

- Student Learning and Achievement
- Health and Safety of Students and Schools
- Credibility and Communication
- Fiscal Solvency, Accountability and Integrity

- Consent
- Action/Discussion
- Information/Discussion
- Public Hearing

SUBJECT: Pacific Grove Unified School District Spanish Program Update

DATE: October 6, 2022

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE: Buck Roggeman, Director of Curriculum and Special Projects

RECOMMENDATION:

The District Administration recommends the Board receive information about the status of the PGUSD Spanish instructional program including the expansion of Spanish to the elementary schools and the middle school.

BACKGROUND:

Spanish language instruction has historically been offered at Pacific Grove High School and included multiple levels of instruction (levels 1, 2, 3, 4 and AP Spanish). Pacific Grove Middle School had Spanish 1 and included an introduction to Spanish as one of the four classes offered in its sixth-grade elective wheel. The Middle School ceased to offer Spanish 10 years ago due to a lack of staffing. Pacific Grove Adult School also has a strong track record of offering Spanish language instruction to its students.

In recent years, the Board of Trustees asked the Curriculum Department to work with site administration and staff to determine the best way to expand the Spanish language program by rekindling the Middle School program and introducing Spanish to the elementary schools.

INFORMATION:

The following information summarizes Spanish language instruction throughout our district beginning with elementary school and continuing through the adult school program.

Elementary Schools - PGUSD hired Spanish teacher Lilita Nuñez to teach Spanish for 90 minutes per week to fourth and fifth grade students. She currently serves 284 students, and the content of the course introduces students to basic Spanish vocabulary and sentence formation, leading to entry level communication skills.

Pacific Grove Middle School – PGUSD hired Spanish teacher Mark Clark who is teaching four periods at the middle school – two periods of Spanish 1 and two periods of Introduction to Spanish. His classes are open to seventh and eighth grade students. Twenty-seven students are enrolled in Spanish 1 with another 17 taking introduction to Spanish. The classes are popular, and more students would be enrolled if not for scheduling conflicts.

Pacific Grove High School – Teachers Desma Johnson and Jason Bainbridge comprise the high school’s Spanish team. PGHS offers four levels of Spanish classes along with Advanced Placement Spanish. The subject fulfills the A-G requirements for admission into the UC system and students can follow the progression through to become fluent speakers.

Pacific Grove Adult School – The preschool Co-op has provided a Dual Language Preschool Co-op for the past five years. The program, taught by Ariana Macias-Rivera, serves 15 students and embeds Spanish into daily lessons where children acquire second language skills through games, movement, music and thematic play.

The adult school also teaches Spanish I, II, and III to adults. The program has 65 students enrolled and covers the scope of Spanish instruction from introductory fundamentals of the language through conversational Spanish designed to improve grammar and oral proficiency with some reading and writing skill development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of adding two teachers (one at the middle school and one at the elementary level) and providing curriculum to begin the instructional year is \$246,070 paid out of the general fund. Administration anticipates additional curriculum costs as the year progresses.