

Oct 11 Engagement Workshop Themes

Vision takeaways

- Language that resonated with participants includes critical thinking, inspired, equity-driven, courageous, and “taking on challenges to make a difference.”
- Participants suggested ideas related to curiosity, creativity, life-long learning, responsibility, individuality, and being “open to experiences different from their own.”
- Feedback was also shared about the need to simplify the statement, and to ensure a common understanding of terminology.

→ ***Vision rewrite suggestions from participants***

We produce graduates who are courageous leaders, ready to take on challenges and make a difference.

In recognition of our complex and interconnected world, PUSD students will be compassionate, courageous problem solvers.

Mission takeaways

- Concepts such as inclusive, equitable, excellent education, broad-based, social-emotional, and exemplary staff resonated with participants.
- Ideas that participants wanted to see represented were self-knowledge and awareness, empathy and compassion, rigor, and real-life skills.
- Clarity is needed to note that inclusivity includes special ed, neurodiversity, and different learning styles.
- Additional feedback included simplifying the mission; including definitions for common understanding of terms; social-emotional curriculum is intrusive and collectivist; and importance of the district using mission statements every day.

→ ***Mission rewrite suggestions from participants***

To be compassionate and courageous problem solvers, PUSD will provide students with a broad-based, rigorous academic curriculum, and a social-emotional curriculum that recognizes the complexities of human experience and how to care for themselves and those with whom we share our world.

Core Values takeaways

- Participants liked values and language related to integrity, equity, inclusion, curiosity, academic excellence, growth mindset, and media literacy.
- Ideas that participants want to see represented include confidence, empathy, adaptability, communication, good listener, cooperation, and “ability to navigate the world.”
- Other feedback included a suggestion for a glossary of terms; and notation that students learn courage, integrity, work ethic, and love of humanity outside of school.

→ **Core Values rewrite suggestions from participants**

Delete “growth-mindset” and “risk-taking”

Add “preparation for college and career” to Academic Excellence

Change “partnerships” to “collaboration” or “relationships”

Compassion: historical context is key to understanding the current perspectives of people and the problems we face. As a foundation to support the other core values, students must have compassion that recognizes the perspective of others.

Curiosity: To solve our current and future problems, student will need to question the status quo, and think creatively to solve them. Curiosity is the foundation for these mindsets.

Competence: Students must have a mastery of the fundamentals that govern our complex world. Content must include traditional academic subjects, media and technology, and cultural competence. Curriculum will also include skills to care for themselves and others, in recognition that we are emotional and social beings that require a healthy spirit to fulfill our potential.

Courage: Students must be bold in their approach to problem solving, as there is never agreement about problems and solutions. Students must accept that failure is a necessary part of progress, and that doing the right thing is often difficult.

Community: Creating the environment necessary to develop students to be compassionate and courageous problem solvers, all involved in the community (administration, teachers, staff, students, families, and other community members) must work together in a collaborative and respectful way, with transparency.

Oct 19 Engagement Workshop Themes

Vision takeaways

- The words “Ready to take on challenges and make a difference” resonated the most with participants and was suggested as a stand alone for the vision statement. “Critical thinking”, “inspired”, and “equity” also resonated strongly with those present.
- A desire for greater specificity or definition of words that could have varied interpretations, such as “making a difference”, “courageous”, “equity driven”, “leaders”.
- Add resilience, global citizens who are able to navigate a diverse, complex, and changing world.
- Others eschewed the charge to become leaders and instead discover a strong sense of self and purpose, honor different paths, be self aware and reach full potential in an area of their own interest.

→ ***Vision rewrite suggestions from participants***

To develop creative, curious thinkers and problem solvers who are prepared to become responsible, ethical, and productive global citizens.

Our vision is an equitable and inclusive educational environment that supports academic excellence and social emotional growth for all students and staff.

Inspired to be courageous across all endeavors.

Mission

- An “*educational environment that supports academic excellence and social emotional growth for all*” resonated with many.
- Participants proposed expanding *exemplary staff*, to include qualities such as caring, highly professional and well supported staff, who share with students a joy of learning and a world class education.
- A number suggested changes to wording, such as replacing passive words “provides” and “delivered” to something more active and child centered, such as “foster”, “dedicated to”, “prepare”. Also, greater clarity and specificity around the meaning of “broad-based”, “exemplary”, “excellent”, “equitable”, “environment”.

→ ***Mission rewrite suggestions from participants***

We offer a rigorous, comprehensive academic and social-emotional curriculum delivered by highly engaged staff in a caring, safe, and inclusive environment.

Our mission is to educate, empower, and inspire all students to become independent learners, prepared to take on complex challenges and contribute to an ever-changing world.

PUSD continually challenges itself to provide all students with an excellent education and opportunities for personal growth, delivered by skilled, diverse, and well-supported staff, in a school community that is inclusive, welcoming and inspiring.

Provide our students with a strong educational foundation and a nurturing inclusive environment that enables them to become resilient, well rounded people that will make this world a better place.

Core Values Takeaways

- The core value that resonated most was “Integrity.”
- Some suggested paring down the list of seven to five or fewer.
- Though it is not supposed to be hierarchical, order does matter.
- Terms to define or replace: “growth mindset” and “media literacy”
- Clarity about what the values should be and for whom.

→ Core Values rewrite suggestions from participants

Replace “Equity” with “Inclusion,” “Academic Excellence” with “Excellence,” and “Growth Mindset” and/or “Courage” with “Resilience.”