



Legislative Education Study Committee

An Overview:

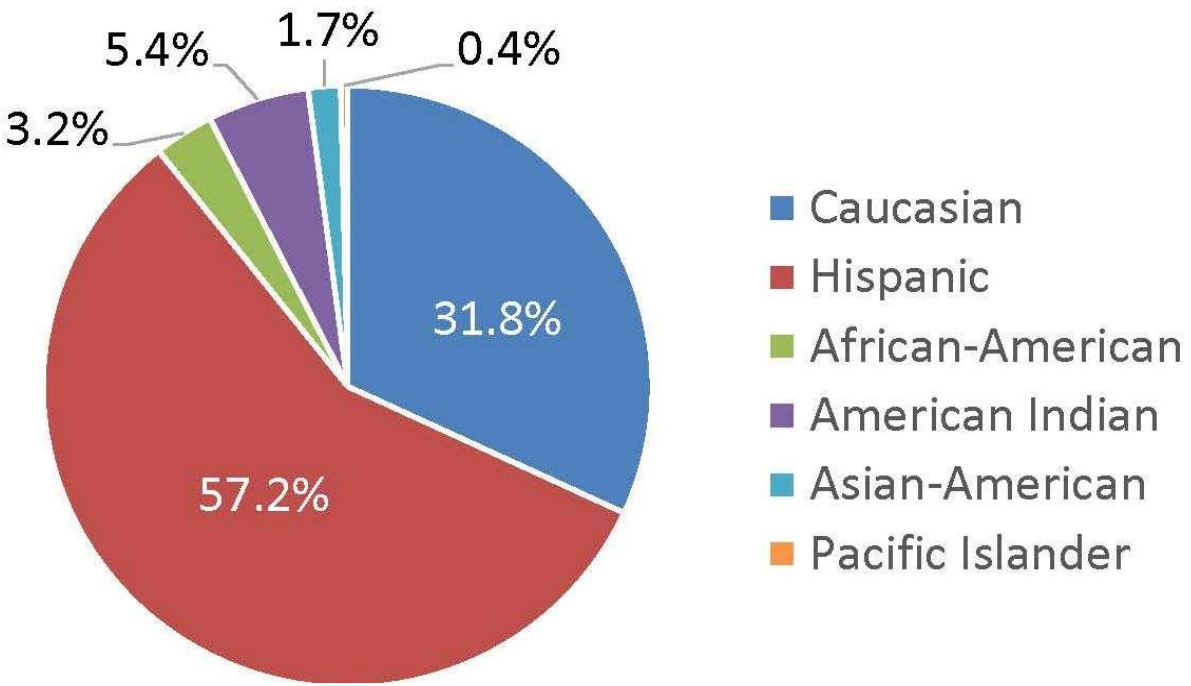
Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction and the RRPS Equity Council

Dr. V. Sue Cleveland, Superintendent of Schools

LaJuana Coleman, Executive Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction

Suzanne Nguyen, Executive Director of Federal, Bilingual, and Native American Programs

Student population by race and ethnicity



Languages represented

American/English Based Sign Language	Arabic	Cantonese	Creole
English	German	Gujarati	Hmong
Japanese	Keres	Korean	Laotian
Mandarin	Navajo/Diné	Nepali	Other
Russian	Spanish	Tagalog	Tewa
Towa	Urdu	Vietnamese	Zuni



RRPS Equity Council

[Click here to navigate to our webpage](#)



Our equity council is a mechanism for...

- voices to be heard, with a structure for discourse
- dialogue on student outcomes
- the exchange of ideas and to answer questions
- learning about how the system works
- understanding the diverse data of the district
- making recommendations to the board regarding student supports



RRPS Equity Council process

Application and
Selection
Process

Open application with scoring rubric, full transparency

Building Context and
Relationships

Full day orientation meeting, with three 1-2 hour follow-up sessions

Common
Definition of
Equity

Consensus on common definition



Rio Rancho Public Schools Equity Council

- Five district co-coordinators across departments
- Fourteen equity council members
 - One student
 - Two teachers (elementary and secondary)
 - Parents and community members
 - All subgroups outlined in the Yazzie-Martinez lawsuit are represented (Native American, English Learners, Economically Disadvantaged, and Students with Disabilities)
 - African American, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic and Native American racial demographics



RRPS Equity Council members

Alissa Barnes

Theandra Marthell

Alexis Rel-Sagum

Patricia Brown

Kristina Martinez

Larry Reynolds

Makila Furcap

Roberto Martinez

LaToya Taylor

Norma Hernandez

Candy Jardine Morrow

Francis Vigil

Annam Manthiram

Kelly Pearce



Equity Council - Membership Composition

Race or Ethnicity	
Asian	1
Black or African American	3
Caucasian	5
Hispanic/Latino	3
Native American	4

Stakeholder Groups	
Parent or Family Member	12
RRPS Student	1
RRPS Employee	2
Rio Rancho Resident/Community Member	8

Student Groups Outlined in the Martinez and Yazzie case	
English Learners	8
Native American Students	7
Students with Disabilities	8
Economically Disadvantaged	8



Meeting dates and times

The RRPS Equity Council met four times during the 2019-2020 school year. The first two meetings were held at the RRPS district office training center. The last two meetings were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Monday, February 3, 2020 (8:30 AM - 4:30 PM)

Monday, March 2, 2020 (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)

Monday, April 20, 2020 (3:00 PM - 5:00 PM)

Thursday, June 11, 2020 (3:00 PM - 5:00 PM)



Building context

District overview

Cultural identity

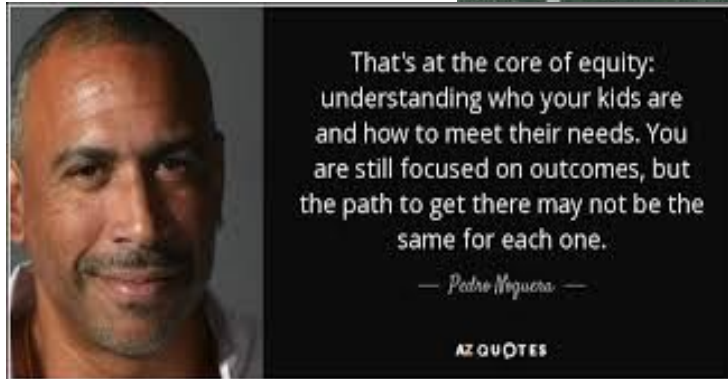
People First Language

Shared beliefs



Inclusive, good-quality education is a foundation for dynamic and equitable societies.

- Desmond Tutu



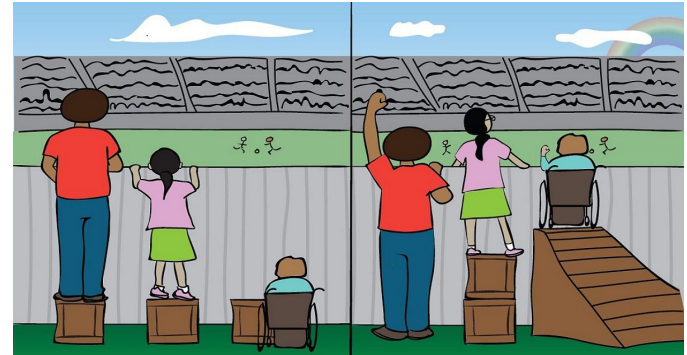
eq·ui·ty *ek-wi-tee*, noun.

Just and fair inclusion. An equitable society is one in which all can participate and prosper. The goals of equity must be to create conditions that allow all to reach their full potential. In short, equity creates a path from hope to change.



Our common definition

Equity is an intentional process of acknowledging and removing obstacles and barriers. Through equity, environments and opportunities are fostered to support individual and group needs, with access to resources, so that all may reach their potential.



Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction (CLRI)



“

“The validation and affirmation of the home (indigenous) culture and home language for the purposes of building and bridging the student to success in the culture of academia and mainstream society.”



—Hollie, *Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning: Classroom Practices for Student Success* (2011), p. 23

CLRI in RRPS

NMPED Based

2019 Language and Culture Bureau: CLRI Pilot Cohort

- Pathway I
- Pathway II
- Pathway III

District Based

Book Study

District leadership overview

Choice-based in-service sessions

Native American cultural competency training for district leadership

Cross department integration: School Improvement, Federal Programs, Curriculum and Instruction

Campus Based

Pathway participants:

- 6 elementary
- 2 middle
- 2 high

PDSE staff-wide implementation (2016)

ESE staff-wide implementation (2019)

RRHS staff-wide implementation (2020)

closing thoughts



RIO RANCHO
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Igniting Student Potential