

**SAN JUAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Curriculum, Standards, Instructional, and Student Services Board Advisory**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes – Approved**  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

<b>Arden Middle School</b> 1640 Watt Avenue Sacramento, CA 95864 (916) 971-7364	
<b>Members Present:</b>	Mariya Babiychuk, Kennard Harris, Kelsey Nelson, Mindy McIntyre, Susan Olsen, Veronica Schwalbach, Margaret Teichert, Myel Thelen, Catrayel Wood, Susan Zimmer
<b>Staff/Guest Present:</b>	Paula Baucom, Heather Brandt, Wendy Harrington, Liz Julienne, Nicole Kukral, Nicole Naditz, Amy Rovai-Gregory, Amberlee Townsend-Snider
<b>Board Member Present:</b>	Pam Costa
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Maggie Cooper
<b>Call to Order/Introductions</b>	Kennard Harris called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm
<b>Visitors Comments:</b>	

**Introductions:**

Kennard Harris, C&S Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 6:39 and read the visitor comment statement. Mr. Harris then asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Strategic Plan Report/Survey:**

Amy Rovai-Gregory, Director, Family and Community Engagement came to speak with the committee on the Strategic Plan update. Ms. Rovai-Gregory shared how in the fall of 2023 the district started with an intensive engagement process. Ms. Rovai-Gregory shared the timeline from the start of gathering feedback on the draft work to when the updated plan will be developed and implemented.

Ms. Rovai-Gregory shared with the committee the draft framework of the plan including the focus areas that will guide the work. The areas are advancing student success, prioritizing equitable practices, enhancing employee support systems, and investing in efforts to assist students and families to empower themselves. Ms. Rovai-Gregory then shared the survey feedback questions that they are asking to be answered through April 2.

Ms. Rovai-Gregory then answered some general questions about the Strategic Plan and when the plan will be approved and how soon after it's approved will we start working on the actions called out. Ms. Rovai-Gregory let the committee know as soon as it's approved they will start working on the timeline of actions and working with the different divisions and groups within the district to achieve them together.

**Report IIs:**

Nicole Kukral, Director, Professional Learning and Innovation reviewed the overall process and the timeline of 18 months from start to finish for the adoption of the new curriculum. Report IIs include the feedback from the teachers, the strengths/limitations of proposed materials as well as what textbooks have been selected and their cost.

Nicole Naditz, Program Specialist, Instructional Technology and World Language, Paula Baucom, Program Specialist Science and Health, and Heather Brandt, Program Specialist, History and Social Science (PLI) shared with the committee the purpose of the presentation was to show that they had completed the adoption process thoroughly and thoughtfully and to be transparent about critical information regarding the recommended instructional materials. The PLI team went through materials recommendations for adoption for history-social science, world language, and science, including which is a small adoption and a new course pending approval from the Board of Education for San Juan Unified. They also included the small adoptions that do not follow the traditional two-cycle pilot process as these courses are offered in a very limited scope across the district. The PLI team went through the selection criteria, stages of the adoption process, the materials cost for the 7-year adoption, and the cost of the consumable lab materials. They also discussed the professional learning that is offered to the teachers for all new instructional materials.

Committee members were surprised as to the small cost of these adoptions as last year was so large. The PLI team shared that this year the adoptions are small, so the materials and cost are lower than last year when we had a very large adoption. Committee members wanted to know if all the materials are available online and kept up to date. The PLI team shared that most materials that are on the Williams Audit and State Board approved materials are available online to our students. Committee members wanted to know if the materials are updated yearly as the world changes. The PLI team shared the process for that and how costly it would be for the publishers to update their materials yearly and the process to have things changed is long, that by the time they were ready to publish it there would be more changes.

Mr. Harris asked if there was a motion to approve the Report IIs. Susan Zimmer motioned, and Kelsey Nelson seconded. The vote was taken 8/0/0, motion carried.

**New High School Courses:**

Ms. Kukral presented that we have 5 new high school courses up for approval. Ms. Kukral explained if the course is developed at a school site, it must be reviewed by the department, department chair, and principal. They must make sure that the course is beneficial to the students. The goal for a new course is that it is A-G approved, that it creates relevant engaging rigor for the students, and that approving a new course supports the ethnic studies graduation requirements.

Mike Bender, a teacher at Mira Loma High School is bringing English 3: Ethnic Studies. Alice Fellos, a teacher at Del Campo High School is bringing Arts and Ethnic Studies. Both of these courses are to help support the new ethnic studies graduation requirements that are changing. Ms. Baucom is bringing the Advanced Placement (AP) Physics C: Mechanics and Elizabeth Julienne is bringing Advanced Placement (AP) Precalculus and Data Science to round out the 5 courses.

The committee had several questions about English 3: Ethnic Studies and reading materials. Mr. Bender shared with them that he has talked with other school districts to review what they have chosen and make sure that students have materials to read that may not fall in with concerns with students or family members. Mr. Bender stated that he would like to use this opportunity to have a dialogue with certain pieces and that he is anticipating concerns and is looking forward to having conversations with the students and families.

Committee members wanted to know if all high schools were able to have the new course added to all schools. PLI team shared that the new high school courses are going to the schools that currently brought them forward, however, any high school that wants to add it based on credentialing, enrollment, and student interest can add it to their schedule.

Mr. Harris asked if there was a motion to approve the 5 new courses. Susan Zimmer motioned, and Margaret Teichert seconded. The vote was taken 8/0/0, and the motion carried.

### **Math Update:**

Elizabeth Julienne, Program Specialist, Math presented the road map to Math. Ms. Julienne shared the math curriculum overview and support for the teachers as well as reviewing the California elementary and secondary adoption timeline. Ms. Julienne shared that San Juan will start the process for both of these adoptions in February/March of 2025, with the committee member selection. Then they will screen materials in May/June of 2025, with a pilot cycle starting in August of 2025. That will end in December and in January of 2026, the adoption committee will discuss feedback for each program and come to a consensus. In April/May of 2026, a recommendation will be made to the board of education with the Report Its being brought to the C&S committee in March of 2026.

Ms. Julienne then shared with the committee the different types of professional development that she has created and what schools have had these trainings. Ms. Julienne also shared the book study that is currently happening within the district with Building Thinking Classrooms and it has over 100 participants. Ms. Julienne then shared the Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) that have happened this and last year. The Math Hoops program is with the Sacramento Kings, where some of the students, this was their first field trip ever. Students attended a game and even spent a few minutes on the floor with them before the game. Ms. Julienne shared the STEAM clubs with Legos as well as small group after-school tutoring. They are even able to pull the students out of Bridges or Discovery Club and bring them back after their small group.

Ms. Julienne shared the next steps with the committee on building communities of practice, collaborating with current site leadership teams, and adding new ones. Designing a summer math learning opportunity focusing on 6<sup>th</sup> grade through freshmen in high school.

There was a discussion with Ms. Julienne and the work she had done to help support our students. The committee asked about expanding the staff development and Ms. Julienne let them know that she continues to work with the math department chairs and set up training as needed. Ms. Julienne also shared that she and her team have been working on what struggles the students are having and what is the best practices and strategies to help them. We are offering summer programs like Math Camp to help support them.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Harris asked the committee to review the minutes for both February 7 and February 28.

Mr. Harris asked for a motion to approve the February 7 meeting minutes. Myel Thelen moved to motion for a vote and Veronica Schwalbach seconded. A vote was held 6 yea/0 nay/3 abstentions. Minutes passed.

Mr. Harris asked for a motion to approve the February 28 meeting minutes. Susan Zimmer moved to motion for a vote and Veronica Schwalbach seconded. A vote was held 4 yea/0 nay/5 abstentions. Minutes will stay in draft form.

### **Chairperson's Comments/Committee Business:**

No committee chair comments or new business.

**Reports to be heard:**

1. **Board Member** – Pam Costa, shared that she had nothing to share at this time.
  
2. **Staff Members** – Ms. Kukral and Ms. Townsend-Snider thanked everyone for being there tonight.
  
3. **Committee Members:**
  - a. None

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Harris adjourned the meeting at 8:53 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Harrington  
Committee Secretary