

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **APRIL 23, 2020** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Due to COVID-19 related social distancing measures, the April 23rd Board of Education Meeting was conducted entirely online, via virtual/video conferencing.

► 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 beginning on page 107 in the agenda packet here:

<https://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2020/04-23-2020-Board-Agenda.pdf>

- Superintendent Phelps recognized Dr. Jennifer Burks, PUSD Associate Superintendent of Technology and Innovation, for being named California's Technology Administrator of the Year for 2020 by the Association of California School Administrators.
- Superintendent Phelps announced District Administration (DA) Magazine's feature of Poway Unified School District as a "2020 National District of Distinction" in its February 2020 issue.
- Superintendent Phelps recognized David Oliva, Bus Aide for Transportation, for being named California Classified Employee of the Year by the California Department of Education.

► Executive Director II of Learning Support Services

Congratulations to David LeMaster who was named the Executive Director II of Learning Support Services, effective July 1, replacing Todd Cassen who will be moving to a position with CIF. Mr. LeMaster has served as Principal at Rancho Bernardo for the past eight years.



► Appointment of new Student Board Member for 2020-2021 School Year

Congratulations to Emily Bylsma, Junior at Poway High School, for her appointment as the new Student Board Member for the 2020-2021 school year. Emily's term will begin with the August 2020 Board Meeting and conclude with the June 2021 meeting. The alternate will be Jacob Todd from Del Norte High School, if for any reason the selected student cannot serve.

► Public Comments

Public Speakers submitted comments via the Public Comment Form between 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., prior to the start of the 6:00 p.m. Open Session Regular Meeting. The submitted comments were read aloud. The Board heard comments from the public regarding:

- Poway High and Westview High Model UN students who met and created a resolution on how to improve Distance Learning for students and prepare for long-term school closures
- Multiple questions and suggestions surrounding PUSD's distance learning plan
- Use of taxpayer dollars in neighboring school districts to hire special education attorneys
- Request to consider assigning letter grades in lieu of credit/no credit grading

► Presentation: Distance Learning Grading

Staff presented [this power point](#) regarding the reasoning and rationale behind PUSD's decision to temporarily go to credit/no credit grading during the school closures. Staff determined that all TK-12 student work would be assessed for participation, completion, progress, and feedback purposes in alignment with "doing no harm to students" as directed by the State Superintendent, Tony Thurmond. The credit/no credit grading for Distance Learning in Poway Unified began Monday, April 20, 2020.

► **Approval of Resolution “Declaration of Emergency Conditions and Modification of Graduation/Promotion Requirements for Currently Enrolled Students.”**

The Board approved a resolution authorizing the Superintendent to exert maximum flexibility to respond to the emergency conditions resulting from the COVID-19 global pandemic, including but not limited to: waiving instructional minutes, setting an end date for classes and grading periods, providing distance learning for credit recovery, and otherwise modifying graduation and promotional requirements.

► **Excellence in Education Video**

Watch Studio 701’s latest video highlighting student and staff experiences during the COVID-19 school closures and distance learning: <https://youtu.be/Fjt4nmlq-34>

► **AVID 8th Grade and Senior Standouts**

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 were chosen for their strong academic performance and commitment to their community:

- **Alba Campbell-Rodriguez**, Bernardo Heights Middle School
- **Andrea Barragan**, Black Mountain Middle School
- **Lana Rubic**, Meadowbrook Middle School
- **Dante Burrellmedley**, Mesa Verde Middle School
- **Madeline (Maddie) Page**, Oak Valley Middle School
- **Jasmine Tran**, Twin Peaks Middle School
- **Artur Ivanov**, Del Norte High School
- **Itzel Bustamante**, Mt. Carmel High School
- **Nhat Pham**, Poway High School
- **Amaya Stauffer**, Rancho Bernardo High School
- **Maria Storelli**, Westview High School

► **Approval of Resolution “Acknowledgment of School Bus Drivers’ Day” (April 28, 2020)**

Each year we have an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our school bus drivers by celebrating School Bus Drivers’ Day. Poway Unified School District school bus drivers are an outstanding group of individuals who transport over 3,500 students twice a day, drive over two million miles annually, to and from school on activity field trips and for community service trips.

► **Approval of Resolution “Acknowledgment of School Lunch Hero Day” (May 1, 2020)**

The Board approved the resolution celebrating School Lunch Hero Day on Friday, May 1, 2020. School Lunch Hero Day is a national celebration in honor of the hard-working individuals who prepare healthy meals for our students every single day.

► **Approval of Resolution “National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week” (May 4-8, 2020)**

The Board approved the resolution to honor Poway Unified teachers, and the difference they make in the achievements and well-being of students, hereby recognizing the week of May 4-8, 2020 as “National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week.”

► **Approval of Resolution “California Classified School Employee Week” (May 17-23, 2020)**

The Board approved a resolution to highlight the dedication and expertise of over 2,512 contracted classified staff who provide the optimal learning environment for students and work environment for employees. The resolution hereby recognizes the week of May 17-23, 2020 as “California Classified School Employee Week.”

► **Presentation – Aquatics Program Update**

Staff gave a presentation on the new centralized model overseeing the maintenance and supervision of the PUSD aquatics program, which has realized \$600,000 in savings and has maximized the use of our pools.

► **Approval of Resolution “Authorizing and Providing for the Issuance of Two Series of Special Tax Bonds of Community Facilities District No. 16 (Del Sur East II)”**

- On September 26, 2019, Lennar Homes, successor to Standard Pacific Homes requested that the School District proceed with the issuance of the CFD No. 16 Improvement Area A Special Tax Bonds for City of San Diego facilities. District staff recommended using this opportunity to save costs by also proceeding with the issuance of CFD No. 16 Special Tax Bonds for school facilities to support growth and expansion at school sites within the boundary of the CFD.

► **Future meetings:** During the COVID-19 Crisis, Board Meetings will be held via Zoom.
The Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting will be: **Thursday, May 14, 2020**

The following regular board meeting dates were approved for 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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