

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING**

April 27, 2021

Present: Emily Austin, Su Baird, Chad Bloom, Melissa Brennan, Kirby Brock, Hazelle Cato, Marnie Davis, Karrie DeMarco, Dana Dickson, Sara Exner, Dr. Clara Finneran, Rochelle Gagliardi, Ryan Gleason, Nicole Goldstein, Bob Hackett, Lisa Hatfield, Mary Hazlett, Christina Heredia, Tina Johnson, Paula Johnson, Jennifer Kestenbaum, Laura Kintz, Kiyomi Kowalski, Kelly Lampert, Thomas Liu, Dr. Stephanie McClay, Nadia Rizk, Amy Rosen, Vanessa Savich, Lesli Stein, Monette Thomas, Dr. Kate Vadehra, Adam Weinstein

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Mr. Gleason.

Board of Education member Dr. Vadehra greeted the Council and thanked them for their continued time and participation.

Mr. Gleason shared that Agoura High School representatives would be joining the meeting to speak about coherence across their International Baccalaureate (IB), dual immersion, and sports medicine pathways. The role of Curriculum Council this year has been to serve multiple tracks: approving new courses, consolidating courses, and ensuring that the offering of courses and curriculum meets the needs of all stakeholders in our community. A group of stakeholders, the supplemental curriculum subcommittee have been meeting over the last couple months and are recommending a school library edition so that all 14 libraries are aligned to the IDJA (Identity, Diversity, Justice, Action) framework in the social justice standards adopted earlier this spring. And a brief update would be provided from Ms. Brennan and Mr. Weinstein, who've been working diligently to develop the new Social Justice Leadership course. Students have signed up to take this course next fall.

Agoura High School: Coherence across IB, Dual Immersion, and Sports Med Pathway

Over the past decade, Agoura High School has expanded access to their academic pathways in an effort to continue to provide students with unique programs to build their futures. Specifically, AHS has seen the addition and expansion of:

- International Baccalaureate
- Sports Medicine
- Dual Language Immersion
- Visual and Performing Arts

As these Pathways have matured, there is a need to create greater coherence across the Master Schedule through identifying courses that have overlap, are mislabeled, or can be consolidated. This consolidation process will allow for the following benefits:

- More balanced class sizes through the reduction of singleton courses
- More opportunities for students to participate in courses across multiple pathways
- More alignment with an instructional vision in conjunction with the approaches to teaching and learning that all programs share.

The attached course consolidation recommendations were brought forward to the Curriculum Council as a single item in an effort to create the context for each individual course title revision.

Approval of Agoura High School: Coherence across IB, Dual Immersion, and Sports Med Pathway

Motion to Approve: Christina Heredia

Second: Rochelle Gagliardi

Approved Unanimously

IB Music Course Approval

Mr. Gleason introduced this course approval as an extension of the above consolidation plan. This is being presented as a separate item because it's a new course and the others were course consolidations.

IB Music is part of the move to increase accessibility to IB courses and to increase the opportunity for students to work towards an IB diploma. This new course provides:

- Coherence with the IB Program
- The opportunity for more students to engage in advanced-level music
- A weighted grade to recognize the rigor of advanced music pathways.

Jen Kestenbaum, Chad Bloom and Bob Hackett were on hand to answer questions.

Approval of Agoura High School: IB Music

Motion to Approve: Rochelle Gagliardi

Second: Melissa Brennan

Approved Unanimously

School Library Book Adoptions & Library Additions

The Las Virgenes Unified School District has developed central libraries that have evolved into vibrant learning centers over the last ten years. Our libraries have redesigned their learning spaces with flexible seating, makerspaces, color, and murals. Partnerships have been formed with city libraries to expand student access to books and research. Grant funding has allowed for the development of a vibrant author series. The #LVReads initiative has allowed for a focus on literacy for six years in a row. Additionally, the library has nurtured ongoing interest in reading through sorting the collection to match LVUSD's past and present initiatives relating to curriculum and instruction.

Over the past year, the Board of Education has adopted new policies, standards, and have participated in professional development relating to our shared goals of cultivating diversity, identity, equity, and action. To continue to provide resources along these shared goals, Curriculum Council has worked through both a subcommittee of K-12 teachers and the larger council to develop recommended fiction and non-fiction books in line with our new standards. The recommended investment would add approximately 20,000 books across our thirteen school libraries so that students continue to read and experience contemporary texts.

The Curriculum Council reviewed our lists and process and unanimously recommended the Board approve this investment.

Approval of School Library Book Adoptions & Library Additions

Motion to Approve: Amy Rosen

Second: Christina Heredia

Approved Unanimously

Social Justice Leadership Course Update

As part of LVUSD's social justice three year plan, Ms. Brennan and Mr. Weinstein provided an update on the development and recruitment for the 11th grade Social Justice Leadership class.

Updates below:

- Three classes across our two high schools have been filled for next year.
- The course has been submitted to the UCOP for A-G approval.
- Mr. Weinstein and Ms. Brennan have been working to align their scope-and-sequence through regular collaboration.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59.