

OUSD Legislative Coalition

January 10, 2024 – O.U.S.D. Board Room 3

Present: **Mariana Flores** (U.S. Representative Lou Correa); **Sarah Mendoza** (U.S. Representative Young Kim); **Matt Kern** (State Senator Dave Min); **John Ortega** (OUSD Board); **Ernie Gonzalez** (OUSD Superintendent); **Ken Miller** (OUSD); **Heriberto Angel** (OUSD); **Joseph Wilhelm** (OUEA); **Jennifer Carrillo** (OUC PTA); **Shirin Badrtalei-Shah** (Anaheim Hills ES); **Nisha Verma** (Chapman 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); **Kim Van Der Hoek** (El Modena HS); **Nicol Jones** (Villa Park HS); **Jolin Lang** (At Large); **Kathy Moffat** (At Large); **Kathryn White** (At Large). Quorum was established.

Call to Order: Kathryn White, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:02am.

Secretary: Nicol Jones presented the November 2023 minutes for review and approval. An clarification was suggested to amend the minutes that the Parent Notification Policy mentioned in the minutes was not a LegCo policy. Joseph Wilhelm made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, and Arash Samadani seconded. The amended minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer: Eileen is out sick, but Treasurer reports were passed around for December and January. Wendy Wolf gave a reminder about dues.

Mariana Flores, U.S. Representative Lou Correa

- They have some new bills:
 - Representative Correa has co-sponsored HR6031, the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would address bullying and harassment in elementary and secondary schools.
 - Representative Correa also co-sponsored HR3713, the Mental Health Services for Students Act. This act would provide \$300 million in funding for public schools to partner with local mental health professionals to establish on-site mental health services for students. It expands the scope of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration's (SAMHSA's) Project AWARE program (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education).
 - Also co-sponsored HR6613, the Preparing Leaders to Assess Needs (PLAN) for School Safety Act. This bill would provide resources to states to create school safety centers that will help local education agencies to conduct assessments of their safety plans and access grant funding.
 - All three of the above bills were just introduced.
 - There has been no movement on HR4519, the IDEA Full Funding Act, which provides mandatory funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Sarah Mendoza, U.S. Representative Young Kim

- For the Congressional App Challenge last month they had 30 OUSD students participate, with a strong showing from McPherson Magnet School.
- The Congressional Art Competition will be held in May and more information will be forthcoming.
- For their 2024 update, Representative Kim co-sponsored HR531, the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) which would expand educational choices for families and fund K-12 school opportunities. Nicol Jones asked if this is a voucher program. Sarah responded that this would provide nationwide private sector incentives.

Matt Kern, State Senator Dave Min

- There is a serious budget problem right now in the State of California, and they are waiting to hear how bad it will be. The Legislative Analysts Office (LAO) thinks it will be a \$68 billion dollar budget problem, but other estimates are less. We will see how it comes out shortly.
- They are putting their bills together now.

- Senator Min co-authored SB907, which would increase the Orange County Board of Education to seven members. This is typical for larger counties. Our current number is five. It would also change the election for office to the statewide general election to November. It is in the first reading right now.
- The latest announcement on the budget is that there will be a \$37.9 billion shortfall. There is a lot of nuance to these reports, but it is significant.

Dr. Ken Miller, O.U.S.D.

- He presented on our “Attract and Retain” program.
- We are doing Showcases at all four of our high schools (flyers attached). They are dovetailing these events with our open enrollment window, which starts on the 15th. This is the third year in this format, with the feeder schools performing from 5:00-6:00pm, and then an Open House from 6:00-7:30pm where everyone can take a look at the high schools. Jolin Lang said that Cerro Villa Middle School is also having a feeder school event on the 18th. Are the other schools also doing this? Ken said that he believes El Rancho is. While often middle schoolers visit the high school, and elementary students visit the middle school, Showcases are events where anyone can come.
- Kathy Moffat stated that she has enjoyed seeing the ads for OUSD in The Sentry newspaper. Ken added that they have also advertised in The Register and OC Parents magazine, plus we will be advertising on the Big A at Anaheim Stadium for the next two months.
- At the Showcases we can also display our signature programs such as farming and ROTC at Orange High School, the culinary program at El Modena High School, the Spyder lab at Villa Park High School, and the aviation program at Canyon High School.
- Wendi Forrest said that when Joe Erven was with OUSD he was working on a “one pager”, a single sheet of all the career pathways at each school to help parents compare the options. Eddie Angel said that they are creating flyers with the sports and CTE (Career Technical Education) programs at each school. We have a lot of great programs.
- Superintendent Gonzalez added that the Showcases also highlight our other spotlight programs at the middle and elementary schools as well. In this open enrollment environment it is nice to see what everyone has to offer. We have two middle schools with Verizon Innovation Labs, for example. Eddie Angel said that each student has different needs and we are always looking to enhance our programs. Nicol Jones asked if we are still going to develop one sheet for all the schools, or is it one sheet per school? Wendi Forrest added that for the Orange Unified Public Schools Foundation it would be nice to have something to market the District as a whole. Eddie said that they have that, but not in a good marketing format right now.
- Arash Samadani asked if you apply for open enrollment, are you likely to get it? Eddie Angel said that there is a priority list. If your child is already attending the school, they are more likely to be able to return. New open enrollment students are probably number 4-5 on the list of priorities, and there is the impact of special programs and a limit due to classroom size. Elementary can be tough, but there is a higher success rate at the middle and high schools, but maybe not for specific programs.
- Kathryn White stated that Canyon High’s aviation program is very successful. Where are we in creating new programs, such as pre-law, law enforcement, bookkeeping, just to name a few? Ken Miller said that we are always in evaluation mode with all of our programs. Superintendent Gonzalez added that the students also vote with their feet - some programs succeed while others dwindle. Canyon High now has a Business CTE pathway, and El Modena now has a Construction CTE pathway. There are some that are reworked, and some that are brand new. Kathryn asked how do we decide which programs go to which schools? Superintendent Gonzalez said that most school sites look at their own communities and respond.
- Wendy Wolf asked about the Math Focus Groups. They are conducting them at school sites right now. They do not yet have a date for the next Math Task Force. Kathryn White said that Orange High School is not on a block schedule, and they have had big gains in math. Are we continuing to look at the block versus traditional schedule? Superintendent Gonzalez said that if you change to the block schedule you need professional development to make sure that our instructors are making the best use of that time.

John Ortega, OUSD Board of Education

- There will be a OUSD Board of Education meeting next Thursday. The agenda is still being put together. The February meeting will be coming up quickly after that, on February 8.

- John and Superintendent Ernie Gonzalez explained that OUSD will be convening a 7/11 Commission. It is so called because it cannot have less than 7 or more than 11 members. Members need to fill a certain role and have certain credentials. This Commission will be reviewing our assets to look at best options and make recommendations and present them to the Board of Education. Jolin Lang asked how can people apply to be on the commission? Superintendent Gonzalez responded that something will be posted.

Kathryn White, Chair

- Old business
 - Kathryn gave another reminder for dues. Nadia Hall asked what the dues pay for, and Nicol Jones responded that the dues are used to fund a representative to attend the annual Sacramento Safari legislative trip (must also be a PTA member to attend). However, the cost to attend that event is considerable, so even if all members pay dues, we will probably not have enough money to send someone every year.
 - This year Andrea Yamasaki is attending for OUC PTA and Kim Van Der Hoek is attending for El Modena High School, so we will have LegCo members who will be able to report back to us about the event, without paying to send someone ourselves if we choose to go that route. There was discussion regarding a partial reimbursement for the El Modena representative.
- Nadia Hall said that Jordan Elementary received attendance awards for best attendance and most improved attendance. This was really cool and the kids were thrilled with the barbeque and pizza parties. Eddie Angel said that they have had a 2% increase in attendance due to this program. There was a drop in November/December, but overall there is a 2% increase. They are now looking at how to motivate high school kids. They are talking about food trucks and other motivators.

Meeting was adjourned by Kathryn White at 11:59am.

ATTACHMENTS:

Report of Financial Activity, December 2023
Report of Financial Activity, January 2024
OUSD Showcase Flyer
OUSD Showcase Business Display Card

Next meeting date is Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 11:00am – O.U.S.D. Board Room 3

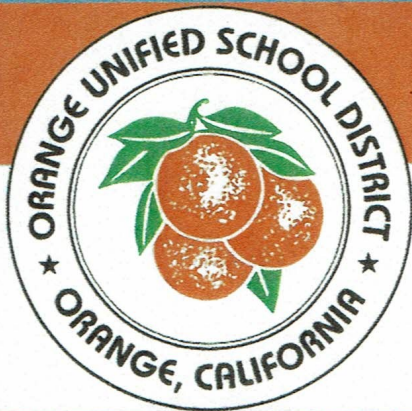
For future meetings and locations, go to <https://www.orangeusd.org/departments/board-of-education/legislative-coalition>

OUSD LEGISLATIVE COALITION
REPORT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
Wednesday, December 1, 2023

Wells Fargo checking as of 11/01/23	\$1432.92
Deposit/Credits	0.00
Withdrawals/debits	0.00
Ending Balance on 11/30/23	\$1432.92

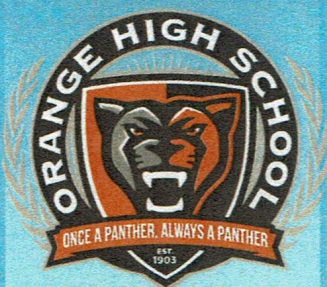
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REPORT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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WE ARE OUSD

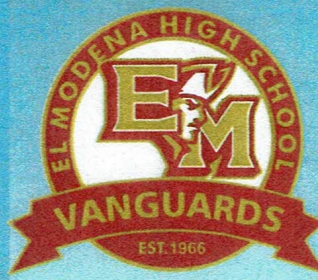
High School Showcases & Community Open Houses 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.



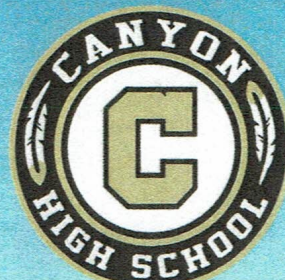
January 24



January 31



February 7



February 21

School Choice Fair • TK-12 Performances • Food Trucks



SEE THE BEST OF OUR SCHOOLS!

For more showcase details and
enrollment information visit

WWW.ORANGEUSD.ORG/SHOWCASES



WE ARE OUSD

High School Showcases & Community Open Houses

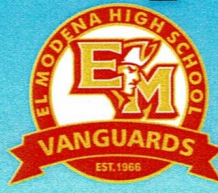
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.



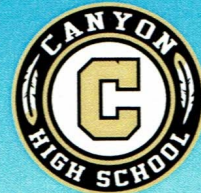
January 24



January 31



February 7



February 21

School Choice Fair • TK-12 Presentations • Food Trucks

SEE THE BEST OF OUR SCHOOLS!



Open Enrollment and
New Student Enrollment
begin the week of January 15

For more showcase details and
enrollment information visit

WWW.ORANGEUSD.ORG/SHOWCASES