



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.1

Meeting Date: September 26, 2019

Subject: African American Achievement Task Force

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Continuous Improvement and Accountability

Recommendation: N/A

Background/Rationale: The goal of this presentation is provide an update to the Board of Education regarding work to implement the board adopted African American Achievement Task Force recommendations.

Financial Considerations: There is \$150,000 budgeted for the 2019-2020 school year. There are ongoing efforts to secure grant funding.

LCAP Goal(s): College, Career and Life Ready Graduates

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary

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| <p>Estimated Time of Presentation: 15 minutes Submitted by: Vincent Harris, Chief Continuous Improvement and Accountability Officer and Task Force Members Approved by: Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent</p> |
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I. Overview/History of Department or Program

Developing SCUSD's graduates who are highly prepared to pursue continued educational opportunities and achieve to their potential is an urgent issue for the District. The District's Equity Access and Social Justice Guiding Principle calls for *ALL students to be given an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options*. The distance between this goal and the current reality for far too many SCUSD's students is of grave concern.

The disparities in performance in markers such as English Language Arts and Math Achievement, Graduation, A-G and Suspensions are persistent among historically underperforming student groups including students with disabilities, English Learners, Foster Youth, and those who are homeless and socio-economically disadvantaged. This is also true when data on graduation rates are disaggregated by racial and ethnic categories and Latino/a, African American/Black, Native American and certain Asian Pacific Islander groups, namely Hmong and Laotian are the lowest performing groups. However, among the District's diverse racial and ethnic groups, the under-performance of African American/Black students on an array of measures is particularly acute especially when viewed in relationship to their percentage in the District's general population.

The District recognizes that the outcomes it is currently producing are because of the way the system is, and has historically been, designed. Our job is to ensure that African-American/Black students and their peers graduate high school ready for whatever they aspire to do next in life, and this requires that we vigilantly pursue strategies and take action to change the design of the system to support greater student achievement so that all students are able to achieve their personal dreams.

Update on African American Achievement Task Force Recommendations



Conversely, the report concludes that Black students are least likely to:

- be placed in gifted and talented education programs
- have access to and be given a full sequence of college preparatory classes
- graduate from high school in four years
- complete a 4-year college degree

These troubling conclusions are born out in SCUSD data on African American/Black student access to opportunities and achievement. We are committed to disrupting the predictability and persistence of these outcomes within our system through a strategic and disciplined approach drawing on research and best practice, assessing and monitoring progress, and partnering with African-American/Black students, parents/guardians, and community leaders.

At its May 16, 2019 board meeting, the SCUSD Board of Education accepted the

Update on African American Achievement Task Force Recommendations



- Eliminate Pre K – 3rd grade suspensions
- **Require sites with over 5% variance on suspension rate disproportionality to develop and implement a plan to reduce suspensions to at least the District average.**
 - *Preliminary outcomes for this recommendation were shared at August 1st pl5468 194(sem [46(ct*

Update on African American Achievement Task Force
Recommendations



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