

ACE Meeting Minutes

The purpose of the Advisory Council for Education is to provide a systematic representative public involvement in educational decisions under consideration by the Board of Directors.

May 2, 2022
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Members Present

Sarah Blake, Erika Coghill, Montan Copenhaver, Judy Fay, Madison Griffith, Morigan Havelly, Kerri Helgeson, Kari Henderson-Burke, Britt Kleinman, Mary Levesque, Karrie Marsh, Anne McAlvey, Gary Sabol, Sophie Willis,

Call to Order

6 p.m.

Approve Minutes

Judy Fay made a motion, seconded by Gary Sabol, to approve the April 21 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Discipline Data

Kerri Helgeson, Director of Equity and Student Well-Being, presented discipline data to the ACE Committee. She showed overall district discipline, types of infractions, discipline incidents by school, and discipline incidents by student group. She shared the following:

- 220 students account for the 237 discipline incidents
- Overall discipline numbers are lower than in 2018-2019
- Highest infraction is possession of prohibited item
- 23 out of the 44 incidents involving fighting were in the first trimester
- In-school suspensions are the most common type of suspension
- White students are being suspended more than any other group
- 73% of our student population is white and account for 81% of incidents

The ACE Committee had a discussion about the following:

- What support is needed for students that have become addicted to vape and marijuana?
- Are buildings consistent with suspensions?
- Why does Post have more incidents than Haller?

A committee member shared the following link with the group:

<https://www.cpr.org/2014/03/19/for-marijuana-addicted-teens-one-colorado-school-is-trying-a-groundbreaking-approach/>

Attendance

Kerri also shared data about attendance. She showed overall district attendance among the school and how it compared to last year. She shared the following:

- Overall, our attendance percentage is lower than in the years past.
- Schools have been working hard to reengage students back into school. (This is still a work in progress)
- No significance difference in overall school attendance percentages compared to any student group percentage.

She discussed the following the ACE committee:

- Continue to put supports in place to reengage students
- Remind families about the importance of regular school attendance
- Community Engagement Board-site based
- Meet with APs to create attendance contracts/checklists that meet the needs of students and families.
- Create an attendance padlet full of resources for families and schools.

Kerri is going to be tracking tardies for next year. Teachers all need to follow the same guidelines.

Equity Efforts

Kerri addressed the goals for the APS Equity Plan:

Goal 1: Professional Learning, Training & Growth

Year 1:

- Stillaguamish Tribal members – district day kickoff, assembly at Post
- Training with Since Time Immemorial
- Multi-Tier System of Support (all learners – Tier 1)
- Deep Equity Cohort

Year 2:

- Building Equity Teams
- Book Studies
- Allyship training for DLT
- Universal Design for Learning
- Professional Development for all departments about inclusion, belonging and cultural sensitivity

Goal 2: Develop a Diverse & Inclusive Curriculum

Year 1:

- Develop an implementation plan for Since Time Immemorial for all K-12 students
- OSPI adoption process
- Social Studies Adoption

Year 2:

- Math Adoption
- Diverse Books in School Libraries
- Walk the Walls

Goal 3: Close the Academic Achievement & Opportunity Gaps

Year 1:

- Ongoing data analysis each trimester
- Equity Audit

Year 2:

- Universal Design for Learning (variability)
- Ongoing data analysis each semester
- Semester meetings with administrators
- Training and renewed focus on PLCs in all buildings
- Equity Audit

Goal 4: Recruit and Retain Diverse and Culturally Competent Administrators, Teachers, and Staff

Year 2:

- Update job descriptions to align with strategic and equity plan
- Update interview questions

Goal 5: Strengthen Parent & Community Partnerships

Year 1:

- District and Community Equity Team established
- Advisory Council for Education
- Ongoing partnership with Stillaguamish Tribe
- Everett Community College language class
- "Funds of Knowledge" – 9th grade home visits

Year 2:

- Student Support Advocates
- Family Nights at Buildings
- District/School Website
- Communication to Families in Multiple Languages

Goal 6: Foster a Safe, Inclusive and Equitable School Community

Year 1:

- Construction Projects
- Yearly Climate Survey

- Healthy Youth Survey
- Co-Teaching Model at Post and AHS
- Safe Schools Tip Line information
- Quarterly review of discipline and suspension data

Year 2:

- Diverse books in school libraries
- Walk the Walls - Do I Belong Here?
- Student Voices opportunities
- Continued quarterly review of attendance, discipline and suspension data
- Continued focus on distributing Safe Schools Tip Line information

Goal 7: Respect and Value Diversity

Year 1:

- Send out information and resources to all staff related to holidays and/or observances
 - padlets
- School Board will acknowledge the ancestral lands of the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians at the first School Board meeting of each month

Year 2:

- Unified Champion Schools
- Orange T-Shirt Day
- Black Lives Matter Week of Action
- Autism Awareness Week
- Monthly Observances and other celebrations posted on district website
- Celebrate events at board meetings

Goal 8: Empower All Students to Achieve Excellence

Year 1:

- Mentorship Program
- Annual Student Summit

Year 2:

- HOPE Navigator
- Stronger Together
- Mentorship Program

Decarbonization

Sarah Blake brainstormed with the committee ideas for decarbonization.

- For new school buildings (thinking of Post) – do the plans meet energy efficiency standards, and/or will they meet LEED 'green building' certification?
- We need more education on lunchroom sorting/compost (was mentioned that a composting program will be restarting in September in conjunction with the City of Arlington – at all schools?)
- Do we use pesticides in our lawn care or otherwise? Can we eliminate/find non-toxic alternatives?

- Can we convert all our gas-powered lawn-care equipment to electric? These are readily available now. Side benefits of less noise, employees not breathing fumes, save \$\$?
- Make goals to eliminate plastic utensils in lunchroom (it was mentioned that students have to ask for plasticware now which reduces waste).
- Someone mentioned that we still use Styrofoam in the high school. Can we eliminate this, as other schools seem to use other non-styrofoam container products?
- Can we start recycling clubs at each school, like an after-school club (was mentioned that the HS has an Ecology club, though focuses on other subjects besides climate change)?
- Can we add climate change awareness to the curriculum?

District Updates

- SRO. The committee would like more information about our SRO program.
- Start times? School start times? Attendance data?
- The committee would like feedback about the Friday early release.

Adjournment

Erika Coghill made a motion, seconded by Judy Fay, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.