

2016 LCAP FUNDING PRIORITIES SURVEY - COMMENTS

(31 responses)

Fitness center and weight room

I believe that Pali should provide more options as far as courses go. For instance, there should be a wider variety of partner institutions for online courses, as well as more summer school opportunities for any student who wants to take part. Additionally, Pali should give credit for more classes. This would give students the opportunity to advance their education further than they would have otherwise. High-achieving students would be able to delve deeper into areas of interest, while under-performing students would have the flexibility, patience, and opportunities they need to succeed.

The most important thing for us right now is to update emergency supplies and training for students as well as teachers.

Make the grading system more reasonable. For example if a student scores 100% on a test, it only raises them approximately 1% maximum or .05, but if a student fails or receives a C it drops their grade about 5% or even 8% and this is not fair.

Air conditioning, functioning heaters, decent bathrooms are basic needs that are more important than anything on this list.

Make the bathrooms nicer.

Linking to the LCAP goals (or including them in this doc) would make this more understandable to the average parent. Also, insiders use acronyms and they are less-than-helpful to others. Acronyms were born of paper, we live in a digital age.

1. Implementing support programs as indicated by data for all students.
2. Looking at a grade-level teams model.
3. Professional development in and implementation of close reading strategies in all departments.
4. Further professional development in and implementation of differentiated instruction strategies.
5. Developing programs to address neglected threads for all students, including literacy, cultural awareness, college awareness, career awareness, use of technology, digital citizenship, group inquiry, and study skills, perhaps through some type of freshman seminar.
6. Raising money for transportation scholarships to lessen the burden for traveling students' families.
7. Development of a *bottom-up* feedback loop of constantly examining student achievement data, developing questions based on the data, strategizing means of addressing concerns that emerge from the data, and prioritizing these concerns to permit the best allocation of limited resources to address them--rather than relying primarily on notions or hunches.
8. To create that loop, given the current dearth of outside data, an increased emphasis on developing internal standards-based assessments.

Add more languages please

There is a very high demand for a Hebrew language class that multiple people have spoken to their counselors about to have during school

All classrooms should use textbooks because we have had many issues with ipads and chromebooks. Plus looking at a screen for too long can injure a student's eyes.

The restroom renovations should include gender neutral bathrooms for gender nonconforming/nonbinary students!

i think they need to fix the classroom desks... way to much gum. also fix the bathrooms... also to have late start!

Bathrooms were mentioned, but it should be noted that most/all of the bathrooms are only open before and after school, and during class periods. But during the time when the most people have to use them, nutrition or lunch, all bathrooms with the exception of two are closed! I don't

know why this is, and while it isn't life or death, it would greatly improve the bathroom struggle for most students if this was assessed.

-locker rooms need to be updated, -clean classrooms every week because the floors are always dirty -have the study center open at 6:30 because people arrive early and are freezing outside - update the patio set next to the therapist's room -make a store next to the football field so we can see merchandise when we have football games. -have more places where students can sit so they won't sit on the floor. -have a small garden

I'd love to see class sizes reduced.

mentor low level math teachers to increase skills

STEAM, STEAM, STEAM. We need a project based vision for this school that is rooted in 21st high tech skill where students are working together to create and build something. Training them to be information retainers is a backwards philosophy and hones skills that are about as useful to our society as knowing how to work a cassette tape player. We are robbing our kids the opportunity to truly learn in a way that prepares them to be productive. In their lives, homes, hobbies and careers.

Performing arts needs to be more of a priority...serves hundreds of kids with very little funding.

What about field trips in California, in the US or abroad? I grew up in Europe and travelling abroad or within the country was not only fun but a great experience of life. Travelling doesn't bring up the test scores by it widens your horizon. Trips in high school are cherished for ever!

Am surprised that class room size reduction is not even on the list. That should be a top and foremost priority and is the one proven method for improving learning in the classroom.

Shocked actually, that it's not on the list.

You need to make classroom size reduction a #1 Priority.

We need someone to get alumni money into this campus. Start naming buildings and renovations after Pali alums. This place is loaded with amazing alums who so many people do not know about.

Providing programs to enhance emotional support and stress reduction for all employees and students. Attempt to create interactive activities in the context of fun and play for employees in order to create trust and bonding. It doesn't always have to be about the left brain critical thinking and analytical analysis. Play science is real and for our faculty/employees it could enhance trust and cohesion that might open the avenue to keep people curious, which could lead to enhanced innovation to think out of the norm.

I applaud the school's desire to develop self-confidence and self-expression through its visual and performing arts programs however I think it would be terrific to augment these courses with some avenues to teach students that they can establish meaningful careers out of the arts - especially as residents of Los Angeles - a community in which the majority of the workforce is in some way shape or form tied into the "creative economies" of music, film, design, writing, fashion - etc. The "A" as an added option in "STEAM" is simply not enough and further the Arts should stand alone. As a parent, I would be very happy to be involved in any aspect of developing opportunities/activities to bring light to this type of pathway for students. The LCAP is a very powerful "tool" for parents and stakeholders to finally have some input on those issues that most matter, and making the right choices and laying the groundwork correctly at the offset is critical to any successful outcome. The Visual and Performing Arts needs to be more prominently placed in order to benefit greatly from this important occasion.

Regarding languages, I would suggest more varied languages offered on campus. Need more uniformity between teachers covering the same topic; i.e., Honors Bio-shouldn't matter which teacher is teaching the class as to what is covered/difficulty; Math classes should be geared to high school students, not college students.

Good luck

Ipads are toys that distract students.

The math department at Pali High is not performing as well as other segments of the school. The instruction model they are using does not work effectively with this student population. Students are singled out and embarrassed in classes when they do not do a homework problem they do not understand. They are accused of not doing their homework when the real problem is a lack of clear instruction and supervised practice in class with the teacher. The group method used by many of the teachers does not work and is humiliating for weaker math students. Pali High administration needs to review yearly testing and track teachers whose students score poorly on the standard tests or show a decline in performance and provide re training to these teachers and monitor their delivery. Teachers need to be terminated who continue to show poor performance based on student outcomes. You need to have better on going monitoring of this department made a priority.

My daughter cannot breathe in her math class because of the soaring temperatures. Her teacher has three fans in the classroom but that is not helping in reducing the temperature. Something needs to be addressed ASAP. Also, please expand the iPad or computer program so that all students have direct and convenient access to the internet and online materials. Please try to make the cafeteria food more appealing and healthier, thank you. Also, my daughter went to the lunchtime career panel and really enjoyed hearing about the law career field, she even learned extra credit! Make more of this lunchtime programs during the month!

I would like to see the faculty cafeteria re-opened to offer breakfast (omelets, etc.) and lunch (tortilla soup, etc.). This is an excellent opportunity for staff to gather in an informal environment. I would also like to see class size balanced in the science department. Most of my class sizes are extremely large (41 students). Lastly, laptop carts for teachers who want them should be a top priority. Right now my students are performing a virtual frog dissection. I was very fortunate to get the Chromebook cart from the tech department for two days this week.