

Notes from Community and Family Resources session, June 2018

<p>How can DPS best restore trust, inform and engage African American families so they can more effectively support their students?</p>	<p>What types of programs would be most beneficial for the African American community as part of the Center for Family Opportunity (CFO) in the FNE?</p>	<p>If a website were developed as a resource for African American families, what content would be most helpful?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the churches • Organizing Black teachers • Follow-through with integrity- Do what you say you're going to do • Proactive conversations vs. reactive • Build supportive / trusting relationships with their children • Families need seats at decision making tables • Support outside organizations with the work to minimize the effects of "silencing of the black voice" in DPS • Families can communicate with and inform other families • Being present at events created by the African American Community outside of school district functions (Juneteenth) • Appoint a point of contact from FACE in each network that can assist African American parents when they need support. • Make CRE a priority and implement it in all schools • Recruit more African American teachers who are from the community • Invest in supports our community wants and needs to be successful • Every school should have a paid person to advocate for and support African American parents (Black Parent Liaison) • Central support and advocacy for parents and families when challenges aren't met at the school level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A directory of all available resources in the community • Hours the center is open and scheduling times for programs that can accommodate those who work different shifts • Resources for homeless families • Classes for healthy eating – recipes – How to eat healthy • Health care services – Immunizations, school and sport physicals • Partner with other groups so the CFO can offer traveling services • More computer literacy classes • Early literacy classes • Family oriented activities – Movie night- yoga nights – social events • African American mental health supports • More opportunities for African American families to get to know each other • Spanish language acquisition • Classes or info on how to access healthcare • Enrichment support for children in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date statistics on Black children – Suspensions and expulsions – achievement data – student outcomes • Community Resources – links to other useful web pages • Books- Literature suggestions • Opportunities for involvement • Updates regarding policy changes in languages families can understand • Proven research and best practices • Explanations of services offered by the district that relate to families and students • Community Events • Personal recommendations from other parents for which schools are good for African American students – not just SPF • Scholarship information • Information on testing opportunities for advanced courses (GT, Advanced Placement) • Information on the school choice process before ECE of Kindergarten • Celebration stories • Program opportunities in academics, enrichment, development • Ensure information and link to website are featured in newspapers / newsletters in the community to increase community awareness • Put it on Facebook and other forms of social media • All useful resources

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black deputy superintendent | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A blog to highlight African American issues and concerns |
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS / NOTES:

- Communicating opportunities in DPS – More collaboration with each other as African Americans inside and outside of the system
- CRE collaboration with other departments
- Mandate CRE for all teachers and leaders
- Form Black Caucus of educators within DPS and interested community members to share information
- Develop more communication networks through social media
- Participate in Black to School Summit and upcoming Black Minds Matter events (Soul)
- African American families need more exposure to history and culture – Community-based African American history and culture sessions
- Native parents / families need cultural and historical grounding as well
- Community needs to find ways to support African Americans working in the system
- Develop a “Black Education Network”
- African American students and community need Freedom Schools and Summer Academies
- Develop “points of contact” / persons in each church and community organization to help communicate important events, issues, etc.
- Create better connections with FACE resources
- Collaborate with community in organizing and planning events
- Go where the people are
- Convene more intergenerational events to share history, culture and focus on current issues.
- Support culturally-based exposure trips to community events, symposiums, HBCU’s