



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

December 1, 2021

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Present: Ms. Angela Cutbill, Board President  
Ms. Lesli Stein, Board Member  
Dr. Clara Finneran, Assistant Superintendent, Education  
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

The meeting came to order at 1:05 p.m.

**Service Learning/Seal of Civic Engagement**

As part of the ongoing discussion related to service learning hours, Dr. Gleason presented data regarding service learning, and as had been suspected, students with additional challenges, such as those identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged, have a significantly lower completion rate. Committee members discussed the challenges posed by the pandemic and the unique demands faced by socioeconomically disadvantaged families. Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Stein described the district-wide culture of service and how to sustain this culture while moving away from the service learning graduation requirement. There was conversation regarding effective models of service learning that include academic and social-emotional components for processing the service experiences. Additionally, Dr. Gleason shared the anticipated process for potentially moving to the Seal of Civic Engagement, including staff conversations, and discussions at Board Committees, such as Curriculum Council.

**Family Resource Center Update**

The Family Resource Center, led by Ms. Veronica Esqueda, is actively supporting multilingual families, families with foster youth, and homeless families. Ms. Esqueda also works with Ms. Kintz to support the bilingual aides, and supports Ms. Kintz with ELPAC assessments. Dr. Gleason shared that recently the Calabasas Rotary Club donated 50 holiday baskets containing food and other necessities, that were effectively distributed to families in need in LVUSD. Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Stein commented that they'd like to formally thank the Calabasas Rotary Club.

### **Social Emotional Data and Action Plan**

An ongoing need for LVUSD students throughout the pandemic has been to nurture their social emotional needs, and staff has addressed these needs in various ways, including via full time counselors at elementary schools and through use of the centralized Counseling Center. Risk/threat assessment numbers have risen, as have behavioral concerns. Professional development is being offered for staff to support students, and staff recognize the need for another full time counselor at the centralized Counseling Center. Dr. Gleason proposed the hiring of another counselor for the 22-23 school year, and Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Stein concurred with this need, suggesting that staff expedite the hiring for January, 2022.

### **PAEC Updates and Future Planning**

Dr. Gleason has worked with the PAEC and other staff to continue to consider how to best structure PAEC staffing, outreach, and ongoing planning for use. As was discussed previously, a strong CTE pathway utilizing the PAECs would be beneficial, as would increased long range planning, and reconsideration regarding how teachers, including theatre and music teachers, reserve times in the PAECs. Committee members discussed maximizing the potential of the PAECs while still making them readily available to staff and students. Dr. Gleason will continue to work with staff regarding ideas and hopes to bring back an outline of plans for the next three years.

### **Secondary Overnight Field Trips Update**

Dr. Finneran shared the District overnight field trip protocols that she developed in collaboration with lead nurse, Melissa Foster, and other staff members. These protocols include items such as: a requirement for all persons to test within 72 hours of departure for the trip, a requirement for a staff COVID Coordinator for each trip, and a requirement for parents/guardians to sign the COVID field trip form addendum. Dr. Finneran explained that some field trip locations have requirements in addition to the District's protocols, and that staff and students who choose to attend those trips would need to abide by those protocols. Dr. Finneran outlined the dates and locations of potential upcoming trips and explained that she would be bringing all of the currently proposed trips to the December 14 Board meeting.

### **Universal TK Update**

The planning for Universal TK in LVUSD, as required by the state, continues, with multiple taskforce meetings over the span of 6 weeks, including a conversation with current TK teachers. Ms. Kintz will keep this Committee and others apprised of action items.

### **Educator Effectiveness Grant Update**

District staff solicited input from site level staff regarding priorities for use of the Educator Effectiveness grant, and the vision for the grant was matched by staff input, which included: increased training on Social Justice Standards, increased training on social emotional strategies, such as RULER, and increased time to collaborate, including reviewing data, among and across

grade levels. Robust professional development opportunities focused on district priorities will continue to be offered.

### **High School Bell Schedule**

In compliance with state law, the high school bell schedules now begin at 8:30. Staff has been revisiting schedule options that comply with the law yet are more conducive to student success. Currently the two-hour periods are challenging for students and staff, and staff agrees that there are bell schedule options that could better meet the needs of students. Dr. Gleason has facilitated two bell schedule committee meetings thus far. All high school staff members will have the opportunity to see and discuss bell schedule options in January. Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Stein reiterated the importance of student access to support from staff, time for staff collaboration, and the alignment of the schedules at both high schools. As the conversations evolve with high school staff members and LVEA, the implementation of a revised bell schedule is expected next school year.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.