

# B ard Briefs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE **OCTOBER 13, 2022** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Board Agenda for the October 13, 2022 Board of Education Meeting can be found here:  
[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB\\_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030791&MID=15624](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030791&MID=15624)

## ► Superintendent and Board Recognition

Superintendent Phelps and the Board recognized student and staff accomplishments, including:

- **Sara Garcia**, Del Norte Freshman, was the winner of the “Advocate Award” at Circulate San Diego’s 2022 Momentum Awards. The awards recognize San Diegans who create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods. Sara won for her project to build two 4S Ranch bike repair stations.
- **Ken Wall**, Director of Information Technology, was presented with a Top Tech Award in the Category of Education. Honorees in eleven categories were selected by an independent judging panel.

## ► Studio 701 “Excellence in Education” Series

For their first piece, the Studio 701 Interns chose to highlight PUSD’s 40<sup>th</sup> school: Connect Academy, a hybrid school, combining the best of online and in-person learning.

WATCH IT HERE => <https://youtu.be/UPA4iEdMyZk>



## ► Student Board Representatives

The Board heard reports from student representatives at four schools:

- Del Norte High School – Natalie Cleary: seniors are busy applying for college applications, there are 27 semifinalists for National Merit, 1600 participants in Homecoming Dance “Fly Me to the Moon”; peer tutoring helping students with challenging subjects; ASB hosted activity for National Coming Out Day
- Poway High School - Kiara Bowser – students hosted “Through the Decades” homecoming theme at San Diego Air & Space Museum, KUSI Alarm Clock Pep Rally featured PHS, students helped Bay the Brave (8-year-old with muscular dystrophy) achieve his goal of running a mile at PHS football game, PHS is preparing for No Place for Hate week, varsity football team remains undefeated
- Meadowbrook Middle School - Saorise Lawlor: spirit wear given to all students thanks to Foundation; during Hispanic Heritage Month shared cultural contributions; ASB hosting Fun Fridays, Spirit Days (including Padres Day), Breast Cancer Awareness, Family Movie Night, and Canned Food Drive

- Creekside Elementary School - John-Paul Ryu and Ryan Sadrabadi: “Creepside” is back – Fri. Oct 21 and Sat Oct 22 haunted house; students enjoy playing on the ball walls painted by Custodian Mr. Harry, enjoy reading garden outdoor space; they are working on creating a culture where everybody feels like they belong; Creekside is a No Place for Hate school; Start with Hello week to promote respect and acceptance, Positive-T Tuesday, Kindness Week to help others and give compliments

► **Public Comments**

The Board heard comments regarding:

- Concern over books containing inappropriate content
- Concern over restricting access to books in school libraries
- Concern over inclusion, equity, diversity efforts
- Concern over ethnic studies book list
- Concerns over some early literacy training, teaching, and screening
- Desire for increase in fentanyl education for Red Ribbon Week

► **WongAvery Global Languages and Culture Program Support**

The Avery-Tsui Foundation is awarding \$1,088,366 over the next five years to help fund PUSD’s new and innovative WongAvery Global Languages and Culture Program. The program will expose all PUSD elementary school students to a variety of world languages and international cultures, as well as encourage international cooperation and collaboration. The languages that students will learn are Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Filipino, Spanish, and American Sign Language, expanding to include Hindi, Arabic, and French in the future. All 27 PUSD elementary and two K-8 schools and their students will have the opportunity to experience instruction in all of the languages, rotating every 5 weeks to the next language.



► **Community Facilities Districts Special Tax Reduction Plan Update**

The Special Tax Reduction Plan is still on track to save Poway Unified taxpayers an estimated \$1.2 billion upon full implementation, over the life of the Program. The updated plan will be posted on the website (BSS page).

► **Personnel Commission Update**

Director Rebecca Lee shared the work of the Personnel Commission over the past year. Some notable statistics:

6173 Applications Received (32% increase from the previous year)  
1075 Total Contracted Positions Hired (40% increase from the previous year)  
151 Unique Recruitments (45% increase from previous year)  
527 Resignations and Terminations (52% increase from previous year)

► **Award of Request for Proposals for RBHS/BHMS Chiller Design Plan**

The Board awarded contracts to SVA in response to the District’s RFP for the (re)design of the water-cooled chiller plant located at Rancho Bernardo High School/Bernardo Heights Middle School.

► **Update on Abraxas High School Expansion Project**

PBK shared plans for modernizing facilities for the Transition Program, which includes new ADA parking and restrooms as well as new classrooms. The project budget is \$6 million from Fund 25-Capital Facilities Fund and Fund 49- CFDs. Construction is expected to be started in June 2023, completed by January 2024.

► **Poway Center for the Performing Arts Joint Use Agreement**

The Board approved the Joint Use Agreement between PUSD and the City of Poway for the PCPA.

The new JUA includes these major new provisions and/or augmentations:

- PUSD use of the PCPA on weekends and evenings is expanded from 77 days to 88 days annually
- PUSD has full access to the PCPA, Monday through Friday, during regular school hours for its educational programs
- PUSD and the City will jointly create a new theatre internship program for PUSD student participation
- PUSD has access to the PCPA during summer months for programs and camps
- PUSD agrees to pay 35% of actual operational costs of the PCPA and 35% of agreed-upon capital improvement project costs annually
- Funding will be provided by the Arts, Music & Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant

► **CA School Dashboard – Local Indicators**

The State Board of Education (SBE) has approved local indicators for priority areas identified in the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). The local indicators, collected by Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), are as follows:

- Priority 1: Basic Services
- Priority 2: Implementation of State Academic Standards
- Priority 3: Parent Engagement
- Priority 6: School Climate
- Priority 7: Access to a Broad Course of Study

The findings for the Poway Unified School District for 2022 show that each of the five applicable local performance indicators, listed above, has been met.

► **TK-12 Math Presentation**

Math Teachers on Special Assignment, Thy Dinh and Traci Jackson presented PUSD’s work and progress to date on TK-12 mathematics, and plans for supporting mathematics instruction for this school year.

**Some highlights:**

- 321 teachers participated in 55 TLCs, including Mathematical Mindsets and Building Thinking Classrooms
- Expansion of Match Accel courses to additional high schools
- The addition of Data Science courses at high schools

► **Homework Board Policy and Regulation Review Presentation**

**Some highlights:**

- Over 55 teachers have engaged in TLC regarding Grading for Equity
- Next steps include reviewing current board policies, and site practices regarding homework and supporting professional learning around grading for equity

► **PUSD Alternative Learning Pathways**

The District's Alternative Learning Pathways available to students include: Abraxas High School, Connect Academy, New Directions, Poway Home Education Program, and Poway to Palomar Middle College. Over 455 families participate in one of these alternative learning pathways.

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

► **Approval to Recognize October 2022 as National Farm to School Month**

Farm to school efforts empower children and their families to make informed food choices while providing new market opportunities for farmers and producers, thereby strengthening the local economy.

► **Approval to Recognize October 10-14, 2022 as National School Lunch Week**

This special week is recognized annually to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life. This year's theme is "Peace, Love, & School Lunch."

► **Approval to Recognize October 2022 as Dyslexia Awareness Month**

The District is committed to continuing to support professional learning for all staff as well as researching and exploring the best practices and curriculum available to ensure the academic success of students facing the challenges of dyslexia is achieved.

► **Approval to Recognize November 7-11, 2022 as National School Psychology Week 2022**

National School Psychology Week is November 7-11, 2022. This special week provides recognition for our school psychologists. Our District recognizes psychologists for their continuous encouragement of students and for supporting them in examining their abilities, strengths, interests, passions, and talents.

► **Approval to Recognize October 23-31, 2022 as Character Counts! and Red Ribbon Week**

Poway Unified is participating in Character Counts! and Red Ribbon Week for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Prevention. The theme for this year is "Celebrate LIFE. Live Drug Free!".

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**Future Meetings:**

**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 10**

Thursday, December 15 (Organizational)

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