



# MECAC Report

June 15, 2015

The School Year In Review:  
**Highlights, Appreciations & Challenges**

# Purpose of MECAC

The purpose of MECAC is to address:

- Student Achievement
- Community relations and parent involvement
- Curriculum adoption and implementation
- Cultural competence
- Equity
- Other concerns, issues, or initiatives brought to the committee members by the community, superintendent, or board

# MECAC Member Highlights

- Community Partnerships/Networking with the community
- On-line Public Comment Box
- Males of Color Pledge
- Community Dialogue: Increasing Opportunities/Outcomes for Males of Color
- Males of Color Panel
- Use of universal symbols for communication
- ASD Dictionary of Acronyms
- 90% by 2020 Presentation
- Superintendent & staff presentations on:
  - Budget
  - Student Achievement
  - Making data accessible and meaningful for families
  - SEL Presentation

# MECAC Member Highlights

- AP Government and US Government Adoptions
- Cultural Family Nights in the schools
- Moving meeting locations allows more access
- Conversations regarding cultural competencies within curriculum adoptions.
- Committee Member roles & opportunities as liaisons:
  - Connecting with and speaking with schools on behalf of parents
  - Attending and reporting at Community Council meetings
  - Sitting on other educational committees
  - Informing community about ASD events, programs & services

# MECAC Member Appreciations

- Consistent membership attendance at meetings
- Member networking opportunities, ongoing interactions & conversations outside of meetings.
- Student representation on the Committee
- The district's Language Access Plan that provides immediate real-time interpreter services to parents.
- Involvement with the Shiloh Community Conference
- Tour of ANSEP Building and learning about its programs.
- MECAC member agreements makes it safe to take risks and engage.

# MECAC Appreciations

- Advocates for connecting students & parents to resources
- Community based presentations
- Presentations on curriculum adoptions
- Having a diverse group on the committee
- Having the superintendent's ear
- Connecting with UAA Students, Males of Color
- The superintendent's words of encouragement on the website to help parents connect with their kids

# MECAC Challenges

- Getting more people to attend MECAC meetings
- More focus and understanding around issues of equity and equality
- Student Achievement
- Education Funding
- NAACP report on ASD national test scores
  - Academic data shows challenges
  - Need to increase our nationally normed scores (NAEP)
- Males at risk of becoming dropouts
- Getting information to and feedback from our target audiences (parents and students)
- Communicating that all parents are welcome on family nights

# MECAC Challenges

- Assessing Suspension/discipline disproportionality
- Better transitioning for students graduating from high school
- Dwindling parent involvement as students grow older
  - Finding opportunities for parent involvement
  - Showcasing what volunteering looks like
  - What does parent engagement mean?
- More time to review curriculum and training on what to look for.
- Need for continual training of staff on cultural awareness
- Need for diverse teachers

# MECAC Challenges

- More information from ASD concerning the issues that are occurring in the schools.
- How to ensure efforts to address equity issues
- More systematic look at cultural competencies in curriculum
- Continual training of staff in cultural awareness/diversity.