



PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL REPORT FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Our mission: PCHS will empower our diverse student population to make positive contributions to the global community by dedicating our resources to ensure educational excellence, civic responsibility, and personal growth.

Schoolwide Goal: PCHS will commit to equitable policies and practices to ensure Pali's diverse student population has access to academic opportunities.

Schoolwide Goal: PCHS will continue to improve consistency in instructional curriculum, policies, and practices and increase student centered learning.

INFORMATIONAL AND FEEDBACK MEETINGS

Voluntary staff meetings will be held during each class period on **February 19 and 20** for teachers and staff to learn more about and provide input on **1) proposed policies and 2) charter renewal revisions**. Draft policies to be reviewed include policies addressing Advanced Placement, Concurrent Enrollment, and Grading. The proposed policies have been discussed previously in Curriculum Council/Department Chair meetings, department meetings, and Long Term Strategic Planning Committee meetings. The charter renewal dialogue is an ongoing one. The PCHS Board Charter Committee has begun meeting monthly. An informational workshop during the second semester professional development day introduced the topic of charter renewal. The current PCHS Charter extends through June 20, 2020.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS WITH A GROWTH MINDSET FOCUS

- New teacher and student teacher meetings.
- Math Department PLC pull out meetings
- Math Success Task Force
- Curriculum Council/Department Chair meeting

GRADE LEVEL MEETINGS

PCHS has initiated grade level meetings this year. The purpose of these meetings is to build class identity and connection as well as to share pertinent information. Each class will meet for their semester meeting during February and March. All grade level meetings will incorporate presentations from the Counseling Department to help students prepare for spring scheduling and state testing requirements. **Positivity Aspiration Learning Integrity** are ongoing themes for these meetings.



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COLLECTIVE BARGAINING meetings with PCHS UTLA and Management continue. The site teams last met on February 7 to discuss goals and priorities. Discussions have been positive and productive. The teams have calendared dates to continue discussions in March. The current contract expires in June 2019.

PCHS and PESPU representing classified staff will also be meeting. The PESPU proposal is included in the meeting materials.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (SARC)

Every K-12 public school in California is required by state law to publish a School Accountability Report Card (SARC) each year. The SARC contains information about the condition and performance of each school. For more information about SARC requirements, visit the [California Department of Education \(CDE\) SARC web page](#). A final copy of the 2017-18 PCHS SACR report will be presented for Board approval at the March meeting. The report can be viewed on the CDE website: <http://sarconline.org/Sarc/About/19647331995836>

COLLEGE CENTER

College Center Meetings with Juniors

The PCHS College Center Counselors met with all 11th graders/class of 2020 to share information about the college application process. Students received a “To Do” list for the College Center and learned about a variety of related topics such as Naviance, ACT/SAT test dates and practice programs, tutoring, college admissions statistics, common application prompts, and financial aid. Juniors will also receive information in their English classes regarding the upcoming CAASPP (CA Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) and College Readiness.

College application updates for the class of 2019

Total college applications submitted: 5804

Number of Colleges: 526

Total number of acceptances to date: 198

Posse Scholars

The Posse Foundation identifies, recruits and trains individuals with extraordinary leadership potential. Posse Scholars receive full-tuition leadership scholarships from Posse’s partner colleges and universities. PCHS is extremely proud to have five Posse scholars this year.

Bailey Ball – Tulane University

Jasmin Flores – Northwestern University

Rebecca Hochman-Fisher – Middlebury College

Brooke Messaye – University of Wisconsin

Tnsae Mulu – Bucknell University

College Acceptances - Early Decisions

Several members of the Class of 2019 have accepted offers to the following prestigious schools:



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Carnegie Mellon
Colgate University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
George Washington University
New York University
New York University
Southern Methodist University
Tufts University
Vassar

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATES

Charter Operated Programs Option 3 - The mission of the Charter Operated Programs (COP) team is to empower a community of charter schools to work together to build innovative, high-quality educational programs and services for students with unique needs. To solidify this mission, a Memorandum of Understanding defines the relationship between the charter and LAUSD Division of Special Education. District authorized charter schools have the option to apply for membership in Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3. PCHS is a member of Option 3. As an **Option 3 member school**, PCHS operates independently for the purposes of special education. Option 3 charter schools are housed within the LAUSD SELPA and have access to District-wide special education supports. There are **three governing councils** with representatives from each participating school on each council: Coordinating Council - Mary Bush; Financial Council- Greg Wood; Executive Board - Pam Magee.

Through COP funding and coordination, Mary Bush and Pam Magee recently traveled to Oakland, CA to attend tours of the **Seneca family of agencies** and schools with which they are partnering within Oakland USD. A central Seneca theme is unconditional care to ensure students' academic and emotional needs are being met through community partnerships. COP charters are exploring applying for a **COP Impact Grant** to contract with Seneca to assess and make recommendations to strengthen our programs such as Response to Intervention (RtI) and Restorative Justice and provide consultative services to assist us to develop stronger programs. PCHS also applied to COP to request fiscal assistance for unanticipated costs this school year – costs such as the administrative team while Mary Bush was on medical leave and unanticipated services for students entering Pali this year, i.e. BID & BII services.

The PCHS **District Validation Review (DVR)** was completed on 1/29/19. The DVR is the District's internal monitoring process mandated by the District's Modified Consent Decree. DVR's are routinely conducted every 5 years though the District may conduct one at any time. The DVR team commended Pali on being well-prepared for the District Validation Review and providing a positive and supportive educational environment for students.

PCHS is working with a new test coordinator and the Academic Achievement team to look at variables impacting CAASP scores. Professional Development is planned for Special Education teachers this month to educate them on CAASP accommodations and test strategies.



An increasingly challenging issue is the school's inundation with the assessment of District students in our residency area. We have approached the Charter Operated Programs Unit to advocate for the removal of this obligation from conversion charter schools. Each assessment/IEP takes an inordinate amount of time both for administrative personnel and service providers who must assess, observe at the private school, develop and attend IEP team meetings. To date, PCHS has ten district cases to manage.

Our Mental Health team is working hard to support students struggling with emotional issues. We'll be sending out photos of our team to assist teachers in recognizing these staff members when students are summoned from class.

The Student Support Services/Special Education Department will be presenting more detailed information at the March 19 Board Meeting.