



Riverside County  
Board of Education

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**DATE:** August 23, 2023

**TO:** Dr. David Pyle, District Superintendent  
Mr. John Norman, Board President  
Mr. Seth Heeren, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Mr. John Roach, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
San Jacinto Unified School District

**FROM:** Edwin Gomez, Ed.D., Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

**BY:** Scott Price, Ph.D.  Chief Business Official (951) 826-6790  
Amanda Corridan  Chief Academic Officer (951) 826-6648

**SUBJECT: 2023-24 LCAP and ADOPTED BUDGET – APPROVAL**

The County Superintendent of Schools is required to review and approve the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan or the annual update to an existing Local Control and Accountability Plan prior to the approval of the district's Adopted Budget [Education Code Section 42127(d)(2)].

### **Adopted Local Control and Accountability Plan**

In accordance with California Education Code (EC) Section 52070, our office has completed its review of the district's 2023-24 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) to determine whether it adheres to the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE).

The district's adopted LCAP has been analyzed to determine whether:

- The plan adheres to the template adopted by the State Board of Education.
- The budget includes sufficient expenditures to implement the actions and strategies included in the plan, based on the projected costs included in the plan.
- The plan adheres to the expenditure requirements for funds apportioned on the basis of the number and concentration of unduplicated pupils.
- The plan includes the calculations to determine whether there is required carryover. If applicable, the plan includes a description of the planned uses of the specified funds and a description of how the planned uses of those funds satisfy the requirements for specific actions to be considered as contributing toward meeting the increased or improved services requirement.

The district's adopted LCAP has been analyzed in the context of the guidance provided by the California County Superintendents and the California Department of

Education (CDE). Based on our analysis, the district’s Local Control and Accountability Plan for the 2023-24 fiscal year has been **approved** by the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools. Our goal is to further enhance the performance of students by providing feedback and inquiry questions that will support the refinement of future Local Control and Accountability Plans and any additional plans designed to close the achievement gap in metrics that impact student preparedness for college and career.

**Student Achievement**

The purpose of the LCAP is to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills necessary to be successful in both college and career. The Riverside County Office of Education conducted a review of research on TK-12 college readiness indicators to identify those that would align with the LCAP purpose and have the greatest impact. As a result of this research, we recommend that local education agencies (LEAs) closely monitor the metrics listed in the data table below for all student groups.

San Jacinto Unified School District Student Groups – Program Participation Status						
Indicator	LEA	Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	English Learner	Foster Youth	Homeless Youth	Students with Disabilities
Enrollment Count 2022 <sup>1</sup>	10,173	8,811	1,996	85	153	1,481
Enrollment Percent 2022 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	86.6	19.6	0.8	1.5	14.6
English Language Arts (ELA) Distance from Standard 2022 <sup>1</sup>	-47.8	-52.2	-68.8	-109.7	-67.1	-110.1
Mathematics Distance from Standard 2022 <sup>1</sup>	-99.2	-103.3	-110.4	-140.7	-128.8	-152.6
English Learner Progress Indicator 2022 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	52.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reclassified Fluent English Proficient Rate 2022 <sup>2+</sup>	=	=	=	=	=	=
Graduation Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	94.5	94.2	90.2	83.3	80.0	79.1
College and Career Prepared Rate 2022	#	#	#	#	#	#
A-G Completion Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	35.2	33.8	16.8	25.0	20.0	11.3
Career Technical Education (CTE) Completion Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	15.0	14.4	11.2	8.3	6.7	13.0
Dropout Rate 2022 <sup>2</sup>	2.5	2.7	4.9	8.3	14.0	4.4



San Jacinto Unified School District Student Groups – Race/Ethnicity									
Indicator	LEA	American Indian	Asian	Black/African American	Filipino	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races
A-G Completion Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	35.2	31.3	N/A	37.3	72.7	33.8	N/A	29.6	59.3
Career Technical Education (CTE) Completion Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	15.0	6.3	N/A	6.7	18.2	16.6	N/A	11.3	11.1
Dropout Rate 2022 <sup>2</sup>	2.5	0.0	*	1.4	0.0	2.5	*	2.9	7.4
Chronic Absenteeism Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	42.1	55.4	25.5	48.4	20.0	41.7	64.3	38.2	43.4
Suspension Rate 2022 <sup>1</sup>	2.8	4.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	2.5	4.2	3.0	3.1
Expulsion Rate 2022 <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3
<sup>1</sup> California School Dashboard/Dashboard Additional Report Files <sup>2</sup> CDE Dataquest and Files † Indicator Includes Charter Schools Within the District * Data Suppressed for Student Privacy Reasons = Data Unavailable Due to California Department of Education Delay in Release # Data Unavailable Due to CA School Dashboard Suspension Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic									

We offer the following commendations and inquiry questions to consider for the implementation of the 2023-24 Local Control and Accountability Plan and the refinement of the plan in future years.

**Student Success in Academics**

The district is to be commended for its 94.5 percent graduation rate that is higher than both the State of California and Riverside County average. Upon examining the district’s student group data, the English Learner student group had an increase in graduation rates compared to the previous year from 78.7 percent to 90.2 percent; the Homeless Youth student group had an increase in graduation rates from 73.1 percent to 80.0 percent; and the Socioeconomically Disadvantaged student group had an increase in graduation rates from 90.0 percent to 94.2 percent.

Additional dialogue related to the questions below may support achievement of the goals and desired outcomes aligned to student academic achievement:

- How might the district identify and replicate positive trends, factors, and features in student achievement, formative assessments, and Multi-Tiered System of Supports

(MTSS) interventions that contribute to improved student achievement for the purpose of supporting the academic needs of all students?

- How might the district investigate the impact of its efforts to hire staff to support high-quality instruction within specific areas of high need?

### **Student Access, Enrollment, and Success in Rigorous Coursework**

The district is to be commended for the rate of completion for Advanced Placement (AP) Exams. The percentage of students completing AP exams with a score of “3” or higher increased from 17 percent in 2021 to 28 percent in 2022, as reported by the College Board. The district is also to be commended for increases in A-G subject requirement rates, and significant progress for English Learner and Students with Disabilities student groups. Furthermore, the district is to be commended for the increase from 40.9 percent to 60.36 percent in Students with Disabilities in a Least Restrictive Environment 80 percent or more of the day.

Additional dialogue related to the question below may support achievement of the goals and desired outcomes aligned to student access, enrollment, and success in rigorous coursework:

- How will the district promote increased participation and student success for Advanced Placement courses, in an effort to address academic achievement that supports student access and enrollment in rigorous coursework?

### **Student Engagement and School Climate**

The district is to be commended for decreases in the dropout rate from 5.1 percent to 2.5 percent and an expulsion rate of 0.00 percent. The district should also be commended for the equity task force team that has created “Closing the Gap” plans which address disproportionality in either behavior or chronic absenteeism. As a result, the district has seen a decrease in chronic absenteeism compared to the previous year, which was 42.1 percent to 33.7 percent according to local data taken from Schoolzilla. Additionally, the district is to be commended for 12 of its schools receiving California PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Recognition.

Additional dialogue related to the questions below may support achievement of the goals and desired outcomes aligned to student engagement and school climate:

- How might the district further support educators in the integration of current materials, resources, and personnel to support evidence-based pedagogy to enhance student engagement?
- How might the district further coordinate and organize resources (e.g., Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension Rates) and teaming structures to further align its MTSS systems?

To access resources and tools that will support future LCAP development, please go to <https://www.rcoe.us/lcap-support>.

### **Adopted Budget**

The district's Adopted Budget was developed in the context of the Governor's 2023-24 May Revise. Subsequently, the 2023-24 State Budget was adopted, which contained differences from the May Revise. The district should update and revise its budget projections to reflect changes in available funding.

Based on our analysis of the information submitted, and our assessment of revenue changes in the enacted State Budget, we **approve** the district's budget, but would like to highlight the following:

*Enrollment and Average Daily Attendance (ADA)* – The district estimates 9,262 ADA for the current fiscal year, or a 0.2 percent decrease from the certified 2022-23 P-2 ADA. For 2024-25 and 2025-26, the district projects ADA to remain flat. It will be important for the district to monitor enrollment in the current and subsequent years to ensure accurate LCFF revenue and plan accordingly.

*Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)* – The district's Adopted Budget included Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) for LCFF funding of 8.22 percent, 3.94 percent, and 3.29 percent for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 fiscal years, respectively. Our office recommends a contingency plan should LCFF funding not materialize as projected in the 2023-24 State Budget.

*Unrestricted Deficit Spending* – The district's Adopted Budget indicates a positive ending balance for all funds in the 2023-24 fiscal year. However, for the unrestricted General Fund, the district anticipates expenditures and uses will exceed revenues and sources by \$1.6 million in 2023-24, \$7.9 million in 2024-25, and \$11.6 million in 2025-26. Our office strongly discourages districts from committing to additional ongoing expenditures without offsetting reductions and stresses the need to continue identifying solutions to reduce any potential structural deficit.

*Employee Negotiations* – As of the board date, June 15, 2023, the district reports salary and benefit negotiations are complete with both the certificated and classified bargaining units for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

*Reserve for Economic Uncertainties* – The minimum state-required reserve for a district of San Jacinto Unified School District's size is 3.0 percent. The district projects to meet the minimum-reserve requirement in the current and two subsequent fiscal years. Additionally, existing law imposes a 10 percent cap on the amount school districts can maintain in their reserves in fiscal years immediately succeeding those in which the Public School System Stabilization Account balance is at least 3 percent of TK-12 Prop. 98 funding. This condition was met with the 2022-23 deposit amount, triggering the local reserve cap for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The district projects to meet the imposed 10 percent reserve cap.

*Cash Management* – Attention to cash solvency remains a critical fiscal practice and should continue to be prioritized in the coming year. The district projects sufficient cash balances to cover projected expenditures during the 2023-24 fiscal year. Should the district identify the

need for temporary borrowing options, our office strongly advises districts to consult with legal counsel and independent auditors prior to using Cafeteria Special Revenue Fund (Fund 13) and Building Fund (Fund 21) for temporary interfund borrowing purposes to remedy cash shortfalls.

*AB 2756* – Current law, as enacted through AB 2756 (Chapter 52, Statutes of 2004), requires the County Superintendent to review and consider any studies, reports, evaluations, or audits that may contain evidence a district is showing fiscal distress. Our office did not receive any such reports for the district.

**Conclusion**

Our office commends the district for its efforts thus far to preserve its fiscal solvency and maintain a quality education program for its students. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office.