



# PALISADES

## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

### Executive Director/Principal Report Board of Trustees Meeting October 12, 2021

*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.*

#### **Annual Schoolwide Goals**

The PCHS Board of Trustees, Executive Director/Principal, Directors/Assistant Principals and students representing ASB Leadership, Ambassadors, Justice Union, BSU, LSU and more met in Mercer Hall on Saturday, August 18 to discuss schoolwide goals for the 2021-22 school year and beyond. The group reviewed the previous schoolwide goals, critical benchmarks identified in the WASC Accreditation Action Plan for Equity, the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) surveys, and the annual LAUSD Charter School Division Compliance Audit.

The theme of “Mission Driven Education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners” provided direction for developing measurable goals to achieve educational excellence, lifelong learning, and wellness for all stakeholders.

#### **What is Mission Driven Education for 21st Century Learners?**

- Technology as a tool to guide and support critical thinking
  - Need for computer competency
  - Tech Standards
- Teacher PD- What does 21st Century education look like?
  - What does the research say?
  - Analyze areas of success and areas needed to update
  - Dedicated time for ongoing professional development
- Proactive Family Education and Workshops
- FUNDING for programs
- Shared schoolwide vision and application
- Updated schedule to meet the learning needs of all students
  - -Allows for Academic, Emotional, and Social Support
- Ethical Education
- CTE/College Credits/Career Exploration
  - Needs to the community- present and future
  - Outreach to the community

Participants broke into small groups to examine and revise the previous goals as reflected below:

- **Academic Achievement:** PCHS will focus on its educational program by reevaluating and *updating* existing courses and instructional practices to include innovative and



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relevant content. Curricular units will contain technology skills, life skills/realia, and connections to college and career. Additionally, PCHS will add courses to the catalog to further align with college and career readiness. PCHS will refine its data system to track student progress towards college and career readiness.

- **Communication:** PCHS will utilize, refine, and explore current and new communication systems and platforms to inform the PCHS community on PCHS's strengths, needs, data, relevant updates, and opportunities for participation in school-wide events and programs
- **Diversity:** PCHS will commit to equitable policies and practices to connect PCHS's diverse student population with necessary personalized resources and support, accommodations, and academic opportunities.
- **Fiscal:** PCHS will identify and adopt cost-effective priorities to achieve 21st century student focused education. PCHS will do this with complete transparency and accountability, while maintaining a balanced budget and cash reserve levels of 5%+ and provide measurements through monthly and annual reporting.

The next phase of goal development is determining how these goals will be aligned to the WASC and LCAP goals for accountability and measurement. This information will be presented at the November 16 Board of Trustees meeting.

### Schoolwide Assessment Day

**Due to the learning loss that occurred during COVID-19, PCHS has committed to assessing academic achievement and identifying academic gaps to inform our in-person school program.** We have reserved **October 13** as a **Schoolwide Assessment Day for grades 9-11**. Seniors will be engaging in specialized senior meetings and activities during this day.

The schoolwide assessment will give PCHS the data needed to identify academic levels and aptitude for future scholarships as well as Advanced Placement and Honors programs. The assessment chosen for this purpose is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). In addition, the PSAT/NMSQT is a great practice for the SAT.

The PSAT will not incur any cost to PCHS families as the school has paid for this test. An additional benefit to our students is that they will receive free college planning tools to help them start their college searches. More importantly, students will be given feedback on the types of AP courses for which they may be particularly well-suited. Taking AP courses can help PCHS students earn college credit while still in high school.

To give this schoolwide assessment, PCHS will be following a **minimum-day schedule**. The **day will begin at 7:50 AM, and students will be released at approximately 12:30 PM**. Accommodations and extra time will be given to students who are qualified. On Thursday, October 14, our regular schedule will resume as an EVEN day.



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**Dress Code Task Force** – PCHS is engaging students in the revision of the school’s dress code. A student group facilitated by PCHS counselors is currently reviewing model dress codes such as the Oregon NOW Model to present revisions for adoption this semester. Pali’s goal is to support equitable educational access without reinforcing gender stereotypes and guarantee respect for all on our campus while ensuring a safe learning environment. Once the revisions to the dress code are completed and approved, PCHS will provide mandatory training for administrators, teachers, staff, and students. An additional instructional component will address consent and anti-sexual harassment policies.

**Vetting of the No Credit Policy** – The Academic Accountability Committee discussed and proposed a permanent policy change to eliminate F grades to be replaced with NC marks. The proposal was presented to the PCHS Board of Trustees in September. Preparation period meetings facilitated by the faculty and administrators who proposed the policy change will be held in the coming weeks before the NC Policy returns to the Board of Trustees for a vote in November.

**Save the Date - Upcoming Meeting:**

- **Long Term Strategic Planning (LTSP)**

The next LTSP Committee Meeting is **Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 3:30pm**. Participation is greatly needed and appreciated. Meetings are open to all.