

## LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

### Parent Advisory Committee

### English Learner Parent Advisory Committee

February 20, 2014

7:00-9:00 pm

Berkeley Technology Academy

2701 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley

### RESPONSES TO FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT: Four Questions to Consider

#### • FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT–DELAC GROUP

1. What BUSD programs, activities have been **most effective** for our students in improving STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - Approve EL Master Plan (30 mins. of ELD support every day)
  - Systematic ELD
  - Appropriate ELD curriculum
  - RTI<sup>2</sup>
  - Mental health services/available & qualified for all school sites
  - Special Ed
  - H.S. Bridge Program
  - Extra test taking support/writing
  - Constructing meaning
  - ELD Teacher at Jefferson Full-Time
  - Math/Cultural fairs family events
  - Parent conferences
  - Language Lab
  - Rosa Parks
2. What are **barriers** in the area of STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could be preventing students from achieving their potential?
  - BUSD/teacher low expectations of the students
  - Not all schools are providing ELD instructional minutes
  - No social emotional support at all sites
  - Teaching to the top of the class
  - We don't have teachers that represent student population/lack of district commitment to hire teachers of color
  - Lack of teacher cultural competency training
  - No two-way communication between teachers and parents
  - Intervention> students missing Core Curriculum getting pulled out of class for Special Ed or ELD
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?

- Social emotional curriculum
  - ELD teacher Full-time at each site
  - 2 parent teacher conferences per year all sites
  - Hiring & retention of teachers of color
  - Improved two-way communication teachers & parent
  - Mandatory cultural competency training for all staff, continual training, follow-up and curriculum
  - Program during breaks & summer/for students in need
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
- Full-time ELD teacher at every site
  - Aggressive hiring & retention of teachers of color & cultural competency training
  - Social emotional program/curriculum

• **FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT –ELEMENTARY GROUP 1**

1. What BUSD programs, activities have been **most effective** for our students in improving STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
- Principal “fun”–makes it fun & supports teachers to do so
  - Student performances to school community
  - School culture–every teacher know every kids’ name
  - Playworks during recess–organized games & activities
  - Gardening & cooking
  - Parent Liaison
- Literacy coaching–extra afterschool reading & math
2. What are **barriers** in the area of STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could be preventing students from achieving their potential?
- Different expectations from teachers for different groups
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
- Add another parent/teacher conference/yr. = 2
  - Principal & teacher training about engaging kids
  - Parent involvement (see ideas on the other page)
  - Rotate principals across schools & classes, e.g., Language Lab, Math/reading club)
  - Parent liaisons
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
- Parent liaison to support parent/community engagement
  - Mental health/Social learning
  - Coach: literary & math

• **FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT–ELEMENTARY GROUP 2**

1. What BUSD programs, activities have been **most effective** for our students in improving STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - Tie attendance to incentives, i.e., no school/no prom
  - Tie afterschool programs to academic performance–tutoring/homework support
  - Add EL (Spanish language support) to afterschool programs
  - Cal students working with students to increase awareness of college track (peer engagement programs)
  - Peer engagement at all levels, i.e. reading buddies–older
  - Africa American Studies classes: students attendance in History & English & Econ increase when they are enrolled in these classes.
  - Higher level grades engaging with lower level grades as mentors, or role-models interacting with each other.
  - More After-School Programs which engage children academically and w/culturally relevant activities/extra-curricular activities.
  
2. What are **barriers** in the area of STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could be preventing students from achieving their potential?
  - More parent engagement to communicate the importance of attendance
  - Negative interactions w/teachers & personnel
  - More support to ELD development in schools–ELD coordinators, curriculum support, translated materials, etc.
  - Students relationships with teachers & negative interactions with teachers that show they don't care.
  - School classroom that doesn't engage kids visually
  - Classroom that doesn't use various learning styles
  
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Parent support workshops–playdates to develop relationship w/parents & school
  - Strengthen ELACs
  - Targeted incentives to
  - African American focused parent engagement/targeted outreach to AA students programs like SPIRIT that support the cultural needs AA students
  - Cross-cultural and culturally specific programs for students as peers and parents.
  
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - See above
  - Targeted incentives for students in the focus group that they get personally for improving. Financial rewards classes they can take o/s of school which requires payment (sewing class, golf)

• **FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT–MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP 1**

1. What BUSD programs, activities have been **most effective** for our students in improving STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - Non-academic curriculum: Band, Sports, Clubs, Dance, Theater, Sports, Music
  - Counseling Programs at Middle School
  - AVID (for kids in the Academic Middle)
  - Having H.O.W. grades instead of just Standard Based.
 Tracking attendance—Letters home, follow-up calls from secretary, Robo calls.
  
2. What are **barriers** in the area of STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could be preventing students from achieving their potential?
  - Lack of Principles of Mindfulness in the classrooms & school in general
  - Suspension rates and disproportionality of suspension rates
  - Not enough tracking or “case management”—Due to lack of resources.
  - Lack of a system to identify quickly & follow-up w/ kids who need more support. RTI<sup>2</sup>
  - Lack of examining and exploring internalized bias at the staff level and faculty level.
  - Lack of resources to support teachers in order for them to teach effectively.
  - Decrease adult to student ratio with aides.
  
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Mindfulness
  - Educating kids about their own physiological & social developmental
  - Professional Development, Professional Learning Communities around cultural competence & bias
  - Leadership opportunities across the Middle Schools
  - Teachers engage socially with students--share a meal—relax together
  
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - 1) AVID – Maintain and Expand AVID, Cal Scholars & BHS Bridge.  
Across the three middle schools.  
AVID not the top & not the bottom.
  
  - 2) Mindfulness & Educating middle school students about their physiological & social development
  
  - 3) Early Identification and intervention for kids at risk of dropping out.

**• FOCUS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT– MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP 2**

1. What BUSD programs, activities have been **most effective** for our students in improving STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - We think data on these (listing of student engagement areas in box) should be analyzed versus programs & activities in order for us to make more than a guess

here. There should also be hypothesis/statements from each program leader (e.g. Mental Health) or the principal as to what the trend is.

For example: What programs are being used for each population? Are they working?

- Where programs did show improvement, we should discuss ways to extend it to other groups.

2. What are **barriers** in the area of STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could be preventing students from achieving their potential?
  - No comments
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for STUDENT ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Yes, add the ATOD counselor and make them cool.
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?
  - No comments

#### **RESPONSES TO FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT: Four Questions to Consider**

##### **• FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT–DELAC GROUP**

1. What Family Engagement programs, activities have been **most effective** in improving outcomes for students?
  - No comments
2. What are **barriers** in the area of PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - No comments
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Parent trainings & workshops/Advocating & ELL
  - Technical programs/curriculum for parents to bring home school to home links
  - SGC training, ELAC training & policy
  - Personal invites in native languages
  - Parent Liaisons/Site coordinator at each site
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - Parenting workshops (Academic & Advocacy)
  - Commitment from District & School to involve parents (children of color, ELL), two-way com. & committees, cultural exchange
  - Parent Liaison at every site

##### **• FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT–ELEMENTARY GROUP 1**

1. What Family Engagement programs, activities have been **most effective** in improving outcomes for students?
  - Parent Liaison
  - Family night
  - Parent Education
  - Family resource center campaigns (Rosa Parks)
  - Newsletter–classroom & school
  - After drop-off mingle w/PTA & principal
  
2. What are **barriers** in the area of PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - Certain groups less likely to show up for activities or have the information they need
  - Times when working–during week hard
  - Very few opportunities to engage if you work–rely on paper communication.
  - How find ways to connect with people
  - Bridging teacher/parent divide
  
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Meetings that are mandatory for parents (especially for those who less likely to engage, e.g. Latino)
  - Meetings on weekends instead of during the week?
  - Family liaison/family resource center (e.g. Rosa Parks & Cragmont)
  - Support teachers to engage parents in classroom & in child’s education
  - Home site visit
  - Be there at 6pm for Afterschool pick up
  
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - Have parent liaison at every school–funded by district
  - Family resource centers at each school–funded by district
  - Fun family events where food is served–include performances by kids (not only on school nights)

• **FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT–ELEMENTARY GROUP 2**

1. What Family Engagement programs, activities have been **most effective** in improving outcomes for students?
  - Activities hosted & planned by Parent Resource Centers
  - Parents reading to/being read to by students
  - Playdates (scheduled regularly)
  - Picnics & carnivals
  - Family resources centers
  - Parent liaisons
  
2. What are **barriers** in the area of PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

- The number of opportunities available to participate in activities in connection with time.
  - Parents time
  - Lack of opportunities for engagements
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
    - Training classes such as those provided by Rosa Parks Parent Resource Center and Berkeley High Parent Resource Centers. Workshops/seminars, activities planned for detailed interaction.
  4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
    1. Parent liaisons at each school
    2. Training classes as mentioned above
    3. Clarification or a book that notes all the resources available & its capacity/target group

**• FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT– MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP 1**

1. What Family Engagement programs, activities have been **most effective** in improving outcomes for students?
  - Robo calls
2. What are **barriers** in the area of PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - No comments
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Robo calls & texting of information
  - Multiple ways to engage with the school–Recognition that people access information different ways.
  - Information sessions for families about how to advocate for your child in the school district–What are all the acronyms?
  - Better more inviting structure for parent teacher conferences at the middle school level.
  - Ways beyond parent teacher conferences that teachers can connect
  - Better process around SGC elections and education about what SGC is all about.
  - Creating social events and opportunities to share cultures.
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  1. Creating social events and opportunities to share cultures.
  2. Information sessions for families about how to advocate for your child in the school district–What are all the acronyms?

3. Multiple ways to engage with the school—Recognition that people access information different ways.

• **FOCUS ON PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT— MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP 2**

1. What Family Engagement programs, activities have been **most effective** in improving outcomes for students?
  - Same answer as student (engagement) form but generally look for most improved and copy: i.e.,  
Copy Rosa Parks school—huge improvement! “Fidelity of programs.”  
Copy Jefferson too: AA API @ highest level. “I.E.P-like effort.”
2. What are **barriers** in the area of PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - If parents are socio economically disadvantaged, they don’t have time/energy/interest in engaging. It’s too hard; impractical.
  - Encourage/allow parent groups to be hosted at Berkeley High even if unrelated to school per se. Just to show community
3. What are some **actions, programs or services** for PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT that could improve outcomes for our students?
  - Look at data for AA kids and slice it by disadvantaged (Are there patterns?) Do they have access to extended day, i.e. come early, stay later w/counselors. Do buses run at that time?
  - Can school grounds stay open for recreation/family use later so they are more social centers? Try on a few campuses first. Have security and a counselor present till 6. Offer food as well, like milk. Don’t worry if mom’s in need, take as many milks as they want.
4. What are **your top three recommendations** for improvement in PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?
  - No comments