



Community Transmittal

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Dear Lompoc Community,

Vaccine Clinics

Over 188 vaccines/boosters/flu shots were administered at this week's clinic at La Cañada!

Articles of Interest

The Sacramento Bee: Severe teacher shortages persist in Sacramento schools. What it means for parents, students

The school year is nearly halfway complete, and school districts across the Sacramento region are still struggling to fill dozens of positions, both with permanent teachers and substitutes. Teacher shortages have exacerbated the already long list of challenges schools face as they remain open during the COVID-19 pandemic. Teacher shortages are not unique to Sacramento. Reports of staff vacancies in K-12 education have been growing across the country. More than 75 percent of school officials in the U.S. reported challenges in finding substitutes for classrooms, according to an EdWeek Research Center survey.

Last year, nearly 16,000 educators in California retired — either teachers who reached the age of retirement or those who chose to retire a few years early. More than half cited the pandemic as a major factor in their decision, according to CalSTRS, the state's teacher retirement system. The last time the state lost that many teachers was during the 2008 recession. But the current teacher shortages are not exclusively related to the pandemic. School districts have been facing staff shortages for several years, affecting students and, in many cases, their academic performance.

Decreasing Enrollment

The commentary in the link below outlines what budgetary shortfalls LUSD and districts throughout California will be facing due to decreasing enrollment trends.

https://lompoCrecord.com/opinion/columnists/enrollment-declines-squeeze-local-school-finances-dan-walters/article_17738d9b-9455-5dd6-aeab-a25f52e4bf8d.html

Budgetary News

<https://calmatters.org/newsletters/whatmatters/2021/10/california-schools-funding/>

https://sandiegounified.org/about/budget/vour_school_budget

<https://www.dailyCal.org/2021/12/05/berkeley-school-district-may-face-6-6m-in-budget-cuts/>

LUSD Facilities

Here is the video that was shared at the California School Boards Association Conference a couple of weeks ago. This highlights some of the ways we are working to maintain our facilities in the absence of a Bond. The work with ABM will provide us with \$14 million in facilities upgrades, which is a great start. However, our overall facility needs, as identified in 2018's Master Plan are

over \$230 million. We just approved a new Master Plan, so we will have an updated analysis and overall cost soon. <https://vimeo.com/574109436/e8a949c201>

Standards Alignment Project

This week we celebrated the success of the three elementary schools who showed significant gains from the first District-wide assessment. LUSD District Administrators took over recess duty on Monday at Miguelito Elementary School, rain and all. We provided staff an opportunity to celebrate the growth they have seen on their last District-wide assessment. I was able to demonstrate how to throw a hula-hoop so it would act as a boomerang and return to the students (see photo below). As the recess wore on there was a break in the weather, allowing students to come out on the blacktop and enjoy outdoor play. Teachers and classified staff meanwhile enjoyed cookies, cocoa, and each other's company. We supervised rainy day recess at Los Berros Visual and Performing Arts Academy on Thursday for their staff and after the new year we will supervise recess at La Honda STEAM Academy. All three of those schools showed great gains. Teachers were also provided hand-written thank you notes from District Administrators thanking them for doing what's best for kids.



Newsletter

Please see the attached December Human Resources Newsletter. ATTACHMENT #1

Cal Poly SLO

Diana Perez from CAL-SOAP met with Education Services on December 9 to discuss a second event for African American high school students to visit Cal Poly SLO. The State of California has recognized that African Americans are disproportionately under-represented at Cal Poly and similar schools. Education Services will be working with CAL-SOAP and Cal Poly SLO to provide transportation for students to attend a full-day of activities on the campus of Cal Poly in the Spring. The event furthers the efforts of LUSD to promote equitable outcomes for students.

Lompoc Adult School and Career Center

The consortium that governs LASCC held a board meeting on December 14 to approve expense reports and approve the resolution to continue to meet virtually. The consortium is also working on the next three-year plan that will be approved prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

PBIS

On December 15, John and Jessica Hannigan provided the Day 2 training for Tier 3 PBIS. Tier 3 includes a Tier 3 team that should be meeting weekly or bi-weekly to discuss the interventions, review the data, and make modifications to the school plan for students with behaviors that have not been addressed in Tier 1 or Tier 2. A Tier 3 PBIS team will include the school principal, SEL Counselor, and other support staff such as the school psychologist, behavioral specialist, social worker, home/school liaison, and others. In the training (attended by all elementary schools, LVMS, MHS, and CDS), schools also reviewed Tier 1 (schoolwide instruction of behavioral expectations) and Tier 2 (re-teaching of behavior through academies and other interventions). Education Services will be conducting walkthroughs of school sites in January to see the progress sites have made with PBIS.

Special Education & Auxiliary Services

The Special Education Department appreciates the efforts of all staff in helping to meet the needs of students with IEPs in the Fall Semester, which includes SPED Case Managers, Psychologists, APE teachers, Speech Therapists, Behavioral Specialists, Paraeducators, General Ed teachers, principals, nurses, counselors, health staff, office staff and more.

SEL Academies

In visiting school sites this week, principals were excited to share the positive effects that SEL counselors are having at their schools. Each SEL counselor designs academies according to the needs of the school, in collaboration with the principal, the PBIS team, and all teaching and support staff. Here is a sample of academies that have been offered at Elementary and Middle Schools in the Fall, with many academies offered at multiple sites.

Relationship Skills
Hands-off Academy
Self-Awareness
Self-management skills
Responsible Decision Making
Anger Management Social Skills
Self-Control
LGBTQIA+
Stress Anxiety
Joven Noble (by Outreach Consultant)
Study/Organizational Skills
Grief and Loss
Recovering from Divorce/Separation
Career Exploration and Planning
Lunch Bunch

Attendance

Our School Attendance Review Board (SARB) panel met again this week. We followed up with two families to ensure they were following the contract that was put forth as well as saw an additional six new students who were having a difficult time attending school. The families that we followed up both had utilized our community resources and the student's attendance had increased tremendously. Our panel of experts from local resources were able to offer assistance

to the new SARB students and families and we look forward to seeing the students back in school.

CTE

The budget revisions are currently being balanced for our Perkins Grant which many of our CTE teachers use to support their programs. Also, the K12 Strong Workforce Program Grant quarter 2 funding report is being done for the county. Again, most of our CTE teachers use this funding to support their programs.

CHS Lighting Project Update

On January 11, 2022, the Board will have the opportunity to consider a \$10,250 Geotechnical Engineering report proposal from Earth Systems for the Cabrillo High Baseball Field Lighting project. If approved, in late January, Earth Systems would be boring three holes to depths ranging from 25' to 50' below the surface with a drill rig equipped with a 6" hollow-stem auger to take soil samples to determine physical properties like moisture, maximum density, optimum moisture content, and grain size analysis.

The geotechnical field-work at Cabrillo will take approximately three to four weeks and so the District, KBZ, and Musco lighting would expect to have the final Geotech report at the end of February. Following receipt of that final report, Musco's engineers will probably need two weeks to review the report and make final corrections to the initial assumptions made about Cabrillo soils. That would have the entire project plan set on course for DSA submittal in mid-March.

By that DSA submittal date, the District will have already incurred the costs for the Geotech report, will have received a proposal from a reputable DSA inspector, will have paid the DSA submittal fees, and will have received a proposal for lab and testing that goes on while the project is being constructed. The only variable at that time will be the hard cost bid from Musco which can change greatly depending on any ADA additions that DSA requires.

On Monday, December 20, we'll be meeting with Mr. Dan Duffy and former CHS Athletic Director, Coach, and teacher Mr. Bob Lawrence to discuss the project's progress, timelines, and to begin developing an MOU.

M&O Update

- The CHS music room acoustical panel project is up and running. See photos.
- The gopher wire project is proceeding at Clarence Ruth. See photo.





Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools