

Prioritized Alternative Scenarios: Considerations for Future Discussions and Strategic Planning

December 4, 2018

**Committee to Consider High School
Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios**

Background

- October 16, 2018: Committee engaged in small group work to discuss possible scenarios and topics beyond high school consolidation
- October 30, 2018: Committee discussed results of small group activity from 10.16.18, prioritized scenarios, and voted to further explore top two:
 - Separate high schools with open enrollment
 - Expansion of dual enrollment with the Peralta Community College District (PCCD) system

Scenario 1: Separate High Schools with Open Enrollment

Description:

Both the AHS and EJSHS campuses would remain open. Students would be allowed to attend classes on both or either campuses depending on the course offerings and student needs/interests, regardless of school boundaries. Selected courses could be offered virtually to provide further access to courses by students on the other campus. The bell schedules at both schools would be aligned to better facilitate access to these expanded course options.

Scenario 1: Logistical Considerations

To (a) enable students to physically attend both campuses and (b) increase the efficiency of both programs, a number of key logistical considerations should be addressed:

1. Alignment of schedules between two schools
2. Location of specialized programs
3. Transportation to each campus (to address increased flow of students)
4. Transportation between campuses (if student transition occurs within day)
5. Advantages/disadvantages of block scheduling (if student transition occurs between semesters)
6. Impacts of increasing virtual offerings (e.g., how would this affect instruction, staffing, technology, and budgets?)

Scenario 1: Alignment of Schedules

Schedules across the two sites could be aligned to ensure that students can attend classes at both campuses. Complete alignment would be needed to ensure that students could transition between campuses either within a given day, across days, or across semesters.

Currently AHS and EJSHS both operate different variations of alternating block schedules in which students meet for 3 or 4 class periods on block days and 6 periods on standard days (Mon/Fri for AHS and Mon for EJSHS).

Scenario 1: Location of Specialized Programs/Courses

Allowing students to attend classes on both campuses allows for centralization of specialized programs at either AHS or EJSHS. This in turn would support increased efficiency of staffing and facilities across the campuses. Specialized programs/courses might include:

- Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways
- VAPA programs
- World Languages
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- Dual Enrollment
- Unique electives

Scenario 1: Transportation Considerations

Planning for additional student transition between campuses would be required in any variation of an open enrollment scenario.

- Transportation between campuses within each day (AM/PM option) would require increased shuttle/bus options at additional expense via either:
 - Increase of AC Transit buses
 - Operation of AUSD bus/shuttle fleet: The total number of buses/shuttles needed would depend on the proposed availability of the open enrollment – number of students transitioning between sites each day.
- Transportation to campuses between semesters would result in varying levels of need along established bus routes across the island.

Scenario 1: '4 x 4' Block Scheduling Considerations

In a '4 x 4' block schedule, students attend four classes each day. These courses typically meet for 90 minutes and represent a year's equivalent (10 credits) of coursework. Students enroll in a new set of four courses each semester.

A '4 x 4' block schedule has the potential to allow for students to attend both AHS and EJSHS within a given year without having to travel between campuses each day or within a week. (However, it does not necessarily prohibit attendance of both campuses within a given day.)

Consideration of a '4 x 4' block schedule would involve review of the various advantages/disadvantages of such a scheduling conformation. These would include impacts on teaching and learning for both students and staff, as well as fiscal considerations.

Scenario 1: Virtual Course Considerations

Implementation of 'virtual courses' to include simulcast/streaming options would involve consideration of:

1. Which courses are best suited for this format
2. Method by which students access the simulcast/stream
 - A. On campus (will still require credentialed supervision and thus entail additional costs)
 - B. From home (no supervision required, range of implications for impact on teaching and learning specific to course)
3. Method by which students and remote instructors interact and engage in activities that require hands-on components
4. Technology required
5. Potential impacts on staffing needs

Scenario 2: Expand Dual Enrollment w/PCCD

Description:

Students would be provided the option of enrolling in both high school and college courses simultaneously through an arrangement with the Peralta Community College District (PCCD) system. Students would attend classes at the participating colleges as well as be provided classes at both school sites. A “wheel” for post-secondary courses and other specialized programs (e.g., CTE, trades, etc.) would be created at both AHS and EJSHS as well as at ASTI.

Scenario 2: Current Programs

Current dual/concurrent enrollment programs and articulated coursework include:

- Genomics program at EJSHS
- College coursework offered on Island High School campus
- ASTI Early College High School program
- Articulated CTE coursework

All students can petition to concurrently enroll in community college coursework regardless of their participation in one of the above programs.

Scenario 2: Collaboration with PCCD/COA

Expansion of dual/concurrent enrollment would be done in partnership with Peralta Community College District (PCCD) staff.

Since the last meeting, board members of both AUSD and PCCD have met with COA and AUSD staff to discuss this scenario/concept. COA staff and AUSD staff have scheduled a follow-up meeting to begin more concrete exploration.

Extensive collaboration would be required to develop program proposals for (a) PCCD course offerings on AUSD campuses, (b) increased concurrent/dual enrollment at COA/other PCCD campuses, and (c) additional articulation of AUSD coursework for college credit.

NOTE: this scenario is not mutually exclusive from Scenario 1.

Scenario 2: Increased College Course Enrollment

Considerations:

1. College courses are generally required to be open to the public for enrollment
2. Transportation (for attendance at COA/PCCD campuses)
3. Determination of COA/PCCD capacity to increase high school enrollment
4. Potential for AUSD teachers with appropriate credentials to serve as college instructors
5. Course materials costs relative to typical K-12 adoption timelines, particularly given increase in college materials that are partially/completely digital

Scenario 2: CTE Expansion (Wheel or Other)

Considerations:

1. Unique credentialing requirements for CTE/trade-based courses
2. Increased fiscal costs to expand/maintain CTE programs
3. Specific facilities needs
4. Determination of which courses would be replaced by these new elective offerings

Next Steps

Considerations for next steps:

1. Determination of how Scenarios 1 and 2 might intersect/coexist.
2. (For Scenario 1) Refinement of vision for how students would attend both campuses (within day, across semesters, other).
3. Review of collective programming options across both sites and determination of what an open enrollment program would retain, eliminate, and expand.
4. Determination of how next steps fit into existing committee work vs. future strategic planning process.

Questions?