



Los Alamitos Unified School District

Operations Steering Committee
March 26, 2025

MEETING SUMMARY

Assistant Superintendent Elvia Schnur, called the Operations Steering Committee to order at 6:02 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

Attendees

Ada Jaspers	Amy Coltey	Andrew Pulver	Annie Ryu
Ashley Davitt	Ashley Rogers	Beth Pearson	Bill DeWitt
C.J. Knowland	Darielle Tom	David Platt	David Sacks
Diana Hill	Elvia Schnur	Emma Leach	Evelyn Garcia
Gary Willems	Gizem Gulec	Jacob Arnold	Jason Farvour
Jeannette Andruss	Jenny Padilla	Jenny Wampler	Jodi Hutchinson
John Olvera	Jorge Gutierrez	Julia Stockman	Kathy Morelli
Kerri Pallone	Lakisha Quiller	Lindsey Dick	Matt Bragman
Matt Maya	Meggan Berthold	Melissa Majak	Merwin Trinidad
Michelle Anderson	Ondrea Reed	Ryan Weiss-Wright	Shamali Golea
Shoshana Dornblaser	Tamara Smith	Tim Golden	Tina Fenner
Todd Schmidt	Trisha Murphy	Wendy Wood	

Welcome

Elvia Schnur welcomed the committee. Dr. Pulver also greeted the attendees and introduced new Board of Education member Matt Bragman. Mr. Bragman thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to reach out to him anytime. Dr. Pulver also introduced the new Director of Fiscal Services, Tim Golden.

(3-12) Standardized Testing Data

Ondrea Reed provided an overview of various mathematics achievement metrics. CAASPP, which is a standardized test administered in grades 3-8 and grade 11, has LAUSD ranked third in Mathematics. In 2023 66% of students were considered proficient which dropped 1% in 2024 to 65%. This is still significantly higher than the State (34%) and County (48%) figures. Proficiency at the elementary level is 77% with the State at 41% and the County at 53%. LAUSD middle schools had 61% of students proficient compared to the State figure of 33% and the County at 47%. The District has put together a Secondary Math Collaborative to look at students needs and putting intervention programs in place.

At the high school level, in 2024 50% of LAUSD students were proficient in Math, much higher than the State (28%) and County (39%). This is a 3% increase from 2023. High school data is really a summative assessment of Math skills since students in 11th grade are enrolled in any of nine different Math courses.

While CAASP scores may be used for placement into college level English and Math classes at CSU and community college, they are not used in the admission process and mostly reflect

accomplishments at the school level. More meaningful metrics are the SAT/ACT which are used by the majority of four-year colleges and universities for admission purposes, AP classes and “a-g” completion which are the requirements that must be met for admission to UC/CSU schools. Average SAT/ACT Math scores in LAUSD are 629 and 26.8 as compared to the national average which is 505 and 19 respectively. From 2017 to 2024, the LAHS average Math SAT score has increased 35 points while the state average increased one point and the national average decreased 26 points.

The five-year average of completion of a Mathematics AP course at LAHS is 33.5% with an 82% passage rate. The five-year average of “a-g” completion at LAHS is 76% which is 20% higher than the state average of 56%. Griffins are 20% more likely to complete an Algebra II or higher math course in high school compared to other graduates in California. Students who complete “a-g” requirements while in high school are twice as likely to graduate from college. In 2023-2024, 81.21% of seniors met “a-g” requirements. The most common reason students do not complete “a-g” requirements is that they did not pass Algebra II.

SB114: CA’s Dyslexia Mandate

Senate Bill 114 went into effect on January 1, 2024 requiring schools to screen students in kindergarten through 2nd grade for reading delays, including dyslexia. An approved list of screening instruments was released by the state and districts must take board action on at least one and provide this screening in the 2025-26 school year.

Ondrea Reed explained that Dyslexia is a neurobiological disability and the brain can physically change and improve the ability to read with intervention that breaks down language and teaches the reader to decode based on syllable types and spelling rules. Dyslexia is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and poor spelling and decoding abilities. Difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities.

Students in kindergarten through 2nd grade must be assessed for the risk of reading difficulties each year using the adopted instrument. Schools must provide notice to parents and give them the opportunity to opt out of the screening. Students enrolled in a school after the screening has been administered to other students in that grade, must be screened within 45 days of the student’s enrollment unless parents opt out. No more than 45 days after the screening, parents will be notified of the results and availability of services if they are identified as being at risk for reading difficulties.

Facilities Projects Update

CJ Knowland gave an update on the current construction projects that are in progress. Construction of the new three-court gymnasium at LAHS is expected to be completed this summer. Current work involves the interior finishes such as paint and installation of the basketball hoops. In mid-April the gymnasium will be climatized which is needed in order to install the court flooring. A new scoreboard for the track and field area will be installed on the exterior of the new gymnasium.

Also scheduled for summer, is renovation of LAHS classrooms in the 500 and 700 buildings along with the Band and Jazz classrooms in the Performing Arts Center. The project includes new paint, flooring, ceiling tiles, acoustical wall treatments and installation of instrument lockers.

The project scope for the upgrades to the PAC includes improved lighting, upgraded power circuitry distribution, room acoustics, AV equipment, new seating and additional restrooms. The

current budget for this project is \$12 million and the schematic design is just about complete. Plans are anticipated to be submitted to the Division of the State Architect (DSA) in Summer 2025. The DSA review process will take several months resulting in a construction start date in 2026.

The LAHS restroom renovations project also requires DSA approval. All existing restrooms will be renovated and the modular restroom at the existing gymnasium will be relocated closer to the pool. Also included in this project is a new single use restroom for the Life Skills classes in the 400 building add a new restroom in the 800 building.

LAHS exterior renovations are being considered. The scope of this project has not been finalized nor have funds been budgeted. The potential scope includes replacing red tile accents with brick veneer, portable classroom removal, renovation of the fire lane, updating the lunch pavilion and outdoor seating behind PAC, exterior painting and campus branding.

The asphalt at Hopkinson Elementary School will be replaced at a cost of \$750,000. The approval for the design is currently under review with DSA which should be complete in April and construction should take place during the summer.

Plans for a new playground at McGaugh have been submitted to DSA. The District is currently responding to their initial comments. The project is expected to cost approximately \$175,000 and is entirely funded by the McGaugh PTA. The playground structure has been ordered and construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the summer.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Pulver thanked the committee for attending and for their support of the district and the students. Elvia Schur also thanked the committee and encouraged anyone with questions or suggestions for future topics for future meetings to email her.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.