

Creating a College Going Culture

Board of Education Meeting
April 22, 2015

David Verdugo, Ed.D., Co-Interim Superintendent
Mrs. Delores Stephens, Co-Interim Superintendent
Deborah Stark, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Sheryl Ramirez, Counselor, PHS West Campus

Purpose of the Presentation

- Review the goals and key activities of two Committees: College and Career Committee and College Software Committee.
- Outline next steps.

Background

- The new state accountability system may include measures that include college readiness indicators such as *A-G* course completion and enrollment in Advanced Placement courses.
- One of the four goals in PUSD's LCAP is to "Create a College Going Culture".
- Two committees have been formed to proactively address these needs.

Two Committees

Part 1: College and Career Committee Goals

- Understand what it means for a school to have a college going culture.
- Understand best practices for increasing the number of students who meet college admission criteria and enter college.
- Develop a two year plan to increase college readiness in PUSD.

Part 2: College Software Committee Goals

- Review software available for counselors and students to monitor and manage their college going information.
- Recommend software for purchase to be piloted in 2015-16.



Part 1

College and Career Committee

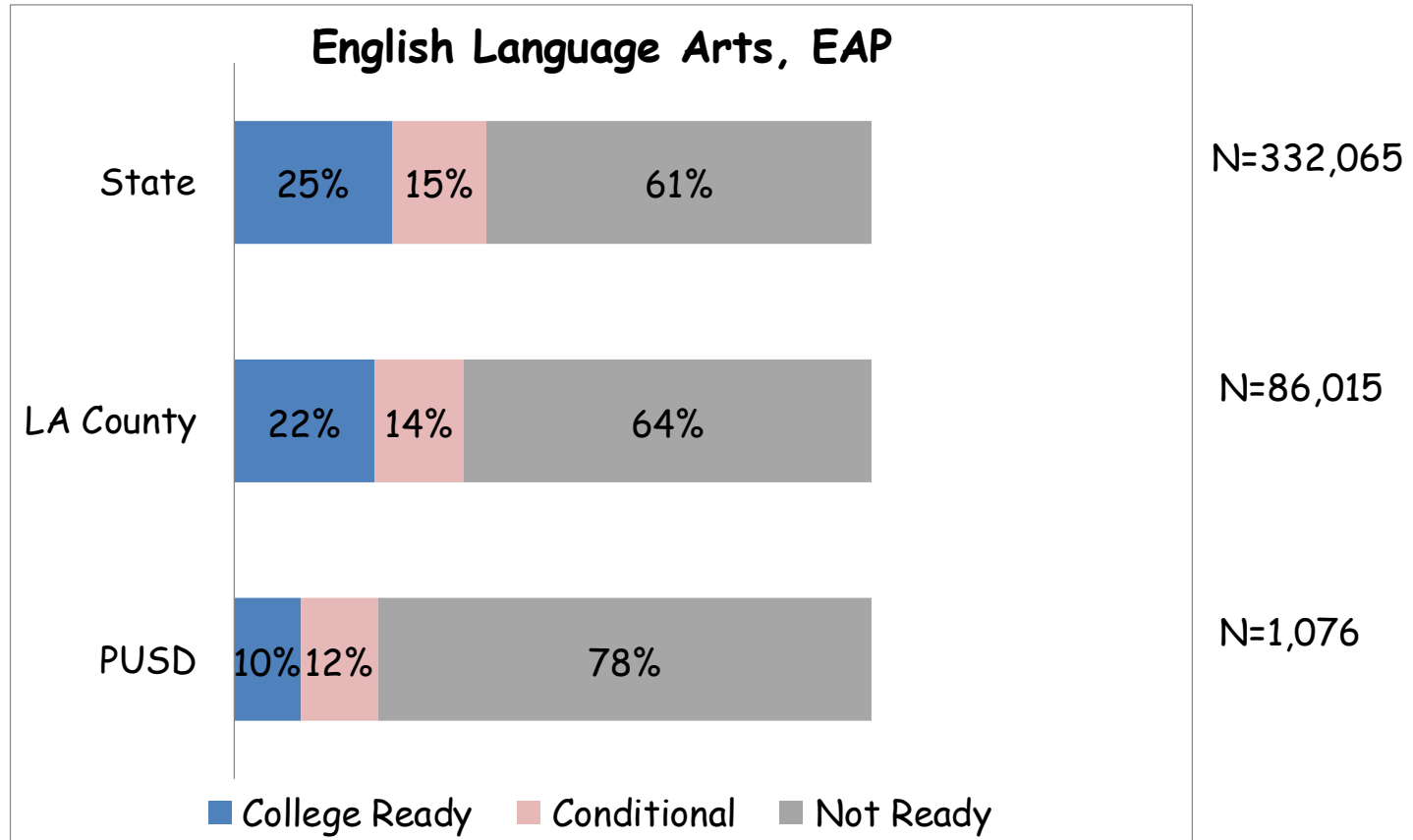
What is a College Going Culture?

The overarching goal of a college going culture is for all students to be prepared for a full range of post secondary options through structural, motivational and experiential college preparatory experiences.

-Creating a College Going Culture: A Resource Guide, October, 2006

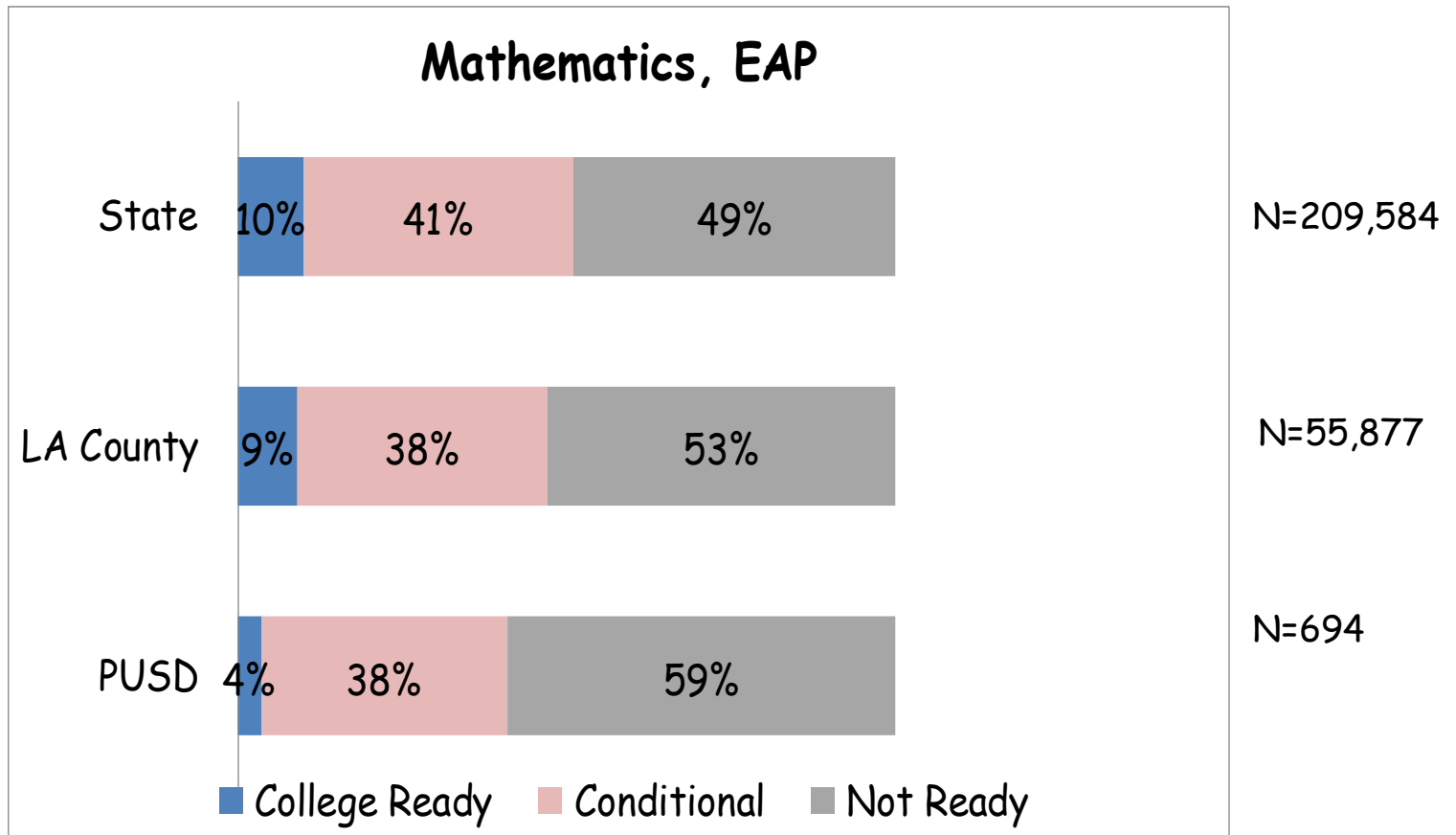
Why is this needed?

Early Assessment Program ELA Scores, 2013-14



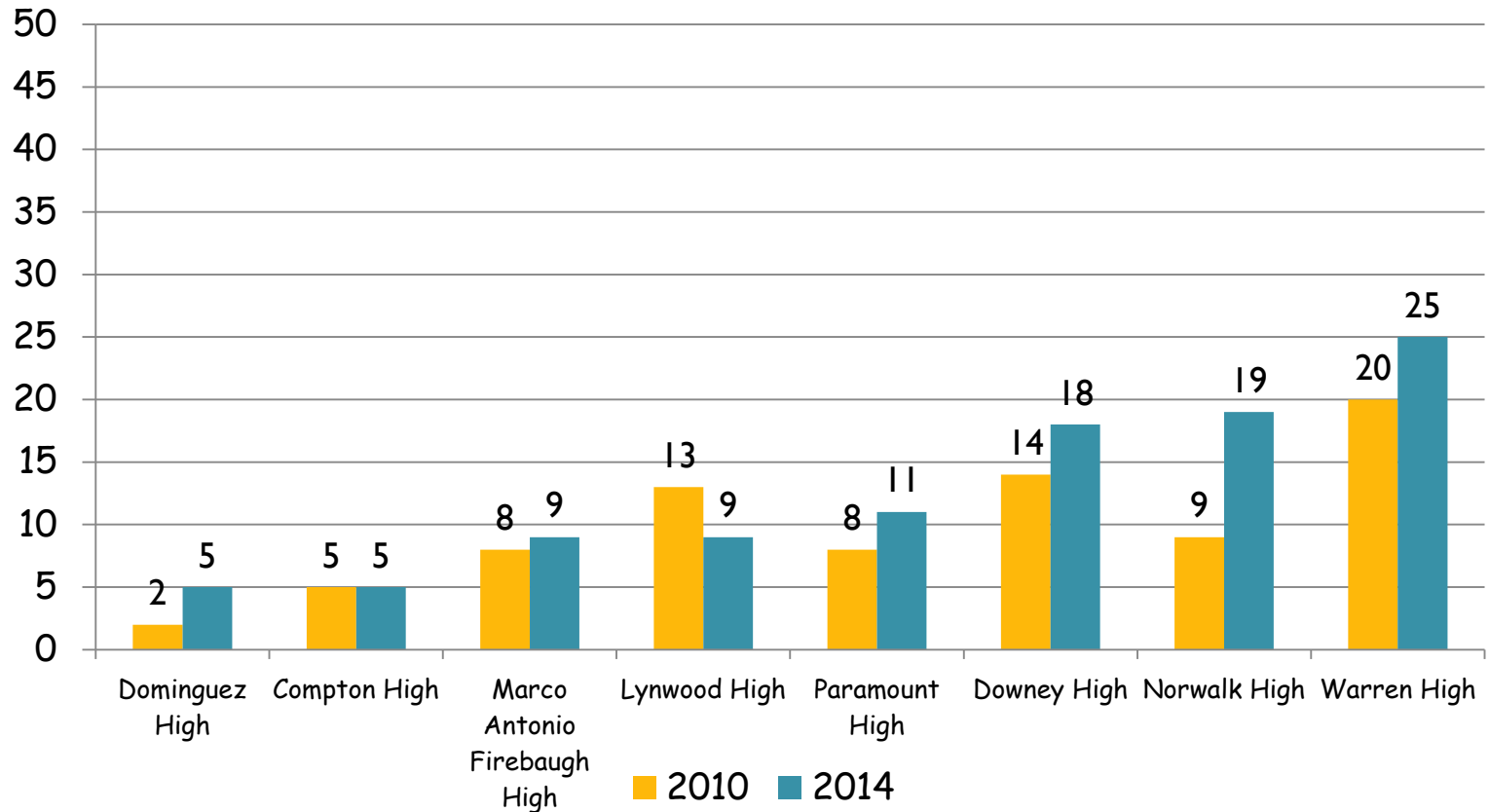
Why is this needed?

Early Assessment Program, Math, 2013-14



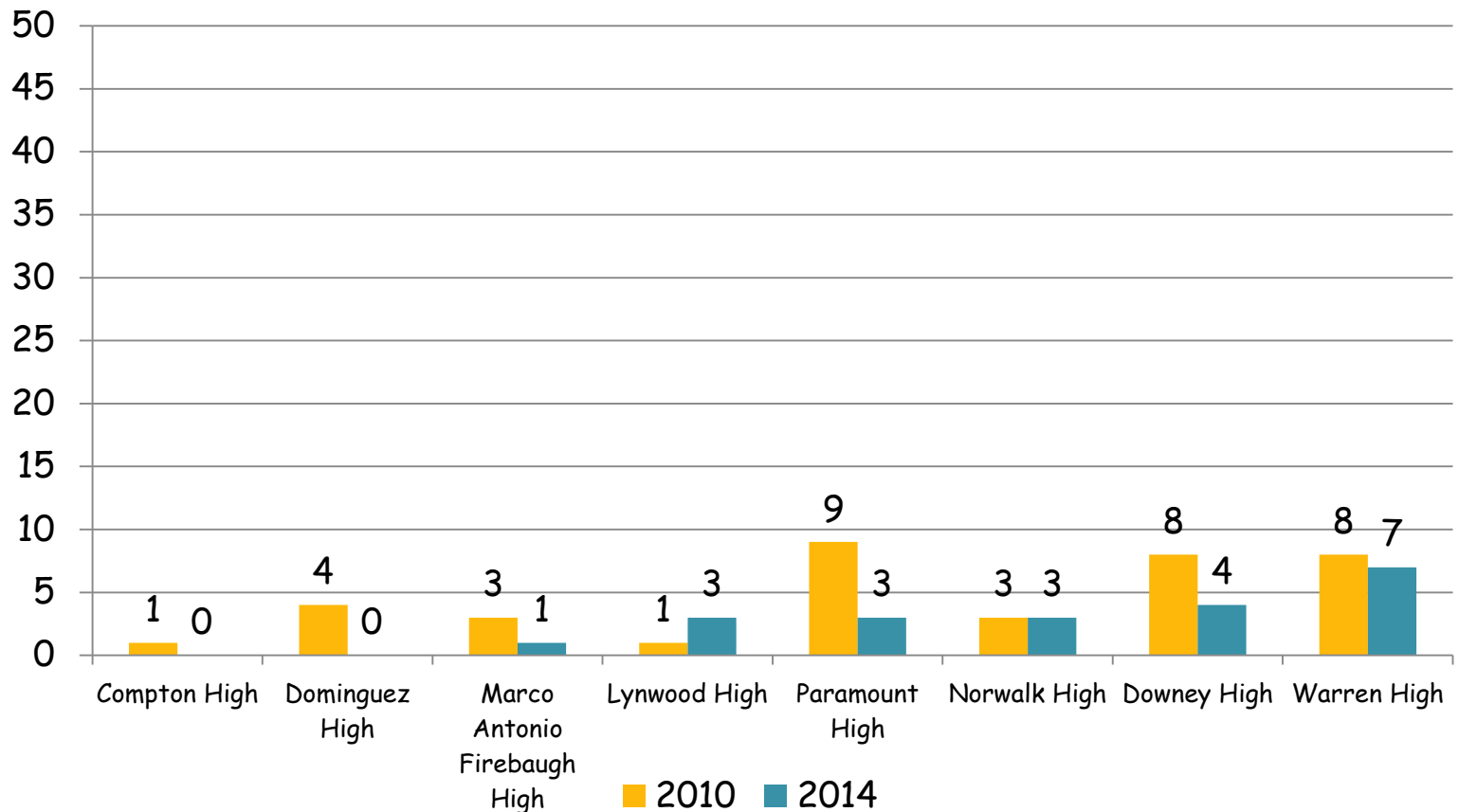
Why is this needed?

Change in Percent of Students Who Scored College Ready:
EAP English Language Arts 2010-14



Why is this needed?

Change in Percent of Students Who Scored at College Ready:
EAP Mathematics 2010-14



What are the Nine Critical Principles of a College Going Culture?

Principle	What does it mean?	What does it look like?
College Talk	On going communication about college so all students develop a college going identity.	Newsletters, posters, College Clubs, essay contests.
Clear Expectations	Defining and communicating explicit goals for college preparation.	Four year plans for students; frequent communication about college options.
Information and Resources	Student access to up to date college information.	College catalogs, PSAT, SAT materials, financial aid materials, workshops on test prep.
Comprehensive Counseling	All counselors are college counselors.	High school counselors attend college conferences, distribute information to students in a systematic manner.

What are the Nine Critical Principles of a College Going Culture?

Principle	What does it mean?	What does it look like?
Testing and Curriculum	Students are informed of necessary tests and are given the opportunity to take them. Master schedule provides A-G courses.	PSAT given on school day to 10 th grade students. Master schedule reflects 85% or higher A-G courses.
Faculty Involvement	Faculty are informed partners with counselors; professional development on college information is provided.	"College Corners" in classrooms; college talk during class time.
Family Involvement	Family members provided opportunity to gain college knowledge.	College fairs; workshops for families.
College Partnerships	Active links between K-12 schools and local colleges.	Students at designated grades visit local college campuses; guest speakers.
Articulation	Communication among all schools.	Students hear consistent messages within grades; ie, all 7 th grade students.

College and Career Committee Members

Name	Position	School
Debbie Stark	Asst. Superintendent	Ed. Services
Nancy Manning	Curriculum Specialist	Ed. Services
Margarita Rodriguez	Coordinator, Assessment & Acct.	Ed. Services
Greg Buckner	Principal	PHS
Adrian Quintana	Teacher	PHS
Andy Yonaki	Teacher	PHS
Anna Yasuhara	Asst. Principal	PHS
Brittney Dotson	Teacher	RSP
Camille Steward	Teacher	Chemistry
Colleen Magera	Teacher	ELA
Krystal Fierro	Counselor	PHS
Maria Yopez-Garcia	Counselor	PHS
Melissa Marchesini	Teacher	AP US History
Michael McCarthy	Teacher	AP Social Studies
Patricia Jacobo	Counselor	PHS
Sam Yi	Teacher	Teacher
Tamera Calero-Hill	Counselor	PHS
Eric Lindshield	Counselor	PHS
Morrie Kosareff	Principal	PHS West
Brenda Espinoza	Counselor	PHS West
Deringer Dietz	Teacher	ELA
Leo Gonzalez	Teacher	Geometry
Lorena Chaidez	Teacher	Spanish
Liz Salcido	Principal	Zamboni
Delores Barrios	Counselor	Alondra
Andrea Aguilar	Assistant Principal	Buena Vista
Sue Parson	College Representative	Cerritos College

Meeting Dates and Topics

October 16, 2014

- Overview of Committee's goals, review of college going data

November 4, 2014

- Visit to Arleta High School to learn about and observe a college going culture.

November 13 and December 11, 2014

- Debrief visit to Arleta High School. Read research on effective practices for creating a college going culture. Review SAT and EAP data for PUSD.
- Begin to identify matches and gaps between current practices and research based practices.

February 12 and March 17, 2015

- Analyze matches and gaps and draft a two year plan that addresses gaps. Prioritize activities based for 2015-16 and 2016-17.

April 29, 2015

- Finalize recommended two year plan.

Strategies in the Draft Plan

- Plan new A-G, AP and CTE courses.
- Train selected staff to conduct SAT prep workshops on site.
- Plan a Parent University that provides parents information on college requirements and trips to local universities.
- Provide support for increased number of students in AP and advanced math courses.
- Increase student access to PSAT.



Part 2

College Software Committee

Background

- In spring, 2014 a team of counselors and administrators visited high schools in Palos Verdes and Irvine to observe their College and Career Centers. Both high schools provide software for students to monitor their college going information.
- A review of surrounding districts shows that many provide this type of software for students:

School	District	Software
Bellflower HS	Bellflower USD	Yes -Naviance
Artesia HS	ABC Unified	Yes -Naviance
Lakewood HS	LBUSD	Yes -Californiacolleges.
Arleta HS	LAUSD	Yes-College Summit

What is College Software?

Software that allows students, parents and counselors to:

- Take interest surveys to determine their strengths and interests
- Keep track of their college and career planning information, including college entrance test scores, financial aid applications, etc.
- Match their interests and academic goals to specific colleges.
- Students have an individual account they monitor; counselors can run reports on individuals and groups of students to monitor their progress toward college application.

College and Career Committee Members

Name	Position	Assignment/School
Anna Yasuhara	Asst. Principal	PHS
Tamara Calero, Eric Lindshield Patricia Jacobo, Krystal Fierro Lourdes Talamontes	Counselors	PHS
Kathleen Uribe Gomez Karina Cortez Garcia	Students	PHS PHS West
Yvonne Rodriguez	Asst. Principal	PHS West Campus
Sheryl Ramirez, Brenda Espinoza	Counselors	PHS West
Wendy Crockett	Counselor	Zamboni
Susana Duran	Counselor	Jackson
Jose Mendez	Counselor	Buena Vista HS
Troy Marshall, Durrell Jackson Nancy Manning Debbie Stark	Curr. Specialist Asst. Supt.	Technology Ed. Services

Committee Work

After researching the most viable software available, three were selected for the committee to review:


- ✓ California Colleges
- ✓ Naviance
- ✓ College Summit

Meeting Dates and Topics

Date	Activity
Feb. 19	Goals and orientation. Develop criteria for evaluating software.
March 2	Review and evaluate Californiacolleges.
March 16	Review and evaluate Naviance.
April 22	Compare and contrast Californiacolleges and Naviance. Analyze advantages, disadvantages of each.
April 28	Review College Summit. Compare and contrast top two choices. Analyze advantages, disadvantages of each.
May	Conduct further research on top choices. Interview current users in other districts.
June	Purchase College software for piloting at PHS and PHS West in 2015-16. Write implementation plan to monitor progress.
August	Train counselors on software use. Begin implementation plan.

Next Steps

- Finalize a two year plan that outlines services and activities to create a college going culture. Include resources to implement the plan into the updated LCAP.
- Continue to review college software, making a recommendation to pilot with selected groups of students in fall, 2015. Write an implementation plan to assure the pilot is successful.



Research on college access tells us that having college plans by tenth grade increases the likelihood of attending by 21 percent compared to plans formulated during the senior year. But college plans do not simply happen. They must be fostered and encouraged through a school's culture.

-Reflections on the Process of Establishing a College Culture in Secondary Schools, 2000



Questions and Discussion