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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

ETHNIC STUDIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE – WORK GROUP MEETING NOTES
FEBRUARY 12, 2020

- New bill for additional funding needs to pass in the next few weeks
 - At 1:07pm Jerry receives text that it just passed in the senate
- Jerry informs the group that he is doing Ethnic Studies work with black and Asian parents at correctional facility
- Western WA areas starting Ethnic Studies work, Seattle being area of scrutiny, confusion, uproar
- Ethnic Studies framework/resources contracts expire June 30; hope to renew in July, if bill passes
- Updates in the communities
 - March 14 assembly - Seattle Public Schools
 - Arts course involving Ethnic Studies (J. Hayakawa, OSPI Arts Program Supervisor)
- Focus on framework in today's meeting
 - Readdress posters from last meeting: The 4 Themes
 - 1. Indigeneity, Active roots
 - 2. Coloniality, Dehumanization, Genocide
 - 3. Hegemony, Normalization
 - 4. Decoloniality, Regeneration, Transformational resistance
 - November 14th Zoom meeting did not have many attendees
 - Affirmations were made on the 4 themes
 - Revisit section in "Rethinking Ethnic Studies" book
 - What is a specific knowledge area a student should take away in each theme?
 - What is a specific knowledge and/or skill area a teacher should know and be able to do in order to teach this theme?
 - What themes are important and why?
 - Identity is foremost in the framework; build from there
 - Break into 4 groups to discuss each theme (1 teacher, 1 administrator, 1 higher education)
 - Connect with other groups if opportunity arises
 - Group share outs: concepts, visuals
 - What the student needs; what the teacher needs
 - Key areas explained; gray areas called out
 - Structure into 4 domains with corresponding questions under them

- Identity
 - Power
 - Histories
 - Civil action
- Where to start, what crosses with what
- Provide mentorship
- Guide thinking in other content areas (e.g. Math, Arts)
- Give options outside framework
- What are thoughts from the group?
 - Framework needs to be user-friendly with proper terminology; state-level; focused mainly on students of color; primary audience will be teachers
 - Framework will hit experienced individuals as well as ones with no former Ethnic Studies knowledge
 - Must have voices to the poor
 - Make it a conversation rather than throwing wads of information at the student
 - Origin: convey the language first; overcome fear; how does society label you?
 - Identity: 4 themes center around pain; focus has been lingering on it;
 - How are we related to each other?
 - Why does that matter?
 - Where are we from?
 - Reflection: How do we respectfully address others?
- How do we educate the educators?
 - Professional development needed but not widely received or available
- Different perspectives on Ethnic Studies higher education
 - Who is guiding and how are they guiding?
 - How do they all connect?
 - How is Ethnic Studies conveyed by a white teacher?
 - Are white teachers getting credit for acknowledging Ethnic Studies without unpacking it, understanding it, or reflecting on it?
 - Recognize that there is a huge gap in teacher training due to money, resources, time
- Work as a group in Google Docs on building framework template
 - Discuss opinions/perceptions on how the framework should look, what it contains
 - Structure of 4 domains
 - Identity
 - Power/Communities
 - Histories
 - Civil action
 - Corresponding components under each domain
 - Essential Questions

- Vocabulary
 - Key Concepts/Understanding
 - Definition of Ethnic Studies incorporated into framework
 - Audience: Secondary Education, 7-12 grades (initially)
- Upcoming meetings
 - For Feb 24 webinar, identify someone in the work group to present summary version of category in framework
 - Framework is in draft form with more work to be done as we progress
 - Whole group feels confident in what they've accomplished so far
 - Next in-person meeting, March 11, will progress more on the framework
 - Work on definitions
 - Final meeting to pull work together will be May 6
 - May 20 is final meeting of the Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee as a whole
 - Present work completed and engage in feedback
 - Looking for meeting space in Seattle area
 - Notify Jerry or Kari with location suggestion