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Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – APRIL 29, 2022

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Superintendent, Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.

SUPERINTENDENT – Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.

S-1 Robert G. Nelson Superintendent Calendar Highlights

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES – Santino Danisi, Chief Officer

BFS-1 Kim Kelstrom School Services Weekly Update Report

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP – Kim Mecum, Chief Officer

SL-1 Heather Kuyper-McKeithen Arts Education Update

SL-2 Rodney Branch Fresno Adult School - Programs

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number S-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Robert G. Nelson, Superintendent
Cabinet Approval:

Date: April 29, 2022

Phone Number: 457-3884

Regarding: Superintendent Calendar Highlights

The purpose of this communication is to inform the Board of notable calendar items:

- Attended the Principal's Meeting
- Met with students from the Sunnyside photography class
- Met with Executive Cabinet
- Gave interview with Heather Kemp Davenport, CSBA, regarding Civics Education
- Attended the Fresno State Send Off Event
- Participated in call with Fresno County Superintendents
- Attended the Fresno Compact Shareholder's Luncheon
- Attended the Teacher Development National Board Certified Teachers Celebration
- Attended the Superintendent's Advisory Committee Meeting
- Attended the Farber Campus Groundbreaking Ceremony
- Spoke at the funeral services for Major Nhia Long Vang

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.



Date: 04/29/2022

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number BFS-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Kim Kelstrom, Executive Officer
Cabinet Approval:

Date: April 29, 2022

Phone Number: 457-3907

Regarding: School Services Weekly Update Report for April 22, 2022

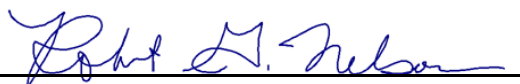
The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board a copy of School Services of California's (SSC) Weekly Update. Each week SSC provides an update and commentary on different educational fiscal issues. In addition, they include different articles related to education issues.

The SSC Weekly Update for April 22, 2022 is attached and includes the following articles:

- CDPH Delays Student Vaccine Mandate the Same Day Senator Pan Shelves Bill – April 15, 2022
- Revised California Bill Would Warn Parents of Guns Danger – April 21, 2022
- Some California School Districts Launch Transitional Kindergarten Without State Help – April 20, 2022

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Kim Kelstrom at 457-3907.

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.



Date: 04/29/2022



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DATE: April 22, 2022

TO: Robert G. Nelson
Superintendent

AT: Fresno Unified School District

FROM: Your SSC Governmental Relations Team

RE: *SSC's Sacramento Weekly Update*

Legislature Returns From Spring Recess

The Legislature returned from its spring recess on Monday and hit the ground running with packed policy hearing agendas. The Assembly and Senate Education Committees were no exception, as they considered more than two dozen bills on Wednesday afternoon, including Senate Bill (SB) 830 (Portantino, D- La Cañada Flintridge), one of the most consequential education bills introduced in 2022.

SB 830—Enrollment Funding

The Senate Education Committee spent about 30 minutes discussing and debating SB 830 on Wednesday afternoon. This is the bill that would, beginning with the 2022-23 fiscal year, provide local educational agencies (LEAs) with supplemental education funding, in addition to their Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) entitlement, based on the difference between what the LEA would have received under an enrollment-based LCFF formula and what the LEA did receive under LCFF for that fiscal year. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction would apply the funding difference to the LCFF base, supplemental, and concentration grants for each LEA. At least 30% of the supplemental funds would have to be used to address chronic absenteeism and habitual truancy.

While the California Teachers Association (CTA) does not have a formal position on SB 830, their legislative advocate testified that they have concerns with the bill as it does not fit within the existing LCFF and state accountability system. She also mentioned that since the bill does not provide additional funding for Proposition 98, it would lead to a reallocation of existing education resources in order to provide the supplemental funding. The California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO) testified in opposition to the bill stating that the measure would create a new categorical program that does not provide safeguards in ensuring that the funds are targeted to chronic absenteeism and truancy and that the funds would be distributed in an inequitable manner.

Despite the testimony from CTA and CASBO, the bill was approved 5-1 (with one abstention) by the Senate Education Committee. The lone no vote was from

Committee Chair Connie Leyva (D-Chino) who said she could not support the bill because the author refused to accept the amendments proposed by committee staff. The amendments would have stricken the contents of the bill and replaced it with language that would have directed the Legislative Analyst's Office to submit a report on the short- and long-term impacts of changing the student count methodology of the LCFF from average daily attendance to student enrollment.

SB 830 now heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is chaired by Senator Portantino, the bill's author.

Other Bills Approved

While SB 830 was the most noteworthy education bill heard on Wednesday, there were several other significant measures that were approved by the education committees this week that will also be moving on in the legislative process:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 1912 (Bonta, D-Oakland) is an urgency measure that would require the governing board of a school district under financial distress, before approving the closure or consolidation of a school, to conduct an equity impact analysis and other specified steps before taking affirmative action to close or consolidate a school
- AB 2638 (Bloom, D-Santa Monica) would require a school district or charter school to include water bottle filling stations in a modernization or new construction project with a requirement of a minimum of one water bottle filling station for modernization projects and one water bottle filling station per 350 people for new construction projects
- AB 2731 (Ting, D-San Francisco) would require all newly purchased, contracted, or operated school buses of an LEA to be zero-emissions by 2035
- SB 906 (Portantino) would do the following:
 - Require LEAs to annually provide information to parents or guardians about California's child access prevention laws and safe storage of firearm laws
 - Require school officials to report to law enforcement any threat or perceived threat of an incident of mass casualties
 - Require law enforcement to conduct an investigation and threat assessment, including a review of Department of Justice's firearm registry and a search of the school and/or students' property by law enforcement
- SB 1431 (Rubio, D-Baldwin Park) would, commencing with the 2022-23 school year, provide a 32.5% LCFF base grant increase for school districts and charter schools with an average class enrollment for each school site in grades K-3 of no more than 20 pupils

With the exception of SB 906, which still needs to clear the Senate Public Safety Committee, all of these bills will now go to their respective houses' Appropriations Committee where their fiscal implications will

be scrutinized. This also means that these bills, again with the exception of SB 906, have cleared the April 29 deadline for bills with fiscal implications to be approved by policy committees.

Leilani Aguinaldo

CDPH Delays Student Vaccine Mandate the Same Day Senator Pan Shelves Bill

By Kyle Hyland
School Services of California Inc's Fiscal Report
April 15, 2022

There were two big announcements yesterday, April 14, 2022, on the student COVID-19 vaccine front. Just hours after Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento) announced that he was shelving Senate Bill (SB) 871, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) announced that it was delaying the regulatory process used to require students to be inoculated against COVID-19. We detail both of these announcements below as well as the other significant bills still alive related to vaccines and testing.

Senator Pan Shelves SB 871

Senator Pan's announcement that he is holding SB 871 effectively puts an end to perhaps the most controversial K-12 bill on the docket for the 2022 Legislative Session. The bill would have prohibited parents from opting their children out of the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for their strongly held personal or religious beliefs. In other words, SB 871 would have effectively only allowed for medical exemptions as the opt-out criteria for the state's COVID-19 inoculation requirement to attend school.

In his [press release](#), Senator Pan provided his rationale for shelving the bill, stating that, "until children's access to COVID vaccination is greatly improved, [he] believe[s] that a state-wide policy to require COVID vaccination in schools is not the immediate priority, although it is an appropriate safety policy for many school districts in communities with good vaccine access."

Over the last several weeks many Capitol insiders were speculating that Senator Pan was going to shelve SB 871 due to the opposition it was receiving. The bill's prospects took a huge blow when Senate Education Committee Chair Connie Leyva (D-Chino) publicly announced that she would not support the bill if and when it came to her committee. When the chair of a committee does not support a measure, it significantly hurts its chances of passing.

CDPH Delays COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

Despite SB 871 being held, the student vaccine mandate announced by the CDPH back in October 2021 is still scheduled to go into effect via a two-phase approach (grades 7-12 in the first phase and grades K-6 in the second phase) and will become effective once the COVID-19 vaccine has been fully approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the two grade spans (see "[Student COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement Announced](#)" in the October 2021 *Fiscal Report*). With SB 871 no longer moving forward, parents can still opt their children out of the vaccine requirement for their strongly held personal or religious beliefs, in addition to legitimate medical exemptions.

Following Senator Pan's earlier announcement regarding SB 871, the CDPH [announced](#) that it was delaying the regulatory process for the vaccine mandate. Before initiating the rulemaking process for the vaccine mandate, the CDPH stated that the FDA would need to fully approve the vaccine for each grade span, starting with students in grades 7-12. However, the FDA has only granted full approval for Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for ages 16 and up, and for Moderna's vaccine for ages 18 and up, meaning they have yet to fully approve a vaccine that covers the entire 7-12 grade span.

For this reason, the CDPH said that it will not initiate the regulatory process for a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for the 2022-23 school year and would not approve a process sooner than July 1, 2023.

As a result, there will not be a state COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students for the entirety of the 2022-23 school year. However, this announcement does not preclude local jurisdictions, including county health offices and local educational agencies (LEAs), from implementing their own COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students sooner than the state requirement.

Active Vaccine and Testing Bills

Senator Pan’s announcement on holding SB 871 comes just two weeks after Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland) decided to hold her bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 1993, which would have required California employers to ensure their employees were vaccinated against COVID-19 (see “[COVID-19 Employer Vaccine Mandate Bill Stalls](#)” in the April 2022 *Fiscal Report*). Now that both SB 871 and AB 1993 are shelved for the year, there are only a handful of vaccine and testing bills still active that would have implications for LEAs:

- AB 1797 (Weber, D-San Diego) would make changes to the statute governing the California Immunization Record Database by requiring those with access to the database (healthcare providers, schools, childcare facilities, family childcare homes, and county human services agencies) to disclose specified immunization information
 - This bill is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Health Committee next Tuesday, April 19, 2022
- SB 866 (Wiener, D-San Francisco) would permit minors 12 years and older to get vaccinated without parental consent for all vaccines approved by the FDA that meet the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - This bill has yet to be scheduled for a hearing by the Senate Judiciary Committee
- SB 1479 (Pan) would require the CDPH to coordinate LEA COVID-19 testing programs that are currently federally funded or organized under the California COVID-19 Testing Task Force
 - This bill was approved by the Pan-chaired Senate Health Committee 9-2 on March 30, 2022, and is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday, April 27, 2022

AB 1797 and SB 1479 need to clear policy committee by Friday, April 29, 2022, or they will be considered dead under legislative rules. As a nonfiscal bill, SB 866 has until Friday, May 6, 2022, to be approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee. We will continue to provide updates on these bills in subsequent *Fiscal Report* articles and our “Top Legislative Issues” series.

Note: SB 906 failed passage in the Senate Education Committee on March 30 for requiring parents to tell school officials if they keep guns in the house, but after amending that requirement out of the bill it was able to clear the committee.

Revised California Bill Would Warn Parents of Guns Danger

By Don Thompson
Associated Press
April 21, 2022

California parents of middle and high school students would be warned about the dangers of firearms every year under a measure that advanced Wednesday.

But they would no longer be required to tell school officials if they keep guns in the house, under the revised legislation.

The state Senate Education Committee three weeks ago rejected the firearms reporting requirement as an invasion of privacy.

So Democratic Sen. Anthony Portantino reworked his bill, eliminating the parental reporting. The narrower version cleared the same committee Wednesday on a 5-1 vote.

His revised bill requires schools to include information on the safe storage of firearms in the annual notifications they send home to parents of students in middle and high schools, starting in the 2023-24 school year. Legislation with a similar requirement has already passed the state Assembly.

More than two-thirds of school shootings involve weapons taken from the students' home, friends or relatives, Portantino said.

"This is an attempt to try to empower school districts to do everything they can to make the school environment safe," Portantino said. "This errs on the side of caution."

If there are threats or perceived threats of school shootings, Portantino's proposal goes farther than the Assembly-approved bill by requiring investigators to check the state's firearm database to see if the suspect's family has registered firearms. About 80% of firearms are in the state's registry, he said, while others are held illegally.

His measure also would require educators to report homicidal threats to law enforcement.

It would also require state education and criminal justice officials to create model content by June 2023 that officials at middle and high schools would use to respond to threats or perceived threats of mass casualty incidents. The bill would specifically allow law enforcement searches of the school and the suspect's property at the school.

Gun groups still opposed the legislation, while the ACLU said it goes too far in requiring educators to inform law enforcement instead of leaving it to their discretion.

Note: Governor Gavin Newsom's current proposal to re-bench Proposition 98 to provide funds for transitional kindergarten (TK) does not create a mechanism for community-funded, or basic aid school districts to receive funding for TK.

Some California School Districts Launch Transitional Kindergarten Without State Help

By Elizabeth Aguilera
CalMatters
April 20, 2022

In a major shift for early education, California is expanding its transitional kindergarten program to eventually include all 4-year-olds. While most districts will receive additional dollars for the expansion, 15% will not — and are facing tough budget choices as they comply with the new fall mandate.

Some of those districts — among the most affluent in California — say they are stretching existing budgets to create classrooms, moving money around to hire new teachers and trying to figure out how to fund renovations that include tiny toilets and preschool playground equipment.

Others say they have no plans to add transitional kindergarten, despite parent pleas, unless they get state funding.

Reed Union School District in the Bay Area town of Tiburon is one of the districts that won't be getting state money for transitional kindergarten. Reed Union hasn't offered the program in years but is planning to add it in the fall.

“For districts without any additional funding coming in it is a big financial commitment,” said Superintendent Kimberly McGrath. “It is fantastic for kids in our community to have an additional year of exceptional learning. We are going to embrace it and see it as working toward universal preschool.”

Reed Union is one of the 15% of districts statewide known as basic aid districts.

Most California districts are funded through a state funding formula allocated on a per-student basis. But basic aid districts serve areas where local property taxes generate more money than the districts would receive if they took state funding.

Last year, the state committed more than \$1 billion in the current budget to begin phasing in the expansion of transitional kindergarten, eventually including all 4-year-olds by 2025-26. None of that money will go to basic aid districts.

“I can see why basic aid districts might make an argument that the state has changed the rules substantially,” said Deborah Stipek, a professor at the Stanford Graduate School of Education. “But I don't know how you'd address it. They can't have it both ways.”

Transitional kindergarten has been available to 4-year-olds with birthdays between September and December since 2012. It was created when kindergarten was limited to those who turned 5 by September. Previously, 4-year-olds could enroll in kindergarten in the fall if they turned 5 by December.

Last year's decision to expand the program to all 4-year-olds means 500,000 children will be eligible by the end of the rollout. Starting this August, children who turn 5 between Sept. 2 and Feb. 2 will be able to enroll. Each school year the enrollment window will widen to include more students until 2025-26, when all 4-year-olds will be eligible.

Some districts don't offer programs

Basic aid districts tend to be smaller districts, mostly coastal or rural with clusters in coastal San Diego County and the Bay Area. In all, there are about 150 basic aid districts among California's approximately 1,000 districts, according to data from the California Department of Education.

At least a dozen basic aid districts have not offered transitional kindergarten in recent years and some of them say they still won't add the new grade despite the mandate.

"We do not plan to offer it because we are not receiving any funding from the state," said Chris Delehanty, assistant superintendent of business services for Del Mar Elementary School District. "To add it would mean reducing or eliminating something we are already offering, increasing class size or reducing STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) offerings for our students or professional learning for our teachers."

The district has eight elementary schools and serves nearly 4,000 students. Delehanty said if the district enrolled as many 4-year-olds as it does kindergartners each year, about 500, the district would have to add around 25 classrooms and hire twice that number of teachers and aides to meet state-required teacher-student ratios, which are generally smaller than those for older students. The estimated price: \$4 million to roll out the program to all 4-year-olds.

Transitional kindergarten, like kindergarten, is optional and experts say not all children who are eligible will enroll. Families may choose to stay in their subsidized or private preschool or child care or keep their kids at home.

There are four other small coastal districts in San Diego County that are basic aid districts and also do not offer the program, including Solana Beach, Encinitas Union, Rancho Santa Fe and Cardiff school districts.

"We have all been advocating and lobbying for this mandate to be funded for all children," said Andrée Grey, superintendent of Encinitas Union School District. "We recognize the value and appreciate the intent behind universal transitional kindergarten. However, it is critical that community-funded districts be able to access the funding that has been set aside, and there is not currently a mechanism for us to do that."

But Stipek, the Stanford professor, said schools often have to reassess spending based on enrollment, policies, shifting focus and existing and new programs.

"Anytime you have to do something new, you have to do a redistribution of resources," Stipek said. With transitional kindergarten, known as TK, she said, "your kids are going to learn more, do better, develop the kind of social skills that they need. So the benefits of having kids in TK will compensate for any reductions you have to make in other kinds of services."

It's unclear what happens if districts ignore the mandate. The California Department of Education refused to say whether it can enforce the mandate or how many schools are not providing transitional kindergarten.

Instead, it issued the following statement: “Basic aid districts should be offering TK if they offer kindergarten. In terms of enforcement, the CDE is continuing to work with basic aid districts that are not offering TK on issues” including what districts have to do to receive or keep their funding.

Several basic aid districts in San Mateo and Marin counties said the mandate was the driving force behind their decision to create new transitional kindergarten. Those districts include Mill Valley, Reed Union, Hillsborough City Elementary, Menlo Park City Elementary and Miller Creek school districts. They all plan to offer transitional kindergarten programs in the fall.

Even so, the financing is challenging. They need the state to provide money for the rollout in the coming years, several superintendents said.

Becky Rosales, superintendent of Miller Creek School District, noted in an email that her district, in San Rafael, receives just enough in property taxes to be classified as basic aid. “I am hopeful that there will be some consideration at the state level of a remedy to support districts like ours.”

At Reed Union in Tiburon, the district, which has just three schools, will add two transitional kindergarten classrooms to serve up to 40 children, McGrath said.

The price tag: around \$300,000 for the first year.

“If funds were provided it would have an enormous impact,” McGrath said. “Even if just some up-front grant funds because while there are some ongoing costs there are a lot of one-time costs – equipment material purchases, planning time, playground equipment, facilities.”

In the midst of Kern County’s oil fields, where McKittrick Elementary School District offers transitional kindergarten when it is needed, said Barry Koerner, who is both superintendent and principal. The district has only one school and 86 students.

This year the school had its first 4-year-old in transitional kindergarten. Koerner hired an aide for the nine-student combo transitional kindergarten and kindergarten classroom to accommodate the one child.

“If I didn’t have resources built up we would have to cut,” he said. “We are rarely the ones they consider when making these big changes. We are doing everything we can to fight to keep our heads above water.”

Transitional kindergarten has been a pillar of Gov. Gavin Newsom’s agenda to eventually offer universal preschool to all children in California. The move is intended to benefit children eligible for subsidies who are waitlisted by fully enrolled-preschools or child care programs and those whose families can’t afford hefty tuition for private early childhood programs.

Legislators supported the plan, citing studies that say children do better in school if they attend preschool, and that preparation can help close the achievement gap.

“The evidence for the benefits of preschool, transitional kindergarten is strong enough now that we want all kids to have access to it — and that’s not the case right now,” said Stipek, who is part of a state task force to help the Commission on Teacher Credentialing create guidelines for teachers in early childhood.

There are other reasons supporters push for transitional kindergarten.

Moving 4-year-olds into public schools sooner opens up seats in private and state subsidized preschool programs, child care centers and family-based child care homes for younger children. It also helps increase the overall number of students in public schools as many California districts continue to see a drastic drop in enrollment.

In San Diego County, parent Lynette Jaiswal has been carefully tracking the discussion in both Del Mar and Solana Beach, as she owns homes in both places. She lives in Solana Beach but would have moved to her home in Del Mar if the district offered the program.

Last year, when it was time to find a transitional kindergarten program for her son, she said she was told to apply to an outside district. But that didn't work out for her family because it was too far away.

"I'm not the only parent struggling to find a place for my transitional kindergarten child," she said. "I did find placement for my child but it's very frustrating when you have a school district that can do something but they refuse to."

Solana Beach School District officials did not return calls or emails seeking comment.

While many basic aid communities are considered affluent, there are also families in need of low-cost child care and preschool, said Jaiswal, who is a real estate agent. She said within the district there are hundreds of low-income housing units for families that typically rely on public schools. Also, many middle-class families have experienced COVID hardships and could benefit from a free public option for 4-year-olds.

Basic aid school districts, education organizations and some state legislators are advocating for the state to provide dedicated funding for basic aid districts.

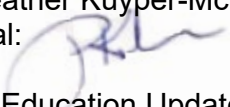
Santa Barbara Democratic Sen. Monique Limón, who served on a school board when transitional kindergarten was first created, wrote a letter signed by 22 other legislators asking the Newsom administration to help the districts.

"We want TK to be successful," she said. "To be successful you have to have the staff, you have to have the classroom and I'm not sure it should come at the expense of increasing class sizes for everyone else or cutting co-curricular programs and cutting curricular programs."

If the state can't offer funding, then districts may need more time to implement the expansion, she said.

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number SL-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Heather Kuyper-McKeithen, Manager III
Cabinet Approval: 

Date: April 29, 2022

Phone Number: 248-7172

Regarding: Arts Education Update

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board updates regarding the Arts Education Department formerly known as Visual and Performing Arts.

Areas for celebration:


- By the end of the school year, all schools will have sent their third graders to visit and learn from the Fresno Art Museum as part of the Any Given Child Initiative. The trips culminate in the student work being curated and displayed at an end of the year reception at the museum on June first.
- All 6,000 fourth graders will perform once again with the Fresno Philharmonic in Carnegie Hall's Link Up! Event dates are May 24-26, 2022.
- We are continuing the work of the Relevant Engagement in Art and Literacy (REAL) Collaborative. Renown author, Mas Masumoto attended our REAL Collaborative meeting in November and attends the ArtHop events to see our galleries each month.
- We now have our calendar on the website that includes performing arts events happening throughout the district: <https://curr.fresnounified.org/vapa/#calendar>.
- The District's Music Festivals returned this spring with 16 middle school and 8 high school groups performing at the Band Festival, 15 middle and elementary school and 9 high school groups performing at the Orchestra Festival, and 9 middle school and 8 high school groups performing at the Choir Festival.
- We held the first ever Theatre Festival with 3 middle school groups and 5 high school groups performing.
- In February, 700 second graders went to the Tower Theatre to watch the ballet presented by Fresno Ballet Theatre in partnership with State Street Ballet from Santa Barbara. The performance was live streamed for all other of our second graders to watch from their classrooms.
- To date, 60 elementary schools have participated in the Focus Five National Artist Residency program in fourth through sixth grades.

Areas for focus:

- Updated Professional Learning for all Secondary Arts teachers in the new California State Arts Standards and Framework is required.
- Continued Professional Learning for Kindergarten through sixth grade teachers in integrating art into their curriculum.
- Work with our Advisory Council to update the Theory of Action for 2022-2025.
- Work to expand offerings at all middle schools to include all music genres, theatre, and art. Currently they all have band and orchestra, 14/17 have choir, 12/17 have art, and 6/17 have at least one drama class.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Heather Kuyper-McKeithen at 248-7172.


Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.



Date: 04/29/2022

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number SL-2

From: The Office of the Superintendent
To: The Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Rodney Branch
Cabinet Approval: 

Date: April 29, 2022

Number: 457-6024

Regarding: Fresno Adult School - Programs

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board an update regarding Career Technical Education (CTE) Courses within Fresno Adult School (FAS). Current CTE programs offered for 2022/23 through FAS include:

- Computer Literacy for the Workplace
- Custodial/Janitor Training
- Food Service: Food Handlers Safety & Food Safety Management
- Health and Human Services: Certified Nursing Assistant & Licensed Vocational Nursing
- Office Assistant
- Paraprofessional

Fresno Adult School's principal along with input from a collection of community partners making up the FAS Advisory Team Committee, have surfaced ways to improve several areas of focus, not limited to program design and the expansion of course offerings to boost student enrollment.

Starting in the fall the following FAS CTE courses are scheduled to begin at Duncan Polytechnical High School in the evening:

- Introduction to Welding, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m., September 6 – December 8, 2022. This class section will give priority enrollment to those Spring 2020 students who were not able to complete their course due to the COVID-19 closure. Any unfilled spots will be open to new enrollments.

Plans to expand are being drafted for Spring 2023; courses being considered include:

- Pre-Apprenticeship for the Building Trades
- Forklift Operation Certification

These courses will not only be open to FAS students but also our area high school students. Marketing for these classes will be by flyer distribution through Peach Jar and social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), distribution of the program offering mailer to 150,000 Fresno area residences, FAS website updates, ten billboards throughout the city, and the Department of Motor Vehicles Testing Site hosting Fresno Adult School commercials.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Yolanda Jimenez-Ruiz at 457-6139.

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.



Date: 04/29/2022