

Golden Spotlight:

This evening, we are so excited to kick-off the Golden Spotlight at each and every board meeting, starting tonight. It is our intent to spotlight and showcase our students, staff, and community stakeholders

Tonight we will spotlight a group of students from Vasquez High School.

Advanced Placement courses gives students the chance to tackle college-level work while they're still in high school—whether they're learning online or in the classroom. And through taking AP Exams, students can earn college credit and placement.

In addition, there is an AP Scholar designation that we want to share in which acknowledges students that the College Board has deemed as demonstrating outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on the AP exams. The students that have received the AP Scholar award are: Kemp Fairbanks, Camilla Galvez, and Emily Sandoval-Plouffe.

With distance learning and the multitude of challenges last school year, here are all of the students that took AP exams this past spring. Kudos to each and every one of you for your dedication and commitment to your studies. Thank you.

Amanda Ames
Ryann Arnold
Annabel Becker
Nick Costan
Kemp Fairbanks
Braeden Flores
Adam Frank
Camilla Galvez
Diego Galvez
Ashley Hinkel
Maya Hurtado
William Kendall
Chloe Main
Keiko Martini
Mackenzie Nolind
Abigail Perez
Vanessa Plaza

Haley Rudd
Emily Sandoval-Plouffe
Jacob Van Ornum
Brody Villasenor
Aiva Wyganowska

Superintendent report for September 9, 2021:

1.0- Student Achievement:

AVID Overview- AADUSD

- School year 2021-22:
 - Meadowlark - AVID Elementary implementation with site team of 4 to AVID ElevateXP for Elementary Foundations 3-6
 - AVID District Leadership (ADL) year 1 for AVID District Director (DD)
 - Planning year for High Desert and Vasquez High (no cost)
- School year 2022-23
 - Continued AVID Elementary membership with Elementary Summer Institute optional for 2 participants
 - High Desert - AVID Combination School implementation (elementary/secondary) with a site team of 6 for Summer Institute
 - Vasquez High - AVID Secondary implementation with a site team of 6 for Summer Institute
 - ADL year 2 for AVID DD
- School year 2023-24
 - Continued AVID Elementary membership with Elementary Summer Institute optional for 2 participants
 - Continued AVID Combination School membership, AVID Weekly Secondary (gratis in 2022-23) and Secondary Summer Institute optional for 2 participants
 - Continued AVID Secondary membership, AVID Weekly Secondary (gratis in 2022-23) and Secondary Summer Institute optional for 2 participants))))))

- An update on our MTSS/PBIS initiative. Thank you Kim Shaw for attending the 2 hour PBIS workshop last week, sponsored by LACOE.

On 9/9, DO leadership and school site MTSS teams participated in the LACOE facilitated MTSS training. A series of workshops to help plan and support the MTSS initiative.

As participants at the series of workshops scheduled for the rest of the school year, we will gain an overview of the CA MTSS framework, and how to leverage tiered academic, behavioral and social-emotional supports for ALL students, including sample strategies to accelerate student learning. We will learn how to align teams in building a single, coherent system. We will also receive information on how to build school and district team capacity in the implementation of the MTSS framework. Thank you Meadowlark, High Desert, and Vasquez MTSS team for your participation this afternoon with the first workshop.

2.0 Effective Instruction and Leadership:

- Thank you to our school site staff, teachers, and administrators for your creative implementation of Back to School Nights last week and yesterday evening with Vasquez HS. Here are a few snapshots of the creative and interactive presentations.
- VHS Principal, well wishes...VHS Principal Stakeholder Input Survey, sample questions:

What do you want to see most in our next Principal?

What do you think will be the greatest challenge for the next Principal?

What experience do you think the new principal should have?

We are kindly requesting for all submissions by Friday September 10th at 4 pm.

3.0- Community Engagement:

- Superintendent's Golden Spotlight- bi-monthly recognition of our students and their achievements, staff and their accomplishments, as well as community partners being recognized for their support of our district.

- **Community partnerships:**

Assistance League of Antelope Valley is a partnership that was established by our previous counselor Mrs. Lairson. Each year the Assistance League provides backpacks with school supplies to our campuses for our students in need. They also hold a Target night for our students in need to purchase their back to school clothes, shoes, and supplies. Last Friday Mrs. Salsedo and Mr. Brockway dropped off the backpacks and supplies to all three school sites. Thank you Assistance League for your continued support of our students and community!

In addition, in mid-August we had the Salvation Army of Lancaster provide a generous donation of 30 backpacks with school supplies for students in need. We appreciate this new partnership and look forward to many more years of collaboration. Thank you Ms. Chelcee Humphrey from the Salvation Army of Lancaster.

- I am currently working on a formal Marketing/Branding proposal of our District as part of my Onboarding Plan.

As you can see projected up on the screen, there are several key components to the plan:

- **District website:** Showcasing staff, teachers, while highlighting degrees and certificates our teachers have earned and possess; Plus easy navigation of our district website. If we are looking to attract families to our district, the lens we should have for our website content should not only be to cater to our existing families, but to potential families.

- **Branding:** I am interested in highlighting what makes our district special and unique. We have no reason to compete with large urban districts as our district has plenty to offer that large districts cannot. With that lens, I am moving towards highlighting the “quality not quantity” theme with our branding.

- **Emphasis on Customer Service:** Paying special attention to how we enroll new families to our school sites and our positive messaging must be deliberate. And as administrators, including myself it does

start with us. We must model the expected behaviors. Ultimately it is good customer service that keeps parents with a school district.

- **School Tours and “Shadow Days”:** having a link on the homepage to scheduled school tours- tours that will be coordinated and consistent in content. “Shadow days” scheduled for our younger students from Meadowlark and High Desert to shadow our high school students, be it shadowing VHS students in their classrooms, at athletic competitions, and extracurricular clubs and activities. I hope to offer this invitation to not only to our Meadowlark and High Desert families, but having it open to the public as well (of course when health safety protocols allow).

- **Video Testimonials:** We have excellent teachers, students and parents. As part of a marketing campaign, I would like to produce “A day in the Life of” video testimonials for easy access on our website. The testimonial will provide a peak into all of the amazing teaching and learning and extracurricular activities taking place on our campuses. These testimonials will also include recent graduates.

- **Simplifying Registration-** Our website currently has a registration/enrollment link for accessibility and navigation. I’d be interested in making the link more prominent on our homepage.

- **Annual School Climate Surveys:** Annual climate surveys assessing student, staff, and parent perceptions on topics related to instruction, campus safety, customer service and others will lend support to heightening customer service with the community we serve. Data from the annual surveys will also allow for us to gauge whether we are improving or not. I am all for continuous improvement as it is never ending.

- **Social Media Concentrated Marketing:** Targeted social media advertisement, what some call geo-targeted advertisement. Facebook groups of geared to new parents, parenting groups, etc.

Ultimately, would like to have student participation with the branding by incorporating a poster contest for each respective site which embodies the branding theme.

4.0- Student Safety and Connectedness:

- I am thrilled to introduce Superintendent's Student Advisory:

STAR: Students Together for Action and Results

The purpose of the Superintendent's Student Advisory- STAR is to create and implement goals through student input into areas that impact student performance, safety and security, mental health, and other areas of concern.

2021-2022 Meeting Dates will be determined based on student availability and needs.

Each meeting the will cover a goal or area of growth that we work on as a group.

The Superintendent's Student Advisory Council/STAR will be our district's very own coalition of high school students and middle school students with the branching out to our elementary school. The advisory aims to develop initiatives and amplify student voices to create positive change at school. If you are a current high school student or middle school student in our district and are passionate about school or district wide issues, I would encourage you to apply. Looking to have an online application for our student to easy accessibility. Look out for more information, soon.

5.0- Utilization of Fiscal Capital-

- The Local Control and Accountability Plan, LCAP for short has been approved. The LACOE review and oversight committee determined that our district's LCAP plan meets all three criteria and has been formally approved. The three criteria for LCAP approval include:
 - adherence to the state board of education, sbe for short template

- sufficient expenditures in budget to implement LCAP
- adherence to SBE expenditure regulations

One area of concern that was brought out in the letter of approval had to do with our district's declining enrollment and its impact on funding. It was recommended that the district continue to assess staffing needs and facilities planning for the upcoming years.

With that said, we have a formal presentation from Davis Demographics this evening which may be able to provide our district with a formal demographic study based on student projections and even residential forecasts to better equip us with our planning for outgoing years.

COVID Report:

- I'd like to provide an up to date COVID report, data pulled from LACDPH. The number of news cases as reported to LACDPH for September 6th is 1,540. We have seen a decrease in new cases since my last update where we had seen is 3,322 new cases as reported by LACDPH back on August 25th. As of September 6th, a total of 1,540 new cases have been reported in comparison to 3,322 new cases reported back on August 25th. The testing positivity rate a 7-day average for the week of August 30th is at 1.98% a drop from 3.08% since the week of August 18th. and the percentage of individuals tested with a diagnostic COVID test for since the week of August 30th is 147,130 an increase of 22,000 individuals since August 18th.
- We are receiving up to date information on COVID cases in our schools. I'd like to thank our site administrators, District office staff, and Nurse Cari Wright for their timely communication of such incidents.
- We are not alone in this challenge as our neighboring districts near and far have seen an uptick in student cases. I'd like to reiterate the importance of a self-check at home prior to students arriving on campus. Please look for symptoms such as a cough, fever, and shortness of breath. If you believe your child may be experiencing these symptoms, please contact your school site for additional guidance.

