

To: Board of Education

From: Kevin Harrell, Director Student Services
Jose Cornejo, Mental Health Facilitator

Re: USD 497 Mental Health Update to BOE

Date: May 29, 2018

Background:

The Board of Education has strongly supported mental programming in all of our buildings. The purpose of this programming is to support district service providers, students, staff and a healthy school environment. Building mental health teams, with the support from the mental health facilitator, assess the needs of students and provide supports to address the social-emotional and behavioral health needs of all students.

School-based interventions and the coordination of community services allow district staff to refer students to services to meet their long-term needs. Collaborating with community service providers benefits the school district, students, families and the community.

Report:

The report will summarize current programming, highlight accomplishments and share the benefits the district is realizing with this initiative. Each of the 21 buildings has a mental health team whose task is to promote mental health interventions and services to students and educate staff on mental health issues and the impact on school climate and learning. The report will highlight some of the interventions staff have implemented, professional development opportunities provided to educate staff on specific mental health topics, and commitment to integrating mental health interventions into the Ci3T framework.