

Parent of Color & Equity Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
January 5, 2021

District Updates-Dr. Anna Stubblefield

Equity Policy Update

- USD 497 Equity Policy is still in the review process and is beginning to consider the feedback received from the POC and Equity Advisory members. This information received will contribute to the final draft that will be presented to the USD 497 Education Board Members for discussion. The next step is for the school board members to complete an open discussion to determine adoption of the policy or continue revision. The proposed USD 497 Equity Policy will not return to the advisory groups for additional review and/or discussion unless there are substantial changes and request from the board for additional review. Advisory members can provide additional comments through email to school board members or participating in patron commentary in mid-spring with the open discussion is set to occur.

Gating Criteria Update

- USD 497 has updated the school gating criteria which will be updated
- The school reopening gating criteria will be updated on a weekly basis to reflect the changes that the district has adopted.
- In all phases elementary students and families that have selected in-person for the semester will have the option to send their students through the hybrid model in both orange and red phase.
- Middle School and High School students will move to remote model in both orange and red models.
- USD 497 will follow the KSDE guidelines for academics district wide.
- For activities, USD 497 will follow Lawrence Public Health Department Guidance when making recommendations.
- This information is readily accessible on the USD 497 website homepage.

Equity Context Analysis Process (ECAP) Data Collection Update

- Due to contract term ending in June 2021, USD 497 will continue the data collection plan that was started in 2019-2020 school year in partnerships with Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center's (MAP) to look at the larger systemic equity issues across the school district to develop a plan to address the needs which exist. In late January/ early February, stakeholder (parents/caregivers, teachers, staff, and students (6-12)) will receive a survey to help study the equity scope within Lawrence Public Schools. In addition, district leadership staff have identified 12 schools (two classrooms from each grade level).
- Both of the data collected from these strategies will and in the analysis in which MAP will complete to inform the school district regarding the scope of equity within the school system, which will provide strategies to further guide the activities to address the needs that emerge.
- Tentatively, the communication plan regarding the results will first be shared with building leaderships (school principals). Prior to be shared with advisory groups and the general public.

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Resource Work Session -Leah Wisdom, Curriculum and Instruction

- The purpose of the work session was to provide feedback to the USD 497 Curriculum and Instruction team regarding the content to include regarding grade level courses that will be shared and accessible to the general public on the USD 497 school website. During the work session Parents of Color and Equity Advisory members were divided into groups of five to review English 9 course content as a sample curriculum for the purpose of the discussion.
**Due to time allocation for meeting the work session has been extended to February 2, 2021 meeting.*

Goal

- Develop a public resource that would provide individual context to what occurs in a USD 497 course to support access of information for students and families to make informed decision when selecting, preparing and completing a course within USD 497 schools

Large Group Discussion - Open Feedback

**Due to the capacity to record breakout room content each group designated a note keeper, who recorded key concepts that were later shared with Leah Wisdom.*

- Add links to the website for individuals that want to learn more information regarding a course i.e. an example of class rubric, KSDE standards, equity class curriculum crosswalk, prerequisite skills, etc.
- Add a 'see at a glance' course option that would be in clear communication for students to understand.
- Develop resource for all grades (K-12), with additional specificity as grade level increase (middle school vs high school curriculum options)
- English course specific
 - Ensure that teachers have option to alternative text options that bring in multiple perspective.
 - Update and bringing and looking for diverse literature
 - Bringing more relevant information
 - Make use of advisory committees such as the Parents of Color and Equity Advisory committees who can read, review and make recommendation for text.
 - Create a course material suggestion option on the district website.