

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
May 10, 2023**

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- Present:
- Ms. Lesli Stein, Board President
 - Mr. Angela Cutbill, Board Vice President
 - Dr. Ryan Gleason, Assistant Superintendent | Chief Business Officer
 - Ms. Kim Patterson, Director of Secondary Education
 - Ms. Jana Davenport, Director of Elementary Education
 - Mr. Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer
 - Ms. Tina Johnson, Coordinator of Libraries, Career Education & Outreach
 - Ms. Amy Aviv, Calabasas High School Principal
 - Ms. Carina Diana, Calabasas High School Principal
 - Ms. Kirby Brock, Agoura High School Assistant Principal
 - Mr. Bill Garrett, Calabasas High School Teacher

The meeting came to order at 1:10 pm.

ECA and Dual Enrollment:

Ms. Patterson shared that she and the assistant principals from both high schools have met with the new Pierce College Outreach Coordinator. They had a very positive meeting. For our students to be successful when taking a college course requires that parents understand the process and what it means for students' high school and college transcripts. Both high schools support hosting a kick-off meeting for parents and disseminating this information to those who cannot attend. They discussed the proposed new course options:

- College Strategies 1-Unit Course. This class could be paired with another course to bridge the differences between the college and high school calendars.
- College Strategies 3-Unit Course (full semester) This class could be good for targeted groups of students who are not performing to their aptitude and whom we want to see themselves as college students. This course could be offered to grades 9, 10, and 11.
- They are exploring courses not currently offered at our high schools, particularly world language options. CHS is bringing back ASL next year.
- Anthropology, Business options, and CTE courses that could provide credential opportunities.
- Students at Agoura High School have been surveyed to determine interest in a Vet Tech course to pair with their Sports Medicine pathway.
- Calabasas High School is looking at some arts, media, and entertainment courses to align with the new entertainment academy.
- Additionally, they are discussing options for after-school classes on the campuses of both high schools.

The Early College Academy has yet to reach the student population it had intended to reach and serve. There will be follow-up conversations about the continuation of this program when the new A.E. Wright principal is in place.

Entertainment Academy

Mr. Garrett provided an update on the Entertainment Academy. CHS has facilitated both parent and student presentations for current students taking courses that are similar to those that will be available. They have also contacted out-of-district students/parents interested in coming to the District for this academy. Students are filling out interest forms. The academy will have four pathways: Performing Arts, Film & Broadcasting, Production Engineering & Design, and Performing Arts. Mr. Garrett presented the courses that would be taken within each pathway. Many of the courses already exist; however, course names will be updated to make them more relevant and broaden the options for the curriculum. Five new courses will be brought to the May Curriculum Council meeting for approval before moving forward to Board approval. CHS is working with Ms. Johnson on marketing and outreach and with Ms. Lloyd in the permit department to coordinate their efforts in attracting enrollment.

CHS plans to host a student contest to come up with names and a logo for the academy. The top three will be presented for the Board to choose a finalist.

Math Adoption

Ms. Patterson shared an update on math and the adoption process/timeline. She explained that the College Board has been adding courses that are equity drivers for students, and AP Pre-Calculus is meant to be such a course. If approved through our Curriculum Council and the Board, LVUSD will be adding this as a course option beginning next year. Teachers will attend the AP training to teach this class. There was a conversation about the math progression of classes at Agoura High School, but it has been determined that the math progression will not be interrupted, and students will have options to accelerate or go from AP Pre-Calculus to Calculus BC. Three new math classes (including the aforementioned AP Pre-Calculus) and curriculum will be coming to the May Curriculum Council meeting: Pre-Calculus, AP Pre-Calculus, and Data Science. The intent of these new math classes is for more students to take four years of math and prepare students for college math without needing math remediation at the college level.

The elementary and secondary math teachers have come to an agreement on the math pilot for next year. All secondary and elementary schools will pilot *Imagine Learning*, Illustrative Math. *Imagine Learning* has guaranteed that they will be aligned with the Math Framework when published, and they have provided a semester of free piloting for most of our teachers. The middle schools may want a second pilot option with *McGraw Hill*. They will provide free online access for this pilot for one semester. We can potentially bring an adoption forward, mid-next year. There will be family math nights to give parents access to the piloted math materials next year.

Course Catalog

CHS Assistant Principal Diana and AHS Assistant Principal Brock have been working with CTO Jim Klein and District Librarian Tina Johnson to update the High School Course Catalog. Our CTE Pathways will be better articulated through this process. Ms. Diana shared an update on their process. It was a big lift to align the courses and update Aeries. They will be working on updating the courses in UC Doorways next.

Library Media Services Update

Ms. Tina Johnson shared an update which highlighted the investments made to District media centers and the ways in which libraries are supporting student success and how connected the work is to standards and curriculum within the following areas:

Literacy and Learning

- Curriculum
 - Adoption, Mapping & Distribution
 - Acer Support
 - Core Literature
- Library Book Circulation
 - Over 140K check-outs
- Weekly Classroom Visits with SEL, DEI and Digital Citizenship Lessons
- Student Engagement Experts

Community Reach

- Monthly Virtual Author Visits (Approximately 600 students/visit)
- Rams Reader Rampage (most elementary schools)
- Shows that Teach Sponsored Assemblies K-5
- Succulent Planting (all 2nd graders)
- Teen Book Club with LA County Librarians

Academic Success

- CAASPP Testing Support
- Supplemental Software Support (Renstar, IXL, AR, etc)
- Research/Database Training
- DEI Teacher Newsletters and library led-lessons
- Library Programming and Thematic Displays
- Makerspace Development (Ozobots, Greenscreen, Break-outs, Beebots, etc)

Mr. Klein reported that the numbers of students who are opting out of CAASPP testing this year has been greatly reduced, due to the proactive efforts the high schools have implemented to educate and incentivise attendance.

Ms. Stein asked how LVUSD will be addressing/educating students, given the emergence of IA and ChatGBT. Mr. Klein reported that we would implement digital literacy lessons to help students understand how to evaluate legitimate information and use this technology best.

Freshman Seminar

Freshman Seminar will be a priority discussion for Pathways next year. There have been changes to requirements that can impact this class structure: a social science teacher is required to teach the class, a semester of ethnic studies will need to be added to our curriculum beginning SY 25-26, and the health standards and the California Healthy Youth Act (CYA) that we're required to teach, will also need to be mapped out. In other districts, these are mapped through PE and science classes, which could also be an option for LVUSD.

Technology Mentor/PD Leads

Mr. Klein shared that the District started the technology mentor program just before the onset of COVID, which created a pipeline of staff available to help with the technology implementation necessary to pivot to online instruction. Districtwide technology capacity has increased as a result of the extended time with online learning. In order for the technology mentors to be utilized to the best of their ability, the District is looking at redefining/expanding this job description and using them as a conduit to disseminate information and strategies to build teacher capacity. They will be invited in and trained to provide mentorship. Sites administration will provide recommendations for current staff members who would be good candidates for these positions. The Technology Mentor title will be updated to an Instructional Support Mentor. The revised title and job description will be presented at a future Board meeting.

Ms. Stein asked if the District still utilizes the student population to help repair technology. Mr. Klein shared that this program is still happening, and these students are dispersed across the district and are very helpful during CAASPP testing.

CAASPP Testing

Mr. Klein reported that the testing had just started and has been going well. There were a few kinks and a lot of troubleshooting, but they could be worked out quickly. The District will use Smarter Balanced interim assessments next year for secondary, so problems in test administration will be worked out at the beginning of the year. Students are more comfortable with the technology since using interim assessments this year, and this will increase next year.

Other Business:

PowerSchool:

The PowerSchool data management tool was well received by District stakeholders on the District Data Team, and we will begin implementation in Fall 2023. The District will still use RenStar in grades K-5 for the 2023-24 school year. The new Instructional Support Mentors will be able to assist with the training for PowerSchool.

Parent Speaker Series:

Ms. Davenport, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Klein have been working closely with sites on advancing our parent outreach post-COVID. Ms. Davenport, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Esqueda, Ms. Johnson, and Ms. Peoples are meeting to discuss furthering our Social Emotional Learning and family support with our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives. Seven of our nine elementary sites have a DEI board seat or committee on their PFAs to work in an advisory capacity to support Ms. Peoples' work under the guidance of the Educational Services team. One idea they are considering is a Speaker Series for parents and families. The Chaparral PFA will coordinate this with the PFA presidents and DEI representatives. PFAs may fund these events. Ms. Patterson shared that growing students' and parents' cultural knowledge around inclusion and cross-cultural competency is an asset and a 21st-century skill our students will need to be successful.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm.