

SUN Service System Coordinating Council Meeting

November 20, 2009

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

MEETING NOTES

Attendance

Members Present: Lorenzo Poe (Chair, Joanne Fuller, Lisa Turpel, Krista Larson, Bill Scott, Lisa Pellegrino, Barbara Kienle, Jim Schlachter, Cliff Brush, Gloria Wiggins, Joshua Todd, Kali Ladd

Alt = alternate member

Also Attending: Diana Hall, Peggy Samolinski, Dunya Minoo, Linda Castillo, Linda Magnuson, Lori Kenney

Announcements

Chair Poe's Transition: Joanne announced that Lorenzo Poe would be leaving the County after 26 years of superb service to be Director of Strategic Partnerships at Portland Public Schools. Joanne credited Lorenzo's vision and tenacity as a key factor in creating the SUN Service System and the Council. While many worked together to create this system, Lorenzo's deep and abiding conviction that all kids should have their needs met and be given opportunities for success fueled his persistence in bringing together funding and partners on the operational level to make it happen. Regardless of who Lorenzo talks with, Krista noted how he keeps his focus on the goal and has the unique ability to disagree in a way that others can hear. Lisa T. lauded his "stick-with-it-ness" and Jim Schlachter credited Lorenzo for helping to reduce boundaries and hurdles for more inclusiveness of east County schools. Bill remarked on the deep understanding Lorenzo brings to partnerships and Kali touted his unique blend of policy and political vision between school districts. Cliff is happy Lorenzo is coming to PPS.

MFS National Family Week Award: In a very fitting coincidence, Krista announced that even before anyone knew of Lorenzo's plans to leave the County, MFS voted to award him the National Family Week Award for his goals and vision of supporting kids and families. Krista presented the award to Lorenzo.

Updates

Education Cabinet: Diana reported that the Education Cabinet is developing their next set of strategies. Two of the potential strategies are focused on building on the SUN platform and engaging caring adults from businesses, higher education and the faith community. Existing strategies include a scholarship program to increase matriculation to post-secondary education. Recognizing the central importance of the school day, there is additional interest in how the Cabinet can play an advocacy role to support district efforts. Lisa T. suggested linking the Parks Youth Conservation crew of youth ages up to 21 years with the Ed Cabinet strategies. Gloria commented that alternative school students need additional information on how to access 9th Grade Counts.

ARRA What Works Grant: Peggy shared that the group that has met twice to discuss whether to pursue the ARRA What Works grant. Approved specifications are out and the group has been considering ideas and potential partner foundations for an offer to this competitive grant. They will be inviting foundations (possibly the Gates Foundation) who might offer potential matches to the discussion. Grants up to \$5 million will be awarded for 4 years with funding required to be obligated by Sept. 2010. The three areas under which to apply include development, validation and scale up. Bill suggested looping Maxine and PSU's EDGE Program into the discussions. Peggy asked Council members whether they were supportive of continuing

discussion on possibly developing an offer. Group members unanimously agreed they should continue working toward a collaborative offer. The next meeting will be Friday, December 11 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at the Multnomah Building, 5th Floor, Copper Room. All who are interested are invited to attend.

Coordinating Council Survey: Diana reminded folks to respond to the survey sent out a week ago. The survey includes brief questions about the effectiveness of Council and staff support and communication.

Superintendent Searches: Because 4 superintendents will be retiring this year, the Council decided to send a letter requesting that the search for new superintendents include recognition of their role/connection with the SUN SS Coordinating Council and community partnership. Joanne encouraged members to attend any community meetings about this issue that may be coming up in the districts.

STRIVE: Bill provided a quick update on STRIVE. Their intention is to bolster the partnership to increase resources and commitment to alignment.

SUN Service System Evaluation Overview

Linda Magnuson, Evaluator from School and Community Partnerships, provided an overview of outcomes for the SUN Service System for 2008-09. Nearly 15,000 students were served, with 75% increasing state benchmarks in reading (average gain of 4.5 points) and 77% increasing benchmarks in math (average gain of 5.3 points), both scores increasing from last year. These average gains are strong. Average daily attendance was 95%. The detailed overview is attached. Group members had the following comments and input:

- Be sure to use this information in the Championship Building visits as an overall statement of what SUN is working to achieve
- It would be helpful to have data for each school and comparative data for the total population; however, funding for a control group would be very expensive. These expensive studies don't necessarily save programs in hard times (SAI).
- This data is not causal
- It would be good to know the limitations and conditions of the data
- PSU has indicated an interest in helping with data collection
- At risk designations include some CX25 factors as well as poverty
- Request for the key "take aways" from the evaluation. The Council would like the key messages distilled.

Joint Ownership

Recap of Visits to Date: Lisa T. recapped a very positive visit with Commissioner Fish. Bob McKean brought a student who spoke about how SUN has helped her younger siblings. Lisa said Nick has let her know since the visit that he intends to do all he can to "hold SUN harmless" in the budgeting process. Lorenzo suggested we pay special attention to the different levels of understanding and knowledge of those we visit and consider bringing fewer people to each visit since our meeting times are fairly short. It was good to have the superintendent there, as well as an agency representative.

Joanne and Diana met with several folks from PPS: Xavier Botano, Rob Cowie, Cliff Brush, Susan Kosmala and Dunya. They clarified what we are intending with the PPS Board presentation and discussed interests in being more strategically aligned with PPS' milestones.

Upcoming Visits: Staff shared the timeline of additional visits that have been scheduled to Leaders Roundtable (update only), Marc Levy, Commissioner Saltzman, the Mayor and several school district boards

(Gresham-Barlow, Reynolds, Parkrose and David Douglas). A presentation to the Education Cabinet will be more appropriate once we can specifically link into some of the strategies. Comments included bringing a student to speak at the Reynolds presentation to encourage the district opening doors to providers. Kali Ladd offered to work with Commissioner Leonard's office to pave the way for setting up a visit with him.

10th Anniversary Brochure: Diana distributed a draft brochure that includes a SUN SS timeline. Members suggested removing the 2030 notation and just indicating "future" to leave the timeframe open and more immediate. The brochure will be included in the packet distributed at Championship Building visits.

Every School a SUN Community School

The core group met a week ago to develop a new definition based on input from group members. This new definition is focused on providing a description and still leaves many questions that we do not have the answers to at this point. Suggestions were made which will be incorporated into the new version of the definition. Group members commented that we should be pursuing funding and alignment opportunities in the short term and development of the model and sustainable funding for the long term. Discussion will be continued at our next meeting regarding funding issues coming in the next year or so. For example, we might be able to identify other potential areas where funding can be redirected similar to what was done with Title 1 \$\$\$. Lisa T. suggested this is a good topic to pull funders together for conversation in the New Year.

Experimental Expansion Workgroup

Dunya provided a brief update on the two meetings of this workgroup, working to address both expansion (Every School a Community School) and deepening efforts. Members agreed we should proceed based on a common set of values and commitments. Peggy is making contact with community schools folks in Tulsa and Cincinnati to see what we might learn from them.

Next Meeting

Items to be included on the next agenda include:

- SUN SS funding issues
- Evaluation "take aways" and further discussion

Next Meeting:

Friday, December 18, 2009

8:30-10:30 a.m.

Multnomah Building,

Room 112

501 SE Hawthorne

Future Meetings: (all meetings are from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the Multnomah Bldg. Room 112)

Friday, January 15, 2010

Friday, February 19, 2010

Friday, March 19, 2010

Friday, April 16, 2010