



**LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING**

February 9, 2022

Present: Ms. Angela Cutbill, Board Member
Ms. Lesli Stein, Board Member
Dr. Clara Finneran, Assistant Superintendent, Education
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Ms. Laura Kintz, Director of Elementary Education
Ms. Hallie Chambers, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Darci Miller, President, LVEA
Ms. Megan Glynn, YMCA
Ms. Julie Birkett, LVUSD/YMCA

The meeting came to order at 12:05 p.m.

Service Learning Update

Staff continues to work with various committees including Curriculum Council, Safety & Wellness and Pathways to update the Service Learning Graduation Requirement Policy. Staff review of data revealed that this policy had an inequitable impact on historically struggling groups of students, including students from low income, English learner and Foster Youth backgrounds. The recommendation of the committee, as we continue to revise and refine the policy, is to streamline the vision, and change the name from Service Learning to Civic Engagement and to align with the State Seal of Civic Engagement. The Board Policy and the Administrative Regulation will be brought to the Pathways, Safety and Wellness, and Curriculum Council prior to coming to the Board for approval.

High School Bell Schedule Update

Staff continues to work with the High School Bell Schedule Committee on developing a plan that involves shortening the academic periods to provide time for advisory and targeted intervention and support for students that are struggling while meeting state legal and audit requirements. It was noted in the committee that districts across the state are struggling with navigating the new late start law and because of that are having a shared experience of having to make quick bell schedule changes in a short amount of time. The Committee continues to meet and wants to (at the next meeting in February) lay out in structure what the advisory and support period will look like. Staff will continue to keep the Board and Pathways Committee up to speed as we navigate the path ahead.

PAEC Updates

Given the three year strategic roadmap for the PAECs and our desire to continue to serve our students and the community with a robust plan, staff has developed a recommendation to have two full-time assistant technical directors hired that will afford greater skill in the areas of sound engineering and lighting engineering, while also allowing for flexibility in their position. Originally, staff had a vision of creating a separate sound engineer and lighting engineer, but to allow for flexibility of space, and scope of work, the suggestion was to add the language of sound and lighting expertise to the assistant technical director job description. The Assistant Technical Director job description will be brought before the Board on February 15 as a consent agenda item.

Center EdX Credential Programs Update

Staff shared that Center EdX continues to grow in terms of its Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Program. The number of candidates have doubled over the course of the last year. Staff is launching an Ed Specialist Mild to Moderate (special education) teaching credential program. That Program is expected to launch in January of 2023. Staff will begin recruitment of faculty and the initial class in the month ahead. In reviewing this program along with the Early Childhood Education Permit Program, the general fund is receiving an additional 500,000 in revenue as a result of our efforts to support faculty and staff across the state. These programs highlight that Las Virgenes is a leader in developing the future of teaching and leading in our region.

Grants

Prop 56 Update

Staff continues to work with the LA Schools police department to develop a contract to have two officers support our Prop 56 Tobacco and Substance use mitigation efforts. Staff will keep the Pathways and Safety and Wellness Committees updated on these efforts.

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program

Staff is working with the YMCA to expand the Find My Genius summer program and to offer scholarships to students from low income backgrounds to attend before and after care as a component of this grant program. The program is designed and targeted for TK-6 students who are English learners from a low income background or foster youth. Staff plans for this program to continue for years to come, and the funding is expected to grow. The YMCA will be on hand as will staff when they present the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program application and summary to the Board on February 15.

Educator Effectiveness Grant

This grant continues to be executed in the form of developing our Early Childhood Education permit program and our micro-credentials program which were discussed at the February 1st meeting. It is also being utilized to identify and develop ways of supporting teachers through in school learning regarding how to support complexity of student behavior.

Grants (continued):

Reading Instruction and Intervention Grant

Staff has applied for 1.3 million dollars, and has approximately 13 districts who have signed on to become part of a consortium to lead the region in reading instruction and intervention strategies. This would form 15 different microcredential pathways in the area of literacy and language and would position Las Virgenes Unified as a leader of developing literacy and language pedagogical models in the future.

TK Planning Grant

Similarly, Las Virgenes has applied for 1.3 million to support our Early Childhood Education program, which is launching this June. 13 districts have expressed interest in joining this consortia. General fund will benefit approximately 100,000 per year as a result of either this grant or the revenue obtained from the consortia of districts.

Universal TK Implementation Grant

Staff discussed the implementation of the Universal TK mandate, which will benefit 100% of 4-year-olds by 2025. The grant has a process that is similar to the LCAP Local Control Accountability Plan in its development in that staff and stakeholders must form a committee to discuss everything from curriculum to facilities to teacher preparation and bring that plan before the Board of Education for approval. LVUSD has formed a TK Taskforce, led by Ms. Kintz and Ms. Louthian. Once the Taskforce approved plan is approved by the Board of Education, it goes to the county office of education for further review. Once that plan is approved, the TK Implementation Grant funds will be released.

Elementary Instructional Minutes

Staff is working with all elementary schools to create equity of kindergarten access at all schools through ensuring that full day kindergarten exists across all our campuses. Staff has been working to determine how to best align the site developed models in a way that affords students equitable access to minutes in elementary, especially with respect to the TK mandate.

Universal TK Planning Update

Staff is working with the teacher and administrator committees to review and recommend several elements relating to the aforementioned TK Implementation Plan. Staff are navigating areas of curriculum development, social-emotional growth, planning vision approach, and facility needs that will be needed to make sure that all four-year-olds have access to transitional kindergarten.

Curriculum Update

Dr. Finneran shared that, as was shared at the previous Curriculum Council meeting and previous Pathways Committee meeting, subscriptions to several blocks of curricular materials, including 9th-11th ELA and TK-5 mathematics, will be extended. Given the pandemic and staff bandwidth for the adoption process, as well as anticipated approval of the new state math framework this summer, staff agrees that this is a logical next step.

DEI Books and Policy

Staff has been working with multiple stakeholders who have requested our review of our policies regarding offensive and racist language that occurs in literature and how to best handle it. Staff are in the initial stages of reviewing CSBA policies as well as recommendations from other districts related to handling this important and sensitive issue.

4/5 Science Update

Originally, a phase out of the itinerant 4th and 5th grade science teachers was planned this year, however, in the current context, this shift has been delayed, likely until spring of 2023. Considerations such as staff training and materials will be led by Ms. Kintz.

Production Engineering Pathway (AME)

Staff is working with our Performing Arts Education Centers in an effort to develop a pathway as the AME pathway continues to evolve. Staff are looking to build a broadcasting pathway that leverages the advanced technology and facilities of the PAECs and allows and affords students to use those spaces to broadcast daily productions and build a new academy using current infrastructure around that. Staff will be funding this effort through a combination of Perkins and CTE incentive grant funding.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02pm.