Sacramento City
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Student Advisory Council

SCUSD Board Presentation

Board Meeting
June 8, 2023

Presented by:
Student Advisory Council

Agenda:

- **Overview**

- **Student Concerns**

- **Gender Neutral Bathrooms**
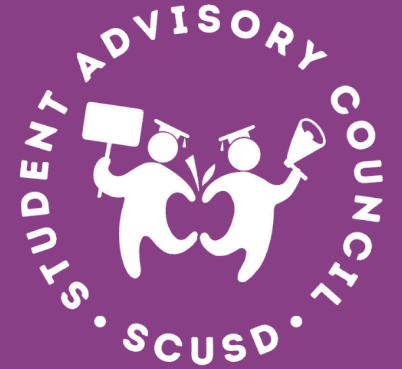
- **504 Recommendations**

Overview

The Student Advisory Council is a year-round program that introduces students to concepts of policy advocacy, applied social research, democratic governing, and grassroots organizing.

The SAC strives to promote student voice within the district, and works to take action against problems faced by students.

Every year, the SAC develops policy initiatives aimed at improving the lives of students across the school district.

The SAC has developed a survey for the 22-23 school year to have student voices and perspectives help lead their policy initiatives.

SAC Student Survey & Student Concerns

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Methodology

How the survey was developed:
This survey was created through Google Forms after considering what questions may best address the needs and concerns of students across the district.

How the survey was distributed:
The survey was emailed out across the district to students, as well as posted to some Instagram accounts and Google Classrooms. In some schools, we also collaborated with teachers.
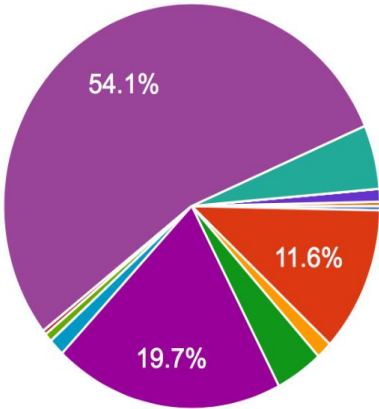
Goal number for survey distribution:
Representative sample from all schools under the district.

Demographics of Participants

What school do you attend?

294 responses

- American Legion
- C.K. McClatchy
- George Washington Carver School of…
- Hiram Johnson
- John F. Kennedy
- Kit Carson International Academy
- Sacramento Accelerated Academy
- Sacramento New Technology
- School of Engineering and Sciences
- The Met Sacramento
- West Campus
- Rosemont
- Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions

54.1%
11.6%
19.7%

159 West Campus

58 J.F.K.

34 CKM

15 Rosemont

12 Hiram Johnson

4 Kit Carson

4 Carver

4 Health Professions

2 New Tech

1 SES

1 American Legion

Frequent Concerns

- WiFi/internet issues/blocked websites

- Funding for school resources

- The need for campus beautification

- Mental health issues

- Dress codes Inequities

- Lack of Field Trip Opportunities

- Threats of Gun Violence

- Drug Use

Frequently Mentioned Needs for Specific Resources or Events

- College prep resources
  - Fairs, resources, tours, visitations from colleges on school sites).
- "Real life" classes (taxes, home ec, etc).
- Therapists/psychiatrists/mental health professionals.
- Better Lunch options
- Transportation for students (Bussing)

Recommendations related to the these findings

- Post-secondary preparation elective courses options for the real world–practical skills development "ie. Financial literacy, home based skills (cooking, cleaning), workforce development : (ie. job skills interviews, internship guidance, career placement etc.)
  - Re-open or create classes that have established curriculums
- At least (1) College fair at all high schools
  - Mandatory College Exposure Partnerships and Field Trips for Seniors
- Hiring bus drivers for expanded field trip and campus access opportunities.

Recommendations related to the these findings (continued)

- Campus beautification efforts that are tied to elective courses for credits that teach about art, agriculture, farming, plants etc. that extends to the classroom

  - Explore UC Davis partnership for both college and applied learning.

  - Continue Wide Open Walls Partnership w/ Art Class credit emphasis

- Development of Anti-Drug Youth Coalition that is updated with current student concerns (Vapes, Mushrooms, Ecstasy/Molly, Fentanyl etc.)

  - Standardize Narcan training for all students and make more readily Narcan available at school sites

- Better resource availability inside of bathrooms with specific regard to young women and menstrual cycles

Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Context of Concern

- Access to bathrooms is a fundamental human right. We should not create an environment where students who don't identify with the binary gender must choose whether to use the male or female bathroom.

- We should strive to make our campuses as inclusive and equitable as possible. We aim to create a safe space for our students.

Research on existing measures

Board Policy 5145.31

- Gender non-conforming students should be allowed access to restroom facilities that align with their gender identity

- Transgender and gender non-conforming students shall not be forced to use the restroom corresponding to their assigned sex at birth.

AB 1266 School Success and Opportunity Act

- Allow SCUSD students to access facilities and programs that correspond to their gender identity

Recommendations
How To Achieve The Goal Of Our Initiative

Initiative goal: at least 1 accessible unisex (multi-stalled) bathroom within the campus area per school
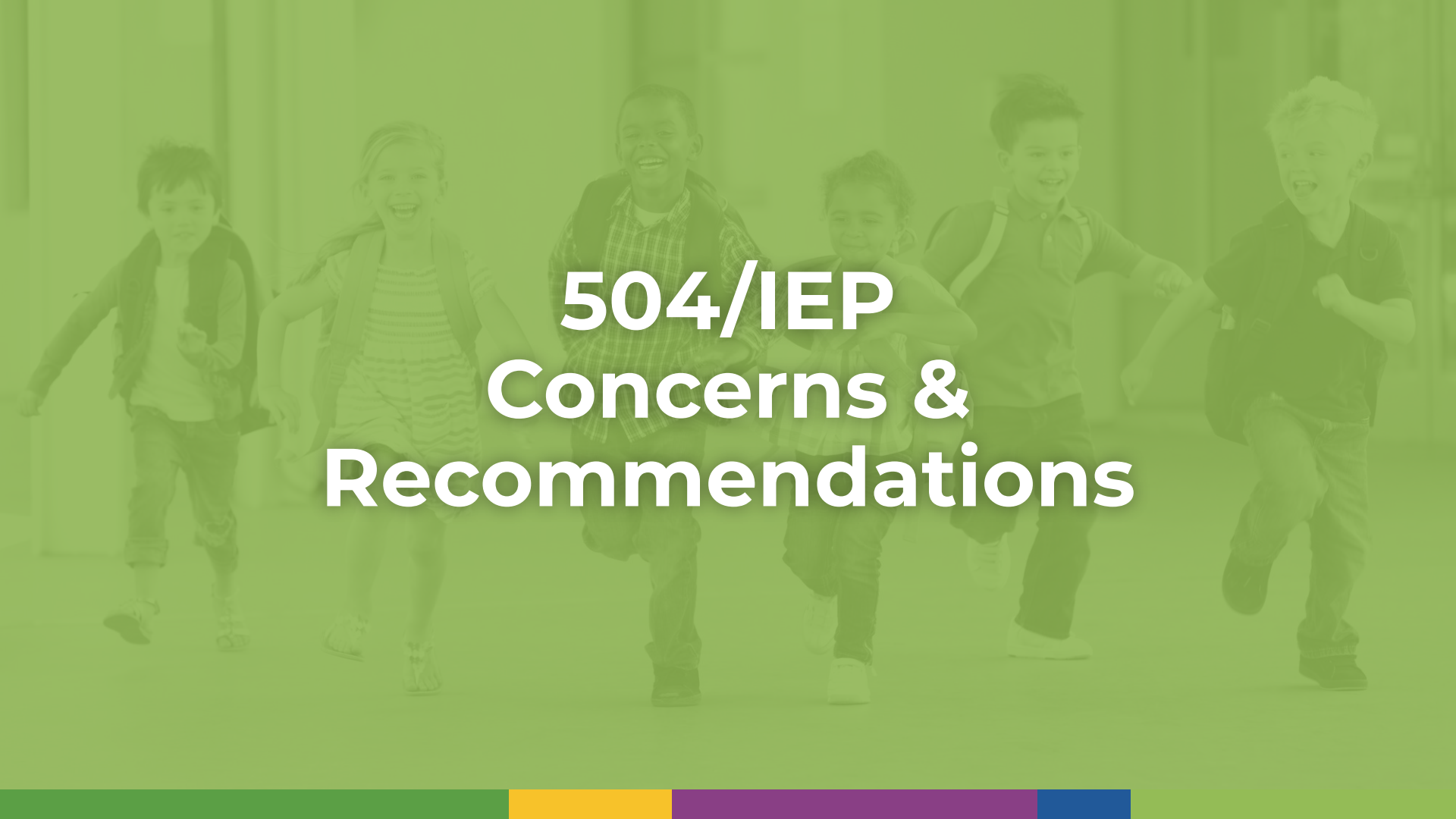
First step: Talk to individual campuses and figure out what they <u>need</u>. Some schools might already have accessible gender neutral bathrooms while others don't.

Options

1. Building new bathrooms
2. Relabeling existing binary bathrooms

Potential Difficulties Identified

- Cost

- Changing binary bathrooms to gender neutral ones might create complications. (removing urinals, adding bins inside stalls, etc.)

- Safety concerns (sexual harassment, privacy, etc.)

- Parents disapproval (school site councils), especially for k-8 schools

504/IEP Concerns & Recommendations

Recommendations

Only 11.1% of students understood their rights to a 504 plan;

- Presentation given to students in regards to their rights and abilities of access.

- Utilizing website and app technology to increase access.

  - Contact information for 504, IEP, and ESLO plans.

  - Resources for student rights.

  - All other resources available; ex: food, transportation, homelessness, etc.

Access to mental health resources needs to go beyond a phone number on the back of our ID cards;

- Licensed psychologists on campus should be required on every school site

- Required training courses for staff in order to understand how to properly accommodate students within their classes who have a 504 plan

Recommendations

Handbook and websites regarding students' rights

- The development of a website to provide information on students' rights – visual map – training incorporated – interactive interface

- The development of a mandatory in-person student presentation about students' rights to the whole school

- The development of a mandatory in person teacher based presentation about student rights inside the classroom

- "Training for students and families about their rights in regards to the 504 IEP process"

- Be more specific about student rights "topics" to call out as opposed to saying "rights" vaguely

Potential Difficulties Identified

- Cost

- Staff shortages

- Time

Thank you