



Coordinating Council Meeting September 4, 2015

Welcome, Introductions and Review Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Lindy Khan.

In attendance:

James	Bylund	Byron
Barbara	Byrd	West Contra Costa
John	Angell	John Swett
Pete	Cardinale	Liberty
Alejandra	Chamberlain	CCCOE
Laura	Delehunt	District Attorney's Office
Fran	English	Moraga
Steve	France	Acalanes
Lindy	Khan	CCCOE
Indira	Kumar	Clayton Valley Charter
Ahjia	Moore	Making Waves Academy
Sue	Pardini	Mt. Diablo
Linda	Pete	Mt. Diablo
Helen	Rossi	Martinez
Bob	Sanchez	Antioch
Cardenas	Shackelford	Antioch

- District Personnel Changes/New Members (update contact list)

Indira Kumar has joined Clayton Valley Charter as their Director of Discipline and Attendance. Linda welcomed Ahjia Moore with Making Waves Academy and Linda Pete from Mt. Diablo USD to the group.

District Attorney's Office Updates

- Teen Truancy Court Options

Judge Latener recently spent a full day observing the new Saturday School Truancy Class.

The District Attorney's office will soon begin their pilot program for ankle monitoring. They hope to start with approximately 15 students who will be ordered to wear the monitor for about 3 weeks until their next court appearance. The monitor can be removed based on student behavior.

The DA's office will be solely responsible for overseeing the ankle monitoring programs. In their discussions with Alameda County staff the District Attorney's office learned the ankle monitor has been a very effective tool in improving attendance in Alameda County.

- Parent Mediation Court

Judge Hardy presiding over the calendar, focusing on parents with truant children under the age of 12. Parents are charged with infractions only.



Parents only are ordered to attend, not students. This program is modeled after Alameda County's very successful program. The goal is to figure out the true problem families are facing in getting their children to school, and finding resources to assist parents.

- Trainings

The DA's office continues to offer anti-gang/anti-violence trainings. Their office is available to offer truancy mediation, anti-bullying training, or other trainings based on specific needs of the districts and schools.

- Mandated Reporter Draft Handbook

A meeting was held at the District Attorney's office with District Superintendents regarding mandated reporting. A handbook is being produced to clarify the responsibilities of the mandated reporter, and will be given to Superintendents to disseminate to district staff. Laura will bring a copy to Coordinating Council meeting to share once it has been completed.

2015 Attendance Awareness Campaign

- Attendance Works & CDE

Hedy Chang and Cecelia Leong of Attendance Works are both members of the State SARB. Attendance works this year has expanded their "Attendance Learning Network"(ALN) from the 3 original pilot districts (Mt. Diablo, Antioch and John Swett) and have included Golden Gate, Martinez and Oakley. ALN has district staff come together to focus energy and gain resources to improve student attendance. Because of the success of this pilot program, the CDE has asked 4 other County Offices of Education to reach out to districts with virtual meetings to see how that works.

- CCCOE Resources and Activities

CCCOE is sending eblasts monthly to principals with information and resources regarding attendance. Each month features a theme and Attendance Works is including a link to research articles that support the monthly theme.

- Attendance Contests

Phillips 66 has offered to support Contra Costa attendance contests. There will be 3 contests categories as follows:

Elementary school students can submit posters. There is a specific theme for each grade level

Middle school students can participate in the attendance essay contest.

High school students will have the opportunity to create and submit public service announcements.

There will be 1 grand prize and 12 runners-up. The poster winners will be featured in a monthly calendar which will go out to schools to keep the attendance messages alive. The link for the attendance page on the County website is www.cocoschools.org/attendance

This link features a variety of attendance resources. Once again CCCOE staff will be sending a "Principal Checklist" to school principals. Those who return their checklist will be recognized on the principal "honor roll" on the County's website. Last year 65 principals responded to the checklist and received attendance incentive baskets in thanks for their participation.

District Sharing

Bob Sanchez and Cardenas Shackelford explained that Antioch USD is focusing on mindfulness training. Schools have embraced the program and have added 14 social/emotional counselors. Each elementary and middle school in their district has an onsite counselor. Antioch has instituted a district-wide attendance initiative focusing on positive reinforcement for students and parents.



Pete Cardinale of Liberty UHSD shared that his district has reorganized their student services program. Pete has been contacting principals reminding them of the Attendance Awareness campaign.

Barbara Byrd stated that WCCUSD has several new principals and attendance personnel. She has been working with them to make sure they are up to speed on SARB policies and proper attendance procedures to ensure proper reporting for each site.

James Bylund said Byron USD has found that making ADA more visible to parents has been effective. They post the ADA figures in front of school and send information to the parents directly. Additionally, they've been running attendance contests with classes competing with each other for attendance prizes.

Steve France shared that Acalanes is working on revamping their attendance processes and procedures to make them more efficient. They are also making sure that all staff at their sites take more ownership of excessive absences.

Sue Pardini says Mt. Diablo is revamping their attendance letters to give more information to parents about the whole SART/SARB process. They now have counselors at every site who focus on academics and attendance. They also have social workers in their Title 1 elementary schools.

Martinez is also revamping their processes. They feel there is opportunity for change with LCAP funding for child welfare/attendance assistance. Their Superintendent devotes 10 minutes at every meeting to give staff the list of chronically absent students.

Indira Kumar is busy learning the programs and systems at Clayton Valley Charter High School. She wants to be sure teachers are marking tardies. They are also offering Saturday school and mentoring check-ins for students.

John Swett staff have been receiving mindfulness training. The trainings are helping them to deal with things in a more positive manner. They encourage staff and students to "think before they act." They are also in the process of setting up attendance teams at each site, they continue to collaborate with Attendance Works and are very pleased with Aeries Analytics in keeping real-time track of attendance data. John Angell said due to their push for intense intervention before SARB they've been able to reduce chronic absenteeism by 2% last year at Rodeo Hills Elementary.

Fran English said Moraga district has instituted a 'lunch bunch' program to encourage students that might have depression or other mental health issues to come to school and have peers to gather with during lunch periods. They offer psych. services at school and have been providing resources to parents. They are trying to encourage parents not to take their children out of school for family vacations because the students get behind due to missed days and then are discouraged and don't want to come to school.

Making Waves Academy is pursuing preventative strategies and have printed SARB policy in their parent handbook in order to educate parents.

State SARB

- Attendance Awareness
- AG's In School/On Track Report



- AG's Ad Council Campaign to Improve School Attendance
- Legislation Passed
 - AB 1101 Pupil School Enrollment
 - AB 1166 Pupils who are homeless or foster youth
 - AB 2706 (Hernandez): Mandated Information on Health Care Options for Parents/Guardians
- Legislation Proposed
 - Handouts were distributed with information about proposed legislature**
 - AB 1014 (Thurmond): Early Intervention Pilot Grants
 - AB 1153 (Calderon): Posting Evaluation Rubric Data
 - SB 527 (Liu): Safe Neighborhoods and School Act
 - SB 463 (Hancock): Safe and Supportive Schools Train the Trainer Program
 - SB 1025 (Thurmond): Multi-tiered and Integrated Interventions Pilot Program
- Presentation – Linking Victims of Human Trafficking to Resources
 - Love Never Fails (www.loveneverfailsus.com)

County Office Updates

- Golden Gate Community School
 - AB 2276 Transitioning From Juvenile Detention Facilities - requires students to be enrolled immediately upon release from Juvenile Hall

Other Potential Items of Interest

No other potential items of interest were suggested.

Meeting Dates for 2015-16

Lindy reminded everyone of future meeting dates

- 2nd Friday every other month
- **November 13th**
- **January 8th**
- **March 11th**
- **May 13th**