

Strategic Plan | Specific Result Report

Goal 8 Action Plan Year 2 Priorities – 2018-19

Call to Action:

Katy ISD learners, through active engagement, achieve individual success while making positive contributions in an ever-changing world.

Goal 8:

Katy ISD will actively support the emotional well-being of all learners.

Specific Result:

8.2 Create trainings and ongoing support, tailored to students, staff and parents, concerning emotional well-being.

8.3 Establish a system that proactively supports emotional well-being.

Summary Report:

A number of trainings and ongoing support structures are in place for Katy ISD stakeholder groups. One of these is the newly developed Legacy Parent Academy(LPA). The 2018- 19 LPA sessions have reached a documented 4,011 participants. The sessions have provided information on a broad spectrum of social-emotional learning topics including emotional well-being, mental health services, preparing for successful transition between educational levels, parenting in the digital age, bullying and human trafficking.

Based on the positive feedback received from this year's sessions, planning for the 2019-20 LPA is underway. Sessions will include topics suggested from patrons via in-session and online feedback. Career & Technical Education programs, post-secondary career pathways, and opportunities for special education students are topics being considered.

To build a team of trained staff prepared to recognize and respond to social-emotional needs, professional learning opportunities for school counselors were held monthly throughout the 2018-19 school year. Trainings on strategies and interventions for prominent mental health concerns impacting school-age children included substance abuse, anxiety, depression, suicide prevention and intervention, non-suicidal self-harm, bullying, post-traumatic stress, and grief.

In addition to eight district personnel currently trained as certified trauma practitioners, 55 Katy ISD school counselors are undergoing Level 1 trauma practitioner certification training, with 50 counselors who will also complete Level 2 advanced certification. All trainings will be complete by the end of July, with the goal of establishing trauma-informed practices throughout the District. Trauma-informed practices are evidence based, which acknowledge and address the social-emotional needs of all school

stakeholders, leading to a healthier school climate, higher academic achievement, fewer behavioral issues and reduced disciplinary infractions.

Activities and structures to support the components of Goal 8 will continue into the 2019- 20 school year. These activities include researching reporting apps to identify a single method for allowing students and patrons to anonymously report a variety of concerns including potential violence, bullying, illegal drugs, sexual assault, suicide and self-harm. This method will potentially consolidate and streamline current reporting structures. In addition, training will continue for counselors, LSSPs, district and campus based staff to positively support the emotional well-being of all learners.