

**Riverview School District  
Board of Directors' Roundtable  
October 25, 2016  
Riverview Educational Service Center  
Duvall, Washington**

The Riverview School District Board of Directors held a Board Roundtable on Equity and Access, Student Voice, on October 25, 2016, at the Riverview Educational Service Center in Duvall, Washington.

**Board Members and Participants Present:** Carol Van Noy, Danny Edwards, Jodi Fletcher, Lori Oviatt, Sabrina Parnell, and Dr. Anthony Smith

Ms. Van Noy began the meeting at 5:00 PM.

**Cedarcrest Students Invited:** *Seniors:* Nina Fossen, Kasi Mora, Alex Parnell, Jimmy Yepez, Alex Zarco, and Pascal Nagata (Student Rep). *Juniors:* Javaria Haq, Brandon Nicolas Emigdio, Kaitelyn Sayamuongbo, and Sophie Paradis (Student Rep). *Sophomores:* Kacey Newell. *Freshman:* Kolby Nelson

**RSD School Board Protocol for Roundtables**

**Purpose:** Meet with the group, get input and updates, and better understand their needs and roles.

**Process:** Open dialog with group.

**Payoff:** For the RSD Board to make better decisions by understanding the needs and roles.

**RSD Definition of Equity**

In education, the term **equity** refers to the principle of *fairness*. While it is often used interchangeably with the related principle of *equality*, equity encompasses a wide variety of educational models, programs, and strategies that may be considered fair, but not necessarily equal. It has been said that “equity is the process; equality is the outcome,” given that equity – what is fair and just – may not, in the process of educating students, reflect strict equality – what is applied, allocated, or distributed equally.

**RSD Definition of Access**

In education, the term **access** typically refers to the ways in which educational institutions and policies ensure – or at least strive to ensure – that students have equal and equitable opportunities to take full advantage of their education.

**Agenda:**

1. Introductions by the Superintendent (Dr. Anthony Smith, Introductions) and School Board President (Ms. Carol Van Noy, Explanation of Process)
2. Student Voice (input)

## Guiding Questions:

1. What do the words equity and access mean to you as it applies to your school and life?
  - At school everyone is given the same opportunity -- CHS gives us equity.
  - It is pretty fair as far as what I've been through. Teachers give a lot of themselves and are available to help outside of class.
  - Many clubs are very able to start right away. Being able to do this helps with school as well.
  - Open to be in advanced classes and decide to change if we need to.
  - Teachers are really good at helping if time is needed and invite us to come. It is pretty cool for that. If we communicate that we couldn't get online, the teacher is flexible.
  - I don't have a computer at home specifically -- I feel like sometimes not having my own computer at home that I have had some teachers that understand that and others don't.
  - As a freshman I think the teachers are great and fair. Some students have bias against gay or lesbian students, most don't.
  - Some of it is based on students communicating with the teachers and asking for help.
  - With introverted kids, teacher may have to reach out more to get them to be comfortable asking questions.
  - Everything is fair in terms of offering help. Teachers offer of themselves and will help after school anytime.
  - Teachers are more picking random people rather than students with their hands up so everyone has a chance and then that helps introverted people as well.
  - How about transportation? Student: all you have to do is ask.
  - Why can't seniors play C team? I would love to play C team basketball. Answer: That is a league decision and has been discussed -- thanks for the question. Comment from student: I wish that students that work hard in practice in football could get more playing time during the game.
  - There is one individual that went from a ghetto environment in Everett to a rich environment here and we need to take a look at what lunch and going back to helping with confidence.
  
2. How is your school providing equitable opportunities for all students? Do you have access to all opportunities? In what ways do you think it could be improved?
  - Access to textbooks if wanted should be able. We waste class time getting used to a new system. Especially if you are a junior or senior. Also frustration from the teacher. Taking too long to integrate the technology and the assignments.
  - Don't use too many systems at once. Transition years, you lose valuable class time when you are switching over.
  - AP Physics is too many systems all at once. Physical textbooks are easier.
  - Being on computer for things mixes me up...
  - Too much time spent with a screen.
  - Easier for sports bringing a textbook or a picture of the screen of pages with you to the location when going to away games, rather than toting a laptop and not having online access.

- Sophomore: kind of annoying -- in geometry there are some choices -- geometry sketch pad and learning the software first prior to diving right in would be good. Also there are some problems with some of the computers.
  - Pacing of classes at CHS is really great. Not trying to go twice as fast.
  - We added aquaponics club at CHS and that was great.
  - We have some Pakistani students and I have been helping them, but they need more help from adults with translations. I speak Arabic -- but the dialects are different.
3. What are your future dreams and how is Cedarcrest helping to prepare you pursue your dreams?
- The librarian at CHS really helped me apply for college, FAFSA, etc. I want to study architectural landscaping and engineering so I can help my family.
  - I regret not taking sports med and anatomy and I want to do something in the medical field. To do with colleges, I think if the senior class could get together to get help with FASFA, etc. Sometimes parents can't attend or don't know to attend.
  - For scholarships, instead of going in, could the counselors reach out to us? This could happen through the career center as part of a class.
  - CHS does have good classes to prepare people for college. It would be great to have been able to take a Sports Med III. Other than that, they have done a good job at CHS.
  - Mr. Hillestad helps with his classes he teaches about business.
  - The class rigor and opportunities are great at CHS. As far as applying, we are lagging -- some other schools have classes to apply for FAFSA and little parts of each application process. If there was a class that prepares us for that, it would not only help the highest achieving students, it would help everyone else. You are also dependent on your parents. Need help with that last hurrah to help us get there.
  - It would be more helpful for more classes on how to apply to college. It is a long process to get into the counselor's office.
  - Start AP classes in 9th grade.
  - WANIC: I can't take an auto class because I don't have a car. This puts me behind. (Note: the student stated that it is an equity and access problem).
  - Mrs. Van Noy -- I learned we need to help more with getting students into college -- whether surgeon, mechanic, etc. I also heard that transportation is an issue for some of you, especially with accessing educational programs.
  - There should be an astronomy class.

There was no action taken.

The meeting ended at 6:40 PM.

**APPROVED BY THE RIVERVIEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THEIR REGULARLY HELD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016.**