



# POWAY HIGH SCHOOL SPARC 2008



"A continuous improvement document sponsored by the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles County"

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Poway Unified School District

Principal: Scott Fisher

Grades: 9-12

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

It is my pleasure to serve as principal of Poway High School (PHS), a school community committed to high academic standards and student success. This includes the work of our Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT), individuals dedicated to addressing the academic needs and personal/social issues, in addition to assisting in building a safe and secure learning environment. Our entire administrative team is supportive of the National Counseling Standards as a means of guiding the direction of this comprehensive team of educators. Poway High takes special pride in the fact that the SSPT plays a significant role in school-wide leadership fostering a nurturing learning environment for all students. The SSPT collaborates regularly with teachers, staff members, and community members and takes an active part in providing programs and resources that promote intellectual and emotional growth of all our students. Our commitment to Assembly Bill 1802 has been well-received by the school community, as counselors strive to meet with all students individually to discuss progress towards graduation and post secondary plans. In addition, counselors also meet with at-risk students and their parents to review academic resources and credit recovery options available to them.

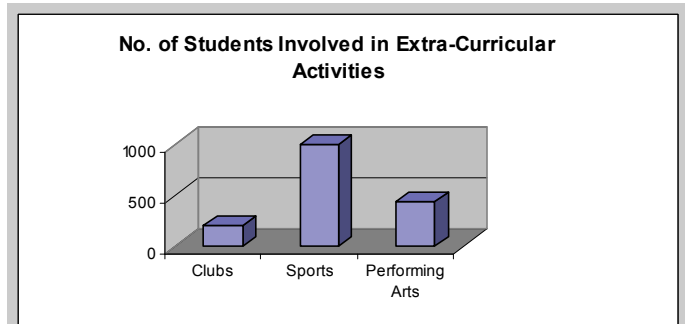
## STUDENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL TEAM

The Poway High School SSPT works collaboratively to support the needs of all students in their pursuit of academic, career and personal/social success. The SSPT works directly with the administration and teaching staff in the design, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of an equitable Student Support System. As a result of the team effort and consistency of services provided, student achievement, college admission rates, and student/parent satisfaction remain high. Services provided by the support team include, but are not limited to, individualized AB1802 meetings, participation in Individual Education Plans (IEP), Intervention Assessment Team (IAT), and Section 504 Plans. Serving as advocates, SSPT members assist students with issues related to attendance, academic progress, and character development. SSPT members employ strategies to help students make a smooth transition from high school to post-secondary endeavors related to their individual goals. All counselors hold a Pupil Personnel Service (PPS) Credential and a Masters Degree (MA/MS) in Counseling and/or Education. Members of the SSPT belong individually to a number of professional organizations: American School Counselor Association, San Diego Teachers Association, Poway Federation of Teachers, and Association of Poway School Managers.

Certificated Staff/Education	Yrs. Experience	Classified Staff	Yrs. Experience
Principal (MA/K-12 Admin)	30	2 Student Services Specialists	26
4 Assistant Principals (MA/K-12 Admin)	36	7 Administrative Secretaries	106
6 Counselors (MS/MA, PPS)	49	Guidance Technician	2
Student Support Coordinator (MS, PPS)	24	2 Counseling Clerks	31
School Psychologist (MA, MFT)	12	Data Technician	18
2 Speech Pathologists (MA)	25	Registrar	30
ASB Director (MA/K-12 Admin, PPS)	12	Resource Officer	2
Resource Specialist (MA)	8	Bilingual Parent Liaison	2
Intervention Coordinator (MA)	4	3 Attendance Accounting Assistants	32
Athletic Director (BA)	20	5 Campus Supervisors	51
ELL Coordinator	23		
Librarian (MLS)	14		

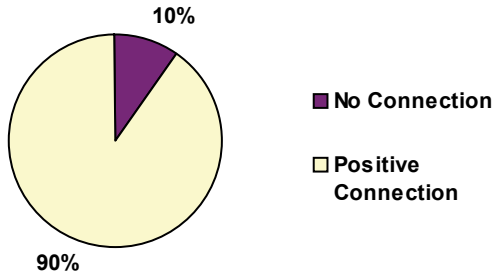
## SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SAFETY

The SSPT at PHS is dedicated to maintaining a safe campus where students feel connected to their school, staff members, and fellow students. As a result, students enhance their ability to become academically successful. PHS employs a full-time School Resources Officer (SRO) and three Student Services staff members (one Teacher on Special Assignment and two specialists) in addition to their Counseling Department. Throughout the year, several activities on campus are designed to help students feel connected and to give them an outlet for expressing any concerns. There are ten on-going weekly support groups (anger management, family issues, women's issues, gay/lesbian, Latino issues, bereavement, and general issues that teens face). PLUS (Peer Leaders Uniting Students) is an all-day on-campus field trip held four to six times per year by the peer counselors.



## SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SAFETY CON'T

% of Students Connected to Adult on Campus

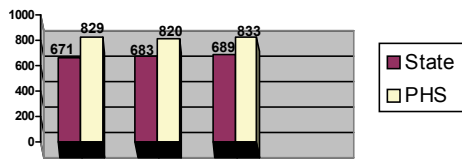


In each of the PLUS forums, approximately 55 students attended to discuss topics such as racism and drugs/alcohol. At the end of the day, they make a commitment to make a difference on the campus. Camp Human-Kind, a four-day retreat, is a place where students talk about all areas of diversity. According to the most recent California Healthy Kids survey data, while only 42.5% of the students feel "very strongly" that they have a caring relationship with an adult on campus, 90% feel "strongly or very strongly" that they have a caring relationship with a PHS adult. 99% of our students feel strongly that PHS pushes them to have goals and high aspirations. In two PLUS forums in the fall of 2007, with 104 at-risk and peer counselors attending, 100% of the students reported that they feel safe at school; 96% reported that they believe PHS is a good school; 71% of the students reported that they had not been harassed in the past year. Additionally, many of our students are involved in clubs, the Performing Arts, or sports.

## STUDENT RESULTS

The SSPT recognizes the importance of student results in order to meet student needs and evaluate program effectiveness. In our efforts to align with the National Standards, we utilize inventories, and academic data to measure results in the areas of Academic, Career, and Personal/Social Development.

API Scores

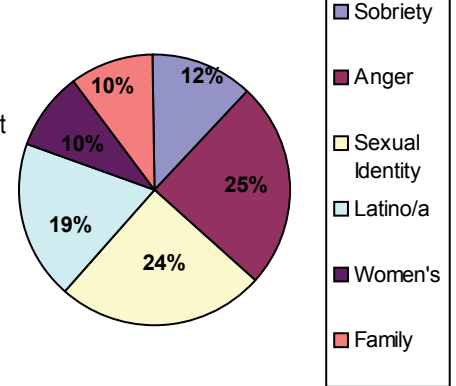


**Academic: Development:** Poway High School students perform at a high level on a variety of state assessments, which when combined result in an exemplary Academic Performance Index (API). Over the past few years student API scores have consistently surpassed the statewide performance target for similar schools. The SSPT has had a positive impact on the schools API scores because they consistently ensure appropriate course placement, monitor student progress, and regularly conduct one-on-one conferencing with students and parents.

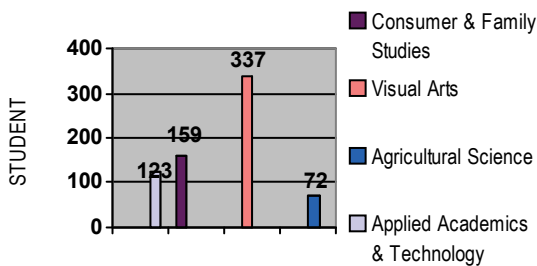
### Personal/Social Development:

Student services facilitate 10-11 regular support groups to address student issues. Last year, Poway High School was able to meet the needs of students through specialized support groups. Support group topics are designed based upon student needs reported by students in the Healthy Kids Survey in addition to staff and parent referrals.

Student Support Groups



### STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ROP CLASSES



**Career Development:** The SSPT assists students in developing post-secondary goals and plans in efforts to improve the relevancy of their current coursework. Beginning in their freshman year, students are introduced to *Choices Planner*, a career-based software that helps students establish potential career areas based on interest, abilities, and values. In addition, all juniors learn how to utilize *Naviance-Family Connection* to expand their career research and investigate post secondary educational options. PHS students are provided with a variety of opportunities to enroll in Regional Occupational Program (ROP) courses and earn certificates of completion in numerous career clusters including Agricultural Science, the only program of its kind in the district.

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED

The SSPT is committed to providing effective communication to our school community using a variety of methods. Our materials are printed in English and Spanish and a Spanish speaking parent liaison is available as needed. Information in primary language is available for families as needed. Faculty, administration, local governing board and community receive student support program information and SPARC.



**Meetings and Personal Contacts**—Parent/student conferences (AB1802, IAT's, IEP's, 504's), Back to School Night grade level presentations, Advanced Placement (A.P.) Parent/Student Night, senior classroom visits, CSU/UC application workshops, Scholarship Information Night, Financial Aid Night, Course Request Form (CRF) class presentations, Community College Night, Freshman Orientation, Principal's Coffee, college/career presentations, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Night, AVID Information Night



**Electronic/Print Communication** -E-mail weekly news, Titan Times monthly newsletter, PHS/District website, Credit status/deficiency notices, Learning Point classroom portal, Ed-Connect auto dialer system, Marquee, progress reports, daily bulletin, student planners, e-mail/voicemail system, counseling folders, SPARC report, SART (School Attendance Review Team) meetings