



**African American/Black
Student Success Plan
Advisory Group
(AABSS)**

March 19, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Tina Kotek, Governor

Dr. Charlene Williams
Director of the Oregon
Department of Education
Deputy Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Torrey Sims
Assistant Superintendent of the
Office of Equity, Diversity, and
Inclusion

Bryce Coefield Ph.D.
African American/Black Student
Success Coordinator
Office of Equity, Diversity, and
Inclusion

Time	Agenda Item	Details
9:00 a.m.	Welcome & Networking Mixer Renee Anderson, Co-Chair	
10:00 a.m.	Gavel-in & Roll-Call Renee Anderson, Co-Chair	
10:10 a.m.	Icebreaker/Community Building Damien Pitts, Vice Chair	<i>Discussion</i>
10:15 a.m.	OEDI Welcome & Updates Torrey Sims, OEDI Assistant Superintendent Bryce Coefield Ph.D., AABSS Program Coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New staff will be coming into the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Torrey will be leaving May 1st, there is no word as of now who will be filling his position. ○ There will be a new Director starting next week. ○ Bryce Coefield has no plans to leave his position in the near future and we hope this will begin building levels of trust within the group while moving the work forward across the state. ○ Member feedback: There have been so many changes to staffing and it is negatively affecting our community and the students we serve. The group hasn't been able to make decisions because there has been so much onboarding and transition that requests have not been approved. ● Legislature has inquired about how AABSS allocate funds to grantees? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Because this group is the longest standing group within the SSPs, there has been more time and opportunity to lobby for funds, and it has been determined that these funds are necessary for the work needed. ○ The group would like to see data that reflects how the grantee funds are increasing test scores, literacy rates and attendance among community students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We should have systems to assess more often so we can reallocate funds to grantees who are being more effective in their efforts. ○ How is that data being tracked? What kind of rubric, KPIs, etc are there in place? Who gets to see the 	<i>Informational</i>



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	<p>non-aggregated data? Who gets clearance to assess the impact on the community that is being served?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This conversation will resume at a later date in order to allow time for the Executive Session. 	
10:30 a.m.	<p>Legislative Updates Bryce Coefield Ph.D. AABSS Program Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This conversation will resume at a later date in order to allow time for the Executive Session. 	<i>Informational /Discussion</i>
11:02 a.m.	<p>RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AS PER: ORS 192.660 (f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.</p>	<i>Informational /Discussion</i>
11:50 a.m.	<p>Community Announcements and Updates Renee Anderson, Co-Chair Damien Pitts, Vice Chair</p> <p>Motion for ODE to begin collecting the data regarding AAB students in Oregon then present to the group by the next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disaggregate data from State Report Card <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High school students have the option to opt out of State assessments, and typically the advanced AP students do opt out as they are occupied with their other studies. ● Disparity study and data plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In regards to funding for the study, review funds that were previously put aside for this. ○ The data that is being collected, students are being categorized as ‘multi-racial’, change the wording so that we can understand the actual student counts without erasing their identity. ○ Review all the multi-racial data and dive deeper into what cultures and ethnicities that may encompass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Student population is very diverse, and they are being lumped into broader categories that do not provide a detailed view of who is being served. ■ This leads to funds being allocated to ‘multi-racial’ programs rather than the AAB students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Per conversations with our RADAR staff we are able to review that data and will be present at our next meeting in order to further examine this ● Requesting statewide data regarding 	<i>Informational</i>



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	<p>students who selected ‘multi-racial’ as ethnicity. State wide and specific to the participants in our grantee program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently that will be available for 23-24, we won’t have that 24-25 data yet.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Group requesting multiple cycles past, 3-5 years○ Historically this mission has been thwarted and nothing has been presented. The group is feeling as though it may need to find a new organization to live under• ODE staff, AG members and DOJ to discuss how we proceed moving forward in respect to the information covered today. In addition, take a look at the AABSS Plan concerning how we move forward with the lawyers telling us what is needed, so we can move our plan forward. The group has been trying to disseminate the information, that should be done for us <p>Amendment, why is this the beginning of the conversation, would like ODE & DOJ to bring a draft of how to navigate an RFA process for the next cycle, specifying for us to review. The next meeting should contain a draft of recommendations rather than more space for conversations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If there is a subset of this group meeting to discuss the recommendations they will be subject to public meeting law and may need to reflect on what that would entail.• Executive Session is limited and cannot be used for ad-hoc meetings.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Recommendations brought to the AG group will trigger PML. If the plan is informational then there is less legal risk of PML infringement○ Fact finding or an information meeting doesn’t infringe on PML○ If the intent is for the DOJ to respond to legal questions when discussing the draft RFA for future cycles, then that would be under attorney client privilege which would not be allowed within a public meeting.<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ODE is receiving advice from this group, we need plans on how to utilize that to move forward. That is a public process, why is PML an issue?■ DOJ can participate in public meetings, but they may not be able to give the feedback or input desired.■ Group would like to see ODE & DOJ then hold these conversations between themselves and present to the group.■ The next grant cycle will begin early ‘28, however we can create policies and practices to review and monitor current grantees.	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ What can the AG do right now in order to ensure grantees are meeting requirements? What are current action items for the AG right now, and corresponding timeline.<ul style="list-style-type: none">● We are developing a rubric for site visits with grantees, and the AG will be encouraged to attend and participate.● Reviewing the difference between good will building visits, and evaluation visits.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Group voiced that previous visits were qualitative and not quantitative. There was no hard data or statistics to show marked student improvement.● What is the AG group looking for specifically out of these visits?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Review previous meeting minutes to find that list of group asks.○ Evaluations have been requested, but have not been substantive in how grantees are achieving academic success.○ Highlighting early childhood education as well.● When is year 1 of the current grant cycle over?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ June 30th, 2025○ The current contracts contain verbiage that future years funding is based on a variety of facts including the ability to perform.○ ODE is now telling these grantees what the expectation is, what is expected of their work..<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Historically that has not been the case.○ ODE's grant team is reviewing an oversight problem, in order to be more in touch with grantees and better analyze what work is being done.<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Now requiring in	
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	<p>person annual events to create resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mid year reporting is due April 1st. ○ Many grantees are still going though the contracting process so data will be limited ○ How can we add specific academic questions to the mid-year report? ○ Questions currently being asked are not indicators of academic success. How will we change that? ○ Not every plan strategy reflects hard data. There are wrap around supports included, which is where some grantees focus. Preference to have an external evaluator for a deeper analysis of grantees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does ODE intend to move this plan forward, what are we able to do/say/frame? ● Recommendations brought to the AG group will trigger PML. If the plan is informational then there is less legal risk of PML infringement 	
12:00 pm	Lunch Meeting	
1:00 p.m.	Adjourn Renee Anderson, Co-Chair	