



Community Transmittal

Dear Lompoc Community,

CSEA Labor Management Meeting

On March 9, CSEA and LUSD leadership held their monthly meeting to discuss topics related to CSEA members. Topics at the meeting included the changing mask mandate, Spring contract negotiations, and the climate survey. The monthly meeting is an informal setting for the leaders of both organizations to pose questions, communicate future plans, and discuss solutions to current situations. LUSD values this time as part of the process of building the relationship with CSEA.

Countywide Superintendents Meeting

The Santa Barbara County Superintendents March meeting was held at the newly renamed Mark Richardson CTE Center and Agricultural Farm. It was named after former SMJUHS Superintendent Mark Richardson who passed away suddenly last November. As you may remember, Mark worked with us as a CASC consultant and coach for new administrators. The center is quite impressive and is a \$22M 25-acre facility that opened in August. It currently houses construction and machine shops, animal pens, livestock corrals, barn, farming land for students and a pavilion with an industrial kitchen. Mark was instrumental in the development of the center which was built with funds from the two bonds that SMJUHS passed in 2000 and 2016.

Following this meeting, I met with the SELPA JPA board in-person at the facility for the first time in many months to discuss and vote on routine SELPA business.

Recruiting Events

This week we participated in recruiting events at Cal Poly, Cal Lutheran and Fresno State. It was exciting to see all the great new candidates and their enthusiasm for beginning their teaching careers. We were even able to offer positions to candidates at the job fairs. It has been a great start to the hiring season.

Interviews & Recruiting

We held interviews this week for Elementary, PE, Special Education, English, and Math candidates this week. The caliber of candidates has been impressive and we have offered to many of them. We offered to five elementary candidates, two PE, three Special Education, two English, and two Math.

AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) was expanded from one class to multiple sites in Lompoc Unified School District since I began here as Superintendent ten years ago. While the pandemic slowed things down, we are excited to ramp up again and started by sending two AVID implementers and leaders to ADL5 (AVID District Leadership) in San Diego from March

9-10. AVID is a system, and as such, requires leadership from the District, the sites, and the classroom. Over the years, we have watched AVID change the lives of first-generation college students by and through showing them there are options beyond Lompoc. We have one of the first continuation high schools in the state to implement AVID and an elementary school that was AVID Schoolwide prior to the pandemic. It is with great pride and hard work we work with our site leaders and teachers at our AVID schools to keep the momentum going.

Root Cause Analysis Training

On March 10, the Santa Barbara County SELPA offered a one-day training on Root Cause Analysis. Root Cause Analysis is an essential part of the development of the Special Education plan that will be due later this Spring. Brian Jaramillo, Executive Director Education Services represented LUSD at the training. LUSD has an ongoing Special Education Plan Committee that will assist in conducting the necessary analysis to improve outcomes for students with disabilities in our District.

CTE

Several LUSD staff attended the Educating for Careers Conference which is an annual conference for CTE teachers. Many sessions were held including some from iCEV, Jobspeaker, information about summer CTE camps, plus many more.

A visit was made to Orcutt Junior High School to review their Project Lead the Way curriculum for middle schools in order to teach that age group about possible CTE pathways to enter in high school. LUSD is looking into possible CTE pathways for our middle schools.

iPad MDM Change

IT staff are currently very busy changing the District Mobile Device Management software from Airwatch to Mosyle. Mosyle has the advantage of being both a significantly better platform for school-based mobile device management, but also being one third the cost of Airwatch. However, this entails IT staff setting their hands on all 3,800 iPads Districtwide to move them over. Obviously, we would love to do this during the summer break, but contracts expire when they expire, so we are hammering through this process now. We have planned to cause minimum disruption to each classroom, only taking devices when we can turn around in a day. The assembly line approach minimizes disruptions and increase efficiency on the network.

Chromebooks

Thank you for approving the purchase of 3,500 Chromebooks at the last meeting. We are retiring more than 5,000 Chromebooks in June, so this purchase will allow us to maintain 1:1 student to device ratios for the 2022-2023 school year. Retiring Chromebooks and enrolling new units will be a huge summer project this year, but it would not be possible without the Board commitment to updating and improving the District's educational technology. All employees in IT have noticed this commitment and are very appreciative of it.

Student Information System

IT Staff continues to work through the new data base in the Aeries system. We are working hard to ensure that all of the data imported into Aeries is without the garbage that had accumulated in more than a decade of using one system. IT staff has also completed its first level of Aeries training, so our understanding of how the system works is improved. On March 25, secondary

administrators, counselors, and front office staff will receive their first round of training as well, which will start to build the knowledge database of Aeries usage District-wide.

Network Upgrades

We are approaching the completion of the installation of all of the Juniper network equipment purchased via E-rate in 2020. That equates to about 20% of the District's networking infrastructure. Given the bid approved by the board at the last meeting, in roughly six months to a year, IT will be able to replace about 70% of the rest of the network. This will increase both the speed and reliability of network, making life better for office staff, and teachers and students using educational technology in the classroom.

Congress Fails to Extend Child Nutrition Waivers

This week, the Senate passed the \$1.5 trillion Omnibus Appropriations bill, which did not include funding to extend the Child Nutrition waivers for next school year. The current waivers will expire on June 30, 2022. The expiring waivers allowed us to provide free meals for all students without collecting meal applications; provide free afterschool snacks to sites; higher reimbursement rate to assist with rising food, supplies and labor costs; and gave us flexibilities in how and where meals can be served.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/education/school-meal-programs-financial-peril-spending-bill-snob-advocates-say-rcna19320>

Meals for 2022-2023

Although we are disappointed with the Child Nutrition Waivers expiring in June, we are starting to plan for the changes next school year will bring. The big changes will revolve around guidelines that are required for the new state mandated "California Universal Meals". This was designed to build on the foundation of the federal National School Lunch Program and will provide free school meals to all students.

The State of California was the first state to pass a universal free school meals program for all public school students.

Below is some information on updates, changes and what to expect:

Child Nutrition Services School Year 2022-2023

UPDATES, CHANGES & WHAT TO EXPECT

NEW: CALIFORNIA UNIVERSAL MEALS

The State of California was the first state to pass a budget to provide free meals for all students. Universal Meals was approved as part of the state budget and Assembly Bill 130. In September 2021, the Governor signed AB 167 which officially adopted Universal Meals.

THE NEW STATE MEAL MANDATE

California has expanded the State Meal Mandate, requiring public schools to offer both breakfast and lunch to all TK-12 students, free of charge every school day, regardless of their free or reduced-price eligibility.

HOW ARE FREE MEALS THIS YEAR DIFFERENT FROM SCHOOL YEAR 22-23?

We are currently providing free meals under USDA COVID-19 Emergency Waivers. These temporary waivers allow us to provide free meals.

All emergency waivers will expire on June 30, 2022.

ADDITIONAL WAIVERS & FLEXIBILITIES EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2022

- Meals taken to-go or off site
- Parent meal pick-up
- Meal service during holidays and weekends
- Bulk meal distribution
- Use of meal count forms, rather than ringing students up by ID/Name
- Free afterschool snacks for ineligible sites
- Free summer meals for ineligible sites

RESUMPTION OF STANDARD POLICIES

- Meal applications will be collected at non-CEP schools.
- Household Income Survey forms will continue to be collected at CEP schools.
- Students must be rung up on the register, with their assigned student ID.
- All students are eligibly for one free breakfast & lunch per school day. Additional items or meals must be paid.
- Breakfast and lunch will be served in the cafeterias, unless the school operates Breakfast in the Classroom.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW ARE SCHOOL MEALS PAID FOR?

School nutrition programs are required to follow USDA regulations in order to be reimbursed for the meals that they serve. The meal reimbursement covers costs associated with the program, including labor, food purchases, preparation, transportation, paper products and all supplies needed to produce and serve the meals.

Meals are reimbursed based on student eligibility (free/reduced/paid). The meals claimed for students at the free rate provide the most reimbursement. Previously, reduced and paid students were charged a fee for meals since the state and federal reimbursements did not cover all the costs associated with the meals

School nutrition programs will no longer charge reduced and paid students a fee for meals because Universal Meals will provide additional funding to match the federal funding of a free meal.

WHY DO MEAL APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE COLLECTED IF MEALS ARE FREE?

School nutrition programs are typically funded primarily by federal dollars. The Universal Meals program does not *replace* the federal program, rather it *supplements it*. Programs will still receive federal funding based on free, reduced and paid student eligibilities. The state will reimburse districts so that the total reimbursement for each meal is at the free rate.

WILL WE STILL HAVE CEP & NON-CEP SCHOOLS?

Yes, Universal Meals requires all high poverty schools must apply to participate in the federal meal provisions.

DOES THE STATE MEAL MANDATE APPLY FOR EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS?

Yes. We are mandated to offer students breakfast and lunch during the school day, regardless of the length of day. All schools must include time for lunch on minimum days and early dismissal days.

ARE PRESCHOOLS REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE STATE MEAL MANDATE?

If the preschool shares a campus with the K-12 school, they are eligible, but not required to offer both breakfast and lunch. If lunch is served, it must be during the school day. Meals cannot be taken off campus for consumption.

ARE AFTERSCHOOL SNACKS INCLUDED IN UNIVERSAL FREE MEALS?

No. Afterschool snacks are not included in the Universal Meals budget . Only eligible sites will be able to offer free afterschool snacks.

Jan Crouse-Tell

A big congratulation to Jan Crouse-Tell for being awarded the LUSD Classified Employee of the Year! This is Jan's seventeenth year working for Child Nutrition Services and she is currently the CNW II at Hapgood Elementary School. We are excited to announce that Jan will be nominated for Santa Barbara County Classified Employee of the Year. Good Luck and congratulations Jan!

M&O Update

- LHS outdoor sports area is complete, basketball courts and discus were completed this week. See photos
- The crew has repaired the area for the Buena Vista solar project that began on March 9. See photo
- La Honda camera project will begin on Monday, March 14.
- LVMS camera project will start during Spring Break.
- As of Tuesday, March 8, the La Cañada portable move has now connected to power and water.
- Fillmore grass and wire project began on March 9.





Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools