

Equity and Access Committee
Meeting Notes
Thursday, May 6, 2021
4:00 pm

- **Welcome / Introductions** / Members Present - Yolanda Herrera, Brent Cummings, Julie Perron, Wade Smith, Jackson Adams, Brendon Koch, Catherine Veninga, Cesar Hernandez, Grace Ogoshi, Jaden Bergevin, Jerry Cummins, Margarita Banderas, Melito Ramirez, Roberto Rodriguez, Norma Hernandez, Ron Higgins, Ruth Ladderud, Stacy Estes, Terri Trick, Virginia Romfh, Wako Soma, Yaneth Hernandez, Yarden Meyerhoff

· **Updates**

1. **Superintendent Smith** - shared that the Student Advisory Group, comprised of 14 high school students is now meeting on a regular basis. The Advisory Council was established by Smith to intentionally seek out and respond to the specific needs of Walla Walla Public Schools high school students. The group meets monthly throughout the school year. Through a district-wide lens, students identify issues and proffer solutions, as well as provide input and guidance to the Superintendent and Cabinet team when changes are being considered by the district. They will also advocate and help advance **student-led** initiatives and ideas that impact districtwide operations and programs to maximize the experience for current and future Walla Walla Public Schools students.
2. **LEAP / Latino Club / YEOC** Roberto - shared that Latino Club sponsored several events during the current school year, including a Cinco de Mayo event that was well attended.
3. **ASB** – Jaden Bergevin informed the committee that the ASB has been very busy. Some of the activities include - drama club food drive / strong push to get students vaccinated. Fun Fridays on the front lawn after school. Jaden also mentioned that next week is Wa-Hi's Spirit Week with many activities planned.
4. **Social Justice Club** - Miki Joshua and Jackson Adams shared that the club has been looking at the high school's Social Studies curriculum and the need to make it more historical and culturally relevant. The club has also discovered the need for cultural competency for teachers and the lack of diversity in Honors / AP classes at the high school. The club has also been working hard to get students of color vaccinated.

- 5. Summer Sol** – Brent Cummings, the director of Summer Sol has spent the past few weeks meeting with stakeholders in order to determine the direction and purpose of Summer Sol...a WWPS program developed to deliver support for students this summer, as a result of the pandemic.

The program will operate as follows and is broken down into three parts:

- **Morning Acceleration** (8:30am-10:30am): This is for select, teacher-identified students needing support in reading and math. Communication from each school will notify parents of student eligibility for this part of Summer Sol. This notification will come around mid-May.
- **Enrichment Programming** (10:30am-12:30pm): This portion of Summer Sol is open to all currently enrolled Walla Walla Public Schools students. Registration for this portion of the program will open May 3rd and includes our hands-on, experience-based programming (gardening, theater, STEM, music, art, Sports & Rec, Swim Lessons, Robotics, etc.).
- **Summer Sol Pass** (12:30pm - 5:00pm): After 12:30pm students will go home, or if in elementary school they have the option to be bussed to Sharpstein to participate in the YMCA's 12:30pm-5:00pm afternoon Summer Enrichment program.
 - In addition, all students enrolled in Summer Sol will have a badge that allows them certain community perks, like a Memorial Pool pass for that student, a free registration of a Parks & Rec activity or program this summer, and/or unique YMCA programs like Youth Sports Camp or Rock Climbing. Registrations and sign-ups for these types of perks will be through the respective designated organization.
- Brent asked for the committee's help getting the word out regarding the program, especially to our non-English speaking families.

- 6. Survey** - Julie asked for committee members to please go to following survey link to provide input as plans are made for next year. <https://forms.gle/gevdkVq8MrYgjbtQ9>

7. Meeting Dates for 2021-22 - TBD