

**Equity Task Force
Minutes from April 8, 2020**

Call to Order: 7:30

In Attendance: Patrick, Laura, David, Kristen, Denise, Susan, Diana, Colleen, Tenea, Shara, Rosie, Nailah, Noelia, Karla, Aleyda and Nicole Anderson – Facilitator

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Patrick. Second by Kristen. All approved.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Colleen. Second by Denise. All approved.

Public Comment: None

Well Check

Nicole began with a check in with the team.

Board Member Update

Noelia and Shara shared Board and District actions taken during the COVID 19 crisis. Noelia explained that the Board had determined that the District construction projects were non-essential at this time. She discussed the fact that the move to Distance Learning has highlighted the inequities in the District. The District is now distributing Chromebooks and Hot Spots to families. Additionally, the Sanctuary Task Force is putting together a resource list for families. Shara explained that the first Phase of this situation required the District to deal with needs outside of the educational program such as meals and employee safety. These basic issues are now settled and the District is moving into the second Phase which is more educationally focused. She explained that parents/students were having different educational experiences and that Distance Learning exacerbates the learning for struggling students. She wanted to consider how to create a level playing field and that there is a need to look at the educational offerings this year, during the summer and the fall. Noelia also wanted the team to know that the State relaxed the Brown Act to allow Board members to listen to a daily County call for COVID updates. Through those calls she learned that there is a fund called San Mateo County Strong which will provide support to individuals and businesses that are struggling financially.

Tenea wondered if there would be savings incurred from having shut the sites. Joan responded that there would be savings but there have also been high costs outweighing any potential fiscal benefit.

Equity Work

Nicole then moved into the work for the evening which was to look at Distance Learning with an Equity Lens. She commended the Educational Services staff on the intentionality of their work. She reminded the team of how systemic change occurs and shared that students will need to be supported in different ways. She also shared the 4 indicators of equity using the ISTE standards. She finished with a review of Maslow's hierarchy and stated that if the children are not fed and safe, they cannot learn.

Nailah asked about the daily schedule for the students.

Aleyda stated that she really understands the importance of Maslow's hierarchy as we can't assume that students can access content the same way they usually do during this crisis.

Phase I and II

David gave an overview of Phase I and II of Distance Learning.

Diana asked about doing live instruction and recording it. David talked about live small group instruction and recorded lessons for larger group interaction.

Kristen talked about the fact that the Phase I focus was on assigning work and during Phase II the students needed the live instruction. She hoped that the recordings would not feel like packets as the students needed to engage in their learning. She encouraged the District to look at quality not quantity.

Noelia describe the MOU with the Union.

Phase II Survey

The ETF then reviewed the proposed parent survey for feedback on Phase II. They considered which questions were most critical and when to send it. After discussion it was determined that the survey should go out around the first week in May when parents/students have experienced a couple weeks of Phase II Distance Learning.

Colleen shared a conversation with the Director of Technology and a San Mateo Council Member about a drive to raise money to support the technology needs of our students.

Adjourned at 9:14. Motion by Rosie. Second by Kristen.

Next Meeting – April 28, 2020