

Irvine Unified School District
Education Advisory Committee Minutes
October 27, 2016
Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Administrative Center
5050 Barranca Parkway
Irvine, CA 92604

- Call to Order:** Terry Walker called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
- Roll Call:** Attendance taken via sign-in sheet
- Members Present:** Betty Carroll, Natalie Cooley (for Aidan Arasasingham), Yanina Feinerman, Jodie Hoffman, Priscilla Hui, Cara LeVasseur, Sandi Lester, Kathy Michels, Henry Miller, Cassie Parham, Steve Sewell, Connie Stone (for Tracey Rinard), Beatrice Tseng, Terry Walker
- Members Absent:** Aidan Arasasingham, Janelle Cranch, Stacie Grooters, Hugh Hewitt, Allie Hunter, Marcela Majia-Martinez, Tracey Rinard, Ethan Suh, Elise Tenen-Aoki
- Staff Present:** Annie Brown, Rhonda Cameron, Melinda Glowacki, Lisa Gordon, Stan Machesky, Heather Phillips, Alan Schlichting, Keith Tuominen, Lindsay Weiss, Kristen Winn
- Pledge of Allegiance** Pledge of allegiance led by Terry Walker
- Next Meeting Date:** December 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Rooms
- Check-in:** Committee and staff members introduced themselves.
- Approval of Minutes:** Approve the minutes of the August 25, 2016 meeting as presented. Passed with a motion by Jodie Hoffman and seconded by Yanina Feinerman.
- Adoption of the Agenda:** Adopt agenda as presented. Passed with a motion by Jodie Hoffman and seconded by Beatrice Tseng.
- Round Table Discussion:** Concern was voiced about a cohort of students who reside in the Columbus Grove development. Due to boundary changes, these students are unable to follow the middle/high school path of their peers. Staff shared that this issue was part of the discussion at the Board of Education's October 25th Facilities Study Session. Board members and staff are working on both short- and long-term solutions.

Education Advisory Committee Business

- **Draft NGSS Communications Plan**

Annie Brown, Public Information Officer, and Kristen Winn, STEM Director, presented a draft of the NGSS communications plan. (PowerPoint presentation posted to IUSD website.) The group provided input into the FAQ, made suggestions for refinement to the plan, and discussed what would be the most critical public message points.

Suggestions included:

- Communicate committee process (identify group of stakeholders, how long committees met, etc.)
- Utilize PTAs to their fullest as a communication vehicle.

Parents provided helpful and insightful feedback. Suggestions will be integrated into the communications plan.

- **Refining NGSS Communication Plan and Tools**

Committee members divided into three groups. Each group was given a specific charge to address (FAQ review and comment, respond to proposed communications plan, or craft message points to share with the community). Following are the questions that were addressed:

- **FAQ**
 - What other questions would be helpful to address in an FAQ?
 - What additional information might we include in the current responses?
- **Draft Communication Plan**
 - Which elements of the proposed plan do you think will work well?
 - What questions do you have about the proposed plan?
 - Are there any elements missing?
 - What information do you think we should emphasize FIRST in our communications?
- **Public Message Points**
 - How might you describe the communication plan being proposed?
 - How might you capture the most critical messages that need to be conveyed regarding NGSS?
- Committee members participated in gallery walk followed by facilitators reporting out.
 - **FAQ**

Found we need to have a key so vocabulary can be deciphered for parents, students, staff. Deeper questions were generated. How does it look compared to other districts? Why didn't we stay with traditional model? Provide details about credits toward college admissions, lab credits, etc.
 - **Communication Plan**

Plan robust and well received. Important for community to know this is a two-year roll out and that this has been a thoughtful process, create a

different flavor from math pathways. Emphasize the standards. Important to incorporate student voice perhaps via clubs, school news, testimonials, video classes, 30 second lab video. Make certain first group through NGSS transition feels supported.

- **Public Message Points**

Discussed course names (opportunity to rebrand). All districts are changing; this is IUSDs response to new standards. Standards are not curriculum, but what students will know and do. Paradigm shift. Preparing students to be problem solvers.

- We will compile feedback, refine plan. Committee members were encouraged to email comments, thoughts to Cassie Parham. Staff will meet next week to integrate important components.
- Suggestion was made to talk more about math and science coordination.
- Cassie Parham shared a document that addresses inaccurate claims re: math and NGSS. Tracey Rinard will push the letter out to PTA presidents.

- **Additional Commentary / Topics for Future Discussion**

Terry Walker shared that IUSD staff met with UCI's Dean of the School of Engineering and UCI said we are perfectly aligned with them.

- **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. on a motion made by Beatrice Tseng and seconded by Kathy Michels.