

“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

- Nelson Mandela

Dear Culver City Community Leader,

Please accept this invitation to our first Whole Child – Whole Community event! You have been invited due to your personal and/or professional investment in the health of our community, our families, our children.

Recently, a small group of district and community leaders gathered to begin developing a deeper understanding of the children we serve – their strengths, passions, hopes, dreams, goals AND the many barriers to this great potential being realized by EVERY child. We quickly established and affirmed our shared belief that ALL children are capable of success – without exception! Second, we agreed that the definition of “success” should be more holistic and should reflect the many factors represent a child’s capacity to “be all they can be.” **Safe. Cared For. Challenged. Connected. Healthy. Hopeful.** These terms reflect a successful child and also represent what all children need in order to succeed. This is the definition of a successful child – A **Whole Child.**

As a group, we also agreed with the following guiding belief statement: Success for All Takes Us All! While academic measurements are a strong and appropriate indicator of performance, we believe we must also be intentional about providing the support, resources and love that all children need in order to perform to the best of their ability. From basic needs like food, shelter and clothing, to medical, dental and vision services; from caring and dedicated adult support to multiple opportunities to grow and develop through healthy, fun and structured programs. Simply put, successful children are the by-product of a family, school and entire community working together to overcome any and all barriers to student success.

Please join us for our first Whole Child – Whole Community meeting on March 20th at Culver City Middle School. We will be meeting in the Multi-Purpose Room from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Our initial meeting will focus on getting to know one another, sharing and building a shared vision to support EVERY child, and learn more about the needs of our students and families in Culver City. Together we will identify those factors that are getting in the way of EVERY child succeeding and begin creating targeted strategies to meet the needs of ALL children.

Again, you have been invited because you are known to care deeply about the children and families in our community. We are certain that you, like us, cannot stand for the children in our community to be hungry, stressed, unhealthy, discouraged or questioning their worth. Together, we can ensure that all children will begin each day with the following statement: “I believe in me, because you first believed in me.”

Do you know of another person or agency that would also be a valuable member of our Whole Child – Whole Community Team? Please invite them to join us as we embark on this vital work. RSVP to Dave LaRose, CCUSD Superintendent at davidlarose@ccusd.org.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to join this team as we put the **US** in CCUSD.

Sincerely,

Whole Child-Whole Community Team