**Student Assignment Review Committee Minutes**

**December 4, 2018**

**Members Present:** Tom Aberli, Amanda Averette-Bush, Cassie Blausey, Angela Bowens, Nick Braden, Cindy Cushman, Barbara Dempsey, Delquan Dorsey, Dena Dossett, Jonathan Lowe, Michael Newman, Michael Terry, Brent West, Iris Wilbur, and Katherine Wilson.

**Visitors Present:** No visitors signed in.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. The group reviewed the schedule of meetings for 2019. The meetings are scheduled on these dates: January 29, February 5, March 5, April 9 and May 7, 2019. All meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Stuart Auditorium of the VanHoose Education Center. If schools are closed or dismissed early due to inclement weather, the meeting will be rescheduled.

The January meeting is scheduled later in the month so that the committee may review the survey results. In February, staff will bring a proposal for revised guiding principles to discuss. In late February, staff will be presenting an update on the review to the Board. In March the committee will review ideas for goals for the plan and in April we hope to have some ideas about revisions. Committee members recommended that staff and the committee review revisions through the racial equity policy protocol.

At the tables, committee members discussed equity of access. The committee identified these barriers to equity of access:

* All students have the ability to apply and be accepted at a good fit school (access to programs)
* The requirement for students to apply to programs can be a barrier to access.
* Equality does not exist for our students
* Schools may need to be resourced differently based on student need
* All students should have access to quality schools

The committee identified these as barriers to equity of access

* Communication
  + Who receives
  + Language
  + Understanding
    - Navigating the system
    - Knowing who to talk to
  + Consistency in message and understanding
* Resourcing schools to meet student needs
  + Mental health
  + Coaching, communication skills
* Teacher experience and salary
* Transportation
  + Access to some programs is limited based on ability to provide own transportation
* Location and physical capacity of buildings
* Family’s ability and time to research/understand system
* Criteria for programs
* More applications than space for a program (capacity)
* Equity of course offerings inside a building
* Teacher and administrator training in understanding and recognizing the root cause of behavior, cultural competence, implicit bias
* Community barriers—where you live, knowledge, what peers choose
* Segregated housing patterns
* Affordable housing

The committee also discussed some potential recommendations for staff to consider:

1. Limiting use of criteria
2. Improving communications and support (trust is lacking)
3. End the High School Open Enrollment program
4. Offer fewer choices that are distributed better
5. Location of facilities, boundaries, capacity and number of seats in a program