



Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Development
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Agenda Item: Framingham Public Schools Equity Audit Project Update

Partner Name: Mass Insight Education and Research

Project Update:

- Despite COVID-19 implications on school closures, Mass Insight has continued moving forward with activities related to the equity audit.
- In January and February 2020, Mass Insight completed the first phase of work, including comprehensive collection and analysis of student, school, and district data.
- Phase 2 began at the end of February including preparations to conduct in-person interviews and focus groups with district, school, family, and community stakeholders. However, due to COVID school closures in March and social distancing guidelines, the Mass Insight team and FPS Office of Equity adjusted plans to schedule and conduct interview and focus groups virtually.
- Since the end of March, Mass Insight organized numerous activities to gather school and district stakeholder input in the process including:
 - Surveys of central office staff, school leaders, teachers and student support staff,
 - District, school, and community partner interviews and focus groups
- Additionally, Mass Insight is collaborating with the district Communications Office and Translation & Interpreting Services to engage families and students via surveys and

focus groups. To increase participation and ensure access, we have recruited families and students via the website, phone calls, text messaging, emails, school leader communication, and partner outreach. Surveys and focus groups are being offered in Spanish, English, and Portuguese.

- As of June 1st, the following Interviews/focus groups have been completed:
 - 22 interview of central office leadership staff
 - Mayor Spicer
 - 4 school committee representatives
 - 3 school leaders (principal and assistant principals)
 - Labor management including teacher union president and 7 school building representatives
 - 3 students
 - 1 family member
 - 0 teachers and student support staff (aside from school representatives)

- As of June 1st, we have received the following survey responses:
 - Students - 558 English, 26 Spanish, 29 Portuguese
 - Parents - 17 Spanish, 263 English, 14 Portuguese
 - Teachers and student support staff - 466
 - School leaders- 22
 - Central office staff - 48

Remaining work:

- In the next two weeks, Mass Insight will complete final rounds of focus groups of the following groups:

- Principals and assistant principals
 - Students (groups for English, Spanish, and Portuguese speakers)
 - Families (groups for English, Spanish, and Portuguese speakers)
 - Teachers and student support staff
 - Community partners
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- Our goal is to complete phase 2 activities (focus groups and surveys) by June 11th, though we are monitoring participation (in particular of students, families, and teachers and student support staff) to ensure that the audit is informed by a representative voice of all stakeholders. If participation is low, we may determine to extend the timeline and deploy additional engagement strategies.
 - Once phase 2 is complete, the Mass Insight team will synthesize all findings and draft a report for FPS (phase 3 activities) with a goal of presenting findings to the school committee in July.