LA GRANGE DISTRICT 105 SWOT ANALYSIS: DRAFT

Strengths: What do we consider to be our strengths? What advantages do we have? What do others say our strengths are?

Weaknesses: What do we consider to be our weaknesses? What are we most criticized for or receive the most complaints about? What do we seem to have a hard time doing well?

- Whole child centered; numerous co-curricular and extra-curricular activities with a solid fine arts program.
- Preparing students for LT; LT placement and success of students after one year of high school
- Student attendance is high; students like coming to school
- Data shows consistent overall student growth/achievement at all levels in reading and math; Consistently outperforming benchmark districts
- Special Education programs and services; English Language Learners programs and services
- 78% staff with master's or higher degrees
- High quality staff with great retention
- Financial Profile score, history of financial stewardship
- Families and students feel safe; high student and family satisfaction

- Students being college, career, and life ready
- Student achievement gaps among subgroup populations
- Lower Teacher morale due to too many initiatives producing stress and anxiety
- More consistent expectations and instructional strategies across the district
- Using reliable data to set goals and differentiate instruction
- Differentiation- meeting the needs of all students through interventions and enrichments (MTSS); Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions that positively impact student achievement
- Distribution of student enrollment; student enrollment slightly on the decline
- Deficit spending last two years
- Increasing social and emotional student needs
- Staff diversity to mirror student diversity

Opportunities: What opportunities for improvement do we know about, but have not addressed? Where with a little work could we change a weakness into a strength?

Threats: Who or what threatens us the most? What challenges are coming that we must respond to? What might block our progress?

- Long term debt strategies; proactively ensure adequate resources to maintain critical programs and services to maintain the 105 Difference
- Explore better measures for student growth and achievement
- Reimagining the structure of committees and improvement processes
- Cultural awareness and teaching with poverty in mind
- Parent communications and expectationsconnecting families across the district
- Making sure our communities understand, value and celebrate our accomplishments
- Technology integration strategies to increase student engagement and inquiry
- Prepare students for career and life readiness
- Integrate subject areas through problem based learning and writing
- Social emotional learning and executive functioning skills.

- State funding; shifting pension costs and Evidenced Based Funding
- National and state politics
- Increasing students of poverty and homelessness
- Possible voter-led referendum to further cap district revenues
- Distribution of student enrollment; continued impact of Hodgkins
- Mental health