

# Lompoc Youth Violence Task Force & Coalition

Lompoc Unified School District

# Acknowledgement/Disclaimer

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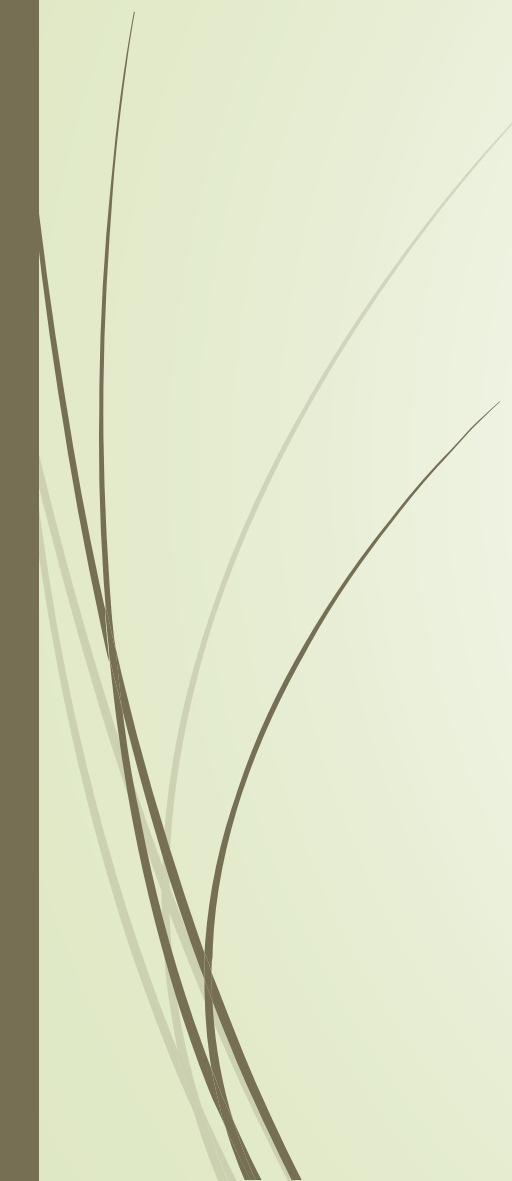


# The Journey

- ▶ Lompoc Youth Violence Task Force
- ▶ Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition
  - ▶ Consultation with Sandra Espadas
- ▶ Community Dialogues
- ▶ CBPS Collective
- ▶ Safe Routes to School
- ▶ Student Success Class for Parents



# Lompoc Youth Violence Task Force Obstacles to Success

- COVID-19 limited in-person meetings
  - Saturation of virtual meetings
  - Changes to schedules and responsibilities
  - Health focus over violence
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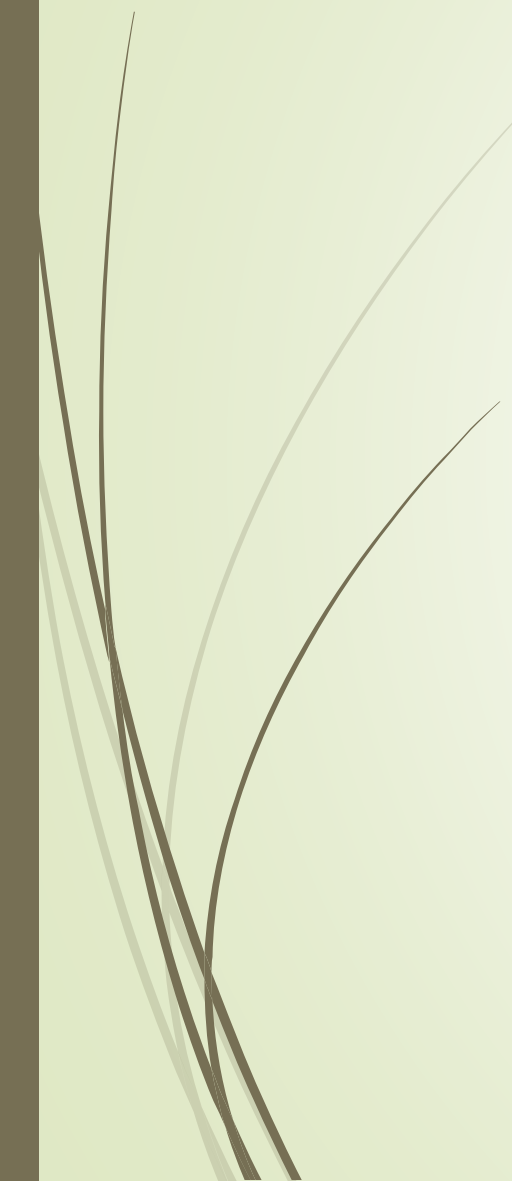


# Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition Community Partners

- ▶ Lompoc Unified School District
- ▶ Family Service Agency
- ▶ Council of Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- ▶ Lompoc YMCA
- ▶ Community
- ▶ Future Lompoc
- ▶ Lompoc Promotoras
- ▶ North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center
- ▶ Child Abuse Listening and Mediation
- ▶ Lompoc Valley Medical Center
- ▶ Lompoc Parks and Recreation
- ▶ Santa Barbara County Probation
- ▶ Lompoc Valley Community Health Organization
- ▶ C4
- ▶ One Community Action
- ▶ Local Pediatrician
- ▶ Local Churches



# Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition

- ▶ Monthly meetings
  - ▶ Growing participation of agencies and individuals
  - ▶ Designing next steps
    - ▶ Community Dialogues
    - ▶ Student Success Class for Parents
    - ▶ CBPS Collective
    - ▶ Safe Passage/Routes to School
  - ▶ Commitment to Support
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# Community Dialogues



## ► Questions

- What **vision or goals** do you see for the youth of Lompoc or the community of Lompoc?
- What **obstacles** would prevent these goals from being met?
- How do you receive **information** about violence in the community?
- Do you believe you are well informed about violence in the community?
- How has community violence impacted you or your family?
- Are there **specific safety concerns** you have in Lompoc? Any specific locations?
- What community safety initiatives have you seen, experienced, or heard about that have had an impact on safety in the community?
- Do you have ideas about how we can address safety concerns in Lompoc?
- Who else should be involved in these conversations? How do we bring them to the table?



# Community Dialogues

- ▶ Sample of Answers
  - ▶ Vision—Kids that have a purpose, Vibrant community
  - ▶ Obstacles—fear, parent involvement
  - ▶ Information—Media, Facebook, the children next door
  - ▶ Specific Safety Concerns—
    - ▶ L,M,N and Chestnut
    - ▶ Walnut
    - ▶ 3rd Street and G/Pine
    - ▶ North Ave by Fiesta
    - ▶ G and Pine
    - ▶ Cypress and O
    - ▶ from La Canada
    - ▶ Behind the aquatic center
    - ▶ Nighttime lighting at the high school (LHS)





# CBPS Collective

- ▶ Possible Training and Technical Assistance Plan for Lompoc
  - ▶ **Consultation with skilled intervention workers**
  - ▶ **Training in the development of safe passage to and from schools**
  - ▶ Two-day training and action planning in developing a school safety plan
  - ▶ Training in the facilitation of restorative/transformational justice programs in schools
  - ▶ **Assessments of current shootings and a plan for violence prevention**
  - ▶ Development and analysis of violence and its root causes in and around Lompoc schools



# Safe Passage/Routes to School

- ▶ Current initiative with City of Lompoc and LVCHO
  - ▶ Safe Passage has been an expressed concern by students, parents, community members
  - ▶ City of Lompoc is working on infrastructure
- ▶ Presentation by CBPS to LUSD District Safety Committee
  - ▶ Hire “intervention workers/peacebuilders to assist students with safe passage to and from school
  - ▶ Students will feel safer walking with reputable adults who live in their communities
- ▶ LUSD next steps
  - ▶ Consider recommendation by increasing hours of Student Supervision Aides to before and after school
  - ▶ Focus on schools within the band of improvement identified by the City of Lompoc: 3 elementary schools, 1 middle school, 1 high school



# Student Success Class for Parents

- ▶ Purpose: To engage parents in their students' educational process through an after-school class that meets the needs of the unique parent group. The purpose will be to provide a forum for parents to learn how to better support their students to be successful in their lives.
- ▶ Specific Concern: A group of approximately 12-6th grade Fillmore students have demonstrated repeated behaviors that have disrupted the learning environment for themselves and others. The school has attempted individual interventions with students with some success; however, a wider plan is needed to address the concerns that will impede success now and in the future. The students are influenced by the gang culture in the community around the school.



# Student Success Class for Parents

- ▶ Format: The class will be run in the format of a restorative circle or peace circle to maximize participation and input.
- ▶ Facilitator: The facilitator should be an individual that can build trust with the parents and be able to facilitate conversations. The facilitator must be able to connect to the culture of the participants and must be seen as someone who is not there to defend the district. School Social Worker, SEL Counselor and Bilingual liaison are potential candidates.



# Student Success Class for Parents

- ▶ Method: The first session(s) will focus on discussing what the parents think about their children. Here are some sample topics:
  - ▶ What does success look like for your kids? Where would you like to see them in 5-10 years?
  - ▶ How can the school support you to get your kids to that success?
  - ▶ What are the challenges/barriers to success for your children?
  - ▶ What are the challenges/barriers that you experience that may affect the success of your children?
  - ▶ What are a list of topics that we can bring to this group that would help address those challenges?
  - ▶ What are the aspects of this community that create challenges for your children to be successful?
  - ▶ Future question: What do you think about suspension from school? Is it effective or not? What alternatives to suspension would work?



# Student Success Class for Parents

- ▶ Commitments from Coalition to Support Success Class
  - ▶ Stephanie Saucedo—reach out to Boys and Girls Club for ASES priority, sponsor YMCA program
  - ▶ Maribel Landeros—provide resources to any Spanish speaking families that is having trouble accessing resources, promotoras present that have personal history with violence
  - ▶ Mario Guerrero—recreational pool passes, sponsorship to a class
  - ▶ Lana Huyck—commit to working with counselors for middle school and high school presentations, work with connecting Victor de Alba to speak with the students, sharing personal story of the impact of violence, celebration at the end with a certificate
  - ▶ Paul Katan—connection to FSA counselors and family advocates for support of the class
  - ▶ Martena Wilson—Yoga activity for kids



# Next Steps

- ▶ Continue with monthly Lompoc Youth Violence Coalition
  - ▶ Continue to expand the scope of the Coalition
  - ▶ Partner within the Coalition on community projects
  - ▶ More Community Dialogues to engage the public
  - ▶ Explore multi-agency grant opportunities for the Coalition to support
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