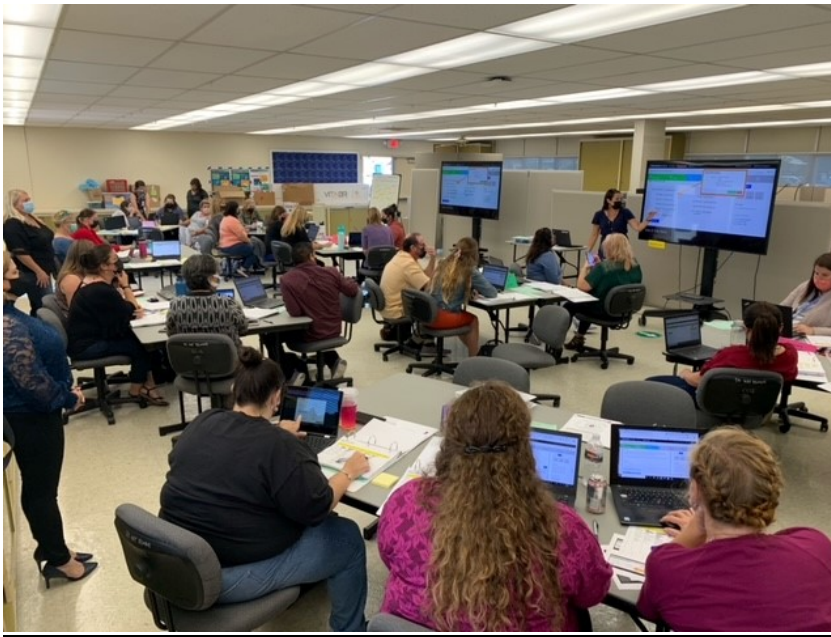
On September 27 and 28, Edwin Weaver and associates from Fighting Back, Santa Maria conducted a training for counselors and psychologists on the Community Resiliency Model. The model has been used in high trauma situations, such as after natural disasters like earthquakes, tsunamis and forest fires. The training helps counselors to understand how trauma effects students physiologically and how to help students to stay in a regulated state. Many of the SEL counselors have reported already using some of the techniques from the training at the school sites later in the week.

LUSD Community Collaboration

On September 30, Pupil Support Administrators Brian Jaramillo and Paul Bommersbach met the community to collaborate on the response to the pandemic. In attendance were representatives from health care, including a local pediatrician, LUSD nurses, and administrators. Information was given about the District's efforts to work with the families of the community regarding positive cases of COVID, contact tracing, testing, and isolation/quarantining.

Elementary Common Core Council

ECCC is continuing the work that was started at the Summer Institute. The grade level teams worked diligently using the matrices created during the Summer Institute as well as the Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Blueprints to develop the Unit 2 Common Assessment for grades TK through 6th grade in Illuminate. We had a mixed group of educators to work on the project including; TSPs, Lit Specialists, Dual Immersion teachers, special education and general education teachers. The teams had in-depth discussions centered around the standards. They focused on making the questions align to the rigor of the standard ensuring equity across the District.



ESSER III Plan

Thank you to the LUSD community for completing the ESSER III survey. We had over 800 responses with 75% of the responses coming from LUSD parents. Many respondents prioritized the following actions and strategies to support our students' academic, social-emotional, and mental health needs: Facilities improvements to support a safe and conducive learning environment, technology upgrades and enhancements to support instruction, instructional materials to support learning and achievement, Family Support Specialists and Social Workers, Social-Emotional Learning counselors, parent engagement efforts, Credit recovery and summer academies to support learning recovery, partnerships with outside agencies, and Positive Behavior training and support. LUSD will use the responses and open-ended comments to revise the ESSER III plan. It will be brought forward for approval at the October 26 School Board meeting.

Joy School English

From September 22-24, 2021, Alegra Learning hosted LUSD in the first-ever Connect 2021 Partnership Summit in Provo, Utah. During this summit, LUSD and Alegra engaged in deep discussions around social-emotional learning, facilitating communication in young learners, and diving into the research and technology behind Joy School English.

NY Times Best Selling author, Richard Eyre kicked off the summit with an honest conversation around teaching values to our youngest learners through reading, speaking, and active listening. The Alegra team took us through a behind-the-scenes tour where we were afforded the opportunity to see everything from the recording studio, to where the coding magic takes place. We engaged in designing future characters and watched them come to life through the amazing graphic artist on staff and watched a production in the making! The organization of unit topics is thoughtfully crafted and each team member takes great pride in their work.

Following our tour, we engaged in a thought-provoking discussion around oral production and the importance of early literacy with Emma Sanchez, former district administrator and member of the Superintendent's Cabinet—and Executive Director of Language and Instruction of Chula Vista Elementary School District. Our greatest takeaway from the summit is that Joy School

English is a top-notch language acquisition program with proven results, with a mission of creating meaningful connections while focusing on character development and values. The program uses voice recognition, music, acting, “sandbox” writing, storytelling, choose your own adventure, and other techniques to get students engaged in the joy of learning. We are excited to bring the program to our TK, K, and 1st-grade teachers!

Safety

LUSD was present at the ribbon cutting event this week for the Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness’ new Youth Opioid Response center (YOR Place) that opened at the Family Services Agency (FSA) building on H Street. A variety of agencies came together to support this wonderful opportunity for teens and young adults who need targeted assistance.

Foster Youth/Homeless

LUSD held this year’s first liaison/outreach consultant meeting this week. Agenda items included:

- Review of the liaison’s job description and areas of focus for each site this year
- Liaisons brought words/phrases or topics that are difficult to translate so everyone could discuss and support one another
- How liaisons can follow-up with families after SARB meetings
- Two homeless grants will be funded this year. A discussion was held on how we can support the families in need with these grant funds.

Public Schools on Military Installations (PSMI)

The PSMI/Manzanita Initial project proposal was submitted to PSMI/OEA on Thursday, September 30.

Child Nutrition Services (CNS) Meal Counts

Last week, Child Nutrition Services (CNS) served 33,795 meals.

- 9,121 Breakfasts
- 23,641 Lunches
- 1,033 After School Snacks

Last Week's CNS Challenges

Last week, CNS had to make 11 menu changes across nine different menus, due to vendor shortages/substitutions.

Due to staffing shortages, last week, CNS had 36 unfilled positions in Frontline.

Last Week's CNS Positives

Congratulations to Cindy Greathouse and Brandy Garcia, who have both accepted Child Nutrition Worker II positions!

Despite menu changes, unexpected delivery shortages, and staffing challenges ... CNS staff continue to serve tasty and nutritious meals to the students at LUSD!

Photos were taken at Hapgood Dual Immersion Elementary School.



Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools