Name Not Provided

As a school counselor at AUSD, I come in contact with a lot of students and families, members of our community. I am worried about our students and our families. This past year has been traumatic for everyone and it shows every day at school. Our students are hurting and they need our support. Since school started, we have seen an increase in anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation and lack of motivation on top of all fears associated with the pandemic...death, parents losing their jobs and not being able to provide for their families. How can we expect our students to succeed academically when their mind is full of worries. Because of this, I strongly believe that our funds need to go towards our students, they must be our priority, always!

We need:
Fully staffed wellness rooms= a safe space on campus for students in emotional distress.
Full-time counselors at every school
Full-time therapists at every school
Full-time community outreach liaisons and social workers to support our families

Again, I am worried about or students. They need us and we have the funds to provide the support they need.

Jaime Lefler

Good evening, I wanted to reach out to stress the importance of the additional resources we need to help our students in the unprecedented time. Our students are struggling emotionally, more then ever before. Our families are trying to cope with so many fall outs of Covid. As a counselor, the need for us is ten fold this year. There is no way to keep up without help. We really need the wellness rooms staffed, licensed therapists and a community coordinator at each site. By staffing the wellness rooms with qualified staff, it frees us counselors up to be available for conflict mediations on top of all of our other responsibilities (scheduling, CARE caseloads, weekly check ins with multiple students, classroom presentations, and so much more). Conflict mediations are an important process needed to thwart many fights. It also helps teach the students how to handle conflicts efficiently and appropriately. Licensed therapists will be able to meet with our students in the highest level of crisis. A community coordinator can provide wrap around services for the families of our students. How can students thrive if there are family issues such as lack of food, housing crisis, etc.? Providing this resources would be instrumental in the success of our students.

Name Not Provided

6B Counselors in the district are supporting admin teams in an unprecedented way this school year. Coming out of pandemic has been traumatic socially for our students, parents and staff. As we move to approve the expenditure of the $30 million dollars we received from the state, we as a district should make sure the money is utilized properly. Each goal is to include a 20% of this $30 million dollars. In regard to the SEL component of the goal, our students are in need of mental health support, academic support, education on cyber bullying and social media. We as a district should also recognize that AUSD is a URBAN district, and such as needs programs that support the current demographic.

Name Not Provided

Is the district considering mental health workers, social workers and parenting resource classes for our students? If not, why is this not being considered with the $30 million dollars given to the district by the state. Counselors at the all school levels are working out of their classification supporting students who need supports beyond our skill sets at times.

Name Not Provided

Is the district considering a partnership with the city to support our current demographic and the support programs many of our students need and crave. Will the $30 million dollars be used to support those goals set forth for the $30 million dollars. Counselors are fundamental to all sites in this current pandemic setting. Unfortunately counselors are being consumed with mental health issues from students and families who often need spport outside of the academic setting.

Pissed Off