

**African American Black Student Success Plan  
Advisory Group Meeting Minutes  
February 5, 2021 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Oregon Department of Education  
Zoom Communications**

**Meeting Scribe:** Ana Salas

**PARTICIPANTS**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joyce Harris, Chair      | <input type="checkbox"/> Anthony Deloney for Tony Hopson Sr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Laurie Wimmer                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carmen Xiomara Urbina               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Jackson             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Richardson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colt Gill                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nkenge Harmon Johnson    |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Lange                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kali Throne Ladd         |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelaswau Crier          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Logan                |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renee Anderson           | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe McFerrin II                     |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Yvette Alex Assensoh | <input type="checkbox"/> Donell Morgan                       |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iris DeGruy Bell         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DL Richardson            |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Veronica Dujon       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Markisha Smith       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Paul Coakley                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hanna Williams     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Djimet Dogo                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Earlean Wilson-Huey      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kendra Hughes                       |  |  |

Item	Discussion
<p><b>Welcome – 9:00am</b> <i>Chair Harris</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Opening Statements</li> </ul>	<p><b>Agenda shared:</b> <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fMG5YB2dAc6Aq9tBPgXx0Xlxxb2SNxxm/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fMG5YB2dAc6Aq9tBPgXx0Xlxxb2SNxxm/view?usp=sharing</a></p>
<p><b>OEDI Update – 9:10 a.m.</b> <i>Colt Gill, Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● COVID-19 Update</li> </ul>	<p>Colt Gill will be providing the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Operating in-person is a local decision</li> <li>● 160 safety protocols</li> <li>● Updated metrics based on the Harvard Global Health Institute recommendations</li> <li>● Metric requirements</li> <li>● COVID-19 testing available in school (15 minute rapid test)</li> <li>● Stop with Covid at the door (bus, school)</li> <li>● Face covering are not a choice</li> <li>● New Tools and Resources</li> </ul> <p>Q: DL asked what if they don't want to take the test and they are symptomatic?</p> <p>A: Colt provides a list/slide of scenarios that could happen.</p> <p>- Ana is to reach out to Colt for the powerpoint information- Task completed</p>

	<p>Q: Iris asked what the teachers unions are saying about this new approach? There is still talk among teachers about not wanting to go back.</p> <p>A: Colt responded that it is a big mix of perspectives across the state. 100,000 students are back in school.</p> <p>Q: Nkenge asked if in this environment with everyone getting back in schools what attention is being paid to school discipline issues.</p> <p>A: Colt responded that there are two pieces that address this in the guidance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognizing the state and trauma that everyone is going through and providing mental health supports and that the behaviors seen might not be disciplinary issues.</li> <li>2. Want everyone to follow new protocols but they shouldn't be addressed through discipline. Reteach with kindness not discipline.</li> </ol> <p>Q: Nkenge asked what the data is around the the different types of families/locations are going to respond to the metrics</p> <p>A: Colt responded that we are collecting data around enrollment, etc. and we're not only looking at traditional federal breakouts but deeper analysis on minority families. Any recommendations on the type of data that should be asked of schools is appreciated.</p> <p><b>PowerPoint shared by Colt Gill:</b>  <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vqWG80gAIARU-nIVJg8oBoVRS9b3daRa">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vqWG80gAIARU-nIVJg8oBoVRS9b3daRa</a></p> <p><b>ODE Ready Safe Learners website for more information:</b>  <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Pages/Planning-for-the-2020-21-School-Year.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Pages/Planning-for-the-2020-21-School-Year.aspx</a></p>
<p><b>Roll Call – 9:30a.m.</b>  <i>Chair Joyce Harris</i></p>	<p>Chair Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting and took roll call.</p>
<p><b>OEDI Director Welcome</b>  <i>Deborah Lange, OEDI Director</i></p>	<p>Deb thanked everyone for their gift of time. We know that the number of students contracting COVID is low and passing is low, but the demographics show that kids of color are contracting. There are causes for concern, and Deb thanks the committee for the work that they are doing.</p> <p>Deb mentioned the possibility of addressing additional funds found in grant allotment from SIA. There are internal ideas being circulated regarding how to use and disseminate these funds, but the input from the Committee is necessary as well. Chairwoman Harris is going to prioritize time in the agenda to have this discussion.</p> <p>Q: Nkenge asked Deb if she could share and get a copy of the contract for ODE's equity trainer? I've asked several questions about it but it may be simpler for me to just read the text.</p> <p>A: Deb responded that she will try and get it out for people to review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ana to follow-up on providing this to Committee members (Earlean Wilson Huey requested a copy as well)</li> </ul>

<p><b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b> – 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Approval of January 8,2021 Meeting Minutes- Approved by the AABSS Advisory group.</p> <p><b>January 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes shared:</b>  <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HV4g0ModWXfrIBG-KFHuCEE13detZreg/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HV4g0ModWXfrIBG-KFHuCEE13detZreg/view?usp=sharing</a></p>
<p><b>Rules Revision</b> – 9:50 a.m.  Shelaswau Crier, AABSS Coordinator</p>	<p><i>Chairwoman Harris shifted the agenda around to accommodate some technical difficulties. At this time there was a discussion around the unallocated funding.</i></p> <p>Deb shared a brief explanation of how these additional funds were found. One of the fiscal analysts reviewed the AABSS account and found \$317k that must be spent by June 30, 2021. These funds will not be carried over into the next biennium. There is no backstory at this moment on why this money was unallocated. There is a possibility that there will be more money as one of the new grantees is really suffering under COVID and might be withdrawing from the grant - if this is the case they will submit a formal letter in mid-February so that their funds can be redistributed to the remaining grantees.</p> <p>Q: Chairwoman Harris asked since the grantee that is no longer a part of the program, can we consider taking a look at the next grantee that would have gotten funding and allow them the opportunity to do something with the money in a short amount of time.</p> <p>A: Deb responded that this would create a lengthy process to onboard a new grantee and that because of this it would be difficult to have enough time to spend the money.</p> <p>Q: Iris asked which funding cycle this money was supposed to be a part of. We understand it is part of this biennium, but which RFA cycle does it go with?</p> <p>A: Deb responded that it is for this current biennium. The funds therefore cross over between the first year’s grantees and this year’s new grantees.</p> <p>Iris summarized that these funds were supposed to be allocated 2 years ago. What should be the scope of our address? We’ll need to consider every grantee we’ve funded to date. There are 12 grantees that are eligible for this money. One idea would be to equally divide the money between the 12 grantees to continue to support their current work. Deb shared that some grantees in conversations with Shelaswau are concerned about spending what they already have been awarded and are not interested in more.</p> <p>Nkenge expressed thanks for this information, but would like to know "the why" about how these funds were overlooked? \$317k is a significant amount to have been left unallocated and is very concerning. The request is to have the fiscal analyst who discovered the funds to please research and provide an answer.</p> <p>Joe McFerrin made a motion that ODE provide the Advisory Committee with a Financial Report, for every meeting, about the status of the grants for our grantees. Mark Johnson seconded the motion. The Advisory Committee unanimously voted in support of this. This motion passed. Veronica suggested a letter be written to ODE to outline the unusual circumstances that prompted this request.</p> <p>Earlean confirmed Mark and Iris’ comments regarding Speaker Kotec’s discussion around grandfathering in past grantees that demonstrate considerable successful outcomes into new RFA’s. Speaker Kotec presented on April 7, 2017.</p> <p>Iris put forth a motion for a subcommittee to meet to draft a communication to the grantees regarding a letter of intent that they will submit that discusses where/how they will use the additional funds and how much additional funding they need. The</p>

subcommittee would then meet with ODE to vet the requests and get the funding out. There would be a 2 week timeline for grantees to submit an Intent to Utilize letter. The communication to grantees will include:

1. Intent to Utilize application
  - a. Applications must include how they will spend the money & how much money is needed
2. Timeline for next steps
  - a. If fail to submit Intent to Utilize you receive no additional funds
  - b. If approved then next steps include...

Shelaswau mentioned that this subcommittee will need to meet next week, no later than Wednesday.

**Subcommittee Interest:**

- Rennee Anderson (declared a potential conflict of interest, available Tuesday)
- Cynthia Richardson (available Tuesday until 11:30)
- Deb (Tuesday at 9:15-10:45? That is 90 min)
- Shelaswau (Tuesday at 9 or 10 if we are looking at before 11)

Shelaswau is to find time to meet with subcommittee members. Confirm date and time for February 9, 2021 9:15-10:45. Invitation was sent during the meeting to Cynthia, Rennee, Shelawau, and Deb.

*Additional comments from the meeting's Chat:*  
*Nkenge asked have we given these grantees flexibility to shift their original plans to meet the present needs?? For example: The League shifted our youth program \$ (none from ODE) to send meal project boxes home. This way youth learn about nutrition and make a healthy meal for their whole family, instead of us serving them food after school; education + addresses food insecurity.*

*Nkenge shared that we gave WiFi devices to teens with data plans to help them access the internet for school and for socialization. That's instead of paying for transportation for field trips. Can our grantees flex appropriately? Is ODE advising them about how to do so?*

**Break – 10:30 a.m**

*This break was not taken in order to give adequate time to the unallocated funds discussion.*

**Rules Revision Continued – 10:40 a.m.**  
 Shelaswau Crier, AABSS Coordinator

*This portion of the agenda was quickly addressed in the last five minutes of the meeting.*

The subcommittee will take a final look Monday, February 8, 2021 before the Rules are presented to the RAC on February 11, 2021 and the SBE on February 18, 2021.

There were several definitions added to the Rules. The subcommittee will need to reconvene and discuss the term “disproportionate discipline”. There are 5 areas of discussion that were not addressed during the subcommittee that need to be finalized by the Committee.

1. Inclusion of U.S. Census definition of Black or African American
  - a. It was recommended to add it to what is already outlined in the rules. Consensus from Committee on this addition.

This discussion was not completed. The draft version of the rules was given to the Committee members to review individually outside of this meeting.

**Rule Amendments Draft (2-4-2021):**  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pJXKFYR8g4LJZRxJ5XJlwPdCN8jxFmsA/view?usp=sharing>

	<p><b>Shelaswau Rules Revision PowerPoint:</b>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10D-ig3hJ0JoXw3QrAXEY0EYJw3pDf1kulL6zBL7oXRQ/edit#slide=id.gbb4e3b31c4_0_15">https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10D-ig3hJ0JoXw3QrAXEY0EYJw3pDf1kulL6zBL7oXRQ/edit#slide=id.gbb4e3b31c4_0_15</a></p>
<p><b>All Students Belong Together</b> – 11:20 a.m.  <i>Chair Joyce Harris</i></p>	<p>Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina sent a letter to the Advisory Committee requesting that they write a letter in support of the All Students Belong initiative.</p> <p>Shelaswau read out the draft version of this letter. Deb gave some clarification around the “non-punitive” aspects/language of the All Students Belong initiative.</p> <p>Kali volunteered to work on the letter and will make additional edits. It is open to other committee members to join her in this work.</p> <p>Deb is requiring the final letter by the 16th.</p> <p><b>Editable copy of the ODE All Students Belong Support letter:</b>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gzgjsuymC3Etl2n_9AolISoan-G1OZOaDfGIwdyivxM/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gzgjsuymC3Etl2n_9AolISoan-G1OZOaDfGIwdyivxM/edit</a></p>
<p><b>Public Comments</b> – 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Shelaswau read out the letter submitted by the Beaverton Black Parent Union. It expressed thanks for the work done by the Committee and voiced concerns regarding SIA budget cuts and 2021 funding.</p> <p>Chair Harris requested that a letter needs to be written in response to the public testimony. Iris and Chair Harris will work on this.</p> <p><b>Beaverton Black Parent Union February 2021 Public Testimony Letter:</b>  <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/17fceqs_tTfZmY3J23RqvEU95BurV-DJ2/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/17fceqs_tTfZmY3J23RqvEU95BurV-DJ2/view?usp=sharing</a></p>
<p><b>Reimagine Oregon Education Framework Center for Black Excellence</b> – 11:40 a.m.  <i>Kali Thorne Ladd, Executive Director/Co-Founder, Kairos PDX</i></p>	<p>There is a bill in this session that is around the diversity of teachers and is not based on seniority. There is also a bill regarding the State School Fund and weights for race.</p> <p>Iris is requesting that Kali share the bills that she believes the Committee would be most interested in. Kali would like for everyone to be informed and she would like everyone to be willing to share public testimony. Feedback on this will be on an individual basis and not as a committee.</p> <p><b>Current Bills Presented before 2021 Legislature:</b>  <a href="https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/Find-a-Bill.aspx">https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/Find-a-Bill.aspx</a></p>
<p><b>Community Announcements and Updates</b> – 11:50 a.m.  <i>Black History Events</i></p>	<p><i>This agenda item was not addressed during this meeting.</i></p>
<p><b>Final Comments / Action Items</b></p>	<p>Kali shared her recommendation that the requests of this group in receiving equitable funds be compared to other groups in order to insure that this group is not having disproportionate expectations required of them.</p> <p>Action Items:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Request from AICO to have another representative on the Committee in addition to Djimet.</li> <li>● Decision about June Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NPC is to give their final report, but are contractually obligated to present it at the end of month</li> <li>○ Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Have 2 meetings in June and cancel the July meeting</li> <li>■ Move June meeting to end of the month</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Adjourn</b> – 12:00 p.m <i>Joyce Harris, Chair</i></p>	<p>Chair Harris shared that we should have an Advisory members only retreat - not to discuss what ODE wants to discuss, but to talk about the concerns of the Advisory Committee.</p>

Next Meeting: March 5, 2021 from 9:00am - 12:00pm