



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

Wednesday, January 22, 2020  
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

McPherson Magnet School – Room 500

Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen welcomed the District Advisory Council to McPherson Magnet School and thanked Principal Joe Erven for hosting the meeting.

Dr. Hansen provided an update to the Strategic Plan – the OUSD EDGE. She shared that in the area of *Excellence in Academics and Leadership*, all areas of the California State Dashboard indicated growth. Continuous innovation is preparing our students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, such as Jordan Academy of Language and Computer Science Immersion. OUSD was recently accepted into the prestigious national network of 100 districts in the League of Innovative Schools. Two of OUSDs schools received the Golden Bell Award - Fletcher Elementary School for the Mandarin Immersion program and California Elementary School for the iInspire Drone League.

In the area of *Dedicated and Engaged Communication*, OUSD has created a communication task force that includes parents, community and staff members to communicate with families. The new OUSD Challenge Coin and Community Recognition program were added to build bonds with staff, businesses and community.

For *Genuine Wellness and Safety*, OUSD implemented a Bullying Prevention Handbook and is focusing on anti-vaping strategies. OUSD added new improved security cameras for surveillance on some campuses.

*Efficient Utilization of Fiscal Capital* allows OUSD to progress on Measure S projects – El Modena HS and Orange HS Science Centers will be the first to open in the fall of 2020. OUSD refinanced some debt at a lower interest rate and was able to capitalize on that, saving about \$10,000,000. The money OUSD saved can be used to support student programs. OUSD continues to participate in a variety of marketing opportunities.

## Topics discussed:

- Measure S Update – Scott Harvey, Senior Executive Director, Facilities
  - OUSD is on budget
  - El Modena High School and Orange High Schools' science buildings will open in fall of 2020 – Ribbon Cutting information will be sent to all feeder schools later this year. A 20 foot fence will be built around the baseball field at El Modena.
  - A Topping Out ceremony was held at El Modena HS before the holidays; Villa Park HS's Topping Out will take place on February 20, 2020.
  - An interim kitchen is complete at Canyon HS.
  - Fred Kelly Stadium will be opening in April 2020.
  - Four change orders were submitted to allow for unforeseen obstacles/changes to plans that come up during construction. The budget has allowances for these changes.
  - Construction is underway at all four comprehensive high schools.
  - A question was asked about Orange High School's Little Theatre. Scott explained that deferred maintenance funds will cover the cost of new seats, flooring, stage curtains, dressing rooms, ceilings, etc. He will be walking the site with contractors in February to get bids.
  
- 2019-2020 First Interim Budget Report – Jenny Delgado, Executive Director, Business Services
  - A copy of the 2019-2020 First Interim Report was distributed.
  - OUSD enrolled 200 more students than what was projected for 2019-20.
  - Districts throughout California continue to decline in enrollment, except Irvine.
  - OUSD revises the budget every three months.
  - OUSD is communicating educational programs and marketing them.
  - People are beginning to see the progress of Measure S.
  - OUSD is beginning budget development with the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). It is a team effort that includes stakeholders who all work together. The budget will be presented at the February 6, 2020 Board Meeting.
  - Orange County Department of Education certifies the proposed budget.
  - SEA – Saturday Enrichment Academy enhances the attendance rate and we are able to recapture some ADA.
  - The Second Interim Budget Report will be presented on March 12, 2020.
  - The user friendly budget is available on the OUSD website:  
<https://www.orangeusd.org/departments/business-services/budget-reports/user-friendly-budgets>
  - Enrollment projections, historical enrollment, multi-year projections, and the rising cost of doing business were discussed and are available in the 2019-2020 First Interim Report.
  
- McPherson Magnet School – Principal, Joe Erven
  - Dr. Hansen introduced Joe as the new Executive Director of Innovation and Excellence for the District. Congratulations, Joe!
  - McPherson is a unique school – the only K-8 school in the District; there are no attendance boundaries for McPherson; all students are accepted through a lottery system; McPherson receives 400-500 requests per year.

- McPherson is a project based learning environment.
  - Joe explained the vision of McPherson which has a STEM magnet focus.
  - McPherson was named a PLTW (Project Lead the Way) school five years ago for the K-5 program that contains four modules.
  - McPherson was recognized as a PLTW Distinguished School in 2019 for the STEM program – the only one in the county for middle school, and one of four for elementary.
  - Four McPherson students will be speaking at the National Summit in Anaheim January 31 – February 2nd.
  - All students build a project to solve a unique problem.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> graders take STEM and science classes.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> graders take a computer science class where they build apps.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> graders take a biomedical detective course.
  - McPherson works closely with El Modena HS and Villa Park HS, as both schools continue the PLTW Pathway.
- LCAP Focus Group – Elena Rodriguez, Executive Director, Accountability, Equity and School Support
    - Anyone interested in participating in a District level Local Control Accountability Plan Focus Group should email Elena Rodriguez at [erodriguez@orangeusd.org](mailto:erodriguez@orangeusd.org). The meeting will take place February 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in Board Room 3.

### **Attachments/Handouts:**

- OUSD EDGE Update
- Measure S Program Update
- 2019-2020 First Interim Budget Report
- McPherson Programs
- McPherson Flyer