



Date: 1/23/20

To: Navigator Schools Board of Directors

From: Kirsten Carr

Subject: Protect and Grow Update, Winter 2020

The Navigator Schools' Support Office continues to focus on a strong first year at Watsonville Prep School while also maintaining a clear eye on protecting the success of Gilroy and Hollister Prep Schools.

Although Watsonville Prep School started with a clear understanding setting school culture and dealing with social emotional issues would be the first steps all staff needed to take, it has still shown incredible overall academic growth. MAP scores for students in first and second grade significantly outperform their peers across the country with Kindergarten math scores also outperforming their national peers.

Watsonville Prep School has identified chronic absenteeism as their biggest area of concern at the present time. To address this issue, the leadership team, in conjunction with the Student Services and Engagement and Partnership teams, has implemented the following action steps:

- Monthly perfect attendance ceremonies
- Daily rewards for classes with perfect attendance
- Daily phone calls to any student who is absent
- Home visits to families with high percentages of absences

Gilroy Prep School was named a California Distinguished School with founding teachers, members of the Support Office, and Dr. Flores, Gilroy Unified School District Superintendent, attending the ceremony in Anaheim next month. Transcend Education brought forty educators to the GPS campus early in January to study Navigator's growth mindset and process it takes for

continual improvement. This tour included teachers from traditional and charter public schools as well as both Hollister School District and Pajaro Valley Unified School District. Hollister Prep School also hosted a large group of educators through the Innovate Public Schools Fellows program, which included teachers and administrators from both public charter schools and traditional schools. These tours represent opportunities for further collaboration as well as possible leads for model providing.

Finally, Navigator Schools has received recent positive press with articles in The 74, EdSource, and the Gilroy Dispatch.