

## SUPPORT PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

*A continuous improvement document sponsored by the California Department of Education and  
Los Angeles County Office of Education*



# LOS ALAMITOS

## High School

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### Principal's Comments

*It is with great pride that I introduce Los Alamitos High School's first Support Personnel Accountability Report Card (SPARC). Our dedicated Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) collaborates with students, parents, and ALL staff to see that students reach our graduation goals of becoming academic achievers, complex thinkers, self-directed learners, and productive citizens. Our yearly surveys to students and parents validate our team's success in ensuring a safe and nurturing environment for all students. Aligned with the National Standards for School Counseling, the SSPT employs effective strategies to help students develop competencies in academic achievement, career planning, and personal/social development. With district support, we have developed our plan, hired two additional counselors, and have implemented the provisions of Assembly Bill (AB) 1802. By reducing our counselor caseloads by 175 students each we are able to expand our services and increase our personal contact. As highlighted in this document, we are proud of the work of our SSPT and will include this report card in our Los Alamitos High School (LAHS) Single Plan for School Achievement.*

### Student Support Personnel Team

The LAHS SSPT serves the largest public high school student population in Orange County and prides itself in cooperatively integrating services to equitably support all students. The SSPT is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the learning process and to delivering services to all students in the areas of academic achievement, career planning, and personal/social development. As the only comprehensive high school in the Los Alamitos Unified School District (LAUSD), the SSPT is accountable to all stakeholders, as it recognizes the importance of communication, teamwork, and cooperation with faculty, staff, parents, and the community. With over 596 years of combined educational experience, the SSPT is an exemplary team of 39 certificated and classified members who bring a wealth of education and experience to students. The SSPT members belong to appropriate professional organizations, participating in workshops and conferences throughout the year to keep abreast of current trends and practices. The nucleus of the SSPT is the counseling team. Counselors actively serve on teams, committees, and organizations at the school, district, and community levels as well as provide leadership by teaching post-graduate level students and mentoring interns. Counselors work collaboratively with other educators to design, coordinate, implement, and evaluate an equitable student support system that serves all students. Collaboration with other student support team members is an ongoing and invaluable process. To support student academic success, the SSPT collaborates with all academic departments and spearheads intervention programs designed to address attendance, discipline, and school safety concerns.

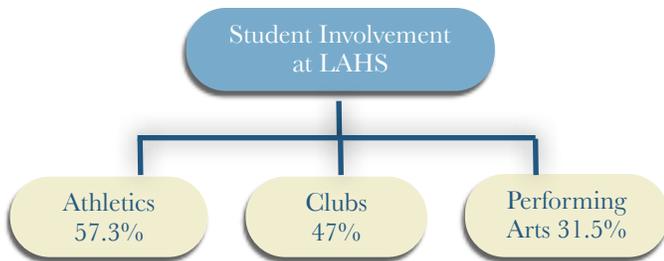
Team Members	Education/ Credentials	Team Members	Education/ Credentials
<b>Administrators (5)</b>	<b>Degrees:</b> 1 Ph.D., 5 MA/MS <b>Credentials:</b> 5 Admin., 6 Teaching, 1 PPS	<b>Health Services Personnel (4)</b>	<b>Degrees:</b> 1 BS, 1 AS <b>Credentials/ Certificates:</b> 1 School Health, 2 Registered Nurses, 1 Public Health Nurse, 1 Medical Asst.
<b>Counselors (7)</b>	<b>Degrees:</b> 7 MA/MS <b>Credentials:</b> 7 PPS, 2 Admin.		
<b>School Psychologist</b>	<b>Degrees:</b> MA <b>Credentials:</b> School Psychology, PPS, Admin., Teaching	<b>Intercept Coordinator</b>	<b>Degree:</b> BA <b>Credential:</b> Teaching
<b>Career Guidance Specialist</b>	<b>Degree:</b> MA <b>Credential:</b> Teaching	<b>Speech Pathologist</b>	<b>Degree:</b> MA <b>Credentials/ Certificates:</b> Clinical Rehabilitative Services, Clinical Competence
<b>School Resource Officer</b>	<b>Degree:</b> MA		
<b>Data Technician</b>	<b>Degree:</b> BA	<b>Assistants, Clerks, Secretaries, Techs (15)</b>	<b>Degrees:</b> 1 MA, 3 BA, 8 AA <b>Certificates:</b> 1 LVN 1 Business
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>Degree:</b> MA <b>Credential:</b> Teaching		
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Degree:</b> AA		

## School Climate and Safety

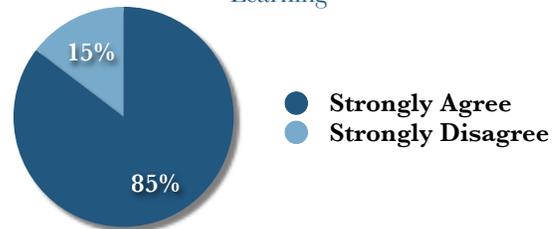
The SSPT is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment that fosters both academic achievement and personal growth for all students. One of our fundamental beliefs revolves around the notion that student success and an enriched experience in high school is directly linked to participation in extra-curricular activities; this is made clear to every parent and student beginning in the eighth grade. We are proud of our robust numbers as reported in the 2007 Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) report.

A safe climate is a high priority for the SSPT. Recent WASC reports and parent surveys substantiate the SSPT'S efforts to influence and support the campus milieu. Utilizing AB1802 funding, two credentialed counselors were added to the team. Following the reorganization of tasks, overall services were implemented to proactively engage and connect with ninth grade students, thus creating a more successful transition to the larger campus environment.

2007 WASC Report Student Survey  
On-Campus Student Involvement/Participation



2007 WASC Report Student Survey  
Student Perception of LAHS as a Safe Place that Nurtures Learning



LAHS offers many programs, services and activities. The SSPT works closely with these programs to establish a sense of safety and security for our students. Highlighted below are some of our support services that contribute to a safe school climate:

- Conflict Mediation - Students are trained and serve as mediators for disputes between students on campus
- Student Resource Officer (SRO) - On campus police officer who assists the SSPT
- Griffins With A Mission (GWAM) - Freshmen retreat that promotes tolerance and appreciation of diversity
- Drug Task Force - SSPT, community, and parent partnership dedicated to the education, intervention, and prevention of substance abuse
- Link Crew - Student run program providing transition support for new students
- Student Attendance and Review Board (SARB) - Meets with students and parents regarding excessive truancy and absences
- Intercept Program - After-school tutoring and study skills provided for identified 10<sup>th</sup> grade academically at risk students

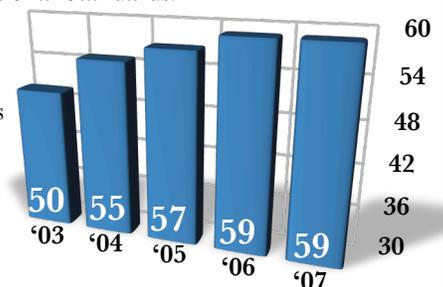
Furthermore, the counseling team aims to empower every student to develop and understand their own unique interests and abilities. Counselors, in close partnership with the College and Career Center, guide students towards relevant course selection and identification of post-secondary goals. As a result, students are instilled with a sense of direction and purpose, creating a thriving learning community where students can mature and develop freely.

## Student Results

A school's success is measured by concrete, student-generated results. The SSPT uses evaluative data to show how strategies result in positive change within all three domains of the American School Counselor (ASCA) National Standards.

### Academic Domain, Standard A:

Students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of substantial post-secondary options, including college. The SSPT encourages students to take a strong academic program to prepare them for college and the future. Counselors have yearly individual conferences with every student to discuss their program and classes for the next year. As students strive to be eligible for the University of CA (UC) and the CA State University (CSU) systems, the Award of Merit is awarded to seniors at graduation who complete the "a-g" sequence of high school courses required by the UC and CSU. The graph illustrates the significant increase in students who have earned the Award of Merit over the last five years.

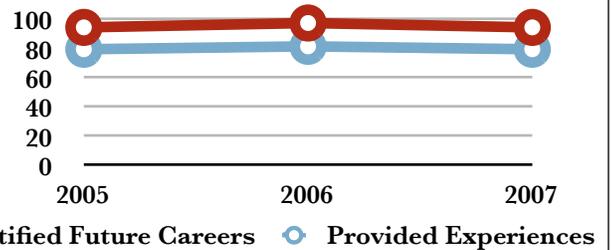


■ % of Seniors Completing the UC/CSU "a-g" Requirements

### Career Domain, Standard B:

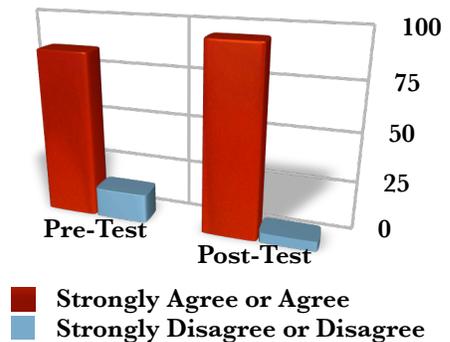
Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions. Every student is scheduled to visit the College and Career Center three times each year to complete career assessments, use internet-based resources, and follow up with the four-year planning process. Data collected from multiple internet based

career surveys is used to assess students' skills, interests, and abilities related to their future career choice. On the annual "Senior Stats Exit Survey", students responded to the question: "Do you feel that high school has provided you with experiences which may assist you in a future career?" The graph indicates that not only did over 80% of LAHS seniors report that they were provided with experiences to assist them in a future career, 95% also identified a future career choice.



### Personal/Social Domain, Standard C:

Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others. The SSPT promotes tolerance and understanding through various activities that assess both the student's own personal experiences and the social climate of the high school. Freshmen have the opportunity to attend the GWAM retreat. Grouped with trained student leaders, freshmen discuss personal experiences that relate to issues of prejudice, racism, intolerance, and hatred. The SSPT's goal is to raise awareness of these issues and give students the tools to stop any racism, hatred, or prejudice before it begins. Before and after the retreat, 200 freshmen were asked to respond to the statement: "There are ways that I can prevent racism on campus." The graph reflects a positive shift in student belief.



## Major Achievements

The SSPT is committed and dedicated to assisting all students in achieving their academic, personal/social, and post-secondary goals. The SSPT encourages and supports all students on their path toward success. The SSPT is actively involved in the major achievements listed below.

- Implementation and preliminary data collection of AB1802. Two full-time credentialed counselors have been hired to provide additional academic, career, and social/emotional support to further facilitate student success.
- Six year WASC accreditation. In the final WASC report the student support system was recognized as a school wide area of strength: "The strong counseling and guidance program provides ample support for the instructional program and personalized, systematic attention to every student."
- The graduation rate for the class of 2007 was 98.9%. Counselors develop, implement, and monitor an intervention plan for students in jeopardy of not graduating.

## Measurements

The SSPT utilizes a variety of assessment tools to determine the needs and interests in the academic, career, and personal/social domains. Data is used to help increase student achievement, expand opportunities, and promote student success.

### Academic Domain

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) – SSPT assists in test administration, student assessment, and intervention class placement for this graduation requirement.

California Standards Test (CST) – Analysis of data is used to track academic progress and ensure proper class placement of students.

College Entrance Exams (PSAT, PLAN, SAT, and ACT) – Students are encouraged to take these practice and college entrance exams to assess their aptitude for college-level work. The interest inventory component enables students to examine post-secondary educational and career options.

Advanced Placement (AP) Tests – LAHS offers 20 AP classes and encourages students to take the AP tests to assess their knowledge and earn college credit. Counselors assist with the organization of the testing.

California English Language Development Test (CELDT) – Students with a home language other than English are required to take this test to assess their English language proficiency. Counselors utilize test results to determine appropriate class placement.

Grade Reports – Counselors review grade reports every six weeks to identify students in need of academic intervention.

### Career Domain

Internet Based Career Assessment Surveys – SSPT assists students in completing these surveys which assess skills, interests, and abilities related to future career choices; it is also useful in developing the student's Four-Year Plan.

Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) – SSPT assists juniors and seniors who wish to take this exam and receive information concerning career interests and personal aptitudes.

### Personal/Social Domain

Student Study Team (SST) – SST meetings determine interventions for at risk students and/or referral for further assessment.

Health Screenings – School Nurse conducts health screenings to identify health barriers for academic success.

California Healthy Kids Survey – Analysis of survey helps SSPT address a wide range of personal and social issues for students.

## Community Partnerships

The SSPT's collaboration with community partners is a vital component of the culture of our community. In the academic domain, data is used to identify specific student needs, which are supported with one-on-one and group activities that promote academic success. In the career domain, local businesses, organizations, and community leaders support students to explore career options through a wide variety of experiences. The personal/social domain is supported by our credentialed counseling/guidance staff and enhanced by local community referrals throughout Orange County.

### Academic Domain

Intercept Program  
Tutoring  
Study Skills Seminar  
College Information Nights  
Access Alternate Program  
Orange County Department of Education  
Adult Education  
Laurel Continuation School  
Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA)  
College Board  
Princeton Review  
College Representatives  
Community Based Education Programs

### Career Domain

[www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com)  
[www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)  
Rotary Club  
Los Alamitos Area Chamber of Commerce  
North Orange County Regional Occupational Program (ROP)  
North Orange County Community College Tech Prep Consortium  
Vital Link of Orange County  
United States Department of Labor and Standards Workability  
Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006

### Personal/Social Domain

Los Alamitos/Seal Beach Police Department  
California Youth Services  
Pathways Volunteer Hospice  
Straight Talk Counseling  
Marriage Family Therapist Volunteer  
School Psychology Interns  
Orange County Children and Family Services  
Los Alamitos Medical Center  
Partnerships for Solutions  
College Hospital  
Casa Youth Shelter  
Safe Rides  
Every Fifteen Minutes

## Volunteer Involvement

LAHS is proud of the impressive number of parent volunteers who donate their time, money and energy in an effort to support all students. Our dynamic PTSA coordinates these parent volunteers, who provide business site visits, job shadowing, classroom speakers, mentors, clerical assistance, and fundraising support. To volunteer, please contact the PTSA Volunteer Chairperson: D'Arcy Kine, 562.596-6309, [kine@roadrunner.com](mailto:kine@roadrunner.com).

Formed in 1985, the Los Alamitos Education Foundation is a community-based, non-profit organization. Concerned community members work together to raise money to maintain and improve the quality of the Los Alamitos Unified School District schools. The Foundation is committed to fundraise for technology and other specialized projects. Contact information: Los Alamitos Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1210, Los Alamitos, CA 90720, Attention: Diana Hill, 562.594.4113, [dianahill@earthlink.com](mailto:dianahill@earthlink.com).

## Focus For Improvement

Our SSPT is deeply committed to continuous improvement and alignment with the National Standards for School Counselors and our school improvement plan. Two areas of improvement addressed by the WASC accreditation committee report of 2007 include:

- Improve academic achievement of our underrepresented students
- Increase information to students, parents, and the community on the dangers of drug and alcohol use

The SSPT will engage in thorough data analysis in an effort to strengthen our support services with a focus on the two identified areas above. As a first-year SPARC school we look forward to reporting our progress next year.

## Keeping You Informed

The SSPT is committed to ongoing, effective communication with the school community. Through personal, print, and electronic media, the SSPT keeps parents and students informed of upcoming events and important information. The SSPT communicates in our students' primary languages with the assistance of a multi-lingual staff and community resources. A copy of this SPARC will be distributed to all stakeholders: staff, district office administrators, local governing school board, and the community.

**Electronic Communication:** E-mail and voicemail for all staff (24 hour return call policy); the district website provides access to: LAHS, the Principal's Newsletter, Counseling Office, College and Career Center (CCC), Griffin Daily News, and CCC Weekly Bulletin; additional tools: Data Director, Grade Book Wizard, marquee, auto-dialer, and weekly video broadcasts.

**Personal Contact:** PTSA; individual student conferences annually (4-Year Plan, registration, senior college); classroom presentations; evening programs (college information, grade level parent information, study skills seminar, Gifted and Talented Education, English Language Advisory Committee with translators, School Site Council, Back to School Night, and Open House).

**In Print:** Yearly Parent and Student Handbook; Curriculum Handbook; ROP Class Schedule; Minder Binder; Griffin Daily News; Griffin Weekly and CCC Weekly Bulletin; Principal's Newsletter; Report Cards (weekly, quarterly, and semester); AB 1802 status letters sent home; bulletin boards on campus; resource lists (tutors, test preparation, counseling referrals); Career Pathway Cord information; SAT/ACT testing information; and LAHS School Profile.

**Los Alamitos High School**  
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**Counseling Office**  
College and Career Center  
7:30-4:00 PM