

Seattle Public School District
HIGHLY CAPABLE/RACIAL EQUITY SERVICES ADVISORY
Tuesday, June 16, 2020
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (PST)

SPS HC/RESA Minutes – June 16th

Meeting Objectives

- To build community in an online platform in service of our work
- To prepare for our work by engaging in a deeper understanding of the Service and Identification Recommendations
- To understand the importance of centering black, indigenous and people of color in our work.

Present (via Zoom): Deenie Berry, Melia LaCour, Yen Banes, Sean Fisher, Maki Ichikawa, Jackie Cable, Bobbi Windus, Christina Ellis, Christine Sanders, Damon May, Dominique Pavageau, Douglas Sohn, Kate Poux, Marc Salazar, Margaret Montsaroff, Megan Haddock, Nicole Coates, Cindy Watters, Radhika Nair, Shane Baguyo, Romanita Hairston.

Guests (via Zoom): Patricia Nesbit, Joanne Robbins

Absent: Berhanu Alemayehu, Lisa Batten, Kelsey Benslimane, James Blanton, Carmen Brady, Kaili David-Nsimbi, Sariya Dunbar, Aida Fraser-Hamer, Rina Geoghagan, Gabe Herbison, Tina Meade, Jenny Miller, Paula Montgomery, Gail Morris, Dr. Concie Pedroza, Matthew Perez, Aneesa Roidad, Deb Schaaf, Manuela Slye, Emijah Smith, Chris Thomas, Gretchen Waschke, Shraddha Shirude, Nathan Wheeler, Laurie Kazanjian.

Welcome, Agenda Review, Community Agreements, Zoom Protocols

Melia LaCour Founder and Executive Director of Becoming Justice, and Deenie Berry, Highly Capable Services and Advanced Learning Programs, opened the meeting by greeting the group, and then acknowledged their happiness to again have the opportunity to virtually join with the group; the meeting took place virtually due to building closures as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, as well as to comply with the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order issued by the Governor of the State of Washington. To wrap up the opening, Deenie and Melia read a land acknowledgement, *We would like to acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands and traditional territories of the Puget Sound Coast Salish People*, observed a moment of silence, *To honor the 100,00 people who have died during the COVID-19 and For those who continue to die under the threats of racism in our country*, and then proceeded to review the Meeting Agenda, the Community Agreements, as well as the Zoom Protocols.

Introductions

The members of the group were asked to share their name and connection to Seattle Public Schools (SPS), and to share one word that describes how they are showing up in the space this day.

“Chat” Questions from Most Recent Meeting

Deenie spoke to the group about a question that was brought up regarding science curriculum. Next, Melia and Deenie addressed some of the questions members added to the chat during the prior meeting (June 1, 2020) after proposing two questions: *What was something that resonated with you in tonight's meeting? What are 2 topics you would like to go deeper on at our June 16th meeting and/or future meetings?*

Activity: *WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CENTER PEOPLE OF COLOR?* And Share-Out

Melia and Deenie asked the group to consider the question: *What does it mean to center people of color?* And then the larger group broke out into smaller groups to discuss.

Services Recommendations

Deenie introduced the group to the next task which focused on the *Implementation of equitable identification and services as HC/RESA Focus*. ***The HC/RESA committee will convene to: Understand the ALTF recommendations; Advise the AL Department as they design and implement a plan for equitable identification and services; Monitor the progress of outcomes; Serve as a two-way conduit of information to SPS families and community.***

The activity was called a jigsaw for small group, and the instructions were to review the Mission/Vision/Commitments document, then to read the assigned Recommendations (ALTF Recommendations #1 - #6), and then to discuss how the recommendation responds to the Mission/Vision/Commitments docs.

During the share-out, one group said that they discussed recommendation # 4 - identification, and what identification looks like in the future as we move away from a model that is dominated by the COGAT. Question: as those identification procedures get redesigned, heard guidance from ALTF, would the HC/RESA be able to hear about and weigh-in regarding that redesign. Deenie responded that yes, absolutely. No hard numbers specifically about how what makes it difficult for certain communities to access opportunities, but there are plans to gather data from community meetings. The recent work from the City of Seattle was mentioned as well as the MAP test and data cut scores.

CLOSING

The group wrapped up the meeting by sharing some questions and comments in the chat.

The meeting did **adjourn** at 3:05 PM.

Upcoming meetings:

Thursday, July 16 – 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 4 – 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 18 – 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22 – 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 6 – 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Chat from meeting:

From Jackie: thank you, group members! Yes, we definitely needed more time.

From [Member]: Deenie – our note taker should share out I think – too much for one of us to recall

From Jackie: we were group 2

From [Member]: County data on digital equity and maps are also available (I have contacts if SPS needs)

From Deenie: Thanks [Member]. I would love to have access to that data.

From Sean: we're losing you

From [Member]: Nicole also mentioned the possibility of allowing community groups to participate in the identification process, because they see the students in a different context than might be a better cultural match.

From Jackie: yes, thanks, [Member] and Nichole. Agreed.

From Nichole: I also wonder if there is a way to do pre-work too so that we can come into the meeting with some thinking

From [Member]: I would appreciate any suggested advanced reading I can do on MTSS and MSC

From [Member]: I need to leave. I have a meeting ... at 3. Thank you!

From Melia: Thanks [Member]!

From Deenie: We will send some prework on MTSS.

From Sean: I'd like that doug

From Sean: Doug

From Doug: my email is dosohn@seattleschools.org. If you want to email me I can set up a Teams or Zoom meeting to explain the process, at a time that works for everyone.

From [Member]: I am sorry everyone, I have to leave for a meeting

From Doug: I have to leave for a meeting. Thank you!