



PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Empowering Educational Excellence.

Executive Director/Principal Report Board of Trustees Meeting March 19, 2024

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 addressed in this month's report: [Academic Achievement](#), [Communication](#), [Diversity](#), [Student Socioemotional Well-being](#), and [Health](#)

Student Culture and Climate Updates

- **Student Voices: Listening sessions with student groups**

PCHS Administrators and the ASB President have been meeting with student groups and their faculty sponsors during lunch listening sessions to learn about each group's campus needs and ideas regarding the reorganization of the cultural advisory position. To date the following groups have provided invaluable feedback for strategic planning: Asian Student Union, Black Student Union, Disabled Student Union, Jewish Student Coalition, Latinx Student Union, Queer Student Union, and Trans Awareness Club. Student organization listening sessions will continue throughout the month of April. The PCHS Equity Task Force will review input and the proposed strategic action plan for equity.

Community Collaboration to Address Behavior Incidents

- Reports of aggressive behavior involving students in the community have been reported to school officials. PCHS administrators are working with law enforcement to identify offenders and in some cases issue citations, notify parents, counsel students, and assign consequences when appropriate. Training for students in strategies targeting de-escalation and conflict resolution will be provided when school resumes after Spring Break. PCHS continues to provide a variety of student supports including Peer Mediation, mental health resources and counseling, and Schoology behavior intervention courses focused on a variety of topics including substance abuse cessation and anger management. In addition, we are reaching out local schools and agencies to form collaborative partnerships focused on addressing current concerns and preventing future occurrences.

- **Invitation to Palisades Community Zoom Meeting with Officer Brian Espin**

Due to the recent activity regarding juvenile behavior in Pacific Palisades, we would like to host a community meeting to disseminate and share information to dispel any rumors and clarify what actions have been taken and what we can facilitate for the future. For the purposes of time, please send me specific questions that I can answer in the meeting. We will be limited on time for Q&A during the meeting.

LAPD West LA CRO is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Palisades Community Meeting
Time: Mar 20, 2024 18:00 Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://lapd.zoom.us/j/2087969708?omn=87623556007>
Meeting ID: 208 796 9708

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency : [877-275-5273](tel:877-275-5273) (877-ask-lapd)

Brian Espin #37430
Senior Lead Officer (Pacific Palisades)
Los Angeles Police Department
West Los Angeles Area
310-444-0737
37430@lapd.online

Ethnic Studies Curriculum Update

The PCHS Ethnic Studies Team visited El Rancho High School, part of the El Rancho Unified School District to learn more about their model Ethnic Studies program implementation. The team will debrief on the March 12 visit and share findings during the April Board of Trustees meeting. California legislation requires all students to complete a course in Ethnic Studies starting with the graduating class of 2029-2030; schools must begin offering the course in 2025-2026. Assembly Bill 101 requires curriculum that more closely reflects the history, culture, and struggles of California’s diverse population. The legislation focuses on four ethnic and racial groups who have traditionally been underrepresented in educational materials: Blacks, Latinx, Native Americans, and Asian Americans. The revised state model curriculum also includes units on Sikh, Jewish, Arab and Armenian Americans. PCHS has formed an Ethnic Studies Team that is reviewing the state model curriculum and visiting school districts with strong Ethnic Studies programs to determine the best model for PCHS students. A goal of the team is to pilot select ethnic studies units in the coming school year.

Palisades Charter High School is constantly engaged in analysis and reflection to guide continuous improvement and increase student achievement. In support of this objective, PCHS is preparing for multiple compliance and self-review visits during March:

- March 13 - LAUSD Charter School Division Oversight Visit
- March 15 - Special Education Leadership Fellowship (SELF) Visit
- March 17-20 - Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) Visit

LAUSD Charter School Division (CSD) Oversight Visit

- **Thursday, March 7, 2024** - Virtual meeting for Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Grid Review

- **Wednesday, March 13, 2024** - In-person campus visit with a Fiscal Separation of Duties Review and Special Education Review
 - **Opening Meeting:** Discussion of guiding and special education questions. Board members (as long as the number of members present does not reach quorum) are welcome to participate in this meeting, as well as the other activities of the visit.
 - **Classroom Observations:** School administrators accompany the CSD Team members on the classroom observations. During the opening meeting the CSD team will determine the classrooms to observe. Classroom observations will ideally include a variety of grade levels and content areas.
 - **Special Education Review:** The CSD Team member conducting this review will meet with the Executive Director and SPED Director to engage in a discussion about the school's systems and procedures for ensuring compliance with special education requirements, including a review of the school's current Welligent reports for services and IEP meeting timelines.
 - **Document Review/Clarifying Questions:** The CSD Team will review the school's documents in Dropbox folders in addition to the ESSA Grid review of any staff member/vendor/volunteer added, or with updated information, after the initial (tri-annual) submission of the ESSA Grid along with all accompanying/supporting documentation. CSD may also engage the school leader(s) with clarifying questions regarding the document review during this time.
 - **Visit Debrief:** At the end of the visit day, the CSD Team will meet with the school's leadership team to debrief the activities of the day, including the results of the document and website reviews, and identify follow-up action items, as applicable.

Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) Visit Sunday, March 17- Wednesday, March 20

PCHS will host the visiting WASC Team for a three-day observation visit. The purpose of the visit is to validate the school's self-study report and provide constructive feedback for the school's action plan.

ACS WASC accreditation is a process schools use to monitor student learning and set school improvement goals. ACS WASC accreditation is an ongoing cycle of quality. Schools assess their program and the impact on student learning with respect to the ACS WASC criteria and other accreditation factors.

Every six years, * accredited schools conduct a self-study and host a self-study visit. The self-study process culminates in the refinement of a schoolwide action plan. Throughout the accreditation cycle, schools are expected to address the schoolwide action plan and demonstrate evidence of acceptable student achievement and school improvement. Appropriate reports and reviews throughout the six-year cycle of accreditation support this process.

<https://www.acswasc.org/acs-wasc-school-process-overview/>

ACS WASC report and action plan highlights include:

- School Community
- Academic Support
- Growth Areas
- Reflection questions

Special thanks to Tyler Farrell and Monica Iannessa, primary writers and visit coordinators as well as the Academic Achievement Team, Department Chairs, Instructional Coaches, Coordinators, Long Term Strategic Planning meeting participants, and all PCHS community members who provided input for the self-study.

Special Education Leadership Fellowship (SELF) Visit Friday, March 15

The purpose of the Special Education Leadership Fellowship (SELF) visit is to support Special Education Leaders through workshops, trainings, national school visits, partnerships with other Special Education Leaders in the field, and individual supports for Special Education Leaders in their current environment. This visit is designed to help develop a Special Education vision that aligns PCHS mission, visions, and demographics.

The visit will include the following:

1. 20-30-minute meet and greet with Leadership Team
2. Classroom Visits

Inclusion classrooms

- RSP- Study Seminar Classes
- SDP classes
- Moderate Severe classes

3. Meeting with Special Education Teachers and Leadership

The SELF Group will provide feedback and recommendations to help improve program and services in alignment with the PCHS school vision.