



## African-American Equity Task Force – June 2018

### Recommendation: Targeted Supports for Students

Implementation Team Leads: Rochanda Jackson and Danielle Johnson

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#### Accomplishments

- The intersection between race and gender are now specifically called out in assessment data related to the READ Act. This data is important, as it disaggregates information to pinpoint the barriers African-American students encounter while trying to access high value and rigorous learning opportunities. This data also helps assist the development of supports for teachers to accelerate learning.

#### Progress

- Collaborating with the Gifted and Talented Team to evaluate how recent district and state changes to Gifted and Talented eligibility policies further impact African-American student access.
- Identifying opportunities to engage district leaders in strategies for ensuring African-American students are prepared to graduate under the new graduation requirements for the class of 2021.

#### Problem of Practice for Community Meeting:

Create awareness about the importance of the READ Act, and how to improve communication and supports.

#### 2018-19 Focus:

1. Design and develop a draft equitable access plan for African-American students in high value learning opportunities.
2. Evaluate current state of program offerings by school.
3. Provide teachers with additional support to accelerate low performing students.

#### Stay Informed:

Visit <http://celt.dpsk12.org> and go to the African-American Equity Task Force page for the latest progress updates and news.

**Tip:** Set a reminder on your calendar to check the webpage on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month—this will ensure you stay updated on everything related to the work.

The Wisdom Team advises and works side-by-side with the implementation teams to ensure the recommendations are effectively implemented and evaluated on an ongoing basis.

# Wisdom Team

- William Anderson
- Michael Atkins
- Trevon Brandhorst
- Kimberly Desmond
- Kinyata Jackson
- Trena A. Marsal (Deane)
- Sharikia Towers-Fulcher
- Unsuk Zucker

**Senior Program Manager, Equity Initiatives**

Leslie L. Juniel

Leads the ongoing work and implementation of the recommendations.

# Implementation Teams

Five implementation teams are tasked with driving results toward each of the recommendations. These teams collaborate with multiple departments and organizations to develop and prioritize actions.

**District and School Structures to Promote Equity**

**Team Leads:**

- Allen Smith
- Bill de la Cruz

**Culturally Responsive Instruction, Engagement and Communication**

**Team Leads:**

- Dr. Danielle Harris
- Dr. Laura Summers

**Targeted Supports for Students**

**Team Leads:**

- Rochanda Jackson
- Danielle Johnson

**Community and Family Resources**

**Team Leads:**

- Dr. Sharon Bailey
- Iesha Mitchell (interim)

**Equitable Employment Practices and Work Environment**

**Team Leads:**

- Moe Cantrell
- Caleb Fields

# African-American Equity Task Force Recommendations

Over a period of seven months, Denver Public School (DPS) staff and community members developed specific recommendations for defined levers of impact that will enable DPS to improve the experiences for African-American students, staff and families.

## African-American Equity Task Force Working Groups