

**Laguna Beach Unified School District
California Healthy Kids, School Climate,
and School Parent Surveys
Executive Summary**



**Spring 2014
Survey Administration**

The California Healthy Kids Survey is given every two years to students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11. Its primary focus is assessing student perceptions and experiences related to school climate and engagement, learning supports, and health-related, non-academic learning barriers (e.g., substance abuse, bullying and violence, and poor physical or mental health). The data is meant to assist schools and school districts in: fostering positive school climates and engagement in learning, preventing youth health-risk behaviors and other barriers to academic achievement, and promoting positive youth development, resilience, and well-being.

The California School Climate Survey is given to teachers and staff in conjunction with the CHKS. The survey focuses on individual behaviors, patterns of communication and interactions, and professional and student supports. The purpose of the survey is to help schools promote the successful cognitive, social, and emotional development of all students and foster positive school working environments, particularly to help address the growing problem of low teacher retention.

The California School Parent Survey is designed to provide teachers, administrators, and other school staff with information directly from parents that can be used to foster positive learning and teaching environments, parent involvement, and student achievement, health, and well-being. Because the survey parallels much of the content of the CHKS and CSCS, it can be used to compare parent, student, and staff perceptions.

California Healthy Kids Survey Results – Elementary Schools

63% (135) of fifth grade students took the survey at Top of the World and El Morro Elementary Schools. The CHKS results clearly indicate that our students feel safe at both elementary schools. 91% of students reported that they felt safe at school all or most of the time. Additionally, the percentage of students who feel high levels of school connectedness has gone up from 60% to 70% in two years. Violence and bullying does not seem to be a significant issue at either elementary school (No cyber-bullying – 87%, never or rarely been pushed or hit – 95%) and the number of students who have ever tried alcohol or drugs has reduced from 52% to 28% since 2012. One area for possible improvement might be meaningful school participation which has gone down from 19% to 13% in two years. (I help make class rules or chose things to do; I do things to be helpful at school). Additionally, only 56% of elementary students report high protective factors at school (Caring relationships and high expectations).

California Healthy Kids Survey results – Thurston Middle School

85% of seventh graders participated in the survey in 2014. 80% of the students perceive the school as a very safe or safe place. The percentage of students who reported any harassment or bullying has gone down from 44% in 2012 to 36% in 2014. Additionally, compared to the other districts in south Orange County (CUSD, SVUSD, and IUSD), a higher percentage of students reported caring adult relationships, high expectations, and high school connectedness. A few areas of concern include 20% of students reporting feelings of chronic sadness or hopelessness, 14% of students reporting current alcohol use, and only 21% of students reporting high levels of meaningful participation at school.

California Healthy Kids Survey – Laguna Beach High School

89% of ninth and eleventh graders took the survey in 2014. In grade 9, 85% of the students perceived the school as being very safe or safe; in grade 11, 93% perceived it as safe or very safe. Among the 9th graders, alcohol and drug use has decreased in the last two years. Current alcohol or drug use decreased from 27% to 22% and those reporting having ever been very drunk 7 or more times fell from 7% to 1%. For 11th graders, the numbers of students who report using drugs or alcohol remained steady from 2012 to 2014. However, any cigarette use

among 9th graders fell from 10% in 2012 to 5% in 2014 and among 11th graders fell from 21% in 2012 to 13% in 2014.

For both 9th and 11th graders, reported feelings of chronic sadness and hopelessness have gone up. In 2012, 22% of the 9th graders reported having feelings of chronic sadness and 9% had seriously considered suicide. The same group of students in 2014 had 32% reporting feelings of chronic sadness and 16% having seriously considered suicide. Students also reported lower levels of school supports and school connectedness since 2012 (9th grade connectedness down 6%, 9th grade school supports down 10%, 11th grade school supports down 7%). However, in all of these areas LBHS students reported significantly higher connectedness and support than the four other south Orange County districts in 2012 (IUSD, SVUSD, NMUSD, CUSD).

California School Climate Survey – Elementary Schools

Only 13 staff members took the survey – 12 fifth grade teachers, one administrator, and one school counselor. Results, therefore, are mainly based on the perceptions of 5th grade staff members. 100% of the surveyed staff perceive high standards for academic performance and 83% feel that the schools are supportive and inviting places for students to learn. 91% stated that the school is a safe place for staff and 92% stated that it was a safe place for students (up 15% since 2012). However, only 67% stated that the elementary schools were a supportive and inviting place to work and only 50% stated that discipline problems were handled effectively. Alternatively, the number of staff that stated that the elementary schools foster an appreciation of student diversity and respect has risen 26% in two years.

California School Climate Survey – Thurston Middle School

27 staff members from Thurston Middle School took the California School Climate Survey (57% teachers, 4% administration, 29% classified, and 10% other). 89% of those surveyed reported that the students were motivated to learn and 81% reported that the students were well behaved. However, only 26% reported that discipline problems were handled effectively and 28% said discipline was handled fairly. Also, only 56% said that Thurston was a safe place for staff and only 48% said that it was a safe place for students.

California School Climate Survey – Laguna Beach High School

71 staff members from Laguna Beach High School Participated in the California School Climate Survey (58% teachers, 15% health/safety/counseling staff, 25% classified staff, 2% other). 91% of the staff reported that students were well behaved and 74% said that LBHS was an inviting and supportive place for students. Also, the percentage of staff reporting that LBHS promotes personal participation in decision-making rose 15% since 2012. However, the percentage that stated LBHS was a welcoming place for parents decreased 16% since 2012 and the perception of a safe school decreased 10% since 2012.

California School Parent Survey – Laguna Beach Unified School District

128 elementary, 72 middle, and 61 high school parents took the California School Parent Survey in 2014. Across all schools and grade levels, an average of 94% of parents feel that our schools are safe places for students, 96% feel that our schools have clean, well maintained facilities, and 92% feel that the school staff motivates students to learn. One area for possible improvement is providing quality counseling or other services supporting social/emotional needs, only 57% reported high levels in elementary, 66% in middle school, and 63% in high school.

A summary of the results of the California Healthy Kids, School Climate, and Parent Surveys is attached.

California Healthy Kids Survey
Laguna Beach Unified School District Results
2012 & 2014 Comparison

Percent of Students who...	2012 All Elementary 174 Students	2014 All Elementary 135 Students	2014 Top of the World 65 Students	2014 El Morro 70 Students
Feel safe at school all of the time	52%	60%	69%	52%
Feel safe at school most of the time	37%	31%	25%	36%
Feel safe all of the time outside of school	35%	32%	34%	29%
Have never been pushed or hit at school	64%	72%	76%	67%
Have sometimes been pushed or hit at school	31%	24%	22%	27%
Have been pushed or hit most of the time or all of the time at school	5%	4%	2%	6%
Reported no cyber-bullying	94%	87%	94%	81%
Reported high school protective factors	48%	56%	68%	44%
Reported high home protective factors	84%	87%	91%	84%
Reported high school connectedness	60%	70%	77%	64%
Reported high levels of meaningful participation in their school	19%	13%	14%	13%
Report high levels of high expectations from teachers or other adults at school	60%	61%	63%	59%
Report high levels of high expectations from adults at home	95%	97%	97%	91%
Report high levels of caring relationships with teachers or other adults at school	53%	59%	68%	51%
Students that have ever used cigarettes	2%	3%	2%	4%
Students who have ever used marijuana	0%	1%	1%	1%
Students who have ever tried alcohol or other drugs	52%	28%	17%	39%
Students who have ever tried inhalants	4%	2%	0%	5%

Percent of Students who...	2012 Thurston MS Grade 7 185 Students	2014 Thurston MS Grade 7 249 Students	2012 Laguna Beach HS Grade 9 197 Students	2014 Laguna Beach HS Grade 9 212 Students	2012 Laguna Beach HS Grade 11 213 Students	2014 Laguna Beach HS Grade 11 196 Students
Feel safe at school	80%	81%	85%	85%	91%	93%
Reported high school connectedness	76%	69%	73%	67%	74%	74%
Reported high school supports	49%	39%	51%	41%	58%	51%
Reported high academic motivation		38%		29%		32%
Reported low academic motivation		20%		26%		32%
Reported high levels of meaningful participation in their school	22%	21%	25%	18%	24%	24%
Reported any harassment or bullying	44%	36%	35%	33%	27%	25%
Feelings of chronic sadness/hopelessness	20%	20%	22%	21%	24%	32%
Considered Suicide			9%	15%	11%	16%
Truancy 1-2 times	18%	17%	17%	17%	24%	24%
Truancy a few times	11%	16%	12%	15%	15%	21%
Current alcohol/drug use	7%	14%	27%	22%	50%	54%
Very drunk 7 or more times	0%	1%	7%	1%	17%	17%
Very high 7 or more times	1%	3%	11%	8%	28%	25%
Perceived difficulty of obtaining alcohol	32% fairly or very easy	40% fairly or very easy	70% fairly or very easy	66% fairly or very easy	59% fairly or very easy	74% fairly or very easy
Perceived difficulty of obtaining marijuana	16% fairly or very easy	21% fairly or very easy	71% fairly or very easy	54% fairly or very easy	72% fairly or very easy	73% fairly or very easy
Any cigarette use	1%	4%	10%	5%	21%	13%
Cyber-bullying, never	79%	78%	80%	79%	83%	89%
Have never been threatened with harm or injury	81%		92%		96%	

California School Climate Survey - Staff
Laguna Beach Unified School District Results
2014 Results

Percent of staff who feel the school ...	2012 All Elementary 63 Staff Members	2014 All Elementary 13 Staff Members	2012 Thurston MS 40 Staff Members	2014 Thurston MS 27 Staff Members	2012 LBHS 56 Staff members	2014 LBHS 71 Staff members
Is a supportive and inviting place for students to learn	84%	83%	75%	59%	71%	74%
Sets high standards for academic performance	83%	100%	63%	44%	64%	66%
Is welcoming to and facilitates parent involvement	79%	67%	65%	56%	67%	51%
Is a supportive and inviting place to work	66%	67%	63%	44%	49%	50%
Promotes personal participation in decision-making	41%	67%	18%	26%	20%	35%
Has clean, well-maintained facilities and property	81%	100%	65%	37%	56%	46%
Provides adequate benefits to support continued employment	85%	100%	60%	56%	66%	52%
Is a safe place for staff	83%	91%	67%	56%	71%	60%
Is a safe place for students	77%	92%	63%	48%	70%	60%
Handles discipline problems effectively	42%	50%	40%	26%	34%	28%
Handles discipline problems fairly	50%	67%	38%	28%	32%	24%
Emphasizes helping students with social, emotional, behavioral problems	55%	67%	48%	33%	28%	38%
Fosters appreciation of student diversity and respect for each other	57%	83%	30%	38%	34%	35%
Nearly all/most students motivated to learn	95%	92%	88%	89%	78%	77%
Nearly all/most students well-behaved	94%	92%	93%	81%	89%	91%
Alcohol/Drugs a severe problem	0%	0%	28%	19%	74%	62%

**California School Climate Survey - Parents
Laguna Beach Unified School District Results
2014 Results**

Percent of parents who feel the school ...	2014 All Elementary 128 Parents	2014 Thurston MS 72 Parents	2014 LBHS 61 Parents
Promotes academic success for all students	86%	89%	96%
Is an inviting place for students to learn	89%	91%	89%
Is a safe place for students	94%	95%	93%
Provides quality counseling/other services supporting social/emotional needs	57%	66%	63%
Motivates students to learn	90%	93%	93%
Has clean, well-maintained facilities and property	95%	96%	98%
Enforces rules equally for all students	82%	75%	67%
Provides opportunities for meaningful student participation	86%	88%	93%
Keeps parents well informed	94%	84%	89%
Encourages active parent involvement and partnership	90%	81%	80%
Alcohol and drug use is a large problem	1%	9%	35%
Harassment or bullying is a large problem	3%	6%	4%