DAC/DELAC MEETINGS
BOARD MEETING
PROPERTY ADVISORY VAPING COMMUNITY PRESENTATION
COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING VAPING COMMUNITY PRESENTATION
MEASURE A COMMUNITY
SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL
VAPING COMMUNITY PRESENTATION
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – MINIMUM DAY

April 6 through April 13
Start Time: 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM
Site: Visalia Learning Center, VLC 10

DELAC: District English Language and School Site Council Meetings
Site: District Office, Boardroom
Thursday, March 19, 2020
Provides a setting for communication and the budget and finances
Start Time: 6:00 PM
Site: Golden West High School
Thursday, March 18, 2020
appreciated in school and in the community.
Start Time: 5:30 PM
Location: District Office, DO2
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

March 11 – 13, 2020
MINIMUM DAYS FOR K-6 ONLY
7:00 PM (Regular Session)
6:30 PM (Student Achievement Awards)
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Start Time: 12:00 PM
Conference Room DO4
Monday, February 24, 2020
Capacity and implement healthy components. Bring awareness, build
Start Time: 5:30 PM
Location: District Office, Boardroom
Thursday, February 27, 2020
provides additional resources to my students. " says Danielle
of the school community.
for the year, which allows them to become part
utilizing a traditional model to a yearlong more
new teachers.
project is $189.5 million, and if the State bond on the March
and Measure A funds. The current design estimate for the
new high school would accommodate 1,800 students
security enhancements at our school
$105.3M in bonds that can be used for a
VUSD, and the construction of a fifth high school.
science labs, school modernization projects throughout
with career technical education, Next Generation Science,
of the new high school would require an additional $69.9 million to complete the project.

VUSD Board of Education to issue up to
November 2018. It authorized the
projects and for VUSD to seek additional
community input.
To reflect on how best to serve all of our students and make
Visalia Unified School District will hold a public outreach meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in the
Divisadero Middle School multi-purpose room, 1200 South Divisadero Street. The meeting will be an opportunity for the community to review Measure A projects and for VUSD to ask additional input from interested stakeholders. Measure A is a general obligation bond passed by over 60% of voters in November 2018. It authorized the VUSD Board of Education to issue up to 105.3M in bonds that can be used for a wide variety of facility projects to support our students. These projects may include security enhancements at our schools, upgrades to middle and high school science labs, school modernization projects throughout VUSD, and the construction of a fifth high school.

Following six months of public input from the community, teachers, administrators and students, the preliminary design of the new high school was made public. The new school site has connections and alignment with career technical education, Next Generation Science, visual and performing arts classrooms and includes a stadium, gymnasium, pool and a performance theater.

The original construction cost estimate for the new high school provided in 2017, was $158 million and planned to be paid through a 50-50 matching contribution from the State and Measure A funds. The current design estimate for the project is $189.5 million, and if the State bond on the March ballot passes, the estimated State contribution will be $44.6 million. With $75 million from Measure A, the design would require an additional $69.9 million to complete the project.

Although no Measure A bonds have been sold at this date, VUSD is engaged in further exploration of our facilities and funding options.

Our focus on providing the best facilities possible for our students, while being good stewards of the public’s fiscal investment in our community remains strong. We continue to reflect on how best to serve all of our students and make necessary adjustments as we explore our options and seek community input.

To learn more about Measure A and related projects, please join us at our outreach meeting on February 12, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. at Divisadero Middle School multi-purpose room, located at 1200 South Divisadero Street.
Measure A is the District’s local general obligation bond that passed in 2018 with over 60% of the vote. Measure A was needed to focus on improvements in all school buildings across the District. It is anticipated that the $105M in local money will be leveraged through the State’s matching dollars program to provide general obligation bond projects for our students. Speaking of the need for matching dollars, also known as the State Facilities Program (SFP), there will be another State Bond Measure (E) in November 2022. Proposition E, unless defeated, will replenish that matching dollar fund. The District is expecting to sell the first series of Measure A bonds this spring following the approval of the District’s budget by the Board.

Measure A projects will cover four major areas. First, Measure A will take the next step in campus security across all of our sites. Measure A, our new local bond passed in 2018, to provide better security at the front entrance with new whiteboards and wall, ceiling, and floor treatments, to furnish the rooms with new flexible furniture. It should not matter what your zip code is, the quality of our school should be the same across the District.

The work will be done in phases based on the schools’ eligibility determined by the State; this approach maximizes the amount of funding available at each school. Planning and design for phase 1 will start in the spring, and construction will be planned around the summer break of 2021.

Second, Measure A will take the next step in building security for our students. The full Measure A bond issue was approved by the State in 2021, with construction to begin in 2022, and to be completed by August 2024. This project cannot move forward to construction unless there is a matching State Bond Review Committee and the Visalia Police and Fire Departments to identify the next steps. Measure A will bring cameras facing our single points of entry, dedicated monitors of those cameras, and the ability to remotely lock and close the front doors. This spring we will be moving students and faculty into the single point of entry project at Mountain View elementary.

Third, Measure A will bring the next step in campus security for our students. The full Measure A bond issue was approved by the State in 2021, with construction to begin in 2022, and to be completed by August 2024. This project cannot move forward to construction unless there is a matching State Bond Review Committee and the Visalia Police and Fire Departments to identify the next steps. Measure A will bring cameras facing our single points of entry, dedicated monitors of those cameras, and the ability to remotely lock and close the front doors. This spring we will be moving students and faculty into the single point of entry project at Mountain View elementary.

Fourth, Measure A will also bring all our middle schools up to the same standard regardless of the State’s modernization schedule. The District’s next middle school, Ridgeway, set the standard for middle schools; and the modernization of Redwood High School’s science lab was completed last summer set the standard for high schools. Both those projects were completed with a matching dollar from the State. Finishing Measure E projects and new Measure A dollars will bring all science labs up to the same standard for our students. The goal of the forum is for District staff to engage with the community in a collaborative setting and work toward a deeper understanding of challenges and successes. The Education Advisory forum will meet on the third Thursday of each month, but does not meet in June, July, August, December, or any other month.

This committee meets periodically to review the status of facilities improvements and repairs, with a special focus on the use of locally-approved bond measures E and A. One resident of Visalia is welcome to attend, to bring up concerns or questions or to simply understand how priorities are set and decisions made in the ongoing challenge of maintaining 41 school sites. The next committee meeting is set for Thursday, April 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office for more information, contact Director of Facilities Gerry Lema at (559) 730-7398 or by email at glema@vusd.org.
Visalia Unified School District (VUSD) is proud to offer high school students the opportunity to participate in one of eight Linked Learning Academies across our four comprehensive high schools. Linked Learning is a proven approach to education that combines rigorous college-focused academics, career work-based learning with regional industry partners, and student voice and agency to ensure academic success. By centering high school around industry themes, learning becomes relevant. Students graduate with the skills and confidence to succeed in college, career, and life. Many of our academies offer students further opportunities to receive college credit and industry-based certifications.

VUSD offers the following academies across the district: El Diamante High School (Media arts Academy and STRONG-Sports Medicine Academy), Golden West High School (Business and Finance Academy and First Responder Academy), Mt. Whitney High School (Health Science Academy and Computer Science Academy), and Redwood High School (Architecture, Construction, and Engineering Academy and the Law and Justice Academy). In addition to the eight academies, VUSD offers two other career-based education programs which students can choose to similarly participate in. Visalia Technical Early College High School (OTEC) is a hands-on, agriculture-based “early college” charter school, which affords students the opportunity to gain college credits through College of Sequoias as they work toward graduation. In addition, California Cadet Corps (CA National Guard), housed at Mt. Whitney High School, is a career-based program that provides students intensive and relevant experiences for those who are interested in careers in the military.

Our academies are open to all incoming 9th grade VUSD students regardless of their home boundary high school. The open enrollment window closes February 21, 2020. Please visit our website www.visaliausd.org/domain/51 or call (559) 730-7510 for more information.
The new home for the Sequoia Mountainaires is entering its final stretch of construction this spring. The administration, library, multipurpose and childcare buildings will begin with flooring installation in the next month. The two classroom wings, which will provide eighteen new classroom spaces, including a new science lab and home economics room, are currently receiving cabinetry and lighting throughout every classroom. Flooring installation will continue into those spaces starting in March. Spaces for activities including a new quad, playgrounds, landscaping and parking lot are all awaiting site conditions to dry from the recent rains to resume site preparation and installation. The campus is slated to be complete in late spring, which will allow District staff to begin outfitting the school with next generation furniture, technology and equipment this coming summer in time for its grand opening in August.

The above picture shows the multi-purpose building which will include basketball and volleyball courts.

The administration main entrance and library building.

The Wizard of Oz will be performed by Redwood High School on February 6-8 at 7 p.m. with an additional 2 p.m. matinee on February 8. Ticket prices are $10 students, $15 general, $20 preferred seating. All shows have Holt/ASL translators. Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion, the Wicked Witch (and, of course, the wonderful Wizard of Oz) are all well-known characters. The musical is based on the L. Frank Baum novel and the 1939 movie. Songs include: Over the Rainbow, Follow the Yellow Brick Road, and If I Only Had a Brain.

The Addams Family will be performed by Mount Whitney High School on February 20-22 at 7p.m. with an additional 2 p.m. matinee on February 22. Ticket prices are $10 students, $15 adults. This show takes place at the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory where romance blossoms between the handsome new supervisor and the leader of the union grievance committee over a wage increase for workers. Songs include: Hey There, Nemesis/Halloween, and Steam Heat.