

**Vision**: We envision a public-school system that prepares all students to be creative constructive thinkers who become healthy, productive and responsible members of our community and the world.

**Mission:** Orange County Schools provides learning opportunities that develop resourceful citizens prepared to engage in an ever changing and diverse world.

## **Equity Task Force Meeting**

Date: 2/3/20

## **Group Norms:**

- ✓ Start and end on time!
- ✓ Stay engaged
- ✓ Speak YOUR truth; Use "I" statement
- ✓ Experience discomfort
- ✓ Expect and accept non-closure
- ✓ Embrace paradox/there are multiple truths
- ✓ Intentionally center and emphasize the needs, experiences, voices and outcomes for our identified student groups (SOC, EL, ED, SWD)
- ✓ Disagree with ideas, not people; it's ok to speak in draft
- ✓ Speak to be understood; listen to understand
- ✓ Ensure all voices are heard
- ✓ What's said in the room stays in the room; Maintain a safe space for meaningful conversations

## **Meeting Outcomes:**

By the end of the meeting, participants will have—

- ✔ Reviewed Group Norms
- ✓ Reviewed and approved minutes from 12/16 and 1/6
- ✔ Reviewed and approved the Equity Task Force By-laws
- ✔ Reviewed and approved Equity Task Force Application
- ✔ Discussed Board agenda items
- ✔ Reviewed any Action Items

**Attendees**: Charlene Campbell; Sherita Cobb; Victoria Mattison; Jason Johnson; Emily Elstad; Dr. Dena Keeling; Teresa Bunner; Connie Crimmins; Sandra Blefko; Latarndra Strong; Dr. Jocelyn Glazier; Dr. Monique Felder

Time Needed	Topic	Notes/Minutes

5:30-5:35 ('5)	Group Norms	Notes: Reviewed Group Norms; everyone agreed
5:35-5:45 ('10)	Review and approval of items	Notes:  Minutes: Minutes informative; No issues or questions  By-laws: By-Laws presented at December – revisions made and updated version of by-laws placed in Drive folder; By-Laws Approved  New Member Application  DRAFT Application presented during January meeting – wording changes and formatting changes asked for; Application has been updated and looking for approval from ETF  Question – Which race do you identify as – what happens if all applications put down "prefer not to answer"; Dr. Keeling to check with Jonathan regarding wording/legality if answer option can be taken off application  Everyone agrees to move from DRAFT once question regarding legality is answered.
5:45-6:30 ('45)	<ul> <li>Review of the Task Force's Charter</li> <li>What will the Task Force be working on and focusing on, and some insight why?</li> <li>What are the accomplishments of the Task Force? What challenges is the group having?</li> <li>What groups/people are part of the collaboration? (i.e besides the list of Task Force members and what area they represent, who outside the Task Force are we leveraging?)</li> <li>How does the community input or learn more about the Task Force?</li> <li>How are results or topics being shared to the community? Is there a location on our website where our community can understand what the group is doing, results, meeting times, etc</li> <li>What feedback/results are we getting from our stakeholders? (teachers, parents, admin, schools, etc)</li> <li>What can the Board do to support?</li> <li>What are the biggest priorities? Why those?</li> <li>From the perspective of the task force, how can the board better live into its role in pursuing equity? Is</li> </ul>	Notes:  Review of questions from Board:  Review of the Task Force's Charter Charter = By-Laws  What challenges is the group having? Having a diverse team, transparency about how to rotate on/off team  How does the community input or learn more about the Task Force? Is there a location on our website where our community can understand what the group is doing, results,. meeting times, etc  Redesigning Equity department website to share information (meetings, resources, minutes, etc), informing people about application once ready to go, Listen & Learns to inform community; Suggestions for future actions: ESL classes provide opportunity to inform families participating, having principals or OCS do an all-call home to inform people about ETF, Getting email address set up for Equity Task Force/Dept.  What feedback/results are we getting from our stakeholders? (teachers, parents, admin, schools, etc) Listen & Learns provide opportunity to hear from stakeholders — what's being said? How is ETF currently serving and supporting marginalized communities?  What can the Board do to support?  1. Board should pause and not answer

• Knowing that we are all still learning how to advance this equity work as effectively as we can, and make a real impact, what are we learning about how to do that? What has worked and hasn't in how we have approached all of this?

- brought up to them they should listen and then seek advice from Equity Task Force and not attempt to be an "expert"
- 2. Board should support human capital, resources, budget to move this department forward need to expand from one person to a multi-person; Recall conversation surrounding a larger department more than one person as being part of the budget when Equity Officer position was created
- 3. Be able to speak to the equity policy and be able to address the issues in the schools
- 4. Board should continue to grow and be committed to their professional development
- 5. Board should continuously review and have equity policy present and live by what is said
- 6. Review equity policy and ensure all policies are aligned with equity focus and introduce NEW policies that support the equity efforts
- 7. Let the Equity Task Force know when support is needed to attend Commissioners' meetings in seeking out funds for equity 8. Increase the diversity of the teaching force and additional staff in OCS
- What are the biggest priorities? Why those? Three goals for year 1 discussed in the presentation – Possible year 2 goals – continue to support staff of color – move towards culturally relevant practices. The why is that these are all covered in the policy. Equity Task Force will also bring forward some of recommendations
- From the perspective of the task force, how can the board better live into its role in pursuing equity? Is there advice they have for us?
  - 1. Needs to be integrated and integral into everything they do, not just something on the side
  - 2. Needs to be the lens that you see the work with and not something separate. Has to be ongoing and continuous. Need to be open to learning
  - 3. Need for translators, interpreters, and needing budget to accomplish
  - 4. Need to be vigilant about keeping racial equity as forefront and focus/heart of the issue
  - 5. Need greater understanding about equity

- 6. Needs to be a commitment from the Board to continue to learn and see how to do this work and then simultaneously stand up and do it
- 7. What is the board doing to seek out different voices? Getting out to ALL parts of the district and not staying within certain pockets. Whose voice has weight?

  8. Ask yourselves as a Board How do they see this work? Where do they see this work going? What's working and not working-Reflecting on the work you're doing as a Board
- Knowing that we are all still learning how
  to advance this equity work as effectively
  as we can, and make a real impact, what
  are we learning about how to do that?
  What has worked and hasn't in how we
  have approached all of this?
  Working: Training with Courageous
  Conversations has provided a lens to allow
  for reflection and rethinking things and
  getting to think differently. Also, PD has
  been working. LEADS training has provided a
  common language when working with
  principals; Developing a shared language

around equity; Every school has an equity team; DELT monthly, LEADS every other month. Leadership constantly reflecting and meeting to discuss what they are learning and how they are using what is begin learned. Constant conversations. Equity Teams and BTs have gone through some training. Goal for year 2 will be whole school training.

Challenges: Dr. Keeling trying to do everything all by herself- Dismantling systems that are not working and needing support to really do this work; How does chain of command work now when there is an issue in schools involving equity. Team agrees that protocol needs to be in place for contacting Dr. Keeling. How do parents respond, who do they contact when there is a situation? Protocol is an improvement that needs to be worked on; Follow up with PD and how are teachers and principals using what they learned? Equity Task Force needing to have ongoing training reflected in By-Laws – hopefully through Courageous Conversations to be speaking same language

6:30	Review of Action Items	Notes: