



Orange Unified School District
District Advisory Council (DAC)
Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 21, 2014
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Board Room 2 - Building H

Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen welcomed the participants and thanked everyone for coming.

Dr. Gunn Marie Hansen explained that the Local Control Accountability Plan was presented at the last Board meeting on May 8th as an information item for public hearing. Dr. Hansen also explained that at this DAC meeting there would be the opportunity for her to take comments and for the attendees to ask any questions they have regarding the LCAP. She then presented a PowerPoint overview of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) entitled “ON TARGET”. This was the same one that was presented to the Board of Education at the May 8th meeting. Dr. Hansen reviewed the key elements of the slides: The Orange USD Mission Statement, the Process for LCAP Public Hearing and LCAP Final Adoption, the Stakeholder Engagement Process, the Conditions of Student Learning, Pupil Outcomes, and Engagement. Dr. Hansen also reviewed the District’s Mission Statement:

The Orange Unified School District, being committed to planning for continual improvement, will offer a learning environment of excellence, with high expectations, to provide each student with the opportunity to be able to compete in the global economy.

Dr. Hansen explained the process for the LCAP Public Hearing, May 8, 2014 and the Final Adoption, June 5, 2014. She also explained that even after the final adoption the LCAP, OUSD can still receive input from the stakeholders – the DAC (District Advisory Council) and the DELAC (District English Learner Advisory Council) and others and make changes, as this is an ongoing process. We will go through this again next year, making changes as needed. She went on to say that OUSD has involved multiple parent groups and most of the people in this room are probably hearing this same information at numerous meetings. We distributed the LCCFF Community Stakeholder Survey to determine specific needs for improving student achievement. Again, we had over 1000 responses to the survey. The responders included students, staff, parents, and other interested parties. The

survey consisted of open-ended questions as that allowed us to hear the stakeholder's responses. From the responses received, we recognized a theme, a recurring request for more parent involvement. A key to this piece is workshops for parents and currently the District is seeking help from the PTA or other groups to possibly conduct workshops for parents. Again this is all cyclical, we will go through this again next year; gaining input, refining the goals, aligning the budget with additional funding as it becomes available. This will all go through the public hearing process prior to approval of the plan again next year. Dr. Hansen explained further the LCAP State priorities and use of Supplemental Funds which are Conditions for Learning, Pupil Outcomes, and Engagement.

Dr. Cyndi Paik discussed the LCAP Parent Involvement Planning for 2014-2015(handout) which was a part of the last DAC Meeting on April 22 as a table top exercise. Key issues that parents felt important are listed on this document. Parents are requesting more skills to assist them with the tools to help their child with tasks related to homework.

Q. Can parents check out texts in the summer prior to the school year to prepare their student for the upcoming school year? Currently, I have been purchasing the texts from Amazon. Could the ISBN numbers for student texts be listed on the OUSD website to facilitate the purchasing of the correct texts?

A. We will look into it to see what the possibilities are.

Q. What is the difference with PTA's, Booster Clubs, and other Parent Organizations?

A. We are working with Orange Community Council PTA President, Diana Flores to facilitate a PTA workshop to bring together the principals and PTA/Parent Support Group representative. Booster Clubs are more specific to athletics on the campus and at the secondary level.

Q. So, all school associations are not a part of PTA Council? Can parents attend the workshop(s) if they are not a PTA member?

A. The PTA Council Meeting is for PTA representative from the school site. Not all of OUSD schools are affiliated with the PTA; some schools have their own group as Parent, Faculty, Student Organization (PFSO, PTO, etc.). We will ask OCC PTA if the event is open to everyone.

Discussion continued regarding the willingness of PTA members to share information learned at the meetings as well as opportunities that are available for parents to gain more information regarding what is happening within OUSD. One parent shared that he gathers much of his information regarding the District by attending the District Advisory Meetings and by speaking with the principal. One parent stated that as a member of the OCC PTA, she could explain the difference between the various groups. PTSO, PTA and PTO all have different organizing

boards. Schools that are a part of PTA pay dues to the State and National PTA organization and that is how they gain access to PTA materials, workshops, and conferences.

Q. Is there a list of all the PTA groups or PTO groups where parents can go and learn more about District information? Is there a meeting of these group leaders to learn about what is happening at the District level?

A. We as a District want, as one of our goals, to have parents more involved as we know that it is important to the success of the student to have the parent(s) involved.

One parent shared how excited she was to see OUSD information updated on the website via the Facebook page. She was able to attend one of the robotic events with her child that she viewed on the District website.

Q. Common Core is under tremendous attack in the media and it is most likely out of ignorance. What are we doing to help more parents and teachers' understand Common Core and how do we get out accurate information to these people?

A. Common Core is preparing students to be college and career ready and not that much different from the standards in the past. The ways in which we teach have changed. The negative conversation is in response to people that have not done a good implementation of the Common Core. The Common Core is not shifting content; it is changing the way and process of teaching. OUSD is focused on professional development for teachers as this "new" teaching encourages small group instruction and communication is key. Students interact in groups with successful strategies. This is not a big shift but builds on the current foundation piece to help students think critically. The focus areas are technology and teachers are now writing curriculum.

Q. Would it be possible to post a YouTube video on the OUSD website regarding the Common Core – speaking directly to parents to dispel the mistruths?

A. That is something that can be discussed. Principals can also ask District office staff to come out and present a Common Core parent training. We recently had Raeanne Little present a parent training on Common Core at VPES and it was well attended due to great PR prior to the event.

A parent shared a story about collaborative learning involving a play at the kinder level. It was apparent that the students were working in small groups and they were very creative in their thinking.

Dr. Hansen reminded the attendees that next year is the first year of implementation of Common Core and that we just finished the "test of the test" with the SBAC implementation. Parents are beginning to think about the Common Core and what it means to them. The process has changed as we are now asking

students about their thinking, having them explain “how” they got the answer. How we implement the teaching has changed.

Q. Is there a parent workshop for math?

A. Kahn Academy is an excellent resource and available online for all. Mathematics is a key area of change and we are going to offer workshops for parents on helping their students at home. This workshop offering will be regional and at the school sites.

Q. What about testing for entrance into honor courses at 7th grade? What test will be used – my child is currently the 5th grade?

A. What the District will look at what will be a good measure. Most states as they implement realize the difficulty to measure so we will use multiple measures. Assessments at the local level will be one measure. We will not use the SBAC alone. When California Standards were first implemented, there was an adjustment for testing. We will not put too much emphasis on one measure.

Q. Will there be a District letter to forewarn parents regarding the assessment and not to put too much emphasis on these first test scores. If they are going to be lower than parents are used to seeing then they need to be told why and not be too harsh on their child.

A. At this time, CDE has not shared how they will score schools or what the scoring will be. It has been the API and the first year results will create the formula. CDE has a waiver for this year and next- 13/14 and the 14/15 with the Federal Government. The accountability system for the 14/15 year will be different.

Attachments/Handouts:

- PowerPoint: Local Control and Accountability Plan 2014-17
“ On Target”
- LCAP Parent Involvement Planning for 2014-15 (April 22,2014)
- District Advisory Meeting (DAC) Save The Date
14.15 Meeting Schedule

Adjournment – 11:50 p.m.