

## Written Response to LCAP Comments

May 22, 2014

### Comment:

1. We need to find out what we have jettisoned as part of the new LCAP
2. We need to evaluate our summer school results (all levels)
3. Our newcomer class needs to be fully funded (1.0) and a counseling component needs to be included for our new arrival students
4. Our graduation rate was down slightly last year, and we need to find out why and what can we do to change that (through interviews of those who didn't finish last year)
5. 8-other student outcomes? What does that mean?
6. Where does ROP go? It works
7. Adult Ed has become a football between Cabrillo and us. When will the discussion about this be held?

### Response:

1. ***Though SCCS is not one of the districts that will receive a large increase in LCFF supplemental or LCFF concentration funds, no district - including SCCS - will receive less funding than before the switch to LCFF. Thus, the proposed LCAP does not cut any programs. There were cuts during the recession, but these cuts were prior to the LCAP.***
2. ***Summer programs have included and will continue to include data collection and analysis. Summer programs have been adjusted and improved as a result of evaluating effectiveness.***
3. ***As proposed, the newcomer class would be funded at .4 FTE, which is expanded from its current .2 FTE. This expansion is intended to give the teacher more time to address a broader spectrum of students' needs. The district could explore further expansion of this program as more funding becomes available.***
4. ***While it is difficult to track down former students, all of the data included in the districts goals and metrics is analyzed with the intent of determining what steps can be taken to ensure continual improvement.***
5. ***The 8<sup>th</sup> state priority area for LCFF is called "Other Student Outcomes". Though it is not delineated by the state, the inclusion of this broad category is intended to allow districts to track success in areas deemed important by individual districts and tracked using appropriate local measures.***
6. ***ROP (Regional Occupation Program) provides students with opportunities to acquire career and technical skills to prepare for lifelong learning in the workplace. Though ROP isn't included in the LCAP portion of SCCS' 2014-15 budget, it will be subject to a great deal of discussion as we enter into the 2015-16 school year, as ROP funding is being phased out.***
7. ***Under AB86 the legislature has mandated and funded the establishment of regional consortia for the delivery of adult education services. SCCS is participating in the consortium planning process with Cabrillo College, county school districts and other interested programs and parties. This planning work will become more intense in the coming school year.***

**Comment:**

Without categorical funding, what is the purpose of the Site Council? With most of the funding coming to schools via central core budgets (\$ already designated)?

**Response:**

***California Education Code section 64001 requires that a School Site Council (SSC) develop a Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). The SSC must approve the SPSA, recommend it to the school board for approval, monitor its implementation, and evaluate its effectiveness annually. SPSAs may use whatever funding is available to accomplish their goals, but aren't dependent on categorical funding. In addition, SCCS is committed to parent input on most matters, and the Site Council is a key body in advising the school on matters such as WASC, and other planning and decision making processes.***

**Comment:**

- I would like to see the full document w/all metrics. Can you email all staff when posted? Thanks
- I would like to ensure that part of the data process includes looking at the old programs that were cut due to lack of funding.
- I would like to see something that shows how funds have actually been reallocated due to LCFF?
- I would like to see the actual accountability metrics that will be gathered to show that we are reaching a particular goal.

**Response:**

- ***The full LCAP is now posted on the district website.***
- ***While the possibility of increased funding could mean restoring programs and services that were cut in the past, the local control enabled by LCFF means that the district can evaluate current needs and decide how to best serve our students in the present.***
- ***The district budget, along with the LCAP, shows how the district funds are allocated.***
- ***The district Goals and Metrics document shows how SCCS is progressing towards the targets.***

**Comment:**

Santa Cruz City Schools coming together to fundraise for technology – for instruction as well as testing.

**Response:**

***Fundraising is an on-going need, for technology and for other areas. While parents, businesses, and other community members help each school, the Education Foundation has spearheaded district-wide efforts to raise money for many projects and services. They welcome more participants! In regard to***

***technology, recent and newly proposed state categorical (Common Core) funding have helped the district to acquire resources. In addition, the district receives ERate and Microsoft Settlement funds.***

**Comment:**

I'd like to see more funding for additional academic support, tutoring, for Mission Hill MS. What is currently offered, OH, doesn't seem like enough. It is reactive support rather than proactive support.

**Response:**

***Homework Clubs at the high schools are included in the LCAP. As more funding becomes available, the district can explore the possibility of expanding this program to other schools. Additionally, each school is working on ways to build interventions into the school day, as well as after-school.***

**Comment:**

Our proposal is to provide early intervention support for students who fall behind in any class. If a student got behind, three or more assignments, the teacher could refer the student to a structured academic study hall with connections to academic support, and/or counseling including classes in time management, Growth Mindset, etc. (developed by teachers or counselors as needed). The metrics could be revised as we funded the program and allowed time for staff to develop the program and identify appropriate metrics.

**Response:**

***The idea of a study hall for students that need assistance with their homework is conceptually similar to the Homework Clubs that are included in the LCAP, though there are important distinctions that warrant further discussion. As this concept is refined into a detailed proposal, and as funding becomes available, perhaps a local pilot effort could serve as a proof of concept before it is scaled up into a fully-funded and fully implemented program.***