

# Paramount Unified School District



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## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## **STUDY SESSION MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES  
February 26, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by President Vivian Hansen in the Boardroom at the District Office, 15110 California Avenue, Paramount, California.

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|---|---|---|
| Pledge of Allegiance                                      | David Daley, Director-Special Education, led the Pledge of Allegiance.  |   |
| Roll Call   | Trustee Vivian Hansen<br>Trustee Sonya Cuellar<br>Trustee Alicia Anderson   | Trustee Linda Garcia<br>Trustee Tony Peña |
| Administrators Present                                    | Ruth Pérez, Superintendent<br>Ruben Frutos, Assistant Superintendent-Business Services<br>Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources<br>Ryan Smith, Assistant Superintendent-Secondary Educational Services<br>Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services<br>David Daley, Director-Special Education<br>Greg Francois, Director-Secondary Ed. & Instructional Technology<br>Renee Jeffrey, Director-K-5 School Support & Innovative Programs<br>Margarita Rodriguez, Director-Research, Assessment & Student Info.<br>Manuel San Miguel, Director-Student Services<br>Beatriz Spelker-Levi, Director-Personnel |   |
| Approve Study Session<br>Agenda February 26, 2018<br>1.70 | Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Anderson seconded and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the agenda of the Study Session Meeting of February 26, 2018.  |   |

Ayes: 5 – Trustees Anderson, Cuellar, Garcia, Hansen, Peña

## **HEARING SECTION**

There were no speakers during the Hearing Section.

Expanding the Continuum of  
Services in Special Education

David Daley, Director-Special Education provided the Board with an overview of current services provided for Special Education students in Paramount Unified School District, a review of inclusive practices for students with disabilities in the District, a review of three recommendations for 2018-19 that include:

- The need to support SDC middle school sites with staffing that allows access to grade level instruction

- Plan to expand co-teaching at the PHS Senior campus and middle schools
- Plan for a middle school Behavior Support class in PUSD

Students with disabilities must have the opportunity to be educated with non-disabled peers, to the greatest extent appropriate, as mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The District is recommending the following for 208-19:

Recommendation 1: Provide Middle School Sites with SDC Staffing that Allows Access to Grade Level Instruction

Currently, middle school SDC teachers teach four content areas (Language Arts, Math, Social Science, Science) to three grade levels (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>). With the shift to more rigorous standards and the research supporting co-teaching, students need to be instructed in grade level standards with accommodations and modifications.

The recommendation is to:

- Move two SDC teachers from one middle school to other middle schools to balance support services.
- Hire one additional teacher.
- SDC teacher will be responsible for teaching content in one grade level: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> in 2018-19.
- Each school will have three SDC teachers.

Recommendation 2: Plan to Expand Co-teaching at PHS and Middle Schools

What is Co-Teaching?

- A delivery model that offers different ways to provide quality services to students with special needs in the general education classroom.
- Increases differentiation in instruction to benefit all students.
- Provides two equally-qualified individuals who may or may not have the same area of expertise jointly delivering instruction to a group of students.

SDC Co-Teaching in PUSD  
2017-18

- **Paramount Park, Jackson and Zamboni Middle Schools** (selected content areas and grade levels)
- **PHS-West** (English Language Arts, Algebra and Biology)
- **PHS-Senior Campus** (English Language Arts 2, English Language Arts 3 and Biology)

A committee was developed to provide input into the expansion of co-teaching. The purpose of this committee is to:

- Understand the benefits of co-teaching and learn about current practices in PUSD.
- Provide input into expansion of current practices in middle and high school.
- Provide input into the support and the professional development needed for successful implementation in 2018-19.

Recommendation 3: Plan a Middle School Behavior Support Class

Why is a Middle School Behavior Support Class Needed?

- The District contracts with a Non Public School (NPS) when a Special Education student requires a higher level of behavioral support to access their education.
- A middle school Behavior Class within PUSD would provide higher level of support on a district campus before moving a student to a NPS.
- This would decrease the number of NPS placements for PUSD students and accompanying costs.

As the result of implementing a Middle School Behavior Support Class for 2018-19

Student

Staff

- Project six current NPS 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade students return to PUSD for 2018-19.
  - Project five current 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade students remain on a District site to participate in the behavior support class versus a potential NPS placement for 2018-19.
- The following staff would be hired to support the program:
- Behavior Support Classroom Teacher
  - AM/PM Aide
  - Behavior Intervention Specialist

The District's next steps will include:

1. Increase SDC Teachers at Middle Schools
  - Inform all stakeholders at middle school sites
  - Meet with parents of fourteen students to discuss change in school site for the 2018-19 school year
  - Work with Human Resources on staffing for 2018-19
2. Expand PHS and Middle Schools Co-Teaching
  - Share Co-Teaching Committee input with principals
  - Provide professional development for new teams and ongoing support for existing teams
  - Support and monitor sites-with implementation of committee input
3. Develop a Middle School Behavior Support Class
  - Inform all stakeholders (Principal, Staff, Parents, Students)
  - Hire staff and hold addendums at comprehensive sites and NPSs for up to eleven students
  - Provide professional development for site staff supporting the class

The full version of the presentation is available on the District website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Anderson seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adjourn the Study Session meeting of the Board of Education held on February 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Ayes: 5 – Trustees Anderson, Cuellar, Garcia, Hansen, Peña

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Ruth Pérez, Secretary  
To the Board of Education

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President

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Vice President/Clerk