**Early Learning Council EIC Committee: September 2018 Report**

**Committee Charge:**

**ELC Charge to Equity Implementation Committee**

The Equity Implementation Committee is chartered to educate and provide leadership for the Early Learning Council (ELC) on the issues, challenges, successes and priorities related to implementing the [equity recommendations](https://earlylearningcouncil.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/final-equity-subcommittee-report-2015.pdf) for children and families furthest from opportunity, originally adopted by the Council on March 18, 2015. They are chartered to create an evidence-based, data driven plan relating to aligning early learning policy and practice with the equity lens, with a focus on culturally responsive practice, operating systems and data/resource allocation. The committee will assist the ELC in understanding equity issues from a data programmatic and social standpoint to support the ELC in:

1. Actualize issues of disparity in setting policy for the early learning system.
2. Recognize the value that diversity brings to the early learning environment and acknowledging the benefits of self-worth, empathy and success that it brings to all children.
3. Champion closure of development, opportunity and achievement gaps for young children and their families.

**Committee Membership:**

Sue Miller, Interim Chair; Eva Rippeteau; Carmen Ellis; Joyce Harris; Kelly Poe; Lennie Bjornsen; Nicole Briggs; Carmen Urbina; Patricia Alvarado; Rashelle Chase; Sadie Feibel Holmes; Kate Jordan-Downs

**Report:**

The Equity Implementation committee (EIC) met in person on September 17th in Portland for an update from Early Learning System Director Miriam Calderon, and a review of the ongoing Early Learning Council strategic planning process.

**Committee EIC members participating:** Sue Miller, Eva Rippeteau, Patricia Alvarado, Rashelle Chase, Carmen Ellis, Sadie Feibel Holmes, and Kelly Poe

**Staff participating:** Miriam Calderon, Lillian Green, Alyssa Chatterjee

**Key Topics Discussed**

**Early Learning & Governor’s Education Agenda**

Miriam Calderon joined the committee to provide an update on the recently released Governor’s Education Agenda and the cross-sector work around preschool expansion and early learning. She discussed her vision for the early care and education sector of the full System, with the Equity Lens and developmental science at the foundation of the work. Committee members discussed individual goals as members of the Equity Implementation Committee and the work they would like to see accomplished, highlighting affordability, accessibility and workforce supports within the early care and education sector.

**Strategic Planning**

Alyssa Chatterjee provided an update to the Committee on the next steps and timeline within the strategic planning process. Each Council committee will be participating in strategic planning in a slightly different way. The Equity Implementation Committee will review the definition of “high quality” that the Early Learning Council adopted in 2014. Additionally, the Committee will review the proposed glossary and equity strategies at the October in-person meeting.

**Definition of High Quality**

The Committee did a short, initial review of the currently adopted definition for “high quality”. They largely focused on a review of the workgroup membership at the time and the need to involve additional stakeholders in the discussion. The Committee also noted the need to create a definition – or a version of the definition – that is short and easily understood.

**Next Meeting**

The Committee will reconvene in-person on October 16th in Portland.

**Upcoming Key Decisions:**

* Review and provide feedback on:
  + Proposed Glossary and Equity Strategies of the ELC Strategic Plan Draft
* Review and provide feedback on:
  + Currently Adopted Definition for “High Quality”

**Staffed by:**

**ELD -** Lillian M. Green, ELD Equity Director

**ELD-** Alyssa Chatterjee, ELD Policy Administrator