

MAY 31, 2018

LCAP ELPAC/PAC (PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

FEEDBACK /QUESTIONS – Elementary and High School Districts

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT -

GOAL	QUESTION/COMMENT	ANSWER
	<p>With the use of electronic devices, social skills are going down and kids are locking inside themselves. We need more programs like the music program for students to get involved in more things.</p>	<p>It is important for parents to place limits on the amount of screen time their children have, particularly for those who have been traumatized. Davidson MS has strategies to help with that.</p> <p>Staff do their best to balance the needs of all students, with the resources we have. This is good feedback as we continue to work on the LCAP.</p>
4	<p>What does PSP do?</p>	<p>The District partners with Parent Services Project (PSP) to provide workshops for parents to learn to be leaders, take care of themselves and their families; a strong social emotional component. The workshops involve 20 hours of training held on Saturdays. They have been conducted in Spanish. Last year the program graduated 25 parents; this year there were 30 graduates. Parents in the Canal area can also attend workshops at the PSP offices.</p>
	<p>Learning how to communicate with school staff is important for parents. It is a learning experience for a parent to know how to 'conduct' themselves when communicating with school; respectful of all work that teachers do, but also needing to address a particular issue in which they are seeking resolution. Being able to email teachers is a good</p>	<p>A partnership with the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) provides workshop for parents to learn how schools work and strategies for communication with the school and teachers.</p>

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	mode of communication. When students recognize their parents are communicating with school, not because they have to, but because they want to, they know their parent has ‘some skin in the game.’	
	All the efforts that have been mentioned in the LCAP are appreciated to provide more help with students. Agree with the importance of kids needing to come to school feeling safe and secure, knowing that they have been heard and emotionally are able to listen and pay attention in the classroom. Everything starts at home, but the district is taking actions to protect their minds and hearts in the classroom; it is appreciated.	

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT -

GOAL	QUESTION/COMMENT	ANSWER
	Can you clarify the additional counselors that have been added for next year? How is the time being split?	The addition of 1.4 FTE counselors was added to the Elementary District LCAP: 1.0 FTE at DMS, and a .4 FTE being added for Pk-5 schools. The role will be to reach out to form community partnerships, and to bring intern counselors on site.
	Any additional counseling positions added for the High School District?	San Rafael HS had an additional MFT this year for more mental health support, but no new counselors. There are, however, intern counselors who have been added.
	At Terra Linda one counseling intern works with the counseling department, helping with the case load of one counselor who has the largest load because she serves all Spanish speaking students regardless of whether they fall into her alphabet area.	The state average for student to counselor ratio is 800 to 1; ours is 400 to 1. This year all counselors were sent to a powerful professional development at the Solano County Counseling Academy.
	It would be useful to have contact information for outside resources and organizations, listed on the district/school	It was noted by a TLHS staff member that the MFT at Terra Linda who works with counseling interns is working with the Student

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	<p>websites. Some students may not feel comfortable looking at the resources that are posted around the school, and having the information available to students and parents in a more discreet way such as the website would be helpful.</p> <p>Put these resources contact numbers on every newsletter so it becomes part of the school information flow and not just when an issue comes up.</p>	<p>Services Department to do just this; put together information for the website for students and staff.</p>
	<p>Kids get ideas to do not such smart things from social media; too much information.</p>	<p>Regulating their screen time is important.</p>
	<p>Do you take counselor volunteers?</p>	<p>No. Because it is the district’s obligation to protect student privacy, we cannot use volunteers for counseling; they would need to come through a counseling intern program. However, mentors can work with kids, and we need as many as we can get.</p>
	<p>How can a volunteer offer assistance? What are options for schools?</p>	<p>The District works with partners such as 10,000 Degrees and the Experience Corp. These agencies provide volunteers who are background checked and can work as mentors or reading buddies in our schools. For those interested in volunteering, contact your school site to get connected with one of these organizations.</p>

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	<p>Counselors do not have time to meet with students to provide emotional support. What is being done to provide emotional support for students such as new arrivals to high school? There is not enough counseling support in middle school either.</p>	<p>The need for social emotional support was feedback that was heard in the Elementary District discussions. Staff are doing their best to listen and in the Elementary District 1.4 counseling positions are being added for next year: a 1.0 FTE for Davidson MS, and a .4 FTE to add support between the PK-5 sites.</p> <p>Providing emotional support for students cannot just be left to the counselors. It requires a sense of community to be built at the school so students feel they can to any adult on campus if they have a problem.</p> <p>The “Capturing Kids Hearts” program at Davidson MS, and the Davidson Challenge Day that happens at the beginning of the school year, are initiatives that encourage building community at school so students can identify at least one adult on campus that they feel safe going to if they are having problems.</p> <p>It is important that teachers have specific training to learn strategies to support students who experience trauma.</p> <p>Community liaisons on site are also a valuable resource for students and families.</p>
	<p>Families are struggling to make it in life; many kids are left on their own and are exposed to gangs trying to recruit them. Safety for kids – how to get help for students who need it.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“ “</p>

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	<p>At Terra Linda there was talk about bringing in advisory so students are with the same teacher for their 4 years in high school; someone who they can reach out to and feel connected. Advisory at Davidson is for academics.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“ “</p>
	<p>There was discussion at the Stakeholder Taskforce meetings about social emotional support for students. The Community Schools Initiative has been added to the LCAP to help build community support for this need.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“ “</p>
	<p>There are not a lot of Spanish speaking parents at this meeting.</p>	<p>The District works with principals to identify parent representatives for the LCAP Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) each year; looking for representation from every school site. A big group of parents attended the first LCAP PAC meeting earlier this year and were invited to this meeting. In addition, the District DELAC, which is a sizeable group representing English learner families from every school, was also presented the LCAP for feedback, looking specifically at what is working and what is not to support EL learners and their families.</p>
	<p>Can parents come to the June 11 Board meeting?</p>	<p>Yes, the Board meetings are open to the public. All are invited to attend. The LCAP process begins in January of each year and ends with the adoption of the plans in June. After the Board adopts the LCAPS, they are sent to the Marin County Office of Education (MCOE) for review. If MCOE has any suggested revisions to the plans, they are sent back and staff brings the revisions to the Board for approval in the fall.</p>