

## AABSS Advisory Committee Statement of Interest

### **Statement of Purpose:**

In 2015, the Legislature directed the 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 and mandated that the agency convene an advisory group comprised of members of the African American/Black community and other community partners from across the state of Oregon to advise the Department on the creation and implementation of the plan.

The plan addresses:

- The disparities experienced by African American and Black students in every indicator of academic success
- The historical practices leading to disproportionate outcomes for the students
- The educational needs of the students from early childhood through post-secondary education by examining culturally responsive and appropriate best practices in this state and across the nation

The purpose of the African American/Black Student Success (AABSS) Advisory Group is to provide recommendations, community feedback, guidance, and updates to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) for the purposes of fulfilling the intent and impact of the Oregon African American/Black Student Success Plan.

The Group is expected to:

- Advise on AABSS Plan development, updates, and implementation, including consistent, sufficient, and ongoing funding of the AABSS Plan each biennium
- Review the design and impact of the AABSS Plan on intended outcomes annually
- Consider and advise on eligibility, selection, and expectation processes and guidance for grant recipients
- Provide relevant feedback and community information/insight specific to the success of African American/Black Students across the pre-K to higher education system
- Review and advise on the legislatively mandated biennial report concerning the progress of the plan at each even-numbered year regular session of the legislative assembly to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education ([ORS 329.841](#))

### **Membership:**

According to ORS 329.841 the advisory group must include:

- Community members
- Education stakeholders

- Representatives of
  - The Early Learning Division
  - The Youth Development Division and
  - The Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Every effort will be made to ensure that the composition of the AABSS Advisory Group reflects the diversity and representation of our students, families, and community stakeholders.

To ensure representation in membership, community members and education stakeholder members of the Advisory Group must represent one or more of the following categories:

- Different regions of Oregon per the 2017-2019 regional breakdown
- Students/Youth (inclusive of youth who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or another minority gender or sexual orientation)
- Parents, Families, and Caregivers
- Educators
- Culturally-specific Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that work with African American/Black Students and/or Families
- English language learners
- African Diaspora immigrant populations
- Individuals with disabilities
- Early Childhood Educators
- Community members working in juvenile justice

An ad-hoc subcommittee of ODE staff and current advisory members will review applications and make recommendations to ODE staff. The Director of ODE will make the final decision on Committee appointments.

**Applicant Contact Information:**

- Name
- Address
- Phone
- Email
- Current Employer if applicable
- County
- Race/Ethnicity

**In which of the following capacities could you participate on the Advisory Group?**

Please indicate all that apply:

- Community Member
- Education Stakeholder
- Youth/Student
- LGBTQ2SIA+ Youth (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/non-binary, Queer/Questioning, 2 Two-Spirit, Intersex, Asexual, +)
- Parents, Families, Caregivers
- Teacher/Educator
- Represents a Community Based Organization
- Represents the field of or identify as an English language learner
- Represents African Diaspora Immigrant Populations
- Identifies as an individual with disabilities
- Early childhood educators
- Represents community members working in juvenile justice

### **Statement of Interest**

- Describe your experience and interest in education in your community. Please address your experience related to practices and policy affecting African/African American/Black/African Diaspora students. (500 words or less)
  
- Describe the most pressing issues facing African/African American/Black/African Diaspora students in your community? (500 words or less)
  
- Share your insights and expertise regarding why you wish to serve on this committee. What do you hope your service contributes to the advancement of successful experiences and outcomes for African/African American/Black/African Diaspora students. Please be as specific as possible. (300 words or less)