

AOC Metrics Subcommittee: October 14, 2013

Present: Jim Cox, Stan Penkin, Alina Harway, Carol Smith, Oscar Arana

Not Present: Mark Wubbold (excused)

1. Update and Finalize Matrix

Subcommittee discussed need to consider the implications of arts education beyond K-5. The original IGAs expressed this clearly. Carol identified language within revised IGA: "... to align a course of study for students through 12 grades... district shall attempt to maintain the articulated course of study..." (Exhibit A, pg. 4, number 8.)

Committee agreed that our role of watchdog includes observing Grades 6-12, though to a lesser extent. Agreed to create condensed matrix for school districts for grades 6 and beyond with clear headers, to identify if art teachers there maintain, increase, or decrease.

ACTION ITEM: Design new matrix for grades 6 – 12. (AH)

Subcommittee discussed the recommendations of the full committee from September 10. Will ask for funding by school (rather than by school district.) Also discussed recommendations to identify source and method for collecting qualitative data to incorporate into report. Subcommittee recommends some additional, small revisions to matrix, including edits to color, word choice, adding Riverdale, and a K-5 attributable column.

Subcommittee discusses asking RACC to collect qualitative data. Oscar identifies potential conflict of interest, as RACC is a recipient of arts funds. Jim and others suggest that there aren't organizations other than RACC who have the ability or opportunity to collect such data. Committee agrees to ask RACC to submit ideas or proposals on how to collect such information, including investigation into "Any Given Child" data.

Committee agrees to take appropriate precautions to ensure that potential conflicts of interest are limited by working with RACC to identify opportunities for data collection, but retaining authority on which tools and sources to use for data collection.

ACTION ITEM: Make edits to matrix. Begin conversation with RACC about possibilities for qualitative data. (AH)

2. Collecting/Reporting Data Dates

Committee agrees to require schools to use the form we've created for ease in analysis.

Stan notes that the schools will receive a partial distribution in mid-November and the rest in March, and suggests we get a picture after the first distribution. Jim notes that we could time the report with the State of the Arts meeting. This annual meeting has a large audience of parents, teachers, students, advocates, and others who are interested in the findings of the report. Oscar suggests that the committee be prepared to deliver the findings at other arenas, as well.

ACTION ITEM: Present recommendation of report timeline to full committee. (Jim)

3. Next Steps

Committee discussed purpose of report to facilitate change. Stan stated that we are reporters, not enforcers. Carol asked if the oversight committee ought to do something if the funds aren't being distributed properly. Committee agrees that we can make recommendations, though Jim observes that it is important for our recommendations not to punish the students on behalf of school administration.

Committee discusses timelines for data requests, to accommodate conversations with full committee and recommended March/April city council presentation. Committee recommends sending new matrix to school districts by November 20 and receive by December 15. Will discuss with school districts at full committee meeting November 19.

ACTION ITEM: Discuss with districts at meeting. (All)

ACTION ITEM: Send new matrix to school districts after November 19 meeting. (Unassigned, but I presume Stan?)

Alina shares she will not be at November 19 meeting. Jim offers to share updates with full committee.