

To: Board of Education

From: Anna Stubblefield, interim superintendent
Julie Boyle, executive director, communications

Re: Patron Insight Survey Results Report

Date: January 4, 2018

Background:

As part of the Lawrence Board of Education's 2017-18 excellence, equity and engagement goals, specifically Goal 2a1: "Use fall/spring surveys to gather feedback from students and annual surveys to gauge staff, parent and community opinions," the board contracted Patron Insight, Inc., to conduct a scientific community telephone survey, as well as online employee, parent and community surveys.

The district's Student Support Services Department continues to work with the Child Behavior Lab at the University on a research study that will include regular surveying of students about how friends, activities and school influence their feelings and behaviors; social support and experiences of bullying and other negative life events. This information will help university researchers and the district to identify ways to improve the school environment by reducing bullying and other negative behaviors. Due to challenges encountered in the fall with obtaining a critical mass of parental consent forms for the student survey, it will be launched in the spring.

Interim Superintendent Anna Stubblefield, school board officers Shannon Kimball and Jessica Beeson, board member Rick Ingram, Executive Director of Communications Julie Boyle and Assistant Director of Student Support Services Leah Weseman met with Ken DeSieghardt, CEO of Patron Insight, Inc., in the fall to develop a comprehensive staff, parent and community survey. The survey includes a variety of school climate and experience questions, in addition to questions about current topics under discussion by the board (e.g. school calendar, school start times, internet access, food insecurity, etc.).

On October 30, 2017, Patron Insight began calling residents within the boundaries of USD 497 in order to conduct the telephone survey. Since the telephone survey would not reach all patrons, the district shared invitations with employees, parents and the community at-large to participate in online versions of the survey between November 15-December 8, 2017.

Ken DeSieghardt, CEO of Patron Insight, Inc., will provide the board a formal report detailing the results of the scientific telephone survey, as well as staff, parent and community input collected via the online surveys.

Recommendation:

None.