

## **Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting – November 16, 2023**

**CAC Members:** David Heinke, Andrew LaManque, Ganesh Balgi, Daniel McCune, Wes Morse, Melinda Hamilton, Zongbo Chen, Kevin Du, Carol Gao

**Students:** Saisuijan Kotakonda, Jennifer Chua, Henry Widjaja, Neel Sudhakaran

**FUHSD Administrators:** Associate Superintendent Trudy Gross, Director of Administrative Services Jason Crutchfield, Fremont High School Principal Bryan Emmert, Homestead High School Principal Greg Giglio, Lynbrook High School Principal Maria Jackson

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### **Welcome (Slides 1 through 3)**

Associate Superintendent Gross opened the meeting at 6 p.m. She reviewed the purpose of the meeting, which was largely to review feedback from the World Language presentation and discussion on October 26, 2023, and to prepare for the Board presentation on December 5, 2023. Dr. Gross reinforced that the deep dive on World Language at the previous meeting was in alignment with the CAC transitioning beyond its initial role centered around enrollment stabilization to include input to staff on mitigating the effects of declining enrollment.

### **World Language Feedback & Update (Slide 4)**

- Dr. Gross reviewed the focus of the Board of Trustees Meeting on November 7.
- A CAC community member who was in attendance at the November 7 Board meeting shared that initially there appeared to be a misunderstanding from members of the public in attendance that there were students who requested World Language and did not receive the course they signed up for. The presentation reinforced that the great majority of students who requested World Language received the course they requested and that the course schedule is built based on student course requests. The increase in student requests of Japanese at Lynbrook for the 23-24 school year was referenced.
- Lynbrook High School Principal Maria Jackson shared that students who move from the CLIP program at Miller Middle School enter the Chinese program at levels 3 and higher. The impact has been that very few students request Chinese 1 and 2, thus those levels have not been offered at Lynbrook in a number of years, and when students complete Chinese they have the option to select another language as their elective.
- There were a few members, staff and community, who reinforced that the schedule that is built at each school is based on student course selection. This is a strength and can be a challenge in terms of change requests that come in for a variety of reasons just prior to and as the school year gets underway.
- The CAC community member referenced the misunderstandings that arise around the accuracy of enrollment projections. It was suggested that the enrollment slide that shows accuracy over time be available to review during presentations, based on questions and comments that have been expressed by community members. Mr. Crutchfield agreed

with this suggestion and added that he could place the slide on the District website to provide ongoing access.

### **Review Feedback of CAC Recommendation (Slide 5)**

- Director of Administrative Services Jason Crutchfield shared that two key points of feedback received from the CAC were to increase the efforts to inform students/families about the MSSAP and that we should consider scaling back CHS transfers in the LSSAP.
- Mr. Crutchfield shared that the goal of this CAC meeting was to establish a working draft for the Board presentation on December 5.

### **Outline and Review Board Presentation Part 1 (Slides 6-7)**

Mr. Crutchfield reviewed a proposed outline for the Board presentation and provided direction to the group to discuss at their table. Following discussion, feedback was shared out to the whole group.

- A CAC community member recommended that the slides for LSSAP history and recommendation and MSSAP history and recommendation start off the presentation. Keep the slides on Effectiveness of CAC Recommendations and bold the disparity numbers on the slide. Then move to the data/slides that support recommendation.
- Another CAC community member expressed concern that extending the LSSAP and MSSAP does not address the long-term effects of declining enrollment. They expressed concern about the root cause of declining enrollment in connection to the closure of Sunnyvale High School and that we have not moved from short term to long term solutions.
- A student CAC member expressed the benefit of having short term measures.
- A staff CAC member expressed their feeling that the LSSAP is a medium-term solution given its renewal over time.
- Dr. Gross talked about the bands of difference of enrollment between schools and the focus on maintaining comprehensive campuses, a shift in focus for the CAC. Superintendent Clark has talked about bands such as 1400-1600 students, 1500-1700 students.
- The CAC community member expressed concern about the building that is planned for North Sunnyvale and the increase that could occur to enrollment from that growth.
- Mr. Crutchfield responded that given the plans for studio and one-bedroom apartments the student generation rate for our district is very low.
- MVHS Principal Ben Clausnitzer shared examples of high schools in our area that are at 1100-1200 students in size and that Cupertino High School was once that size.
- Mr. Crutchfield shared that what he worries about is the disparity in enrollment, which then causes differing experiences for students based on the programs that can be offered.
- Principal Jackson shared that at LHS there are classes not offered, teachers teaching multiple preps and it has as not impacted student ability to perform and transition

successfully to college. Our focus is on what are the things we want to be sure every school offers, that every student has access to.

- The CAC community member stated that there is a public relations issue for Fremont High School that needs to be focused on.
- Dr. Gross acknowledged that during the CAC meeting in the 2022-23 school year we said we would move to long-term solutions and we have not yet determined the timing. The staff will follow-up with Superintendent Clark. The focus for this evening is in the recommendation at hand and presenting to the Board of Trustees.

### **Review Part II: Support for Recommendation (Slides 8-9)**

CAC members worked in small groups and provided input on a Google doc.

### **Review Part III: MSSAP Suggestions (Slide 10)**

CAC members worked in small groups and provided input on a Google doc.

### **Board Presentation Volunteers (Slide 11)**

Student members Henry, Neel, Jennifer and Sai volunteered to present at the Dec. 5 Board meeting.

### **Next Steps (Slide 12)**

Mr. Crutchfield shared that the tentative date for the next and last CAC meeting of the 2023-24 school year is March 14, 2024. The focus of this meeting will be to share input on course selection and participation in the LSSAP and MSSAP. It is anticipated that CAC membership will be updated, including new applicants, during the first few months of the 2024-25 school year. Future topics for CAC were reviewed. Dr. Gross reinforced that staff will be prepared to address planning for discussion of long-term solutions to declining enrollment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.