

BOARD POLICY EXPECTATION

With respect to staying connected with stakeholders, the Superintendent shall not fail to ensure that students, parents, and staff have ample opportunities to provide feedback.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby present my monitoring report on Executive Limitations Policy EL-9 “Student, Parent, and Staff Feedback” in accordance with the monitoring schedule set forth in Board Policy. I certify that the information contained in this report is true as of March 22, 2022.

Peter Rosenkranz, Superintendent

SUPERINTENDENT’S INTERPRETATION OF POLICY

Executive Limitation Nine (EL-9) is all about listening. We often do a good job of talking, however, to develop a partnership with our families, community, staff, and students we must be willing to actively listen. Transparency is key in these conversations, including answering questions and having the courage to, at times, agree to disagree. The current challenge we face is that some interpret listening with an agreement, taking the stand that unless you agree with my view you have not listened. On the contrary, civil conversations must consider multiple facets of the discussion and then in the end make a decision that is based on the current information we have available that aligns with the values of the District. The La Center School District has expanded ways in which we can listen to what is happening in and around the community, school, and broader society. Through social media, State of the District Addresses, Facebook posts, website posts, City Council meetings, and media stories, we have been able to be very transparent about what is happening in the La Center School District.

REPORT

There are three specific areas described in this policy. The following will address each area of EL-9 as best as possible. At the time of this report, I believe that the LCSD is in compliance with the Board’s expectations.

1. The superintendent shall not fail to regularly survey student perspectives about the quality of their learning experiences. **IN COMPLIANCE**

We use a variety of methods to connect with students and listen to views, celebrations, and solutions to challenges. This year, in particular, we surveyed students prior to the student linkage to gather data for a more robust conversation with our students and school board. The high school students were instrumental in designing the student linkage. The focus this year was on students who are in leadership roles. Elementary Bobcat Ambassadors, Middle School Blue Crew, and the High School ASB Leadership (with club presidents included).

2. The superintendent shall not fail to regularly survey parent perspectives on the learning experience of their student(s). **IN COMPLIANCE**

We have yet to survey our parents, however, I am still working on an alumni survey to gain input for folks who have exited the system as to how we can improve our District. That being said, we have improved the partnership between the community and the District. Participation in the Lions Club, City Council meetings, Farmer's Market, Our Days, and visiting local churches have all led to a better understanding of our community. Additionally, we have added essentially two community linkages with the State of the District Addresses. A presentation followed by a Q & A time is a valuable, in-person, method to connect to our community.

The community linkage morphing into a State of the District Address is, again, a valuable tool to bring the community together and talk about our strengths and challenges. On February 28, 2023, we held our second State of the District Address. We had approximately seventy-five patrons in the room to participate in the conversation and learn what is happening in La Center Schools. One added benefit was Bryan Kast, Public Works Director, from the City of La Center was present. This signals the continued partnership with the city and promotes collaboration between the two largest consumers of taxpayer money. I look forward to the continued partnership with the city and our broader community.

3. The superintendent shall not fail to regularly survey staff perspectives on the support they receive to create high-quality learning environments for students. **IN COMPLIANCE**

Prior to the staff linkage, I conducted a survey to gain perspectives and worked to have data points to prompt ongoing conversations. The change for next year is to engage with the staff as to the design of the staff linkage. From input after the October linkage, it appears that perhaps moving to small group discussions, similar to the high school linkage, might be a way to have improved and meaningful conversations.

We have recently conducted an administrative linkage which will round out all the linkages for this year. The conversations with each group have been valuable and insightful as to the direction of the district as we continue to focus on mission critical work.