

Meeting Notes
Equity & Access Committee
January 25, 2018
3:45 p.m.

- **Welcome / Introductions** – Jaenemy Perez de Luengas, Ron Higgins, David Hampson, Bill Erickson, Yazmin Bahena, Marilyn Melgoza, Jacky Alonso, Kevyn Romero, Maggi Banderas, Ruthell Martinez, John Hibbitts, Doug Bayne, Virginia Romfh, Sandy Flores, Mark Higgins, Michelle O’Conner, Ron Williams, Amanda Trejo-Perez, Malinda Dean, Stacy Estes, Brenden Koch, Sergio Hernandez

- **Latino/a Outreach Efforts – Marilyn** – shared with the committee some of the exciting work the Bilingual - Latino/a Department has accomplished this year. Items included in her report were:

- Her involvement with the Walla Walla Latino Alliance (WWLA) and the survey they administered at Garrison Middle School.
- Plans are being made to have a recognition ceremony for Latino graduates from Wa-Hi.
- Increased activity with social media in an attempt to reach more parents.
- Latino club support and participation in their meetings.
- Workshops for MS students.
- Participation with Pioneer’s Ballet Folklorico.
- Expanded radio spots on a weekly basis.

The committee discussed the following suggestions/concerns:

- Additional attention be payed to the importance of home visits by Intervention Specialists.
- Concern was expressed regarding the current enrollment at Garrison Night School.
- Need for additional Latino/a staff that adequately represent the current district enrollment, at all levels.
- Question was raised regarding the number of Latino/a students in AP and Honors classes. The committee will hear a full report at their next meeting.

- **Student Voices – Kevyn Romero** – a junior at Wa-Hi shared with the committee his inspirational “story” and how much certain staff members have helped him overcome his past. He mentioned how importance his SEA-Tech Advanced Manufacturing and Welding class is and how it helped him set some career goals.

- **Student Achievement Specialist Report – Melinda Dean** – shared with the committee the work she does at Wa-Hi as a Student Achievement Specialist. Malinda also expressed her concern that with the grant ending next September, the district needs to explore ways to keep the program funded.
- **Board Funding – Safe and Engaging Environment** – Sergio shared copies of the report presented to the school board last April, showing the funding allocated to Latino Student and Family Outreach as part of Goal 4 in the District’s Strategic Plan.
- **2017-18 Student Data Info** – Sergio shared the October Enrollment Report showing Free/Reduced, gender and ethnicity data. The district’s current minority percentage is at 46%.
- **Reports** –
 - **Latino Club** – Bill Erickson shared that the club is gearing up for Cinco de Mayo events and looks forward to working with community partners.
 - **Athletic Pass – for Free & Reduced Parents of athletes** – Sergio shared that as a result of the committee’s suggestion to explore free passes for parents of F/R athletes, the Bilingual Department met with Dirk Hansen and Nancy Taylor to discuss the feasibility. We decided to develop protocols and pilot this concept during post-season play for soccer this spring.
- **Your suggestions and/or concerns**
- **Other**
- **Meeting Schedule:**
 - **Thursday, April 26, 2018** – the next meeting will focus on:
 1. A comprehensive report by Victor Vergara on the changes and progress of the new bilingual program.
 2. A report on the number of minority students in AP/Honors/AVID/Highly Capable programs.