

OUSD Legislative Coalition

June 4, 2025

Orange Unified District Office

1401 Handy St (Panther Lab)

Orange, CA 92867

APPROVED

Present: Mariana Flores (US Rep Lou Correa), Kyle Schwartz (State Senator Stephen Choi), Justin Massey (State Senator Umberg), Paula (State Assemblyman Avelino Valencia), Michael Christensen (OUSD), Heriberto Angel (OUSD), Lisa Green (OUSD), Sierra Vane (OUSD), Andrea Yamasaki (OUSD), Joseph Wilhelm (OURT/OSEA), Whitney Amsbary (OUEA), Beth Brunett (Nohl Canyon ES), Arash Samadani (Running Springs ES), Lindsay Whiddon (Serrano ES), Eryn Flynn (Villa Park Elementary), Wendy Wolf (Cerro Villa MS), Bianca Alcock (CanyonHS), Kim Van Der Hoek (El Modena HS), Kathryn White (Villa Park HS), Annette Cambiaso (At Large), Jolin Lang (At Large), Crystal Miles (Public). Quorum was established.

Call to Order: Kathryn White called the meeting to order at 11:03am

Secretary: Lindsay Whiddon presented the May 2025 minutes for review and approval. Joseph Wilhelm moved to approve the minutes as presented. Eileen Hartfelder seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer: Beth Brunett gave the Treasurer's Report. \$35 deposit, our balance is \$1,756.81. All members asked to pay \$35 dues from their organization/school. Members at large are responsible for their dues individually. Tax exempt forms are available. Invoices are available.

Mariana Flores, US Representative Lou Correa

- Fiscal Year 2026 presidential budget request-Trump's budget looks to cut 15% of education budget, Title 1 money is still protected. Students experiencing homelessness are no longer listed as a line item. The bill is being tracked, changes still up in the air. Rep Correa's office will send updates to LegCo through the summer as changes occur.
- The Congressional App Challenge is open! Deadline is the end of October. Winner gets to go to DC and the app is showcased in the capitol. HS and MS are eligible.

Kyle Schwartz, State Senator Steven Choi

- 2 bills in education SB529 (tax deduction bill) failed passage in committee. SB267 had passed 2 committees but then ultimately failed. Many things are not passing currently, regardless of party affiliation.
- Non-profit of Distinction (REACH Foundation from PYL school district) and several others. Photos are online
- Funding request submitted for Santiago Charter

Justin Massey, State Senator Umberg

- SB249 to consolidate county board of ed elections with general elections. Approved on senate floor Monday, and now continuing on
- Hosting a school district round table, June 18. Lisa Green will attend from OUSD.

Paula, Assemblyman Avelino Valencia

- AB1224 regarding substitute teachers passed Monday, heading to senate committee for consideration

Michael Christensen, OUSD Superintendent of Schools

Lisa Green:

- California Healthy Youth Act currently requires grades 7-12 (sexual health education and HIV prevention). AB2053 now requires instruction on abusive relationships and intimate partner violence. District will now include domestic violence hotline information. We are in alignment with the new bill.

Heriberto Angel:

- AB3216 Cell phone policy: some districts (LAUSD) have implemented different policies and have had varied success. We currently are collecting info via surveys from our stakeholders. We have gotten over 4000 responses so far.
 - Responses have varied. Students don't express as much concern as parents and staff.
 - Should cellphones be allowed on campus and if so, when? District has asked school sites to share current policy. Many allow phones on site, but require them to be put away unless absolutely necessary (ie: medical concerns, emergency, etc)
 - District-wide policy is required by July 2026. School sites can have their own specific rules as long as it aligns with the district wide policy.
 - Question regarding watches and other devices that give access to phones. This bill includes "smart devices". Discussion of liability, and who is responsible for devices being lost or broken (the family, not the district or administrators).
 - The policy needs to not add additional burden of responsibility of teachers/admin to police cell phone use.
- AB1885 (or 1858?): We don't currently do "active shooter" drills in our district (We currently do lockdown/shelter in place drills each quarter). Next school year we will roll out adjustments including age appropriate language, demonstrations, debrief. The bill has good intentions but some other school districts implemented very high intensity drills with realistic drills/scenarios. OUSD is looking to roll it out in a less frightening/ triggering way—including communication, being able to debrief and advise parents/teachers.

Andrea Yamasaki, OUSD Board Trustee

- Expresses thanks to this group for input and commitment
- Approaching end of school year, graduations next week
- Dr. Monarres beginning July 1. Working on an entry plan. Planning to meet 100 people/groups in the first 100 days to listen and to learn.

Sierra Vane, OUSD Board Trustee

- Echoes thanks to group, glad to have the opportunity to engage
- Recent visits included Jordan, Prospect, Panorama, Chapman Hills, etc. Will continue with school site visits in the fall
- Thanks to Mike Christianson working with Dr. Monarres on a smooth transition
- Today is the retired teachers celebration

Old Business:

- Google Form: Please complete to provide information for 2025-26 LegCo representatives!
- <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtMagPXZyTRcetEdyaO2uC6kxnsdzMQzFnDT0MQn55j1GWtw/viewform?usp=sharing>

New Business:

- Calendar is out for the 25-26 school year
 - 9/3, 10/1, 11/5, 1/14, 2/4, 3/4, 4/8, 5/6, 6/3

Discussion/Announcements

- OUPSF: on behalf of Nicol Jones—thanks to Senator Choi’s office for recognizing them
- LegCo Chair remarks: Kathryn has been here for 16 years and is grateful for our district, thanks to federal/state partners, OUSD reps, parents, teachers, admin. Special thanks to Dr. Christianson’s leadership and team.
- Recognition of Kathryn from all legislative offices!

Meeting was adjourned by Kathryn White at 11:51am

ATTACHMENTS: none

Next meeting: September 3, 2025

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Questions or comments: OUSDLegCo@gmail.com

For future meetings information and past minutes, go to:

<https://www.orangeusd.org/departments/board-of-education/legislative-coalition>