

# **Coffee with the Principal – Increasing Parent Engagement in their Children's Educations**

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# Project Description

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- "*Coffee with the Principal*" was held on March 19, 2025, at Santa Paula High School.
- The event was in collaboration with the high school principal to increase parent awareness of educational resources and increase parent skills in accessing resources.
- The findings of the parent surveys will be provided to the Santa Paula High School principal with the goal of increasing overall parent participation and engagement in their children's education.





# Community Assessment

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- Santa Paula is an agricultural community, with many residents employed in the local farming industry or local business.
- According to the California Department of Education, the current enrollment in Santa Paula Unified School District is 4,853 students. Of these students, 77.9% are socioeconomically disadvantaged and 34.1% are English learners (California Department of Education, 2019).
- According to data USA (2022) 17.3% of Santa Paula residents live below the poverty line; much higher than national average (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020).





# Community Partners

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# Proposal Goals & Objectives

## Problem Statement

Youth from low-income families in Santa Paula lack equitable educational opportunities

### Goal #1

Increase parent knowledge of educational resources

#### Objective # 1

By April 2025, parents will experience an increase of 15% in knowledge

#### Objective # 2

By April 2026, parents will experience an increase of 30% in knowledge

### Goal#2

Increase parent skills in accessing resources

#### Objective #1

By April 2025, parents will experience an increase of 15% in skills

#### Objective # 1

By April 2026, parents will experience an increase of 30% in skills

# Methods of Evaluation

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A survey was used to collect information from parents' participating in the events.

- The survey included 13 questions.
- Data were collected using a 4-point Likert scale for key questions measuring their self-reported knowledge and skills from strongly agree/agree/disagree/strongly disagree.

Excel was used to generate and analyze data from survey results.



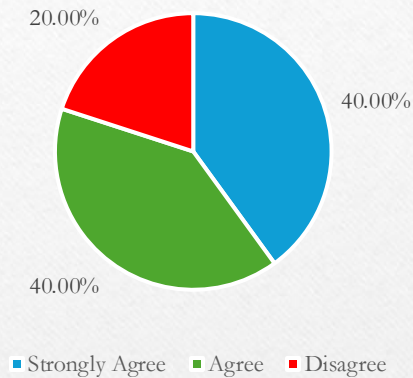
# Summary of Key Findings of Evaluation

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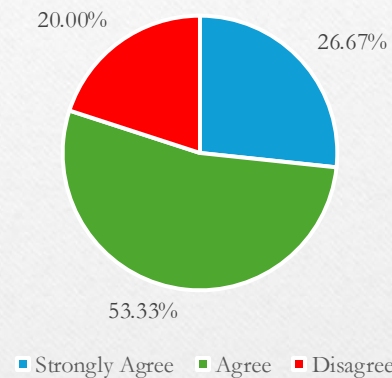
- Among the successes, the parents who attended demonstrated high engagement and appreciation for the information provided.
- A key challenge identified was the difficulty of effectively promoting events and communicating information despite the principal's strong content delivery.
- There is a positive potential for collaboration, as community partners are willing to donate resources to support the school's initiatives.

# Results of Evaluation

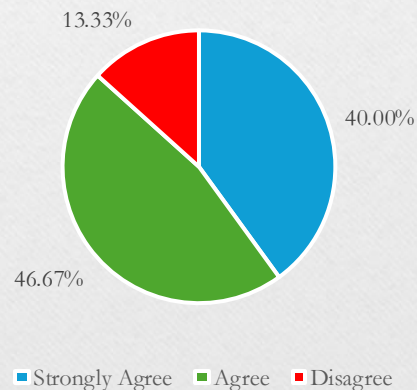
After attending this meeting, I have more knowledge of how to access community resources.



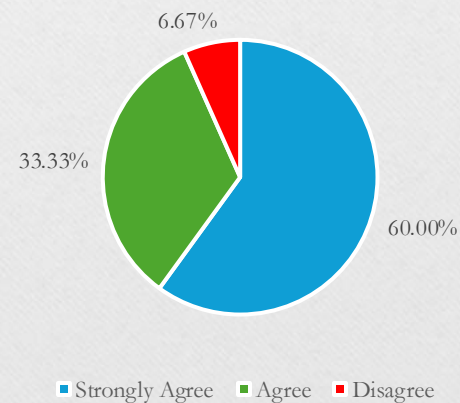
After attending this meeting, I am more confident in my skills to access community resources.



After attending this meeting, I feel more willing to access community resources.



After attending this meeting, I feel more knowledgeable about ways I can be involved in my student's education.





## **Future Recommendations & Implications**

### Recommendations:

- Spend more time in utilizing public forums to promote school events for parents, such as "Coffee with the Principal"
- Connect with the City of Santa Paula Parks and Recreation department.
- Use the school's social media platforms earlier in the process and regularly to promote events.
  - Have this take be designated to 1 person to do regularly.
- Shorten surveys to 12 questions
- Create a QR code for online survey

### Implications:

- Parents want to be involved but may not be aware of opportunities.
- Promotion of these events need to be consistent.



## Acknowledgements!

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### Primary Partners:

- Santa Paula High School
  - Principal and PTSA

### Sponsors & Donors:

- Rabalais
- E & D Hat Co.



# The Lemonheads

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# References

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