

FAMILIES, EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL, AND PROMISE LEVY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

WebEx Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Dwane Chappelle called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

II. Attendees

Members Present: James Bush (on behalf of Seattle Public Schools Superintendent Denise Juneau), Shelby Cooley, Trish Millines Dziko, Donald Felder, Stephanie Gardner, Shelby Cooley, Susan Lee, Shouan Pan, Princess Shareef, Kimberly Walker, Leslie Harris, Vy Nguyen (on behalf of Council President Lorena Gonzales), Constance Rice

Others Present: Dwane Chappelle (DEEL), Cameron Clark (DEEL), Leslie Daniels (DEEL), Dana Harrison (DEEL), Monica Liang-Aguirre (DEEL), Marissa Rouselle (DEEL); Tiffany Preston (DEEL), Mei-Li Thomas (DEEL), Lisa Gaccione (CBO), Keisha Scarlett (SPS), Kurt Buttleman (Colleges), Melody McMillan (Colleges), Sarah Bishop (Colleges)

III. Reports

The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Dwane Chappelle, Director of the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL). He continued with a review of Color Brave Space. Mei-Li Thomas overviewed the meeting outcomes that included a of the LOC Roles and Responsibilities, followed by a roll call of the meeting's attendees. The roll call was followed by a review of Color Brave Space and the meeting's agenda items.

Seattle Promise Program

Ismael Fajardo, DEEL's Interim Director of Performance and Evaluation started the discussion of key data points of the 2018 Seattle Promise cohort and Dana Harrison, DEEL's K-12 Director, continued the meeting with a summary, review and discussion of the recommendations presented by the Promise Racial Equity Toolkit (RET) team.

Committee member responses to the Promise discussion:

Kimberly Walker inquired on how to shift programs in response to COVID-19, mental health issues.

Dr. Donald Felder asked questions regarding the RET recommendations, and students returning to the building.

The conversation continued under the following themes:

RET

- For folks reference, here is what the I&E Plan current says about prioritization within Seattle Promise: "In the event that demand for Seattle Promise tuition supports exceed supply, tuition funds will be prioritized for low-income, first-generation (i.e. students who are first in their family to attend college), and/or African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander, underserved Asian populations, other students of color, refugee and immigrant, homeless, English language learners, and LGBTQ students. Page 103:
<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/DEEL/FEPP%20Levy%20Implementation%20and%20Evaluation%20Plan.pdf>
- **Dr. Stephanie Gardner**- 1) how is "high-quality" operationalized; and 2) what are we learning about the small subset of participants in the internship program and how these learnings inform how we think about capacity and scale?
- **Dr. Felder**- please share demographic make-up of students enrolled in remediation classes, and interested if fewer, same, or more African males are involved in these type of classes since tracking data.

Remediation

- **Dr. Stephanie Gardner** - So enrolling students in remedial 098 courses vs a decision to enroll our students in 100-level college courses. Have the Seattle Colleges made a decision to forgo 098 courses and place ALL students in credit bearing courses with a co-req course? CCRC, ATD, CCA and Georgia State system have done a a lot of work on this!
- **Trish Dziko**- Haven't we learned that these remedial/developmental courses are a dead end vs putting students in class with everyone else so they learn from each other as a cohort?
- **Dr. Shelby Cooley**- Thanks for your comment, Stephanie. We know that enrollment placement policies that rely in part on GPA will always have students of color overrepresented in pre-college coursetaking.
- **Trish Dziko** - @Dr. Pan, can you explain why it's even an option for faculty?
- **Dr. Shelby Cooley**- PSED is doing coalition building with King County CTCs and SBCTC about shifting WA state placement policies.
- **Kurt Buttlerman**- Additionally, we are working to move into more student directed placement for both Math and English towards the same goal of getting students to and

through college level faster. Also, working with SPS on this issue to make the path from HS to College level math more attainable for students.

- **Dr. Keisha Scarlett**- Thank you for making this a policy discussion. We need to pass state legislation to change this.
- **Dr. Donald Felder**- 29 African males enrolled into developmental classes how many graduated or are meeting standards to eventually graduate

Persistence

- 6 high schools were participants in the initial launch of the Seattle Promise Program: Ingraham, Chief Sealth, Garfield, Cleveland, West Seattle, and Rainer Beach
- **Dr. Shelby Cooley** - Other local colleges are also trying to do co-req. courses and I'd love for this group to get a briefing from county-wide efforts that include Seattle Colleges. We find that when students of color avoid remedial courses they out-perform their white peers
 - **Dr. Stephanie Gardner** - Would love to see WA State to go ALL-in on multiple measures and eliminate 098.
- **Kimberly Walker**- What were the student's primary reasons for dropping?

Completion

- **Dr. Donald Felder**- How many of the black males in remediation actually progressed to completion
- **Princess Shareef**- With remediation, you never catch up. How do you support a young person who has overcome SO much, to succeed in College since they made it there to be successful.

Members not present were opened to submit questions before the meeting and the below was submitted by **Dr. Constance Rice**:

- What funding role from a policy standpoint can LOC play in funding teachers and teaching assistants of color as well as multilingual teachers.
- What role can we play in encouraging a mandatory developmental supplement program during the bridge summer with a stipend incentive.
- Can we establish a metric for transferring into 4 year accredited non profit college or University. Can we also be informed by colleges how they handle the transition year of our College Promise students.
- Tennessee College Promise has done a better job than Seattle. Could we do a zoom session to get a handle of their best policies that enabled them to accomplish their outcomes?
- What educational role should we be playing in preparing youth in detention for future non criminal success.

Mei-Li Thomas continued with a brief introduction to the 2021 Annual Retreat and monthly Office Hours with Department Director Dwane Chappelle.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.