



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

May 20, 2020

Present: Ann Berry, Ethan Castillo, Darlynn Childress, Vivian Ding, Fran Doucedame, Clara Finneran, Ellen Friedland, Lisa Hatfield, Craig Hochhaus, Jennifer Hoffman, Erin Howard, Laila Jafari, Kiyomi Kowalski, Tina Johnson, Tyler Lee, Amy Levy, Thomas Liu, Linda Menges, Douglas Morrison, Mike Roberts, Jason Rosenthal, Mathy Wasserman, Emily Ritchey, Bridgette Stevenson

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Mr. Gleason.

Overview of 2016-2020 Curriculum Adoptions

The LVUSD Board of Education adopted a K-12 science curriculum in spring of this year. This marks the conclusion of five years of core curriculum adoption recommendations in English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and World Languages. Additionally, the Curriculum Council brought forward over 50 A-G courses at each of the high schools in the past five years. The hard work of the committee was commended.

Transition to Post-Adoption Curriculum Council

With the adoption cycles complete, there was discussion about the work of the Curriculum Council moving forward. Two priorities were outlined:

- A. Oversight and support of the current distance and hybrid learning curricula that are being developed and adapted in response to COVID-19.
- B. Oversight of the implementation of existing adoptions, while also developing a standards-aligned scope-and-sequence for all levels to inform future adoptions.

The committee discussed these ideas in small breakout groups. The priorities were affirmed by the Curriculum Council, with distance/hybrid learning taking the most immediate precedent when meetings are convened next fall.

Curriculum and Instruction via Distance Learning

The COVID-19 pandemic forced schools worldwide to shift into a distance learning model.



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LVUSD faculty was able to develop and launch distance learning within two days of initial closure. Through navigating the steep learning curve for faculty, parents, and students the following successes, challenges, impacts, and next steps were identified in small group breakout sessions.

Successes with Distance Learning

- LVUSD had built an infrastructure of hardware, tech-based professional development, and accessible digital software.
- Teachers and students have been working very hard to be successful.
- Some students are thriving without the social pressures.

Challenges with Distance Learning

- Multiple platforms and inconsistency of synchronous/asynchronous instruction.
- Students have differential access to parent support.
- Socialization, friendships, and motivation can be issues at times.
- Accurate assessment of student learning.
- High risk students can more easily go unnoticed if not intentional about outreach.

Impacts on Teaching and Learning

- Independent learners and self-starters are thriving.
- Social impacts and learning through play require creativity.
- Teacher contact time is more limited.
- Physical education and sports are lost in distance learning.

Next Steps for Distance Learning

- Develop consistent expectations for implementation of distance learning.
- Develop systems for fair and accurate assessments in a digital learning environment.
- Conduct ongoing professional development for distance learning education.
- Maintain and continue counseling services for those in need.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.