

Racial Equity Questions for Community Partnerships

Below are questions to support schools and partners in applying a racial equity lens to their partnership work. These questions can be used for both potential and current partnerships, and by both the school and the partner. Thanks to the participants at the December 2018 Racial Equity Institute for their contributions to this list of questions.

Questions for the community partner:

- 1) What are you doing/how will your work help disrupt institutionalized racism?
- 2) How does your program connect with and reflect the different languages spoken by students and families at this school?
- 3) How is your program going to collaborate with school staff and other community partners to meet whole-school goals?
- 4) How do you address or capture student strengths and needs and incorporate those into your program?
- 5) How does your program align its work to the mission of the school building?
- 6) What are the measures your program uses to gauge its success?
- 7) Do program staff reflect the races/ethnicities of students in this school? If not, how do you ensure that programming is being provided in a culturally responsive manner?
- 8) How are you looking at data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to determine whether your programming is meeting the needs of every one of the students you serve?

Questions for the school:

- 1) What are the most important indicators that the school is working on related to racial equity? How can partners support these goals?
- 2) How can the school help the partner understand whole school goals and how their work fits in?
- 3) What are ways that partner organizations can be better integrated into the fabric of the school? Are there staff meetings/trainings/student-focused meetings/list serves, etc. that partner should be part of in order to align their work to school goals?
- 4) How is the school seeking out or welcoming partners with strong grounding in the community and cultural knowledge of the students in the school?
- 5) How have you/are you using data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to determine which students are most in need of the services provided by a community partner or partners? How are you ensuring that the students who most need the partner's services are getting them?
- 6) What systems or structures do you have in place to determine where there are student needs/gaps in services that could be filled by a community partner?