# Adolescent Risk Taking Behaviors What? So what? Then what? Trends and Comparisons

## Preliminary results from 2017 survey Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) Results

Green D, Peñaloza L, and FitzGerald C. 2014. New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey: High School Survey
Results 2013, Los Alamos County. Epidemiology and Response Division, New Mexico Department of Health; School
and Family Support Bureau, New Mexico Public Education Department; and University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center.

This report is a product of the NM Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS), a project that characterizes risk behaviors and resiliency/protective factors among New Mexico youth. The YRRS is a joint project of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) and the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED), with support and technical assistance from the University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center (UNM PRC); the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention, Behavioral Health Services Division (OSAPBHSD); the Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (AASTEC); and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health (CDC-DASH).

## Outline

- Executive Summary
- History of Surveys in Los Alamos
- Are the survey results valid?
- Trends in alcohol use
- Why the concern about alcohol use?
- Trends in tobacco use
- Trends in marijuana use
- Trends is depression/suicide ideation
- Trends in sexual intercourse
- Summary and recommendations

## **Executive Summary**

We have been surveying adolescent risk-taking behaviors of Los Alamos students for 30 years. This preliminary report incorporates the latest results from the YRRS survey administered in the fall of 2017. The survey results are valid; the "noise" is minimal. While still the most challenging behavior, alcohol use in New Mexico and in Los Alamos is on a steady downward trend. Cigarette smoking continues downward in Los Alamos and statewide – replaced by vaping? Marijuana use also continues a downward trend and Los Alamos use is well below use statewide. Both statewide and in Los Alamos the percentage of students reporting feeling sad or hopeless has been slowly rising – females especially vulnerable. The percentage of students reporting being sexually active has remained at about 20%.

## Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) Prevalence Surveys at LAHS that I have analyzed

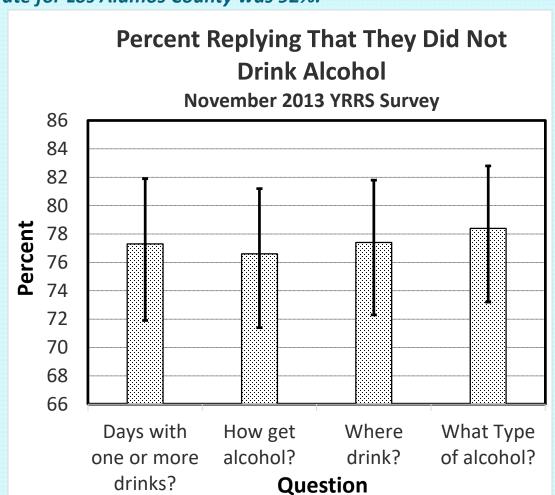
- PRIDE Surveys
  - 1988
  - 1989
  - 1990
  - 1991
  - 1992
  - 1993
  - 1994
  - 1995
  - 1996
  - 1999
  - 2000
  - 2001
  - 2003
  - 2005
  - 2007
  - 2010

- Other Surveys
  - Search Institute
    - 1997
    - 2004
    - 2008
    - 2011
  - YRRS (state survey in November)
    - 1998
    - 2001
    - 2005
    - 2007
    - 2009
    - 2011
    - 2013
    - 2015
    - 2017

## Validity and Survey "Noise"

DOH — "A high response rate produces survey results that are more representative of the student population. A response rate of at least 60% allows generalization of results to the entire student body. A response rate of 70% is excellent and allows a high degree of confidence in results. **The**response rate for Los Alamos County was 92%."

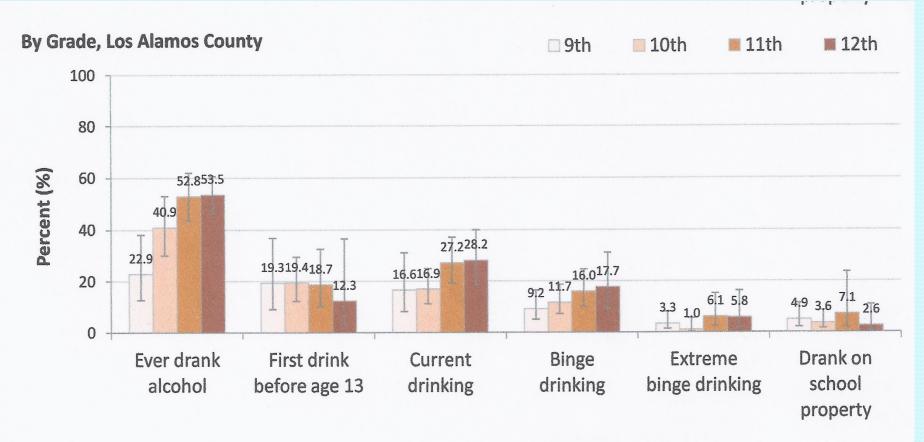
- Do students answer randomly? Four different questions dealt with drinking alcohol.
- The percent answering that they did not drink varied by about 2% the random answers.
- The extrapolation from the sample to the whole population produces a +/- 5% confidence interval.
- Trends also a good way to examine validity no reason to think that 2013 students brag any more or less that the 2011 students.



## Alcohol Use by Grade - 2013

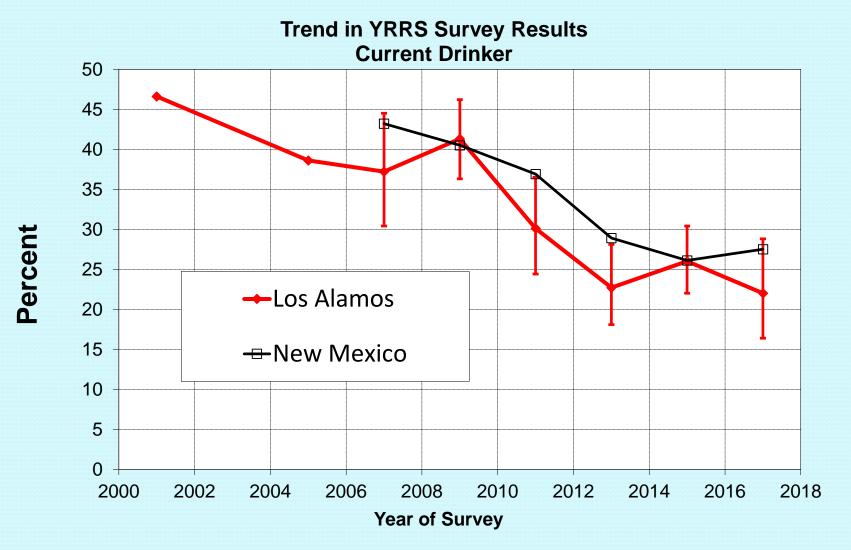
This slide addresses survey validity and "noise".

Validity confirmed in that alcohol use increases by grade as expected and "noise" in that the error bars get larger when results are broken down by grade so that there are fewer respondents.

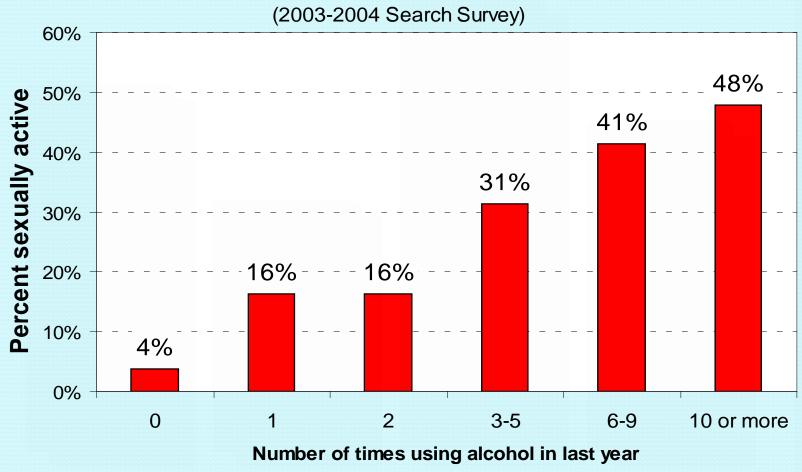


### Trend in ATTACHMENTO hol Use

## Percentage of adolescents reporting drinking within past 30 days Over 15% rode with a drinking driver

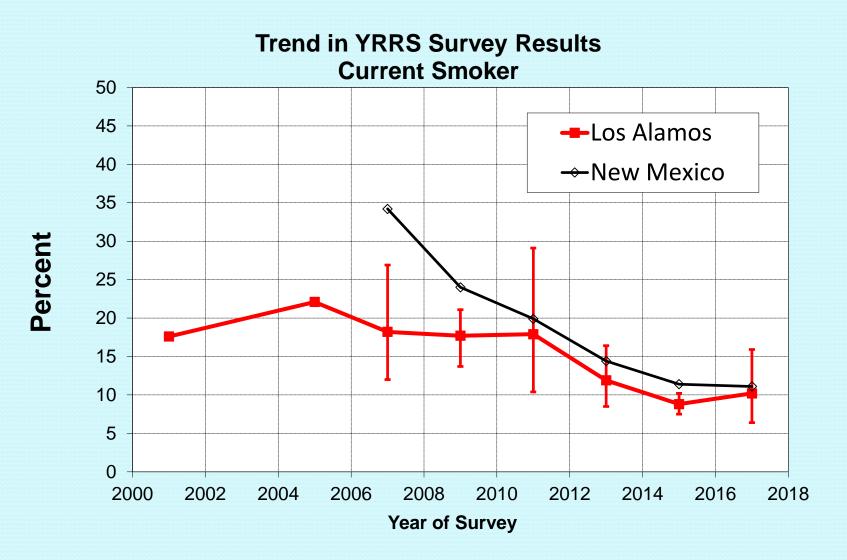


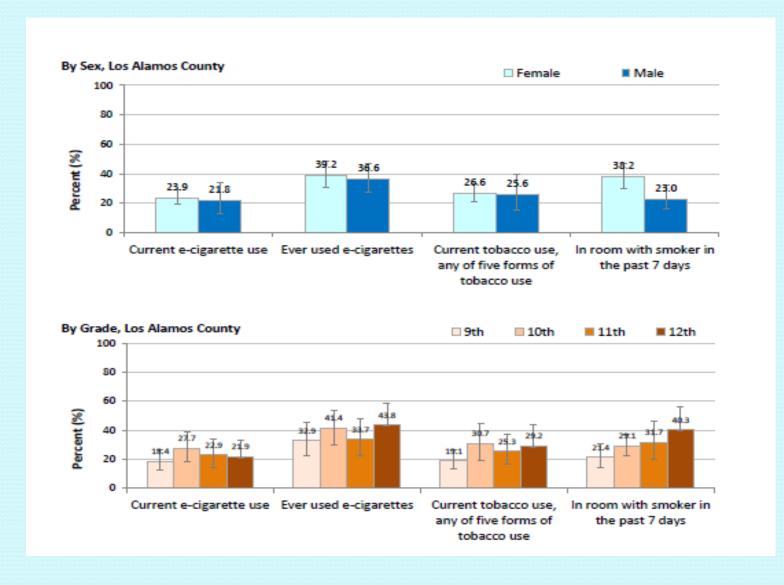
## Sexual activity highly correlated with alcohol use



## Trend in Cigarette Smoking

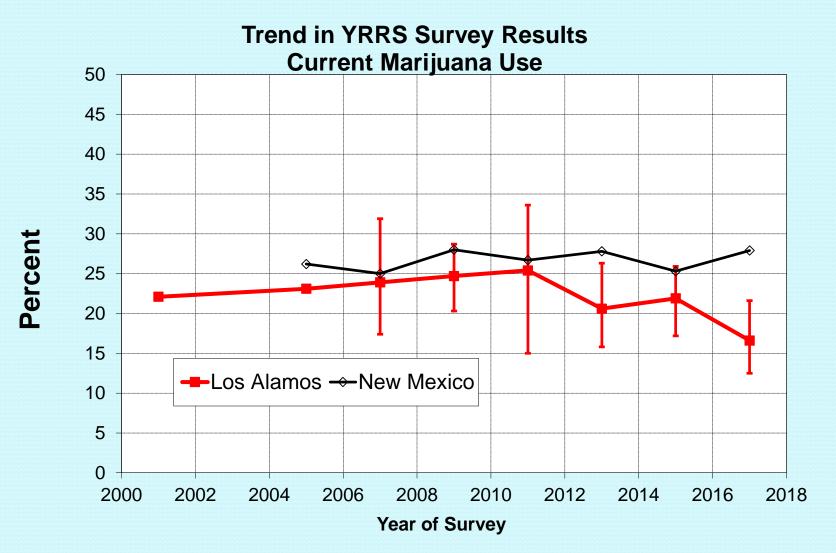
Percentage of adolescents reporting smoking within past 30 days





## Trend in Marijuana Use

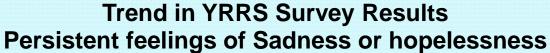
Percentage of adolescents reporting marijuana use within past 30 days

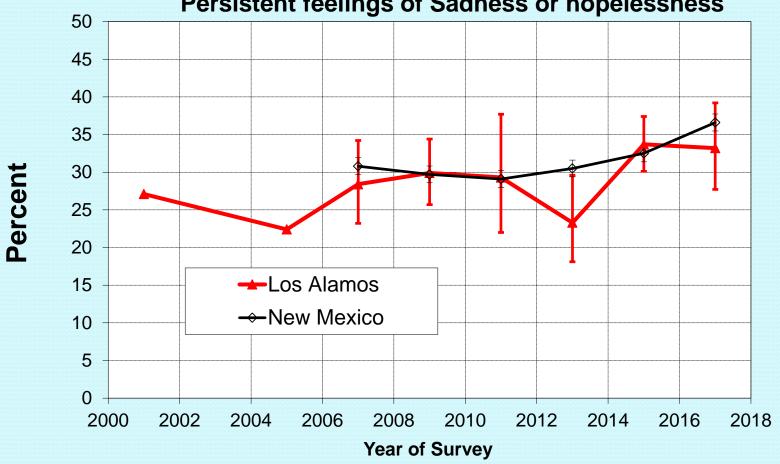


## Depression Trend

Percentage of adolescents reporting persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness (suicide ideation)

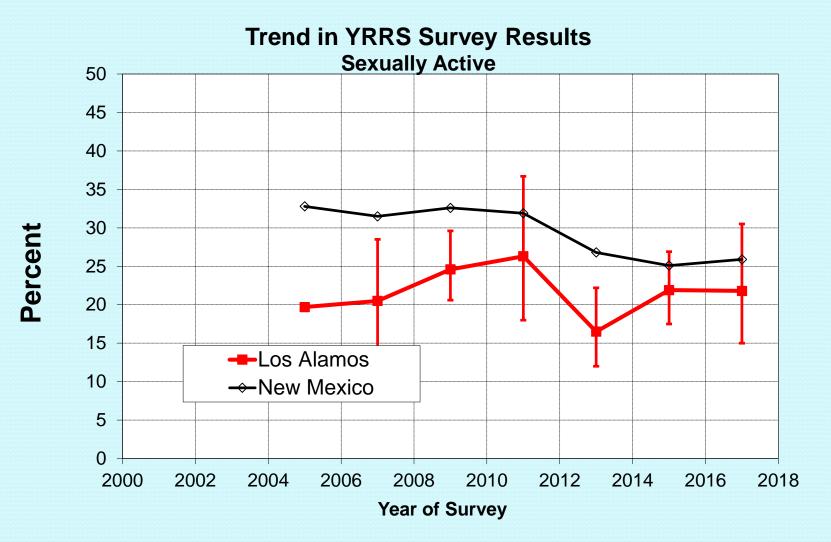
Over 30% of the respondents have been bullied Over 10% of the female respondents have attempted suicide





### Sexual Intermurse Trend

## Percentage of adolescents reporting had sexual intercourse in last three months



## Summary and Recommendations Glass half full or half empty?

- Dramatic improvement over time in cigarette and alcohol use – consistent with statewide results – switch from smoking to vaping?
- Marijuana use declining despite availability in Colorado
- Sexual intercourse down from peak in 2011 survey and less than statewide
- Suicide ideation up relative to 2013 survey increase in bullying – 7.3% of females injured in suicide attempt
- School and county efforts are paying off continue them
- Continue the YRRS, perhaps surveying a higher percentage of students

#### **New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey**

#### **Risk Behaviors at a Glance**

#### Los Alamos County Grades 9-12

| <u>Indicator</u>                                    | Los Alamos County |             | New Mexico |             |
|---|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Unintentional Injury                                | %                 | (95% CI)    | %          | (95% CI)    |
| Texted or emailed while driving                     | 37.2              | (27.3-48.2) | 40.0       | (38.2-41.9) |
| Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet (of those who |                   |             |            |             |
| rode a bicycle)                                     | 44.1              | (30.5-58.6) | 81.9       | (79.0-84.5) |
| Rarely or never wore a seatbelt                     | 4.9               | (2.4-9.5)   | 6.7        | (6.1-7.4)   |
| Violence  |                   |             |            |             |
| In a physical fight                                 | 17.4              | (13.2-22.6) | 25.9       | (24.6-27.2) |
| In a physical fight on school property              | 6.4               | (4.0-9.9)   | 9.1        | (8.3-9.9)   |
| Carried a weapon on school property                 | 6.3               | (2.8-13.5)  | 5.9        | (5.1-6.8)   |
| Skipped school because of safety concerns           | 6.4               | (4.1-9.9)   | 10.1       | (9.2-11.1)  |
| Bullied on school property                          | 31.5              | (26.7-36.8) | 18.0       | (17.2-18.9) |
| Electronically bullied                              | 22.6              | (17.2-29.1) | 13.7       | (13.0-14.5) |
| Physical dating violence                            | 11.3              | (7.1-17.4)  | 10.7       | (9.8-11.7)  |
| Forced to do sexual things (by anyone)              | 12.8              | (10.0-16.2) | 10.4       | (9.7-11.1)  |
| Mental Health                                       |                   |             |            |             |
| Non-suicidal self-injury                            | 24.5              | (20.8-28.7) | 20.6       | (19.6-21.6) |
| Felt sadness or hopelessness                        | 33.2              | (27.7-39.2) | 36.6       | (35.5-37.7) |
| Seriously considered suicide                        | 21.2              | (17.3-25.6) | 18.3       | (17.4-19.2) |
| Planned suicide                                     | 18.3              | (15.4-21.6) | 16.0       | (15.1-16.9) |
| Attempted suicide                                   | 7.6               | (5.5-10.4)  | 10.2       | (9.3-11.1)  |
| Injured in a suicide attempt                        | 3.5               | (2.0-6.2)   | 3.2        | (2.8-3.6)   |
| Tobacco Use   |                   |             |            |             |
| Current use of any tobacco product                  | 26.1              | (18.5-35.5) | 33.8       | (32.0-35.7) |
| Current e-cig use                                   | 22.8              | (16.7-30.4) | 26.4       | (25.1-27.8) |
| Current cigarette smoking                           | 10.2              | (6.4-15.9)  | 11.1       | (10.0-12.2) |
| Current hookah use                                  | 6.7               | (3.5-12.4)  | 9.5        | (8.6-10.5)  |
| Current cigar use                                   | 8.1               | (5.5-11.6)  | 10.0       | (9.1-11.1)  |
| Current spit tobacco use                            | 6.3               | (3.4-11.4)  | 7.7        | (6.9-8.6)   |
| Alcohol Use   |                   |             |            |             |
| Current drinking                                    | 22.0              | (16.4-28.8) | 27.5       | (10.3-12.3) |
| Binge drinking                                      | 8.7               | (5.9-12.7)  | 11.2       | (10.3-12.3) |
| High intensity binge drinking                       | 3.2               | (1.7-5.7)   | 4.3        | (3.7-4.9)   |
| First drink before age 13                           | 17.3              | (12.9-22.6) | 21.4       | (20.3-22.5) |
| Drinking and driving                                | 6.8               | (4.0-11.2)  | 7.0        | (6.3-7.9)   |

#### **New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey**

#### **Risk Behaviors at a Glance**

#### Los Alamos County Grades 9-12

| <u>Indicator</u>                                | Los Alamos County |             | New Mexico |             |
|---|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Current Drug Use                                | %                 | (95% CI)    | %          | (95% CI)    |
| Marijuana                                       | 16.6              | (12.5-21.6) | 27.9       | (26.0-30.0) |
| Painkillers to get high                         | 6.1               | (3.1-11.5)  | 6.6        | (5.9-7.4)   |
| Synthetic marijuana                             | 2.7               | (1.1-6.1)   | 5.5        | (4.8-6.2)   |
| Cocaine   | 1.6               | (0.5-5.6)   | 4.9        | (4.3-5.7)   |
| Inhalants                                       | 5.5               | (3.7-8.1)   | 4.9        | (4.4-5.6)   |
| Methamphetamine                                 | 1.0               | (0.3-2.8)   | 3.0        | (2.5-3.5)   |
| Heroin  | 1.3               | (0.3-5.9)   | 2.8        | (2.4-3.3)   |
| Physical Activity, Body Weight, and Nutrition   |                   |             |            | _           |
| Overweight                                      | 9.1               | (6.8-12.1)  | 16.0       | (15.2-16.9) |
| Obese   | 7.5               | (5.0-11.2)  | 15.6       | (14.6-16.7) |
| Overweight or obese                             | 16.7              | (13.4-20.5) | 31.7       | (30.2-33.2) |
| Daily physical activity                         | 22.6              | (17.3-29.0) | 28.8       | (27.7-29.9) |
| Daily PE in school                              | 7.8               | (5.2-11.7)  | 24.2       | (22.1-26.5) |
| TV viewing three or more hours daily            | 14.1              | (11.1-17.7) | 20.7       | (19.7-21.8) |
| Computer/video use three or more hours daily    | 34.2              | (30.3-38.2) | 38.4       | (37.1-39.6) |
| Screen time three or more hours daily           | 48.7              | (43.6-54.0) | 55.3       | (54.1-56.5) |
| Ate breakfast daily                             | 38.4              | (28.7-49.0) | 31.5       | (29.9-33.1) |
| Five servings of fruit or vegetables daily      | 19.7              | (15.5-24.8) | 19.9       | (19.1-20.8) |
| Daily soda consumption                          | 15.6              | (11.8-20.2) | 18.8       | (17.5-20.1) |
| Sexual Behavior                                 |                   |             |            |             |
| Sexually Active                                 | 21.8              | (15.0-30.5) | 25.9       | (24.0-28.0) |
| Had sexual intercourse with four or more people | 7.2               | (3.2-15.4)  | 9.4        | (8.4-10.5)  |
| Had sexual intercourse before age 13            | 2.5               | (1.2-5.1)   | 3.9        | (3.4-4.5)   |
| Used a condom*                                  | 56.0              | (43.8-67.5) | 53.1       | (50.8-55.4) |
| Used effective birth control method*            | 35.0              | (21.9-50.9) | 31.5       | (29.7-33.4) |
| Used both a condom and effective birth control* | 16.5              | (7.3-33.0)  | 10.1       | (9.0-11.3)  |

<sup>\*</sup> Among sexually active students (those who had sexual intercourse within the past three months)



#### Los Alamos High School Data Retreat Introductory Summary

On Saturday, November 17, 2018, 14 students from Los Alamos and Rio Arriba Counties reviewed the results of Los Alamos High School's 2017 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (NM-YRRS) data. They identified the strengths they saw in the school results and areas of concern. Students then conducted a root cause analysis and proposed strategies to address the top five concerns the group identified. This document provides an introduction to this work.

#### **Strengths**

- o 83.3% of LAHS students say a teacher believes that they will be a success
- o 88.2% of LAHS students say a parent believes that they will be a success
- Only 1.2% of LAHS students have ever used injection drugs

#### Concerns

- 44% of LAHS students did not use a condom the last time they had sex,
   increase from 20% in 2005
- 33.2% of LAHS students felt sad or hopeless for two or more weeks in the past year
- 60% of LAHS Seniors texted or emailed while driving
- 24.5% of LAHS students hurt themselves on purpose without the intent to die
- Only 35% of LAHS students used effective birth control (Shot/Patch/IUD)

#### ATTACHMENT

#### LAPS Healthy Schools Initiative

Los Alamos Public Schools prioritizes the well-being of our students and staff. We believe that a student's sound mental and physical health form the foundation for learning and developing healthy relationships to self, others, and the larger community. In addition, staff well-being is essential to providing safe and nurturing learning environments and in developing and retaining quality teachers, leaders, and staff members.

#### **Strategies**

Build Resilience, Coping Skills and Protective Factors

Weave Social Emotional Learning into All Settings

**Define Core Values** 

Establish Professional and Community Norms

Create Safe, Nurturing, Positive School and Work Environments

Increase Sense of Connectedness

#### **Tools**

Counselor Support, Classroom Lessons

Mindfulness and Growth Mindset Initiatives

**Consistent Behavioral Expectations** 

Relationship Mapping

Bystander Intervention Training

Trauma Informed Practice

Restorative Justice

Staff Wellness Programs

#### **Definitions**

**Resilience** – the ability, not just to bounce **back**, but to bounce **forward** from challenging situations.

**SEL** – Social and emotional learning. (CASEL)

#### **LAPS Prevention Program**

LAPS engages in a spectrum of prevention activities that are provided by school staff and community partners with ancillary funding support from Los Alamos County. The aim of the LAPS Prevention Program is to build protective factors and reduce risk behaviors and harm to children and youth.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Create an integrated K-12 prevention program that builds student resilience and social emotional intelligence.
- Provide opportunities for professional development for all staff to foster student and staff resilience and incorporate social emotional learning into all environments.
- Develop a broad-based communication and education program to strengthen parental and community awareness and engagement in fostering student resilience.

#### **Tools**

- District-Wide Initiatives Unity Day, Counseling Themes, Health Classes
- SEL Curriculum, Mindfulness and Growth Mindset Activities
- Evidence-Based Prevention Programs Alcohol Literacy Challenge,
   Kognito Friend2Friend, Olweus Bullying Prevention
- Professional Development prevention topics and areas of expertise
- Parent and Community Outreach and Events engage as partners
- Community Resource Support Plan for Students who Violate Drug/ Alcohol/ Tobacco policy – education and support
- Consistent Processes and Protocols

#### **Next Steps**

Utilize Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to increase effectiveness of programs and initiatives.

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November 2018

