



Orange Unified School District
District Advisory Council (DAC)
Meeting Notes

Wednesday, March 15, 2017
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Villa Park High School – Library

Superintendent Michael Christensen welcomed the group and introduced Principal Dr. Ken Miller. He thanked Dr. Miller for hosting the District Advisory Council Meeting at Villa Park High School. Everyone took a moment to introduce themselves.

Dr. Miller began the meeting by pointing out the VPHS folders that were prepared for each DAC member and then showed a presentation of the various courses and events offered on the Villa Park High School campus, including the sports and performing arts. He shared his philosophy on his role as a principal and discussed the upcoming 2017 Gold Ribbon School visit, as VPHS is a nominee this year. (The VPHS presentation posted on the DAC tab on the OUSD website).

Some of the highlights:

- Oracle (school newspaper/magazine)
- Academic and Sport Competitions
- CTE Courses/Pathways
- College and Career Model
- AP/IB and College Ready; ACT and SAT School Wide Testing
- AVID and Project Lead the Way
- SWAT – School Wide Assistance Tutoring

Superintendent Michael Christensen thanked Dr. Miller and complimented Villa Park High School for their role in shaping OUSD as a “District of Excellence”.

Mr. Christensen then introduced Joe Sorrera, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services/CBO. Mr. Sorrera explained the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) budget certification and the process. He discussed the Governor’s State proposed budget for 2017-18 and that there will be a slight increase for schools as the Governor is proposing a 1.48% COLA (cost of living adjustment). Declining enrollment presents a challenge to the District as it reduces the District’s revenue by approximately \$8,500 per student. Declining enrollment is not unique to our District.

Due to the costly standard of living in the county, folks are moving away, younger families are delaying having children, resulting in less student enrollment. Based upon the agreement with the teachers bargaining unit TK- 3 class size reduction program will be implemented starting next year. Some districts in the county received a qualified certification, but OUSD will receive positive certification due to its ability to meet its financial obligation for the current year and the next two fiscal years as stated in the multi-year projection. Presently, staff will start planning to reduce expenditures to balance the budget in future years. Earlier cuts or reductions will allow the District to be in a stronger position in the future to secure a positive certification.

Currently OUSD is engaged in a demographic study, as it is important to gauge what enrollment will be in future years. In June, OUSD will adopt the budget using the new information from the Governor's May revision.

Q. We see that Santa Ana and Garden Grove are laying off – will OUSD as well?

A. OUSD is proactive and some staffing issues may be addressed through attrition. There will be a small layoff due to curriculum changes in Health moving to an online course. At least for this year OUSD will not be engaging in lay-offs.

Q. When you say that \$8,500 per student is lost when a student leaves OUSD, does it really cost that for the education of one student for one year?

A. On an average we receive approximately \$8500 per student annually to pay for direct cost such as supplies, salaries, etc. In the U.S., out of 50 states, California is 46th in funding per student.

Mr. Christensen thanked Mr. Sorrera and introduced Gunn Marie Hansen who presented on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Dr. Hansen explained to the council members that the LCAP plan is written to meet the needs of students and further refined each year. The outcome of the stakeholder process through surveys and focus groups determine the plan. This year the survey was tailored to adjust to a particular grade level as this was the feedback received from the DAC participants. This year over 1,000 stakeholders participated in focus group discussion with an overall increase in survey responses of about 3,000. Student responses in particular increased and totaled over 6,000. The top five themes were post HS planning, update school facilities, offer more academic tutoring to all levels, updating teaching methods, and integrating technology to expand access. The trends of the Parent Focus Groups: offer academic help at all levels, expand course options, parent information/education, extracurricular options and increase support staff (bilingual), extracurricular options, food on campus (lunches), technology, and school wide events/activities.

The LCAP planning next steps are public hearing in May and the adoption of the LCAP will be at the June Board meeting. This is a continuous improvement process. (Local Control and Accountability Plan Annual Update & Actions 2017-2020 posted on DAC tab on OUSD website).

The California School Dashboard is based on the indicators in the LCAP.

Dr. Hansen introduced Elena Rodriguez to speak on the California School Dashboard, and she presented a PowerPoint (posted on the DAC tab on the OUSD website) which told the purpose of the California School Dashboard and the field test of the new website designed to help communities to access important information about K-12 districts and schools. The California Department of Education (CADE) should have the Dashboard ready for public review today. The Dashboard is a multiple indicator system. In the presentation on the Dashboard, equity and constant reflection and refining of actions are key to using the data. The dashboard indicators are by the State priority areas determined by academic indicators and school climate indicators such as suspension rates. OUSD current dashboard indicators were discussed relative to status and the growth over time (change).

Q. Will schools hold back kids who should be suspended?

A. We currently have programs in place for improving behaviors, such as PBIS and Restorative Justice Programs. School climate will shape what is happening at schools and principals are refining discipline procedures.

Ms. Rodriguez reminded the council that a lot more goes into judging a school than a number. There are multiple conditions and indicators.

Q. Does the California Dashboard apply also to the Charter?

A. Yes – all public schools. Not the private schools.

Ed Kissee spoke about school calendars. School calendars in OUSD are board approved for this year and the two following years. He explained the breaks and that school currently ends on the Thursday of the second full week of June. He explained to the council that some OC schools are adjusting calendars to start in earlier for educational reasons, AP testing in May and then finals. Some local colleges are offering early opportunities to take summer courses and that is what is driving the calendar adjustments. OUSD Board of Education has approved administration to do a study on the early start option to see if it is feasible for our district. Student calendars are shared out at District Advisory Council meetings; there will be a Board presentation, and there would be parent polling prior to making any decisions on moving school calendars to an earlier start date.

Mike Christensen then reminded the council that in OUSD we “go slow to go fast”. We will move slowly on the decision of the calendar and there will be no changes for this next year. There are pros and cons to the early start calendar.

Mr. Christensen discussed Measure S and the ongoing design process. The schematic design of the labs are complete and are standardized for approximately 40 students at each school lab. At the April 13 Board meeting the architects will provide a presentation on the design, schedule and estimated budget Orange HS. The next several Board meetings will have similar presentations on the other high schools. He invited all to attend the Board meetings to view the presentations. Each school is unique and for each school there are different issues as each will have different considerations.

Mr. Christensen encouraged everyone to share the message about attending the Board meetings to see the presentations. Following the Board meetings, the presentations will also be available online on the District website. All school design plans should be available in the next 3-4 months. The Bond oversight committee is required to follow the Brown Act or open meeting law. They will hold their first meeting soon and it will be open to the public. He encouraged all to come.

There was discussion regarding VPE and the demolition of the old buildings. Summer projects will not be scaled back due to the removal of buildings.

Mike used caution when saying construction would begin the summer of 2018 – that is a target date. Many contributing factors to the timeline: State Architecture Approval, the bidding process, etc. Each school will have their own construction manager so that no High School is waiting for progress to occur on another campus.

Q. How does the state matching funds affect our projects?

A. If we do get additional funds, it will be several years as the Governor is trying to change how the funds are distributed.

Attachments/Handouts (posted on the OUSD Website/DAC tab)

- Villa Park High School Programs (PP)
- OUSD 2016-17 2nd Interim Budget Report (PP)
- Local Control and Accountability Plan: Annual Update & Actions 2017-20 (PP)
- California School Dashboard (PP)
- Multi-Year School Calendars

Adjournment – 11:10 p.m.