

**EL Advisory Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2021 9am-12pm ODE**  
**Via Zoom Communications**

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1618057566?pwd=dHhRbnQ5ZDdiOWVuQ1ZzWFgwZXY2Zz09>

**PARTICIPANTS**

**Scribe:** Ana Salas & Erin Rothweiler

**Advisory Group Members:**

- Ewa Chomka-Campbell
- Frank Caropelo
- Parasa Chanramy
- Maria Delgado
- Jennifer Gilliland
- Kathleen Jonathon
- Paulina Larenas
- Melissa Mcoy
- Wei Wei Lou
- Anabel Ortiz-Chavolla
- Andrea Townsend

**ODE Staff:**

- Carmen Urbina
- Deb Lange
- Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez
- Mirela Blekic
- Michael Reyes
- Taffy Carlisle
- Sara Green (phone)
- Kelly Kalkofen
- Mary Martinez-Wenzl
- Susan Mekarski
- Josh Rew

**ESD EL Specialists**

- Katie Agee
- Brittany Deckard
- Alison Mckay

- Bulleted items in the notes below capture statements/questions/sentiments from EL advisory Committee members
- Text within brackets are clarifications provided post meeting

Item	Discussion
<p><b>9:00am Welcome &amp; Introductions -</b>  <i>Carmen Xiomara Urbina</i></p>	<p>Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina began the meeting by thanking everyone for their time, acknowledging the need for a space for breathing due to the clock of the world, introducing the new Zoom Interpretation feature that is being used, and asking everyone to read through and review ODE’s Equity Stance. She also went over the agenda for today’s meeting. Everyone was asked to introduce themselves, their role in this body of work, and something that they are grateful for.</p>
<p><b>9:15 EL Advisory Chair, Charter, and Meeting Frequency Discussion -</b>  <i>Carmen Xiomara Urbina</i></p>	<p>Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina reviewed requests for the review of the group’s charter, the addition of an Advisory Group Chairperson, and for continued coordination. She introduced the “Fist-to-Five” Consent Input model for member feedback on these points.</p> <p>Members received the group charter in October. There has not been a moment in past meetings to address this. The ask is for member input on reviewing the charter in depth at the February meeting. These received supportive consensus.</p> <p>Wei Wei Lou asked if there would be time in February to discuss the role of the chair. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that if there was a consensus in support of this a smaller committee would meet to discuss the role of the chairperson. This received supportive consensus.</p> <p>Andrea Townsend added that this proposal came from ODE members for the addition of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and another position from the Advisory Group to work in collaboration with ODE staff on agendas, meeting materials, etc. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that this could be further discussed in the smaller subcommittee.</p> <p>Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina discussed the request for clarification regarding membership. HB3499 directs the Advisory Group to include (15) members from specific organizations and demographics. Letters of interest for membership will be distributed in the late spring to be reviewed by a subcommittee of ODE members and current members. There are currently (4) vacancies on the committee.</p>

Ewa Chomka-Campbell asked for clarification regarding the current ORS 336.076 referenced. Is the group transitioning to the official group that addresses the ORS requirement? Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez responded that a different EL Advisory group did exist that had close to 60 members that were split into several different groups - this group was focused on establishing the rules for HB3499. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina added that yes this is the official group.

Wei Wei Lou asked for clarification regarding the roles represented. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that these come directly from the legislature.

Maria Delgado asked if the (4) vacancies will be filled from past members or if this is a chance to ask for new members. Maria asked if there could be student representation. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that this is an opportunity to model the process of engagement that the Latino/a/x Group did in recruiting and appointing members. It included the submission of letters of interest that were then reviewed by an ad hoc group. This is part of the charter that will be reviewed by the group. Inclusion of student voices can absolutely happen.

Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina discussed the need for more frequent meetings of this group. She acknowledged that the purpose of this community is to advise on the overarching EL world represented in ODE work and that quarterly meetings are not enough. The request was to meet monthly and reevaluate in June. Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez added that should the group move to monthly meetings the April and July dates that have been previously set would not change.

Ewa Chomka-Campbell asked what other reports or outcomes are explicitly asked of this group and how would more frequent meetings address those. We don't want to meet just for the sake of meeting, but firmly ground the meetings in the required deliverables of the group. Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that the agendas will be very intentional in order not to waste anyone's time and so that those deliverables are met. This request was made by the Advisory Group. Ewz Chomka-Campbell requested that ODE create a one-pager that outlines the deliverables expected of the group for the group to review in order to inform future meetings. Will all of the meetings be in person? Using an online video platform is very helpful. Is there an intention to mix and do in-person and online? Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that there will be a move to be flexible to meet the needs of Group members, by connecting both in-person and online meetings.

Andrea Townsend added that more frequent meetings would be beneficial in order to discuss items/issues that are important to the work of this group that are often skipped over because of lack of discussion time.

Parasa Chanramy added that a proposal on the frequency of meetings and the scope of work should come from the core group that will be created (the Chair, Vice Chair, other Group member, and ODE staff).

Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina summarized that there will not be a "Fist to Five" consensus on this, that instead it will become an agenda item for the small collaborative group to discuss/organize and then present to the full Group.

Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina outlined what members can expect in terms of communication from ODE pre/post-meetings. ODE will post Public Notices 10 days prior to the meeting, language and agendas will be added to the calendar invite 1 week prior to the meeting, and a gentle reminder, the agenda, and information about public invites will be sent out a few days prior to the meeting.

**9:30 LatinX Plan Update**  
*- Michael Reyes*

Michael Reyes began by giving some background about himself and his journey to come to work for ODE and the LatinX program. He shared that the full Advisory Group has been established. There are (24) members, (4) of which are student representatives. The first meeting was held on December 18, 2020. This group will meet monthly for a while and then transition to every other month. Michael invited members of this group to attend future meetings via the conference line.

Key issues that this Group will address include the Governor's proposed budget for funding, developing a full Latino Student Success Plan - includes feedback, community engagement/input, State Board of Education approval - and will develop and release a new RFA in the early summer.

	<p>Wei Wei Lou asked if there was any plan to coordinate with the EL Advisory Group. There is lots of overlap between the two groups due to the student population that both represent. Carmen Xiomara Urbina responded that yes this is part of the intention and will happen.</p> <p>Paulina Larenas asked if there was representation of individuals with disabilities. Michael Reyes responded that yes there is disability representation on the Advisory Group.</p>
<p><b>9:45 New ODE Data Effort</b> - <i>Josh Rew, Noelle Gorbett</i></p>	<p>Josh Rew presented a new ODE data effort being created. He asked if there is a need for him and Noelle Gorbett to come back and present again, they are more than happy to do so. ODE plans to pilot a student level survey concerning certain constructs that will be measured around student success. It will be administered from grades 3-11 in English and Spanish - future years will see more languages provided. It is an online survey, but accessibility issues are being considered. Each grade level will focus on a different content area, English language, math, and science. Future versions of the survey will include other content areas. The content areas have 2 constructs: core and grade level. The core constructs are access to learning resources, sense of belonging, opportunity to learn, and self-efficacy. Grade level constructs include well-rounded education, extracurricular engagement, and post-graduation planning.</p> <p>Noelle Gorbett added that the survey has been reviewed to ensure that the questions are written without bias and adhere to the Sensitivity Review Guidelines. The survey should be accessible to all students free of emotionally-charged issues. A meeting will be held January 21, 2021 to share this survey with community members and partners. There will be a brief training on the Sensitivity Guidelines document.</p>
<p><b>10:00 EL Assessment Updates</b> - <i>Ben Wolcott</i></p>	<p>Ben Wolcott presented an update on the ELPA Testing for 2021. Guidance will be published today regarding the ELPA testing. There will be ELPA testing, but there will be some flexibility allowed in how it will be administered. There is no expectation for districts to test everyone - that will be determined by districts and local health authorities. There is no remote version of this test; however that does not mean universal testing as health and safety concerns can be considered. Parents and families control whether students participate - they must give clear consent and have clear acceptance by the district before students will be tested. This will not be a permanent/ongoing feature, but is special due to the COVID pandemic. The test window is from February 9, 2021 - April 30, 2021. Districts will get scores in time for required reporting. ELP scores are still required for exiting decisions. There will be another unique screening opportunity - students not able to participate in the summative testing can do the ELPA screener. Those scores can be used in exiting decisions.</p> <p>Andrea asked if there was anything about accountability in regards to the ELPA testing. Ben Wolcott responded that he does not handle anything regarding accountability. Josh Rew added that more information regarding this will come soon. ODE plans to submit a waiver to the Federal Department of Education and to create backup plans to address accountability and flexibilities. He expressed that this specifically would be a great discussion point for a future Advisory meeting.</p>
<p><b>10:30 RSSL Engagement &amp; District Improvement Update</b> - <i>Scott Nine (in for Colt Gill)</i></p>	<p>Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine presented on behalf of Director Colt Gill, who was pulled into a planning meeting for a press conference. He began by presenting Governor's Brown's direction regarding Ready Schools Safe Learners. Governor Brown on December 23rd directed ODE and OHA to turn opening decisions for schools over to local authority. This was not an order to immediately return to school. There were 5 directions given:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work together to return to in-person instruction by February 15, 2021</li> <li>2. Partner with OHA to provide onsite COVID testing at schools</li> <li>3. Health metrics for returning transition from requirements to advisements</li> <li>4. Review and update the Advisory Health metrics</li> <li>5. Align RSSL guidance and OSHA rules to ensure health and safety procedures/protocols are included</li> </ol> <p>Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine presented the most recent updates to the RSSL Guidance that adhere to the new directions given by Governor Brown. These are being presented at this meeting and other meetings to get feedback and edits made before February 15th. Sessions were held with</p>

Oregon Educators to collect feedback and concerns, prior to the new directive from Governor Brown, regarding RSSL. A summative report was created from these sessions and will be provided for review. Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine outlined possible updates to the RSSL guidelines. He presented the possibility of conducting school outside during the spring, as an alternative for in-person learning. Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine presented the key questions that ODE would like responses to before the next update.

Maria Delgado brought forward that some families that she is connected with did not receive support during the pandemic. They contracted COVID, were unable to work, did not receive funds. How will it be ensured that those students don't go to school sick? There is a group of parents in Clackamas pressuring to be able to go back to school, and not everything seems to be in line for this to happen. How can we ensure that it will not be spread through schools? Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine acknowledged how difficult all of this is. He would like to know more about what people were expecting and what didn't happen in terms of funding. The Governor's direction is to move the responsibility of tracking to the district and community and that the State is providing support. He urged everyone to participate in a provided survey to raise more details and a deeper discussion.

WeiWei Lou asked for clarification on who makes the final decision on going back to school. Is it ODE, the district, a parent? How do teachers work if their class is the hybrid model? What do we do about busing? Lunch? Are the supportive pieces ready for return or do we need to wait to reopen? What about teachers and the vaccine? Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine responded that under the current guidance a family can choose to use a distance-learning option in every district. We are now in a moment of transition for the State as we are passing the responsibility of deciding to continue distance-learning or returning to in-person learning over to the districts/local authority. This means there will be a wide range of responses on this from the districts/communities. They are beginning to ask all of the small details, i.e. transportation and lunching, that are the decisions of the individual districts. They are not required to have approval from their local health authority, but collaboration is highly recommended. Governor Brown is pushing for the vaccine to be available to educators in Phase 1B. Some smaller counties have begun to vaccinate educators. There is no clarity on an overarching timeline for this, but there is hope that by the 19th there will be more clarity.

Paulina Larenas asked if districts can decide when to return, how is equity going to be incorporated? Specifically in terms of transportation needs. Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine responded that this feedback is appreciated and useful. There are new resources from the federal government that could help us with implementing going back to school. Equitable decision-making and engagement is a question that is being asked in our survey, in terms of how it could be established and implemented. Paulina also asked that we consider the undocumented families; they do not receive support or funding from the CARES Act.

Parasa Chanramy expressed gratitude for ODE's work in being responsive and convening with the different stakeholders regarding this discussion. She shared the need to capture the "bright spots" that have come from all of this.

Deputy Director Carmen Xiomara Urbina asked if a meeting could be held specifically for the Latino/a/x & Indigenous Advisory Group in order to enter into this discussion regarding RSSL. Michael Reyes responded that some members have been included in other scheduled meetings for this. Assistant Superintendent Scott Nine also responded that this could be discussed and organized outside of this meeting if needed.

**11:30 HB3499: EL School & District Improvement Update - Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez**

Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez shared an update on where the HB3499 team is on the Directed Funding process, specifically the process and needs assessment portions. This is the first time that ODE is engaging in Directed Funding and this type of district accountability. Details regarding this discussion were presented at the special meeting that was held on December 16, 2020. There are three different district categories: directed funding, monitoring, and reclassified. Monitoring status can last up to 3 years and districts will be labeled in this category if they score as limited progress

	<p>on one or two indicators. If they show significant progress then they can be transitioned into the reclassified category, if not then they will be transitioned into the directed funding category. Mariana reviewed the timeline for directed funding work.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify/Notify - occurring this week</li> <li>2. Laying the Foundation - 1/15/2021-2/5/2021</li> <li>3. Making the Plan- 2/12/2021-2/22/2021</li> <li>4. Public Notice - 3/1/2021-7/1/2021</li> <li>5. Implementation/Monitoring - 2021/2022 School Year</li> <li>6. Continuous Improvement - November of 2022</li> </ol> <p>Parasa Chanramy asked for clarification on the timeline for monitoring. Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez responded that it would begin at the same time as the Directed Funding and would mirror that timeline.</p> <p>Andrea Townsend brought forward that waiting until November for the continuous feedback might be too late since the school year has already been in session for several months. Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez noted this as something to be taken into consideration for potential revising.</p>
<b>11:55 Wrap-up</b>	Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez led the Advisory Group members through our “One-Word” closing activity.
<b>12:00 Adjourn</b>	

Next meeting: February TBD  
March TBD  
April 16, 2021 from 9am-12pm  
May TBD  
June TBD  
July 23, 2021 from 9am-12pm