

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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SUPERINTENDENT

**LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

February 3, 2023

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Present: Ms. Lesli Stein, Board President  
Ms. Linda Menges, Board Member  
Dr. Dan Stepenosky, Superintendent  
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Assistant Superintendent/CBO  
Ms. Jana Davenport, Director of Elementary Education  
Ms. Brenda Cho, Director of Finance/Accounting  
Ms. Diane Hawe, Senior Accountant  
Ms. Dawn Quevedo, Accounting Technician  
Ms. Nanci Karas, Accounting Technician, Categorical Grants  
Ms. Ali Lloyd, Permits Coordinator

The meeting came to order at 10:05 a.m. Dr. Gleason shared the agenda with the committee.

**Budget Update and Forecast:**

Dr. Gleason shared highlights from the Governor's Budget which include:

- No plan to use Proposition 98 reserves/rainy-day fund.
- 8.13% COLA to LCFF and other programs (LAO Estimates 8.73%).
- Cut to Arts/Music/IM Discretionary Block Grant would eliminate a large portion of the funding available for rising STRS/PERS costs and other costs not addressed within LCFF
- Continuation of one-time funded programs:
  - Learning Recovery Block Grant
  - Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
  - Universal Meals

- Transitional Kindergarten

Dr. Gleason also discussed changes to Proposition 98, noting that the guarantee for 2023-24 is \$108.8B which is \$1.5B less than the guarantee in the 2022 Budget Act. He also noted that there are only two options for Prop 98 reserve withdrawals: if the Governor declares a budget emergency or it could be triggered by a formula.

Dr. Gleason shared K-12 spending highlights which include

- \$941 million ongoing for Arts & Music Initiative/Prop 28
- \$855 million ongoing for TK expansion and TK staff
- \$300 million ongoing for an equity multiplier to LCFF
- \$3.5 million ongoing for Narcan at middle and high schools

Dr. Gleason shared that the budget provides relatively little new one-time spending, including:

- \$250 million one-time for literacy coaches
- \$100 million for cultural experiences for high school seniors (about \$200/high school senior)

Ms. Stein asked if the District is monitoring how many arts classes students are taking and Dr. Gleason shared that they are looking into it. He also reiterated that the final budget will be released in June.

Dr. Gleason went on to speak about STRS and PERS, noting that there is no relief beyond contribution in kind that is in place in the current budget.

Dr. Gleason also spoke about accountability reform, noting that the Governor proposes policy changes to “strengthen the ties between the three elements of California’s accountability system: the LCAP, the California School Dashboard, and the Statewide System of Support”. These proposals include:

- Requiring LEAs to include specific actions and funding to address low school-level student group Dashboard performance in LCAP and budget, with ongoing evaluations that include parent and community input
- Improving LCAP planning and transparency by informing the community on how to use the Dashboard and other local data.
- Strengthening support for LEAs and schools generating equity multiplier funding through the creation of one or more Equity Leads.

Dr. Gleason also shared that there are no major changes in funding to the following programs:

- ELO-P
- Universal School Meals

- Transportation
- Learning Recovery Block Grant
- College and Career Pathways
- Community Schools
- Literacy Initiatives (except increase for Literacy Coaches)
- Educator Workforce

### **Proposition 28**

Dr. Gleason shared an update on Proposition 28 use of funding which states LEAs with an enrollment of 500 or more must spend at least 80% of funding to employ certificated and classified employees providing arts education. The remaining funding shall be used for training, supplies and materials, and arts educational partnership programs. Dr. Gleason noted that as a condition of receiving funds, LEAs must do the following annually:

- Certify that funds are used to provide arts education, and that funds expended in the prior fiscal year were used for that purpose
- Certify that funds received will be used to supplement funding for arts education programs and that funds received in the prior fiscal year were used for that purpose
- Certify that no more than 1% will be used for an LEA's administrative expenses and that funds received in the prior fiscal year were used within that limit
- Submit an annual report that describes the arts education programs funded and specifies how funds were utilized

### **Transitional Kindergarten**

Dr. Gleason shared that the TK expansion continues on schedule. He also shared that LEAs are required to offer TK to all children turning five between September 2 and April 2 beginning in the 2023-24 school year. The Department of Finance shared that the required budget appropriation for the shift to teacher to student ratio of 1:10 is unfunded and the current 1:12 ratio will remain for 2023-24.

### **Finance and Accounting Updates**

Ms. Cho shared that the current focus is on the preparation of the 2nd Interim Budget. Ms. Cho shared that her department is currently meeting with all sites and will be holding site budget meetings in March. Ms. Cho also spoke about the implementation of the Fixed Asset Module in BEST which is expected to go live in March 2023.

## Enrollment Data

Dr. Gleason shared that enrollment and marketing efforts appear to be making an impact on enrollment. Based on census data and the demographer study the District projected 9393 students for the 23-24 SY in December 2022 in the absence of any expanded enrollment efforts. Currently, the District is projecting between 9455 and 9865 students for next year while still accepting Inter-District Transfers going into the March 1st enrollment deadline. Dr. Gleason shared that increasing enrollment will help mitigate many cuts to personnel and programs.

School	Low Watermark	High Watermark	Conservative Project (Dec. '22)
Bay Laurel	450	461	445
Chaparral	520	569	502
Lupin Hill	389	435	443
Mariposa TK-5	305	326	278
Round Meadow	448	497	460
Sumac	336	345	330
White Oak	336	351	356
Willow	512	517	568
Yerba Buena	364	376	390
LVIS K-5	21	21	21
AC Stelle	762	795	756
AE Wright	613	648	596
LCMS	764	779	717
Mariposa 6-8	86	86	71
AHS	1801	1830	1692
CHS	1736	1817	1756
LVIS 6-8	12	12	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9455</b>	<b>9865</b>	<b>9393</b>

Dr. Gleason also spoke about the multi-year projection and shared that a salary increase reflecting COLA would have a big impact on the reserves.

### **Measure S and COP Debt Update**

Dr. Gleason shared that a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) will not be needed as projects that will take place before August can be funded by Developer Fees. The plan is to bring a resolution to the Board of Education at the February 14 Board Meeting. This will delay payoff of the COP debt.

Dr. Gleason also shared plans for a new development in Agoura Hills which would bring in upwards of \$9M to the Developer Fee fund.

### **Facility Use Fees**

Dr. Gleason shared that the District compared rates from multiple districts in the area and looked at the average facilities fees in Ventura County versus LVUSD fees. Dr. Gleason shared the findings and proposed a new draft schedule with multiple tiers. He will bring his findings to the Facilities committee and then back to the Finance committee. The District plans to bring the final proposal to the Board in April.

### **Categorical Grant Updates**

Dr. Gleason shared an update on categorical grants. He spoke about the Kitchen Infrastructure Grant which will be an approximate \$150K award to LVUSD and the Kitchen Equipment Assistance Grant which will be an approximate \$100k award to LVUSD.

### **Transportation Plan**

Dr. Gleason shared that a transportation plan will be brought before the Board in February and noted that it is a contingency for 60% reimbursement.

### **Rental, Lease & Litigation Updates**

Dr. Gleason shared that there is a social media class action lawsuit that alleges that social media companies have caused a mental health crisis among children and teenagers that is marked by higher proportions of anxiety, depression, and thoughts of self-harm, all of which severely affect their ability to succeed in school. There is no cost to the District to join the settlement. The committee approves joining the settlement.

### **Other Business**

Dr. Gleason shared an update regarding current rental and lease agreements.

The meeting came to a close at 11:35 a.m.