TO: Dr. Max McGee, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Holly Wade, Chief Academic Officer for Student Services
PREPARED BY: Dr. Brenda Carrillo, Director of Wellness and Support Services
SUBJECT: Update on Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Committee (SCC)

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE
Wellness and Safety

RECOMMENDATION
This is an informational item and requires no Board action. This item is included in the agenda to update the Board on the work of the Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Committee (SCC). The SCC committee is focused on researching and identifying best practices in social emotional learning (SEL) in order to best provide students (PreK-12) with necessary SEL competencies to successfully navigate in school and beyond. Staff is available to answer Board member questions.

BACKGROUND
In March 2016 the district focused efforts on development of SEL as a key competency for all students. In April 2016 the district extended an invitation to a wide range of applicants (administrators, parents, students, teachers, counselors, classified staff and community partners) to serve on the SCC. There was significant interest from the PAUSD community, resulting in a committee of 24 members. The committee is chaired by Dr. Brenda Carrillo and Dr. Denise Herrmann and has met seven times since June 2016.

The charge of the SCC is to recommend a framework, standards, learning targets, curricula, assessment & evaluation system, and a district-wide implementation plan by February 2017. Given the scope of work, there are four subcommittees at work, including the: Design Subcommittee, which is focused on researching current SEL frameworks, standards and learning targets; the Curriculum, Assessment and Evaluation Subcommittee, which is developing resources in the area of curricula and examining metrics to define effectiveness; the Districtwide Implementation Plan Subcommittee, which is creating an implementation plan; and the Communications Subcommittee, which primarily prepares interim and final reports to the Board. Today’s presentation will focus on initial findings of the Design Subcommittee.

The Design Subcommittee reviewed current SEL research, consulted with a number of school districts as well as with Dr. Vicki Zakrzewski from the Greater Good Science Center in Berkeley,
and reviewed PAUSD data. They also reviewed existing SEL frameworks, including the Collaborative for Social Emotional Learning (CASEL) Framework, the University of Chicago/Wallace Foundation Framework, and The Washington Social Emotional Learning Framework, recently completed by the Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks Workgroup in Washington.

The Design subcommittee shared their findings with the larger SCC. Of the frameworks reviewed, the Washington SEL Framework seemed to integrate aspects from both CASEL and the Chicago/Wallace frameworks relevant to PAUSD. The Design Subcommittee led the SCC in an interactive activity during which members provided feedback on the Washington SEL Framework and its associated components (standard areas, benchmarks, and indicators). The results from the whole group activity are currently under consideration by the Design Subcommittee.

Relevant links:

All subcommittees are continuing to work on their areas of focus in order to provide the Board with a recommendation by February 2017. Additionally, the SCC is sharing initial findings with various stakeholders (counselors, administrators, community members) and will be holding various focus groups in the near future. Additional information about the SCC Committee, including minutes, participants, and materials, can be found at: https://www.pausd.org/committees-task-forces/social-emotional-learning-curriculum-committee.