

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Board Members

William "Franky" Caldeira
Board President

Tom Blanco
Board Vice President

Janet Blevins
Board Clerk

Sarah Anne Read
Board Member

Jerri Thiel
Board Member

Senior Administration

Dr. Clara Finneran
Superintendent

Doug Sorum
Asst. Superintendent
Business Services

Brian Jaramillo
Asst. Superintendent
Education Services

Paul Bommersbach
Asst. Superintendent
Human Resources



Hapgood
Dual
Immersion
Classroom

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Finneran expressed what a pleasure it has been to welcome everyone back to school. She stated, "It is so wonderful to be on campuses when students are there learning and thriving." Dr. Finneran and Mr. Jaramillo met with Board President, Franky Caldeira and the student school board representatives from Cabrillo and Lompoc High Schools. They also delivered cookies to all staff throughout the district on Friday, August 18. The treats were an expression of welcome back and thanks for all working together for the students of LUSD.

Dr. Finneran announced that the District will be holding Quarterly Community Connect events starting in September. They will be held in a combination of in-person and Zoom formats.

Board Member Reports

Board members were very busy visiting schools and attending back-to-school events. All five were able to visit school sites on the first day.

Tom Blanco stated he feels both Lompoc and Cabrillo High are in good hands, stating, "We have really good high school principals at both sites." He also commended his former colleague and new LVMS principal Eva Luna for having an immediate and positive impact on the culture and feel there.

Sarah Read noted the excitement and ongoing preparations for the new year at Ruth, Hapgood and Fillmore elementary schools. The excitement the students had being together again was evident. She was impressed with how well the new lunch plan at LVMS worked.


Jeri Thiel visited Buena Vista and Cabrillo. Students and staff were happy to be back. She feels a new energy throughout the District and throughout the community. She shared that she even heard very positive conversations about the new school year while grocery shopping.

Janet Blevins agreed that she too feels there is a new energy in the district. She thanked Dr. Finneran as the source of that new energy. Ms. Blevins was able to visit first day at La Canada, La Honda, Miguelito, Ruth, LVMS and VMS, LHS.

Franky Caldeira visited La Canada on the first day. He met with the new student board representatives to discuss their role. He attended a very productive meeting with LFT leadership. He expressed how pleased he is with the partnership the District has with the unions. Mr. Caldeira acknowledged the work the Certificated HR department is doing filling open positions. He thanked the Behavioral and Program Specialists who are stepping into the classroom while those openings are being filled. He also met with Dr. Finneran in regards to the board self-evaluation.

Join Us at Our First LUSD Community Connect Events!

What's Happening in LUSD
Wednesday, September 6 ~ 4:30 PM

Via Zoom 

School Finance 101
Wednesday, September 13 ~ 4:30 PM

Via Zoom 

En Español
Tuesday, September 19 ~ 6 PM
1301 North A St.

Presentations / Reports

Board Approvals and Discussion:

The Board approved 26 consent items and 9 action items.

President Franky Caldeira announced that the LUSD Mission and Vision Statement draft was ready for sharing. Dr. Finneran explained that the statement was developed using information gained through the ThoughtExchange platform shared with staff, students, families and community members last spring and input gathered through observation. The document includes mission and vision statements, values, goals, objectives and short-term priorities that will be acted on this year. The next steps will included sharing with staff, students families and the community for feedback before finalization.

Board members provided some immediate feedback and will continue to work to offer input.



First Day of Kindergarten. A great opportunity to meet a new friend who likes the same shoes that you do!



Future for Lompoc Youth graduating class of 2023


Future for Lompoc Youth: Assistant Superintendent Brian Jaramillo welcomed Chuck Madson and De'Vika Stalling, Future for Lompoc Youth President and Vice-President. They presented information about the work they did with LUSD students at Lompoc and Maple High Schools in the 2022-2023 school year. Twenty-two LHS and six MHS students participated in the Future Mentor/Mentee Program. Program activities included job interview preparation, college campus tours, UCLA California Freedom Summer, learning about and reporting on community issues, a trip to the Museum of Tolerance and so much more.

Former LHS student, now Howard University student, Matthias Taylor, shared his experiences with Future. He stated that he did not believe he would have had the confidence to go across the country to college had Future not provided him the opportunity to grow in as many ways as they did. He adamantly supported the Future program and encouraged support from all.

Hapgood Fire Emergency Status: Doug Sorum, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented an update on the fire loss mitigation process for the J-Building at Hapgood. All non Department of the State Architect (DSA) repair items are now complete. The DSA has begun the final check on the structural items and receipt of the DSA report is expected soon. It will take approximately 14 weeks to complete structural repairs after DSA approval.

Vandenberg Space Force Base: Crystal Adams, VSFB Liaison, reported that there are planned launches on August 23 and 29. There are currently four launches planned in September.

Classified Personnel Update: Classified Personnel Director Lacy Gillespie shared an update on the hiring status of classified positions at school sites. Nine substitute positions have been hired since July 31. They include five clerical, two custodial, one student supervision and one paraeducator positions. There are currently twenty substitute positions in process, which includes DOJ clearance, completing the hiring packet and for paraeducators, taking the ESSA test. These include four clerical, one child nutrition, five custodial, five student supervision and five paraeducator positions. Since the last board meeting three paraeducators have been hired. Later this week interviews will be conducted for special education paraeducator and student supervision positions.

There continue to be many vacancies. Job applications are available at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/lusd>. 

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Education Center Board Room
5:30 p.m.

See More Information

August 22, 2023 Board Meeting Agenda



LUSD Back-to-School Night Schedule



District School Year Calendars

