

Office of Education Through Employment Pathways
Public Stakeholder Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The second meeting for the Office of Education Through Employment Pathways (ETEP) Public Stakeholder Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:00 pm virtually. The meeting was also made available for the public to view via Microsoft Teams webinar.

- I. The following ETEP staff were present:
 - Executive Director, Monica Dodge
 - Policy and Engagement Specialist, Jade Chandler
 - IT Director, Seth Shapiro
- II. The following Public Stakeholder Advisory Board Members were in attendance:
 - Marion Babcock
 - Aliscia Gerken
 - Julie Johnson
 - Bill Tucker
 - Raquel Ortiz
 - Michael Wallace
 - Latesha Durkins
- III. Overview and introductions
 - Director Dodge provided welcoming remarks to the group and an overview of goals for the discussion, which included:
 - i. Sharing ETEP's progress on gathering community input based on the board's feedback.
 - ii. Getting additional input from the board on strategies to present upcoming research findings from projects underway.
 - Given the time passed since the inaugural meeting in May, the group then transitioned to reintroduce themselves.
- IV. Tracking ETEP progress
 - Jade transitioned the group to review the progress the team has made since the board last met in May. Major highlights that were flagged included:
 - i. The ETEP connected with over 200 community members to gather feedback which informed the ETE mission, vision, and research agenda.
 - ii. Expanding staff capacity to onboard the IT Director, Seth, who is playing a critical role in facilitating the development of the ETE Data System.
 - iii. Recognizing the board's support in helping ETEP land on its brand logo and draw closer to finalizing the ETE mission, vision, and research agenda.
 - iv. Highlighting research projects underway, including a brief focused on examining UDC program alignment with labor market demand and the DC Alumni Early Career Outcomes Survey.
- V. Key themes from community engagement

- Jade walked the group through the timeline for collecting feedback from the public and the projected timeline leading up to the ETE Policy Board’s final vote on the ETE mission, vision, and research agenda. Jade also acknowledged board members who served as key partners who co-hosted presentations with the ETEP team including Marion Babcock who represents the DC LSAT Collective and Dr.Sessoms who works with the Youth Guidance organization.
- Community insights that were highlighted include:
 - i. ETEP leveraged multiple kinds of outreach including, 8 co-hosted virtual presentations, 2 webinars, and 2 in-person events
 - ii. The youth the ETEP team connected with were largely focused on research agenda questions focused on income and contributing factors such as college major or training program
 - iii. Youth also emphasized a desire for mentorship from adult figures in their lives to guide them in decision-making.
 - iv. Families were most concerned about preparing youth for emerging industries and understanding quality-of-life outcomes.
 - v. Similarly, community partners were interested in exploring the well-being of youth and suggested examining factors like job satisfaction, advancement rates, or stability.
 - vi. Both school staff and employers raised interest in interactive tools that will help the public understand prospects for earning a living wage in certain fields and labor market demand.
 - vii. Audiences also wanted to expand on the list of priority populations in the research agenda and understand how the agenda will be leveraged to improve outcomes for residents.
- Jade shared that to be responsive to feedback, ETEP is expanding the list of priority populations, adding clarifying language and resources to illustrate how focus populations will inform analysis, and has included more holistic measures of success in its Alumni Early Career Outcomes Survey.

VI. Current research deliverables in progress

- The ETEP team partnered with UDC to address questions regarding which programs lead to high-wage jobs and which high-paying, high-demand jobs are associated programs not currently offered at UDC. Through this analysis, there is an opportunity to enhance UDC program alignment with labor market demand and strengthen UDC’s appeal to DC residents and employer partners.
- To be responsive to community feedback and learn more about outcomes for DC high school alumni, the ETEP team also conducted its Alumni Early Career Outcomes survey targeted toward alumni who graduated from DC’s public high schools 5 – 7 years ago. Additionally, this survey helped us learn about which experiences alumni found to be most impactful along their journey. The information the team has gathered will be shared with LEAs to support efforts to

improve programming according to student needs and illuminate District system gaps.

- The team also shared information about the survey to ensure as many graduates as possible could become aware of the opportunity.

VII. Discussion and feedback on public resources

- The ETEP team transitioned the group to close out by reviewing examples of public research deliverables and discussing ideas around the best approaches for sharing information regarding education and employment outcomes with the public.
- Board members shared the following suggestions to consider as the ETEP plans to share findings from research projects:
 - i. Utilize infographics and interactive dashboards to share large amounts of information in simplified ways.
 - ii. Conduct engagement sessions targeted to core audiences like graduating seniors for example.
 - iii. Share two-pagers with college and career counselors who can pass along key findings and help students make informed decisions
 - iv. Leverage social media platforms to highlight key statistics and graphics
 - v. Pair materials with questionnaires or video explanations to facilitate understanding of how to maximize information
 - vi. Create decision tree visuals