

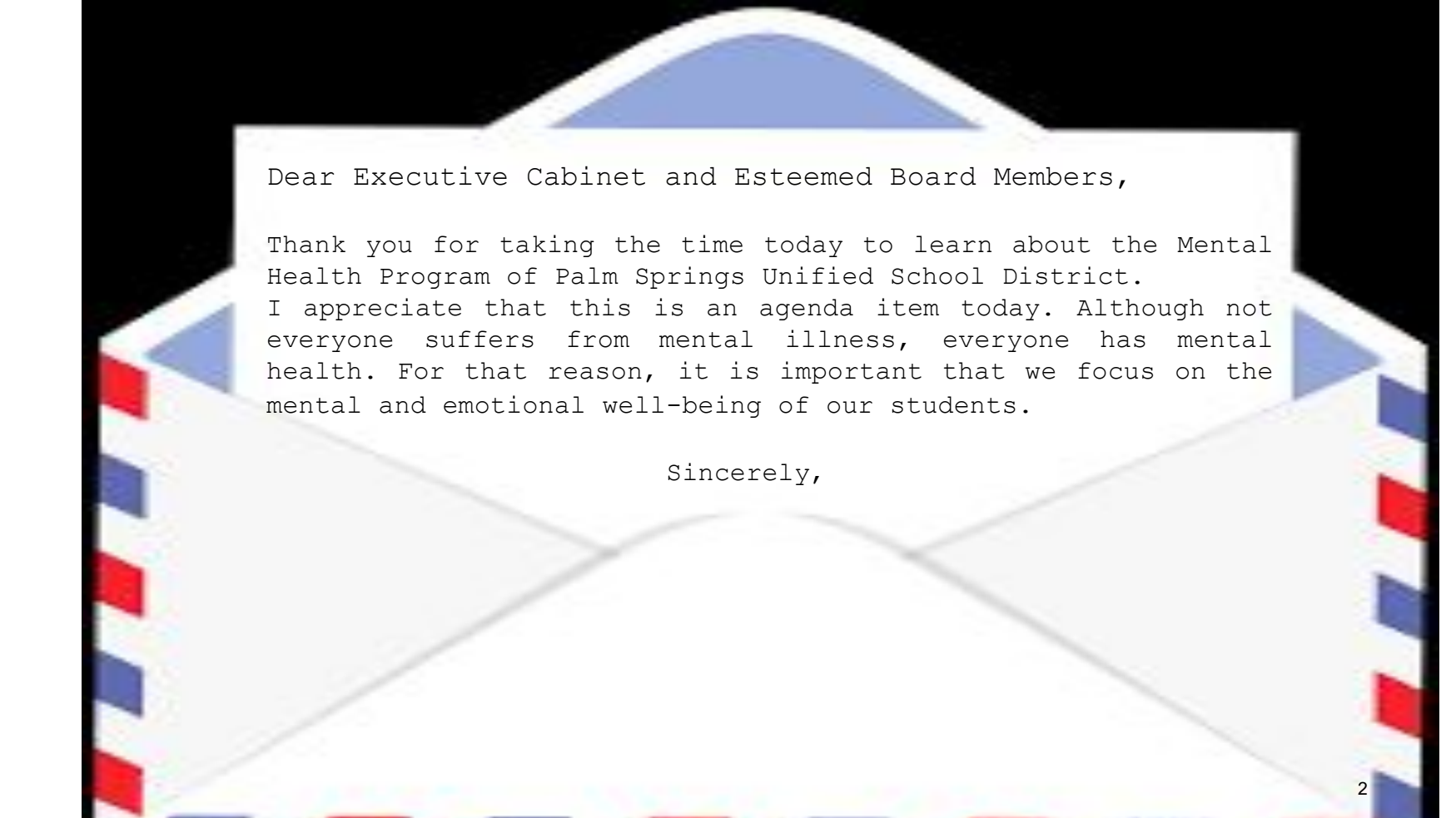
Palm Springs Unified School District Mental Health Program



Board Study Session
October 27, 2020



Xochitl Perez, *ERMHS Coordinator*



Dear Executive Cabinet and Esteemed Board Members,

Thank you for taking the time today to learn about the Mental Health Program of Palm Springs Unified School District.

I appreciate that this is an agenda item today. Although not everyone suffers from mental illness, everyone has mental health. For that reason, it is important that we focus on the mental and emotional well-being of our students.

Sincerely,



In Middle Eastern cultures the palm tree was seen as a symbol of **peace**, **rest**, and **hospitality**.

The palm branch in Greek culture was a symbol of **victory**, **endurance**, and **triumph**.

The current symbol of a palm tree is **resilience** and **vacation**.

PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



The Palm Tree represents the mental health program's 7 year journey with Palm Springs Unified School District and can symbolize our society's journey through 2020.

Resilience



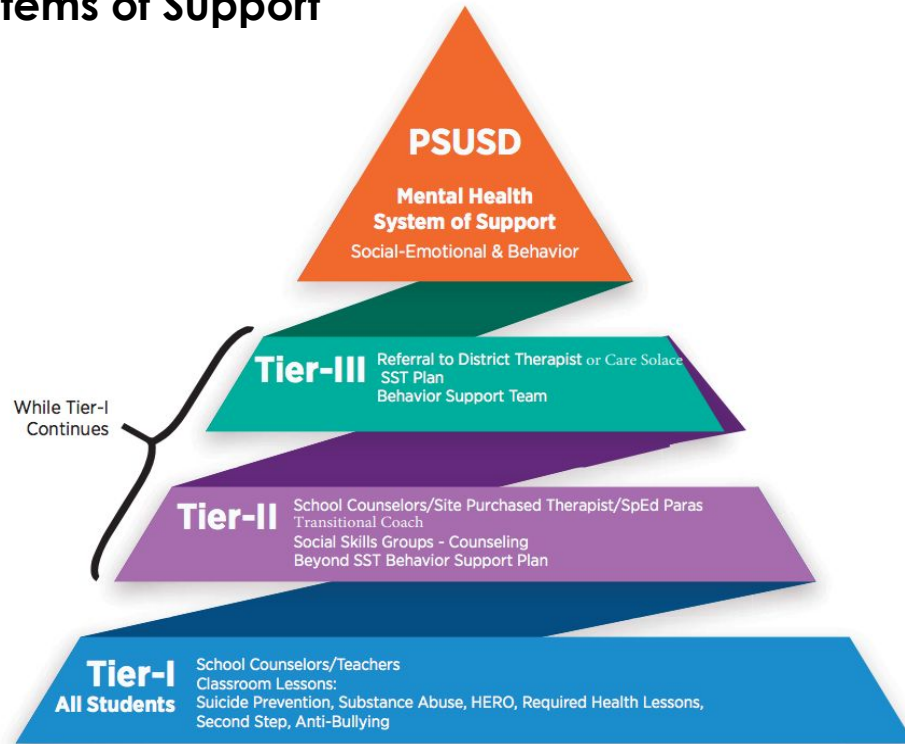


MISSION

The Mental Health program of Palm Springs Unified School District seeks to provide competent and compassionate mental health services to children and their families significantly affected by mental health challenges. Clinicians are sent throughout the District visiting with students and families in an effort to help these students rebound from mental health issues that would otherwise affect their ability to function optimally at school, home, and in the community.

PSUSD: Mental Health Systems of Support

Social Emotional & Behavioral



Tier One Supports: All Students and Families Benefit

Prevention Early Intervention

Three contracts in place with Riverside University Health Systems

- Suicide Prevention
- Substance Use Prevention
- Elementary Anti-Bullying

District Events & Outreach

Collaboration with the Family Engagement Center and Riverside University Health Systems

- Kindness Counts Fair 2019
- Hispanic Heritage Event
- Community Outreach

Parent Classes & Staff Trainings

Offered through PSUSD PD Links, District and Mental Health website, and Family Engagement Center

- Positive Action Parenting
- Courage to Speak
- Parent Circles
- Mental Health Tx Series

Suicide Prevention

Teen Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program (TSAPP)

Grades 5, 7, and 10

Substance Use Prevention

Grades 4, 6, and 9

Anti-Bullying

Grades Kinder-5th

Tier One Supports

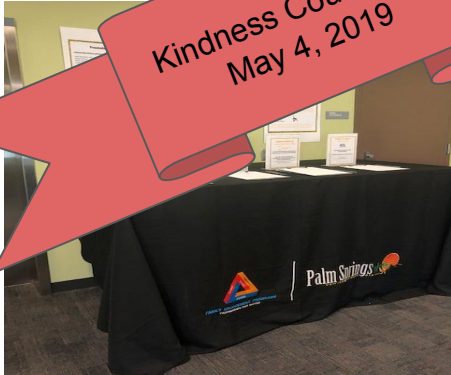
District Events & Community Outreach



Kindness Counts Fair
May 4, 2019



Hispanic Heritage Event
October 14, 2019



Tier One Supports

Parent Classes & Staff Trainings

Since 2019, there has been a Mental Health Department sponsored Class or Training offered to parents or staff each month during the school year. Recently added are Peer Group Classes.

Courage to Speak



Parent Circle (0-5)



LGBTQ Peer Support Group



Positive Action Parenting



Tier Two Supports: Focused Student Interventions

Collaboration with Tier 2 Teams

Mental Health Department collaborates with:
Tier 2 teams
PBIS Teams
Behavioral Intervention Team
School counselors
Peace 4 Kids

Grant Funded Mental Health Services

Mental Health Therapist (Transitional Coach) provides group, individual, family counseling, and crisis support.

Purchased Mental Health Services

Mental Health Therapist provides group, individual, family counseling, crisis support, staff consultation, and trainings on mental health topics.

Tier Two Supports

Collaboration with Tier 2 Teams

Consultation and collaboration with Tier 2 Teams
including Positive Behavioral Intervention Teams,
Behavioral Intervention Team, and
School Counselors.

Contract with Riverside University Health Systems to
provide a Prevention Early Intervention Program called
Peace 4 Kids.



Tier Two Supports

Peace 4 Kids

*Desert Springs & Painted Hills Middle Schools

Group curriculum focuses on moral reasoning, anger management, empathy, character education, & social skills. Parent component called "Family Time".

Collaboration with Tier 2 Teams

Problem Behaviors Decreased and Pro-Social behavior Increased from Pre to Post

Figure 4 Peace 4 Kids Grade Level

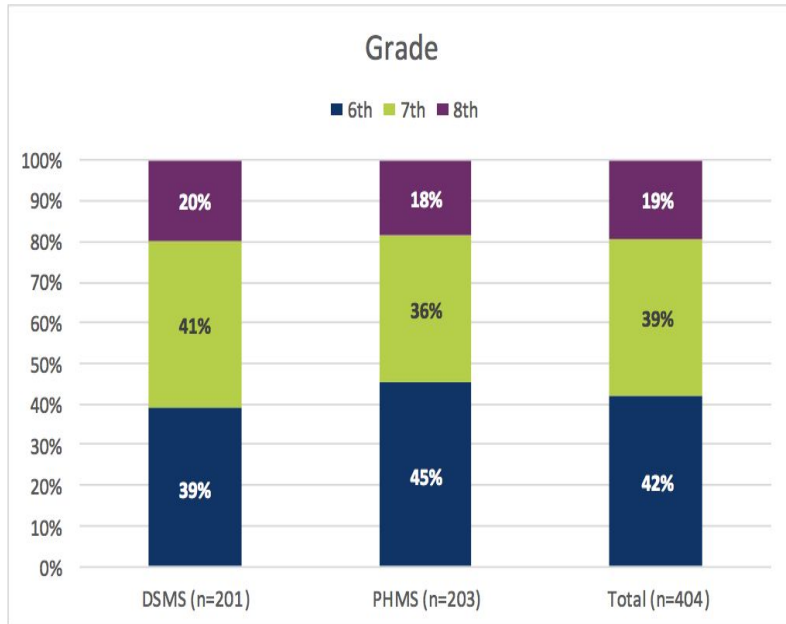
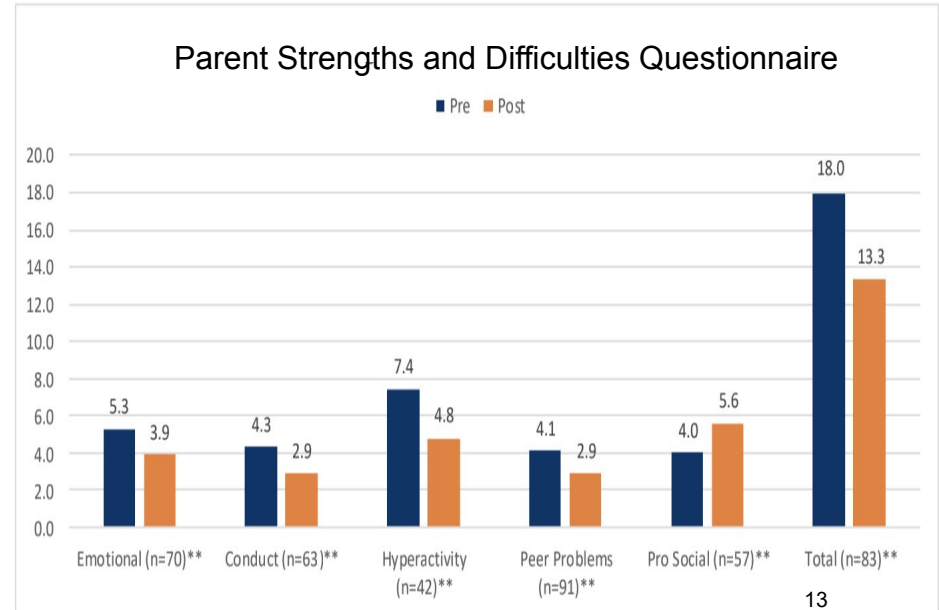


Figure 9 Total Parent SDQ Pre & Post Scores



*Significant at $p < .05$

**Significant at $p < .01$

Tier Two Supports

Grant Funded Mental Health Services

Palm Springs Unified School District was awarded the School-Based Health Care Solutions Network Grant.

The five year grant funds a Mental Health Therapist at seven schools.

Mental Health Therapists are called Transitional Coaches and are contracted with the school district to provide an array of mental health services.

Schools participating in this grant include:

Painted Hills Middle School
Desert Springs Middle School
James Workman Middle School
Nellie N. Coffman Middle School

Cathedral City High School
Desert Hot Springs High School
Rancho Mirage High School



School sites have the option of using their LCAP or Title I funds to cover the cost of a Mental Health Therapist for a full day or a portion of the school day.

Mental Health Therapists are employed by PSUSD.

The following school sites have purchased these services between the years 2018 and 2021: (* Purchased 2020-2021)

- *Cabot Yerxa Elementary School
- Cahuilla Elementary School
- *Cielo Vista Elementary School
- Della S. Lindley Elementary School
- *Julius Corsini Elementary School

- Nellie N Coffman Middle School
- *Painted Hills Middle School
- Raymond Cree Middle School
- *Desert Hot Springs High School



Tier Three Supports: Select Student Interventions

Care Solace

- Accepts all insurances
- Links PSUSD families to local mental health providers
- Third party
- Serve all ages

Medi-Cal (Systems of Care)

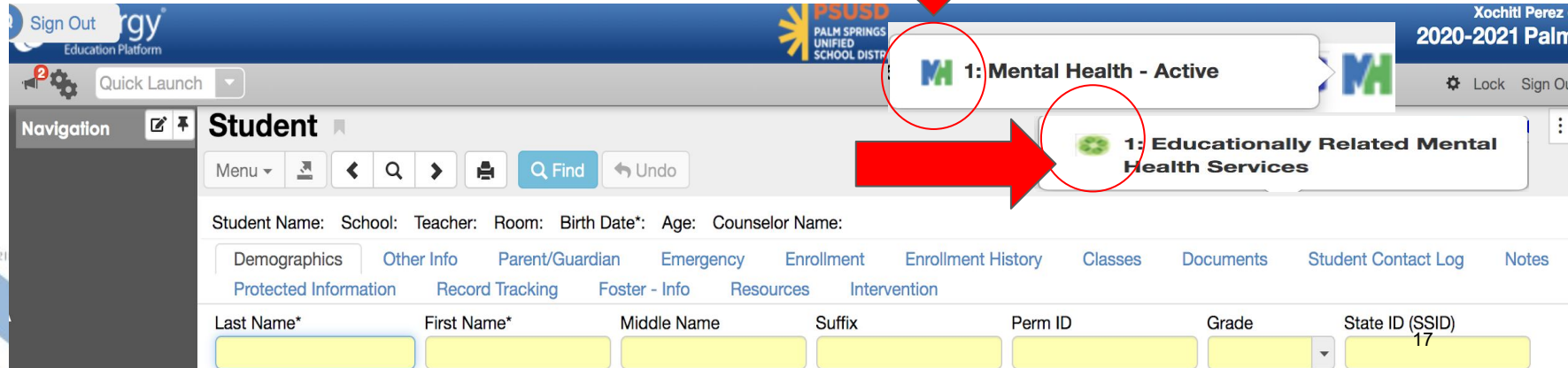
- Accepts only Medi-Cal Insurance
- Provides mental health therapy to district schools and 5 desert cities
- All staff are employed by PSUSD
- Serve 0-21 years

Educationally Related Mental Health Services

- Students must have a special education eligibility
- All staff are employed by PSUSD
- Serve school age-22 years

Identifying Students: Tier Three Supports

- Students are identified as receiving mental health services by a symbol on their Synergy profile.
- When the student is discharged from mental health services, the symbol is removed.
- As of September 25th 2020, there are **419 Medi-Cap students** tagged and **221 ERMH students** tagged.



The screenshot shows the Synergy Education Platform interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a 'Sign Out' button, the 'Synergy' logo, and the 'PSUSD PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT' logo. On the right, the user's name 'Xochitl Perez' and the school year '2020-2021 Palm' are displayed. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Quick Launch' dropdown menu. The main content area is titled 'Student' and features a 'Menu' dropdown, navigation arrows, a 'Find' button, and an 'Undo' button. Below this, there are fields for 'Student Name', 'School', 'Teacher', 'Room', 'Birth Date*', 'Age', and 'Counselor Name'. A series of tabs are visible: 'Demographics', 'Other Info', 'Parent/Guardian', 'Emergency', 'Enrollment', 'Enrollment History', 'Classes', 'Documents', 'Student Contact Log', and 'Notes'. Under the 'Enrollment' tab, there are sub-tabs: 'Protected Information', 'Record Tracking', 'Foster - Info', 'Resources', and 'Intervention'. The 'Enrollment' sub-tab is active, showing a form with fields for 'Last Name*', 'First Name*', 'Middle Name', 'Suffix', 'Perm ID', 'Grade', and 'State ID (SSID)'. The 'State ID (SSID)' field contains the value '17'. Two red circles highlight specific status tags: one for '1: Mental Health - Active' and another for '1: Educationally Related Mental Health Services'. A large red arrow points from the top of the slide down to the first tag, and another red arrow points from the first tag down to the second tag.

Sign Out Synergy Education Platform

PSUSD PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Xochitl Perez
2020-2021 Palm

Quick Launch

Navigation

Student

Menu

Find Undo

Student Name: School: Teacher: Room: Birth Date*: Age: Counselor Name:

Demographics Other Info Parent/Guardian Emergency Enrollment Enrollment History Classes Documents Student Contact Log Notes

Protected Information Record Tracking Foster - Info Resources Intervention

Last Name* First Name* Middle Name Suffix Perm ID Grade State ID (SSID)

17

1: Mental Health - Active

1: Educationally Related Mental Health Services

Tier Three Supports:

Care Solace

PSUSD piloted Care Solace services from January 2020 to June 2020.

Contract established between PSUSD and Care Solace for the 2020-2021 school year.

Staff and families can make a direct referral using the digital referral form or staff can complete a warm hand off.

MediCap staff provide short term support to students and families referred to Care Solace.

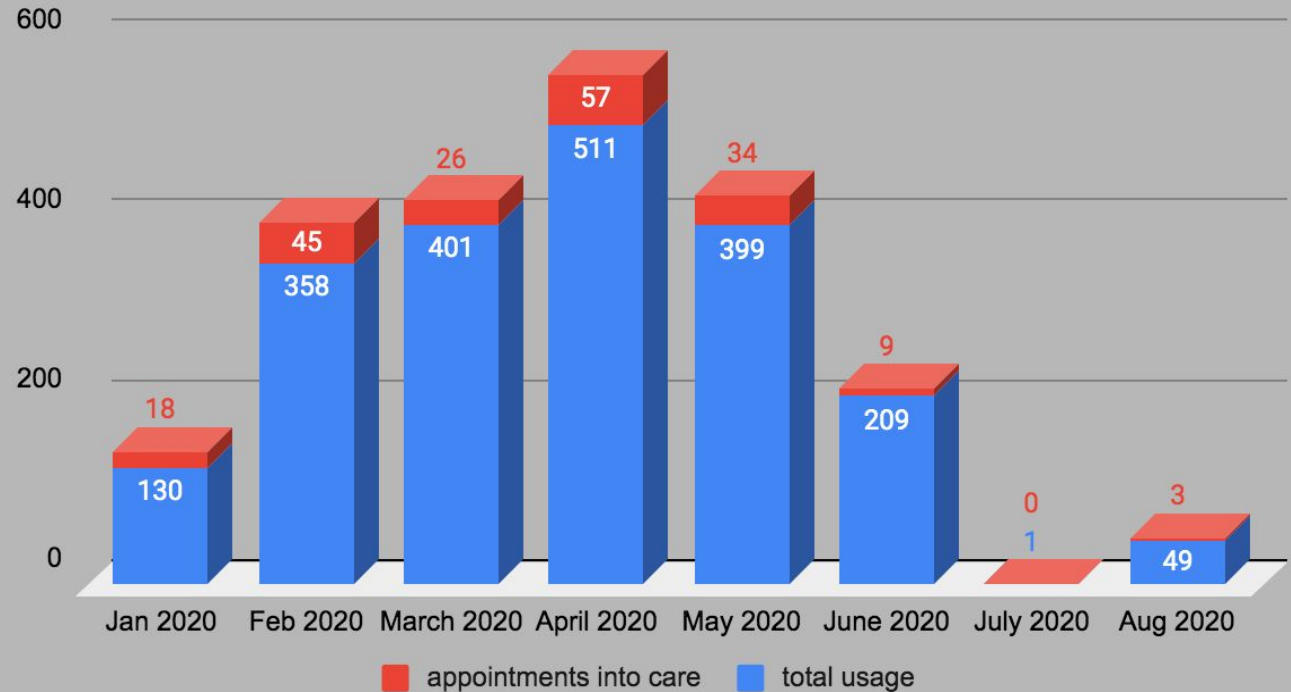


Tier Three Supports

Care Solace

Usage of Care Solace was at its highest during the month of April 2020 with 511 usages and 57 appointments into care.

Total Usage & Appointments Into Care



Tier Three Supports: Staff

Medi-Cap (Systems of Care)

Specialists



Gustavo Leon Raigoza
Mental Health Peer Specialist



Pablo Alcaraz Lopez
Mental Health Specialist

SR

Sofia Rodriguez
Mental Health Bilingual Specialist

Medi-Cap/Purchased



Christina Granillo
Mental Health Therapist II



Carmelita Coppins
Mental Health Therapist II



Chase Christensen
Mental Health Therapist II

Medi-Cap Only



Joaquin Galeano
Mental Health Therapist II



Mireya Gonzalez
Mental Health Therapist II



Kimberly Snyder
Mental Health Therapist II



Christina Palencia
Mental Health Therapist II

Medi-Cap/ Set 4 School



Tamara Hagy-Lopez
Mental Health Therapist II



Dayana Bonilla
Office Specialist/Medi-Cal Billing



Krissia Perla
Office Specialist Bilingual

Tier Three Supports: Referrals

Medi-Cap (Systems of Care)

Medi-Cap referrals are made by school staff using the web based referral form.

Self referrals are made by telephone call to the Palm Springs or Desert Hot Springs office locations, or using the web based referral form.

Children demonstrating medical necessity using the Diagnostic Systems Manual- V (DSM-V) are eligible for services.

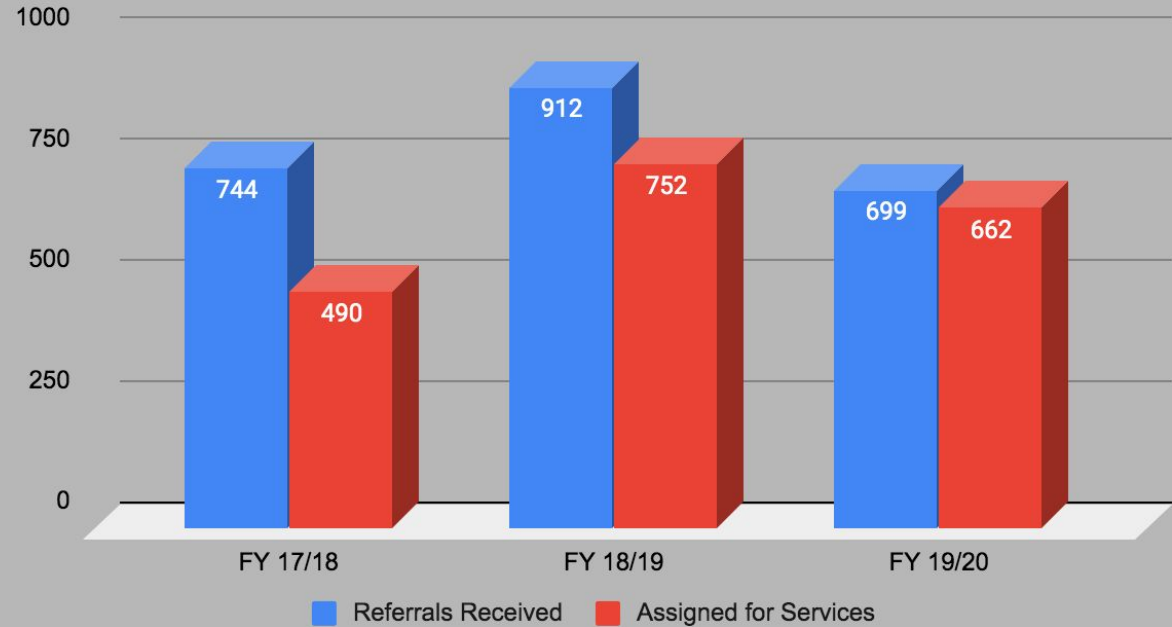


Tier Three Supports: Referrals

Medi-Cap (Systems of Care)

Medi-Cap referrals for fiscal year 19/20 saw a decline due in part to the national health pandemic and school closures from March 2020 to June 2020.

Medi-Cap Referrals Received and Assigned for Services

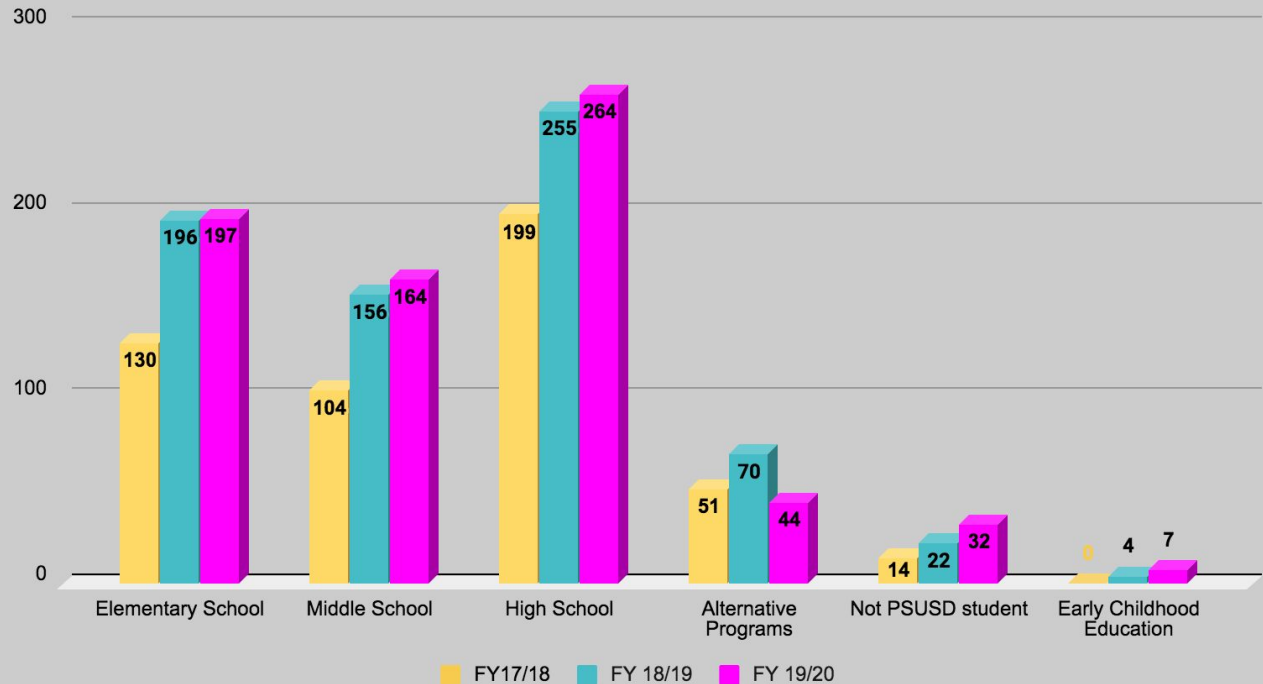


Tier Three Supports: Services

Medi-Cap (Systems of Care)

Services have stayed steady or increased slightly between fiscal years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 at the Elementary, Middle, and High School levels.

MediCap Services by Grade Level & FY

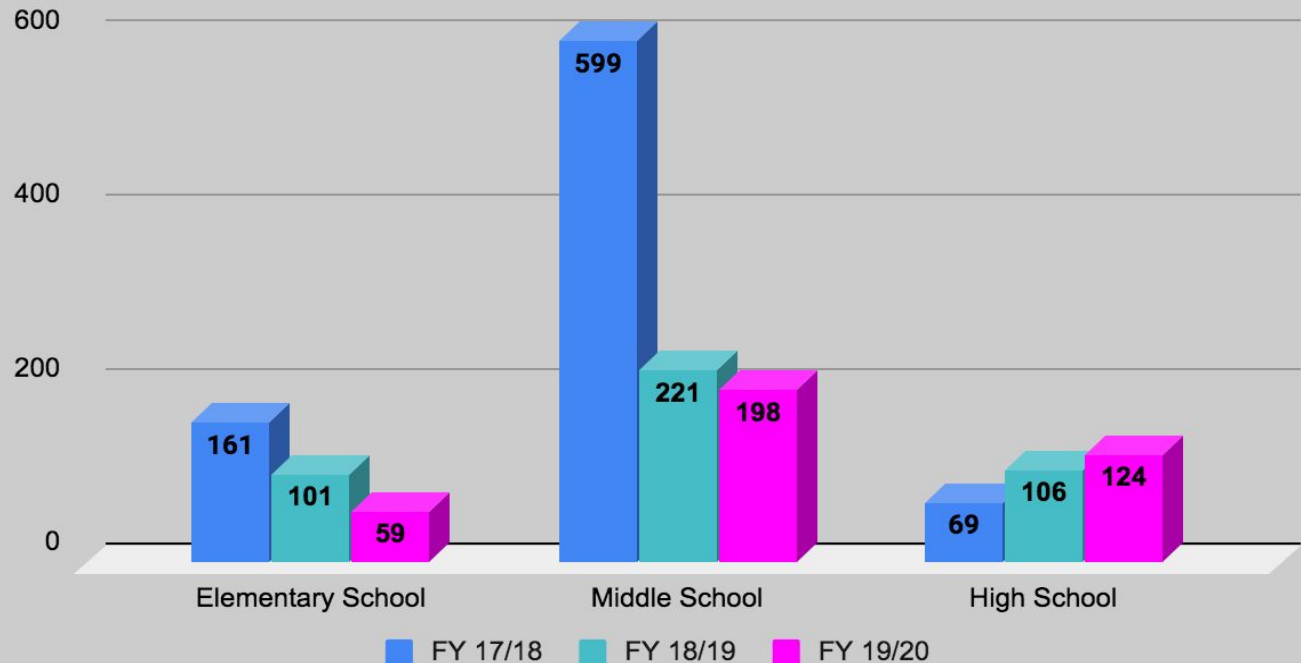


Tier Three Supports: Services

Medi-Cap
(Systems of Care)

Number of suspensions (including in school or out of school suspensions) saw a decline for the Elementary School level from FY 17/18 to 19/20. There was an even greater decline in the number of suspensions for the Middle School level from FY 17/18 to 19/20.

Suspensions: Students with Medi-Cap Services



Tier Three Supports: Funding

MediCap
(Systems of Care)

2018-2020 Funding Source

- ★ County Contract
- ★ LCAP
- ★ Purchased Services
- ★ Drug Awareness and Prevention Grant

Current Year Funding Source

- ★ County Contract
- ★ Purchased Services
- ★ Set 4 Schools Program Grant

The County Mental Health contract includes reimbursement for provision of services at an established rate. Funds are paid monthly from Riverside County to the School District, after service billing is received by the county.



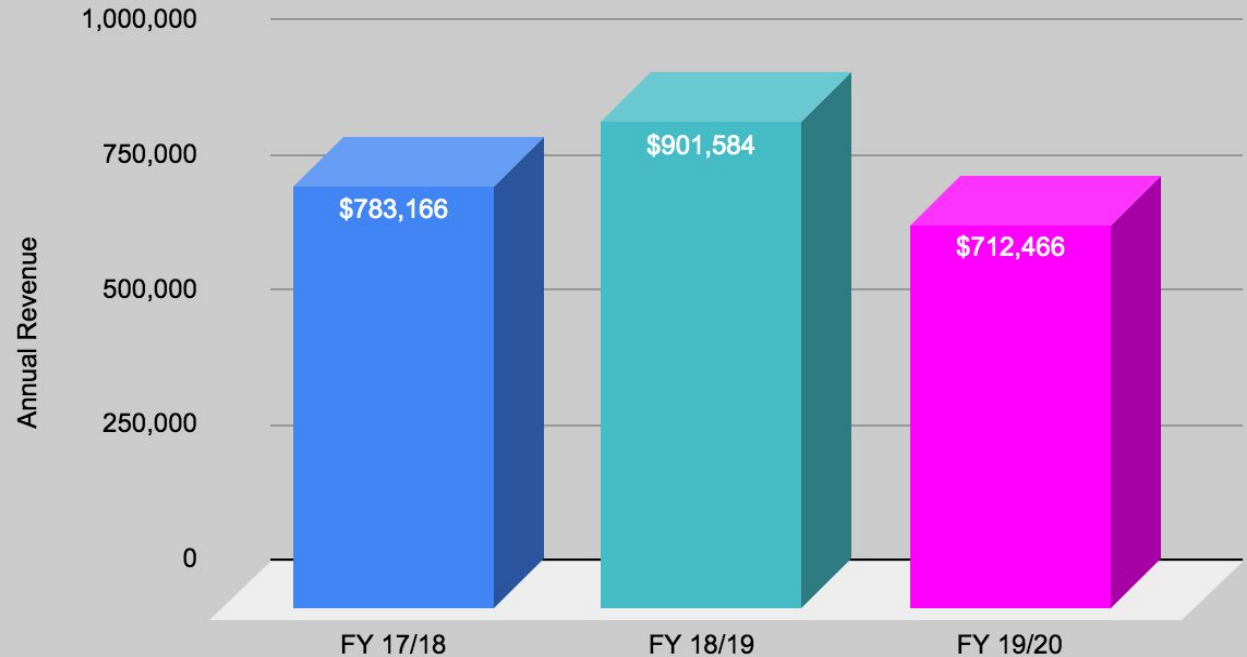
Tier Three Supports: Revenue

MediCap
(Systems of Care)

Revenue for fiscal year 19/20 saw a decline due in part to the national health pandemic and school closures from March 2020 to June 2020.

Medi-Cap revenue declined by more than 50% on average during those months.

Annual Revenue by Fiscal Year



Tier Three Supports: Staff

Educationally Related Mental Health Services

Coordinators



Xochitl Perez
ERMHS Coordinator



Shirley Guzman
Resource Case Coordinator

Mental Health Therapists



Rachel Taylor
Mental Health Therapist II



Jaclyn Ferber
Mental Health Therapist II



Veronica Davalos
Mental Health Therapist I



Caryn Kruse
Mental Health Therapist II



Brandi Scott
Mental Health Therapist II



Kimberly Martinez
Mental Health Therapist

AN

Ashley Nepper
ERMHS Associate

Clerical



Irasema Diaz
Office Specialist Bilingual



Tier Three Supports: Referrals

Educationally Related Mental Health Services

Students are identified by IEP teams which can include the teacher, school psychologist, related service providers, or the parent.

Once an assessment plan is signed by the parent or educational right holder, an E.R.M.H.S. assessment takes place.

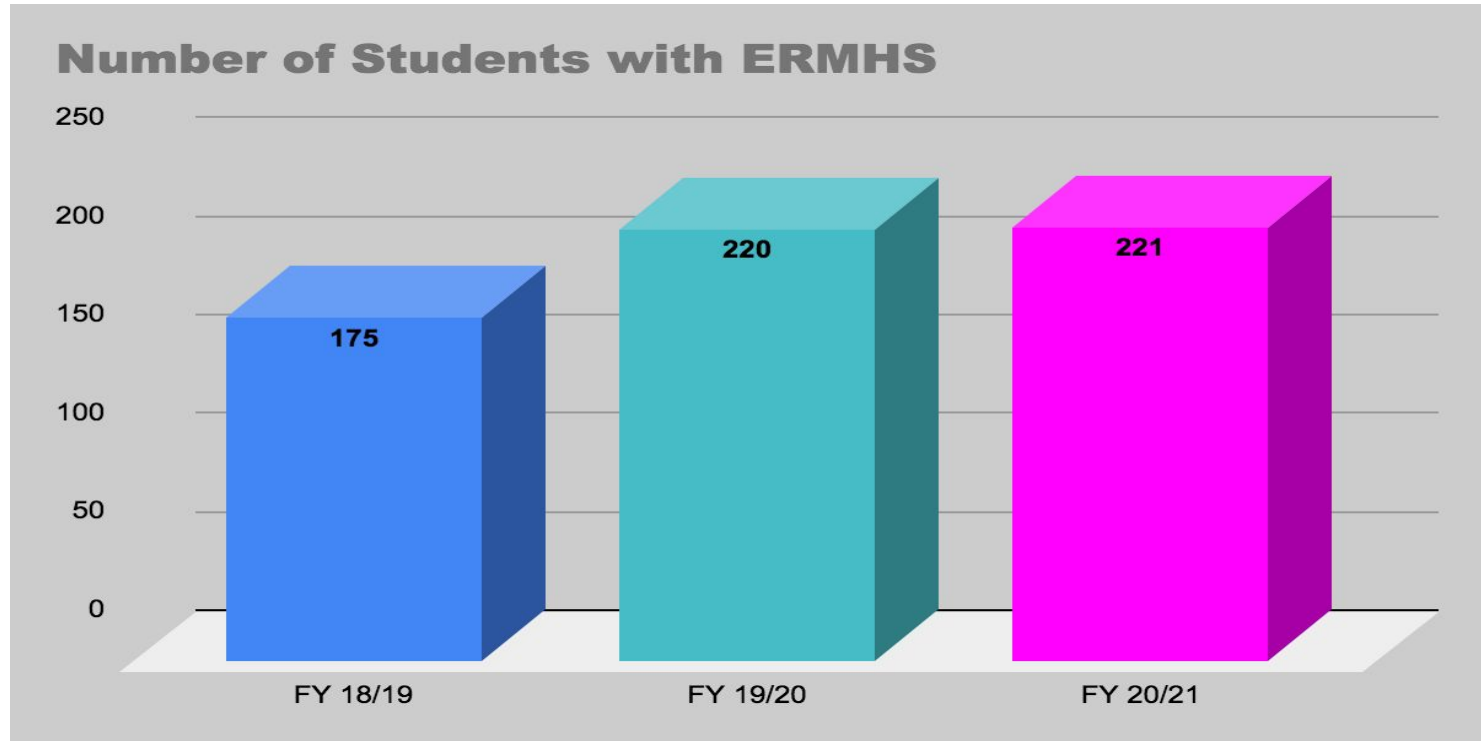
If the student is identified as having social emotional factors that greatly impact their academic functioning, they are recommended for supports.

Goals and services are agreed upon at an IEP meeting and placed on the student's plan.



Tier Three Supports

Educationally
Related Mental
Health Services



Funding Source

All provisions of Educationally Related Mental Health (E.R.M.H.) services come from funding through Assembly Bill 114 and Proposition 98. These funds are allocated from the State Education Department to the local SELPA, and then distributed to the school district based on ADA (attendance). E.R.M.H. services are reserved for students with an Individual Education Plan and all services must be listed on the IEP.



Looking Ahead:

- Destigmatize Mental Health
- Use of technology for a greater reach
- Expand programming: Set 4 Schools



Not Everyone Suffers from
Mental Illness

but

EVERYONE HAS

Mental Health

Resilience

helps in bouncing back from life's
adversities and adapting to change



Palm Springs Unified School District Mental Health Program

THANK YOU!



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October 27, 2020

