



Larimer Dahl Organization

Larimer Dahl Organization, San Francisco County

Overall Score: 78% - 4/4 Evaluations Complete

Ray Stantz:	80%
Winston Zeddmore:	80%
Peter Venkman:	74%
Dana Barrett:	80%

Overall Recommendation

Would you recommend funding this project?

Ray Stantz: Maybe

Winston Zeddmore: Yes (fund)

Peter Venkman: Maybe

Dana Barrett: Yes (fund)

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: The five team members will be taking a "deep dive" into Mindfulness training with two full years of training from Larimer Dahl Schools (including two retreats). Larimer Dahl Schools seems to be a very well established program (based in Oakland). On their website, they cite a 2012 research project conducted in Oakland (780 students, 47 teachers) which shows very positive behavior improvement in students; 95% of teachers who participated would recommend the training.

Red flag is the school itself. Founded in 2003, it is one of four schools in SFUSD's small school model, a program which SFUSD has now abandoned. An article in the SF Chronicle in 2014 pointed to very low test scores (which have continued, see 2015 data), but more importantly a terrible track record for graduation: the class of 2012 graduated 34 students (started at 103 freshmen), the class of 2013 graduated 26 students (started as 69 freshmen). Approximately 260 total students.

Winston Zeddmore: [Unanswered]

Peter Venkman: I am not sure why the certification process is necessary and what the school, teachers, students get out of that.

Dana Barrett: [Unanswered]

Scoring

1. The project provides new opportunities for innovation.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 4

Winston

Zeddmore: 5

Peter Venkman: 4

Dana Barrett: 4

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: Some staff members have done piecemeal mindfulness training, and some classes already start with mindfulness practices in classrooms, as well as in staff meetings.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: Reference to prior mindfulness training is contained in the application. Mindfulness is currently built into the daily student schedule.

Dana Barrett: This project has the potential to create a different culture at the school and ultimately train all of the teachers at the school in this method/technique. It would also create a new student leadership/mentor opportunity.

2. The project enhances teacher leadership skills and promotes passion for teaching.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 4

Winston Zeddmore: 4

Peter Venkman: 3

Dana Barrett: 5

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: The fact that the group will have a two year long partnership with a well-established non profit (Larimer Dahl Schools) is encouraging, and a mentor training guide for students will be an exciting new area for the school.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: My sense is that the 4 or 5 teachers in the project are already engaged in using some of their mindfulness training. There appears to be a focus on creating student mentors to help their peers and desire for certification as a mindfulness school. While these teachers will be presenting and training both students and colleagues, not evident that this is new to them.

Dana Barrett: The teachers involved would become leaders at their school in order to train the entire staff (planning, implementing training and being an ongoing "expert"/resource). The teachers seem to genuinely believe that this work and culture shift could have a tremendous impact on teaching and the culture of their school which, I imagine, would ignite their passion for teaching even more.

3. The project has the potential to have school-wide, district-wide and/or system-wide impact.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 4

Winston Zeddmore: 4

Peter Venkman: 3

Dana Barrett: 5

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: All 24 teachers at June Jordan will be able to participate in a portion of this training, and student mentors will also be trained.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: Impact could be school wide if all teachers become comfortable teaching mindfulness to all students. Given that there is already a mindfulness session built into student schedule, the greatest impact seems to be on creation of student mentors and certification training for the team.

Dana Barrett: The teachers and school will all benefit from having access to the Larimer Dahl Schools training. The students will benefit by having improved classroom spaces and less stressed educators. Student mentors will also gain leadership experience through the advisory program. I think a great asset of this proposal is the opportunity to create a positive new leadership experience for the student body. They also hope their techniques can be modeled by other interested schools in the district.

4. The team is well-positioned to accomplish project goals in collaboration.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 4

Winston Zeddmore: 3

Peter Venkman: 4

Dana Barrett: 4

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: Teaching team spans all grade levels (9-12) and spans several subject areas. All teachers have been at the school a minimum of 3 years. The entire staff at the school (24 teachers) will benefit from the training.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: All team members have worked together before on a variety of projects including leading PD and staff meetings. Broad range of content areas are represented. Experienced teachers committed to the school.

Dana Barrett: The school is small so all of these teachers have worked together in some capacity in the past. They have a preliminary plan as to how they will distribute tasks and work collaboratively to coordinate each aspect of the pilot.

5. The project's measures of success are realistic and acceptable.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 3

Winston Zeddmore: 3

Peter Venkman: 3

Dana Barrett: 3

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: Application does not give specific detail on how success will be measured and how mindfulness curriculum will be integrated into the classrooms.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: Student mentors and comfort level of teachers in supplying mindfulness lessons during advisory are measures of success. Not sure how they will measure the latter.

Dana Barrett: Their measures of success are really only qualitative. I wonder if they might be able to figure out a way to add a quantitative measurement to their plan?

6. The project is likely to produce a shareable deliverable that can be easily replicated.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 4

Winston Zeddmore: 4

Peter Venkman: 4

Dana Barrett: 4

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: Plan to share a guide to creating a student mentor program in mindfulness.

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: Anticipates creating and sharing guide to creating student mentor program. Create curriculum that helps teachers and students create discussion of mindfulness topics.

Dana Barrett: They plan on creating a guide to help other schools create a student mentor program in mindfulness at their school site. They also hope to complete a portion of their Advisory curriculum that teachers mindfulness.

7. Given the submitted budget, a grant of \$30,000 or less will be sufficient to reach stated goals.

Max Score: 5

Ray Stantz: 5

Winston Zeddmore: 5

Peter Venkman: 5

Dana Barrett: 3

Explanation/Comments

Ray Stantz: *[Unanswered]*

Winston Zeddmore: *[Unanswered]*

Peter Venkman: Significant part of the budget is for certification training. \$20,000 is for this purpose.

Dana Barrett: Super tight budget and a big team...might be hard to reach goals with the \$30,000 budget.