



PALISADES

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Faculty Report Board of Trustees Meeting March 16, 2021

Heading: Teacher Agreement & Faculty Feedback

- Teachers would like to be informed as to how best to plan instruction for the remaining two months after Spring break. Instructional planning has now begun by many teachers for the remaining two months.
- Currently, the Board Grade Appeal Policy is waiting for administration feedback. The faculty is interested in completing this policy and making a recommendation at the Board meeting in March.
- There are still questions about the possible hybrid model and when to expect a tentative plan about the fall. We need to begin examining how best to open the school next year. It has been suggested we explore one or two days a week asynchronous schedules for intervention, department testing, professional development, etc.
- There are also concerns about the bell schedule and coming back fulltime. Should that schedule be adjusted to the later start time (8:30 am) and a limited day schedule with supports to fill in the learning gaps during the afternoon hours (12:30 to 3:00).
- Teachers are continuing to incur added expenses for supplies and materials used at home and are asking about reimbursement. They are, however, very grateful for the \$100 stipend in our last paycheck provided by donations from the PCHS community.
- The teachers' commitment is far above and beyond, and they are routinely doing 8–14-hour workdays to help students catch up and keep up with work as well as support parents and families in the educational process.
- As we are an independent charter, LAUSD should not guide PALI testing policy. Nor should our reopening policies be directed by LAUSD. We should follow county and state guidelines and work as a community to determine what is best for all Pali stakeholders.
- Teachers continue to plan for and be sensitive to the needs of the students including mental health problems, digital divide, workload, diverse learning styles, and parent concerns. Teachers are working individually, and in their PLCs, to address these issues.
- Faculty would like clarity of new funding Pali is receiving and what will be budgeted for the coming year with the increases in funding. They want to be part of this discussion and work to set priorities going forward including continued PD training and development time to align with the ever-changing teaching methods.
- The unConference and Techapalooza Professional Development sessions were a smashing success. The teacher feedback has been terrific, and teachers are requesting more PD like these sessions. The teachers appreciate their colleagues planning these sessions and sharing their expertise.
- Because of the types of trainings mentioned above teachers have developed very creative, more personalized, increasing sophisticated and technologically savvy curriculum and



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assessments that will prove to be a silver lining of this pandemic and will be used going forward in our development of best teaching practices.

- Faculty is encouraging the Board to develop SMART goals to build a new Pali VAPA complex in the next five years.
- Re-open with SPED students went smoothly. Students and teachers excited to be back on campus. Thank you, Mary Bush, and Carolin Herrmann, for all the time and effort they put into making this happen.

Heading: Compliance Issues

- The faculty and the student body patiently wait for a response from regulators to guide us on how best to proceed with conflict of interest and committee board representation.
- All stakeholders are looking forward to the clarification of the committee members, and who is responsible for setting up the meetings and the meeting agendas.

Heading: Cash Reserves and Lifetime Benefits

- We would like to thank Mr. Herrera for his clear, detailed reports and the continued monthly updates.
- Questions regarding when and how the Lifetime Benefits and the cash reserves are being invested to preserve the Lifetime Benefits and insure they become self-sustaining and that the cash reserves contribute to the financial stability of the school. Teachers appreciated the last update and are looking forward to a resolution to the funds being invested and properly managed.

Heading: UTLA-PCHS

- UTLA representatives will provide further teacher input as gathered by them.