

Inclusiveness Advisory Board Feedback

November 18, 2020

Essential Question: *What are the primary elements we must understand about our D90 student and family needs right now, under the current conditions?*

Breakout Group Feedback

GROUP 1:

- Isolation, left out, Less support
- Fear/Terror
- Stress, Anxiety. Mental health, Kids scared to ask questions – about COVID, illness
- Less relationship with teachers. Is one dimensional
- More than COVID
 - Presidential race
 - Social division
 - Racial Justice
 - Social Division
 - Economics
 - Lack of routine
- Jobs don't end – in email, Zoom world

GROUP 2:

Bigger education of soft skills related to going to school is a huge gap. The disinformation gap and how do kids and families deal with that in the political climate.

Community commitment to SEL well-being. There are pockets that are doing a better job than others. How to families play a role in that? Kids can't lean unless they are emotionally in a good place. In this current climate – being targeted and focused not just from a school perspective but a community perspective.

Might be an element of basic needs – financial stability, food security connected to SEL needs.

GROUP 4:

CHALLENGES:

Need for consistency:

- Schedule changes are difficult to keep up with; some parents may not be able to check email regularly and connect with children to share changes and may leave some kids in the dark
- Going back / not going back to in person school... is challenging for many different challenges
- Home may not be consistent right now - less care giving, less support at home, working challenges

Challenges with anxiety and depression:

- How to support their needs with the technology demands, always being on zoom, challenges experienced as a result of that

Additional child-care support is not available:

- Financial challenges
- Choosing to not bring in additional people into the home to reduce the chances of COVID
- Parents are both working out of the house

Additional support through free lunches:

- Families may not need criteria, but need the additional support and help right now
- Hispanics may be shy to ask to be seen as "asking for handouts" for free lunch

Internet access:

- High bandwidth is having issues

Cultural challenges:

- Certain cultures may not feel comfortable asking for clarification, help, support
- Reaching out to ask for help may not be something they are comfortable with

Identifying the need for intervention

- Parents are not skilled in identifying deficits
- Identifying special needs, anxiety, etc.
- Process to follow to seek help

Need for connection:

- Families new to the district:
- Lincoln does a great job inviting new families
- Casey personally invites new families to the Lincoln family
- Change of environment is challenging and need for connection with others in order to feel engaged

Social needs

- Providing social time - even if virtual - to allow kids to be silly, have fun, look forward to fun times

possible needs:

- Consistency
- Clear view of expectations
- Flexibility
- Understanding
- Patience
- Social awareness