

Harrisburg School District

Act 141 Advisory Committee Meeting

November 10, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Doug Thompson Leader, Melanie Cook, Dr. Tamara Willis, Tim Wendling, Beth Light, Jim Thompson, Chris Celmer, Eric Turman, Dr. Marisol Craig, Adam Nornhold, Dr. Travis Waters, Dr. Lori Suski

Minutes from the October 13, 2022, meeting were distributed along with copies of an email from Jim Thompson providing feedback on the recent quarterly report by the Receiver.

Dr. Waters reviewed the priorities for Pillar #1 – Academic Achievement – from the Exit Framework draft which were determined by the internal Act 141 team. Dr. Waters divided the Advisory Committee members into pairs and asked that each pair discuss one of the four (4) desired outcomes for Pillar #1 and recommend additions/deletions to the draft language provided.

The full group reconvened and began discussion of Desired Outcome #3. It was recommended that this becomes Outcome #1 due to its importance prior to students entering school. Additional language was recommended (in red).

Desired Outcome 3: Improved student readiness and early learning programs	
<p><b>Obstacles:</b> Many students are below grade level before entering the District making it more difficult to catch up; limited resources and class size of existing pre-k programs; identify kids early; what daycare did they attend? (Quality of program is important.) Human capital is the obstacle. Need dual immersion.</p>	<p><b>Key Strategies:</b> collaborate with early childhood programs, create school readiness programs with parents, implement the collective impact model – this is the access point for the District – shared agenda; shared goals and objectives; then assign roles; HBGSD is the backbone; partner with CHS to move students on a parallel track; hiring person to focus on Pre-K; existing daycares must be part of discussions; think outside the box – develop materials for parents to do with children prior to K-5; assess children prior to entrance into school on a monthly basis; train HBGSD students to work with the pre-school children; HBGSD needs to be part of MHS pipeline; sharing milestones and resources with parents; Why doesn't Harrisburg work</p>

with Nurse Family Partnership program - Federally funded program; Dauphin County Poverty Forum; bring in Head Start at ages 1 & 2 then have more Pre-K 3-4 classes; mutually reinforcing activities; constant communication; we could run Head Start through the District; Can we run two daycares in our District?

**Measuring Progress:** What does improving student readiness look like at HSD? How would we measure it? Assessments of Pre-K students using Kindergarten assessments (KBIT). What do we want an incoming profile of a kindergartner to look like? Should use paper and pencil as kids are not technologically proficient; P3 initiative – partner with United Way. We have two liaisons. Aligning assessments. Give daycares criteria for readiness. All students reading on grade level by Grade 3.

Dr. Waters indicated that the group would continue conversation regarding the other three (3) priorities at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Administration Building Board Room.