

Irvine Unified School District

Education Advisory Committee Minutes

May 21, 2020

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Administrative Center

5050 Barranca Parkway

Irvine, CA 92604

- Call to Order:** Terry Walker called the virtual meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- Roll Call:** Attendance taken via introduction
- Members Present:** Cassie Parham, Cathryn Mah, Diane Kim, Jim Leung, Kathy Overman, Kevork Abazajian, Kristi Smemoe, Mike Genest, Sandi Lester, Terry Walker
- Members Absent:** Benjamin Kim, Courtney Belzano, Harshita Dabir, Iman Syed, Jahnvi Mehta, Janelle Cranch, Jenna Makarem, Kelly Montplaisir, Mary Kelly, Mikey Dickson, Naveed Siddiqui, Phoebe Lo-Wang, Teri Sorey
- Staff Present:**
- Next Meeting Date:** September 24, 2020
- Check-in:** Committee and staff members introduced themselves.
- Approval of Minutes:** Approve the minutes of the February 27, 2020 meeting as presented. Passed with a motion by Kevork Abazajian, and seconded by Kathy Overman.
- Adoption of the Agenda:** Adopt agenda as presented. Passed with a motion by Cathryn Mah and seconded by Kristi Smemoe.

Education Advisory Committee Business

- **Participant Input: COVID-19 and Emergency Distance Learning Communication:**
 - **Which aspects of our communication have been most effective?**
 - Messages sent by district and site principals explaining EDL helped for a smooth transition
 - [COVID-19 webpage](#) and [FAQs](#) staying updated have been a valuable resource
 - Information has been provided timely as new information or guidelines emerge
 - IUSD districtwide emails with links to the updated COVID-19 webpage make it easy to access information and updates

- [EDL Common Expectations](#) helped students, parents, and teachers understand what EDL is and what is expected of them.
- **What more we could do to support communication with our families?**
 - Letting families know that IUSD is working on plans for fall, grades for fall if DL is in place, etc.
 - Sending a message that we don't have the answers yet but we are working on them in collaboration with... (list the agencies and provide links)
 - More communication from teacher to parents
 - Add expectation of communication between teacher and parent to the [EDL Common Expectations](#) sheet
 - Better communication for seniors and their families. It has been chaotic and frustrating so far.
 - Consistent quantity and quality of messaging from K-12
 - Streamline messaging for secondary - concerns regarding high quantity of messages and too many different platforms (teachers, site admin, district)
 - Town Hall style meeting for Q & A
- **Roundtable Discussion:**
 - Member K. Smemoe discussed her concern about Distance Learning in the Fall and the inconsistencies from teacher to teacher and grade to grade in the quantity and quality of instruction and the parent perception of lack of support for teachers in the transition to online learning.
 - Member J. Leung asked that parents be given the opportunity to help support classes in online learning, similar to how they support as volunteers in the classroom.
- **Adjournment**
 - Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m. on a motion made by Sandi Lester and seconded by Jim Leung.