



**PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL REPORT
APRIL 18, 2017**

In Memorium

PCHS mourns the loss of Anita Stephens, a very special teacher and friend. Anita joined the Pali family in 2003 serving as English teacher and co-department chair. Anita touched the lives of many students and all of those who were fortunate to know her. Anita's family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Pali Cares via this website:

<https://www.anitaleestephens.com/> Condolence messages to the family can also be sent from this site.

Pali leads the way at annual California Charter School Association Conference March 20-23

Seventeen Pali participants attended this year's annual conference held at the Sacramento Conference Center where PCHS demonstrated outstanding innovation and creativity.

Pali presentations:

- *Building a Summer Bridge: Achieve Positive Momentum Through Student Leadership*
Monica Iannessa and Mystic Thompson
- *Building the STEAM Shop Makerspace in Public High Schools*
Donna Mandosa
- *Palisades Independent Charter High School Online Blended Learning Program*
Stephanie Chew and Randy Tenan-Snow
- *Positive School Culture via the Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities*
Sandra Martin, Myrna Cervantes, Pam Magee with students Leslie Magana, Peter Lebsen, and Ben Makhani

The following Pali teachers, board members and administrators joined the presenters at the conference: Susan Ackerman, Mary Bush, Emilie Larew, Chris Lee, Amy Nguyen, and Greg Wood. Pali parent and CCSA parent liaison Ivy Greene also attended.

Other highlights of the conference included networking opportunities for conversion charter schools as well as regional and job-alike meetings, the vendor exhibit hall, and an education forum featuring candidates in the 2018 CA Governor's race John Chiang, Delaine Eastin, and Antonio Villaraigosa.

Schoolwide Goal Update:


Goal 3: PCHS will continue to increase student success through positive classroom climate and increasing student pass rates. During the annual Back to School Board Retreat, board members, school administrators, parents and students identified the following recommended steps for meeting this goal. PCHS is addressing each of these areas through on-going professional development and focused departmental and professional learning community (PLC) planning:



Steps taken to date -

- *Review and revise grading policies/classroom policies*
- *Encourage a growth mindset among all stakeholders*
- *Provide professional development designed to increase positive student/teacher relationships*
- *Encourage differentiation at all levels and provide support for success*
- *Increase diversity in honors/AP classes and provide a continuum of rigor*
- *Collect data to monitor success*
- *Expand summer Dolphin Leadership Academy through broader outreach and early identification*
- *Summer reading – Incorporate inspirational, motivational books that promote positive self-image (Carol Dweck, John Wooden, etc.)*
- *Design, administer, and analyze the results of common assessments in all departments by the first progress report period (10weeks). Results will be analyzed by the PLC coordinator with Director of Academic Achievement with the Administrative Team.*

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs)

PCHS students have been engaged in interim assessments during the months of March and April. Pursuant to California *Education Code* Section 60642.6, interim assessments are available to all local educational agencies. The interim assessments are specifically designed to provide meaningful information for gauging student progress throughout the year toward mastery of the skills measured by the summative assessments. For further information on the interim assessments, including a listing of available IABs, go to the Smarter Balanced [Interim Assessments Overview](#)  (PDF).

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) focus on small sets of targets and therefore provide detailed information for instructional purposes. The IABs yield overall information for each block. Charts listing [IABs available by grade](#) (PDF) available on the California Department of Education website (www.cde.ca.gov) show the blocks available for grade level English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics. PCHS now has a strong baseline for interim assessments. Pali Data Coordinator Dr. Minh Ha Ngo has compiled the results for the CAASPP **English Language Arts** Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs), sorted by English teacher, and sub-sorted by grade level and alphabetically. Professional Learning Communities have the data and are now determining implications for student success.

- 9th graders took Language & Vocab (E9) and Research (Pod), and a select few took Revision in their Chemistry class.
- 10th graders took Editing (World History) and either Revision (Chemistry) or Listening (Biology).
- Upper class students' assessments depended on the science class they are taking: Revision (Chemistry) or Listening (Biology).



Math IABs - Geometry and Algebra II IAB data assessments are also complete. Algebra I data will not be complete until the end of the school year. Preliminary review of math data indicates that math-passing rates have increased in the last two years and the number of students in advanced courses has increased as well. Next year, PCHS will incorporate Algebra I in the Entrepreneurship Pod and will hire three math paraprofessionals to provide classroom support.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD (SARB) update -

Dr. Chris Lee and Dr. Pam Magee will attend the Los Angeles County Office of Education State and County SARB Videoconference Meeting on May 18 to determine how PCHS can best address issues related to truancy and chronic absences.

COMPLIANCE REPORTING AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEEDBACK:

Annual LAUSD Compliance Visit – Representatives from the LAUSD Charter Division will visit PCHS on **May 17 and 19**. In addition to visiting classrooms and reviewing annual student progress data, the team will meet with focus groups representing leadership, parents, students, and staff. The Charter Division will issue a final report, which will be posted on the PCHS website.

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Six-Year Accreditation – The self-study accreditation process is underway and will continue throughout the 2017-18 school year. Focus groups will begin meeting in May. Parent participants are needed to share their insights and experience as we analyze school strengths and develop an action plan to address opportunities for growth.

Schoolwide Stakeholder Survey – PCHS is seeking feedback from staff, students, and parents. Surveys will be distributed via email and links posted on the school website. We need your input to make our school the best educational experience possible! Please take a few moments to respond when you receive the survey.

Annual Budget and Local Control Accountability Plan – Stakeholder feedback is needed to develop the school's 2017-18 funding plan. School stakeholders will receive a budget survey via email during April and May. Preliminary priorities are based on feedback provided in meetings of the Long Term Strategic Planning groups, Budget Committee, Curriculum Council, and parent groups including PIQE, ELAC, and PTSA.

CLASS OF 2017 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
June 8, 2017 beginning promptly at 5:30pm in the
Stadium by the Sea