

KCCD Office of Educational Services – Vision for the Future

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR DISTRICT CONSULTATION COUNCIL – 10/26/2021

Presented by Dr. Robert Simpkins, Academic Senate President & PC Faculty Lead, Guided Pathways

The following is a proposal for the future of KCCD's Office of Educational Services in order to advance the district's goal of improving student success with equity as we come out of the pandemic and into a changed educational landscape with new insights and opportunities to embrace new ways of thinking about how to best accomplish our mission.

This proposal is based on the following assumptions:

1. Establishing the Office of Educational Services as both a hub for communication and a resource to the colleges within the district will encourage cross-district interaction, build relationships, and improve mutual understanding, awareness, and utilization of experience and talent across the district
2. Providing new opportunities for faculty to participate in district administrative work will improve the District Office's ability to work with the colleges by harnessing diverse faculty experiences to better advance our student success with equity mission across the district
3. These administrative leadership opportunities and experiences for faculty in short-term roles and under the guidance of the District Office, and while working alongside their colleagues from the other colleges in the district, will enrich the faculty base of experience when they return to their home colleges
4. Creating a district-level space that encourages and supports innovation and bold thinking will benefit all of the colleges and establish KCCD as a forward-thinking pioneer in higher education

To achieve these goals I propose the following:

- Sharpen the focus of the Office of Educational Services on instruction and instructional support services by making Economic and Workforce Development a separate area under the District Office
- Create new positions in the Office of Educational Services focusing on the following areas:
 - Guided Pathways Development and Support
 - Innovation and New Initiatives Development and Support
- Create opportunities for district faculty to work as individuals or as part of a team with the District Office on specific initiatives in the form of release time-supported, temporary special assignments
- Change the nature of interaction between the Office of Educational Services and the colleges by creating an 'Educational Services Council' that consists of the Office leadership, the college Vice-Presidents of Instruction, and an Academic Senate-appointed Faculty Liaison from each college to engage and regular and substantive discussions of matters pertaining to instruction and instructional support services

The Guided Pathways leader would oversee and coordinate support for cross-district initiatives relating to areas such as: Onboarding, Retention, Teaching-and-Learning, Faculty Professional Development, and Transfer support.

The Innovation and New Initiatives leader would identify, seek support for, and coordinate and provide opportunities for faculty from across the district to develop promising new areas relating to instruction and instructional support services for consideration and adoption within the district.