



## *Community Transmittal*

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Dear Lompoc Community,

### **LUSD in the News**

<https://www.ksby.com/news/local-news/lompoc-unified-school-district-begins-child-vaccine-clinic>

### **Thanksgiving Break**

All LUSD schools are closed this week for Thanksgiving break. The Education Center is open by appointment only. Messaging was sent out via ParentSquare, posted on the LUSD website and LUSD FaceBook page.

### **Cabrillo High School Announces New Football Coach**

Gary West will guide the Cabrillo High School football team on an interim basis beginning immediately. Mr. West has an extensive background in athletics.

West began his coaching career as a varsity football coach at Covina High School in Covina California after playing four years of collegiate football at Azusa Pacific University. He has coached youth sports for over 30 years to include football, basketball, softball, tennis, and track & field. He rebuilt struggling programs at four schools, including Cabrillo High School and turned all four into championship-caliber teams in short periods.

Mr. West will focus on strength training, conditioning, and building a positive team culture. He is extremely excited to help get the football program back to championship level. He feels that there are great student/athletes at Cabrillo, and their work ethic, dedication, and discipline will help the program turn the corner very soon.

Mark Swanitz is thrilled to have someone as student-centered as Gary to work with CHS kids.

### **Superintendent's Meeting**

At this week's meeting we discussed COVID-related issues, sports masking, and testing options.

### **CHS ASB Leadership Class**

I was asked to guest speak at the CHS ASB Leadership class, which is composed of students from grades 9-12 and the CHS ASB student officers and commissioners. My presentation included my pathway to leadership at LUSD, advice for students to build leadership skills and a question and answer period. The students were enthusiastic and it was a great experience. It is always such a good experience when I am able to get into the classroom and interact with students.

### **DWK CPRA Webinar**

The number of requests for public records under the California Public Records Act (“CPRA”) continues to increase. Many times these requests seek entire electronic databases with several years of data or records which involve sensitive topics. The proliferation of electronic records since the beginning of the pandemic has only raised more questions regarding CPRA requests and how to respond to them.

We attended the DWK CPRA webinar to review the application of the California Public Records Act to local education agencies. The webinar included a discussion on the different options and approaches for responding to record requests as well as highlight some of the still unanswered questions faced by agencies.

### **LHS Girls Basketball**

I attended the LHS girls basketball games in Santa Maria on Friday and Saturday. It was a great opportunity to see our kids competing.

### **Universal TK**

The Governor recently signed legislation, AB 130, expanding TK for children 4-years old that will be phased in over the next few years. The birthdate cut off will slowly be expanded as outlined below. The statutory requirement requires LUSD to offer TK to all eligible students by 2025-2026 as a condition of receiving apportionment. In other words, LUSD must be prepared to offer TK for all students or will not be able to collect ADA for any TK students.

<b>School Year</b>	<b>TK Age Eligibility</b>
2021-22	September 2 -- December 2
2022-23	September 2 – February 2
2023-24	September 2 – April 2
2024-25	September 2 – June 2
2025-26	4th birthday before September 1

In December, the CDE will be releasing more information about the requirements as well as a template for a Universal TK plan that the District will be required to create and approve this school year. There is limited funding this year to support the planning for Universal TK (\$133,000) and there is anticipation of grant funds from the state and federal governments to assist the District in preparing for increased facilities and other needs; however, no information has been released yet. Facility grants will be competitive so we cannot plan on receiving these funds, but a district commitment now will increase the likelihood of receiving future funds.

What this means for LUSD is that we need to start planning now for the facility needs for additional students, and also the smaller class size adult/student ratios required by AB 130. For

2022-2023 the required ratio will be 12 students per adult, going to 10 students per adult in 2023-2024. To make this new development more complex, TK/K classrooms should also be Title V compliant, which means not less than 1,350 square feet, including restrooms, storage, teacher preparation, wet and dry areas. These classrooms must also be designed to allow supervision of play yards which provide a variety of motor skill development activities, and must be located close to parent drop-off and bus loading areas. As you may remember from when CFW looked at our facilities, none of our existing classrooms are Title V compliant, which is a requirement for both TK and Kindergarten. Therefore, we are expanding our “Needs Assessment” where our team will be walking the other campuses, besides Fillmore and La Cañada, to identify if there is capacity for additional TK classrooms. We will then prioritize the sites that have the least space to house new TK students for our new construction. The long term plan is to construct Title V compliant classrooms that will be used for TK and K and replace our aging portable classrooms that are far beyond their useful life. CFW is helping us with this in the plan you approved in a previous Board Meeting, but that will just be two campuses (La Cañada and Fillmore) and four classrooms total. We estimate that seven campuses will need additional classrooms, and that all campuses will need existing TK and K classrooms retrofitted to meet Title V requirements.

In addition, we have already started working with Classified HR to increase our TK paraeducators to provide additional classroom support and have begun to work on recruiting elementary teachers for next year as well. This is an exciting time to allow for our younger children to have an early start to their literacy development and we are eager to turn this into a reality. We all know that our students often come to us with immense challenges, and to have an extra year with many of them to help them start off their school years with success and access to high quality instruction will be a game changer for our entire community.

### **Interviews**

This week we held interviews for Spanish and English teaching positions and offered to two candidates.

### **Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition**

On November 16, the Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The coalition reviewed the possible areas of technical assistance discussed at the last board meeting, discussed the recent community dialogue questions and comments, and provided additional information from its own experiences in the community. We met with the CBPS Collective on Friday November 19 to plan for next steps and will be meeting with Lompoc Police Department on Wednesday, November 24 to continue regular collaboration on safety concerns.

### **LUSD Equity Committee**

The LUSD Equity Committee met on November 18 to continue discussion about educational data and equity in the District. Orenda is facilitating the process with the committee, which will begin looking at specific District data in the Spring. The purpose of the committee is to bring together parents, community members, certificated staff, classified staff, and administrators to dialogue about the efforts of the District to address issues of equity and make recommendations. The committee is using the book **Shattering Inequities** to help guide its conversation and perspective.

### **Professional Development**

During the professional development day on November 12, we were able to train 20 school administrators and paraeducators with the behavior de-escalation program, CPI. We were also able to set-up another behavior techniques training for 35 Special Education paraeducators through our partners at Better Lessons. Furthermore, we are working with Better Lessons to provide behavior de-escalation trainings to our general education teachers on early release Wednesdays. Finally, we will be mailing out over 250 postcards thanking our staff for their tireless work and dedication to the students of LUSD and soon presenting awards at school sites as well. We are proud of all of the efforts of all special education and general education staff to meet the needs of all of our students, but especially our most vulnerable students during this school year.

### **November 12 District-Wide Professional Development - Feedback**

We want to extend a huge thank you to those who participated in the all-staff professional learning day on Friday, November 12. We know that taking the time to reflect, learn, and grow in our profession makes us better and stronger as a District. We thank you for engaging, questioning, and collaborating with your peers and vendors. The feedback survey was completed by 100 teachers. In the survey participants were asked these three questions, here are the results.

1. The professional development content is relevant to my current job functions. 81% responded Agree/Strongly Agree.
2. The professional development content I attended will help me do my job better. 70% responded Agree/Strongly Agree.
3. The professional development content I attended will improve student outcomes in my classroom. 68% responded Agree/Strongly Agree.

Participants also shared with us future PD topics that they would like to attend. Those topics ranged from: writing workshops, PBIS, classroom management, PE, ELD instruction, special education support for IEPs, and differentiated instruction. Overall, the majority of comments were that teachers are appreciative of the collaboration time and that they need more time to collaborate and process. We value feedback and we will use it to guide future professional development opportunities.

### **Secondary Counselor Meeting**

On November 19, the secondary counselors participated in the second in the series of Guidance Alignment sessions with Orenda. Each secondary school has an administrator that participates, along with District office staff. The Guidance Alignment group will be analyzing high school data, including progress report grades and connectedness to school through activities. The goal of this group is to improve a-g completion rates overall and especially in under-represented student groups.

### **Educator Effectiveness Block Grant**

The Educator Effectiveness Block Funding Grant is a program providing funds to county offices of education, school districts, charter schools, and state special schools to provide professional learning and to promote educator equity, quality, and effectiveness. Educator Effectiveness Funds may be used to support professional learning for certificated teachers, administrators, paraprofessional educators, and certificated staff. Funds can be expended for any of the following ten purposes.

1. **Coaching and mentoring** staff serving in an instructional setting (i.e. beginning teacher/administrator induction or supporting learning communities for educators)
2. Programs that lead to **standards-aligned instruction** or improve instruction in **literacy across all subject areas**
3. Practices and strategies that **re-engage pupils** and lead to **accelerated learning**
4. Strategies to implement approaches that improve **student well-being**
5. Practices to create a positive school climate
6. Strategies to **improve inclusive practices, early identification, and development of IEPs**
7. Education to support implementing **effective language acquisition** programs for English Learners
8. New **professional learning networks** for educators
9. Strategies to incorporate **ethnic studies curricula** for grades 7 and 12
10. Education for certificated and classified educators in **early childhood education**

We are seeking educational partner input from LUSD certificated and classified employees through a survey that will close on November 29.

### **Standards Alignment Project**

On November 10, teachers spent the morning and afternoon in their respective grade levels and subject areas looking critically at the data from the second unit assessment with the assistance of principals, District administrators and Orenda reps. During this time, we dove into the standards, examined achievement targets by looking at the four quadrants, and collaborated together to make agreements for improvement. On November 12, we met again and participated in Guided Planning for our next instructional unit. Feedback from participants emphasized the value they found in meeting together and having time to plan as a team.

### **DELAC**

LUSD's DELAC met on November 16 with an impressive turnout, representing nearly all schools in the District. Topics discussed included COVID-19 protocols and services, upcoming vaccine clinics, and internet safety. We held a candid conversation with parents and site reps on ways to proactively use social media. We reminded attendees that a digital footprint does not go away and all students should understand how to safely use the internet and social media. Parents were appreciative of the information and felt better informed to share this information with site ELACs. During this meeting, DELAC representatives took a poll to determine a date for the additional meeting they previously voted on adding. The additional DELAC date decided on is February 15, 2022. Reps also determined they would like to hold the next DELAC meeting on Zoom. LUSD appreciates the dedication of its DELAC members.

### **Career Technical Education (CTE)**

LUSD held its first CTE Advisory Board meeting for the year. The agenda included:

- 2021-2022 Advisory Board Duties and Objectives
- K12 Strong Work Force Program Round 4 focus on Information and Communication Technologies, manufacturing and engineering pathways only.
- Overview of the pathways we offer to our LUSD students
- CTE budget from the CTEIG, Perkins, and K12 SWP grants
- Opportunity for the CTE board to share and provide input on our pathways

- Vision for LUSD CTE 2021-2022 and beyond

### **M&O Update**

- A leak in a water line caused power and FA to go down at LHS. Our crews were able to get the system back up.
- Our custodial and grounds crews have assisted in building vaccination areas at school sites for SBCPHD. See photos
- The IEEEEP portable classroom move has been approved and the bid process has been completed.
- CHS gutter replacement for portables 7 and 8 has been approved and work will start the week of the 22nd.
- The LHS dance studio project is moving along. See photo





**CEQA Study MND Public Hearing and Comment**

The CEQA environmental review process has to be completed before any approval action by the Board, and obviously before the issuance of any construction contracts for the CHS Baseball Field Lighting Project. As you may remember, a Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Printed copies of the MND have been at the front desk and on our website, and a public notice regarding the same was listed in local papers. The purpose of the review period was to gather public comments on the completeness of the MND. As required by law, the review period was open for 21 days from

October 27 to November 17. No public comments were received and so on December 13 we will be asking the Board to approve the final MND so that we may proceed with DSA and subsequent bidding of the Cabrillo High Lighting project.

**Revised MOU for Charter School Facilities (PSMI project at Manzanita)**

Last month we conducted a virtual site visit of Manzanita with several members of the Federal Evaluation Team who are reviewing our PSMI proposal. Last week, Manzanita and LUSD staff began meeting with the California School Finance Authority to begin the process of a financial soundness review of the District and Manzanita. One of the many aspects to that process is an updated and fully executed Facilities Agreement between MPCS and LUSD. We have worked with Manzanita and legal counsel to update the most recent ten-year facilities MOU with Manzanita. Suzanne Nicastro took this updated version to the MPCS governance Board for approval on November 17, and it will be presented on December 13 for the LUSD Board's final approval.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Trevor McDonald  
Superintendent of Schools