



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

December 8, 2020

Present: Jenny Angel, Emily Austin, Susana Baird, Brad Boelman, Melissa Brennan, Kirby Brock, Jason Busby, Hazelle Cato, Darlynn Childress, Marnie Davis, Karrie DeMarco, Dana Dickson, Sara Exner, Clara Finneran, Rochelle Gagliardi, Ryan Gleason, Nicole Goldstein, Ashley Goulet, Lisa Hatfield, Mary Hazlett, Christine Heredia, Craig Hochhaus, Tina Johnson, Paula Johnson, Laura Kintz, Doug Kohno, Kiyomi Kowalski, Kelly Lampert, Thomas Liu, Linda Menges, Courtney Peoples, Nadia Rizk, Amy Rosen, Vanessa Savich, Austin Schwartz, Monette Thomas, Mathy Wasserman, Adam Weinstein, Emily Wigger

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

Approval of AP Government Digital Textbook: American Government: Stories of a Nation

Brad Boelman and Jason Busby presented an overview of the digital textbook, *American Government: Stories of a Nation*, which has been piloted with great success at both AHS and CHS. Two years ago, the College Board completely and significantly redesigned the Advanced Placement Government course. The textbook Las Virgenes students were using was adopted in 2006 and outdated. This new digital curriculum is aligned to the new AP course outline and standards. Some of the benefits shared for this curriculum were:

- Five units of study
- 15 landmark Supreme Court cases
- Hundreds of multiple choice and free response questions
- Will include the 2020 election in the adoption
- Aligned with the AP exam

Approval of the AP Government Digital Textbook: American Government: Stories of a Nation

Motion to Approve: Sara Exner

Second: Doug Kohno

Passed Unanimously



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Inclusion and Equity in LVUSD Curriculum

Mr. Gleason reiterated the importance of the ongoing work of the committee. An integral piece will be continuing to engage in critical analyses of how successfully inclusion and equity are incorporated into current curriculum. District Library Media Coordinator Tina Johnson shared that the District was invited to participate in a diversity audit, facilitated by Follett. This audit enables us to identify and provide data on how groups and topics of diversity are represented, as well as very specific dispositions of social emotional learning, within current ELA library titles. From this data, Ms. Johnson presented the committee with resulting strengths and growth areas across our K-12 ELA curriculum.

Social Justice and Cultural Proficiency

Mr. Gleason introduced a draft of a three-year plan, which is attached as an Appendix to these minutes, in an effort to achieve social justice and cultural proficiency. The plan identifies action steps in the following areas:

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Course Development
- Professional Development
- Policy and Systems

The committee broke into groups to review the draft. Groups were asked to identify pluses, deltas, and questions. The following synthesizes the recurring themes/recommendations from this work:

Pluses:

- Plan well laid out and easy to follow
- Professional Development emphasized
- Policy Systems identified
- Development of freshman/sophomore classes
- Rally Assessments can provide SEL data multiple times/year
- Pathways through community colleges

Deltas:

- Interest in independent audit (representative outside the District)
- Teacher concerns regarding PD, new curriculum, accountability

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- Need for parent, community education, outreach, discourse training
- Adequate training for equity taskforce
- Build in structured social emotional conversations with student led work
- Student mental health deficits due to Covid
- Possibly discluding students if current electives are replaced

Questions:

- How will addition/deletion of core lit work?
- More information on student district equity taskforce - how formed? Leaders?
Will there be one at the high school and District level?
- How will we examine diversity of students, staff, teachers?
- Will diverse groups of students be represented?
- What data will be collected for evaluation of 21-22 Restorative Approaches pilot?
- Implementation and inclusion of plan within special education classes?

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.