

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **APRIL 8, 2021** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Board Agenda for the April 8, 2021 Board of Education Meeting can be found here:

<https://www.powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2021/04-08-2021-Board-Agenda.pdf>

► Superintendent and Board Recognition

Superintendent Phelps and the Board recognized student and staff accomplishments at school sites and the District:

- **Oak Valley Middle School, Design39Campus, and Del Norte High School** took home eight national titles at the National CyberPatriot Championship competition last month, including a ‘National Champion’ title in the middle and high school divisions.
- **Black Mountain Middle School** was one of only nine schools in San Diego honored as a California Distinguished School by the California Department of Education. They will be formally recognized in a virtual ceremony at a later date.
- **Adobe Bluffs Elementary School** was selected as the 2021 “Impact Award” recipient for the Innovation in Education Awards by Classroom of the Future for their Mandarin Immersion and Foreign Language in Elementary School programs.



► Appointment of Student Board Member for 2021-2022

The Board approved the recommendation of **Winnie Xu** from Westview High School to serve as the next Student Board Member on the PUSD Board of Education for the 2021-2022 school year. You can read more about Winnie in [this news release](#). Her term of office will be her senior year, beginning with the August 2021 board meeting and concluding with the June 2022 meeting. Sonia Somasundaram will serve as the alternate, if, for any reason, Winnie cannot serve.

► Studio 701 Digital Internship “Excellence in Education” Series

In this installment of the “Excellence in Education” video series for the 2020-21 school year, our Studio 701 student interns focused on the challenges and successes of reopening secondary schools.

WATCH: <https://youtu.be/s-SqPL7GdY0>



► Public Comments

The Board heard comments regarding:

- Support for PUSD's racial equity & inclusion work
- Support for expanding school reopening plans and request for additional public input on budget
- Support for in-person graduation and promotion ceremonies

► Student Board Representatives

The Board heard reports from student representatives at Los Penasquitos and Del Sur Elementary, as well as Poway and Westview High Schools.

- **Lily Paez** (Los Penasquitos Elementary) Los Pen is proudly a No Excuses University school, their college fair is a favorite day. Pajama Reading Day is a favorite day as well, challenged adults to Are you smarter than a student? game, confident going to middle school because Los Pen has prepared her well
- **Mona Zheng** (Del Sur Elementary) Del Sur is the largest elementary school in the District and every classroom is affiliated as a university. Explorers are safe, respectful, and responsible. Virtual students are leveraging technology for their learning. Del Sur is a No Place for Hate school – 4th and 5th graders are leading the work
- **Sophie Chittle** (Poway High) extremely excited to have students back on campus with combined A/B cohorts, ASB hosting Spring into Spirit Week, winter sports coming to a close, spring sports tryouts, football team is 3 and 0, No Place for Hate campaign continued in March, focusing on Women's History Month, reporting tool to report hate, virtual Titan Talent Show, Poway music program gearing up for performances in PCPA, robotics team tournament success
- **Kody Mongold** (Westview High) ASB is trying to bring energy back to campus, trying to bring students access to information, celebrations for lunar new year and black history month, socially distanced club rush, wrapping up No Place for Hate week, CASL awarded advisor Shannon Parker and Westview ASB prestigious leadership awards. Return to sports for student athletes, coaches and AD have worked tirelessly. Celebrating Kim Carroll and Carlos LaGrange for being named District Employee and Teacher of the Year. Westview theater planning first in-person show.

► AVID 8th Grade and Senior Standouts

Each year, one 8th grader from each middle school and one senior from each high school is selected as an AVID Standout. AVID, or Advancement Via Individual Determination, aims to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. The following students were chosen for their strong academic performance and commitment to their community:

8th Grade Standouts:

- **Isabella Cossio** – Bernardo Heights Middle School
- **Brooklyn Gentry** – Black Mountain Middle School
- **David Williams** – Meadowbrook Middle School
- **Isaac Castro** – Mesa Verde Middle School
- **Rana Aitlafquih** – Oak Valley Middle School
- **Elias Briones** – Twin Peaks Middle School

Senior Standouts

- **Francesca "Frankie" Luthard** – Del Norte High School
- **Kaylin Poblete** – Mt. Carmel High School
- **Ashley Molina** – Poway High School
- **Christopher Arellano** – Rancho Bernardo High School
- **Haley Tran** – Westview High School



The Students from Bernardo Heights, Oak Valley, and Del Norte were unable to attend.

► **Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Awards**

Three Poway Unified School District administrators were named “2021 Administrators of the Year” for Region 18 of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA). Region 18 includes San Diego and Imperial Counties. The Administrator of the Year awards recognize outstanding performance and achievement by individual administrators, and are given at both regional and state levels. The Valuing Diversity Award is given to an administrator who epitomizes ACSA’s mission statement by their efforts in promoting diversity and support for all the children, families and staff at their school or district.

- **Joe Austin**, Career Education Specialist (CTAE) – CTE Administrator of the Year
- **Carol Osborne**, Associate Superintendent (Learning Support) – Valuing Diversity Award
- **Marian Kim Phelps, Ed.D.**, Superintendent (PUSD) – Superintendent of the Year





► **School Reopening Update**

Tonight, staff presented to the Board for approval an update in the reopening of Poway Unified schools. Updates include:

- **Expansion of on-campus learning for elementary and secondary:**
 - The Board of Education acknowledges Poway Unified School District's commitment to offer in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year and the 2021-2022 school year.
 - April 5, 2021 – High School on-campus students began attending four days a week
 - April 19, 2021 – Middle School on-campus students will begin attending four days a week
 - April 20, 2021 – Painted Rock Elementary will begin pilot of 4 hours 10 minutes expanded elementary on-campus schedule
 - April 26, 2021 – All elementary schools will begin expanded elementary on-campus schedule
- **Free K12 Summer Learning Offerings**
 - Summer School 9am to noon on-campus learning focused on ELA and math (K-8)
 - Youth Enrichment Program STEM, Art. and Performing Arts focus (1-8)
 - High School PVC courses for credit recovery, course make-up, in-person tutoring (9-12)
- **Learning options for 2021-22:**
 - In-Person Instruction – Full Day school (TK-12)
 - Connect Academy – Virtual School (K-8)
 - Poway Virtual Courses – (9-12)
 - Poway Home Education Program – Homeschool (TK-8)
 - New Directions – Independent Study (6-12)

The Consent Calendar was approved in its entirety. Items to note:

Approval of Resolution No. 46-2021 “National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week May 3-7, 2021”

In our District’s Pre-Kindergarten through Adult Education efforts, we work with students from the time they are just learning the alphabet until they walk out into the “real” world of college, work, career, and beyond. It is our teachers who make a very significant positive difference for students. Tonight, the Board approved this resolution to affirm the work of our teachers and the difference they make in the achievements and well-being of students.

Approval of Resolution No. 47-2021 “California Classified School Employee Week – May 16-22, 2021”

The dedication and expertise of our over 2,475 contracted classified staff provide the optimal learning environment for students and work environment for our employees. All deserve to share in the recognition for the District’s strong reputation and student success.

Approval of Resolution No. 43-2021 “School Bus Drivers’ Day – April 27, 2021”

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, and manage multiple children on a bus in a safe and professional manner. The Board acknowledges and recognizes our 158 school bus drivers for their accomplishments, as well as those of our entire Transportation Team.

Approval of Resolution No. 44-2021 “School Lunch Hero Day – May 7, 2021”

This day provides an opportunity for parents, students, school staff, and the community to thank those who provide healthy meals to students each school day. During this time of crisis and uncertainty, our food and nutrition professionals demonstrate their sincere commitment to the welfare of our students by preparing and distributing over 12,500 meals each school day.

Approval of Resolution No. 45-2021 “California Adult Education Week – April 18-24, 2021”

The Board approved a resolution to honor the significant contributions of the Poway Adult School to the District and community. California Adult Education Week highlights the impact the Poway Adult School makes to a healthy community by offering a multitude of low-cost, high-value programs, and career training to adults seeking to reach their individual education goals.

Future meetings: Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The following regular meeting dates for 2021 were approved by the Board of Education:

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Thursday, June 3 | Thursday, October 14 |
| Thursday, June 24 | Thursday, November 18 |
| Thursday, August 12 | Thursday, December 16 |
| Thursday, September 9 | |

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