

B ard Briefs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **DECEMBER 15, 2022** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Board Agenda for the December 15, 2022 Board of Education Meeting can be found here: https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030791&MID=15882

► Moment of Silence

The meeting started with a moment of silence for Creekside Elementary 2nd grade teacher Stephanie Sweeney. Ms. Sweeney has been with PUSD for 31 years. She taught at Garden Road Elementary, Turtleback Elementary, and Creekside Elementary. Principal Angelica Barragan-Su shared these words of remembrance: “Those who knew Ms. Sweeney saw and felt the love she had for each and every one of her students. She was remarkable in motivating them to do their very best. She will be greatly missed by her students, colleagues, community and especially her family.” Our deepest condolences to the friends, family, colleagues, and students of Ms. Sweeney.



► Swearing in of New and Returning Board Members

Welcome and congratulations to the re-elected board members Ginger Couvrette and Michelle O'Connor-Ratcliff, as well as newly elected board member Heather Plotzke. They were officially sworn in this evening.

► Election of Board Officers

Congratulations to the following Board Members:
Dr. Darshana Patel, President
Michelle O'Connor-Ratcliff, Vice President
Dr. Cindy Sytsma, Clerk

► Superintendent and Board Recognition

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

TJ Zane has served on the Board of Education for 8 years. Tonight was Mr. Zane's last night as a Board Member and he was honored by Superintendent Phelps and the Board. PUSD thanks President Zane for his professionalism, calm, stability, knowledge, and awareness of District matters, while keeping students as a top priority. In her remarks, Dr. Phelps added: “The work that you did with addressing safety, security, and mental health for students will have a lasting impact for many years to come in PUSD. Your infectious personality and the sense of humor you bring to the District and to your role as a Board Member will be greatly missed. You always had a wonderful way of putting things into perspective as well as bringing a smile to our faces.”



- **Three students from PUSD** were named among the 25 Most Remarkable Teens in San Diego County. [A full description of their accomplishments can be found here.](#)
 - Ellen Xu, Senior at Del Norte High School
 - Roshan Shah, Senior at Westview High School
 - Reed Ganzer, Junior at Poway High School



► **Studio 701 Digital Internship**
“Excellence in Education” Series

In the latest installment of the “Excellence in Education” video series for the 2022-2023 school year, our Studio 701 student interns highlighted the recent State of the District event, held on November 17, at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts.

WATCH:

<https://youtu.be/tL4VjOuAzFY>



► **Student Board Representatives** The Board heard reports from student representatives at four schools:

- Ava Kcomt, Mt. Carmel High School: Ava shared that boys water polo won the D1 CIF Championship; their clean campus crew is keeping MCHS in top shape; the choir performed at Disneyland; hosted KUSI’s Alarm Clock Pep Rally; MC’s Giving Tree supported 53 families; the Sundevils comp cheer finished 2nd in CIF; following winter break – ASB hosting Willy Wonka themed rally; wonderful winter concerts taking place with band, choir, drama, dance
- Ava Razon, Rancho Bernardo High School: Ava was excited about RB’s cultural fair in November, the collaboration with Diversify your Narrative on their book drive, period products fundraiser, classes bonding over treats, selling candy grams, spectacular winter performances by visual and performing arts, and winter sports
- Jessica Tran from Poway to Palomar Middle College:

spoke about the strong orientation and bonding activities for the inaugural class of PPMC; students formed an ASB, hosted first homecoming, and started 10 diverse clubs. They are participating in No Place for Hate activities, celebrating Hispanic, Filipino, LGBTQ, Dia de los Muertos; their first-ever Seasonal Showcase showed off student learning

- Risha Guha, Design39 Campus: Risha is the founder and president of the student empowerment team (leadership) and the student rep on the Collaborative Board; examples of activities include a family friendly TK-5 math game night, Maker39 (yearlong startup/business project), Lead39 electives such as journalism. In addition to spirit week and 6-8 winter dance, planning elementary school talent show and multicultural event “Passport39”



► Public Comments

The Board heard comments regarding:

- First Lego League (Mesa Verde and Park Village students) solar projects at schools

► PUSD Awarded California School Boards Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award



Poway Unified School District was awarded the CSBA Golden Bell Award in the category of “Closing the Opportunity Gap” at CSBA’s Annual Education Conference. PUSD’s Career Technical Education (CTE) Program, “Jump-Starting Pathways to Rewarding Careers,” was recognized for increasing access for underrepresented students to real-world, hands-on pathways and experiences in a wide variety of sectors.

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

► Approval of PUSD Facilities Upgrades for the following:

- Exterior Paint Project at Meadowbrook Middle School (Contract Awarded)
- Lighting Control Panel Retrofit Project at Willow Grove Elementary School (Contract Awarded)
- Purchase and Installation of Pour-In-Place Rubber Surface for Playground Repairs at Westwood Elementary School (Resolution Approved)
- Purchase of HVAC Equipment for Westview High School (Resolution Approved)

► Approval of Initial Proposal for Contract Negotiations from the Board of Education to Poway School Employees Association (PSEA) Units I and II 2023-2024

The Board held a public hearing and adopted the District’s Proposal to PSEA Unit I and II

► Approval of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Student Calendars

Tonight, the Board approved student calendars for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. The calendars reflect 180 student attendance days, legal holidays, District recess days, and three non-student days. The non-traditional calendars from Valley Elementary School and Abraxas High School will be submitted to the board at a later date.

The 2023 First Day of School will be August 16, 2023

The 2023-2024 calendar can be viewed [here](#). The 2024-2025 calendar can be viewed [here](#).

► **Approval of MOU with Cal State San Marcos**

The MOU outlines our joint commitment to ensuring students' college readiness and will offer PUSD students with a 3.0 GPA and above guaranteed admission

► **Three New High School Courses Proposed**

Tonight, the Board heard from Associate Superintendent Carol Osborne and supporting staff regarding three new high school courses. A request for formal approval will be submitted at the January Board Meeting. The proposed courses are as follows:

- Link Crew Leadership 1-2
- Mobile App Development 1-2
- Spanish Language Development 1-2

► **Digital Schools Position Control and Electronic Timesheet Update**

Director Laura Vaca, who is retiring this month, highlighted the greatly improved internal control processes as recommended by internal auditors while moving towards replacing manual paper transactions with electronic transactions that include authorization workflow and oversight.

► **The Approved the Positive Certification and Revision to the Budget**

The Board certified that the District will meet its fiscal obligations in the 2022-23 fiscal year and the two subsequent fiscal years. The PUSD General Fund Combined Fund Balance in 2022-23 is projected to increase from \$87.2 million to \$98.4 million.

2023 Meetings:

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 12

Thursday, February 9

Thursday, March 9

Thursday, April 6

Thursday, May 11

Thursday, June 1

Thursday, June 15 or June 22

Thursday, August 17

Thursday, September 7

Thursday, October 12

Thursday, November 9

Thursday, December 14 – Organizational Meeting

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