

LCAP PAC Meeting Notes

January 28, 2019

Attendees:

Renee Webster Hawkins, LaShanya Breazell, Frank DeYoung, Chinua Rhodes, Cecile Nunley, Katie Smith, Oswaldo Hernandez, Kae Saepanh, Andrew Maalouf, Miguel Cordova, Toni Tinker.

Guests:

Mai Vang (SCUSD Board of Education Member, Area 5), Sean Arseo (UC Davis), Bob Hammes (Making Cents Work), Terrence Gladney (JFK Parent, Bond Oversight Committee), Teresa Hernandez (DELAC Officer).

Staff:

Vincent Harris, John Quinto, Kelley Odipo, Cathy Morrison, Rosa Rivera (Interpreter).

Announcements:

Sad news: Cathy Horiuchi's husband passed away over the weekend. Members were invited to sign a sympathy card. Toni Tinker has requested that we phone her during the next few meetings while she is on maternity leave. Group agreed. Cathy M. asked for a volunteer to serve as timekeeper using index cards notifying speakers of 5 minutes, 1 minute and time up. Frank DeYoung volunteered to fill this spot.

Presentation on the Budget process (John Quinto, Ed.D., Chief Business Officer):

Dr. Quinto reviewed the annual schedule under which districts submit information to the County and report to the Board: First interim is submitted in December, Second interim submitted in March.

The Average Daily Attendance state average is 94% - we usually exceed the state. However, the district is experiencing declining enrollment. Question: where are the students going? Parking lot question: Why is the Special Day Class (SDC) enrollment not declining?

Projecting enrollment - Dr. Quinto prefers to look at three-year projections. The district is now using the "Cohort Survival Method" to predict enrollment.

While providing greater funding, the Governor's budget doesn't solve the deficit. One of the main drivers is health care costs. Look across the state - we are one of the highest

in the money we allocate to health care benefits. \$2476 of about \$10,000 goes to fund employee health care.

Special Education (SpEd) costs: we receive \$38 million and contribute \$58 million to make up the full cost of SpEd services.

Comment: CAC (Community Advisory Committee for Special Education) would like better description of the costs included in the SPED budget. Since more students are going to a less restrictive environment, shouldn't the costs go down?

Answer: Dr. Gillespie is auditing SpEd costs as part of the FCMAT audit. The district wants to leverage the impact of a new trailer bill. Will clean up line items.

Comment: Member is skeptical about the impact of the trailer bill. Two PAC members requested detail be provided on line item spending - for SpEd and all items covered (transportation, salaries, etc.) Please work with the CAC to make a regular budget presentation at the time of the interims.

Per pupil cost for health benefits for employees is \$2,476 - about \$6,500 left over to spend on students. SCUSD's cost expressed per pupil is nearly the highest in the state. Elk Grove Unified School District's per pupil cost is \$1,214 by comparison.

Comment: SCTA and the district are arguing about who started working with CHECHR (sp?) first. It doesn't matter who started it. Just finish it. Asked Board member to respond.

Board Member Vang: Negotiation team is working through this. Both parties agree we have to do something about the health care. Hopeful we can find common ground.

Comment on use of Supplemental and Concentration (S/C) funds: is the district using funds as intended? Cathy will email the district's Increased and Improved Services section to PAC members. Dr. Quinto stated we do not use S/C for raises. However, there are instances where the funds are used for salary.

Reviewed slides on compensation, health care costs, salary. SCUSD has both the highest average starting salary and average maximum salary.

The district is predicting that we will run out of money in November 2019 unless reductions are made. This will come with shared sacrifice. Dr. Quinto stated he is pretty certain that projection is correct. He asked three different unrelated people to project cash flow: SCOE, internal, and a private colleague.

Comment: What about the good works of the Grad Task Force, MTSS Committee, etc.? Will their recommendations get chopped? It's important to re-engineer the district's spending not just make cuts. Members expressed concern about flight - families are fleeing to other suburbs such as El Dorado Hills. Special Ed services have to be part of the discussion. All of the communication from the district is framed around cuts.

Comment: Take a hard look at Return on Investment (ROI) - what are the outcomes we are getting?

Comment: What's happening with School Site Council (SSC)? It's not working at most schools. Member preference is to let the district decide how the funds are going to be spent. SSC is supposed to be parent involvement and letting them having a say. Member does not have confidence that is what's happening.

Comment: When the budget is dire, schools close - transportation is cut - services to kids performing the lowest are cut first because those are the highest expenditures in the district. Member has great concerns that historically this is how things happen. Why you see white flight and redlining of where our money goes. Need to build the community back up. The district is paying money to maintain empty buildings where schools have been closed.

The [Parking Lot](#) contains some additional questions.

Board Meeting PAC Member Speaker:

Oswaldo Hernandez volunteered to speak at the February 7 meeting.

Board Member Comment:

Board Member Vang thanked everyone for their help, insights, etc. She has not heard discussion on cuts. Suggests the committee lean into the LCAP to see what the priorities are. Important to be a good steward of community engagement. She appreciates listening.

PAC Priorities

The list of priorities from last year's letter were provided. The priority indicates the frequency of citation by last year's PAC members.

1. Close the achievement gap
2. Increase diversity of GATE & specialty programs
3. Performance of Students with Disabilities

4. Reduce Chronic Absenteeism
5. Increase Counselors & Social Workers Specializing in Trauma
6. Support for anti-bullying efforts
7. Increase Civic Engagement
8. Performance of Foster Youth

PAC Discussion: Should Suspension be added as a priority, and included with Chronic Absenteeism? They are related, but not combined. The district has more supports for attendance than suspension right now.

Trauma Informed Training: This is important training for all. Consider adding teachers and school psychologists?

DELAC Officer Teresa Hernandez requested the committee add bilingual counselors and social workers.

Members agreed to add these items to the list of priorities:

- Suspension
- Bilingual counselors and social workers
- Trauma informed training: modify to include Teachers and School Psychologists.

2019 Mid-Year LCAP PAC Priorities (1/28/19):

1. Close the achievement gap
2. Increase diversity of GATE & specialty programs
3. Performance of Students with Disabilities
4. Reduce Chronic Absenteeism
5. Increase Counselors & Social Workers Specializing in Trauma; add training for Teachers and School Psychologists
6. Support for anti-bullying efforts
7. Increase Civic Engagement
8. Performance of Foster Youth
9. Reduce Suspension Rate
10. Increase the number of bilingual Counselors and Social Workers

Members asked how the list could be provided to the Board.

Discussion: PAC members will have “homework.” Contact the member who appointed you to discuss these priorities and get Board input. Ask for their top three priorities, and share yours.

Comment: Could the Board reciprocate? PAC members really want response from the Board.

Vincent: Weekly Board Communication (BC) - we will send a BC this week with the list of priorities. We will let the Board members know PAC members want to speak with them.

Comment: PAC should be influential in outcomes and not cuts. Let’s drive outcomes! Midyear explicit communication.

The district should include lived experiences in the LCAP, such as pieces of the Town Hall meetings.

Announcements/Non-Agenda items:

PAC members are invited to attend the Graduation Task Force meeting February 13 - at Serna Center. More information to follow.

School Climate Survey: Two members expressed their disappointment in the Family Survey. The survey was very generic and included no specifics about their perception of safety for students. Would have appreciated space to include open-ended comments.

Public Comment:

Terrence Gladney - Stepped away from the LCAP PAC because he felt his time wasn’t valued in the committee. Budget - look at spending on programs that you think are effective. Empower community partners who can be experts.

Sean Arseo - Going back to your representative and speaking directly to them is a great idea.

Kelley Odipo - Thanked the group for their participation. Enjoyed the first meeting.

Pluses:

Timekeeper

Deltas:

- Recap from the previous presentation: add to agenda areas of concern
- Can each meeting include a debrief of the previous meeting?
- What happens to the Parking Lot? The questions either are outside of the committee scope or better answered by someone who is not in the room. Can the district provide a response to the Parking Lot at the following meeting?
- Restructure the agenda so the first ten or fifteen minutes include the above.