

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Superintendent's Community Advisory Council
May 18, 2015

1. **WELCOME**

Dr. Domene called the meeting to order, thanking the members for serving on the SCAC this year.

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING NOTES** (April 13, 2015)

The meeting notes were accepted as submitted.

3. **"GOOD NEWS" REPORTS** – The following written Good News reports were submitted.

Bernardo Yorba Middle School held a celebration of life ceremony in memory of Mrs. Paulette Crandall, and a tree was planted on campus in her honor.

Eighth graders will enjoy a "Beach Bash" promotion party to celebrate the end of the school year. The event will be held on campus and students will enjoy food, games, photo booths and much more.

"Surfboard Art" was a display created by the advanced art class and was a big success at this year's District Art Show.

Bryant Ranch celebrated the school's 25th anniversary with a fun afternoon. Highlights of the day included PTA Honorary Service Awards, a book fair, photo booth with friends and family and food trucks. Parents were given the opportunity to purchase a "Time with Teachers" lunch ticket for their students. In addition, staff, students and family members participated in painting tiles which will be placed into a memory wall. Capping off the celebration, the students performed musical selections, enjoyed by all in attendance.

El Camino Real has graduated 55 students as of May 15, 2015. Career Day was a successful event, with 25 speakers. Guests and students enjoyed a luncheon served to them.

Glenknoll is proud of student Elijah Ready, who took 2nd place among third graders at the R.E.A.C.H. Districtwide Spelling Bee. PTA sponsored a vocal concert for grades 1-4 which was a great success. In addition, the students enjoyed a magic show and raised funds for the school during the Jog-a-thon.

Golden Eagles brought home gold and silver medals in the Science Olympiad. Students also participated in the Academic Pentathlon, winning first place in Super Quiz and second place overall. Fifth grade student Natalie Williams won first place in the R.E.A.C.H. Foundation Spelling Bee, with Nandini Varshney placing third among sixth grade students.

The school carnival was a big success, with staff, students, and families enjoying food and games.

Golden looks forward to celebrating the school's 50th anniversary. In preparation for the festivities, all students dressed in their California Distinguished School spirit wear and posed for a panoramic picture.

Lakeview PTA saw its highest membership enrollment since the opening of the school. The group purchased an LCD projector for the multipurpose room, including the mounting. In addition, they sponsored a gently-used clothing drive which saw 1,000 pounds of clothing, shoes, belts and purses donated. During Staff Appreciation Week, PTA showered staff with daily gifts including cards, snacks, flowers, and classroom supplies, culminating with a festive luncheon. The eighth annual Lakeview Talent Show was a great success.

Kindergarten held the Fairy Tale Ball, which was a fun event. Students and staff are enjoying Lakeview's first "Kinder Garden". After the students were treated to an assembly on organic gardening, they gathered to plant a vegetable garden in the former kindergarten sandbox.

GLEE Club hosted a bake sale during Open House which raised enough money to purchase an additional class set of core curriculum books. They also painted stepping stones in the flowerbed which spell out the words "Lakeview Lions" and "Roar". Additionally, they included a bird feeder for the native California birds which have been nesting on campus.

Melrose is excited to participate in the Second Harvest Food Bank for the 2015-2016 school year. Farmer Mary came to teach the students about nutrition. Students were able to take home fresh fruit and vegetables. Jog-a-thon was successful and many tickets were sold for the Angel's Baseball fundraiser. Kindergarten round up was held and the children were excited to meet the kindergarten teachers.

Boys Town has hosted several parent workshops on parenting and nutrition during the month of April and May. Attendance has been phenomenal and the parents are pleased with the topics.

The Red Cross of America and Edison International sponsored an assembly concerning first aid, earthquake, and fire safety. Angel's baseball player Hector Santiago came to support the discussion. He signed autographs and took pictures with excited fourth grade students.

Melrose also celebrated their dedicated teacher's during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Parkview held its spring musical, *Oklahoma!* at the District Performing Arts Center. Mrs. DeFries and the students worked tirelessly to stage a great performance. A lacrosse coach visited and offered a beginning sports class for the students.

In memory of former Parkview secretary, Alice Hetland, staff and students wore yellow and held a tree dedication.

In honor of Staff Appreciation Week, Parkview Boosters Club prepared lunch. Teachers and staff enjoyed the delicious food, as well as the time spent together.

PYLUC PTA's/PTSA's report that membership continues to exceed 10,000. Volunteers logged in over 250,000 hours. Senior scholarships total \$6,000, which is an increase of \$1,000 over last year. The annual Honorary Service Awards and Installation Dinner will be held in June.

R.E.A.C.H. Foundation sponsored the first annual District Wide Spelling Bee in April. 119 students from grades three through six participated.

Artworks was held at the Professional Development Academy and featured art pieces from students and teachers in the PYLUSD. The event raised funds which will be donated to the individual classrooms of the artists.

The Foundation sponsored the first annual Upcycled Formal Wear event at Kraemer Middle School. Prom attire was available to students who might not otherwise have been able to obtain it. Each dress was donated and offered to the students free of charge.

R.E.A.C.H. plans to have school information liaisons at each school site to better facilitate foundation information. Each principal will nominate a volunteer to be the liaison. The group will meet four times each year and communicate with the school community as necessary throughout the school year.

The Foundation continues to support middle and high school students with volunteer opportunities to help toward their community service requirements. R.E.A.C.H. can be contacted at <http://reach4pylusd.org/contact-us.html>.

Watch for "Brighter Futures" flyers in the District information packets being mailed to families this summer. Donations make it possible to keep offering wonderful opportunities and enhancements to all students in the PYLUSD.

Rose Drive fifth grade students attended a whale watching field trip, which included a visit to Crystal Cove. The school held their talent show, a "Spring Sing", and the fifth grade students enjoyed a picnic at Hurless Barton Park.

Dr. Linda Adamson was honored as Manager of the Year for the PYLUSD. Staff, students and parents are looking forward to celebrating Rose Drive's 50th anniversary with a picnic, music, food trucks and alumni visits.

Travis Ranch is one of four schools nationwide who won \$10,000 in a contest sponsored by Honeywell Hometown Solutions and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (also known as the *KidSmartz Safety Dance Contest*). A safety dance video was created by parents and performed by students to teach the importance of knowing basic safety information. A special ceremony is planned for the gifting of the prize money. Travis Ranch will also be instrumental in piloting safety curriculum during the 2015-2016 school year.

Kindergarten students had a magical night at the Kindergarten Ball, and families enjoyed a fun night with Team Soil BMX and a magician. Additionally, staff and students are looking forward to the Travis Ranch carnival.

Tuffree Middle School science and math students were fortunate to attend a field trip to SpaceX. During the trip the students enjoyed discussion and examples of cutting-edge science applications, including a 3-D printer.

Tynes GATE students participated in the Science Olympiad. Eighteen students competed, coming in third place, which garnered them a silver medal. In addition, several GATE students participated in Math Field Day. Students worked on data analysis, geometry, mental math and measurement. Perhaps the most exciting activity was the Rubik's Cube Challenge. Tynes students came in second place, with eleven cubes solved by eight students in 1 minute and 51 seconds!

First grade students attended a farm field trip and fourth grade students enjoyed an educational trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano.

Valencia High School is grateful to be recognized as a Gold Ribbon School by the State of California for their efforts in preparing students to be college and career ready. In addition, Valencia was named as one of "America's Most Challenging High Schools" by *The Washington Post*. The ranking of 724 out of over 21,000 public high schools puts them in the

top 3% of schools in the nation. *U.S. News and World Report* has once again recognized Valencia on the “Best High Schools” list. The ranking put them in the top 5% of over 21,000 public high schools in the nation.

Van Buren looks forward to having a new electronic marquee installed during the summer in order to proudly announce school events. The school finished a mixed-bag fundraiser and sent fourth graders on a fabulous field trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano.

Wagner held its annual carnival, which was a huge success. Sixth grade students attended Outdoor Science Camp and many of them saw it snow for the first time. In addition, sixth graders participated in “Greek” games as part of a social studies unit.

Open House was well attended and everyone is looking forward to the talent show which will be held at the PAC.

Woodsboro held a book fair and redeemed “Book Fair Bucks” to add 76 new books and a class set of the novel By the Great Horn Spoon to their library. PTA also earned money to use toward special projects. In addition, a new fundraising company was used to promote positive team-building with a Fun Run. Woodsboro looks forward to celebrating Fun Day, 6th grade Fun Week and 6th grade promotion in June.

Yorba Linda High School will be recognized as a California Gold Ribbon School. The YLHS Arts program is one of 38 school programs in the State to be recognized for its Exemplary Program in Arts Education. The arts award embraces all aspects of art education – music, art, theater, dance, film, video, and animation production. In addition, the Orange County Music and Arts Administrators from the Orange County Department of Education named Cathy Petz as one of the 2015 Outstanding Arts Educators in Orange County.

The PYLUSD School Board recognized the following students: Top seniors, Miya Sheker, Thomas Kim, and Roshni Patel for their outstanding GPA’s, involvement in athletics, the arts, academic competitions and hundreds of hours of community service; senior Abe Ochoa, a senior heavyweight wrestler who won five titles, including the 8-school Century Conference, CIF and Masters; Academic Decathlon members Andrew Lee and Miya Sheker; College Board National Hispanic Recognition scholars Nathan Repasky, Nicholas St. Croix and Samantha Serna; and National Merit Finalists Kevin Chiang, Yusuf Khan and Sanam Mehta. YLHS had 15 National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists.

The German National Honor Society recognized 45 students for their outstanding performance and academic excellence in the German language program. YLHS also honored 250 freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors at the recent Academic Mustang Achievement Awards Ceremony. Justin Arevalos was honored as ROP Student of the Year. The class of 2015 will have 93 students that earned the California Seal of Biliteracy.

Jazz I placed fifth at the Reno Jazz Festival and Jazz II placed second. Nine YLHS Speech and Debate students were invited to participate in the California State Speech and Debate Competition. Fifteen arts students won monetary prizes in the Yorba Linda Women’s Club High School Art Contest. Another YLHS student won an honorable mention at the United States Congressional High School Art Competition which was presented to him by Congressman Ed Royce.

YLHS held the “Every 15 Minutes” program, which brings home the dangers of drinking and driving. Last, but not least, the YLHS Red Cross Club sponsored a blood drive at the school and collected 69 pints of blood.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Domene shared the good news that the Second Harvest Food Bank is now being added at Melrose and Valadez schools, jointly.

The District is pleased to announce the hiring of David Giordano as the new Assistant Superintendent of Business, and Cary Bisgard as the new Director of Alternative Education.

Dr. Domene shared the outstanding news that all four of the PYLUSD comprehensive high schools have been named California Gold Ribbon Schools (formerly known as the California Distinguished School honor). *U.S. News and World Report* named all four comprehensive high schools as top high schools in the U.S. In addition, Kraemer Middle School was named a California Gold Ribbon School and received a Title I Award.

Attached to the meeting agenda was an article about Esperanza High School student, Xander Luciano, and his success in the manufacturing program.

Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of California, Tom Torlakson, visited El Dorado High School to congratulate the cheerleading squad for winning the National High School Cheerleading Championship. In addition, Superintendent Torlakson visited the Digital Arts Academy at EDHS.

The District preschool program at Rio Vista received a State grant. Additional monies may become available to fund preschool programs at other sites.

The Governor's budget was announced and it is good news for public education. Staff is still dissecting the information.

El Dorado teaching staff created a video titled *Hawk Strong*, which Dr. Domene shared with the group. The video is a touching reminder of our purpose and why we do what we do.

5. FIELD TRIP FEEDBACK

Dr. Domene gave SCAC members the opportunity to share feedback regarding the Career Technology Education Academies field trip that several SCAC members attended in April. There was resounding agreement that the field trip was well worth it. The experience of seeing the programs in action gave members an opportunity to share the merits of the programs with other parents and community members, as well as their own students. Suggestions were made to include elective options at the middle school level which would tie into the high school academies. In addition, there was discussion about holding the field trip earlier in the school year, before the Choice Transfer window opened, in order to give parents opportunity to see the academies in action. Carey Johnson shared the plan to have presentations at each middle school early in the school year, followed by an evening of information for parents.

Attached to the meeting agenda was a copy of the District calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. Dr. Domene shared that time was spent soliciting input from parents, students, staff and managers in deciding the start date of the school year. There was strong feeling that moving the start date to slightly before Labor Day was an acceptable change in order to have Thanksgiving week off. At this time staff is not looking to begin well ahead of Labor Day, as there is no consensus for a start date that early. Staff is currently working on the 2016-2017 school-year calendar, and hopes to distribute it within the next few months.

6. LCAP DRAFT

Candy Plahy distributed copies of an Executive Summary of the LCAP (Local Control and Accountability Plan). After brief study, members were given opportunity to ask questions. Hard copies of the entire plan are available through the PYLUSD Educational Services department. The document may also be viewed online at the District website and a form is available to give feedback through June 16, 2015. The LCAP goes to the Board for final approval on June 23, 2015.

7. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Questions were raised regarding Parent University and the possibility of live-streaming the classes or making Power Point presentations available on line. Richard McAlindin shared that Staff is looking at different options to allow access to the classes for parents who may not be able to physically attend.

A member inquired about child care during Thanksgiving week. District child care will be available November 23, 24 and 25 for any current child care students who need care during the three days school is closed. This will most likely be in the form of a “parent pay camp” for the three days and will be available at two sites. More information will be available at a later date.

A question was brought forward about the Senior Exit Survey. Carey Johnson explained the idea that students are like “customers” in our system and we want feedback as to how we have served them. We are interested in seeing where they matriculate. At this point in time there is no plan to eliminate the high school exit survey.

Bullying prevention assemblies were briefly discussed and the possibility of lowering the grade level for presentations. Staff indicated that we are looking into this.

Director of Nutrition Services, Suzanne Morales, shared with the group that she is researching the possibility of signage at school sites to encourage more involvement in the Fresh Express program.

Candy Plahy shared that the District has a position posted for a mental health counselor who will work with Tier 3 mental health issues. The Outreach Concern program will still be utilized and counselors in this program will work with Tiers 1 and 2 students with social and emotional issues.

A member inquired about disaster preparedness plans. Richard McAlindin shared that the District Safety Team met to help establish a list of supplies necessary for disasters. Every school now has search and rescue equipment at their site. In addition, the health offices have emergency backpacks which can be picked up quickly in the event of an emergency. This year the focus will be on supplies in the classroom which would be necessary in the event of earthquake, lockdown, or other disasters.

A question was raised regarding the refresh program to replace outdated District computer inventory. Dr. Domene shared that this is a high priority. Jeremy Powell communicated that by this summer, all computers will be up to a base level at school sites. Currently the plan is to refresh teacher computers every five years and student computers every six to seven years. A member inquired if the donation of Chromebooks and other electronic equipment by PTA is included in the refresh program, and if these gifts are being used for the proper time frame. There was concern as to the large number of equipment this would make for

replacement in technology. Jeremy Powell assured the group that these donations are part of the refresh program. Approximately 30% of all Chromebook purchases are PTA funded.

A member raised a question about maintenance support at the school sites and if the schools hosting summer school will receive extra support. Candy Plahy shared that extra staff will be placed at summer school sites to support cleaning.

Candy Plahy thanked the group for their input and wished everyone a happy summer.