

10/14/2022 Lane ESD Community Engagement Event

Table Rotation Activity: Notes

The following are a sample of notes captured at the rotating groups Siuslaw participated in during the community partner dialogue. Here, groups of district representatives (administrators, parents, teachers, community resource specialists, etc.) engaged with representatives from various community based organizations and governmental agencies in a series of questions framed around the four areas of the Integrated Guidance plan.

Main guiding question: From your perspective- what do students and families need in order to experience academic success?

Discussion Round #1

Participants:

- 1) Superintendent
- 2) Special Programs Dir
- 3) Mobile Crisis Management Western Lane County
- 4) Advocate Mobile Crisis Management Western Lane County
- 5) DHS
- 6) Lane ESD Education Specialist

Group discussed mental and emotional health needs as pivotal at this time. Supports for rural communities is growing, but the need feels greater than the services or supports available. Post-Covid impacts will be around for awhile as all students who were of school age during that time are still moving through the grades. The gaps in learning were discussed, and the point was made that poverty as a focus group is also hit hard with learning gaps. Connections were made within the group for outreach into rural communities by service providers at the table.

Discussion Round #2

- 1) Special Programs Director
- 2) Eugene Drop- Youth ERA- provide support for unhoused youth
- 3) Eugene Drop- funded by different CCOs and grants
- 4) 2 Superintendents
- 5) HS Principal
- 6) LCC Administrator

HS Principal discussed strategic planning as one district's current area where a lot of connection could be happening. Moving their Board through the process is going very slowly though, and without the push from them it could stall out. District staff will still have to carry that across the finish.

Eugene Drop staff asked about services for students experiencing homelessness, and various views were expressed. The option Eugene Drop provides was viewed as really beneficial, even if it does not reach out to rural locations. Yet.

District Superintendents talked about where they see themselves on the engagement scale, agree that mostly are in the “consult” mode, but trying to get into the involve place- try to engage youth as much as possible, and find ways to keep input moving into involvement. In one district, student representatives are now sitting on board meetings, and the small step of that is at least positive. During previous tries at engagement events or activities, difficulty in getting in-person attendance and online outreach seems to draw more (but maybe not better) participation. The same people tend to come to the in-person sessions, and the best way to get input is at other events meant for something else (open house, conferences, Title I Family Nights, etc.).

Following are the explicit comments left by participants as their main takeaways from the day.

Take Aways

- How much more efficient we would be if we broke down silos and stopped duplicating services.
- Re: mental health-responsiveness-> focus on preventative, starting at preschool 4 years and up or even earlier; encourages access to resources like ECCARES earlier, etc.
- Connection with Siletz Education Service, funds to support engaging with extra curriculars and how valuable that access is to kids.
- Importance of these kinds of event bringing diverse providers together to share info, data, ideas- keeping address siloing that so often happens.
- Future collaborations
 - Intentional planning.
 - Community partnership awareness
 - OR DHS does more in schools than I knew about.
 - Connecting community partners
 - Students and family personal needs, need to be supported.
- Approach information gathering with who is answering in mind.
- Collect information about community partners to present to admins.
- Learn more about R.A.N.
- Networks need to be sent out to rural communities workgroups instead of asking them to come to Eugene/Spfd.
- Need a focus group of service providers and school admin so that providers have a better understanding of Admins reality of programs coming individually offering help. Understand problem-find solution.
- Need to look at our summer school schedule.
- More intentional training for focal groups
- Build on what we have-slow down
- Less pressure on reliance on volunteers, teachers, current staff
- How do we simplify-do more with the what we are doing
- Continue to build and partner with third party groups
- Have to prioritize funding, training, stronger preventive work