

THE IMPORTANCE OF A COMPREHENSIVE *SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM*

*Adding one additional high school counselor can lead
to a 10% increase in four-year college enrollment!*



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DATA ON SCHOOL COUNSELORS:

School Counselor Value:

- In a 2016 PDK poll of public attitudes toward public schools, only 6% of respondents said school counselors would be the #1 thing additional tax dollars should be spent on. But a 2014 study shows that **hiring additional counselors may be a more effective way to increase academic achievement** compared to other education inputs. In fact, the study found that hiring one additional counselor reduces student behavior incidents and increases the academic achievement of boys specifically.

Impact on Student Achievement:

- A one-on-one meeting with a counselor to talk about financial aid or college triples students' chances of going to college.
- Students who have had a one-on-one meeting with a school counselor to discuss financial aid are 7 times more likely to complete a FAFSA.

Changing Roles:

- If a student's school has a counselor whose primary responsibility is college selection and admissions, he or she is 16% more likely to meet with a counselor to discuss financial aid – a reason to reconsider counselors' typical roles as utility players.

CURRENT PROGRAM WONDERINGS:

- *How* might we include a broader range of stakeholder input into the planning and building of San Diego High's Comprehensive School Counseling Guidance Program?
- *How* could we re-structure the way school counselors deliver services to students to ensure each and every priority area is delivered with the highest level of quality and efficiency?
(to see "Priority Areas", click on the "Student Experience" tab.)
- *What* are some areas where school counselors currently spend enormous amounts of time and energy? How does this take away valuable time/energy from purposeful priority area work? What are some of these current time absorbers?

Testing

College Applications

Articulation

Reactive Services

- *If* we increased the amount of time school counselors spend on 1-to-1 T2 & T3 work, how could that impact overall student performance and success on campus?



CURRENT PROGRAM WONDERINGS:

- *How* could the addition of school counseling **grade-level advisory teams** improve the overall delivery and program outcomes of San Diego High's Comprehensive School Counseling Program?
- *If* we designated a **testing coordinator** to handle coordination, registration, and logistics, in which areas could we expect to see an increase in overall student achievement and program outcomes? How would this free up school counselor time for one-on-one T2 & T3 work, and what would be the expected outcomes?
- *By* expanding the school counselor partnership with SDH's grade-level AVID teams, how much of an increase in efficiency, improved student experience, and overall program delivery would there be in all program areas but specifically in the area of T1 work on campus?
- *What* if we re-structured school counseling services to ensure more dedicated, proactive, planned time is spent on T2, T3 and 1-on-1 work? How would that increase overall student achievement and intervention response time across campus?

2018/2019 REQUESTS:

- School Counseling staff of 8 case-load School Counselors, 1 Guidance Assistant, 1 Intervention Counselor.
- Designate a support specialist, "testing coordinator" for current counseling-based tests. (AP, PSAT, ACCUPLACER, ASVAB coordination, registration, & logistics.)
- Plan and fund PD's this summer to calibrate advisory teams, AVID teams, and School Counselor Teams.