

Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation General Board Meeting  
Correia Library  
October 7, 2013

Call to order at 4:35

Introduction of all members, including the following new members:

Chris Cooper, Loma Portal, Dana

Hans Becker, Principal, PLHS

Brenna Baringer, Correia VP

Lauren Leathers, Loma Portal

Laurie Flemming, Sunset View Teacher

Tracy Morton, Sunset View

Visitors:

Christy Scadden, CAC

Shelli Kurth, UPforEd

Mark Harrymand, Pt. Loma Library

Aly Brown, marketing rep at Chick-fil-A Sports Arena

**Announcements: Laura Caffo, PLCSF President**

reminder of responsibility for teacher and parent reps of the cluster

time keeper for our cluster meetings

website updater is needed for the cluster

Meeting Days and Times-proposed first Monday of each month, except January, 4:30-6:00 at Correia Library

*Motion to approve meeting time, Melinda Albright seconded the motion. All in favor; no abstentions.*

**Michelle Huber – Safety and Transportation**

T-bars will be installed soon (though we have been saying that for a while now).

Coastal Commission will take up the conversation, because they have control over the planning, zoning, etc.

OB Elementary – mid-street crosswalk, looks like its going to happen

Silver Gate – lighted cross walk at Orchard and Catalina

Chatsworth and Zola will be getting a lighted cross walk.

Loma Portal – There will be a counting at the intersection of Browning and Chatsworth. We need to have as many people as possible to cross during the

Michelle will get a date and will let PLCSF know.

Plum and Zola stop light was requested, but because there is a four-way stop at Plum and Zola the request was denied.

Christy Scadden requested there be a handicap accessible ramp installed at the back side of PLHS. At Clove and Zola.

Johnathan mentioned signage and bus pick-up. Changing Barnard's bussing time (the bus to take kids to the new Barnard location picks up right in front of Correia), at the same time as the drop off for Correia.

**Jonathan McDade on helmet safety – specifically for kids on skateboards**

Walking, Rolling and Riding to school is important to the beach community. We want to create an environment

It is in the DMV code 21212, that helmets are a must. Staff have requested that school police stop and remind children to wear their helmets. Admin may confiscate skateboards.

Kids have been hiding their boards in bushes near Correia and PLHS.

Currently, a 13 year-old Del Mar resident is in a coma from a fall off a bike/skateboard without a helmet.

**Arielle:** What would the citation be for the kids?

**Marvin:** It's a \$25 ticket, if you aren't wearing a helmet on any mode of transportation. That doesn't include court costs.

**Arielle:** Why not enforce the citations? It may help hammer the issue home.

**Kate:** Donated helmets for kids who can't afford them?

**John:** Nicole Burgess is working with a company and we are willing to work with our ASB to pay for some.

**Sandy:** We've been able to provide helmets at our school.

**Marvin:** Is there a way we can make this a cluster-wide initiative.

**Chris:** Maybe getting the word out and starting the safety education at an early age.

**Arielle:** I think there are a lot of kids who don't realize that it's a law.

**Michelle:** We should ask that all schools send out something in their eblast, consistent with what Jonathan is putting out, that way it can be disseminated throughout the cluster at the elementary and middle schools.

**Melinda:** Wheels = Helmet

**Michelle:** Letting parents know what the financial ramifications of the citation can be, versus the cost of a helmet.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jonathan will email language to the Principals for future eblasts.

**Jonathan:** Will also check with Amber Mandigan to get the actual code and information regarding where skateboards can and can't be.

**Chick-fil-A: Aly Brown, marketing rep at Chick-fil-A Sports Arena**

Aly is holding this position temporarily until January

Opportunity for the schools, reaching out into the community, etc.

\*\*See flier for more information  
Open to any ideas, they are very flexible.

**Marvin:** If our kids make a commitment to wear their helmets every day, could they get a coupon for a free sandwich?

**Michelle:** Chick-fil-A has donated and participated in our Relay for Life.

**Laura:** Could we have Chick-fil-A donate food for our teachers' Professional Development classes or at Parent nights?

**Chris:** Any national initiatives that Chick-fil-A is in support of that we can get here locally for our schools?

**Aly:** You can contact National Headquarters for more information, or come to the store on Sports Arena Blvd.

**Mark Harrymand, Point Loma Library**

Free tours (1 hour) for any class that wants to come over and visit. If they want to learn how to use the databases or how to navigate the library; we can also order books from any one of our 35 libraries.

Children 18 and under will need a parent with a valid driver's license if they want a card for the child.

First floor is dedicated to children and the upper floor is more adult subjects.

Online databases for teens or grades 6-9, there are several catalogs that the kids can use.

Science, World Book, etc. for research

Grades 10-12, there are 37 various different resources as well as access to peer-reviewed journals.

Middle and High schoolers are welcome to come on October 28<sup>th</sup>

Sugar Skulls for the Day of the Dead (any age group), October 30<sup>th</sup> 6pm in the community room

Arts and Crafts every Thursday

Movie Nights, after school

Chess Club, members of the San Diego chess club come in and teach the kids to play chess

Gaming every Friday afternoon from 2:30-5, competition, prizes.

Veterans resource center – opportunities for families of veterans (Mon, Tue, Sat)

Can find out information on benefits, etc.

Online tutoring for students – free service "Brain Fuse" connects teens to tutors

Real time, free and available to all students, Spanish

Utilizing the study rooms, for groups to do projects, study, tutoring.

Come in with a library card and student ID to get access to the text books used at PLHS and Dana (working on getting books that are used at Correia)

Putting together a "teen council" the kids come to the library and have them take over what volunteers do there, help with ordering books, magazines. Meets once per month, looks good on the resume or college applications.

Call with questions.

*Mark will email information to Laura for the eblast.*

**Shellie Kurth: UPforEd (United Parents for Education) Parent Choice Award**

Shellie was on the original Cluster Foundation and was co-founder of United Parents for Education (UPforEd)

Working with parents to help educate so they can advocate for their children's education.

Travelling to different area schools to get parents active

Bringing parents into the classrooms to help them experience what they can do as a parent and what they can do

We have been doing a Teacher's Choice Award for a few years now, which is a great way to honor our teachers.

[skurth@upford.org](mailto:skurth@upford.org)

**Laura, PLCSF Board nominations, elections:**

***Next month we will vote in our new Executive Board. Terms are one year. Please email your name and which position you are interested in: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary***

**Gilbert Gutierrez, Area 6 Superintendent**

Last Spring and Summer met with quite a few parents and teachers throughout the cluster by way of the new Principal search.

K-12 alignment, expectations from each school, similar concerns and ideas were common themes from all parents in the cluster

Common Core was another common issue.

What we are doing K-12 is putting our efforts together to tackle CCSS as a K-12 cluster, preparing for PD, aligning expectations, etc.

Principals have been working hard all summer.

**Share out of Principal work-Scott Irwin and Tanya Belsan, supported by Area Sup, Gil Gutierrez**

Supports, expectations, alignment, staffing, all common themes the principals of the cluster support.

What are we doing to prepare kids for the day after graduation

21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision for the Point Loma Cluster

"Schools should be teaching students to be productive adults."

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to a common curriculum in the schools.

We have to look to the leaders in our school systems to make the decisions to get our teachers better prepared, to teach Common Core.

October 17<sup>th</sup> PD session for teachers – Professional Development program that has been aligned with all nine schools in mind.

Loma Portal will host a 2 hr PD with Kinder teachers across the point, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> will be combined. Transition from Primary to Secondary school will be addressed, how to make the shifts seamlessly.

Our goal is to form professional relationships across the Point, so every teacher has a relationship to build on and utilize.

"Journey to Appreciative Inquiry"

Principal coffees at Dana have been a source for parents to ask questions about Common Core.

Another concern is Assembly Bill 484, which suspends STAR testing for the next two years.

<http://laschoolreport.com/brown-signs-ab-484-ending-old-standardized-tests-california/>

K-12 alignment is very important to the Principals in the cluster.

**Q & A:**

**Christy:** Getting parents educated about the Common Core is great. The CAC (Community Advisory Committee for Special Education) has its monthly meeting this Thursday and we are offering a math information session for parents with kids of Special Education students.

Can we have something online that will update when the teachers get their updates?

**Matt:** How will you be measuring what you want to measure? What are the deliverables? How will these things be objectively measured?

Metrics around this conversation would be helpful if they are aligned in a timely manner.

**Gil:** The information shared with the Cluster can be decided on by the Executive board, and can be customized to what you want to know. Tell us how much you want, and we can provide what you need.

**Michelle:** I read that they suspended the API grading system for two years because of the fear that the scores will dip before they get better.

**Gil:** Well, at this point, we'll be comparing apples and oranges. They are not the same assessments, standards will be different. The standards won't dip, but the scores will change.

You can go onto the Smarter Balanced website to take a sample test if you'd like, and to find out more information.

Smarter Balanced website:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>

Find out more about Common Core here:

<http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>

Information from one of our Cluster teachers at Loma Portal Elem.:

<http://www.sandi.net/Page/50091>

**Hans:** The thing about the state standards on the CST (California State Tests), is that they were very low level standards.

**Melinda:** Maybe we need to educate parents about where Common Core came from, and why the change is happening. We should do this before we get into the metrics of the standards.

**Laura:** We are planning a parent education meeting regarding Common Core before the Winter Break.

**Michelle:** What parents want to know is how this will affect my sophomore or junior in high school, because it will have a greater impact on them than it will my third grader.

Scott Barnett is absent. The information he was going to share had to do with the Master Plan changes/discussion for the High School and Correia.

It would be in the best interest of all of the stakeholders in Point Loma to attend one of these information meetings:

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 for PLHS

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 for Correia

Topics on the table are lights for the fields

District report comes out in November, so we will know more about the overall plan then.

**Laura:** The Cluster will not be taking a position until the community forums have occurred.

**Christy:** We just need a place for people to go to find resources, so they can make their own decisions.

### **Fundraising and Advertising**

We are looking for a fundraising chair! Someone who has some fundraising experience, or is eager to help

Another way to raise money would be to advertise on our eblasts which go out twice a month.

### **New Business-National Parent Involvement Day, Marvin Estrin**

Parent Involvement Day, November 21, 2013

Studies show that children achieve more when parents are involved. This goes along with bridging the achievement gap between our children of lower economic means.

This could be a catalyst for our Cluster to make a difference and leverage opportunities to make our students more successful.

### **Public Comment:**

Christy Scadden asked about the Cluster Congress

**Cluster Congress is a gathering of all cluster Presidents from around the District (currently there are 11 of the 16 clusters represented).**

The focus of the Cluster Congress in its last few meetings was:

Open agenda – allowing the Cluster Congress to have a set place on the agenda to share out

Timely agenda – so the cluster congress isn't behind

There is some confusion as to whether the Cluster Congress is actually representative of the District

Cluster Congress – the Superintendent wants the group to be equally representative of the District.

Kirsten has copies of the revised Vision 2020.

***Meeting adjourned 6:20pm***