

SOUTHSIDE SUMMIT

S.MPLS / 2020

Education Justice Workshop Session Notes

Date: November 9th, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm -7:30 pm

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Present at the Meeting (Via teleconference)

- Panelists: Sarah Washington (Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Minneapolis Public Schools), Keary Wayne Saffold, M.Ed. & Reginald Prince (KWST Behavioral Development Group)
- Moderator: Shanene Herbert, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) Board Member
- Graphic Artists: Jendayi Berry, and Studio Thalo
- PPNA Staff: Ashely Bradford (Event & Office Coordinator), Grace Berke (Community Coordinator), Hannah Kamath (Communications Manager), and Tabitha Montgomery (Executive Director)

Workshop Purpose

The purpose of the education workshop is to dive into the need for educational justice within often marginalized student groups that include kids who identify as a child of color, have a disability, and (or) live within a low-income household.

Education Meeting Summary

The meeting opened with a welcome and a thank you to all panelist, moderators, graphic notetakers and attendees.

Sarah Washington opens the workshop by introducing herself and walking us through her work with the special advisory council. (The presentation is linked [here](#)).

The special education advisory council's mission to increase the involvement and add the informed perspective of parents and families of children with disabilities in the making and implementation of district policies.

Sarah Washington spoke to her role in the organization. She also highlighted groups who are driving equity and inclusion. She also spoke to what inclusion looks like and who is involved in that work. She mentioned that teamwork is important in her work so there can be continued progress.

Keary Saffold and Reggie Prince open their presentation with a warm welcome and a back story on their relationship and how they got started in the education field. (Their presentation can be found [here](#).)

KWST is a behavioral development group, they are dedicated to increasing educational justice by addressing the disproportionate number of low-income children and children of color receiving special education services in the Twin Cities and beyond.

Keary and Reggie spoke to it being one thing to have a conversation and another to develop the skills needed to care for our children in need.

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Keary and Reggie highlighted that in the state of Minnesota African American males as EBD at five (5) times the national average and Emotional Behavioral Disorder (EBD) is one of the only Special Education labels that have an evaluation process that is rooted in subjectivity.

KWST's approach to these injustices is to teach teachers how to properly care and educate children of color receiving special education services in the Twin Cities. They hope to sustain the movement far beyond this moment.

Moderators ask Graphic Notetakers to share their progress

Moderator begins the structured Q&A session

- 1) What are the most critical decisions we must make to ensure justice for marginalized students of color and low-income families?
- 2) Who is making the greatest advancements in educational justice and what are they doing? 3) How do you think COVID-19 is affecting education equity?

Moderator opens up the floor for audience Q&A session

Workshop Closes

Tabitha closes the meeting with thank you and updates attendees on other workshops coming up during the summit.