



PALISADES

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Executive Director/Principal Report Board of Trustees Meeting April 21, 2020

Adjustment to School Closure Dates:

Since the last PCHS Board of Trustees meeting, school campus closures have been extended through the summer by the state, county, and district. PCHS will continue eLearning through second semester and summer. Summer School classes for credit recovery will continue through the eLearning model.

Future Considerations:

California Governor Gavin Newsom has begun signaling possible expectations for school sites to reopen in the fall. These potential requirements include staggered start times, smaller class sizes, and continued social distancing in hallways and common areas. These measures combined with anticipated reduction in state funding for schools resulting from COVID-19 emergency conditions are serious budgetary considerations. As PCHS moves into the annual budget cycle, it is understood that there are many uncertainties. The annual Governor's May Budget revision that ordinarily is a key determinant in the PCHS budget process will be revisited in August, 2020.

Academics – Launch of Phase 2 eLearning Policy:

Phase 2 of eLearning started on April 13. Adjustments to the daily schedule provide greater flexibility adding office hours and designated times for staff meetings. The plan addresses the length of class/screen time and probability of ending the school year remotely. Professional development and tech coaching focusing on eLearning tools and instructional strategies will continue throughout the semester.

Senior Activities and Graduation:

A PCHS Senior Class Council has been meeting to determine alternative end of year activities and graduation ceremony preferences for the Class of 2020. In addition, Nick Melvoin, LAUSD Board District 4 representative, has formed a student committee to hear from seniors and provide support for their preferred alternative commencement plans. A student representative from each of the BD4 high schools will participate in a round table zoom discussion sharing ideas for senior activities including proms and graduations – ranging from winter break in-person graduations to virtual graduations and beyond. Board District 4 high schools include: Alonzo Community; Animo Venice; Bernstein; APEX; Fairfax; Hollywood; McBride; Pali High, Phoenix Continuation; Stem Academy of Hollywood; Taft; Thoreau Continuation; Uni; Venice; Walt Whitman Continuation; West Hollywood Community Day; Westchester; and WISH.



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Grade Policy for Spring 2020:

PCHS is proposing grading guidelines for second semester that take into consideration circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and transition to eLearning. Stakeholder feedback as well as recommendations from the state, county, district, and from higher education have been given serious consideration throughout the development of this plan. Key points include:

- Costs and benefits of deciding on mandatory vs. optional letter grades;
- Policies that do not relate to requirements for academic programs; and
- Policies that do relate to requirements for academic programs, i.e., course qualification requirements, etc., and
- eLearning Final Assessments.

Grade proposal summary

- Universal Grading Scale
- Wider Bands with no letter grade of F
- Use of No Credit in lieu of F
- Final assessment format change
- Final assessment weight restriction
- Due Date for Final Assessment: May 15
- Instructional support until June 4

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Student Support Services:

Two teams continue to monitor student needs during the pandemic. The Coordination of Services Team (COST) meets weekly to review cases and provide support for students. An Outreach Team was formed to contact students who are not participating in eLearning. Team members are calling students and parents to determine what they need to be able to engage in distance learning. Chromebooks, hot spots, tech support, COVID-19 resources and mental health counseling are some of the needs identified and provided for through the support teams.



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Emergency Amendments to PCHS Mathematics and English Placement Policies:

PCHS is amending the Math and English Language Arts Placement Policies for Fall 2020 due to social distancing mandates and COVID-19 related school closures. PCHS will use multiple objective academic measures to determine appropriate math and ELA placement for incoming ninth-grade students including the following:

- 1) Course completion and grades earned in previous math classes (Fall Grade).
- 2) California Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) 6th and 7th-grade test results.
- 3) CAASPP Interim Assessment Administration Blocks (IABs), (if they are available)
- 4) Spring course grades. (Spring Progress 1)

During the first week of school, PCHS will administer a Checkpoint Test in all classes to determine if a student's placement is appropriate. The test will also determine what educational gaps students may have after spring learning disruption.

The amended placement policies will be followed **only for fall 2020** and publicized and shared with all stakeholders, including Revere Middle School and other feeder schools from which our students regularly matriculate, via our website.

Attachments:

eLearning Phase 2

Grade Policy for Spring Semester 2020

Math Placement Policy – Emergency Amendment

ELA Placement Policy – Emergency Amendment