

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **SEPTEMBER 8, 2022** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Board Agenda for the September 8, 2022 Board of Education Meeting can be found here:
https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030791&MID=15017



► Superintendent and Board Recognition

Superintendent Phelps and the Board recognized the 2022 District Teachers, Classified Employees, and Volunteers of the Year. Each honoree received recognition and a plaque. In addition to District level recognition, one Poway Unified Teacher of the Year was named as one of five San Diego County Teachers of the Year:



District Classified Employees of the Year:

- **Andrea Schmidt, Bus Driver, Transportation Department**
- **Debra Sabatini, Health Technician at Bernardo Heights Middle School**
- **Alisa Mendenhall, Accounting Assistant, ESS/Preschool**
- **Julie Charles, Health Technician at Willow Grove Elementary School**



- District Teachers of the Year:
- **Nay Flinn, Kindergarten Teacher at Connect Academy**
- **Andrea Ford, Spanish Teacher at Westview High School (not pictured)**
- **Aimee McCoy, Humanities and AVID Coordinator at Mesa Verde Middle School**



Additional congratulations to Aimee McCoy, who was also named as one of five 2022 San Diego County Teacher of the Year. She will go on to represent PUSD and San Diego County in the State California Teacher of the Year competition.



District Volunteers of the Year:

- **Genni Myles, Turtleback Elementary School**
- **Shelley Porter, Mt. Carmel High School**
- **Joe Schreiber, Youth in Transition**



All of the school site, program, and department employees, teachers, and volunteers of the year will be honored at the upcoming Starstruck! Celebration Awards Dinner on October 7, hosted by the PUSD Foundation.



► **Student Board Representatives**

The Board heard reports from student representatives from these schools:

- **Ava Kcomt, Mt. Carmel High School:** Ava talked about the Sundevil Way which includes the equity team interrupting bias on campus, LINK crew planned freshmen welcoming, unveiled the Battle of the Fans CIF banner for the Red Sea, Homecoming is Oct 1 with “Trip to Hollywood” theme, Freshman Retreat with Keith Hawkins, Club Rush on Oct 14
- **Zoe Law, Chaparral Elementary School:** Zoe talked about some unique things about her school, including Melody Makers musical choirs performing at PCPA, Counselor Mr. Hicks created Hawks Squad of 5th graders to help mentor kindergarteners, Running Club during recess run by parent volunteers, CAPES program hosted Back to School carnival and family dance and movie nights, Character Pillars are important and are painted on the ball walls on the playground

► **Public Comments**

The Board heard comments regarding:

- Suicide Awareness and Prevention from family of suicide victim
- Request to include families and keep them informed in reading curriculum
- Concern over inappropriate reading material in PUSD classrooms and libraries

- Concern over material in ethnic studies curriculum and criticism of perceived racism in PUSD
- Appreciation for District partnership with Trans Family Support Services, as well as support for College Bound and new Ethnic Literature classes
- Palomar PTA and JEDI Committee support for equity and inclusion efforts in PUSD
- Parent appreciation for diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Concern over lack of reliable air conditioning and inequitable facilities conditions at RBHS and BHMS
- Concern over lack of Jewish representation in ethnic studies curriculum

► **Early Literacy 2.0 Initiative**

Learning Support Services and the Special Education Department announced the launch of the Early Literacy 2.0 Initiative. The initiative will build on the PUSD’s Reading Academy (2014-2017) to further the knowledge, strategies, and skill set of our classroom teachers around The Science of Reading and Structured Literacy. With the help of a one-time, two-year Educator Effectiveness Grant, grades K-2 teachers will receive professional learning during the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. This professional learning consists of five consecutive days of in-depth learning experiences with a trainer.



► **Golden Quill Award**

Angela Brandt, journalist with the Poway News Chieftain, has been chosen as one of 15 recipients of the Golden Quill Award, presented in recognition of fair, insightful and accurate reporting on public school news by print, broadcast and online news media representatives. Ms. Brandt was nominated for the Golden Quill Award for her article, [Poway Unified sees success with program to integrate special education students](#), which highlights PUSD’S Inclusive Practices Program.

► **\$10 Million for Rancho Bernardo High School/Bernardo Heights Middle School Water-Chiller System**

Associate Superintendent Little and Director of Facilities Arras provided the board and the community with an update related to recent repairs and long-term plans for the antiquated Chiller System. The long-term solution will involve the redesign and reconstruction of the current system. Tonight the Board approved setting aside \$10 million of General Fund Reserves (approximately 2% of Reserves) to support the implementation of this critical project. This number will be refined as more refined estimates become available.

► **PSEA Unit I and II 2022-23 Successor Contract Agreement and Revisions to the Salary Schedules**

- Effective July 1, 2022 a 5% wage increase on all PSEA Salary Schedules
- Effective January 1, 2023, a Step 6 column added to all PSEA Salary Schedules
- The District committed an additional \$1 million for a total of \$2.3 million, ongoing across PSEA Unit I & II to fund the recommended salary adjustment for the remaining Cycles 3 to 6 of the classification review process

► **Approval of New Salary Schedules for Supervisory, Certificated Specialist, and Confidential Classifications**

The Board approved adding Step 6, effective January 1, 2023, on the new salary schedules for Supervisory, Certificated Specialist, and Confidential Classifications for the remaining positions that fall under APSM but were not included in the original April 7 approval.

► **Approval of New Salary Schedules for the Superintendent and Associate Superintendents**

The approved a 5% wage increase to all salary schedules, effective July 1, 2022, for the Superintendent and Associate Superintendents to be in alignment with the recommendation made for all District employees.

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

► **National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month: September 2022**

PUSD is proud to join the California Department of Education and Districts statewide in designating September as “National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.”

► **Approval of 2021-22 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2021-22 year-end close are:

- Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Entitlement of \$337.2 million, approximately 71.4% of total General Fund Revenues
- Funded Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of 35,351 based on 2019-20 levels
- General Fund Actual Revenues exceeded Expenditures by \$12.3 million
- Net Activity is \$14.6 million
- General Fund Ending Balance is \$87.2 million
- Reserve level is 10% at 2021-22 year-end close

► **Updates on Visual Performing Arts (VAPA) Program and Funding Plan**

Associate Superintendent Osborne and VAPA Specialist Kayla Warren updated the board on the Strategic Arts Plan, its implementation, and VAPA facilities funding proposals. Details include:

- Equitable and standardized, industry-standard upgrades to Sound, Rigging and Curtains, Lighting, Projection, Automation, Building Structures for high school performing arts centers
- Industry-standard upgrades to Little Theaters at BMMS, MVMS, and TPMS
- VAPA attire (band uniforms and choral robes) replaced
- Capital improvements to the Poway Center for the Performing Arts (pending Joint Use Agreement)
- Increase in instrument replacement budget

Future Meetings:

The following regular meeting dates remain for 2022:

- Thursday, October 13
- Thursday, November 10
- Thursday, December 15 (Organizational)

*NOTE: Approval to change the regular scheduled Thursday, August 10, 2023 Board Meeting to August 17

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