



Dear Lompoc Community,

COVID challenges, bad student behavior push CA teachers to limit

In the last six months of 2020 – after the pandemic began – there were 5,644 teacher retirements, a 26% increase the same period the previous year, according to the California State Teachers’ Retirement System. By the end of the school year, 12,785 teachers had retired – 8% higher than the previous year. Data for this school year is not yet available, but CalSTRS reports that the number of retirements has leveled off since 2020. Most of the retirees who completed a CalSTRS survey said they retired earlier than they had planned. Almost half of the retirees surveyed in the 2020-21 school year said challenges related to teaching during COVID were among the primary reasons for their early departure. It hasn’t been an easy year for teachers, said Kurtis Obispo, a school psychologist. Many haven’t recovered from the emotional stress brought on by the pandemic, school closures and the many changes they have had to endure since. Teachers also are not feeling appreciated, he said. Families, stressed and worried about whether their children are behind, often have taken out frustration on teachers. The social-emotional needs of students this school year were so high and staffing so low that Mr. Obispo also quit his job midyear. There were more fights on campuses and more students being designated as a threat to themselves or others, said Mr. Obispo, who worked for Escalon USD in San Joaquin County. The exodus of teachers from the profession is not just a California problem. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that about 600,000 teachers in public education in the United States quit between January 2020 and last February.

Interviews this Week

This week we held interviews for counselor, speech, behaviorist, elementary teacher and social worker.

HR Newsletter for May and June 2022

Please see ATTACHMENT #1

Elementary Expanded Learning 2022

This year’s elementary school Expanded Learning Program has 900+ students enrolled across two campuses.

LUSD has been diligently planning across all departments including Transportation, Child Nutrition Services Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education, Pupil Support Services and Special Projects. We are excited to offer a wonderful summer program to our students.

CHS Lighting

This week we received the DSA-stamped plans and project manual for the upcoming baseball field lighting project at Cabrillo High which is being funded up to \$1.5 million by Mr. Dan Duffy. We believe Musco Lighting has a piggyback procurement system through Sourcewell that will allow us to move forward with them without using the lease-lease back (LLB) procurement method. We have requested a proposal from Musco. Once we get their Sourcewell piggyback proposal, assuming there are no portions of the plans that Musco cannot construct, we will take the proposal to the Board for approval. Once approved, a Notice of Award goes out in the days to follow. Then, a few weeks after that, we will conduct a Pre-Construction meeting where Musco will be asked to supply a few other construction documents, and then the Notice to Proceed would follow. If there are specific portions of the project Musco cannot construct, like perhaps the electrical upgrade to supply adequate power to the lights, then we will procure those services through a separate proposal from a local contractor. We are grateful for all of Mr. Duffy's generosity, and the patience he has shown during the grueling Public Works process for a DSA-stamped project. We know this project will positively impact current and future generations of CHS athletes for years to come.

MOU with SBCEO

The existing three-year service MOU with SBCEO Early Care and Education Program has been amended to reflect recent changes in facility utilization. The Just for Kids Preschool is being moved from Hapgood to Fillmore this summer, and their Young Learners Preschool at La Cañada now includes two classrooms with the additional IEEEP-funded portable classroom that was recently constructed on the site. We have also amended the termination clause to provide the SBCEO Early Care Education Program with an additional two months' notice for termination and/or relocation of services.

ABM Notice of Completion

In order that contractors may apply for their final retention payment, we are required to publicly close out public works projects approved by the Board, and that information has to be provided to the County. The Board originally approved the ABM project and Bank of America financing at a cost not to exceed \$14.5 million. The final project cost was \$14.4 million and included several different energy and safety-related projects.

Two of the projects included the installation of solar panels at Buena Vista and Cabrillo High. On April 14th this year, we completed construction at Buena Vista. That is a 93-kilowatt ground-mount array that has more than 200 panels located southeast of the main campus in the backfield. That system guarantees an annual reduction of more than 291,000 kWh. Then, last year, we completed a much larger 604-kilowatt carport array at Cabrillo High's student parking lot. It was the first of its kind in the District, it includes infrastructure for future EV charging stations, it provides savings to the General Fund, and it greatly reduces our greenhouse emissions now and for generations to come. We also focused on domestic and irrigation water use, some of the District's highest utility expenses. In addition to installing low-flow toilets, urinals, and sink aerators, we installed irrigation smart controllers which decrease water use. We were also able to replace some old, extremely inefficient furnaces at our schools. Interior LED lighting had already been completed with Prop 39 funding a few years ago, so with the ABM project, we installed exterior LED lighting at each

campus. Having well-lit schools greatly improves safety, and the LED lights decrease the energy we use to light the schools. In addition to several other energy-related projects, we also completed some asphalt replacements so that our staff, students, and families can safely move around our facilities without tripping on unsafe surfaces.

Within our budget, which for 2021-2022 totals around \$143 million, the annual utility expenses have sky-rocketed and will be almost \$3 million this year. The bundle of projects we completed with ABM and some local sub-contractors is generating both utility and O&M savings of more than \$570K annually. Those savings are used as a self-funding mechanism for the project's construction costs, and, looking outward, eventually, provide savings back to the District's General Fund.

MOU with YMCA

This three-year MOU with the YMCA is for before and after-school services for our students at seven elementary sites. Like with other service agreements, the YMCA has access to classrooms, restrooms, MPR, parking lot, and playgrounds at these sites at times when they are not in use by the District. Four of the portable classrooms the YMCA uses are property of the Channel Islands YMCA, and all other facilities listed in the MOU are owned by the District. Also like other service agreements which provide ongoing services to our students, the YMCA is charged one dollar per year for the use of these facilities. Either party may terminate the MOU at the end of the then-current year with a written notice by March 1st.

Los Berros Windows

Los Berros Elementary was originally constructed with one building containing no windows. This building is in the back of the campus and contains rooms 21-26 and the library. To improve ventilation issues in this building, last year the Board approved a contract with KBZ to prepare a set of DSA plans for windows in this building. In late March, we received a stamped set of plans from DSA. The project was publicly bid including a May 10, 2022, mandatory pre-bid conference, and site visit. We received one bid for from Quincon, Inc. on the May 24, 2022, due date. Given the current bid climate, lead time issues, and increased risk to General Contractors due to material and labor issues, we don't believe re-bidding will yield much, if any, in the way of savings, and might result in a higher bid. It is our recommendation to move forward with this project using ESSER II funding.

Cooks Erectors, Inc.

Portable classrooms and accompanying ramps within LUSD are beyond their useful life and frequently need repair. Three ramps, landings, and railings at Crestview elementary are in unsafe condition and cannot be repaired by our own M&O staff. This proposal with Cooks would allow them to remove the decks, replace much of the angle iron framing below, and replace some railings so that the ramps, landings, and railings are reconditioned and structurally sound.

M&O Update

Our crews were busy this week with graduations, they worked hard to be sure all was set-up as requested!

The new boom truck was delivered June 9, 2022.

Our maintenance crew has been working at CHS since the vandalism incident. Our painters worked over the weekend to try and fix the paint that is bleeding through. They went every day this week to make sure the site was cleared. We are aware that they will need to spend time at the campus over the summer because the repairs are noticeable, and they will try to make the paint blend.

- All concrete has been removed.
- All of the paint has been wiped off the windows, however, it will take more scraping during the summer break.
- Some windows will most likely need to be replaced along with the broken windows that are being repaired. The type of window required for the locker rooms has been ordered and will go in as soon as it arrives. In the meantime, the windows have been secured (see photos).

The CHS lighting project has passed DSA approval and will move into the pre-construction phase.

The Ed Center paint project held its bid walk on Friday the 3rd.





Your partner in education,

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools