

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **MAY 9, 2019** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► Moments of Silence

- for the victims of the Poway synagogue shooting on April 27th. For Lori Kaye, who lost her life. As well as Rabbi Goldstein, 8-year-old Noya Dahan and her uncle Almog Peretz, all who were injured in the attack.
- for PFT Director Joe McEachron, who passed away. PFT President Kelly Logan: “He was an amazing friend and teacher, and was always supportive to anyone in need. He made us all laugh every day and helped so many of our own children with their math. Joe truly cared about people and relationships.”
- for Kendrick Castillo, who was killed Tuesday while stopping a shooter at STEM School Highlands Ranch in Colorado.

► Superintendent and Board Recognition

The Superintendent and Board recognized student and staff accomplishments at school sites and the District.

The entire list can be found in the agenda packet here: <https://www.powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2019/05-09-2019-Board-Agenda.pdf>

Among those highlighted include:

- Every year one 8th grader from each middle school and one senior from each high school are selected as an AVID Standout. These outstanding students are chosen for their strong academic performance and commitment to their community.
 - Eighth Grade Standouts
 - **Chelsea Reilly** and AVID coordinator Denise Flynn – Bernardo Heights Middle School
 - **Sarina Farhan** and AVID coordinator Danielle Reyes – Black Mountain Middle School
 - **Justin Arias Chamu** and AVID coordinator Kay McHeffey – Meadowbrook Middle School
 - **Emma Alexander** and AVID coordinator Aimee McCoy – Mesa Verde Middle School
 - **Abigail Watkins** and AVID coordinator Alyssa Dykes – Oak Valley Middle School
 - **Natalie Cruz** and AVID coordinator Mikki Matautia – Twin Peaks Middle School
 - Senior Standouts
 - **Regina Valdós** and AVID coordinator Katie Thompson – Del Norte High School
 - **Jasmine Ancheta** and AVID coordinator Susan Randle – Mount Carmel High School
 - **Kameron Stout** and AVID coordinator Karen Kawasaki – Poway High School
 - **Jenna Bonker** and AVID coordinator Leann Marshall – Rancho Bernardo High School
 - **Melody Le** and AVID coordinator Jose Lucero – Westview High School
- **Twin Peaks Middle School** was designated as an AVID School-wide Site of Distinction. This recognition illustrates Twin Peaks’ commitment to equity and opportunity for all students on campus, and shows their commitment to top instructional practices.
- At the CyberPatriot National Cyber Security Finals in Baltimore, in the Middle School Division, PUSD swept 1st, 2nd and 3rd place! 1st place went to a Team from **Oak Valley Middle School**; 2nd place went to a team from **Design39Campus**; and 3rd place went to an all-girls team, from **Oak Valley Middle School**. In the High School Division, **Del Norte High School**’s Team took 3rd place nationally.

► Appointment of Student Board Member

The Board approved the recommendation of the interview sub-committee and appointed its selection to serve as the Student Board Member for 2019-2020: **Mariana Akins**, a junior at Rancho Bernardo High School. Based on the criteria and qualifications contained in the Board-adopted Bylaws 9150 for Student Board Member selection, applicants were forwarded to a Board sub-committee to be interviewed. The Board sub-committee

met on May 2, 2019, to interview those candidates. The Board sub-committee members then reached a consensus on Mariana as the final candidate. Her term will begin August 2019. Congratulations, Mariana!

► Excellence in Education Video Series

For this month's video, produced by Studio 701 student interns, the interns covered the recent CTE Student Expo on April 30th. They got footage and interviews while the event was taking place so those who couldn't attend can see what an awesome event it was. WATCH => <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7Z-6jUCFPU>

► Student Board Representative Reports

For the 2018-19 school year, the six representatives alternate months, with the students attending every other board meeting.

- **Christina Hartley**, Rancho Bernardo HS: Bronco Players had a successful run of Peter Pan, Purple Up! Day for Military Support, 8th grade family night, CAASPP testing wrapped up, choir won festival award, band and orchestra superior ratings, Palomar League and CIF champs for Boys Tennis, DEA agent Rocky Herron and Olympian Al Joyner anti-drug presentation, school wide lesson on genocide and pyramid of hate, received No Place for Hate distinction from ADL, AP tests underway, "Met Gala" prom planned for USD, seniors committing to colleges, celebrating teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week, end of the year dance, choir, improv, band, and orchestra shows, Asian American Pacific Islander month, May 29th T-Shirt fundraiser taping Mr. Lemaster to a wall, TedEx conference coming up later this month
- **Audrey Tou**, Westview HS: nature-themed staff appreciation week, held recycling contest, many activities unifying against hate, spring music festival to provide stress release from academics, prom theme is "A Night Under the Stars" at Air and Space museum, Spring Sports success, including Westview Track and Field individual event winners, clubs and organizations extremely successful, two finalists in Intel International Science competition, theater one-act show "Caught in the Act,"

The students from Abraxas, Del Norte and Mt. Carmel High Schools will give their next reports at the June 6, 2019 meeting.

► Public Comments

The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- Robotics Day Resolution and success of PUSD robotics teams, including Poway High's Team Spyder mentoring and starting elementary and middle school teams
- May 18 Girls in STEM Inspiration Day
- Parent concern over their student's suspension
- CyberPatriot national competition, PUSD winners (see above under recognition)
- Concern over minority students' experiences and need for cultural proficiency training
- Raising awareness of proposed cannabis outlet in Rancho Bernardo

► Presentation on the Process to Determine Special Education Services

Special Education staff Jodi Payne and Kristi Robison presented on the Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) Model for use in identifying students for special education. PUSD has been using the discrepancy model for many years. The discrepancy model has no theoretical basis and many researchers have noted it has led to an over identification of students, is not developmentally sensitive, and is not used consistently among practitioners. PSW is based on cognitive neuroscience that has shown the links between students' cognitive processing skills and academic achievement. Some of the many benefits of the PSW model include that it addresses the "wait to fail" concern, it requires an answer to why the student is not responding, and the assessment results can be better linked to targeted interventions and strategies.

► Future meetings

Regular Meetings:

Thursday, June 6, 2019 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

The following regular board meeting dates are approved for 2019:

Thursday, June 27, 2019

Thursday, August 8, 2019

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Thursday, October 10, 2019

Thursday, November 14, 2019

Thursday, December 19, 2019

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



#TeamPUSD #PowayUnified