

Bard Briefs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 14, 2019 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► Moment Silence

President Patel began the meeting with a moment of silence for the victims of the Saugus High School shooting in Santa Clarita.



► **Special guests** Boy Scout Troop 622, students from Mesa Verde and Black Mountain Middle Schools, led the pledge of allegiance.

► Superintendent and Board Recognition

The Superintendent and the Board recognized student and school accomplishments at school sites and the District. The entire list can be found in the agenda packet here:

<https://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2019/11-14-2019-Board-Agenda.pdf>

Among those highlighted include:

- Westview HS Freshman Kara Fan named “America’s Top Young Scientist 2019” by 3M for her microbiology project focusing on liquid bandages. The full story can be found [here](#).
- 20 Poway Unified students were selected for the prestigious Northrop Grumman High School Internship Program. A full list of the students can be found on page 219.
- Tierra Bonita ES was congratulated by Superintendent Phelps for being named an Apple Distinguished School for the fourth consecutive time.

► Excellence in Education Series

For the second video in the 2019-20 Studio 701 Excellence in Education Series, student interns covered the transition program at Abraxas High School. The program helps young adults with disabilities, 18-22 years old, learn job and life skills to gain confidence and independence.

WATCH IT HERE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbLeEKoTuXw>

► Student Board Representative Reports

New this school year, PUSD wanted to expand student representative reports to include students not just from high schools, but middle and elementary schools as well. This month, we heard reports from Poway and Westview High Schools, Mesa Verde Middle School, and Park Village Elementary School.

- **Micayla Lillie** (Mesa Verde MS): goal of improving school culture, WEB “where everyone belongs” for incoming 6th grade orientation, Start with Hello week to grow relationships, successful Star Wars party a big success, marines led P.E. boot camp, Red Ribbon Week, hosted first cross-country invitational meet, No Place for Hate theme “Words Matter,” new spirit week focusing on gratitude
- **Lucy Boretto** (Poway HS): Trimester 1 coming to an end and students are studying for finals, activities during No Place for Hate week focused on how to eliminate hate and bias on campus, hosted bi-annual blood drive, Titan Theatre performing fall comedy “Leading Ladies,” choir concert themed Mystery, marching band successful season, auditions for Music Man, 1,500 cans collected in food drive, three sports in CIF playoffs, currently planning “Thank a Titan” before Thanksgiving
- **Dean Olsson** (Westview HS): Westview Survivor Edition Homecoming, homecoming halftime show included an erupting volcano! held annual Unity Week for sophomores with Keith Hawkins – “everybody is somebody,” canned food drive collected over 500 items, first-ever Mental Health Awareness week included all-school assembly with Stan Collins, athletics teams three league champions, National Signing Day at Petco Park, Westview Gold placed first at Vista tournament, student written and produced shows by theater group, choir show “Who Run the World”



- **Daniel Hawe and Lucas Silverman** (Park Village ES): No Place for Hate schoolwide activities including one school, one book “All are welcome here,” signing pledge and participating in walk against hate, playground partners to combat bullying, peace leaders assist character coaches to peacefully solve problems, grade level science nights, opened outdoor classroom including gardening and aquaponics, fall running club, two book clubs, schoolwide community service project, day of giving on December 6th to collect money for needy families

► Donation Presentation

- Superintendent Phelps and President Patel accepted a gift from the OtterCares Foundation to the Poway Unified School District in the amount of \$50,000. The award will be used toward creating innovative learning spaces in PUSD schools, professional development, and technology to support innovative teaching and learning.

► Public Comments

The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- Concern over budget deficit and request for fiscal transparency
- Questions over the future of the Poway Center for the Performing Arts
- Importance of arts in schools and greater community
- Concern over school PTA disbanding, upcoming Reflections Art Show December 3rd at District Office



► **Consent Calendar** No items pulled, all items passed

► **Review and Acceptance of the 2018-19 Financial Compliance and Program Audit**

Only two audit findings from independent audit:

- Some school sites inconsistent in attendance reporting by substitutes and some missing online reporting by teachers
- Some students receiving free and reduced meal had not resubmitted applications

District has responded with training, monitoring, communication, and compliance.

Also improvements of note: previous audit finding on high Vacation balance has been drastically reduced, site attendance reporting greatly improved

► **The Board approved issuing a request for proposal (RFP) for the potential lease, sale, or exchange of Black Mountain Ranch Southern Property**

► **Approval of resolution authorizing the District to order a School Bond Election on March 3, 2020**

- The Board of Education unanimously approved a resolution calling a general obligation bond election for March 3, 2020, in order to provide funds for various construction, rehabilitation, modernization, and improvement projects throughout the District.
- The full Resolution No. 20-2020 and full ballot text and project list can be found on pages 182-196. <https://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/currentboardpacket.pdf>
- The Board of Education also adopted a resolution committing to bond measure accountability and transparency. The District expressed plans to meet and follow guidelines and best practices published by the San Diego County Taxpayers Association for a school district bond measure and the construction program that follows, should the election be successful.

► **Approval of resolution entitled “School Psychology Awareness Week” 2019**

PUSD has declared November 11-15 School Psychology Awareness Week, in special recognition for our school psychologists for their continuous encouragement of students

► **Approval of resolution authorizing District to become a “Live Well San Diego School District”**

In collaboration with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services agency and *Live Well San Diego*, this partnership will allow PUSD staff to support work related to student wellness, mental health and alcohol and drug prevention.

► **First Reading New Board Policy 5131.8 – Mobile Communication Devices**

In October 2019, CSBA created Board Policy 5131.8 – Mobile Communication Devices to reflect new state law Assembly bill 272, which authorizes governing boards to regulate the use of student mobile communication devices. Staff has reviewed the new policy and presented to the Board as a first reading. The full policy can be found on pages 214-216.

► **Future meetings: Thursday, December 19, 2019** in the District Office (6:00 p.m.)

Published by the Poway Unified School District Communications Office
For more information about PUSD, visit our website www.powayusd.com



#TeamPUSD #PowayUnified