

**African American Black Student Success Plan
Advisory Group Meeting Minutes**

May 5, 2017 | 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Oregon Department of Education

Meeting Scribe: Cynthia Garton

PARTICIPANTS

- Abdi Jamac
- Abdikadir Bashir
- Ben Cannon
- Charles McGee, Co-Chair
- George Russell
- Iris Bell
- Joyce Harris, Co-Chair
- Joe McFerrin
- Dr. Karen Fisher-Gray
- Mark Jackson (phone)
- Markisha Smith
- Dr. Yvette Alex Assensoh

Presenters

- Tamra Hickok
- Djimet Dogo
- Rebecca Lomboto
- Gudeta Wak-Woya
- Scott Ryan
- Tim Logan

Members not present

- Cheryl Myers
- Earlean Wilson Huey
- Frank Hanna Williams
- Dr. Joseph Jefferson

- Kali Ladd
- Laurie Wimmer
- Lillian Green
- Lorenzo Poe
- Nkenge Harmon Johnson
- Dr. Reginald Nichols
- Renee Anderson
- Ron Herndon
- Salam Noor
- Shelaswau Crier
- Tony Hopson

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>Welcome Co-Chair Joyce Harris Co-Chair Charles McGee</p> <p>New Business Approve 2/3, 3/3, 4/7 Minutes Legislative Updates Project Updates African American/Black Student Success Plan Final Review</p>	<p>Joyce Harris called the meeting to order and Kendra Hughes took roll call.</p> <p>Dr. Darryl Tukufu participated in the meeting via webcam. Dr. Tukufu was introduced as incoming Assistant Superintendent. He will start on May 8th.</p> <p>Dr. Markisha Smith provided a Legislative update as of Wednesday May 3. The following bills are notable regarding education equity: HB 3015 relating to school assessments, replacing Smarter Balanced; SB 649 relating to State Board, consist of 11 members and directs them to appoint the Superintendent of Public Instruction; SB 746 establishes Superintendent of Public Instruction as an elected position, and six SBE members are elected; HB 2261 expands allowed responsibilities of the Youth Development Council responsibilities to coordinate services for LGBTQ youth.</p>	<p>Don't have a quorum, so the minutes from previous meetings were not reviewed.</p> <p>Markisha Smith will send a list of the bills to Group members.</p>
<p>Project Updates African American/Black Student Project of Multnomah County</p> <p>Tamra Hickok, Self Enhancement, Inc. and Joe McFerrin, Portland OIC</p>	<p>Tamra Hickok was welcomed to the table, talked about work taking place under the African American/Black Student Success Plan of Multnomah County. Goal of the work is to shrink the school so students feel they can own part of the school, increase the community for them, and help them feel welcome. SEI took over the Black Parent Social, have parents from the community come to meetings to talk about school issues; meetings are run by parents in partnership with SEI. Allows for heart to heart conversation with administration.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>The importance of credit recovery and credit acquisition was noted as an important part of the conversation.</p> <p>Increased meeting attendance, with kids participating too. Students are participating in the Black Student Union because of the support they've received. Allowed for students to go on the historic walk across the bridge in Selma, AL. Formed the General Steppers and performed on KATU, is now an after school program. Students have benefitted from credit recovery programs.</p> <p>Group asked questions of Tamra Hickok and had discussion of things to add to the Plan, such as recommending credit recovery and CBO help with advancement for students, and credit for language acquisition.</p> <p>Joyce Harris transitioned the presentation to project partner Joe McFerrin from Portland OIC.</p> <p>Mr. McFerrin gave background information about his agency and provided an update on the project. As result of project, POIC now has an African American male student graduate on the governing board and the project has informed their new racial equity policy. POIC has taken students on college exploration trips, there is increased participation in wrap-around services, and parent involvement and mentoring programs have increased.</p> <p>Outcomes: have cohort of 90 students, which is 12 percent higher than agreed to in the grant; attendance rate is 67 percent – when examining data from last few years, it's higher than average attendance rate; 48 discipline incidents with the cohort, but this is an improvement; credit attainment rate is 61 percent – the longer we keep our hands on the students, we see increases in the measurable data points. It takes time to get kids inspired and change habits with education. Also have higher rate of participation in Youth Development Council (YDC) efforts. Mr. McFerrin noted that they may need to get back into middle school, as there is a need.</p> <p>Joyce Harris thanked the two presenters for affirming the positive impact the work is doing.</p>	
<p>Project Updates</p> <p>African American/Black Student</p>	<p>Kendra Hughes welcomed Djimet Dogo and his staff (Gudeta Wak-Woya and Rebecca Lomboto) to</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>specialist that focuses on building relationships and trust building prior to leaving the facility, so they know who will support them when they transition out. Transition Specialists go to court with students, assist with the reentry process and other needs students may have to support their successful return to home and school. To date, the numbers of youth involved in the project has increased in March by 21 youth. They have seen a spike in general enrollment around spring break and toward summer. During winter break period, over 30% of youth coming in were African American or black. So what happens during unstructured time? For those that came in, there was not a high return rate, because of the Transition Specialists, because the youth can work with them, touch base and get support.</p> <p>The Project focuses on FAPE (Free Access to Public Education), it does not matter why they are in detention. If the IEP is out of date, it does not matter, because education needs to be provided to the youth. Project staff work to find what is the appropriate placement for the youth, because one size does not fit all. When working with youth, find the best education setting they can.</p> <p>Tim Logan talked about how some agencies were not happy the Plan did not include all students. Through liaising with Oregon Youth Authority Director and County Directors in Marion and Multnomah, the Project was able to send message to field that they could have access to information related to school, but not confidential records. Have accepted program and see Transition Specialists as partners. The Project continues to work with judges to change the language of release, such as 72-hour release condition. Wanted direction/heat put on the school district to get the kids back into school. Need time limit and structured re-entry practice. Issues of these students being prevented from being readily accepted back in school are slowly being resolved.</p> <p>Iris Bell offered to make introductions between Scott Ryan and Tim Logan, and the other juvenile departments. The Youth Development Council works with the 36 departments and nine federally recognized tribes.</p> <p>Joyce Harris thanked Scott Ryan and Tim Logan for coming; this reinforces the work and role as an advisory committee. It supports decisions made.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>Networking Lunch</p>	<p>The Advisory Group has lunch and continued the discussion regarding the Plan.</p>	
<p>African American/Black Student Success Plan Work Session</p> <p>Dr. Markisha Smith Oregon Department of Education</p>	<p>Joyce Harris brought the Group back together and Kendra Hughes had them look at the most recent draft of the Plan, going through the edits.</p> <p>Page 21 has information on African immigrants provided by Abdikadir Bashir, who would also like to see goal of preparing refugee/immigrants academically somewhere in the recommendations (pages 32-38), because it supports students.</p> <p>Discussion of good place for those goals, because recommendations are listed by grade level. Iris Bell suggested in each category, with full recommendation in recommendation column. Narratives piece fits on page 21.</p> <p>Page 23 has data received from HECC. Ben Cannon talked noted the Enrollment, Retention and Completion goals are keyed off the 40/40/20 goal. Interim target is an open ended mid-point.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes noted that Markisha Smith wants to get this turned in by the end of the current Legislative session. George Russell suggested interim targets for the other sections; can talk about adding interim targets at ODE level with Dr. Darryl Tukufu and report back.</p> <p>Other additions: page 30, added YDC and Early Learning Division (ELD) messages; page 31, statement of use from the Group, what's the intent; page 32, waiting on ELD metrics and recommendations from Lillian Green; page 35, for grades 4-8, noted metric changes - increase attendance and decrease absenteeism rates from 1.6 per year to 7, and discipline incidents from one percent to five percent; page 39, have HECC data and will update.</p> <p>Dr. Yvette Assensoh suggested that for "building consistent approach and aligned pathway between high school and higher education," to use middle school and not high school. Also suggested equity focus on the first measure. What do we mean by observation forms? Advisors have critical role, should call them out; maybe say student advisors.</p> <p>Discussion about increasing black educators through black teachers who have BA's in other programs and career pathway program. Maybe add language that</p>	<p>Add refugee/immigrant support to all categories. Narratives piece stays on page 21.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes to talk to Dr. Darryl Tukufu about adding interim targets; will report back.</p> <p>Suggestion to add community partnerships with CBOs.</p> <p>Charles McGee will work with Lillian Green to get updated information.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes to update HECC data on page 39.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes will email Reggie Nichols for clarity on observation forms.</p> <p>Add general statement about that intent that leaves it open, Council for Educator Advancement and Educator Equity Group.</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>recommends it be addressed; immigrants could transition to this kind of program. This is a recommendation under Higher Education.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes noted that ELD is forming a committee as they have not done work around metrics. Don't have data that speaks to the recommendations, but they are on board. It was noted that Charles McGee used to be on ELD and had metrics, and Kali Ladd should have metrics based on her program.</p> <p>Group members asked if there is a presentation of this Plan, after submission, and how can the Group get involved? June 23 is the sign-and-die date. Hope to get the seal of approval at June 2 meeting. Markisha Smith has been asked to share recommendations coming out of the plan and it being in final stages sooner rather than later. These are recommendations and Deputy Superintendent has final say of what is included. Joyce Harris proposed Dr. Salam Noor and the two sponsors of the bill come to the June 2nd meeting for the group to make recommendations. This will be a formal presentation summary. The sponsors can take the recommendations to their teams. One member per resource team to be part of the presentation.</p>	<p>Kendra Hughes will email Joyce Harris and Charles McGee and CC Kali Ladd and resource team with the metric request.</p> <p>Invite Salam Noor, Lindsey Capps, Dr. Darryl Tukufu, and sponsors of the bill to the June 2 meeting to present recommendations.</p> <p>Kendra Hughes will create a draft of the recommendations.</p>
<p>Public Testimony – Co-chair Charles McGee</p>	<p>Pastor Brenda Ellison: Will go over all she heard and give to her group. She uses media as her platform, wants to have youth as part of program. Would like to be part of Group moving forward, feels media/communications is important to youth.</p> <p>Reginald Hendrix, from the Salem-Keizer Chapter of the NAACP: Here to get information to see what is going on here. He is curious about the grant implementation.</p>	<p>Group said they hoped she comes back to June meeting.</p> <p>Have documents from last meeting to share, from RMC.</p>
<p>Wrap-up and Next Steps Co-chair Joyce Harris</p>	<p>Joyce Harris wrapped up by referencing information from the conversation with House Speaker Tina Kotek at the April 7, 2017 African American/Black Student Success Plan Advisory Group Meeting: For funding, the money represents half of what we should receive; funds came in the second half of the biennium.</p>	<p>Markisha Smith will check with House Speaker Tina Kotek regarding what she can/cannot do since there is a state budget crisis.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Adjourned 1:00</p>	

Next Meeting: June 2, 2017 at ODE in 251A/B, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.