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LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
October 16, 2019

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Mr. Scifres welcomed the group. This year's Curriculum Council includes four new community members, two new student members, and staff. Returning members will be continuing for their second year of the two-year term.

Mr. Scifres shared that the input of all Curriculum Council members shapes the direction of the Las Virgenes Unified School District. Decisions that will be made can impact the next six years as a result of curricular adoptions.

There will be seven meetings this school year. Because of the importance of the group working together collaboratively during the year, several activities took place to allow for team-building and uniting members from diverse backgrounds. In the course of these activities, members had an opportunity to review the Curriculum Council Structure and Guidelines and a Grade Nine through Grade Twelve Science Framework.

**Passport Paraphrase**

The first activity was Passport Paraphrase. Curriculum Council members were arranged in diverse groups so that they were able to meet and work with other members who came from different backgrounds. They were split into groups of five that were comprised of a mixture of staff, parents, and students and from various schools. In order to get to know the individuals that make up the Curriculum Council, each person made several statements including their name, the school and grade level/subject they represented, why they initially got into a career in education/became a parent volunteer, what specifically interests them in the Curriculum Council, and a fun fact about them. Person A made his/her statements to the group, Person B paraphrased the statements, and then shares their statements, Person C paraphrased both Person A and Person B's statement and then shares their statements. This continued until Person E who shared the entire group's statements with the Curriculum Council.

## **Kahoot!**

The members reviewed the Curriculum Council Structure and Guidelines documents which details the policies and work of the Curriculum Council. In order to reinforce the details of the document, they tested their knowledge with a Kahoot! quiz.

Key points that were highlighted in this activity:

- A Curriculum Council term is 2 years
- While Curriculum Council members do receive updates, share information, and collaborate, they do not have a final say on curriculum
- After a course receives approval, it then goes to the Board of Education for approval
- The Director of Curriculum and Athletics is a non-voting member of the Curriculum Council
- All pre-meeting information (agenda and supporting materials) will be sent the Friday before Curriculum Council meetings. Members are asked to review materials before the next Curriculum Council meeting. Minutes will be sent after each meeting and posted to the LVUSD website

Additionally, it was emphasized that prior to bringing proposed courses to the Curriculum Council, they will be piloted and vetted a year in advance.

Members participated in a Triad Inquiry activity to review a current science framework. This framework serves as a tool for schools and districts to prepare for implementation of the CA NGSS. This model serves as a tool to group instructional segments in order to create a series of courses that fit within the NGSS. The High School Three-Course model combines three courses (Living Earth: Integrating Biology and Earth Science, Chemistry in the Earth System: Integrating Chemistry and Earth Science, and Physics of the Universe: Integrating Physics and Earth and Space Science). Groups of three were made, so that they could review the material collaboratively.

## **Triad Inquiry**

Person A read two pages and shared a summary of their section. Person B paraphrased Person A. Person C then asks, "what from that section was most important to you?" This process was repeated, with the roles being switched.

Currently the elementary schools and middle schools are each piloting two respective programs in alignment with the NGSS frameworks. There is a possibility they will bring these programs for consideration in the January or February meeting.

In November's meeting, there will be in-depth discussion of items and courses, specifically High School Science. We are looking towards potentially shifting towards the Three-Course Model. There will be a potential realignment in high school with NGSS (California Next Generation Science Standards) frameworks.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.