

# Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **APRIL 7, 2022** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Board Agenda for the April 7, 2022 Board of Education Meeting can be found here:

<https://powayusd.com/PUSD/media/Board-Images/BoardAgendas/2022/04-07-2022-Board-Agenda.pdf>

## ► Superintendent and Board Recognition

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

- San Diego County Spelling Bee Champion Mihir Konkapaka, 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Connect Academy
- Design39Campus and Del Norte High School took home the national titles in the Middle School and Open Divisions at the National CyberPatriot Competition
- Dr. Darshana Patel was named as the City of San Diego 2022 Woman of Distinction for District 5

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

In the latest installment of the “Excellence in Education” video series for the 2021-2022 school year, our Studio 701 student interns highlighted the unique partnership between Poway On Stage and PUSD, to bring a week-long free theater camp to our students. **WATCH:** <https://youtu.be/gELoyD7Eh2I>



## ► Student Board Representatives

The Board heard reports from student representatives at the following schools:

- Mt. Carmel High School – Charlie Hicok spoke about how Spring sports athletes are headed into league matchups; theater students will be putting on Little Shop of Horrors; winter guard continues their

competition season; tomorrow is their Spring pep rally; will be hosting Sundevil Bowl (first ever flag football face-off between seniors and juniors); their Clean Campus Crew is having success in conveying that “Clean and Green is the Sundevil Way”; also saving food to donate back into the community

- Westview High School – Amy Zhao spoke about how students are one week into Quarter 4; ASB is currently undergoing the club application process, with new and innovative clubs, including ASL Club and Crypto Club; in February they held Lunar New Year and Black History Month celebrations; in March they held Unity Day for the Class of 2024 to encourage personal growth and was part of No Place for Hate efforts; held a feminine product drive in honor of Women’s History Month, as well as highlighting girls’ sports and women’s history panel; Westview Mock Trial won County and 10<sup>th</sup> in State; currently theater company is doing a Mamma Mia production
- Westwood Elementary School – Isla Stefanik highlighted running club, which happens every Tuesday and Thursday, as students work towards a 100-mile ribbon; students look forward to the fun of Friday flag assemblies, and every other Friday is X-ploration; students are receiving art lessons from parent volunteers as part of the Art Attack program; students create a Roadrunner TV news show, Westwood’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is coming up
- Willow Grove Elementary School – Evan Borawski and Adya Shipekar reported together, focusing on Willow Grove being a kind and caring school; students held a sock drive collecting hundreds of socks to donate; they also held a kindness challenge every day for kindness week; student council ambassadors make announcements every morning including a focus on character traits; they also lead Friday flag and do monthly spirit days, trying to be more inclusive, such as multiples matching day instead of twin day

#### ► Public Comments

The Board heard comments regarding:

- Concern over earlier school start time in the Fall for some elementary schools (7:45am) due to implementation of SB (state law requiring later starts for middle and high schools)



#### ► Approval of “National Nurses Week” – May 6-12, 2022

As licensed healthcare professionals, healers, comforters, and role models for our students and staff, school healthcare workers perform vital tasks which improve the safety, health, and academic success of all students. #TeamPUSD nursing and healthcare technicians and specialists worked tirelessly these last two years. Short staffed, many of our staff members worked six, often even seven days a week during the pandemic, managing and reporting data and attending to staff and student needs.

National Nurses Week begins on May 6<sup>th</sup> and ends on May 12<sup>th</sup>. This week will provide an opportunity to thank our health care staff for taking such great care of our students, staff, and families and advocating for improved health services in our schools.

*pictured from left to right: JoAnn Chauvapun, Laurie Snyder, Stacy Munro, Shannon Morris-Kornacki*



► **Appointment of Student Board Member to serve during the 2022-2023 School Year**

The Board interview sub-committee met on April 1, 2022, to interview Student Board Member candidates. The Board sub-committee members then reached a consensus on a final candidate to recommend for approval to the Board: Prisha Puntambekar, a junior from Mt. Carmel High School. The full Board of Education voted tonight to accept and appoint Prisha as the new Student Board Member and Brayden Lou, Del Norte High School, as the alternate.

Prisha's term will begin with the August 2022 Board Meeting and will conclude with the June 2023 meeting.

Please view [the press release](#) for more background about Prisha Puntambekar. Congratulations!

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**The Consent Calendar was approved in its entirety, with the exception of Item 5.7a. Items to note:**

► **Approval of California Classified School Employee Week (May 15-21, 2022)**

A fundamental organizational value within the Poway Unified School District is the belief that all employees contribute to student learning. It is through our collaborative efforts that we best ensure student success. The dedication and expertise of our over 2,387 contracted classified staff provide the optimal learning environment for students and work environment for our employees. Whether administrative support staff, custodians, paraprofessionals, groundskeepers, managers, supervisors, technology staff, facilities and maintenance staff, food service employees, or transportation staff, everyone deserves to share in the recognition of the District's strong reputation and student success.

► **Approval of National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6, 2022)**

In our District's Pre-Kindergarten through Adult Education efforts, we often work with students from the time they are just learning to walk until they walk out into the "real" world of college, work, career, and beyond. Throughout this time, it is our teachers who make a very significant positive difference for students. Whether working with our youngest students or with our adult learners, the commitment, competence, and compassion of our teachers set the Poway Unified School District apart from other school districts. The Board adopted this resolution to honor our teachers and the difference they make in the achievements and well-being of our students.

► **Approval of School Bus Drivers' Day (April 26, 2022)**

The Governor of the State of California has designated April 26, 2022, as School Bus Drivers' Day. We are pleased to acknowledge and recognize our 120 school bus drivers for their accomplishments, as well as those of our entire Transportation Team.

► **Approval of School Lunch Hero Day (May 6, 2022)**

School Lunch Hero Day is a national celebration that has been recognized annually since 2013. 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. School Lunch Hero Day is also a chance to highlight the difference school nutrition professionals make for every child who receive a nutritious school breakfast and lunch meal.

► **Adoption of New High School Textbooks for AP World History and AP Environmental Science**

At the March 10, 2022, Board Meeting, the textbooks *Ways of the World with Sources*, for the AP Course, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, and *Exploring Environmental Science*, for AP Updated, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, were presented to the Board of Education as a first reading and were recommended for adoption at the April Board Meeting. They have been reviewed by representative teachers and will be used in all Poway Unified School District (PUSD) High School Advanced Placement (AP) World History or AP Environmental Science classes. The textbooks are in alignment with subject-specific State and District standards. The textbooks are available for review in the PUSD District Office.

► **Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools relating to the 2021-2022 After School Education and Safety (ASES) Grant**

The Poway Unified School District has been awarded an After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program grant in the amount of \$2,123,512.46 for the 2021-2022 school year as part of a consortium facilitated by the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools. The ASES Program aligns with site and District initiatives and content and is offered at five middle schools, Bernardo Heights, Black Mountain, Meadowbrook, Mesa Verde, and Twin Peaks as well as Valley Elementary School, all within the Poway Unified School District.

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► **Approval of New Salary Schedule and Salary Reallocations for Management Positions**

Over the last several years, it has become increasingly difficult for the Poway Unified School District to recruit and retain highly qualified candidates for management level positions. Due to resignations and ongoing challenges with management recruitments, it has become abundantly clear that the District has lost a competitive advantage to local and regional districts when seeking candidates for internal or external promotional opportunities. Thus, Personnel Support Services (PSS) and Business Support Services (BSS) recently conducted an extensive review and analysis of our certificated and classified management positions in comparison to other school districts. As a result of conducting a thorough analysis, several significant concerns were identified and recommended for approval:

- Increase the work year by 8 workdays for High School Assistant Principal positions
  - Increase the work year by 9 workdays for Middle School Assistant Principal positions and move the Range from 18 to 19
  - Increase the work year by 9 workdays for Elementary School Assistant Principal positions and move the Range from 17 to 18
  - Increase the work year by 8 workdays for the Continuation/Alternative School Assistant Principal position and move the Range from 17 to 18
  - Move Career Technical & Adult Education Assistant Principal (12-month) positions from Range 18 to 19
  - Move the Director of Preschool and Before/After School Programs position from Range 21 to 22
  - Add step 6 onto the management personnel salary schedule for all management positions
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► **Proposed Adoption of the A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan for PUSD (first reading)**

The A-G Completion Improvement Grant Program was established by Assembly Bill 130 for the purpose of providing additional supports to Local Educational Agencies (LEA) to help increase the number of California high school students, particularly unduplicated students, who graduate from high school with A-G eligibility. The Poway Unified School District's A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan shall include a description of supports and interventions to increase eligibility and completion rates for students within the LEA, particularly unduplicated students, in A-G courses approved by the University of California.

A copy of the PUSD A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan has been provided to the Board electronically for their review and is available to the public upon request.

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**Next Meeting: Thursday, May 12, 2022**

Thursday, June 2

Thursday, June 16

No July Board Meeting

Thursday, August 11

Thursday, September 8

Thursday, October 13

Thursday, November 10

Thursday, December 15 (Organizational)

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