

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 12, 2020 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► March is Women's History Month

Many thanks to all of our teachers, staff, and students who are celebrating Women's History Month and working to provide students with lessons, demonstrations and presentations of the history, struggles and contributions of women in the United States.

► 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://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2020/03-12-2020-Board-Agenda.pdf>

Among those highlighted include:

- **Abraxas High School**, named "Model Continuation School" by the California Dept. of Education
- **Duane Otani**, California Music Educators Association Band Educator of the Year
- **Madalyn Nguyen**, national "Girls Living in STEM" honoree

► Excellence in Education Video Series

This month's video and photos, produced by Studio 701 student interns, focuses on musical theater season in PUSD and what it takes to bring these performances to the stage.

WATCH=> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtJcOEP2Z2c>

► Student Board Representative Reports

For the 2019-20 school year, PUSD expanded student representative reports to include students not just from high schools, but middle and elementary schools as well. The Board heard from students from Poway High, Rancho Bernardo High, Twin Peaks Middle, and Westwood Elementary.

- **Jake Murray (Poway HS):** Poway High recently started its third trimester. Jake Murray is the new student body president. The Titans look forward to many upcoming events; unfortunately, many of those events have been impacted by the Coronavirus. The spring Blood Drive is planned for March 17. Recently, the Poway's Robotics team won the Chairman's award at its competition, girls water polo won the Division 1 CIF championship, and one of Poway's wrestlers ranked first in the nation for his weight class.
- **Christina Hartley (Rancho Bernardo HS):** On January 29, the Broncos hosted the first districtwide No Place for Hate mini-conference, which included 22 schools throughout PUSD. The event was put on by the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. Black History month focused on influential African Americans, and the Black student union hosted a variety of activities. ASB posted cutout hearts around campus that included the names of every student and staff member. Three wrestlers finished in the top 3, more than any other in San Diego. Both the band program and the robotics team had successful competitions. This past week, Rancho Bernardo concluded a great WASC visit and was proud to share all the great things taking place on campus.
- **Jasmine Nguyen (Twin Peaks MS):** The students at Twin Peaks take pride in the RAM motto where core values are emphasized. Many amazing clubs are taking place on campus such as the Environmental

club, which raised over 300 cans for the food bank, No Place for Hate, and AVID. Twin Peaks is proud to be an Avid School Site of Distinction.

- Maggie MacArthur & Audrey Prilaman (Westwood): Westwood participates in many awesome programs. Student Ambassadors, a new program this year, helps with morning drop-off. There is a total of 54 student ambassadors. Student Council is very active, and the goal is to improve the student experience. Spirit days have been a huge success this year, especially Harry Potter day. A recent Westwood fundraiser included the Kids Heart Challenge.

► **Public Comments**

The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- Center for Performance Psychology offers coaches, athletes, parents, and organization mental health services

► **COVID-19 update:**

Staff presented an update on the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing recommendations, and distance learning options. The health and safety of our students and staff is the District's utmost priority. The District is conferring with representatives from the CA Department of Public Health, San Diego County Health and Human Services, and San Diego County Office of Education.

► **Consent Calendar Approved including:**

- Revised 2020-2021 Calendar for Abraxas High School.
- Poway Unified School District Robotics Day on April 30, 2020
- Adult Education Week, April 20-24, 2020
- Approval of changing the regular scheduled Thursday, June 4, 2020, meeting to Wednesday June 3, 2020; and changing the regular scheduled Thursday, June 25, 2020, meeting to Tuesday, June 23, 2020

► **Project update: Oak Valley MS building**

The Board received an update on the progress on the construction of a new eight-classroom building at Oak Valley Middle School. The building is on track to be completed and ready for students to start the new 2020-2021 school year as planned.

► **Approval and Certification of Second Interim Financial Report and 2019-20 Budget**

The Board approved revisions to the budget, and certification that PUSD will meet its financial obligations for the General Fund Combined. The Second Interim Report reflects the current budget and actual revenues and expenditures as of January 31, 2020. The multi-year projections show a \$8.2 million deficit for 2019-20 and \$9.6 million deficit for 2020-2021. The Board of Education will hold a special Budget Workshop in April to discuss proposed budget solutions, both one-time and ongoing.

► **Sale of Community Facilities District No. 16 and Improvement Area A**

The Board received information regarding the CFD and the proposed sale. Final legal documents, including a resolution authorizing the issuance of the Bonds, will be brought back to the Board for approval on April 23, 2020. The bond issuance would generate resources for two enrollment driven expansion projects at Oak Valley Middle School and Del Norte High School

► **First Annual Women in STEM Day 2020**

The Board declared April 30, 2020 as the First Annual Women in STEM Day 2020, recognizing the many contributions throughout history that women have made in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.

► **Caring Connections Center Presentation**

The Board received an update on programs housed at the Caring Connections Center, which include counseling support, Youth in Transition serving homeless families, and the Family Learning Center for after-school tutoring for immigrant families.

► **Rescind prior approvals/ratifications of International Student Field Trips**

Due to the growing concerns over the novel coronavirus, the District reserves the right to rescind prior approvals/ratifications of international student field trips.

► **California Healthy Kids Survey**

The Board received information on the results of the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), which collects information on the health risks and resilience of students. The 2018-19 survey's key findings relate to substance abuse, safety, physical and mental health, school connectedness, and developmental supports.

► **Student Board Member Selection Committee**

The Board selected two members to serve on the interview panel for the selection of the Student Board Member for 2020-2021. Applications are due March 31, 2020 and final candidates will be interviewed during the first week of April. At the April 23, 2020 Board Meeting, the sub-committee will report out their selection and the full Board will vote to approve the final candidate.

► **Future meetings**

Regular Meetings:

Thursday, April 23, 2020 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

The following regular board meeting dates were approved for 2020:

Thursday, May 14, 2020

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Thursday, August 13, 2020

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Thursday, December 17, 2020

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