OUSD Legislative Coalition

March 6, 2024
O.U.S.D. Board Room 3, 1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867

Present: **Mariana Flores** (U.S. Representative Lou Correa); **Sarah Mendoza** (U.S. Representative Young Kim); **Matt Kern** (State Senator Dave Min); **Tina Arias Miller** (State Assemblyman Avelino Valencia); **Ana Page** (OUSD Board); **Andrea Yamasaki** (OUSD Board); **Ernie Gonzalez** (OUSD Superintendent); **Heriberto Angel** (OUSD); **Elena Rodriguez** (OUSD); **Greg Goodlander** (OUEA); **Joseph Wilhelm** (OUEA); **Shirin Badrtalei-Shah** (Anaheim Hills ES); **Nadia Hall** (Jordan ES); **Wendi Forrest** (McPherson K-8); **Beth Brunett** (Nohl Canyon ES); **Arash Samadani** (Running Springs ES); **Wendy Wolf** (Villa Park ES); **Erin Flynn** (Cerro Villa MS); **Sonia Anderson** (Santiago Charter MS); **Eileen Hartfelder** (Canyon HS); **Kim Van Der Hoek** (El Modena HS); **Nicol Jones** (Villa Park HS); **Annette Cambiaso** (At Large); **Kathy Moffat** (At Large); **Kathryn White** (At Large); **Sandy Davidson** (Guest); **Neda Karem** (Guest); **Wendy Zuazo** (Guest). Quorum was established.

Call to Order: Kathryn White, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00am. Kathryn made an announcement that, in the interest of time, we will be holding all questions for presenters until the end. Our LegCo members will have the opportunity to ask questions first, and guests can ask questions at the end, time permitting.

Secretary: Nicol Jones presented the February 2024 minutes for review and approval. Wendy Wolf made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Joseph Wilhelm seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved. Nicol added that the purpose of our minutes is to have an official record of our meetings. Legislation unfolds over months or even years, so it is nice to have a historical record so we can track the legislation that we are interested in. These minutes are not meant to be a replacement for your own personal notes to report back to your units.

Treasurer: Eileen gave the Treasurers Report. We have had $175.00 in deposits over the last month, so our balance is now $1,607.92. We were able to change signers at the bank, but in the future the bank would like specific language in the minutes as to who is authorized to sign on our account.

Mariana Flores, U.S. Representative Lou Correa

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has been a big topic since the new FAFSA rollout has faced technical issues and delays. Representative Correa has co-signed a letter regarding the 2024-2025 FAFSA to the U.S. Department of Education.
- Mariana and Tina Arias Miller are both California Student Aid Commission Cash for College certified if anyone has any questions.
- There is no movement on their other bills at the moment.
- For their Congressional Art Competition, you have to reside in the district or go to school in their district to qualify with their office. The deadline is April 19 and they must have the physical piece by 5:00pm. Kathy Moffat asked if the art pieces are returned, and Mariana said yes, they are.

Sarah Mendoza, U.S. Representative Young Kim

- Their office is hosting their own Congressional Art Competition and their deadline is April 22.
- Their education bills are still in the queue. There were a large number of bills voted on in appropriations, so stay tuned!
- Congresswoman Kim attended the Cal Optima Orange Health Fair at El Modena High School last Saturday.

Matt Kern, State Senator Dave Min

- They have twenty-four bills and resolutions and most are waiting to get into committee.
- They have introduced SB1126 which would reform mandatory reporting law.
- Cal Optima appreciated all the assistance provided by our OUSD staff for the Orange Health Fair event.

Tina Arias Miller, State Assemblyman Avelino Valencia

- They do not have any K-12 bills themselves this year, but they are interested in what we are in favor of locally. Kathryn White outlined the Legislative Coalition policy, which states that any position/platform needs to be approved by the School Board. However, individuals are welcome to contact their representatives directly with their personal opinions, and that is what LegCo aims to encourage - getting involved in the issues that affect us. Nadia Hall asked if they have to go through CAPTA for input on bills. Kathryn stated that no, if you are giving our local legislators input as a private citizen, you do not need to go through any group. The bill does not even have to be education-related.
- They co-hosted the Cal Optima Orange Health Fair with Ana Gutierrez from Orange City Council. The event was originally scheduled to be held at Grijalva Park, but needed to be moved due to weather. OUSD staff was instrumental in making the smooth transition to hold the event at El Modena High School. Thank you to OUSD, Superintendent Gonzalez, and the El Modena High School principal for making it work. They received great feedback on the event, which attracted almost 700 people. Many people did not know these resources were available. They are thinking about focusing on the West Orange area next time.

Ernie Gonzalez, O.U.S.D. Superintendent

- Superintendent Gonzalez talked about our schools that received the California Distinguished Schools Award. Congratulations to El Rancho Middle School, Santiago Middle School and Canyon High School!
- Certificated OUSD Employees of the Year are: Jessica Koehler (Serrano Elementary), Andrea Lopez (Yorba Middle School), and Patricia Roman (Fairhaven Elementary). Classified OUSD Employees of the Year are: Michael Ciampi (Serrano Elementary), Katrina Burns (Canyon High School), and Kimberly Clarke (Fairhaven Elementary).
- ACSA Employees of the year honored several of our administrators: Katie Treat, Julie Lucas, Ashely Pedroza and Dave Rivera.
- Our Deputy Superintendent Dave Rivera will be retiring in June. We appreciate him leaving the district in such a strong position.

Elena Rodriguez, O.U.S.D.

- It is Read Across America this week.
- So far we have had three Parent Math Meetings at the secondary schools. Canyon High had a nice turnout, Orange High was pretty good, and Portola was linked to SCC. They will be scheduling the rest of schools within the next 4-6 weeks. The feedback they have received so far is: we need better communication, better math offerings, offer alternatives to Math III, offer a math night with resources, and more. Erin Flynn asked if there is an opportunity to change pathways or better understand the pathways? Elena answered that you can do both. They want to help freshmen understand the importance of their choices. Kathryn White thought it was great to connect our math nights with other events on campus.

Eddie Angel, O.U.S.D.

- For our attendance initiatives we like to celebrate as well as improve. Best attendance awards this month go to: Esplanade, Linda Vista, Running Springs and Olive Elementary Schools. The most improved attendance awards go to: Taft, Villa Park, Jordan and Prospect Elementary Schools.
- School safety is an ongoing issue. They have done a lot of enhancements from curb-to-classroom.
    - Our schools have received updated signage in English, Spanish, and Mandarin (at the campuses that teach Mandarin: Fletcher Elementary, Cerro Villa Middle and Villa Park High).
    - We have reviewed our fencing to make sure it is up to code. We are through Phase I on that project, and have installed privacy slats in high-traffic areas. Nadia Hall stated that for Jordan Elementary there is no privacy at the gate. Eddie said that this is in the works.
    - We are in Phase I of identifying buildings with clear numbering. Only VPHS has numbers for buildings on the roof.
    - We have Knox Boxes (which store a universal key for first responders) at most campuses, but El Modena and Orange High School still need them.
    - For technology and security, we are doing a pilot for an access control system at Anaheim Hills,

Canyon Rim, Chapman Hills, Fletcher, Imperial, Palmyra, and Prospect Elementary Schools, as well as Richland High School. Shirin Badrtalei-Shah asked if Anaheim Hills Elementary likes the new system. Some people like it, some do not.

- We are looking at implementing a Weapons Detection System. Not at school sites, but probably at Fred Kelly Stadium. Sandy Davidson asked if we have security cameras at Fred Kelly. Yes, we do. We also have cameras at all school sites, not just our secondary schools.
- We are also looking at our School Resource Officer program. We currently have one Orange County Sheriff and two Orange Police Department officers. We are talking to the Anaheim Police Department because we would like to be consistent across the District.

Ana Page, OUSD Board of Education

- It is Read Across America this week and it is great to see kids get excited for reading! There are lots to teach kids about reading. One great lesson is that it is okay to start a book and not like it.
- Ana is excited for Friday because it is pajama day at the schools she is visiting.
- She had the opportunity to visit the Hilbert Museum and is excited about their grants to provide transportation for field trips.
- Ana wants our group to know that OUSD is hiring bus drivers, and we can train them right here in OUSD. We need more drivers because our sports programs do not always get transportation.
- They are still working on the Student Bill of Rights. So far they have had over 1,800 responses. They are aligning this document with the original Student Bill of Rights. They are going through the narrative feedback now. We need to conduct a campaign to make students aware of the resources available to them.

Andrea Yamasaki, OUSD Board of Education

- Andrea said she loves seeing the increased turnout at our LegCo meetings and would like to get a photo after the meeting.
- Andrea spoke at the PTA Advocacy event in January regarding LegCo. Other districts were impressed that we have this committee. Irvine has a student version of our group that travels to Sacramento every year. Perhaps we could start a similar program.
- It has been a busy week with Read Across America and other activities. Thank you to all of our community partners for participating. We hosted four showcases at our high schools, and the math meeting at Canyon High School was standing room only!
- We would like to extend an invitation for our Legislators to visit our schools to see all the great things that are happening.
- She was pleased to attend the Lunar New Year event held at Canyon High School. The Fletcher Elementary students performed really well and it was a great event.
- Andrea said that she really enjoyed the Cal Optima Health Fair and appreciates all the representatives who were there.
- Andrea attended Sacramento Safari, but will let Kim give the report.
- Election Day was yesterday. For election results go to ocvote.gov.
- Ernie Gonzalez added that it is Principal for the Day tomorrow.

Kathryn White, Chair

- Old business - none
- New business
    - Erin Flynn asked for volunteers to be members of our Nominating Committee. There was a motion made by Nicol Jones to approve Sonia Anderson, Erin Flynn, Nadia Hall, Nicol Jones, and Kim Van Der Hoek, with Eileen Hartfelder as alternate, for our 2023 Nominating Committee, and Beth Brunett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
        - Please look at Article VI, Duties of Officers, in our Bylaws for job descriptions if you are interested in serving.

- Kim Van Der Hoek gave a Sacramento Safari recap:
    - She began by thanking Sandy Davidson, who organized the event for Fourth District PTA. The whole event ran beautifully!
    - There was an overwhelming amount of information, but Fourth District had talking points for all attendees: mental health and safety, and to continue to prioritize children and youth.
    - PTA has a list of bills that they support that is available in the Advocacy Communicator, available on the Fourth District PTA website. Andrea Yamasaki added that Fourth District will be putting a summary together for Sacramento Safari.
    - The biggest issue was the State budget deficit. The deficit is anywhere from $32 billion to $78 billion, depending on who you talk to. The Legislative Analyst's Office said that this deficit is in spite of good job growth and low unemployment. The Governor's idea is to use the State's rainy day account, but not everyone is in agreement.
    - Proposition 98 guarantees a minimum level funding for public education, but it is based on State revenues. So if the State budget drops, so does education funding. We will most likely have lower funding for the next three years. Everyone had ideas on how to mitigate cuts.
    - They are discussing the option of opening last year's books to make 'true' the condition of the State budget. If they open the 2022-23 year they would reset to $8 billion dollars lower than today, or "rebenching". This may not be constitutionally allowable.
    - State Superintendent Tony Thurmond gave an inspiring speech.
    - They broke into smaller groups and went to appointments with legislators and legislative representatives. Some members gave personal stories about mental health needs for students.
    - They met with Assemblyman Phillip Chen, and gave similar feedback. There is no consistency with mental health supports.
    - A summary will be coming of all the speakers from Fourth District PTA.
- Olive Elementary's 25th Anniversary celebration will be held on March 19.

Meeting was adjourned by Kathryn White at 12:08pm.

ATTACHMENTS:
Report of Financial Activity, March 2024
U.S. Representative Lou Correa - Congressional Art Competition flyer
U.S. Representative Young Kim - Congressional Art Competition flyer
U.S. Representative Young Kim - Student Opportunities flyer

Next meeting date is Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 11:00am – O.U.S.D. Board Room 3, 1401 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867.

For future meetings and locations, go to https://www.orangeusd.org/departments/board-of-education/legislative-coalition

OUSD LEGISLATIVE COALITION
REPORT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Wells Fargo checking as of 2/01/24	$1432.92
Deposit/Credits	175.00
Withdrawals/debits	0.00
Ending Balance on 2/29/24	$1607.92

Representative Lou Correa
FOR CALIFORNIA'S 46TH DISTRICT

Congressional Art COMPETITION



Winning Student will have the opportunity to:

- Showcase Artwork in the U.S. Capitol Building
- Travel to Washington DC
- Attend National Reception

Art Dimensions

26 inches x 26 inches
Depth 4 inches

Art Mediums

Paintings, Drawings, Collages: 2 dimensional, Prints, Mixed Media, Computer-Generated Art, Photographs

Submission Due

Friday, April 19, 2024
@ District Office: 2323 N Broadway, Suite 319, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

For Additional Guidelines

correa.house.gov/services/art-contest
Call (714) 559-6190

Young KIM
CALIFORNIA'S 40TH DISTRICT

Congressional Art COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL CA-40 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

ART DIMENSIONS:

26 Inches x 26 Inches
Depth: 4 Inches

ART MEDIUMS:

Paintings, Drawings, Collages:
Prints, Mixed Media,
Computer-Generated Art, Photographs

WINNING ARTWORK WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR ONE YEAR IN THE U.S. CAPITOL!

SUBMISSIONS DUE:

APRIL 22, 2024

QUESTIONS?

(714) 984-2440
CA40ART@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV



youngkim.house.gov/services/art-competition

youngkim.house.gov @repyoungkim

YOUNG KIM

CALIFORNIA'S 40TH DISTRICT

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

For more information, please visit ***youngkim.house.gov/services.***



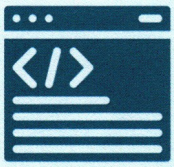
Internships

Our internship program is designed to provide students with an understanding of the core functions of a congressional office. We offer internship opportunities in both our Washington D.C. Office and the District Office in California's 40th Congressional District.



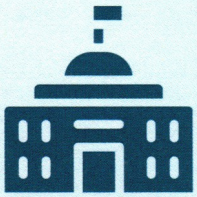
Congressional Art Competition

The Congressional Art Competition is open to all high school students in our District. Winning artwork will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. Please see our website for detailed rules, requirements and deadlines.



Congressional App Challenge

The Congressional App Challenge is an annual coding competition designed to encourage student participation in computer science and coding, giving students the opportunity to compete against their peers by creating an app. Please see our website for detailed rules, requirements and deadlines.



Service Academy Nominations

The Office of U.S. Representative Young Kim may nominate candidates for appointment to four of the five U.S. service academies: U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Please contact the District Office for more information at **(714) 984 -2440**.