The Puget Sound Transformational Collaborative

**Challenge:** The student population of King & Pierce Counties is 57% students of color while only 16% are Educators of Color (1). The wisdom, experiences, and dreams of our Communities of Color are underrepresented and historically underserved in our white-centered institutions.

**Why It Matters:** Our school boards, students, families and communities of color have named family-school partnerships as a top priority (2). As our districts continue to deal with the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, it is essential that families, communities and students of color guide direction and decision-making.

**Our Journey**

The collaborative built foundations to be inclusive, healthy, and sustainable. In partnership with our Community Wisdom Council (CWC) we identified 4 opportunity areas for supporting Youth, Families, and Educators of Color. Together we created a PSTC Playbook for supporting regional work in each area.

PSTC continued to build community. In addition, we partnered with multiple school districts to further ongoing district work. For example, PSTC supported Shoreline with their ongoing family advocacy work and Riverview School District in centering youth voice and leadership in racial equity policy and practice.

PSTC districts developed equity challenges and partnered with the Community Wisdom Council and Youth Wisdom Council to co-design strategies to meet those challenges. We celebrated deepened relationships with families and community-led decision-making opportunities across the region.

**Values & Goals: 2022-2023**

**Our Why** Centering community and transforming ourselves. By partnering with youth and families that reflect our region, we can transform our systems to center the identities, wisdom, and aspirations of our Communities of Color. We also believe that in order to create authentic partnerships, we need to transform ourselves and the ways we show up to do this work.

**Our How** The PSTC is a monthly meeting space in which we reflect, connect, learn, and act together in this work as ‘courageous trailblazers’ that design, implement, and adapt the personal, relational and community-building foundations for authentic partnership.

**The Process is the Outcome** We have found that with a strong, diverse, and flourishing community, we are well-positioned to thought-partner with districts in support of their own youth, family, and community-centering processes and goals.

**Seeing & Feeling Progress, Together** We all need to see and feel the changes emerging from our work together as both our mirror and our North Star. We are working together to co-design processes and measures of progress that center youth, family, and community.


Transforming Myself to Transform the World

- What is my why? How am I pursuing my purpose by showing up in ways that actively disrupt white-centered norms and behaviors?
- What role can I play in fostering transformational relationships?

Partnerships That Center Community

- What is liberatory co-design? What does community-centered partnership look & feel like?
- How are we learning from our communities about the assets, wisdom, & resources that can better support our students and families? How are we building processes to systematize that learning?

Seeing & Feeling Progress, Together

- How are we seeing and feeling progress in our work? How are we building processes to systematize youth, family, and/or community-centered approaches to progress monitoring?
- How are we consistently identifying and celebrating small wins? How are we sustaining and strengthening our work together?

PSTC Nuts & Bolts

**Convening Features**

- Monthly 2-hour meeting including community-building, topic deep-dive, team-time, & cross-district & community thought partnership.
- Monthly 1-hour coaching and thought partnership with PSESD staff and Community Wisdom Council members to support district initiatives.

**Expectations of District Team Participation**

- Clear district initiative focus to drive & organize work.
- Team point-person to ensure ongoing engagement, action, and support.
- Team composition that supports cross-district strategy & implementation.
- Consistent team participation in learning & action convenings.
- Team meeting & action routines outside of convenings for consistent progress.
- End of year summary of work accomplished, learnings & action plan for 2023-2024.

Want to Join Us?

Next Steps...

- Please identify a point-person & a preliminary team [HERE](#) by .
- Schedule team-time with PSESD for collaborative goal-setting & coaching (early October).
- Please meet at least once with your team before our first convening (October 18) to plan for capacity / meeting routines.
- First convening: **October 17th**.