

Equity Alliance for Achievement (EAACH)

EAACH General Meeting Minutes Equity Alliance for Achievement- November 28, 2016

START 6:41pm

END 8:04pm

Facilitator: Maria Garcia

Welcome

Maria García, Latino Outreach Specialist from Diversity, Equity and Outreach Department (DEO) facilitated the meeting and welcomed attendees.

Breakout into quadrant groups and continue building our community

- The facilitator asked to keep the questions from previous meeting in mind as groups split into quadrants: Reviewed questions from last meeting, while encouraging new attendees to add their information to the poster. As a group, finish questions from the last meeting that were not answered. Everyone was asked to add one more question, “Why are we here?” to group discussion and also have each quadrant pick 3 main topics from the list to share out with the whole group.

Quadrant groups share out to larger community.

<p>North East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students feel like they are sharing and have a desire to share their voice. ▪ Coming together as a group of students, helping each other during times of political uncertainty. Make voices stronger and be heard more. ▪ Dislike chrome books. <p>*note: there was a large student representation in this group.</p>	<p>North West:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A lot of people don't know about EAACH or equity teams in their schools. ▪ Improvements: Start equity at a younger age. Building a holistic environment for the children. We want people to feel included and that they matter. How students develop in school affects them in the community.
<p>South East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do we get more people to attend the EAACH meetings? Why are we not reaching our audience? 	<p>South West:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To outreach, we need multiple systems. ▪ What is working?

Equity Alliance for Achievement (EAACH)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group looked at how each person found out about the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flyer ○ Email- information is often at the bottom of an email. This can convey the feeling that it's not important. ▪ How do we get families engaged? We may not be in compliance with title 6. We need to use moneys to engage. ▪ Accountability- it is a site based practice, are all decisions made at individual schools? The culture of the school can influence how parents are reached out to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is important to continue investing in children's education. Increase services to students like tutoring. ▪ As a community we need to empower students to do their best. ▪ The group discussed different learning styles of students. ▪ Student shared that in high school, counselors will put them down. Students at EDCC are supportive and encouraging. Style of counselor works for some students, doesn't work for others. Teachers don't focus 1 on 1, if "smart kids get it" than its ok. ▪ Students shared that member, Bill, helped student enroll in EdCap. Community partners are important in schools.
--	---

Wrap-up:

- Facilitator made the following comments:
 - ✓ What does outreach look like for different communities? Strategies are different for different communities. If the goal is to reach out and invite others to participate, we all have to take accountability.
 - ✓ Being here, shows that students and parents are already taking leadership.
 - ✓ Staff also need help while building networks of support.
 - ✓ How are you reaching out to other communities?
 - ✓ Encouraged students and community members to join equity teams at their respective schools.
 - ✓ Reminded everyone that there are opportunities to be the voice for others who are unable to attend/participate.

Questions & Concerns from members:

1. How do Equity teams work? Parent shared that she had no idea who represented the equity team at her child's school. It was shared to the group that equity teams have only existed for several years (Elementary- 3 years, Secondary- only 1 year). It was also shared that Hilltop and Brier Terrace don't have an equity team. Member asked how parents get invited to Equity Teams. It was shared that every building has their own system. DEO staff currently coach some of the teams. Members asked that equity teams be aligned.

Equity Alliance for Achievement (EAACH)

2. Partnership with other institutions is key. How can the student successfully get a diploma? Parent feels like support stops at middle school. Need more support at High School level.
3. It was shared that it is important to continue reaching out to HS students. Students should be encouraged to be part of equity teams.

Announcements

1. January 5th: Special education presentation at ESC 101/102. Presenter from DDA. 7pm. Find out about eligibility for services.
2. Natural Leaders- parent program, building a base for engaging families.
3. Snohomish county emergency cold weather- Opened November 1st.
4. ELL classes at Mountlake Terrace High School, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-8:30pm - Free
5. Dec. 2 @ 5:30pm: Everett CC- Know Your Rights, Spanish only
6. Volunteers for America- renters certification and housing training
7. UW- panel discussion on community engagement
8. Hot Meals program
9. Nov. 30th: Strong families- learning about students stress and anxiety.
10. Dec. 14th 7-8pm, Dec. 15th - 10-11am: Skyward training for families
11. Lead for Social Studies program: Trying to reach out to families as new curriculum is implemented. Piloting 2 things- Globalizing 10th grade, want to diversify 10th grade SS program. Would like family & student input. Ethnic studies course at Lynwood and Scriber Lake coming soon. Would like community input on what to cover. What are topics that families value?
12. Dec. 14th: Meadowvale Middle is hosting a Spanish speaking parent night. Natural leaders want to continue having similar events.
13. January 23rd: Next EAACH meeting

Closing