

Blueprint for Action ***Three Communities, One Voice***

Overview

The mission of the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) is inspiring and leading in education. To achieve this mission, SDCOE must focus on equity to ensure each and every student has access to powerful learning opportunities — in every classroom, every day — with the supports they need to be successful in college, career, and life. Equity is an urgent need for our district and, as a service organization, we must be on the forefront of those conversations on race, socioeconomic status, and implicit bias in our systems. Because of our in-house expertise, strong relationships with our school districts, and the ability to leverage resources, SDCOE is uniquely positioned to continue leading this effort on behalf of the region and the state.

Purpose

This document aims to identify the systemic barriers, and causes related to those barriers, that have resulted in the longstanding, pervasive opportunity gap experienced by many African American, American Indian, and Latinx students across San Diego County. The blueprint will synthesize educational data trends and research and highlight excellent and equitable educational best practices.

Process

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Equity department held five Blueprint for Action Guiding Coalition meetings with representatives from the African American and Latinx Advisory Committees, as well as representatives from the American Indian community. The following cross-cutting focus areas emerged from these meetings:

- Assets-based Systems
- Socially Conscious Leaders
- Culturally and Linguistically
- Family and Community Voice
- Student Agency and Voice

The coalition led two World Café sessions, including the three communities and an ally group, to gather community-based data and feedback. For each theme, each community (affinity) group responded to the following prompts:

- What might this mean? Why is this important for [African American/American Indian/Latinx] student group?
- What might be possible if we dare to dream? What is our deepest aspiration of what this looks like?
- What may be some of the dilemmas or tensions we may face?

Next Steps

- Synthesize the qualitative World Café data
- Share data with each affinity group to ensure accuracy and discuss the impact of COVID-19 on each community
- Complete document design and timeline (early November)