



PASO ROBLES
JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
THE DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: CURT DUBOST
800 NIBLICK ROAD
PASO ROBLES, CA 93446
Tel: (805) 769-1000 Fax: (805) 237-3339
WWW.PASOSCHOOLS.ORG

July 12, 2023

sent via email grandjury@co.slo.ca.us

Corine Ellsworth, Foreperson
2022-23 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 4910
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-4910

Cc: PRJUSD Board of Trustees
Re: Grand Jury Report: "Are High Schools Making the Grade at Addressing Mental Health?" submitted June 12, 2023

Dear Foreperson Ellsworth:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury report submitted on June 12, 2023.

Findings

We agree with the Findings numbered F1 – F12.

Recommendations

R2. School administrators need to extend the mental health curriculum beyond the Freshman health class within the 2023-24 school year.

The recommendation has been implemented. Counselors currently implement suicide prevention curricula in grades 6-12. Additionally, the Xello program recently purchased for grades 6-12 includes SEL lessons which may be integrated into tutorial periods.

R4. Utilize more externally developed programs to maximize mental health and substance abuse prevention, i.e., FNL, Red Ribbon Week, and Every 15 Minutes.

The recommendation has been implemented. Paso Robles Joint Unified School District (PRJUSD) implements Friday Night Live, Red Ribbon Week, Every 15 Minutes, and we are in the process of contracting with San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health to provide substance abuse counseling on-site.

Link Crew and WEB (We're Every Student Belongs) transition programs are utilized at both middle schools and PRHS. PRHS implemented Rachel's Challenge in 2022. In collaboration with SLOCOE, Paso Robles High School (PRHS) implemented TUPE (Tobacco Use and Prevention Education) presentation (Robb Holladay), including substance abuse.

Additionally, the Pupil Attitudes to Self and School (PASS), used as a universal screener, is implemented to all students in grades K-12 to maintain awareness and efficient response systems to students' self-reported feelings about themselves and connectedness to school.

R5. More campus staff and teachers need to be trained in Youth Mental Health, First Aid, or an equivalent program within the next school year.





PASO ROBLES
JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
THE DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: CURT DUBOST
800 NIBLICK ROAD
PASO ROBLES, CA 93446
Tel: (805) 769-1000 Fax: (805) 237-3339
WWW.PASOSCHOOLS.ORG

The recommendation will be implemented for the 2023-24 school year. We plan to train all staff in trauma-informed practices and will explore Youth Mental Health First Aid for implementation.

[Youth Mental Health First Aid Overview](#)

All Certificated staff can review baseline training during professional development or staff meetings with target personnel being trained for targeted intervention. Classified staff can be trained during district release time. The counseling team will advise and support the training of staff from their professional training and experience.

R6. Work toward a full-time SRO at all high schools.

The recommendation has been implemented. PRJUSD has two full-time SROs, one specifically at the high school level and one for the middle schools. For 2023-24, we have budgeted for a third SRO and Paso Robles Police Department is attempting to fill this position.

R7. Where possible, employ full-time permanent mental health staff at every high school.

The recommendation has been implemented. PRHS has 1.5 mental health staff, and the continuation high school has .5 mental health staff. PRHS also maintains a full-time Well Space staffed with a Social Worker with a Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) credential.

R8. Provide widespread training of campus staff on Narcan use within the 2023-24 school year.

The recommendation has been implemented and will continue to be implemented. PRJUSD trained all health personnel and administration with Narcan and will train the remaining staff in 2023-24.

R9. All campuses should make an anonymous bullying reporting program available within the 2023-24 school year.

The recommendation has been implemented. All school websites have an anonymous tip line to report bullying, and PRHS has an anonymous call/text line to report bullying or any other safety concerns on campus. Additionally, the PRJUSD Lightspeed filtering system reports incidents of profanity and/or self-harm language to appropriate staff members in a timely manner to respond to safety or bullying issues occurring online.

R10. Suicide awareness training needs to be conducted annually for teachers, staff, and students.

The recommendation has been implemented. Signs of Suicide training is provided to all students and certificated staff in grades 6-12. PRJUSD will expand training in the 2023-24 school year to Classified and elementary staff.

This response was approved by the Board of Trustees at their July 11, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

Respectfully,

Dr. Curt Dubost, Superintendent