



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

October 13, 2020

Present: Jenny Angel, Emily Austin, Susana Baird, Melissa Brennan, Kirby Brock, Hazelle Cato, Marnie Davis, Karrie DeMarco, Dana Dickson, Clara Finneran, Rochelle Gagliardi, Ryan Gleason, Nicole Goldstein, Jake Goodman, Ashley Goulet, Lisa Hatfield, Mary Hazlett, Christine Heredia, Craig Hochhaus, Tina Johnson, Paula Johnson, Laura Kintz, Jim Klein, Doug Kohno, Kiyomi Kowalski, Kelly Lampert, Amy Levy, Thomas Liu, Linda Menges, Noah Murray, Courtney Peoples, Nadia Rizk, Amy Rosen, Vanessa Savich, Monette Thomas, Mathy Wasserman, Adam Weinstein, Emily Wigger, Melanie Wright

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. by Mr. Gleason.

Introduction

Mr. Gleason introduced himself to the group and explained that meetings will utilize small group work and large group share outs to facilitate its work. He also shared the overarching goal of this year's Council will be to take a deep dive into our curriculum and instruction to make curricular recommendations to the Board of Education through the lens of cultural proficiency and social justice to ensure our overall pedagogical practices provide opportunities for every student, every day.

Approval of AP Computer Science A Curriculum

Micheal Yeung from CHS presented an overview of the AP Computer Science A “Java” Course. This program was piloted at AHS for a year and Mr. Yeung has completed a pilot of two chapters this year. The benefits shared for this curriculum were:

- Interactive and digital experiences
- It is completely digital which allows for this fast moving curriculum to evolve and adapt.
- Aligned with the AP exam.

Approval of the AP Computer Science A “Java” Course

Motion to Approve: Mathy Wasserman

Second: Monette Thomas

Passed Unanimously



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Cultural Proficiency in K-12 Curriculum

Mr. Gleason facilitated small and large group exercises, looking through a critical lens, to open the discussions for broader inclusion of multicultural education and social justice in our K-12 curriculum. Utilizing an audit tool, small groups identified the following areas for growth:

- **Professional Development**
 - Equity lens incorporated across PD with districtwide buy-in/implementation from all: administration, certificated and classified staff
 - Best practices; scaffolding for learning
 - Providing time for learning/practicing
 - Cultural training opportunities for specific groups and communication, i.e., ELD/specialist vs. general staff
 - Training on cultural communications with diverse families
- **Classroom/Curriculum/Resources**
 - Incorporate more cultural awareness
 - Support from District to teach specific curricular units and how to implement with developmentally appropriate guidance
 - Universal flag or database to highlight sensitive or triggering content
 - More representation of diverse groups, colors, disabilities, as well as the community
 - Content training
 - Current curriculum “glosses over” hard issues
 - Incorporate conversations into other academic disciplines such as science and math
 - What is available in curriculum: multicultural print/non print and human resources?
- **Translation Accessibility**
 - Identifying needs/process of requesting
 - Resources available?
- **Standards/Assessments**
 - Need quantitative data to track progress

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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● **District**

- More diversity in cabinet, board, faculty, staff and guest speakers
- Intentionally shift the conversation/mindset from fear, shame, blame and guilt
- Build in 'safety' around making mistakes

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