

**Pt. Loma Cluster Council**  
**November 5, 2007**  
**Minutes**

**Attendance**

Polly Traylor (Chair), Marcia Abbott, Julie Cramer, Teresa Drew, Bonnie Elias, Marvin Estrin, Andrea Justice, Shelli Kurth, Christy MacCabe, Vicki Moats, Tanja Neiner, Christy Scadden, and Matt Spathas.  
*Minutes respectfully submitted by Marvin Estrin.*

**No Child Left Behind - Program Improvement Update**

The Federal Title I program provides assistance to schools serving students from high-poverty backgrounds. No Child Left Behind requires that all Title I schools make adequate yearly progress in improving student achievement. The state has established annual student achievement targets to determine whether schools are making adequate progress. The state has designated some Title I schools as Program Improvement (PI) schools. These schools have not made adequate yearly progress (AYP) in improving student achievement for two or more consecutive years based on state test scores

*Program Improvement Year 4:* In addition to School Choice Program (described in Year 1) and Supplemental Educational Services (described in Year 2) and in accordance with No Child Left Behind, the district is required to restructure a school that has entered Year 4 of Program Improvement status. Under the law, the alternative governance of the school must include at least one of the following actions:

- Replace all or most of the school staff, which may include the principal, who are relevant to the school's inability to make adequate progress
- Enter into a contract with an entity, such as a private management company, to operate the school as a public school
- Turn the operation of the school over to the state educational agency (e.g., California Department of Education, if the action is permitted under state law and the state agrees)
- Re-open the school as a public charter school
- Implement any other major restructuring of the school's governance to improve student academic achievement and that has substantial promise of enabling the school to make AYP.

***Dana Middle School:*** Technically, Dana is in "Program Improvement Year 3". In 2007, Dana met the AYP requirements for all of 21 subgroups! By meeting all of the targets again this year, Dana will no longer be identified as a "Program Improvement" school.

***Correia Middle School:*** Technically, Correia is in "Program Improvement Year 4". In 2007, Correia met 17 of the 21 AYP targets. A decision was made to develop a Corrective Action Plan in accordance with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations.

Three target areas of corrective action include Mathematics, English Language Learners, and Special Education. A work group has been established, and parents are being encouraged to participate in the process. The work group meets once a month. Initial responsibilities included reviewing a preliminary list of Correia Corrective Actions and Rationales, the Pt. Loma Cluster Council strategic plan, and review recent corrective actions plans from one of the middle schools in the San Diego Unified School District that has already completed the process. A consultant is conducting a workshop for teachers and surveys among students and teachers in regards to atmosphere on campus, confidence in class, and supportiveness of teachers. The goal is to help teachers if problems are identified in their class.

The Pt. Loma Cluster strategic plan will be integrated into the corrective action plan. Ultimately, this will involve coordination and collaboration between schools, including grade level teacher meetings, articulation plans, requisite skill sets, and earlier intervention (RTI).

## **Innovation in Education and Learning 2.0**

Michael Furdyk will be the keynote speaker at the second annual Innovation in Education & Learning 2.0 event on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at Correia Middle School. During the day, learning activities are designed for teachers; and in the evening, parents, community members, and students are invited to a special program. Michael will touch on technology, youth culture, and the future of business. He has turned his interest in technology into a series of successful online companies, co-founding MyDesktop.com and BuyBuddy.com; and he sold his first company at age 18 for \$1 million. Furdyk was named one of 25 innovators from around the world and a recipient of the 2007 Microsoft Education Award Laureate for inspiring global engagement in applying technology to humanity's most pressing problems by the Tech Museum of Innovation, one of the country's premier science and technology museums.

Alan November was the keynote speaker at the 1<sup>st</sup> program. You can view the interaction at: [http://www.pointlomacluster.com/audio\\_video.jsp?rn=5723674](http://www.pointlomacluster.com/audio_video.jsp?rn=5723674)

## **Superintendent Search Update**

On September 19, 2007, Superintendent Carl Cohn submitted his retirement resignation to the Board of Education, effective December 31, 2007. As a result, the Board of Education has begun the search process for a new superintendent, and has retained the services of Hazard, Young, Attea, & Associates, Ltd., <http://www.hyasupersearches.com/> a search firm that specializes in assisting boards with the identification and selection of superintendents. The firm remains under contract with SDUSD from previous superintendent search, and will provide search services at no additional fee. As part of the selection process, a leadership profile [http://www.sandi.net/issue/supt\\_search/profile.pdf](http://www.sandi.net/issue/supt_search/profile.pdf) has been developed to identify the key qualities, skills, beliefs and abilities to be demonstrated by the new superintendent. The input is a result of parents, staff and other constituents.

## **Tech Nite**

Barbara Forster, our wonderful librarian at Dana Middle School, will conduct a program geared toward parents in the Pt. Loma Cluster Schools to learn about the websites and a variety of online resources used at school by their students. Issues include school web sites, e-mail communication, live homework help, parent connect, web lockers, and online resources. The programs will take place in the Dana library on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> for grades 5 -12; and on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> for grades K – 4.

## **Non-Profit Status Update**

An attorney with the San Diego Unified School District has been working with the PLCC on developing the documents required for achieving non-profit status. Teresa Drew reported that he is very impressed with the thoroughness of the conceptual process, including the inclusiveness of representation and the relationship of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He will be preparing the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for the PLCC. One of the requirements is the appointment of a person for "Service of Process". Teresa Drew volunteered, and the PLCC authorized her, for this responsibility; but she was advised to ask the attorney if she is assuming any unforeseen liabilities.

## **PLCC Board Update**

The *PLCC Board Structure* was discussed and approved at the October meeting. Ideally, each school will be represented by a minimum of 2 members (1 staff and 1 parent). All terms are one year. Given that this is the first year, the actual make-up might not achieve the ideal representation. The Executive Committee / Board Meet will meet every month. The Board has official voting responsibilities, and a majority is needed for voting items.

*Executive Committee:* 10 Members, consisting of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 7 other members. All committees will be represented at Executive Committee level with either chair or committee member.

*Representative Board:* 30 Members, consisting of the 10 Executive Committee Members, the 2 Area 1 Superintendents, 16 Board Members, and 2 Student Liaisons.

*Committees/ Strategic Areas of Focus:*

- *Finance:* The area of finance for the PLCC encompasses the fundraising and disbursement activities of the organization. Also included in finance is tracking the organizations resources including money, people and facilities.
- *ICT Literacy:* Access to and incorporates the use digital technology, communication tools, the Internet to solve information problems. ICT Literacy initiatives creates and support environments, tools, culture, awareness and professional development to ensure that every student is information literate (text and digital), globally aware, civically engaged and economically literate.
- *Learning Communities:* The identification and provision of continual, educational growth opportunities of all stakeholders (teachers, administrators, parents, and community members) in service of improving quality student learning.
- *Learning Environment:* The seamless articulation of curriculum from grade to grade, elementary school to elementary school, primary level to secondary level, plus the creation of well-maintained, safe facilities that support optimal student learning.
- *Marketing and Stakeholder Experience:* Communicating the Vision, Mission and Goals of the PLCC to all community stakeholders. All tasks associated with the Public Relations and 'selling' of our group to stakeholders, local businesses, media and community at large.

*Process:* An e-mail was sent to the participants in the Spring PLCC strategic planning process to solicit interest or ideas for who might want to serve. Participants were asked if they were interested in serving on the Board of Directors, serving on the Executive Committee, and chairing or serving on a committee. A list of interested participants was compiled and set to be voted on by the participants at the November 5<sup>th</sup> PLCC meeting. As of November 5, 2007, 19 volunteers expressed interest, including 7 offering to serve on the Executive committee and 4 as committee chairpersons. Based upon this response, the following leadership has been appointed to serve for a one year term:

***Executive Committee:***

|                 |                 |   |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| President:      | Polly Traylor   |   |
| Vice President: | Julie Cramer    |   |
| Treasurer:      | Vicki Moats     |   |
| Secretary:      |                 |   |
|                 | Shellie Kurth   |   |
|                 | Teresa Drew     | Chair, Finance Committee                    |
|                 | Marvin Estrin   | Chair, Learning Environment                 |
|                 | Christy Scadden |   |
|                 | Matt Spathas    | Chair, Information Communication Technology |

Several additional members are still needed for the Executive Committee. Also, the 10 PLCC schools will be contacted and asked for formal representatives for the Board of Directors – both staff and parents.