



Community Transmittal

1301 North A St. Lompoc, CA 93436 Phone: 805-742-3320 Fax: 805-737-1703

Dear Lompoc Community,

EdSource: New LAUSD superintendent on enrollment declines, school choice and COVID

New Los Angeles schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho has packed in a lot during his first three weeks on the job — overseeing changes to the district’s mask mandates and debuting an extensive [100-day plan](#) outlining his priorities for the district. Carvalho, who comes to Los Angeles Unified after serving nearly 14 years as the superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, is faced with a number of challenges made worse by the pandemic. *EdSource* sat down with Carvalho, following the release of his 100-day plan, to discuss his goals and next steps to address the mounting pressures, including declining enrollment and COVID-19. *In your 100-day plan, you talked about a commitment to collective bargaining through an equity lens. What does that mean?*

There are ways to negotiate incentives, not through mandated directives, but incentives to bring the most effective, experienced teachers. We know for a fact that, often, open instructional positions are first felt in the highest-need schools, where they really should not exist. These are the students that absolutely need a committed, dedicated teacher 100 percent of the time. I’m one who believes that we should start with what’s in the best interest of students. What shall we tackle first? What are the critical elements around which we can carve out common ground and go from there?

Unfortunately ... sometimes negotiations between collective bargaining entities and management begin only in terms of a financial position that can be sustained by management and a set of demands that are listed by the labor unions, and students are lost in the shuffle. How about what’s in the best interest of kids? I want to start there and bring both parties together. That’s what I mean by really using the lens of equity and student need to orient and advantage the negotiation process.

Press Releases

Please read the attached PRs we sent out to local media this week ~ ATTACHMENT #1 ATTACHMENT #2 ATTACHMENT #3 and PHOTO

Classified Staffing

As we have all heard and experienced, the Classified staffing problem continues to significantly harm our organization, the working conditions for our staff, and the overall learning experience for our students.

As a matter of comparison, we asked the other districts that are of similar size to LUSD for how many Classified vacancies they currently have. You can see the results below:

School District	Current Number of Vacancies
Santa Maria Joint Union	11
Lompoc Unified	128

March 4, 2022

Santa Maria Bonita	45
Santa Barbara Unified	41

ClassifiedFAQs:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1usf3JxentvWSvRbP9PMmqFET885vXb6VGlufkuzWgp0/edit?usp=sharing>

State Funding/Grants

We continue to work with CFW on our facilities grants. We will soon be bringing forth three resolutions for the Board to adopt. These resolutions are a requirement for the application and will accompany it when submitted to the state. Each resolution is for a specific grade level; Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Kindergarten. If we do receive the funding for the classroom construction, we will focus on Miguelito Elementary and will be able to add four classrooms and it will be a 75/25 cost split between the State and LUSD, meaning we can construct four classrooms for the price of one, since the State will be kicking in funds as well!

Budget Meetings

We continue to meet weekly to look at the Second Interim report and identify how we can use the limited funds we have to provide the best learning experience for students. We have been discussing the ESSER, COVID, ELOP funds and also the funds that are going to be needed for the various textbook adoptions that are coming up.

EdSource Article

Please click on the link below for an interesting article on school bus driver shortages around the state:

[Severe driver shortage leaves some California kids waiting at the school bus stop | EdSource](#)

Cultural Vistas

As many of you know, this last year we had various teaching positions we were not able to fill; English, Science, and even some elementary. So, beginning in November, we started working with Cultural Vistas to recruit international teachers with a minimum of five years teaching experience to come to LUSD. As shared in previous transmittals, we have interviewed and offered to four candidates with tremendous experience, and who all are very student-centered in their approach to teaching. Obviously coming to the United States to work on a visa takes a lot of work for both parties; the employee and the employer. We are excited for the diversity that this will also bring to our teaching force. You will see a Board agenda item coming to the next Board Meeting approving fees for these international teachers.

Interviews & Recruiting

We held interviews this week for Elementary Arts, English, Special Education and offered many of these positions to candidates. Next week we have more Elementary, Special Education, English, Math, and PE interviews. We also have a recruiting event at Cal Lutheran and Fresno State.

Recognition for Community Engagement

See below received this week from Gobo:

In recognition of your commitment to exceptional stakeholder engagement, we wanted to applaud the effort and investment Lompoc USD has made to support your community's education partners. Your efforts to connect with stakeholders through meetings, surveys, and the use of actionable and accountable tools, such as the LCAP infographic, demonstrate your exemplary commitment to engagement, collaboration, and the success of your students.

Attached is a token of our appreciation for your good work, a framed version of which will arrive soon in the mail. Because our company founder is a former School Board Trustee, we have a special understanding and appreciation for the hard work of Districts and their staff. Thank you for the work you do on our collective behalf for California's students, ensuring a brighter future for us all.

[Announcement Blog post](#)

High Impact, Low Prep Instructional Strategies Hosted by: The TSP Team

On Thursday, the TSP team hosted another Collaborative Learning Session after school for Elementary and Secondary teachers. With the help of the ViewSonic TV, they were able to offer teachers the option to attend in-person or on Zoom. The focus of the session was High Impact, Low Preparation Instructional Strategies that facilitate learning in all subject areas. For this session, their focus was on four specific strategies; Think-Write-Pair-Share, Jigsaw, Four Corners and Entry/Exit Tickets. Each of these strategies include at least one of the effective practices of collaborative learning, movement, and the use of formative assessment. The session provided teachers with the opportunity to hear about the research and the “why” behind the strategies, reflect on their current use of each, and engage in collaborative discussions about the various ways to implement them during instruction. Teachers who attended received a folder of resources with materials to use for the implementation of each strategy. The goal of the TSP team was for teachers to leave the session feeling that if they chose to, they had the necessary tools and materials to implement the strategies in their classrooms the next day.

A feedback form was provided for teachers to fill out after the session. Of the teachers who responded, 100% said they were likely to use at least one of the strategies from today in their classroom. Examples of some key takeaways were that “students don’t learn from just one style of teaching, you can monitor and assess in different ways.” and “I realized there are many more ways to implement Jigsaw in my classroom than I thought!” Some suggestions for future sessions included “I like the idea of a scheduled series where we could dive a little deeper into certain strategies.” and others expressed interest in another session to share more High Impact, Low Preparation Instructional Strategies. The TSP team is using the feedback to guide and plan future training sessions.

ELD PLC Leadership Team Monthly Meeting

Site administrators and a site rep from all elementary and secondary schools meet monthly to discuss our English Language Learners. In collaboration with Dr. Pagan, our agenda covered: an update on the Reclassification requirements and use of local data, ELPAC assessment update, Best Practices for designated ELD, and an update on core and supplemental materials for newcomers. Our collaboration was grounded in building the belief system of designated ELD. We discussed barriers to designated ELD and collaborated on highly effective practices. We also discussed establishing essential ELD standards per grade level that will prioritize planning time, this will be a focus in our next meeting.

PK/Kindergarten Registration

The following information was sent to local media and posted on the LUSD website: Interested parents are invited to participate in kindergarten registration May 2 - May 20, 2022. Please make an appointment with your neighborhood school between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Questions regarding their particular attendance area should be directed to the Central Attendance office at 805-742-3244, or the nearest elementary school. Children eligible for kindergarten must turn five (5) years old on or before September 1, 2022. Children eligible for Pre-Kindergarten must turn five (5) years old on or between September 2, 2022 and February 2, 2023. Any child who turns five (5) years old from February 3, 2023 to June 30, 2023 may also apply for admittance. These students will be admitted by birthdate priority depending on the number of applicants at their home school site. All parents/guardians need to register their kindergarten or pre-kindergarten students at the school in their attendance area. Questions regarding their particular attendance area should be directed to the Central Attendance office at 805-742-3244, or the nearest elementary school. Parents/Guardians should bring their child along with the following items to registration: (1) Proof of Age: Proof of age may be in the form of an official birth certificate, a duly attested baptism certificate, or a passport. (2) Official Immunization Record. (3) Verification of Address: Address verification may be in the form of a mortgage/rent receipt or utility bill with the address and parent's/guardian's name on it or a similar document.

*Note we are transitioning to the nomenclature of Pre-K for 2022-2023 instead of Transitional Kindergarten because there are new standards and a new approach for the Universal Pre-K program from the Governor. Staff will be piloting the Pre-K curriculum next year as we continue to institute the new guidelines.

Nearpod

This year all LUSD teachers have access to the premium plus Nearpod and Flocabulary programs. Nearpod is an interactive classroom tool to engage students by adding interactive activities to your lessons like polls, collaboration boards, and game-based quizzes that sync with Google Slides and Classroom. Students can interact and submit responses through any mobile device or laptop. Nearpod also offers a bank of standards-based resources for core subjects as well as SEL lessons and EL support. During our Nearpod mid-year review, we saw LHS and LVMS as leaders in using Nearpod with more than 20,000 lessons launched for student engagement. VMS, Buena Vista, and Crestview were leaders in using Flocabulary with more than 16,000 Flocabulary lessons completed.

School Wellness Professional Development

This week Michelle MacKinnon, Director of Child Nutrition Services, Karen Deming, Supervisor, Child Nutrition Services, and Katherine Wallace, District Wellness Coordinator attended **Transforming Schools into Centers of Health and Wellness** in Solvang with surrounding districts. Nutrition Promotion, Garden Education, Worksite Wellness, and Local Wellness Policies were the main sessions and appreciated by all. The highlight of the day was continued discussion surrounding the Lompoc Unified School District School Gardens, how they are thriving and the benefits they provide to our students.

Region 8 Expanded Learning

This week we attended the Region 8, Expanded Learning Bi-Monthly meeting. Michael Funk, Director of Expanded Learning, CDE, gave updates on the funding related to the ELOP and ELOG

Grants. We were provided resources and activities for schools to be actively involved in Social Emotional Learning as a whole school and how to incorporate after-school programs in the process. LUSD was proud to have their community partners in attendance with them at the Region 8 meeting. Our strong partnership is how we make strong programs sustainable.

Family Engagement Committee

On March 3, the Year 1 Family Engagement Committee met and were presented research on the current family engagement practices in the District through a principal survey. The next step will be to meet with a few school principals individually to understand how to best support sites to implement high leverage family engagement practices that are proven by research to have an impact of student success. In addition, we have been meeting with a UCSB professor that is interested in supporting this effort by conducting targeted research with our families. As a reminder, this is a three-year project and the goals for Year 1 are:

- 1) Establish and strengthen strong, healthy, and systematic district, school, family, and community partnerships.
- 2) Evaluate family engagement strategies/practices across multiple programs and/or funding sources, i.e., LCFF, Title I, ELD, SPSA, PBIS) for “*effective*” family engagement to support student achievement and close the achievement gap.
- 3) Synthesize and adopt district-wide definition of family engagement for staff, parents/families, and students.

Safe & Supportive Learning Environments (SSLE) Essentials Professional Learning Series

Executive Director, Brian Jaramillo, applied and was accepted to a virtual program by WestEd on Safe and Supportive Learning Environments. The virtual sessions began on February 1 and continue through June. The series includes teachers, counselors, and administrators from throughout California who are interested in improving the learning environment for students in schools. Topics for the ten session series include How Brain Science Informs Teaching and Learning; The Role of Self-Care; Power, Culture, & Social Context; Voice & Agency; and Leadership and Systems Supports. The goal is for information from this series to inform the action plan that comes from the LUSD climate survey conducted this school year.

LUSD Community Collaboration

Education Services administrators met with community agencies on March 2 to provide updates about COVID-19 mitigation strategies and collaborate on supporting students. LUSD shared information about the lifting of the mask mandate and the low numbers of COVID-19 cases in the District. There are community concerns about the lack of availability of counseling either through school-based counseling or other sources of counseling in Lompoc. Agencies shared that hiring counselors this year has been difficult. LUSD shared the impact of the SEL Counselors at the school sites

Allan Hancock 2022 Equity Summit

On Friday, February 25, Allan Hancock College held their annual Equity Summit at the Santa Maria Veterans Memorial Building. LUSD Counselors from each of the high schools attended the event. The event featured a speaker from the Santa Barbara County Public Defender’s office, a panel of Allan Hancock students and community members discussing implicit bias, and a networking activity for Allan Hancock resources.

SELPA-bration

On March 3rd, the Santa Barbara County SELPA released its eleven award recipients for the 2022-2023 school year. The SELPA awards individuals that have made an impact on students and special education programming in their district. LUSD is proud to announce that three of the eleven awards are LUSD staff members! The SELPA-bration will take place on May 10th at the Glen Annie Golf Course. Congratulations to our three award recipients for the following categories!

Jamie Johnson—Special Education Administrator
Krista Caniano—Special Education Teacher
Vivian Velasquez—Special Education Paraeducator

CHS Baseball Lighting Project Update

This week we finalized work with our legal counsel on a draft MOU with Mr. Dan Duffy for the CHS Baseball Lighting project. That final draft has been provided to Mr. Duffy and his representative, and assuming concurrence, we expect that we will bring this item to the Board at the March 22 meeting.

The project includes the installation of eight Musco light standards ranging in heights between 70' and 80' and containing LED luminaires of various wattage". Mr. Duffy has committed to funding all of the project soft and hard costs up to \$1,500,000 through donations to the District.

The improvements at the Varsity Baseball field are intended to benefit CHS physical education classes, CHS athletic team practices, games, and invitational events that may occur within or outside of the regular baseball season, as well as approved Civic Use as outlined in the District's Board Policy. Use of the lighting system at the field is not anticipated to extend later than 9 p.m.

PSMI Grant Update

On Tuesday, the District received an invitation letter to apply for the PSMI design grant for the Manzanita Public Charter School. This is wonderful news and puts us that much closer to having a project. A grant application sub-committee has been assigned and our first meeting was held Thursday.

Master Plan Update

KBZ has begun working on the Board approved (2018) Master Plan Update and will start visiting school sites next week. These site walks will be instrumental in updating our old site plans and for our architects to see the sites, the buildings, and the campus conditions to help consider possible improvements.

KBZ is also in the process of developing a list of questions to provide to each of our principals to get their input regarding sites. In past years when the Master Plan was updated, principals shared valuable information regarding various building and site conditions. We plan to facilitate these by creating a schedule of ZOOM meetings with KBZ representatives, each principal, our M&O Director, and myself. Once the final draft is finalized, KBZ will present it to the Board for adoption.

CFW Presentation

On Tuesday night, Jordan Miles and Emilio Flores from CFW will be here to present an update on the new TK/K classroom construction project and the results of the recent RFPs for professional services such as land surveying, geotechnical, and architectural. During consent, the Board will have the opportunity to review and approve contracts for each of these services so that we may continue moving forward with this project we expect to have completed by the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

M&O Update

- The La Cañada portable move is moving along. On Wednesday, the power was hooked up and turned on. See photos
- The Grass and Wire Project has just been completed at Miguelito and will move over to Fillmore on March 7. See photos
- The Grounds Department has moved the backstop at Buena Vista in preparation for the solar project starting on Friday, March 4. See photos











Payroll Update

The Payroll Team is currently working on the CSEA 2.875% increase to the salary schedule. This is in addition to adjusting back sick leave days to those who were out sick with COVID, and replacing with the COVID-2 leave, which will be reflected on the March paychecks.

Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools