

Monitoring Report - Ends Policy  
E-1, District Mission

### **BOARD POLICY EXPECTATION**

The mission of the La Center School District is to create a supportive learning environment that empowers students to reach their fullest potential. We will do this in partnership with families, the community, staff and students to develop confident and self-reliant life-long learners who can thrive in a rapidly changing, more technologically advanced and diverse society.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby present my monitoring report on Ends Policy E-1 “District Mission” in accordance with the monitoring schedule set forth in board policy. I certify that the information contained in this report is true as of October 20th, 2016.

Dave Holmes, Superintendent

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S INTERPRETATION OF POLICY**

I interpret the district mission to serve as a written description of the overarching purpose of the organization as well as the manner in which district personnel will operate in the process of accomplishing this overarching purpose. The results are to be derived from the creation and/or maintenance of a supportive learning environment for students and staff that produce evidence seen to create confident, self-reliant, life-long learners. To accomplish this goal, we create ownership by involving stakeholders in all facets of the operations of the district. This is created with a flat or shared leadership model that allows and expects everyone to offer a voice and creative mind to the challenges that we face daily. We operate on the three legged stool model of ownership- student, teacher and parent.

### **REPORT – IN COMPLIANCE**

I believe that there are two directives or overarching goals constructed inside the boards mission statement. The first is to provide environments throughout the school district that give students the best opportunity to reach their fullest potential both before they graduate and after. The second goal is to reach out and bring in stakeholders from all across the district to provide support, give input, and create ownership in those learning environments.

As evidence that points to compliance in the first directive, I’d sight a number of data points that are more clearly communicated in Ends 2. They include but are not limited to, our graduation rate, our success on the statewide assessment at the 10th and 11th grade level and the huge sum of scholarships that were offered to our graduates last year to name just a few. These are three indicators that clearly demonstrate that a 13 year student career in La Center School District prepares our youth to both be their best and to ready them for the future.

The second directive is to include and partner with our stakeholders from across the district. When I returned this year, we put into place what I call a flat leadership model. This structure

provides opportunity for all stakeholders to build ownership around decisions and initiatives by encouraging involvement and voice in the trajectory of the district and our Ends Policies. I would cite as an example the large community turnout we had for the first school bond discussion last month and the number of surveys returned in response. Another indicator is simply the 135 parents and community members names that I was able to derive from volunteer participation across the district to create a bond committee roster.

In the final analysis, I believe we have consistently worked to advance toward accomplishing the expectations articulated in this Ends Policy. We continue to maintain a strong on-time graduation rate at one of the lowest cost per student to the taxpayers across the state. This achievement is being done through striving to improve our own practice as learning environment leaders in partnership with stakeholders.