



**Date:** June 9, 2020  
**To:** Board of Directors  
**Submitted By:** Kirsten Carr  
**Subject:** Stakeholder Engagement Task Force Update

### **Background**

As Navigator works to design and create the format and model for our schools for the next school year, the Stakeholder Engagement Task Force has been working to ensure all voices are heard during this time. In addition, the task force has been working to provide support and services for families struggling with this new normal.

### **Actions**

The Stakeholder Engagement Task Force, made up of members of the Student Services and Engagement teams, had several areas of focus which included relaying information to and gathering information from the various impacted parties as well as providing this feedback to the other task forces.

### **District Coordination**

As the actions of our local districts will have an impact on Navigator activities, staff members have been actively participating in weekly meetings with other educators from San Benito and Santa Cruz counties as well as being in regular contact with Gilroy Unified School District. These meetings have been beneficial as sources of information as well as providing opportunities for long term collaboration.

### **Parent Outreach**

Parents across the three sites have been greatly impacted by the distance learning delivery of education for the past three months and will continue to be impacted by the various models being discussed for the next school year. Families have received regular updates on COVID-related activities through emails, ParentSquare messages, and social media. They have also participated in COVID-related surveys regarding Navigator's response and their thoughts for areas of improvement. Staff attended virtual parent coffees to provide updates and answer questions. Navigator will be hosting virtual town hall meetings on June 17th to provide the most current information and answer parent questions.

In addition to providing details about 2020-21 plans, the task force is also working on ways to help parents be true partners in the distance learning journey. Navigator has launched a parent Facebook group to provide a forum for blended learning questions and other distance learning challenges. Zoom office hours and parent classes will be launched in August 2020 to go hand-in-hand with the launch of the new educational model.

The task force will be in close contact with site office staff to engage immediately, if needed, to increase enrollment due to families choosing to pull children for any reason.

### **Family Support Services**

Families are continuing to face numerous challenges as unemployment numbers rise. The task force has continued to follow up with families identified as needing assistance beyond educational support. Communication through ParentSquare and social media has included meal assistance opportunities, community service resources, and mental health referrals.

### **Organizational Culture**

For an organization with culture at the top of its compass, navigating through Zoom meetings, physical separation, and additional responsibilities while also maintaining a strong relationship with one another is paramount and challenging.

The Directors and Chiefs (DC) have continued to attend the daily Zoom site huddles to both listen to the needs of sites and share any cascading messages from the daily DC meetings. The weekly all-staff Zoom meetings have provided a vehicle for both complete transparency as well as staff bonding. The task force subcommittees all provide reports which include Q-and-A periods as well as polls to gauge support on various models. Break-out rooms have been utilized to have in-depth conversations on various aspects of the proposed models and the feedback then incorporated into the next iteration. The team games, dance contests, and fun activities have both created a stronger tie among staff, the occasional sharing of them on social media has provided smiles for students and families alike.

Staff opinion has been solicited numerous times on all aspects of current distance learning activities as well as future suggestions. A staff town hall will be held on Friday, June 12 to share the proposed models the board will be reviewing as well as provide one last chance for staff input before they disperse for the summer.