



African-American Equity Task Force – June 2018

Recommendation: Community and Family Resources

Implementation Team Leads: Dr. Sharon Bailey and Iesha Mitchell (interim)

Accomplishments

- More than 420 families have accessed the resources available at Mile High United Way Center for Family Opportunity (CFO) at McGlone Academy.
- The office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) has conducted five, Being Black at School (BBAS) sessions with a total of 34 participants engaging in these community driven sessions. These sessions are comprised of students, parents, educators and community partners with the overall objective of deepening engagement between African-American families and their school communities.
- Home Learning Workshops were held in the Far Northeast to empower families to support increased literacy development in the home. Over 150 parents participated in Home Learning Workshops and over 200 families have participated in Literacy Nights.

Progress

- Through the Summer Youth Employment programs, more than 300 Denver youth, ages 16-24, are in the process of being placed at over 60 local businesses and will receive job readiness training and summer work experiences.
- Over 280 youth received case management and wrap around services through a partnership with the City of Denver Office of Economic Development Workforce Services. These individuals are utilizing the employment pipelines and business partnerships solidified by FACE to expand the City of Denver's network of employers throughout Denver.
- Customer satisfaction surveys are being completed with all CFO participants.
- Continuing to develop employment pipelines and business partnerships with the City of Denver's network of employers that support and assist families in obtaining employment.
- Research is ongoing to identify best practices for engaging African-American families in the education of their students.

Problem of Practice for Community Meeting:

1. How can DPS best restore trust, inform and engage African-American families so they can more effectively support their students?
2. What kinds of programs would be most beneficial for the community as part of the Center for Family Opportunity (CFO)?
3. If a webpage is developed as a resource for African-American families, what content would be most helpful?

2018-19 Focus:

1. Design ongoing assessments to measure the effectiveness of CFOs.
2. Provide year-round academic opportunities and social supports for African-American students, families and community members.
3. Create school-level black family advisory council.

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 15th of each month—this will ensure you stay updated on all African-American Equity Task Force 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