



Diversity and Equity Committee

Edmunds Middle School

5:30-6:45 pm, 12 October 2017

Present: Commissioners Susanmarie Harrington, Kathy Olwell, Stephanie Seguino;
Superintendent Yaw Obeng; Director of EL Programs Miriam Ehtesham-Cating

1. Approval of agenda by consensus
2. Public Comment: none
3. Organizing Forums

Kathy Olwell reported on two meetings that have been held to date (one with Parents and Youth for Change, one with Kathy/Lauren/Miriam), to discuss a series of community forums that would be an opportunity for feedback/discussion. Brainstorming how to make such events accessible to New American families. Word of mouth is best way to contact; mailers and flyers are less effective. Multilingual liaisons have networks in the community and word of mouth has been very effective. Having facilitators and translators at each table is very useful. Scribes at each table very useful. Providing some transportation and childcare is also effective. Miriam discussed planning for the budget forum with a focus on New American families.

Budget Forum October 17, 4:00 pm, will be used for our purposes as well--we realized that the planned conversation for the meeting greatly overlapped. Liaisons have invited. Meeting's big questions will be inspired by the Bellingham WA board's questions from their community meeting with the Bellingham Hispanic community:

- How can we better support the Latino community?
- What are we doing that is working?
- What can we do better?

There is also a budget forum for families whose children receive special education services (Oct 18). We should draw from that forum as well. Will later consider whether an additional forum is needed.

4. Board Training:

Cultivating caring, creative, and
courageous people. Join the journey!

- a. Achievement Gap 101: November session, on a Tuesday night: November 28, 6-8 pm
 - b. Restorative Justice: have board study session
 - c. Generally take as a task to provide education for board and community around different aspects of achievement gap issues.
5. Delegation to Superintendent: Committee asked Superintendent to follow up with the Police Department to ensure that the report on school resource officers is delivered to this committee in March; also asked Superintendent to follow up with staff to organize an Achievement Gap 101.
6. Setting of Agenda for Next Time:
- a. Reports from forums: consider substance and process
 - b. Confirm details of achievement gap 101 training
 - c. Brainstorm additional learning sessions for board and community
 - d. Suspension Data (September and October data requested)
 - e. Confirm timing of police department report
7. Adjournment at 6:45