

ELL Task Force Parent Engagement Subcommittee Meeting

March 16, 2018

Present: Cheng Imm Tan, Katrina Brink, Ahmed Noor, Andrea Jones Berasaluce, Allen Dowling, Lisa Harvey, Bob Hildreth, Monica Roberts, Angelina Camacho and Brilee Carey (Emerson Student)

1. After welcome and introductions, minutes of the last meeting was approved.
2. Report from OELL on Recommendation #3- Language capacity at the district and school levels, both oral and written” and other OELL updates. Please see enclosed power point
 - Allen and Andrea presented an interesting power point with information on how many schools have been served, progress made and challenges moving forward.
 - One of the key challenges is the lack of a Vietnamese interpreter/translator on staff. Since Vietnamese students represent a significant population of ELL families at BPS, this is a real gap in service. They is also a need for a 1/2time Arabic and ½ time Somali interpreter/translator
 - In general the translation and Interpretation department has been able to meet requests surrounding the IEP process and wants to see an uptick in the general education requests for interpretation and translation. There has been an uptick from 25% to 33% in general education requests.
 - The top ten schools with the ELL populations seems to using the available services but there are still schools with high ELL populations that have not reached out. Some of them have bilingual para professionals and other bilingual staff but others don't.
 - It is unclear that school staffing is increasingly reflecting the linguistic and cultural needs of its student population and it is unclear that anyone at BPS is making sure that this progress is taking place.
 - Next steps: The Office of Translation and Interpretation currently uses a system that is manual and cumbersome. Moving to a new system and purchased translation memory software. Have been able to meet demand this year. Doing training for schools and administrators to encourage them to us the office's resources
3. Report from Office of Engagement: The Office is reorganizing.
 - Liaisons to schools are being phased out.
 - Partnerships, Countdown to Kindergarten, Evaluation team remains the same.
 - Parent U will now have family engagement staff added to provide support to schools.
 - There is also more \$ for APTT and home visits.
 - There will be 3 new positions to support community engagement, bringing the total to 5. They will be working to identify what the engagement process would be.
 - There will be a director of Strategic Communications for family engagement with a focus on how to build broad understanding among the community, and how to help people understand welcome services.

This is not a shift to do parent engagement in schools. The work of Parent engagement needs accountability and OE will work with the willing. Need vision, structure of accountability and culture of responsibility to have strong family engagement. This is not happening!

4. Discussion with Colin Rose who presented the work he has been doing in the last two years. Please see enclosed.
 - Year on was the launch of Culturally and Linguistically Sustaining Practices (CLSP) which covered the basics of what CLSP is. Trained all principals on it.
 - The office just finished year 2 on CLSP with a focus on working with principals and partners widely. Every principal is required to submit a CLSP plan as part of their school quality improvement plan – the accountability plan for schools that is filled out by the Principal, ILT and should be shared with the SSC
 - There has been monthly meeting with Instructional Superintendents to have them better monitor the progress of this work.