



Community Transmittal

1301 North A St.

Lompoc, CA 93436

Phone: 805-742-3320

Fax: 805-737-1703

Dear Lompoc Community,

CDC director encourages schools to stay open

As the Omicron variant continues to drive up COVID-19 infections, Rochelle Walensky, head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), said Friday that schools should stay open with precautions in place and eligible children should get vaccinated. She also addressed criticism from some doctors and public-health experts that she and the CDC haven't clearly communicated recent changes to the agency's isolation and quarantine guidelines. "We're in an unprecedented time with the speed of Omicron cases rising, and we are working really hard to get information to the American public and balancing that with the realities that we're all living with," Dr. Walensky said.

Monday Message

When our staff feel their best, our students and work sites are all improved. Each Monday for the remainder of the year, we will provide staff with a "Taking Care of You Too" message with an easy tip on how they can practice self-care. We want to fill the cup of our staff, because of all they do for our students. This is just another example of us doing whatever we can to support staff.

Site Visits

This week we visited various school sites to provide support, look at how we can help sites, campus beautification, and safety concerns. It was a great way to identify nagging concerns from sites and brainstorm ways to solve them. In addition, it was great to see students working hard.

County Superintendent Visits LUSD

On Thursday, Susan Salcido, along with various SBCEO administrators, visited the County Teacher of the Year, Alisyn Blanton's, classroom at Miguelito Elementary School. We visited the classroom along with the SBCEO delegation to celebrate Alisyn's work and show them all the great things we are working on in LUSD.

LUSD Climate Surveys

The LUSD climate survey for staff will be open until January 21 for staff that have not completed the survey. The climate survey for parents began on Wednesday, January 12, with a message to all parents in the district. Each site has a liaison to help parents with the survey if needed. Once the surveys are completed in January, the data will be compiled and analyzed in February and March. The results of the survey and proposed actions will be presented to the board in April.

LUSD Equity Committee

On Thursday, January 13, the LUSD Equity Committee held its fourth meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. The committee continues to review the concepts in Shattering Inequities: Real-World Wisdom for School and District Leaders and analyze district level data. In this meeting, the committee reviewed the Equity Leadership Trilogy: Leadership Maturity, Leadership Grace, and Leadership Responsiveness, as well as district data on school vulnerability and absenteeism. The committee also reviewed the function of alternative educational programs.

Bus Drivers

On January 4, the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Transportation made public a temporary joint action intended to help address the shortage of school bus drivers across the country. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has given states the ability to waive the part of the commercial driver's license skills test where applicants must identify engine components. The rest of the written and road test will still be required. The FMCSA waiver will expire March 31, 2022.

Standards Alignment Project

We continue to work on our Standards Alignment Project and identifying how we can support our teachers in providing the "floor" for all students. Some of the components we are currently working on are:

Guided Planning - This week and next week all schools will participate in a Guided Planning session to support our Standards Alignment Project. The outcome of a Guided Planning session is to have a toolbox to use as teachers begin instruction targeting the next 5 standards. During Guided Planning, cohorts meet together on zoom to dig deep into the rigor of the upcoming unit. Teachers collaborate across grade levels or content areas and work collectively to unpack the standard, write learning objectives, identify core and supplemental instructional materials, create unit assessment stems, identify the academic vocabulary, establish common agreements or instructional strategies, and address the needs of our diverse student body with a focus on students with disabilities, ELs, struggling students and our under-challenged students.

Side-by-Side Training for Principals - Our next District-wide assessment is later this week, with the corresponding PLC to analyze data soon after. This next District-wide PLC will be a "side by side" where site administrators will run the PLC alongside the Orenda staff. The idea being that LUSD staff start to take the reins of these meetings and gradually take them over. Much like we do with students, using the I Do, We Do, You Do approach - Orenda started by doing the meetings, now we are on the "We Do" portion where Orenda and LUSD will work side-by-side working toward the "You Do" where LUSD can take them over completely.

Leadership Meeting

This week we kicked off our leadership meeting with a warm welcome and celebration for all nine of our new leaders and leaders that changed roles in LUSD. If you see new faces around school or in Zoom meetings, please do not hesitate to reach out and connect with them. We are grateful to have them on our team and look forward to the impact they will have on our students. We also celebrated the great things seen during Learning Walks. We reviewed the Standards Alignment Project and the upcoming NWEA assessments. We then provided COVID and PBIS updates. The meeting ended with an hour for our administrators to collaborate with each other.

Substitutes

You are already aware that in normal times, holders of Emergency 30-Day Substitute Permits are limited to subbing 30 days per school year for any given GenEd teacher, or 20 days per school year for any given SpEd teacher. Currently and through the end of the 2021-2022 school year, in response to significant needs created by the pandemic, this limit has been extended to allow subbing up to 60 days this school year per teacher (GenEd or SpEd.)

Effective immediately and through March 31, 2022, the restriction for holders of Emergency 30-Day Substitute Permits who are subbing in GenEd classes is 120 days. Note this applies to GenEd only.

Take Home Rapid Tests

The below email was sent to all site administrators on Wednesday. The boxes of tests were delivered to sites, along with the printed instructions by Katy and Paul, since all of our delivery drivers are out. Lisa Cordes and Stephanie worked with printing to create labels for each box that will guide parents on when to use the test to allow their children to come back to school as soon as it is safe. Sites sent Parent Square messages to families this week on how to request a test. The tests are for those who have tested positive and are wanting to return to school/work on a modified quarantine.

Reclassification

On Wednesday we had a traveling award assembly to drop off reclassification paperwork to 27 students who have met the qualifications to be reclassified to English proficient. Reclassification is a win for our students because it means they are now English proficient and are on track to be better prepared for College and Career Readiness. Students were recognized with a pen and a classroom cheer! This moment is a celebration for all teachers, paraeducators, EL language support staff, our site administrators, and especially our students who put in the hard work. We are hopeful to reclassify more students after the spring administration of the ELPAC.

ELD

Sites had reclassification forms delivered to them, pre-filled, so that teachers only needed to obtain signatures. Making this a bit easier for teachers, given all they have on their plates was one small way we could support them, while also ensuring that students get reclassified as soon as possible. ELPAC testing begins next month, so once we complete reclassification, we will turn our focus on the finishing touches for ELPAC.

Allan Hancock Concurrent Enrollment and College Now

Students from Cabrillo, Lompoc, and Maple High Schools successfully completed college classes in high school during the Fall 2021 semester through the Concurrent Enrollment program. At Cabrillo High School 75 college classes were completed, including Digital Imagery, Digital Imagery Lab, Intro to Political Science, American Sign Language and more. At Lompoc High School 96 college classes were completed, including US History to 1877, Intro to Animal Science, Fire Prevention Technology, and American Government. At Maple High School 24 college classes were completed, including American Government, Life/Career Planning, and Intro to Corrections.

GROW Programs

The Santa Barbara County SELPA issued its first newsletter specifically highlighting the work of the GROW classrooms. The newsletter will be spotlighting one GROW staff/program in each issue and the first newsletter presents LUSD's GROW program at Clarence Ruth Elementary School, with teacher Lauren Smith. This is Lauren's first year as a teacher in the GROW program and she has shown phenomenal growth in her willingness to learn how to implement the program. We celebrate her work as well as the work of the Paraeducators in the classroom: Marquis Hunt, Mary Lomeli, and Sarah Ramos. See the full issue [here](#).

Foster Youth/Homeless

All of the site's bilingual liaisons will be starting a 40-hour training called "The Community Interpreter" which is a skills-based program that will teach the foundations of the community interpreter profession and build skills in simultaneous and consecutive interpretation in an educational setting.

CTE

All CTE teachers were invited once again to the monthly San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara County collaboration meeting. This week for the January CTE Teacher PLC we featured a presentation from a fellow CTE teacher. Peter Wachtel, teacher at Oxnard Union, who shared his approach to bringing industry into the classroom with real world projects and skills.

Safety

Last week during the break, representatives from Navigate 360 presented the ALICE training to LUSD staff that were interested. ALICE Active Shooter Response Trainings (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) which empowers staff to make good survival decisions should an attack occur. On January 5-6 representatives from three schools learned about the strategies of the program and now are trainers who can in turn train other staff.

LUSD First Interim Report

Below is a link to LUSDs First Interim Report, which was certified by the Board at their December 13, 2021 board meeting:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1639028701/lusdorg/rxksvovbynkwtjw0hawu/2021-22_1st_Interim_Budget.pdf

CHS Lighting Project Update

Over the Winter Break, Mr. Sorum met in person with Mr. Dan Duffy and Coach Lawrence to discuss progress, timelines, and next steps for the CHS Baseball Lighting Project, and to begin developing a MOU with Mr. Duffy. A draft has been prepared and provided to him and he is in the process of reviewing it with his consultants. We hope to have a final draft of that MOU to the Board by the time we submit this project to DSA in March.

M&O Update

We are currently seeking alternatives to Round-Up for our weed abatement. We are evaluating and will demo a new system on the first of next month. This method will use heat instead of harmful chemicals. If everything checks out, we will move quickly to purchase these and have them implemented in our weed abatement program.

In addition, we have been working on various projects highlighted below:

- CHS band room acoustical panel project is complete and the crew is removing all of the old cabinets. **See photo**
- The Gopher wire project is back up and running. The crew has started at Clarence Ruth and will move to Buena Vista next.
- LHS has purchased a new, stadium-friendly stage for graduations and other events. Custodians are getting familiar with setting it up and breaking it down. **See photo**
- The crew installed new signage at the LHS cafeteria. **See photos**
- The board has approved for the fire alarm panel to be replaced at CHS. Low Voltage Electric will make the repair this week. The panel went down during the winter break, and we have been running a fire watch at the campus until it can be repaired.
- Earth Systems will be at CHS on the 27th to collect soil samples for our CHS baseball lighting project. The report should be ready within about a month after drilling, although soil conditions can be discussed with Musco the week after drilling to confirm if the current design will need dramatic changes.
- Crews were busy cleaning up downed trees from our last storm. **See photo**
- During our last storm, the grass and gopher wire project needed to stop at La Cañada and move to Los Berros due to heavy rain making the soil too muddy.









Transportation Update

On December 28, 2021 the LUSD Transportation Department received their new wheelchair bus. This bus is replacing one of the 1990 wheelchair buses. See photos

- LUSD was awarded a grant from the Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control Board in the amount of \$143,979.30 to offset the cost of bus (\$219,698.70)
- The District will pay the difference of \$75,719.40
- This bus is CNG which holds up to three (3) wheelchairs, 30 passengers and eight built-in car seats. This bus is also equipped with A/C
- Installation of a two-way radio and cameras will be completed



Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools