Eugene School District 4J Board of Directors

2009 Spring Board Retreat
Friday, March 13   Noon-5:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 14  8:00 a.m.-noon
Parr Room

A G E N D A
Friday, March 13, 2009

Objectives:
• Review board goals and our key instructional strategies for closing the achievement gap
  • How do maintain our focus on equity and achievement, in light of our financial constraints?
  • Are there questions or concerns regarding our budget reduction strategy that we should discuss?
  • Should we focus on fewer priorities or adjust our strategies to make the greatest impact with available resources?
• Review board working agreements and discuss communication issues

12:00-12:15 p.m. Lunch
Welcome, introductions, and agenda review – Charles Martinez

12:15-12:45 p.m. Review our key strategies for improving student achievement – Tom Henry and Instruction Directors (see next page)

12:45-2:15 p.m. Revisit the key question areas from the Equity Committee work session for further discussion. (see next page)

2:15-2:30 Break

2:30-2:45 Board goals and budget impacts
How do budget reductions impact our instructional strategies? Where are we cutting and what are we preserving? – Tom Henry

2:45-3:30 Board discussion of goals, priorities and budget impacts

3:30-3:45 Break

3:45-4:30 Creating equitable learning environments – Carmen Urbina
Provide an overview of the recent administrator training, Coaching for Educational Equity (CFEE), and discuss how this is shaping our conversations about race and the work of our administrators in creating equitable learning environments.

4:30-5:00 Working Agreements
Review and discuss any areas of concern
Big picture instructional strategies to improve achievement

- Align curriculum to standards.
- Use data to monitor individual student progress, inform instructional decisions and design interventions.
- Ensure that all students have access to the general education curriculum and receive instruction that reflects high standards.
- Provide professional development on best practices for core instruction and equitable learning environments.
- Differentiate resources and support to create successful outcomes for all students.

Equity Committee question areas:

1. **Accountability:**
   How can we build in monitoring and accountability at the individual student level?

2. **Supporting our most vulnerable students:**
   How can we best maintain and expand school-based efforts to close the opportunity gap and help our most vulnerable students as we struggle with severe budget cuts?

3. **Balance between centralized and site-based decision-making:**
   What is the appropriate balance between centralized and site-based decision making? Are there improvement activities and board/district direction regarding decisions that are not negotiable at the building level?

4. **Retaining staff and programs that align with our equity goals:**
   In light of budget reductions, how do we ensure that hiring practices are well-aligned with our equity goals including retaining staff with specific skill sets pertaining to high priority instructional goals (e.g., bilingual/bicultural staff, technology initiatives, cultural competence)?