APPROVED

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas

Minutes

Academic Subcommittee Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 4:30 PM

Posting of Agenda: This agenda has been posted at the following locations:

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas ("CASLV") Central Office, CASLV website at www.caslv.org, and Nevada Public Notice website at http://notice.nv.gov.

Format / Procedures / Rules: This is a notice of a public meeting held pursuant to NRS Chapter 241. Members of the public are invited to be present.

Certain items may be removed from open/public consideration if permitted or required by Nevada law. The Board may also (i) take agenda items out of order; (ii) combine two or more items for consideration; (iii) separate one item into multiple items; (iv) table an agenda item to a future meeting; and/or (v) remove an agenda item.

Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities desiring to attend the meeting. Please contact Ms. Shepard at ashepard@coralacademylv.org at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting, if possible, so that reasonable arrangements may conveniently be made.

Please also contact Ms. Shepard if you would like a copy of the agenda and any public reference materials relating to agenda items. Those materials will also be available at the meeting location. Those materials would provide you with greater context and clarity as to the matters under discussion.

By law, no one may willfully disrupt the meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct becomes impractical.

All items are action or possible action items if denoted as such.

Directors Present
Arlene Hayman, Dr. Carryn Warren, Elizabeth Kazelskis

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
Andrea Shepard, CASLV Executive Assistant, Annette Martin, CASLV Cadence Campus Assistant Principal, Emrullah Eraslan, CASLV Cadence Campus Principal, Ercan Aydogdu, CASLV Executive Director and CEO, Gretchen Pfahler, CASLV Nellis Campus Assistant Principal, Mia Nelson, CASLV Nellis Campus Principal, Mustafa Gunozu, CASLV Chief Academic Officer

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I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Arlene Hayman called a meeting of the board of directors of Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas to order on Wednesday Sep 20, 2023 at 4:35 PM.

B. Public Comment

Ms. Kazelskis left the meeting at 5:10 p.m.
There were no public comments.

II. Discussion & Possible Action Items

A. Review of Nevada School Performance Framework Reports (For Possible Action)

Mr. Gunozu provided general information about the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) Reports. Each school received an individual performance report, a snapshot of each campus' report, and the overall academic performance. On average our schools are performing higher compared to school districts, charter schools, and the state.

The star ratings that were announced last week were discussed. CASLV Centennial Hills Campus received a 5-star rating for both Elementary and Middle School, Sandy Ridge Campus received a 5-star rating for High School, Tamarus Campus received a 5-star rating for Elementary School, Windmill Campus received a 5-star rating for Middle

School, Eastgate Campus received a 5-star rating for Middle School, Windmill Campus received a 4-star rating for Elementary School, Eastgate Campus received a 4-star rating for Elementary School, Cadence Campus received a 4-star rating for Middle School, Nellis AFB Campus received a 3-star rating for Middle School, and Sandy Ridge Campus received a 3-star rating for Middle School. Nellis and Cadence Campuses received a two-star rating for Elementary School.

An overview of the reasons for the low scores at those campuses were discussed. It was discussed that the Sandy Ridge Campus Middle School rating is due to chronic absenteeism and lack of growth in mathematics. Dr. Warren asked if these students might have
been impacted due to the pandemic. Mr. Ercan explained this is the first time star ratings have been announced since the pandemic and the impact it had on CASLV's ratings.

Total index scores for each campus were reviewed, accompanied by an explanation and further details on how the campuses analyze the data, establish goals, and responded to inquiries from the subcommittee.

B. Presentation regarding Fall Student Achievement Data (For Possible Action)

North West Evaluation Association (NWEA) MAP test data was presented. When students started this school year, they were tested, and then we determined this is the percentage of students who were not proficient. Test results are used to place students and tailor instruction. It also provides an update on how schools are currently performing. This data was shared with campus administration and teachers.

We are providing more resources, aides if possible, and professional development for teachers, as well as after-school tutoring programs. Dr. Warren asked about how students are doing in their classes versus testing. Mr. Gunozu explained how teachers collected and used the data. The academic team collects the data based on students' who receive a letter grade less than a C and are below the 40th percentile, and target those
groups. Regarding chronic absenteeism, a more focused targeted intervention is planned for this school year. It was discussed that Cadence Campus is starting Saturday school next week, but we do not know yet who can attend Saturday school. Teachers will work with them in small groups using performance coach books.

Ms. Hayman asked what the professional development looks like. Mr. Gunozu reviewed everything that has been accomplished so far this school year and said that professional development is ongoing. The mentor program is starting and some details regarding the program were discussed. Experienced teachers will be mentoring new teachers and they will work together throughout the school year. There is a teacher mentor guidebook that needs to be followed. Everything needs to be documented.

The topic of enrichment interventions was also brought up, and these are provided to students as elective options. Students who need more enrichment are directed to take more academic electives. Details regarding literacy specialists and interventionists were also provided.

C. Discussion regarding Student Achievement at Nellis Campus (For Possible Action)

CASLV Nellis AFB Campus Principal, Mia Nelson, and Assistant Principal Gretchen Pfahler reviewed a data comparison from last year to this year. Academics did improve slightly. Read by grade 3 is up by 3% in reading proficiency. There was a significant improvement at the 4th-grade level. Although growth from 4th to 5th grades was not academically proficient. The 5th-grade level of Tier I instruction was discussed. This year there is a new 5th grade team. Two new experienced teachers. The NSPF score comparison was reviewed in detail. This year they have started working on chronic absenteeism at the start of this school year. A detailed comparison to the surrounding schools was also reviewed with the subcommittee. Dr. Warren asked if we could plan to do something for the 4th-grade teachers and thank them for their hard work. Mr. Ercan confirmed we can certainly do that and have begun planning some celebrations at campuses.

A breakdown of the points was given, and the root causes were reviewed and indicated as chronic absenteeism, teacher vacancies, quality of Tier 1 instruction, student engagement, and high-leverage instruction practices. The high level of student transiency is due to the majority being military families. Interventions focus on student engagement, rigor, and classroom culture. They have a high level of professional development plan in place, as well as highly structured and professional learning communities. Accountability measures are in place to ensure everyone is following these procedures. A major area of need is adding support for middle school. Ms. Nelson extended the school day and added yearlong structured tutoring. They also revised their middle school schedule and increased reading and math instruction.

They are also focusing on teacher recruitment and are trying to hire and recruit better quality teachers with a student-orientated mindset as well as dealing with trauma and challenging behaviors. They have hired a behavior interventionist who is a licensed clinical behavior therapist. Ms. Nelson and Ms. Pfahler reviewed the chronic absenteeism plan which includes incentives, community awareness, more school communications, absenteeism acknowledgment of habitual absenteeism, as they required parents to sign a form in recongnizing the problem. In addition, parent incentives for regular attendance were initiated. The absenteeism acknowledgment forms are to be signed by parents, as well as incentives for parents. Grade-level student attendance averages will be shared with parents throughout the school year. This year they also have a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Interventionist, two campus monitors, and two counselors. They are targeting small groups and wrap-around services among many other things to improve.

D.

Discussion regarding Student Achievement at Cadence Campus (For Possible Action)

Cadence Campus Principal Emrullah Eraslan and Assistant Principal Annette Martin reviewed the NSPF results and indicated they were 6 points away from a 3-star rating. The growth and opportunity gaps were discussed, as well as the issue of Cadence being a first-year school. They will be focusing on growth. The surrounding school ratings were reviewed. The root causes that were discussed included Cadence campus being a new school, classroom culture/behaviors, chronic absenteeism, first-year budget concerns, teacher vacancies, the quality of Tier 1 instruction, and the need for consistent instructional coaching.

They discussed their 2023/2024 action plan which includes the following while answering questions from the subcommittee. There will be frequent observations and feedback given which includes targeted walkthroughs for each month, the mentorship program, individualized professional plans for teachers, teacher recruitment, being focused on quality targeted professional development (Thinking Maps, Kagan, I-Ready), structured PLCs (Data Analysis, Growth Focus), yearlong structured tutoring (Saturday school and weekly tutoring), Behavior/Culture Specialist, and a chronic absenteeism action plan. The school is now offering free breakfast for students, and they now have about 100 students participating.

III. Public Comments (Information)

A. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Dr. Carryn Warren made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Arlene Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Shepard, CASLV Executive Assistant