



# PALISADES

## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

### Executive Director/Principal Report Board of Trustees Meeting February 28, 2023

*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 Goals - Academic Achievement/Professional Development/Diversity**

The month of February at PCHS has been dedicated to reflection and recommitment to the equity work that is an ongoing schoolwide goal and significant component of the charter's Action Plan for Equity that earned a six-year accreditation – the highest offered by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. PCHS cares deeply about providing a safe and equitable climate for every student, which is why we decided to start 2023 with a recommitment to our Campus Climate & Culture Pledge. Having a strong sense of safety and belonging at school are critical elements of a positive learning environment where students can thrive.

Building on the January 9, 2023, day of professional development focused on campus culture and climate, the February Faculty Meeting addressed related topics:

- Social Justice lesson plans
- Social Justice Commitment
- Pali Social Justice Progress – A Timeline in Photos
- Things that can be done now
- Student Culture and Climate Survey Highlights
- Safety Drill Preparation

*Please refer to the February 7, 2023, Faculty Meeting presentation included in the February 28, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting materials.*

#### **PCHS Commitment to Equity and Social Justice:**

*We will not tolerate, and we will stand against any form of hate or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, abilities, sexual orientation, citizenship, or socioeconomic status. Our goal is for all students and staff to know they are safe, valued, and respected."*

*Our vision is to become a cohesive and constructive community for students to learn who they want to be. As staff members, we are fully committed to our mission statement. Together we will cultivate an uplifting environment where students are inspired and empowered to pursue their personal aspirations.*

#### **Museum of Tolerance PLC visits:**

We are looking forward to focusing on

1. Identity work.
2. Equity tools in classrooms.
3. Combatting all forms of hate on campus.

#### **Equity Focus – Things everyone can do now!**

-If you see hate symbols (swastikas, nooses, racist caricatures) report them to the Deans Office x7228.



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-If you hear discriminatory language or hate speech, report it to the deans. Call 1234 if an immediate response is needed. Don't pretend you did not hear inappropriate comments. Step in and protect students who are victimized by the language. The deans will support you with consequences and education.

-Teachers acknowledge holidays when creating due dates. Allow for late work due to holidays with no penalties.

**-List of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Holidays** as referenced in the Equity Presentation

2/22: Ash Wednesday

3/1: Women's History Month

3/6-7: Purim

3/8: Holi

3/23: Ramadan Begins

3/31: Cesar Chavez Day

4/5-12: Passover

4/6: Good Friday

4/9: Easter

4/14: Orthodox Good Friday

4/16: Orthodox Easter

5/1: Asian Pacific Islander Month

6/1: LGBTQ+ Pride Month

6/19: Juneteenth

6/29: Eid al-Adha

**Pali Positives:** Each month PCHS celebrates a certificated employee and a classified employee who have gone above and beyond to support students. February's honorees are Randy Tenansnow and Stephanie Brooks.

### **Randy Tenansnow – English Department Co-Chair and Virtual Academy Coordinator**

*In her 20+ years at Pali, Randy has inspired generations of students by creating opportunities for students to challenge themselves and grow in thought and perspective. There is no question that her students adore her as they feel supported and motivated in her student-centered classroom. Randy makes rigorous concepts and curriculum both accessible and exciting.*

*With Randy's hard work, flexibility, and collaboration, Pali's Virtual Academy program has blossomed and now serves over 200 students. Her knowledge and research have proved vital to maintaining and expanding such a successful program.*

*Randy is a dynamic English Department chair, provides insight and wisdom on countless school committees, and even finds time to oversee Pali's Surf Club. Brimming with optimism and positivity, Randy is a true Renaissance woman.*

### **Stephanie Brooks – Deans Office Assistant**

*Being our first point of contact and the first face you encounter in one of the busiest and most challenging offices on campus would be more than enough for most. For Stephanie Brooks this has been embraced as an opportunity to engage with students during some of their most difficult moments and to create a warm, inviting place for our kids to feel welcome and heard.*

*Stephanie's spirit and leadership serve as a catalyst for the kind of student creativity and good work that has led to the spectacular art installation in the Deans Office celebrating and educating us during Black History Month.*



*While it's not easy for her to accept the praise and recognition of being this month's Pali Positive staff member, this is yet another reason why Stephanie Brooks is so deserving.*

#### **Math Task Force – Next meeting March 4**

The PCHS Math Task Force has reconvened and meets monthly to review data, articulate with Paul Revere Middle School's math department, as well as hear input from parents, students, and teachers. The group reviews current policies as well as makes recommendations for new policies and practices. The task force includes math teachers, academic and college counselors, parents, students and administrators.

#### **Attendance/Admissions Update as of 02/21/23**

- Enrollment: 2935 (9-691; 10-744; 11-748; 12-752)
- Applications | 9: 1140; 10: 136; 11: 122; 12: 51) (2/2021 = 1171 9<sup>th</sup> gr. applicants)
- Lottery Closes: Feb 28<sup>th</sup>
- Lottery Runs: March 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### **Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Accreditation Review Preparation and Progress**

- The PCHS self-study is underway. There are three chapters in the WASC Report: Introduction/Progress Report, School Profile, and Self-Study.
- Chapter 1 - Introduction/Progress Report: Long Term Strategic Planning (LTSP) meetings on 8/31, 9/28, and 11/30 were dedicated to reviewing school progress toward meeting the goals established in the current WASC Action Plan. The 2/22 LTSP meeting time was dedicated to reviewing and writing about the Local Control Indicators and Student Learning Outcomes.
- Chapter 2 - School Profile: Data & Student Survey
- Chapter 3 - Self-Study: Initial WASC Survey in March
- The PCHS WASC visit is scheduled for March 18-20, 2024.

#### **California Charter School Association Conference and Presentation**

PHCS will be represented at the annual statewide charter school conference in Sacramento March 13-16. Monica Iannessa, Chris Lee, Pam Magee and Amy Onyendu are presenting a workshop titled "Your Admin Life Adventure" designed for teachers who are interested in becoming administrators.