

Mountain Empire Unified School District
Education and Instructional Services Department



Indian Education Alliance Meeting
Thursday, March 14, 2024
La Posta Education Center
12:30-2:30 pm

Agenda

		Meeting Minutes
Welcome and Introductions	Amy Conforth <i>Director of Education and Instructional Services, MEUSD</i>	- Patrick Keeley (PK) and Cherie Foraker (CF) provided a welcome and round of introductions to open the meeting. Amy Conforth (AC) joined the meeting after performing observations around the district.
Announcements and Agenda Review		
Midyear Data Overview	MEUSD School Administrators/Counselors	
District Reports <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Title VI Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Native Scholars Pathway <input type="checkbox"/> Early Literacy Nights <input type="checkbox"/> March 18th -	Patrick Keeley, Superintendent, MEUSD Amy Conforth <i>Director of Education and Instructional Services, MEUSD</i> Sheri Miller <i>District Literacy and Expanded Opportunities Program Coordinator, MEUSD</i>	- PK discussed the Portrait of a Graduate work and that we are at the strategic goal step so we are always considering who our graduates are and who they need to be as adults to succeed. - 5 goals have been identified to work on over the next 5 years. - PK highlighted that transportation is 7% of the district budget and that is a large portion of the available funds the district has to use. - The district in our district makes it difficult

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<p align="center">Manzanita</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy Tutoring Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> March 13th - Campo <input type="checkbox"/> Expanded Learning Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Break 3/25-3/29 <input type="checkbox"/> Summer, 6/17-7/12 <input type="checkbox"/> Community Schools Grant Updates 	<p align="center">Cherie Foraker, <i>Coordinator of Community Schools, MEUSD</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to retain teachers. - Through the strategic goals we are working to create systemic initiatives to stabilize the whole district's system. - PK stated that the plan will be going to the board meeting to give a full overview of current work and future goals. - PK highlighted partnership with GCCCD especially Cuyamaca CC as our MEHS teachers in ELA are teaching the CCC ESL courses so they are also adjuncts with CCC and this provides access to college credit for some of our most underrepresented students. - MEUSD is expanding partnership with CCC to bring the Early Childhood Education program to the mountain at Camp Lockett Learning Lab (CLLL) starting in April and the first cohort is full. - MEUSD is looking to continue this expansion by hosting the offering of the ESL program courses to all community members in the Fall. This is in direct response to what parents have asked for. - We will continue to work to expand course offerings with GCCCD. - At the May 16th MEUSD Governing Board meeting Manuel Mancillas will present to the board on the expansion of the CCC course offering of ESL in the Fall. - PK stated that if there is high demand for courses we could use the Jacumba, Camp Lockett, or Pine Valley campuses for
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		<p>classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Julie Dome (JD) asked what part do the tribes play in this initiative?- PK asked for them to attend the May Board meeting to receive the full information from Manuel Mancillas. <p>Sheri Miller (SM) updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Literacy meetings going well. Focusing on teaching parents how to help their kids learn to read.- Next meeting March 18th from 10 - 11 am at Manzanita Community Building.- SM met with tutors at Campo Ed Center and provided them with staff instruction on literacy needs and providing assistance. Provided current reading levels of students that often use the Campo Ed Center.- Tayna Cuero stated that the training was very helpful for the tutoring staff.- Spring Camp has over 200 students registered. The program includes a swim camp for 3rd grade students with YMCA that provides all day programming with the YMCA staff.- PK stated that this 3rd grade swim camp is extremely important for our students and statistics show that there is a double increase in the statistics on drownings for rural children.- SM continued that the rest of the students will have all day programming at their neighborhood school sites and will have a
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		<p>field trip to SeaWorld and a trip to see a magic show at the MEHS site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Summer Camp is scheduled for June 17th through July 12th and we are in the early planning stages currently. We expect registration to be sent out soon after Spring Break.- PK stated that MEUSD has partnered with hSDCOE to provide a 1 week camp for rising 6th and 7th grade students that will focus on STEM and will be an overnight camp at USD July 15 - 19. PK stressed the importance for students to see themselves at university campuses as that is statistically shown to increase the likelihood that they will attend a postsecondary program. <p>Cherie Foraker (CF) shared grant writing resource:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provided recommended links for searching for grants as there are many grant opportunities but they can be difficult to locate.- Provided an example grant comparing the PDF that the grant announcement will provide and how a grant writer can use the Google Doc tool that CF created to organize the grant information and write the RFA in such a way to earn the best possible score. Links provided in the slides and AC will include the information in the resources she sends out to the Tribal Leadership.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CF asked for anyone to reach out so that she knows who to send information to when she comes across a grant opportunity that the Tribal government would qualify for. <p>Amy Conforth (AC) shared that in response to the tribal feedback each site leader is asked to share disaggregated data identifying needs of AN students as compared to all students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Holly Pawlicki principal for Campo ES provided a site report.- Reviewed Star Reading and Math data for all schools.- Top score represents the beginning of the year and bottom is mid year.- Goal to get all students to green and blue areas.- Highlighted that scores on the left are the AN group of students so some have only one or a few students which creates major swings in data reports.- PK highlighted that 40% of all students in the nation can read at grade level for information for the group to consider.- PK discussed the fact that most people only scroll for 4 swipes of their device and that is the attention span currently.- AC highlighted that working with the Educlimber system to readjust to ensure we are identifying all AN students in the system as the state reporting system only uses the primary reporting (what is
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		<p>selected first). So if AN is selected as secondary those students are not captured.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- PK pointed out this is an issue with the state data system categorizing students because when a family selects Hispanic then that is the only demographic that the state system counts.- PK recommends looking at growth to ensure that students are making gains over the year.- Tayna Cuero stated that Sheri Miller was very helpful with working with Native Ed Center Tutors at Campo Ed Center by providing literacy professional learning.- Holly Pawlicki stated that there has been a heavy focus on attendance with particular focus on Fridays as that was the least attended day, but now Mondays are the least attended so they are thinking of how to address that challenge.- All principals stated this week has been difficult as there are many students with colds/ or feeling sick.- Cheryl Lugo (CL) principal for Clover Flat ES provided a site report.- Ms. Bowen (Reading Specialist) focused on 2nd grade and they have blossomed. So she is moving to K-1 focus.- Grades 2 - 6 use individual groups in classrooms.- CL met with teachers to identify WIN (What I Need) time focus is clear and
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		<p>implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- CFES using UFLY and Supplemental Haggerty curriculum resources for 5th and 6th grades. Teachers are pulling groups as well.- CFES Math: District focus on Early Literacy = all 3rd grade students read at grade level expected to have a positive impact on math.- Math ability is dependent on literacy skills.- Next year's plan will focus on improving math alignment with the goal of increasing in performance abilities.- Attendance rates reflective of using Independent study contracts.- There have been lots of illnesses that result in absences.- Looking at attendance data the blue line represents a student who is at school all day and the orange line is a student who has missed some time from the school day either late arrival or left early.- Question posed asking what messages are sent to parents and how. CL stated that the school counselor works to communicate with families to ensure they have what they need so that students come to school.- Group discussed challenges around traveling to school for many families, for example if the BIA-15 dirt road impacts students when weather is an issue because no bus drives down there as the
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		<p>bus will get stuck.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Group discussed the impact of attendance on student achievement at school because if a student misses 2 days a month, then that equates to 20 days per school year. If that is habitual every year then by the student's 7th grade year the student will have missed a whole school year of time. That greatly impacts student ability.- Descanso ES presented by Amy Conforth in place of Shama Lyons (principal) who was unable to attend.- The only AN student who has data to show in the disaggregated column has an Individualized Education Plan and has high needs so the red line is difficult to judge this student's performance.- Attendance has been a significant focus for the school to continue to improve and have attendance in the 90% range.- Potrero Elementary data presented by Lorena Enriquez (LE) (principal) who stated that they are working hard to increase Literacy skills with WIN (What I Need) Time interventions.- The majority of the student population are English Learners.- Focusing on attendance rates and reviewing data, there are 20 students also identified as AN but we do not have 506 forms returned for these students so we are working to clarify if these students are identified correctly or if we need to make
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		<p>corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- LE explained that her office has called every family as some families were confused.- Discussion on the need to have AN students clearly identified so that we are secure in the data we are using for planning and recognition of where we need to focus. The school sites and the Education Services department at the MEUSD office is working diligently to make this happen.- MEJHS data presented by Amy Conforth due to Gary Brannon (principal) unable to attend the meeting.- MEJHS is using a different data platform to analyze data. Displayed reading data for 7th and then 8th grade beginning of year and mid year.- Current planning stage to focus on students 6 - 9 grade students reading levels to ensure they are meeting the 1000 Lexile.- AC and SM stated that there is research showing students reading below a 1000 Lexile will struggle to pass HS math and increase drop out rate.- AC and SM discussed an Expanded learning plan to provide a special invite for summer intervention for 6-9 grade students to have focused work on improving reading ability.- MEHS presented by David Rios (DR),
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		<p>principal, did not have data to present as he wanted to just verbally share current practices at MEHS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DR discussed his strategy to not use PowerPoint, or any presentation, to demonstrate to his teachers that you do not always have slides for presentations or whole class discussions. - DR stated that Freshman Flight just occurred where all incoming 9th grade students came to MEHS from the JHS and student leaders ran the whole event. - MEHS is intentionally working to empower students to do the work for each other, instead of always having an adult lead. - Counselors doing 1 - 1 student course selections. - March 1st was Career Day and there were 8 presenters from SDGE, Forest Service, and others. Of the 8, 6 presenters were MEHS alum. - 3/22/24 begins No phone week and there is a goal to get 100 students to participate. Four parents called asking how to enroll their students into the no phone week. - Sports in Frontier League and MEHS represents the highest GPA in the conference with scholar athletes from Girls BasketBall: Joanay Benton, Boys Wrestling: Drew Reed, and Girls Wrestling: Ayana Beltran.
Tribal Leadership Updates	<i>Campo</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanya Cuero (TC) spoke for Campo. The

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	<p><i>La Posta Manzanita</i></p>	<p>tutors at the Campo Ed Center worked with Sheri Miller (SM) to receive training on literacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- They are continuing to work together to better serve students as SM provides reading level data on students which empowers the Ed Center tutors to work with students in a targeted way.- TC stated that they are working with MEHS counselors to have a college fair at the center including CSUSM, UCSD, CSU Fullerton, UC Berkeley, SDSU, Kumeyaay CC through Cuyamaca CC, and working to secure others to fill all available spots.- The College Fair will be from 11 am - 2 pm on April 16th and students will be brought over from the MEHS.- They are working on a Career Fair.- Working on an Open House for My Academy.- La Posta Tribal Leadership share:- The Education Center is working on their tutoring program for ME students and My Academy students 4 days a week.- Building Work Force programming in Solar which is a 6 week program.- Working to further partnership and continue not only solar programs but expand to offer other workforce programs.- Discussion around projects and programming focused on cultural monitoring such as knowing the land, planning to attend Dream the Impossible,
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		<p>working on developing summer programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Manzanita Tribal information provided by Alexa Adkins (AA).- Literacy Day event in the Community Building.- Working on scheduling with Sheri Miller to provide training for staff to empower their work with students.- Taking 8 youths to Dream the Impossible.- Spring Break Teens-only events- Creating Native Bingo with Kumeyaay words.- AC stated that the Title 6 Funding application is in process.- Asked for ideas to collect information to help support after school tutoring, field trips, etc.- Ideas shared to focus on students in 5th grade and above to talk to students to find out what students identify they need such as academic tutoring or what types of enrichments or services.- Timeframe to expend funds is by 6/30/2024.- Need everyone's information by May so all can be paid by 6/30/24.- Looking ahead to what we can do together for summer and beyond.- AC will reach out to Tribal Leaders.- Earth Day is April 22, 2024 and the theme for this year is Planet vs. Plastics.- Heidi Estrada asked if any students do recycled art projects. As La Posta is
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - having an Earth Day event on May 11th. - La Posta is having a Earth Day Taco Fundraiser on April 12th, 2024 from 11 am - 4 pm for a \$7 plate - Flyers will be sent to AC to include in the MEUSD Monthly Newsletter. - AC shared the Calendar of event bitly for SDCOE Native Ways of Knowing (flyer included with agenda packet). - AC shared about the Native Scholars Pathways grant award and wants to schedule time with Staci Block from SDCOE to decide how to use this grant funding. - AC would like to use funds as soon as possible as the fiscal year is ending in June.
<p>Public Comment</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AC meeting with Staci Block regarding this funding and would like ideas from the group. - Julie Dome (JD) discussed considering students graduating from MY Academy because they don't have a graduation ceremony and want to participate in the MEUSD ceremony. - Patrick Keeley shared that family choice enables parents to make decisions for their students to leave MEUSD schools to go to other school district schools (public or charter) and those students have access to celebrations and ceremonies through the school they chose to attend.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MEUSD serves MEUSD students and students of other school districts must work with those other district leadership (Director or Superintendent) to ensure students have the ceremonies and celebrations.- For My Academy students, any family concerns have to go to Bill Dobson since he is the director.- Sharing that My Academy has a graduation ceremony in Escondido.- Thoughts of connecting with Staci Block to work with My Academy to get My Academy students access if they do not have access.- Discussed member's daughter transferred to Hillside to complete graduation requirements to graduate from MEUSD school and did participate in MEUSD ceremony.- PK stated he wanted to make sure students are set up for success.- AC asked for all to review prior minutes and then have a motion to approve.- JD stated she didn't see the Board Policy that was discussed.- AC pointed out Board Policy.- Julie Dome motioned to approve- Cheryl Lugo second- All in favor- Next meeting May 16th at Manzanita Activity Center
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Next Meeting: May 16, 2024, Manzanita Activities Center, 12:30-2:30pm

**Meeting adjourned 2:45 pm
Minutes submitted by Cherie Foraker**