

# **Alameda Unified School District Mental Health Needs Assessment**

**January 23, 2018**

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# Needs Assessment Purpose

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The purpose of this Needs Assessment is to:

- Identify student behavioral and physical health needs.
- Inventory existing school and community-based services, as well as gaps in services.
- Develop recommendations to create a more coordinated and integrated behavioral health service system, and to make services more accessible to all students.

# Key Questions

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The Needs Assessment will assess needs and strengths related to the six School Based Behavioral Health model components. The following are potential questions that will be considered by the Steering Committee:

- *What are the student behavioral and physical health needs across the tiers? **(Three Tiers of Support)***
- *What are the existing health and wellness services (including behavioral health) across the district (inventory of services)? What are the funding streams? What services are available for referral in the community? Where are there gaps in service? **(Three Tiers of Support, Coordination Strategies)***
- *Using a broad definition of “behavioral health” supports – what additional efforts could help to create a more positive environment for youth? **(School-Wide Responsibility, Three Tiers of Support, Cultural Responsiveness)***

# Key Questions, continued...

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- *Are the School Based Health Centers accessible to all students? What are the barriers? How are services coordinated with the High Schools? (**Three Tiers of Support, Cultural Responsiveness, Coordination Practices**) What does the data indicate about the BH needs of students across ethnic, gender, immigration, and socio-economic status, and what are the specific barriers for underserved populations (for example, Socio-Economically Disadvantaged, Spanish-speaking, undocumented, African-American students)? (**Cultural Responsiveness**)*
- *How can these services be better coordinated and integrated both on school campuses and throughout the district? (**Coordination Strategies**)*
- *How well is the Health and Wellness system held by the district as a whole? How aligned is the district around implementing a common vision? (**District Capacity**)*
- *How do we define a base program for all schools? How do we sustain (financially) a base program at all tiers? (**District Capacity**)*

# Assessment Plan Timeline

2017-2018 Activities	Estimated Timeline
<i>Develop Draft Scope of Assessment</i>	August, 2017
<i>Create Committee:</i> Invite stakeholders to the Alameda Needs Assessment Steering Committee	September, 2017
<b>Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Share Draft Needs Assessment Plan:</i> Steering Committee to finalize goals, timeline, and guiding questions</li> <li>• <i>Data Collection Plan:</i> Determine next steps and who will be responsible for carrying out data collection</li> <li>• <i>Sub-Committee to Review Tools:</i> Identify 4-5 people to review tools by October 1</li> </ul>	October, 2017
<i>Review Data Collection Tools:</i> Sub-Committee to approve plan, give feedback on tools	November, 2017
<i>Finalize Needs Assessment and Tools:</i> Based on feedback from Steering Committee revise and finalize assessment plan and tools	November, 2017
<i>Collect Data:</i> Collect data from primary and secondary data sources	Mid-December-February, 2018
<i>Planning Meeting:</i> Update on data collection, trouble shooting, next steps	Mid-January, 2018
<i>Analyze/Summarize:</i> Conduct analysis, summarize findings	February, 2018
<i>Present Findings and Develop Recommendations:</i> Present findings and develop recommendations with the Steering Committee	Mid-March, 2018
<i>Prepare Report</i>	April, 2018
<i>Present to Stakeholders</i>	May, 2018

# Key Stakeholder Surveys

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We will be surveying the following groups:

- Parents
- Staff
- Students

Surveys cover the following topics:

- Emotional support needs of our students
- Programs offered
- School climate
- Individual and group counseling needs

# Needs Assessment Focus Groups

As part of that planning, we are interested in hearing what key stakeholders think about health issues and services in the school community/district. To get a better sense of the needs of our district, we will be conducting focus groups with the following groups of people:

Students	Parents	Key Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 groups at each high school</li><li>• 2 groups at each middle school</li><li>• 2 groups at the following elementary schools:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Otis</li><li>– Haight</li><li>– Paden</li><li>– Ruby Bridges</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alameda Boys and Girls Club</li><li>• LEAPS at Haight Elementary School</li><li>• Alameda Island Kids at Edison Elementary School</li><li>• Alameda Point Collaborative</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• District Staff:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Principals and Assistant Principals</li><li>– Psychologists</li><li>– Behaviorists</li><li>– Health Office Assistants</li><li>– Teacher Intervention Leads</li></ul></li><li>• Alameda Family Services mental health providers</li></ul>

# Focus Groups

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## The focus groups will cover the following topics:

- What are the most pressing concerns for families/students in Alameda?
- What are the biggest emotional or behavioral health issues for students in your community?
- What are the biggest barriers to students accessing behavioral health care services at school?
- If the school were to offer more programs or supports to help students who are feeling sad, lonely, depressed, or angry, what do you think would be helpful?
- How welcoming is the school as a place for students to learn? How supported do families/students feel?
- What is the best way to get information to parents/students so they can know about behavioral and medical health services at the school?
- How culturally responsive do you think school and community programs are for families/students in your community?
- What other suggestions do you have to improve the health and well-being of students in the district and/or your child's school?
- In what ways can the school district and other partners help parents and families support their students' health and learning?



# Next Steps and Timeline

<i>Conduct surveys and hold focus groups</i>	<b>January/February, 2018</b>
<i>Analyze/Summarize:</i> Conduct analysis, summarize findings	<b>February, 2018</b>
<i>Present Findings and Develop Recommendations:</i> Present findings and develop recommendations with the Steering Committee	<b>Mid-March, 2018</b>
<i>Prepare Report</i>	<b>April, 2018</b>
<i>Present to Stakeholders</i>	<b>May, 2018</b>

# AUSD Mental Health Needs Assessment

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Questions?