House Bill 2016 directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement a statewide education plan for African American/Black students who are in early childhood through post-secondary education programs. The plan will address disparities experienced by African American and Black students in every indicator of academic success; historical practices leading to disproportionate outcomes for the students; and the educational needs of the students from early childhood through post-secondary education by examining culturally appropriate best practices in this state and across the nation. As part of the plan, ODE will be awarding grants to early learning hubs, early learning service providers, school districts, post-secondary institutions, and community-based organizations to implement strategies developed in the plan.

Project Success Measures - A broad range of stakeholders will be involved in the development and implementation of the plan throughout the process. The plan will address all indicators of student success and will:
- decrease the disproportionate rate of disciplinary incidents;
- increase parental engagement;
- increase the engagement of students in educational activities before and after regular school hours;
- increase early childhood and kindergarten readiness;
- improve literacy and numeracy levels between kindergarten and grade three;
- support student transitions to middle school and through the middle and high school grades to maintain and improve academic performance;
- support culturally responsive pedagogy and practices from early childhood through post-secondary education;
- support the development of culturally responsive curricula from early childhood through post-secondary education;
- increase attendance of plan students in community colleges and professional certification programs; and
- increase attendance of plan students in four-year post-secondary institutions of education
- increase the number of state agencies and stakeholders to leverage financial resources to sustain and advance the work of the plan.

As part of the bill, ODE was directed to form an advisory group of community members representing P-20 education and community based organizations across the state. The advisory group is tasked with identifying recommendations for the plan that will improve outcomes related to the project success measures, across all academic indicators. Advisory group members represent education, youth advocacy, health care, parent advocacy, and social justice organizations.

For more information about House Bill 2016 and the African American/Black Student Success Plan please contact Project Coordinator – Kendra Hughes at Kendra.hughes@ode.state.or.us or 503-947-5978.