Equity Update

SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

JUNE 9, 2020

Strategies to Engage Students in Remote Learning

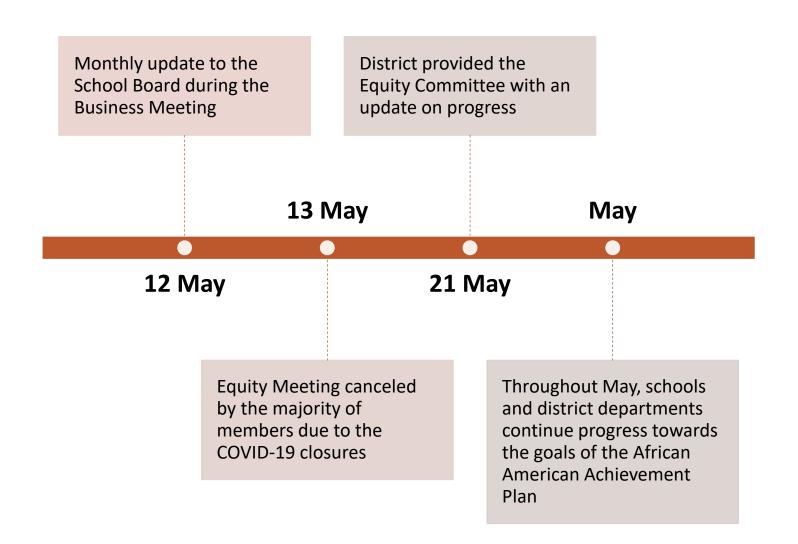Provided laptop computers and hotspots

Provided paper packets for students who chose not to engage in digital learning

School administrators and teachers have contacted all students

Teachers have been flexible in the method of receiving work, types of assessments assigned, and grading

Curriculum and Instruction Department released grading guidelines which encouraged teachers to offer multiple means for students to demonstrate mastery of the standards

Timeline

Monthly update to the School Board during the Business Meeting

District provided the Equity Committee with an update on progress

13 May

May

12 May

21 May

Equity Meeting canceled by the majority of members due to the COVID-19 closures

Throughout May, schools and district departments continue progress towards the goals of the African American Achievement Plan

Progress Report Card

Data that we continue to track:

- Credit Recovery
- Student Recognition
- Course Failures
- Grade Point Averages
- School Enrollment
- Screening for Gifted Education, including Plan B
- Eligibility for ESE Services
- Racial/Ethnic Breakdown of Instructional Staff
- Attrition Rates

Areas that showed progress:

- Overall average GPAs for African American students went up from 2.49 the first semester to 2.54 the second semester of the 2019-20 school year
- Count of African American course failures decreased from 1480 courses (2018-19) to 1062 courses (end of May 2020)
- Percent of African American students identified with a Specific Learning Disability decreased from 14.3% (2018-19) to 12.3% (end of May 2020)
- Increase in the percentage of African American teachers from 9% (2018-19) to 9.9% (end of May 2020)
- African American instructional staff attrition decreased from 1.3% (2018-19) to 1% (end of May 2020)

Implementation of Progress at Our Schools

- Virtual data chats with teachers

- Enrolling African American students in credit recovery courses

- Created a plan to monitor graduation rates at the high schools

- Scheduled informational events with African American parents, guardians and students
  - Advanced coursework
  - Dual enrollment
  - Scholarship information
  - Strategies for academic success

Looking Forward

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- African American students who are eligible for ESE services increased from 22% in 2018-19 to 23% at the end of May 2020

- Maintained the number of African American students screened for gifted services from 2018-19 to the end of May 2020

- Maintained less than 10 African American students meeting Plan B Gifted eligibility from 2018-19 to the end of May 202

*To protect the privacy of individual students, data are not reported when the total number of students in a group is fewer than 10.

ACTION STEPS:

"ESE Bootcamp" Professional Development Sessions

- Held on June 2-4

- 3 day professional development opportunity for school teams
  - School administration
  - Resource specialists

- Included a parent collaboration component

Next Steps

District staff will continue to provide oversight and support to schools and students

Principals will continue to monitor course failures and i-Ready participation and follow up with individual schools as needed

Students have been identified for course recovery. Laptops and hot spots are available to assist students who will require the support for credit recovery in the summer

The district will offer summer distance learning opportunities through Illumination 2020: Extended School Year, Virtual Summer VPK, Course Recovery, and enrichment opportunities