BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

**SUPERINTENDENT – JOSÉ L. BANDA**

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**DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT – LISA ALLEN, INTERIM**

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**CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER – DR. OLIVINE ROBERTS**

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**CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER – CATHY ALLEN**

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From the Office of the Superintendent  

To the Members of the Board of Education  

Prepared by: José L. Banda, Superintendent  

Contact Email: Superintendent@scusd.edu  

Subject: Highlights of Calendar for the Week of May 18  

**Tuesday, May 19**  
- Observing Transition Based Senior Project Presentations at CKM HS/site visit  
- Attending SCOE Superintendents’ Meeting  
- Attending Superintendent’s Evaluation Committee Meeting  

**Wednesday, May 20**  
- Attending Wells Fargo Foundation Breakfast Honoring our Schools  
- Attending CDE’s School Recognition Awards  

**Thursday, May 21**  
- Attending NextEd’s CEO Champions Meeting  

**Friday, May 22**  
- Meeting with Christopher Maricle (CSBA) and Member Woo  
- Meeting with City Manager, John Shirey  

Approved by:  
José L. Banda, Superintendent  

Date: 5/15/2015
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Lisa Allen, Deputy Superintendent

Contact Email: lisa-allen@scusd.edu

Subject: SBAC and Student Grades

At the May 7 Board of Education meeting, Student Board Member Saito raised concerns about the online Smarter Balanced Assessments and the impact of the exams on student grades. Exam results do not count toward student grades. In most cases, teachers will not even be informed of student results until after school ends in June. However, as an incentive to encourage students to make an honest effort on exam day, some high school teachers offer extra credit for taking the tests seriously.

Approved by:

José L. Banda, Superintendent

Date: 5/15/2015
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Iris Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

Contact Email: iris-taylor@scusd.edu

Subject: Update on Physical Education Credit Towards High School Graduation

The information outlined in this Board Communication provides an update on the district’s physical education program and specifically addresses the direction provided by the Board at the January 22, 2015 Board meeting. The update addresses four areas:

1. PE credit options for students graduating in the 2014-15 school year
2. Criteria for using the PE exemptions allowable in CA Education Code
3. PE credit for Marching Band and JROTC
4. Options for PE credit in the 2015-16 school year

PE Credit Options for Students Graduating in the 2014-15 School Year

In the 2013-14 school year, SCUSD instituted changes to the courses allowed for physical education credit to ensure compliance with CA Education Code and state law. Due to the timeframe of these changes and as part of the transition, the district is working with schools to ensure that 2014-15 graduating seniors are not negatively impacted. Graduating seniors previously awarded physical education credit for Marching Band and JROTC will not be prevented from graduating because of a lack of sufficient physical education credits. As we continue the transition we will assess and pursue available options for awarding PE credit in a manner that maintains compliance with state law.

Options for PE Credit in the 2015-16 School Year

High schools that offer JROTC and/or Marching Band are instituting various measures to provide greater opportunities for students to earn Physical Education (PE) credit required for high school graduation. These options are being made available to students to mitigate restrictions on courses that previously, but no longer can be taken for PE credit. The options are developed based on available site resources including adequate staffing and funding. Although the sites are taking varied approaches, below is a reporting of the patterns emerging in the planned options for the 2015-16 school year:

- Four schools are offering a “0” period option for students to take PE before the beginning of the regular school day
- Two schools are offering a 7th period option where students take PE after the regular school day
- Two schools are offering an independent study option
- Two schools have a certified JROTC teacher and will offer PE credit for JROTC

Additional information regarding these options can be found on the district’s physical education webpage at [http://www.scusd.edu/physical-education](http://www.scusd.edu/physical-education).
Criteria for Use of the PE Exemptions
Staff continues to engage in the process of working with stakeholders to define criteria for the use of available PE exemptions allowed by CA Education Code. Actions to date include the following:

- Teachers are in the process of making recommendations for the use of the exemptions as well as revising the PE Course of Study
- Principals will meet to discuss criteria for the Physical Education exemptions at the Principals’ Meeting on May 20, 2015

In addition to these actions, the district will convene a committee comprised of representatives from SCTA, UPE, Human Resources and Curriculum and Instruction to assess the impact and feasibility of proposed recommendations and reach consensus. The final recommendations of criteria for the use of the PE exemptions will then be brought to the Board.

Awarding Physical Education Credit for Marching Band and JROTC
An update on the district’s actions in the area of awarding physical education credit for Marching Band and JROTC was addressed in a previous Board Communication on April 29, 2015. Below is a recap of the most salient points.

The requirements for offering physical education credit for an elective course as outlined in Education Code includes the following:

- The course must be taught by an appropriately credentialed teacher
- The course content must addresses the eight components of instruction for physical education and the content standards
- The Physical Fitness Test must be administered to students enrolled in the course

Staff has taken the steps outlined below:

- The Curriculum Office has begun meeting with SCTA to assess the impact of the proposed change on staffing and work conditions for its members
- The Human Resources Office has researched the process for instituting a Committee on Special Assignments to address credentialing requirements
- Sites have been informed of viable options for students to earn physical education credits towards graduation
- Funding has been allocated to support teachers with acquiring supplemental credentials

As noted in the previous Board Communication, the requested changes are complex and will require extensive engagement prior to implementation to ensure that they adhere to requirements in CA Education Code. We will continue to address the requirements outlined and provide the Board with updates.

Approved by:

José L. Banda, Superintendent  Date: 5/15/2015
From the Office of the Superintendent

To the Members of the Board of Education

Prepared by: Cathy Allen, Chief Operations Officer

Contact Email: cathy-allen@scusd.edu

Subject: Asbestos Testing Ordered for McClaskey

District staff moving a ceiling tile in a storage room at A. Warren McClaskey adult center disturbed a small amount of material that appears to be dust. As a precaution, we are testing the material for the presence of asbestos. We are testing the air in an adjoining classroom as well, although there is no connecting ductwork between the rooms. If the material tests positive for asbestos, we will abate the material from the storage room. We will know the results as early as tonight. We are in contact with Dr. Gilmore and will advise her after the test results come in if there is any need to relocate students Monday morning.

Approved by:

José L. Banda, Superintendent ☒ Date: 5/15/2015