



**WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Academic Committee**  
Zoom Video Conference

**March 22, 2021**

**Minutes**

**I. Opening Procedures**

**A. Roll Call, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement**

Chairperson Jamela Smith-Folds called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM and Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy read the land acknowledgement.

**Committee Members Present:** Jamela Smith-Folds, Demetrio Gonzalez-Hoy

**Staff Present:** Rubén Aurelio, Associate Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer; Sherri Rivenbark, Administrative Assistant; Otilia Espinoza, Interpreter; Lyn Potter, Director of State and Federal Programs; Gabriel Chilcott, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Allison Huie, Director of College & Career

**B. Approval of Agenda**

Chairperson Smith-Folds asked if any changes to the agenda and there were none. Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy moved approval of the agenda and Chair Smith-Folds seconded. Motion carried.

**C. Approval of Minutes: March 8, 2021**

Chairperson Smith-Folds asked if any changes to the March 8, 2021 minutes and there were none. Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy motioned approval of the minutes for March 8, 2021. Chair Smith-Folds seconded. Motion carried.

**D. Public Comment**

None

**II. Discussion Items**

**A. SPSA**

Ms. Lyn Potter and Mr. Rubén Aurelio shared an example of a new two pager that was developed for each school site at the request of the board trustees at the February 8, 2021 Academic Committee meeting by Ms. Potter and her team at State & Federal.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Discussion:**

Chairperson Smith-Folds, Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy and Mr. Aurelio reviewed all the sites SPSAs that were put into a two page summaries by dividing them up by Elementary (Ms. Smith-Folds), Middle (Mr. Aurelio) and High (Mr. Gonzalez-Hoy) schools. A rubric was developed to review them. They discussed trends, what needs to be standardized, training needed, any work that is still needed, funds that are needed, that they observed from the plans.

Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy recommended that the theory of action be added to the summary pages for the 2021/2022 school year. Trustee Smith-Folds would like sites to come and present their SPSAs to the Academic Committee in the future. Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy suggested a day during the week that sites come for 30 minutes each to present their SPSA with other district staff, like Mr. McGee and Ms. Roscigno as panelists to ask questions. Mr. Aurelio spoke about having a data summit for schools to present site plans, data, action items. etc. to

stakeholders/community. We need to showcase the great work our schools are doing.

Brief recess from 4:37 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

## **B. Assessment Update**

Mr. Gabriel Chilcott and Dr. Allison Huie presented an assessment update on ELPAC, SBAC, CAA and AP, review of Winter local assessment window and an update and recommendations to the board regarding assessments for the remainder of 2020-2021 for the district. Mr. Aurelio also shared and expanded on the information presented.

Trustees asked questions around California Alternative Assessment (CAA), which is for the most severe special education students, they wanted to know how many students take it, how long would students have to take the simplified Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC); grade levels of students who take the SBAC who would then take the STAR testing as an alternative; Is the district paying for students taking the AP tests and confirmed that all AP tests are remote except for language which is in person-what will that look like and who is setting that up--safety; what is the response from sites on Schoolzilla; and clarification that exit exams are no longer required by the state.

### **Public Comment:**

Mr. Aurelio read the Q&A section from Zoom from the public-TJ Warfield and Celetta Hunter Celetta Hunter also spoke during public comment

### **Discussion:**

Trustees thanked everyone for the presentation. They discussed reading and math proficiency and how much work needs to be done to make sure we have a clear roadmap of what we are doing with our children who are not hitting proficiency. Tying this data back to the SPSAs goal one and that goal one needs to be the most developed at the sites. Trustee Gonzalez-Hoy is fully in support of STAR assessments for 2nd-8th grade students to the full board with Trustee Smith-Folds in agreement. Providing more exposure to 10th grade students for more test taking strategies and they discussed Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) with Mr. Aurelio as that is currently offered/given to students.

Trustees would like a Friday memo disaggregating the number of AP students by ethnicity from the slide deck. We need to push the system so that our students know that they can be AP students. AP is for all students.

We need to drill down on deliverables to see why students are not succeeding and take actionable steps and provide the resources needed.

Trustees want information about testing to get to students and parents as soon as possible. Trustees also shared that parents/guardians can opt out of any state assessment testing, except for ELPAC, by sending a letter to your site administrator.

## **III. Action**

### **A. SPSA 2020/2021**

Chairperson Smith-Folds questioned if action is needed at the Academic Committee meeting. Mr. Aurelio stated that it needs to be agendaized at an upcoming board of education meeting as an action for approval. Trustees are in agreement to bring to the full board.

### **Public Comment:**

TJ Warfield

### **Discussion:**

The focus for SPSAs will be for 2021/2022 but feedback will be given to sites to improve from

2020/2021 to 2021/2022 as these are living documents. We have a standard for SPSAs and we need a reset for the future of SPSAs. These are not just compliance documents and that principals will come and present on their SPSAs in the future. Trustees asked Mr. Aurelio to show some great examples of some SPSAs at a future principal's meeting to recognize some sites and encourage them to excel and to let sites know they will present to the Academic Committee their 2021/2022 SPSAs.

**Motion: if any**

Trustees will recommend approval of all 2020/2021 SPSAs to the full board for approval.

**IV. Academic Committee Next Meeting**

The next meeting dates were set for April 21, 2021 (Special meeting), April 26, 2021, May 24, 2021 and June 28, 2021

**V. Future Agenda Items**

April 21-Dual Language Immersion (Black student experience) and Council of Elders proposal;  
April 26-Summer School Update and Special Education/Extended School Year (ESY) update;  
May 24-New School Programs (VAPA, Virtual, Academies, Afro-centric school) & Ethnic Studies;  
June 28-Race & Equity Update

**VI. Adjournment**

Chairperson Smith-Folds adjourned the meeting at 5:56 PM.