

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
April 12, 2023**

Present: Ms. Lesli Stein, Board President
Mr. Linda Menges, Board Member
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Assistant Superintendent | Chief Business Officer
Ms. Kim Patterson, Director of Secondary Education via Teleconference
Ms. Jana Davenport, Director of Elementary Education
Ms. Angie Falk, Director of Pupil Services
Mr. Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer
Ms. Valerie Louthian, Program Coordinator
Ms. Amy Aviv, Calabasas High School Principal
Mr. Garrett Lepisto, Agoura High School Principal
Ms. Susan Baird, AC Stelle Middle School Principal

The meeting came to order at 1:05 pm.

Student Data Analysis

Board President Stein shared that the Board of Education is interested in looking at our student achievement data including D/F rates on an ongoing basis to better understand what is needed to support student achievement.

Secondary principals were present to speak about the existing intervention systems that are being utilized to improve student achievement.

Data from D/Fs in math and English were discussed, noting a decline in ELA scores starting in middle school and continuing in high school. The following factors, which may be contributing to this decline, were discussed:

- The last secondary ELA adoption was designed to be standards aligned, however this has presented some challenges with implementation when teacher turnover occurs. The District will be addressing this as ELA curriculum and mastery in reading and writing will be an Ed. Services focus area next year.
- Secondary sites are holding data meetings with teachers to look at grading practices and grade distribution. Teachers have been appreciative of the invitation to review this data which will inform practices to better support interventions and student achievement.

- CAASPP Opt Outs: The high school sites are meeting with families to communicate the importance of students' taking the CAASPP tests to reduce the amount of students who are opting out of these exams.
- Math data showed a big spike in student's 3rd year (11th grade math). The district will be piloting/implementing new curriculum and is in the process of revising high school math sequencing and course options, which should help address this declining math score trend.
- Ms. Falk reminded the committee that 25% of the students on the D/F list were also on the chronically absent list. The district is working to proactively communicate and educate our students and families to address the post COVID mindset around missing school.

Data Dashboards and Training

Staff reported that data can be complicated to pull in real time. This has the district needing greater capacity to access quality data. The committee experienced a demonstration of PowerSchools which could enable stakeholders to more easily access and extract customized data and make data driven decisions in real time with the click of a few buttons. This type of platform can be utilized for grades K-12 and will integrate with our current assessment and the California Healthy Kids Surveys' (CHKS) social emotional health data. Multiple committee members shared that they've had positive experiences with the Powerschools platform. Assessing student services and intervention needs, make it a powerful tool to address student achievement trends. It has the capability to sync nightly with Aeries and our assessment platforms. The only manual updates that would be necessary would be if the District wanted to add original surveys during the year.

Secondary Intervention Systems

Middle Schools:

Middle Schools are utilizing a 2 pronged intervention system to address student achievement: academics and behavior/social emotional wellbeing. The following interventions currently in place have been working and middle schools would like to continue using these next year:

- General intervention for students who are struggling and need remediation. The District has been supporting APEX summer school for credit recovery.
- Continue to offer APEX credit recovery for students who are non-culm and/or students who need study skills, at every middle school level during the school year.
- Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSAs): All three middle schools have a TOSA to help meet the educational and restorative discipline pieces and the social emotional needs that have surfaced post COVID.
- The extra campus supervisor that has been provided to sites has made a big impact and has alleviated negative behaviors significantly.

Dr. Gleason highlighted some of the fiscal challenges the District will face if they are to continue to staff these intervention support roles. Title I funds can be utilized at AE Wright and Lindero Canyon, however, AC Stelle does not receive these funds and alternative funding sources come with restrictions.

High Schools:

The high school team reported that the flexible nature of the support period has been working well for high achieving students, however, not as well for lower achieving students. The team wants to provide more structure during these periods to determine if this block of time can be used more effectively. In addition, staff shared the following intervention initiatives which are taking place, or are in the planning stages for implementation, next year:

- Bell Schedule Support Period: Sites are looking at structures and professional development to make support periods more effective. Academic counsels will be meeting over the summer to develop this work.
- Push in lessons are being facilitated during the support period.
- Pull out sessions with wellness, academic, and college and career counselors are taking place during support.
- Data dialogues with teachers are taking place.
- Coordination of Services/Care Teams: Out of classroom staff are convening to look at Tier II supports.
- Sources of Strength teams are still developing. There is a solid network of students committed to this program. Plans are for these students to partner with our wellness counseling teams to push into classrooms during support period.
- Peer tutoring is still developing. It is being offered in the mornings and there has been some push in to classes.

Principal Lepisto added that being able to work with teachers to provide interventions and direction during support, and also working with counseling (wellness to academic) to support struggling students during the support period, will help facilitate providing solid interventions.

The team is committed to modify the current support period structure to make it more productive. Dr. Gleason shared that there are staff members who have expressed interest in changing the bell schedule because the longer class periods are challenging. Ms. Patterson has been working with both high schools to try to maximize the support periods.

Ms. Patterson added that as new math instructional materials are adopted and teachers are supported through implementation, more students should thrive. Newer instructional materials will align with new frameworks, offer supplemental interventions and the opportunity to utilize Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) from Smarter Balance and embed this data into the new dashboard.

Concurrent Enrollment Outreach

Ms. Patterson and the secondary team continues to meet with Los Angeles Community College, Pierce College representatives to plan the 2023-24 school year course offerings and have identified possible new courses to consider offering to our students aligned with their interests. Because the Pierce College instructional calendar does not align with the LVUSD calendar options are being discussed for ensuring students have a broad access to dual enrollment.

Center EdX Update

Staff provided an update to the Committee regarding the Mild/Moderate Special Education credential that was scheduled to commence in June, 2023. This Program will be temporarily delayed. Thirty applications had been submitted but Center EdX had not accepted anyone to the Program. The new target date for implementation is June, 2024.

Other Business

Course Catalog: Mr. Klein updated the Committee on the progress to update the course catalog. The curriculum and instruction teams from AHS and CHS are working with the technology department to update the courses and the course descriptions in Aeries which will sync with the new course catalog.

There was a request to discuss Freshman Seminar at an upcoming committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.