

## **Mt. Diablo Unified School District**

### **Parent Advisory Committee Meeting**

**September 24, 2024 5:30 - 7pm Willow Creek Center**

#### **MDUSD Representatives:**

Samantha Allen, Dr. Adam Clark, Erin DeMartini, Ruth Steele

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

Samantha Allen welcomed everyone and introduced herself as the new Chief of Educational Services. She invited everyone to introduce themselves and proceeded to review the role and goals of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC).

The purpose of the PAC is to support, encourage, and improve the quality of education and the well-being of all students within Mt. Diablo Unified School District. The PAC's mission is to engage families to help shape education policy and represent diverse parent voices in statewide decision-making processes. The PAC is committed to closing achievement gaps and creating authentic engagement opportunities that lead to transformative outcomes for California students.

### **II. Review of LCAP Goals**

- **Goal 1:** All students will receive a high-quality education in a safe and welcoming environment with high expectations and rigorous instruction aligned with California State Standards, preparing them for college and careers.
- **Goal 2:** Highly qualified, culturally proficient, and responsive staff will create a safe and engaging learning environment, respectful of all students' backgrounds, ensuring they are college- and career-ready upon graduation.
- **Goal 3:** Families and community members will be informed, engaged, and empowered as partners with MDUSD to support student learning and improve student outcomes.
- **Goal 4:** Focal student groups—including African American students, Foster Youth, students experiencing homelessness, students with IEPs, and multilingual students—will experience culturally responsive practices and rigorous instruction in an environment that fosters trust and inclusive partnerships between students, families, and staff.
- **Goal 5:** By June 2026, all students at Crossroads High School and Olympic High School will demonstrate a 6% increase in attendance rates and on-track graduation rates, contributing to a 6% increase in overall graduation rates.

### **III. District Updates – Dr. Adam Clark**

Dr. Adam Clark introduced himself and shared his career path, highlighting his roles as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. He expressed excitement about the current school year, noting the district's proactive hiring efforts that helped minimize classroom disruptions.

Dr. Clark also emphasized that MDUSD is fully staffed with special education teachers.

Dr. Clark discussed the transition to a centralized enrollment system at Willow Creek Center, which streamlines the enrollment process for families with multiple children. He noted that the center was particularly busy during the summer months, but the process went smoothly.

Dr. Clark provided an update on Measure J bond-funded projects, including major HVAC upgrades at many schools and comprehensive classroom refurbishments at Rio Vista, Mt. Diablo Elementary, and Meadow Homes. These schools received new furniture and technology, with additional upgrades planned for their offices and libraries in the next phase.

The district also focused heavily on professional development over the summer, particularly in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math, with an emphasis on early reading (Grades K–3). Both teachers and administrative staff participated in these trainings.

He discussed preliminary test score data, noting that 45% of students met or exceeded grade-level expectations in ELA and 37% in Math. Dr. Clark explained that the district analyzes this data by student groups to develop targeted strategies for improvement, which include increased support from counselors, social workers, and professional development for staff. Dr. Clark explained that when we have groups of students that don't progress over multiple years the state basically directs us and mandates us to come up with strategies and programs to meet the needs of those students. In response to this mandate we are providing professional development for all our certificated staff.

Dr. Clark touched on the introduction of Yondr cell phone pouches, which were piloted at Olympic High School and are now being used at Mt. Diablo High School and Ygnacio Valley High School. The initiative has reduced discipline issues and improved student engagement. He shared anecdotes of students actively engaging with each other, even setting up volleyball games during lunch.

On school safety, Dr. Clark discussed the district's comprehensive safety plans, which include physical security measures (e.g., gates and locks) and social-emotional support through counselors, social workers, and wellness centers. He also noted that we have wellness centers in all of our high schools and those are now trickling down to our middle schools. The district has also updated its camera systems and provided active shooter training for staff.

#### **IV. Table Talk**

Samantha Allen asked attendees to form small groups and discuss three things that are going well at their site, two questions they may have, and one concern. These discussions will help shape future PAC meeting topics.

#### **V. Future PAC Meetings**

- October 22, 2024
- November 19, 2024
- December 17, 2024
- January 28, 2025
- February 25, 2025
- March 25, 2025
- April 22, 2025
- May 27, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.