

RAUC School Council Meeting
Tuesday 12/7/21
8:00 - 9:00am (Virtual)

Join: <https://zoom.us/j/95778517633?pwd=WGRINHFOMDE3RmJQM0VyTkwwenRoZz09>

Meeting ID: 957 7851 7633

Passcode: 592172

Goals

- Review and give feedback on the [School Improvement Plan \(SIP\)](#)
- Share best understanding of district definition of and expectations for equity self-assessment
- Discuss ideas of how to move forward for equity self-assessment amidst some uncertainty

Attending:

Agenda

Topic	Notes
Introductions/connection 8:00 - 8:10	<i>Name 1 thing you enjoy about living or working in Cambridge</i>
RAUC School Improvement Plan Discussion 8:10-8:35	<p><i>Discussion of RAUC 2021-2024 School Improvement Plan (SIP)</i></p> <p><i>Context: School Improvement Plans (SIPs) are developed every two years by each school team. They are in line with district-wide improvement objectives but identify the specific priority work and strategies for their school community.</i></p> <p><i>Skim the document silently and note any wonders and any areas that need clarification</i></p> <p><i>Clarification questions/comments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SMART goals - says there would be a 10% increase in family satisfaction but where is it now? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We've shifted tools for this so we don't have data on this now ○ Idea is we'd do something in January or February and then something again in May; we have not gotten our baseline yet and district hasn't given info yet about any tools/surveys we expect to use

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listening conferences - what is the structure and how does this work? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advisors have max 8 students and would make connections w/ families/students to meet for 15-20 minutes ○ What has participation been like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Based on data for how many advisors who reached out to Julia to try to schedule a conference and who we couldn't schedule a conference w/, >90% ● What's the expectation of amount of parent participation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In the past, 3 reps; trying to aim for 4-5 if possible ● What's the status of student council members? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has been a challenge to even get student council to meet but would like student reps to join and would love ideas ○ What about high school RAUC alum (could count towards community service hours)? ● Initiative 3: about schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How can we hear student voices about schedule? ● Is this a living document or after a consensus a reached, will it not be changed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ YES - it is a living document <p>Consensus check?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Majority thumbs up or can live w/
<p>Equity Team Discussion 8:35-8:55</p>	<p><i>Discussion of district equity audit & self-assessment training: All documents can be found in this folder>></i></p> <p><i>After reviewing documents:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>What questions do you still have about the equity self-assessment?</i> 2. <i>Ideas for moving forward?</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Proposal: utilizing Listening Conferences to hear from all families</i> b. <i>Action research/Home visits/interview</i> <p><i>Clarification questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Equity audit vs. equity self-assessment: district determined which schools would do an equity audit vs. self-assessment - what was the criteria for this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The idea seems to be normalize the audits and eventually move towards doing 1-2 audits a year ○ RAUC is NOT doing be asked to do an equity audit (external review)

- What's in the school community passion/interest in doing the equity self-assessment? If we know this w/ some clarity, we can accomplish this regardless of what the district expectations are
 - There seems to be a real passion to identifying equity challenges

Description of district training (Julie, Paula, Julia)

Proposal

- *Ask simple questions during listening conference*
- *Tension: only time we can hear from all families is this but families also have things they may want to share and questions they want to ask that aren't necessarily related to this*

Comments

- We have to have multiple ways of collecting information
- Let folks know ahead of time that one of the listening conferences would be focused on our equity self-assessment
- Parent interview w/ child worksheet/homework
 - Incentive on child's end to make sure that happens
- What do we want to hear from families?
 - After school programs and activities - could the clubs be another avenue to collect data in terms of how the kids engage?
 - What are ways to make that equitable for everyone?
- Struggle: we don't know what we don't know; there are things that we could just not be thinking about
 - When we're thinking about questions, can we find two very well-thought out open-ended questions and maybe it will take more work and analyzing and can we use that info to feed into the survey and get valuable info
- If we're really looking for family feedback, could we have the kids interview the parents? It'd be a different dynamic than teachers interviewing parents...Could be an assignment
- Three things that Steve has seen that parents care about for equitable schools
 - Child's capacity to and school's support their learning
 - Child and their parents can see themselves and their culture in school staff and curriculum

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School discipline is equitable and their child is not held to a higher or lower expectation than other kids ● Bo: In our affinity groups the question that always surfaces is “Does my child feel seen?” ● Echo that surveys are good for getting broad info but other tools like focus groups & bringing folks together in different formats to have more rich and free flowing info helps w/ getting richer data <p><i>Summary</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People seem to be OK w/ some type of survey at listening conferences (that is not the only goal) AND we do other things
<p>Wrap up with next steps 8:55-9:00</p>	<p>Next mtg (January 4, 2022)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal: next mtg, we design the most simple, accessible questions that we could ask for survey ● February: spend mtg discussing kid/parent interviews and other action research ● Goal: by end of this school year, we gathered info at least 3 ways and have some data that can help shape the following year <p>Tasks before next mtg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Julie & Julia will send out examples of previous surveys