

School Board Response to 2019 Monitoring Report of Policy OE-9 (Learning Environment)

Reviewed by the School Board on July 30, 2019

Commendations

- The dramatic increase in the graduation rate over the course of the past five years is an important indicator that the learning environment in the District is “conducive to effective learning.”
- The work the District is doing to increase its focus on Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) and to implement a framework of Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS) has already begun to improve the learning environment for students and will likely continue to do so. The Board supports these initiatives.
- The references to equity throughout the report are noteworthy. The Board appreciates the way the District is working to keep this critical value/goal front and center.
- The overall depth and breadth of this report is commendable. The Board recognizes the obvious effort and thoughtfulness that went into creating it.

Recommendations

- While the graduation rate is an indicator that the learning environment in the District is “conducive to effective learning,” student achievement scores on state-mandated tests seem to tell a somewhat different story. While we acknowledge the small gains over last year, we are not fully satisfied with this year’s results.
- When reporting data like student achievement on standardized tests, we would like to see both trend data and comparison data from similar districts and/or the state. Without such context, it is difficult for us to evaluate the strength of the numbers that are presented.
- While we appreciate the color-coding of the text as a means of helping us navigate all of the information you have provided, we would prefer your narratives addressed each monitoring indicator individually. That is, we would like to see the indicator followed directly by your response to that particular indicator. Such a format would be easier for us to evaluate the District’s compliance with the policy. It would also allow us to assess the quality of the indicators we approved a year ago to determine whether some of them need to be changed and/or eliminated.

- We encourage you to look for way(s) to track cohorts of students as they progress through their school careers, particularly in terms of their social and emotional learning and its correlation with other indicators such as incidents of inappropriate behavior and referrals related to bullying.

Final Determination of the Board

It is our determination that the District's 2019 Monitoring Report on Policy OE-9 (Learning Environment) demonstrates significant compliance. We accept it as written.

Signature of the School Board President

Date

Signature of the Superintendent

Date