



1895 - 2016

SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Interim Superintendent: Bob Ferguson
Board of Trustees: Joshua Barrow, Thomas Newmeyer, Ida Green
Caroline Van Alst (President) and William J. Ziegler

2016-2019 LCAP VERBAL QUESTIONS June 12th, 2016

Questions by public (community members, parents, union representatives, etc.)
Answers by Interim Superintendent Bob Ferguson

The following are the responses to the verbal questions submitted to the District as a result of the LCAP Draft Public Board presentation on June 12th, 2016:

1. Question – Why is \$141,553 allocated to developing a communication plan (goal 3, action 4)?

Answer – This represents a large amount of salary and benefit allocation of the Principal and Superintendent and is more time than is appropriate for this action. In future revisions of the LCAP this can be reduced, however the costs would be allocated to other duties of these roles and therefore not result in any savings.

2. Question – Why is only \$10k allocated to field trips (goal 2, action 17)?

Answer – This is more than we actually spent in 2015/2016 because we do many low cost field trips with volunteer transportation. We will continue to leverage volunteers and attempt to fundraise to supplement these dollars and provide quality field trips that complement our educational programs.

3. Question – Why is there a \$0 allocation to foreign language (goal 2, action 15)?

Answer – In 2015/2016 we did not have a foreign language program. For 2016/2017 we have a new Principal starting and want to give them time to select and design an appropriate foreign language program for implementation in 2017/2018. This is an area we could reallocate some of the Principal salary to tell a more accurate story and we may do so in future revisions of this LCAP.

4. Question – Are we cutting or eliminating our art and music programs by only allocating \$30k to our VAPA support (goal 2, action 14)?

Answer – No. We've since revised the number to \$70k which represents an increase in spending on these programs from the 2015/2016 levels. We will have music and arts programs integrated into our classrooms and will be looking to expand them in coming years. We will also augment with fundraising where possible.

5. Question – Why are we only allocating \$30k for a community school coordinator (goal 1, action 2)?

Answer – This is a starting point of seed funding for this role. We will look to a fundraising strategy to support this role and the community school wrap around services.

6. Question – Why are we allocating \$0 to our technology program (goal 2, action 16)?

Answer – In 2015/2016 we did not have a technology program. For 2016/2017 we have a new Principal starting and want to give them time to select and design an appropriate technology program for implementation in 2017/2018. This is an area we could reallocate some of the Principal salary to tell a more accurate story and we may do so in future revisions of this LCAP.

7. Question – Are we eliminating the library?

Answer – No. We are going to work with the Mill Valley or Marin City Library to provide the credentialed support we need to be compliant.

8. Question – Will the Assistant Principal also be teaching?

Answer – We have not hired an individual yet, so this is undetermined. We will look to leverage an Assistant Principal as appropriate to their skillset and needs of the children. There are possibilities to help with counselling, teaching, and other duties.

9. Question – Are we cutting PE?

Answer – No. We will continue to run PE as we did in 2015/2016 and ensure we have credentialed oversight for the duration of PE.

10. Question – Why are we not moving back to a single-subject credential requirement for middle school courses?

Answer – We are putting together a program with partnership with quality teachers from Tam. We have not deemed it feasible for the 2016/2017 year to change the requirement, recruit the teachers, and make the overall adjustments to program and budget. What we are focused on is quality of instruction and academic outcome improvements with a lens to what is practical to implement in the first year. We will continue to evaluate structure and approach in subsequent years.

11. Question – Why isn't the district using more reserves to allocate ore funds to the LCAP goals?

Answer – We have a fiscal responsibility to balance our budget and maintain adequate reserves. Our reserves are used as sparingly as possible and ideally for one-time events or unexpected legal or regulatory costs (e.g. an unexpected special education enrollment). As opposed to deficit spending, we will look to fundraising to be in a position to allocate more money.

12. Question – Can the adoption of the LCAP be delayed by one week to allow for more time to incorporate feedback?

Answer – Unfortunately no. Due to staff availability and regulatory deadlines, our June 21st adoption meeting is our only option. Fortunately we can and will revise the LCAP in July to incorporate the feedback.

13. Question – Does the county's approval of the LCAP check to ensure an adequate amount of dollars are spent on the LCAP actions?

Answer – The Marin County Office of Education should provide the official answer to this, but we believe it to be so. We are making our own efforts to address adequate allocation within a responsible budget and priorities.

14. Question – Will there be a music room and art studio?

Answer – We are still working through facility allocation for the next year as we move certain programming elements. The allocation of operating funds in the LCAP is somewhat independent of this. Our facilities and bond planning processes will address this.

15. Question – Will the metrics sections of the LCAP be revised?

Answer – Yes. We are pulling together the baseline data we can and will revisit targets and language as we revise the LCAP in July.