

Agenda Item:	II B: Information/Discussion Item
Date:	April 13, 2023
To:	Magnolia Educational & Research Foundation dba Magnolia Public Schools (“MPS”) Educational Partners & Development Committee (the “Committee”)
From:	Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent
Staff Lead(s):	Dr. Brenda D. Lopez, Chief External Officer
RE:	Outreach & Communications Department Update

**Action Proposed:**

No action is needed. This item is informational only

**Purpose:**

The outreach and communication department manages several projects throughout the school year that tie into various priority items for MPS, including enrollment, family and community engagement opportunities, charter renewal process, development and advocacy.

**Background:**

The Chief External Officer and Chief Executive Officer/ Superintendent meet regularly to discuss pressing items in the various priority areas mentioned above. Last school year, MPS applied for the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) grant. As of this school year all 10 MPS sites have been funded, including Magnolia Science Academy San Diego, which were selected for the funding this school year and will work on rolling out the project in the upcoming school year. This school year we applied for the CCSPP Implementation Grant to continue to fund the work of creating and supporting the Community School model at our school sites.

**Analysis:**

One of the essential elements in establishing a strong foundation for a community school is to lead an assets and needs assessment which gathers information from all three educational partner groups families, staff and students. Additionally, each Community School Coordinator (CSC) held focus groups and empathy interviews to triangulate the data. The triangulation of data supports the opportunity to validate the common findings during the analysis of the responses. There were common needs and assets identified across all school sites and they include assets: small class sizes, caring and supportive staff, and availability of staff when supporting the needs of families: resources related to financial literacy, state and federal funding to support housing, and continued extended learning opportunities. In the upcoming May board meeting families will provide testimonials on how the work of the Community Schools initiative has impacted their experience with the learning environment Magnolia has to offer.

**Impact:**

The benefit of the community school model will have an increased impact on access to resources and partnerships which will have lasting positive impacts on student well-being.

**Budget Implications:**

When implementation grants are awarded we will focus on hiring a Director of Community Schools to manage the project across the organization.

**Exhibits:** None