

Board Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting

Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:00 PM

Virtual Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

1.A. Board goals assigned to the Equity and Inclusion Committee

1.A.1. To be Confirmed

1.B. Strategic Plan goals tied to the Equity and Inclusion Committee

1.B.1. Creating a high quality learning experience for all

1.B.2. Operationalizing systems that engage and empower communities

1.B.3. Building a culturally responsive workforce

2. Review minutes from the October 5, 2023 meeting and report on action items

3. Develop 2023-2024 committee goals and action plan

Board Equity and Inclusion Committee

Tuesday, October 5, 2023

2023-2028 Agency Goals

#1 – Creating a high-quality learning experience for all

#2 – Operationalizing systems that engage and empower communities

#3 – Building a culturally responsive workforce

MESD Board Equity Lens-<https://www.multnomahesd.org/board-equity.html>

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2023 by Committee Chair Ying.

• CALL TO ORDER

Present: Helen Ying, Chair
Denyse Peterson, Board member

Absent: Danny Cage, Board member

Administration: Sascha Perrins, Assistant Superintendent
Heather Severns, Board Secretary
Reiko Williams, Director of Regional Equity Initiatives and Partnerships

Guests:

1. **Review notes from the June 1 meeting-** The committee approved the minutes from the September 7, 2023 meeting.
2. **Action steps form the September 7 committee meeting following up on our visit with Dr. Armstrong Romero.**
 - a. Look at possible quarterly meetings with Dr. Armstrong Romero’s office and have thought partners around what we could do more or less of.
 - i. Should this be part of the Board Equity and Inclusion Committee or with others like Helensview and Bars to Bridges? This was discussed and these was a thought that it would be best for staff to be working with her office. It makes more sense for staff to be working at this level.
 - b. Setting up another tour of Donald E Long with Dr. Armstrong Romero. The Board Secretary was asked to reach out to Dr. Armstrong Romero’s office to set this tour up. There can only be three Board members on a tour at once to avoid having quorum.
 - c. How can we make more connections?
 - i. What has been done since our last meeting in terms of making quarterly meetings with Dr. Armstrong Romero to connect the work we are doing with that her office is doing? Committee Chair Helen Ying and Director of Regional Equity Initiatives and Partnerships Dr. Reiko Williams believe it is a good idea to maintain regular communication with her. Dr. Williams shared that Dr. Armstrong Romero’s office has had some staff turnover so she may

not have the bandwidth at the moment to work on this but it may be an opportunity to invite support. She suggested checking in with her and bringing her lunch. Committee Chair Helen Ying asked what would make sense and how do we make this happen? This could start with the tour of Donald E. Long offered by Dr. Armstrong Romero. Assistant Superintendent Sascha Perrins suggested as a first step invite Dr. Armstrong Romero back with some members of her team to come have an exchange of ideas around how we intersect. He is also aware of the staffing issues discussed and there is no simple solution. How can we support Dr. Armstrong Romero in changing the orientation around the students to be more aligned with how we work with them if that is what she wants? Assistant Superintendent Perrins also suggested a data exchange so we can help support on the front end so we have less kids moving in that direction.

ii. A discussion took place about what relationship building looks like.

3. Review Board Special session Minutes from August 15, 2023 and develop 2023-2024 committee goals and action plan.

- a. No goals were assigned to the committees at the August 15th meeting.
- b. There is one goal among the four that is clearly tied to the Equity and Inclusion Committee. This group could get started with that one although it is very broad.
 - i. Goal 2: Ensure inclusion through implementing our equity lens to achieve equitable district outcomes.
 1. How do we know this is happening, what questions would be helpful to be asked?
 - ii. One thing we have done to operationalize our equity lens is the creation of the policy review tool created by Dr. Williams last spring.
- c. This year we want to have alignment with the work that MESD does in all of our areas to align with our strategic plan.
- d. What is the role of the Equity and Inclusion Committee in terms of looking at the Board goals and also looking at our agency's strategic goals? What are the actions we should take? Should we be asking for evidence?
- e. Assistant Superintendent Perrins explained that the Strategic Plan has three goals and each Senior Program Administrator has two pieces that they are defining. Cabinet members and principals are also doing some of this.
 - i. One piece is running an advisory with a group of job alike leaders in the region
 - ii. The second is, this regional group fills out a document which shows the connection of some existing work and also some new work too the strategic plan.
- f. Committee Chair Helen Ying asked what outcomes will look like for our strategic plan goals?
 - i. We have our report cards. Every piece of our agency reports out on the metrics that have been determined for that program. The report cards are all linked to the website. The most recent one for 2022-2023 will be up shortly and the Board will be sent a link so they may review it online.
 - ii. People paying for our services. We are providing services and our districts are purchasing everything we offer on the menu.

- iii. Metrics we are reporting on to the Board around the goals. There are metrics for each goal and those metrics include things like surveys.
- iv. Division 22 Standards-Because we are an accredited agency we have a professional level that we have to attain for all these different areas in the Division 22 standards. This will be reported on to the Board at the October 17th Board meeting.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned 2:01 p.m. The next meeting of this committee will be November 2nd at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Severns
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary