

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Superintendent's Community Advisory Council  
Monday, October 24, 2011

**1. WELCOME**

Beth Berndt, SCAC Facilitator, called the meeting to order. Dr. Smith explained that Eric Padgett was not able to attend the meeting today and School Board Trustee, Carrie Buck, is attending in his place.

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES (September 26, 2011)**

Minutes were accepted as presented. Following the meeting minutes were amended to include: [www.chapman.edu/holocausteducation](http://www.chapman.edu/holocausteducation). You may also contact Jessica Cioffi at (714) 628-7377. This year's topic is "Memories Matter – Stories of the Holocaust." Deadline for submissions is February 1, 2012. The awards ceremony is March 2, 2012.

**3. TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY**

Dorie Staack provided information on the Teaching American History (TAH) grant. The purpose of this grant is to improve student achievement by enhancing teachers' knowledge of traditional American history through intensive ongoing professional development. Teachers of American History in grades 5, 8 and 11 participate along with special education teachers, alternative school teachers, and teachers of English learners. Grantees partner with one or more organizations that have extensive knowledge of American history including libraries, museums, nonprofit history or humanities organizations, and higher education institutions. A PowerPoint provided information on the grant and Bob Schaal, Kraemer Middle School teacher, and Kim Voge, fifth grade teacher at Bryant Ranch Elementary, briefly described the positive reactions of their students after implementing the Teaching American History teaching strategies as well as their exciting experiences from their field study this past summer visiting many of the American historical sites. Connie DeCapite from Cal State Fullerton gave an overview of the staff development teachers are provided in support of the grant curriculum.

**4. STUDENT NUTRITION**

Henri De'Ora, Food Services Director, shared a PowerPoint describing meal service for students across the district. During the 2010-11 school year Food Services served 631,916 breakfasts and 1,808,983 lunches. Henri described how menus are developed at the elementary, middle and high school levels. New changes for the 2011-12 school year are the elimination of chocolate milk at breakfast when cereal is served, the elimination of strawberry milk at both breakfast and lunch, providing parents the opportunity to opt-out of flavored milk, and the expansion of fresh fruit and vegetable options at the elementary level. It was asked if locally grown produce could be incorporated. Henri responded she is working with the vendor, Old Grove Orange, Inc., to explore options.

**5. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Smith is pleased to congratulate Brookhaven, Rose Drive, Sierra Vista, Van Buren, Wagner, and Woodsboro elementary schools on receiving an invitation to apply for the 2012 California Distinguished School Award.

**6. CTE (CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION) ACADEMIES**

Jim Moore showed a video produced by students highlighting the CTE Academies at the comprehensive high schools. The Digital Arts Academy at El Dorado High School gives students the opportunity to learn about careers in the digital arts and create projects from each

media (photography, animation, and video). At Esperanza High School the Medical Sciences Academy prepares students for a variety of medical careers, successful transition to colleges and universities, immediate employment, industry certification, and career portfolio development and presentation. Valencia High School's Val Tech Academy accommodates students with a special interest in and aptitude for technology. Yorba Linda High School is in the process of developing a Culinary Arts Academy.

Discussion followed on the opportunities provided for students to attend an academy and the differences between classes and an academy. Mr. Moore said an invitation to all eighth grade students will be sent inviting them to an Academy Information Night on Thursday, January 5, at the Yorba Linda Community Center. Each comprehensive high school will be represented. A question was asked regarding how a student is to meet college requirements and have the flexibility to participate in an academy. Mr. Moore said recently passed legislation allows CTE class credit for college prep. A question was asked about a "green academy." Jim explained that there are no plans to have a "green academy," however, as part of the BITA program "green" concepts are implemented in building and there is an engineering and manufacturing grant from UC Irvine to design alternative fuel vehicles.

## 7. GOOD NEWS REPORTS

**Bernardo Yorba** participated in a band competition with nine middle schools this past weekend and won the sweepstakes award!

**Bryant Ranch** students completed their Reading Assessments and 90 percent met their core benchmark. GATE students participated in the dissection of a sheep's heart, with the assistance of a doctor, and received valuable information on keeping a heart healthy! A highlight of the Red Ribbon Week activities is a presentation from law enforcement that will include police cars, a K-9 unit and a helicopter.

**El Dorado's** new Link Crew program has been extremely well received by parents and students! Before the start of school, activities, lunch, and campus tours were provided.

**Esperanza** held the first of six Aztec University Nights for the 2011-12 school year. Financial Aid Night is scheduled for November 2, Community College Night on December 7, PSAT will be on January 4, FAFSA Night, January 11, and College Admission on April 25. Everyone is invited to attend. All meetings will be in the EHS library and will begin at 7 p.m.

Congratulations to Liz Kaulard for being one of three teachers to receive the German Embassy Teacher of Excellence Award.

Congratulations to Kathy Owens for being selected to receive the Stanford University sponsored Teacher Tribute Initiative honor.

Seven hundred students attended Saturday night's Homecoming Dance. It was noted Esperanza's football team added to the celebration by beating Brea!

Congratulations to the band on taking first place in their division, the color guard for taking first place in all divisions, and percussion for receiving third place in all divisions at the Valencia Field Tournament.

**Fairmont** is very pleased with the success of their primary fundraiser, a Jog-a-Thon. Forty thousand dollars has been collected so far. The money will go towards providing programs, assemblies, field trips and instructional support for the school.

**George Key** received many expressions of appreciation at their Open House for the recently renovated facilities. Students are enjoying the interactive boards and therapy amenities.

**Glenview** is proud of their 10-point API score increase. Among many Red Ribbon Week activities is a BMX bike rodeo day on Friday.

**Kraemer's** W.E.B. (Where Everyone Belongs) program helps students connect to KMS. The afterschool enrichment program provides students with many hands-on educational opportunities. The Science Olympiad encourages group learning for a shared goal and gives students the opportunity to compete against other schools. The Art Studio, football, basketball, distance running and a Chemistry Club all provide opportunities for students to explore interests and connect to the school.

**Mabel Paine's** PTA membership drive raised \$8,000! The Jog-a-Thon will be on Friday, October 28, and as part of the festivities students are able to purchase a ticket for a ride in an actual race car! Funds raised support the science lab and ST Math among other programs. After school this year JJ Math will be implemented to help struggling students. The theme for the year is "Game Changer...Make a Play!"

**Sierra Vista** is very excited and proud to have been nominated for the California Distinguished School Award. November 17 is Family Night and includes a book fair, holiday shop, BARK (reading to guide dogs), science activities, and food cooked onsite from local businesses!

**Travis Ranch** is having a Jog-a-Thon on Wednesday and money raised helps to fund computer resources. Red Ribbon Week is being observed at the school with many activities including wearing red on Tuesday and elementary students dressing up on Friday as their favorite character from a book or in a sports-themed outfit.

**Tuffree** continues its Knots of Love program and has approximately 100 students who knit hats for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. This year smaller caps will also be made for the younger patients. Thanks to the community, enough yarn has been donated for this program.

Video Production (Falcon Films) is designing creative visual productions to support the school-wide focus of respect, responsibility and teamwork. Teams produce a script, obtain camera images and use digital editing and artwork to artistically convey positive messages to students. Productions are aired weekly. Tuffree is also proud of their 880 API score which grew by 16 points this year.

**Tynes** is very proud of their 37-point API increase to 833. The school is using the Cognitively Guided Instruction in Mathematics program to help students problem solve. An afterschool Chess Club is beginning in November.

**Valadez Middle School Academy** partnered with Melrose and Rio Vista elementary schools for the Read for the Record program. The event was attended by 300 first graders who had big buddies from the eighth grade read the book *Llama Llama Red Pajama*. The books, donated to students by the Pearson Foundation, were given to each first grader to keep. Participating in the program was Placentia Chief of Police and ten officers, Dr. Smith and members of the PYLUSD School Board. Valadez's entire student body read the book online and Pearson Foundation will donate 720 books to needy children as a result. Students from all three schools saved money in a Loot for Llamas campaign to purchase llamas for underprivileged families in South America. A total of \$977 was donated to purchase six llamas.

For the first time, VMSA participated in the Reflections Program and submitted 32 entries.

US Bank partnered with VMSA and Cal State Fullerton to help teach eighth grade students about financial literacy. For every \$10 parent donation, \$20 will be added to the student's account for Secondary Education by US Bank. At the end of five years when the student is ready for college there will be \$1800 in the account!

The Pride Ticket program allows students to earn tickets that can be used at the student store or saved to have lunch with the principal.

**Yorba Linda High School** congratulates its band and color guard on their first place showing at the Placentia parade. The band also took first place at the Valencia Field Tournament while the color guard took sweepstakes. The women's golf team is Empire League Champions and will begin CIF competition! The Back-to-School Night had well over 1,000 parents in attendance! YLHS is having Career Day on Tuesday, November 8. The school's first Homecoming Dance is Saturday, October 29. A new club, Speech and Debate, has been added. YLHS is also very proud of their Link Crew and the work they have done in helping students feel connected to YLHS.

## **8. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

PTA Council president, Erin Heim, shared that this month Governor Jerry Brown is expected to sign Assembly Bill 1156 – Bullying in Schools, sponsored by the California State PTA. Dr. Smith added that preventing student bullying is one of the School Board's Areas of Emphasis and the School Board will be adopting a resolution designating the week of October 24 as Student Bullying Prevention Week in PYLUSD.

Dr. Smith invited SCAC to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Band Pageant on Wednesday, November 2, 7 p.m. at Bradford Stadium. This is always a spectacular event that showcases our middle and high school bands and color guards. Judi Carmona added this is always a fun, entertaining evening and to please pass the word to friends and neighbors!

Judi Carmona shared that Bernardo Yorba Middle School's entertainment units are having a fundraiser Friday evening featuring food trucks. A radio station will be present also so come and enjoy music, food and support a worthwhile cause!

A SCAC guest distributed a Numbers to Know and Places to Go bookmark featuring the nation's consumer protection agency's information to help fight fraud and detect deception.

A question was asked regarding age-appropriate Red Ribbon information. Richard McAlindin said he would provide a list of resources at the next meeting.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Monday, November 28, 2011

District Education Center, Board Room