

Comprehensive Needs Assessment – School Culture and Climate

Parent and teacher surveys are conducted during April/May annually; the feedback is reviewed and disseminated to each campus principal. The District averages for the parent survey are posted on the district website. The climate survey provides areas of strengths and needs that may be addressed in the campus comprehensive needs assessment.

Parent conferences, open house and curriculum nights are conducted annually on each campus. In addition, annual orientation sessions are conducted for parents and students at the transition grades (i.e., entering kindergarten, elementary to intermediate, intermediate to middle school and middle school to high school).

Elementary campuses emphasize character development through various programs including Capturing Kids Hearts, Character Plus, Covey's Seven Habits and classroom lessons provided by the counselor. Specifically, Stuard Elementary has a program, Gracefully Strong, that serves to build self-esteem in young girls. McAnally Intermediate utilizes Great Expectations and Covey's Seven Habits for character leadership development. At Aledo Middle School and the Ninth Grade Campus, the program, Rachel's Challenge, establishes a safe learning environment for students. The Ninth Grade Campus has Leading Ladies which is a program that encourages young women in leadership roles. Also at the Ninth Grade Campus the Top Cat Award is awarded to students who exemplify positive character traits. The Ninth Grade Campus also participates in Capturing Kid's Hearts. Aledo High School has a Teen Leadership course and a core group of teachers have received training in Capturing Kids Hearts. In addition, Aledo High School has a Peer Assistance Program where high school students work with elementary students and a Peer Assistance for Students with Disabilities Program where high school students work with special education students.

All four elementary schools, McAnally, Middle School, and the Ninth Grade Campus utilize WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) which involves fathers and father figures to help create a safe and secure learning environment. Dads assist in a variety of ways: serving as lunchroom monitors, getting students into the building at the start of the school day, monitoring hallways, assisting with small group needs and helping load buses after school.

Safe and Drug Free school activities, as approved by the district-wide School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC), are conducted annually at all campuses. Below is a partial listing of activities at varied campuses in the district.

- Digital Citizenship Week (District-wide)
- Red Ribbon Week Activities (District-wide)
- National Night Out (District-wide)
- Shattered Dreams
- Prescription Drug Awareness Program
- Drug and Alcohol Program
- Law Enforcement Teaching Students Program (LETS)
- CATCH Curriculum
- Rachel's Challenge
- Leading Ladies
- Project Celebration

Community outreach activities include:

- Daddy Daughter Dance
- Movies with Mom
- Musical performances
- Grandparent's Day
- Theatrical performances
- Book Fair
- Student artwork / schoolwork displayed in various buildings throughout the district
- Kids Beach Club meetings
- Counselor Coffee Talks
- Parenting Workshop – Focused on Students with ADHD
- Connections Mentorship Program
- Herdwise

Strengths:

- Safe and secure learning environment
- Student Council Leadership Programs across the district
- Community, parents, and staff have high expectations for student achievement in all areas
- Programs related to internet safety and bullying
- High level of parent and community involvement

Needs:

- Continue to conduct annual surveys for continuous improvement
- Improve parent response rate on the Parent Climate Survey as the response rate in 2013 – 2014 school year was 15.76%
- Improve teacher response rate on the Teacher Climate Survey as the response rate in 2013 – 2014 school year was 50.60%
- Encourage greater parent participation in the use of School Fusion / Parent Portal
- Continue to implement greater in-depth procedures for various emergency situations and disseminate the procedures to both parents and students (e.g. Hazardous Materials spill, active shooter)
- Implement suicide prevention program at the secondary level