

**Irvine Unified School District**

**Education Advisory Committee Minutes**

**February 19, 2015**

**Thursday, 6:30 p.m.**

Administrative Center

5050 Barranca Parkway

Irvine, CA 92604

**Call to Order:** Superintendent Walker called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Members Present:** Betty Carroll, Janelle Cranch, Brian Daucher, Yanina Feinerman, Christine Haley, Hugh Hewitt, Jodie Le Hoffman, Sandi Lester, Marcela Maija-Martinez, Kathy Overman, Cassie Parham, Susie Sarmiento, Elise Tenen-Aoki, Connie Stone, Beatrice Tseng, Paula Venable, Sarah Verdegan, Terry Walker

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Melinda Glowacki, Catherine Holmes, Alyssa Honeycutt, Stan Machesky, Michele Ogden, Alan Schlichting, Keith Tuominen

**Next Meeting Date:** tbd

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Education Advisory Committee Business**

1. Opening Commentary & Objectives – Terry Walker, Superintendent  
Superintendent Walker Staff welcomed committee members and shared that, because the committee includes Board-appointed representatives, meetings are governed by the Brown Act.

Objectives to be met by the committee are:

- Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board
- Review and discuss critical issues and initiatives
- Review and discuss input and feedback from key stakeholders
- Review and discuss alignment of implementation, actions and resources with the District's Strategic Initiatives

2. Introductions  
Committee members and staff introduced themselves to the group and shared their background/connection to IUSD.

3. Proposed Meeting Agreements/ Norms – Assistant Superintendent Cassie Parham  
Group reviewed and discussed proposed meeting agreements/norms.  
Engage to understand, gain insights, and contribute to the work of the group  
Balance participation; enable all voices to be heard  
Assume positive intentions

No revisions or additional norms were suggested.

4. Binders were distributed. Digital version will be made available. Assistant Superintendent Parham walked group members through materials to familiarize them with content.

5. Presentations

- a. CCSS: ELA Standards Overview

Melinda Glowacki, Director/Literacy, shared information regarding the structure, sequence and substance of standards as well as key instructional shifts. Common Core State Standards are designed to evoke complex thinking across literacy, social science, science, and math. Key shifts are three-fold: 1) increased text complexity, 2) having students grounded in understanding of text itself, and 3) inclusion of purposeful and intentional non-fiction. The standards value skills more than content.

Concern was expressed relative to the amount of time teachers are required to be out of the classroom for trainings and about lack of communication as to why they are out of the classroom. Staff shared that the March 6 Professional Learning Day, for both certificated and classified staff, is a non-student day and that additional work days have been built into the 2015-16 calendar for professional development so that additional instructional time is not impacted.

Concern was also shared regarding the lack of communication between teachers and families at the high school level. The group acknowledged the challenges that large caseloads provide teachers, and staff discussed the possibility of exploring technology and other communication vehicles to ease the challenge of communicating to so many families.

- b. CCSS: Math Standards Overview

Michele Ogden, Coordinator/Math & Science, presented an overview regarding structure, sequence and substance of standards as well as key instructional shifts. Three main shifts in focus of standards are: 1) making sure we have fewer standards for each grade level, 2) coherence, i.e., looking year-to-year to build skills, and 3) rigor refers to procedural skills and fluency. Common Core goal is to make sense of math language. We can bridge understanding for every student.

Concern was expressed about how IUSD will bridge the gap for students who are caught in the transition from learning mathematics one way for several years to Common Core

Standards. Staff shared intervention measures such as PBIS and other academic interventions.

Concern was also expressed that the rationale for the shifts in the Common Core for ELA is clearer than the rationale for the changes in math, and the group discussed in more depth how a lack of conceptual understanding can impede thinking and efficacy in various professions.

Concern was also expressed related to Math Pathways Communication. Assistant Superintendent Parham acknowledged the concern , and shared that staff would be working diligently to communicate the selected pathway through parent nights and a variety of other vehicles. Three parent information nights will be scheduled in March and April. The format will include a brief presentation and provide an opportunity for parents to ask individual questions re: their student. IUSD parents will receive information re: locations, dates, and times.

6. Closing

Superintendent Walker shared that agenda topics not covered this evening will carry forward to the next Education Advisory Committee meeting.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

8. Next Steps

Send dates for parent Math Pathways information nights.  
Send future Education Advisory Committee meeting dates.