Monitoring Report - Executive Limitations Policy
EL-3, Treatment of Parents, Students, and the Public

BOARD POLICY EXPECTATION

With respect to interactions with stakeholders (parents, students, and the public), the Superintendent shall not fail to ensure that parents, students and the public are treated with respect and dignity at the district level and within each school and classroom.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby present my monitoring report on Executive Limitations Policy EL-3 "Treatment of Parents, Students, and the Public" in accordance with the monitoring schedule set forth in board policy. I certify that the information contained in this report is true as of August 24th, 2010.

Mark Mansell, Superintendent

SUPERINTENDENT'S INTERPRETATION OF POLICY

I interpret this expectation regarding the Treatment of Parents, Students, and the Public to mean the board believes the district must interact, support and communicate with the stakeholders of the district in a positive and supportive manner. This way of doing business must be done in a manner that builds upon the good will the district enjoys and further strengthens the partnerships that will enhance student success.

REPORT

There are six specific areas described in this policy. The following will address each specific area of EL-3 as best as possible. At the time of this report, I believe that the district is in compliance with the Board's expectations.

1. ***The superintendent shall not use methods of managing that fail to protect confidential information.*** **IN COMPLIANCE**
   To meet the expectations of this policy, we have several records storage areas throughout the district that are secure and locked as part of the normal business operations. File cabinets containing confidential information are also locked and secured in a manner consistent with this expectation. During my building walkthroughs, I consistently find these areas secured and staff attentive to maintaining security of confidential information, which tells me this is their normal practice. We continue to dispose of properly all confidential information once it has surpassed its useful and regulatory life through contracting with a commercial shredding company that comes on-site to dispose of these documents. All this gives me full confidence that I am in compliance with this board expectation.

2. ***The Superintendent shall not fail to provide for effective handling of complaints.*** **<u>IN COMPLIANCE</u>**
   Engagement of our stakeholders is a critical part of our responsibility. My Ends-1 monitoring report clearly articulated my view that this is a real strength of our district. As in past years, our work in math has drawn a fair amount of energy as we moved from our old instructional materials to new materials. At the high school, this transitioning in conjunction with increasing our graduation requirements for last year's incoming freshman created extra energy when some of our students began to struggle. The high school staff and administration moved to meet these concerns by providing additional supports, creating new classes and schedules as well as provide summer fill-in session to help those recover both missed skills and meet their credit requirements without having to take the whole course over again for those who did not pass freshman math. All this shows that district staff listened, modified and supported when concerns were raised.

3. ***The Superintendent shall not fail to appropriately involve stakeholders in an advisory capacity in important issues which impact them directly; nor fail to provide to district advisory groups, such as those formed for curriculum, facilities, and levy/bond matters, a formal charter document advising each such group of its purpose, organization and functions.*** **<u>IN COMPLIANCE</u>**
   Our patrons are very involved and in fact are seen as essential in shaping the positive future of the district. Whether it is through PTO, District Advisory Committee, Food Services Advisory Committee, Community, Staff and Student Linkage meetings, Town Hall meetings, Student Learning Improvement Committee, Curriculum Advisory Committees, etc., we seek stakeholders involvement and absolutely need their help to make recommendations and/or decisions. As a specific additional example of meeting this expectation a Technology for Learning Task Force (TLTF) was formed as a result of our recent unsuccessful technology levy. The TLTF's purpose is to survey the current state of technology within the district and to paint a picture of what is possible as a future pathway for the district to proceed in support of preparing our students for success. A report from the TLTF is scheduled to be ready for the board in January.

4. ***The Superintendent shall not fail to take reasonable steps to inform stakeholders of those policies and procedures that impact them.*** **<u>IN COMPLIANCE</u>**
   The district has and continues to work hard to develop better ways to engage stakeholders prior to, during and after policies and procedures are put into place. The core of our strategy is to do this work in a face-to-face, personal manner. This way is a cornerstone of "the La Center way" of doing business. Beyond our work to build upon this distributed decision making model, we continue to share information via our district website, letters, post card notices, reader boards and email to engage stakeholders in this work. I am confident that our efforts and the resulting progress meets the expectations of this policy.

5. ***The Superintendent shall not fail to offer a nutritious school breakfast/lunch program, which incorporates federal/state guidelines and includes age-appropriate measures to encourage healthy eating habits.*** **IN COMPLIANCE**
The district continues to have a strong record of meeting both the state and federal nutritional guidelines as required by law. With that said, thanks to the efforts of many stakeholders who have put significant energy into our collective efforts to raise the bar above what is required by current nutritional standards the district will begin this Fall to explore new nutritional standards. This effort will begin within the breakfast part of our food service program first as a way to experiment the impacts of these changes have with our students (i.e. purchasing decisions, fiscal impacts to budget, etc.). This is without a doubt a work in progress but I believe we are headed in the right direction. This work does require significant changes in our food service program, and of all these I believe it will require our staff to think differently. Our crew is hard working and dedicated, but these changes will require significant adjustments and a shift in thinking. Therefore, even though I believe I am in full compliance with this expectation, we are not where I expect this part of our program to be and will increase my energy to see that this new endeavor is given full attention.

6. ***The Superintendent shall not fail to facilitate orderly and appropriate public access to the Board, and to ensure timely and appropriate follow-up in response to expressed public input.*** **IN COMPLIANCE**
As you know, your board agenda provides significant opportunity for public comments and access. Your linkage meetings are a clear example of the public's opportunity to provide input. Additional to this, since the entire board packets are now shared in a digital form accessible online, the public's information base from which to make comments have also gained strength through greater access. All this has allowed for the facilitation of orderly and appropriate public access to the board in order to be compliant with this expectation.