



Superintendent Written Response to the Parent Advisory Committee 2015-2016 LCAP Questions:

1. What is a safety net for Math (Goal 1)?
 - a. *This is referring to students who are not performing in mathematics. Among other support systems, each school will receive dollars allocated for intervention, including math intervention.*

2. What is Naviance (Goal 1)?
 - a. *Naviance is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution for middle and high schools that helps align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals, and improve student outcomes. Naviance helps connect learning and life, and will provide our school district with the information they need to help students prepare for life after high school. It also allows students to create a plan for their future by helping them discover their individual strengths and learning styles and explore college and career options based on their results. In addition, the Naviance Family Connection portal provides students with web-based and mobile access to help students plan for their futures. Parents can watch their students' progress. Finally, Naviance gives students and parents insight into the college admission process, with college search tools including scattergrams, college visit schedules, and scholarship opportunities. They can keep track of their applications, request transcripts, and upload teacher recommendations.*

3. What does implementation of metric mean (Goal 1)?
 - a. *Implementation of a metric means to identify a standard of measure to evaluate the effectiveness of a system, determining if the system is meeting a standard or if improvement is warranted, then collecting data and evaluating performance.*

4. How are students supported in the social & emotional needs “on a school-wide basis TK-5”?
 - a. *Elementary schools support students TK-5 through:*
 - i. *Character Education and Health lessons. Teachers also use literature in the classrooms to address social concerns. Many of those lessons and stories are designed to address specific social and emotional struggles faced by students at the elementary level.*
 - ii. *PTA helps to address this need through assemblies that deal with social issues, such as bullying.*
 - iii. *The elementary counselors also push into classrooms and provide lessons targeting specific needs, such as how to make friends. They touch base with every new student to the school to help transition the child in a positive*

way. Counselors also provide one-on-one services to students when referred.

iv. Parent informational meetings are also provided from time-to-time. Topics may include bullying and cyberbullying.

5. Is the district exploring other electronic devices other than chromebooks (Goal 1)?
 - a. *While Chromebooks are the primary electronic device available for AUSD students, other devices (such as tablets) are being piloted based on classroom needs and circumstances.*

6. What “formalized” character education program is at the elementary schools (Goal 4)?
 - a. *While there is no one specific curriculum district-wide elementary character education program, each school site addresses Character Education. Many sites use a program called Character Counts. Other sites use other programs such as Second Steps, Teach To’s/ Time to Teach, and Developing Capable Young People. As well, the district Character Education SWaG group has been exploring other programs, such as Leader in Me.*

7. What opportunities do teachers have to meet with other teachers from their grade level from other schools (Goal 3)?
 - a. *There are several opportunities for teachers to meet with their grade level at other schools both formally and informally including, but not limited to, participating in Small Working Groups (SWG’s) during shortened days, learning walks to other sites, serving on curriculum and other committees, coaches cafe, and electronically such as ed chats on twitter, collaborative documents (google drive, Sync Solutions), etc.*

8. How will you assess the success of LCAP & LCFF?
 - a. *The assessment of LCFF and LCAP will be measured by how well the resources allocated from LCFF support the goals and action steps of the LCAP, and the success of LCAP will be measured by whether or not progress towards meeting the established metrics.*

9. Gate - How are we supporting these kids because down the line - how are we going to give them other opportunities to be challenged?
 - a. *In 2014, California’s Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) legislation redistributed State funding from several categorical programs into the general funds provided to districts, allowing local governing boards to make decisions about how to allocate the funds to best meet the needs of their student populations. GATE was one of the categorical programs repealed through this legislation, prompting Senate Bill (SB) 971 to repeal EC sections 52200–52212 later in the year (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/gt/lw/>).*
 - b. *Programs targeting gifted students will have to be represented in the LCAP process which involves parent and other stakeholder input. Arcadia will continue to support programs that help our most gifted students receive the most balanced and rigorous program possible, concentrating on developing the whole child for success in career and college.*