

From: **WEST VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** <[email@blackboard.com](mailto:email@blackboard.com)>

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Subject: Focus Area Update

A message from WEST VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dear West Valley Families,

I am spending time observing, listening to people's comments, watching our children, and supporting our teachers. Through this reflection I keep coming back to questions such as, "Are we ready to begin the work of determining a specific instructional academic focus? Do we have the foundation we need to begin this work? Do we need to heal and build relations?" Through this process, I believe that we need to focus on building our community this year and to revisit the idea of whether we want a specific instructional approach at a later date. We need to heal, repair, and build some relationships. This is on many levels, from administration to parents and children, parents to parents, teachers to teachers, and teachers to parents. There is not any finger pointing here, just a desire to rebuild and grow into the very best we can be for our children. I see three areas for community building which is students, staff, and parent leadership/community.

As a Community Focus Group, we met tonight, and I expressed these same thoughts. I encouraged them to give some thought as to what community building might look like for our parent leadership and community. From there we can decide what next steps might look like and the resources needed. Please feel free to share with them what your thoughts are in this area.

We continue to work on community building with our students, as well as within our staff using the structures we have set up from the beginning of school. We know that these three areas overlap, so we will need to be sure we are working together and crossing over as needed.

I so appreciate how you have supported our staff and your children. West Valley is a special place, and our efforts will succeed as long we keep our focus on doing what is best for kids.

Go Wildcats!

Robin Robinson