Advancing Racial Equity through Authentic Partnerships (Room 338, Vanport Room)
Presented in Partnership with the Coalition of Communities of Color
*Hosted by Lee Po Cha (IRCO, Asian Family Center) and Diego Hernandez (Reynolds School Board and Momentum Alliance) and featuring Jonathan Blasher (Playworks), Superintendent Karen Gray (Parkrose School District), Tony Hopson (Self Enhancement, Inc.), Carmen Rubio (Latino Network), Superintendent Carole Smith (Portland Public Schools) and Rekah Strong (United Way of the Columbia-Willamette).

Educational disparities impact students of color in Multnomah County from birth to career. Historic and current inequities lead to generations of lost human potential and a tenuous economic outlook for the entire community. Authentic partnerships between schools and communities of color are transforming systems, enriching learning environments and revitalizing communities. This work is tough, messy and necessary—join us to explore ways to strengthen and expand these partnerships.

Collaborating to Prepare All Children for Success in Kindergarten (Room 236)
Presented in Partnership with Early Learning Multnomah
*Hosted by Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer and President Andrea Cook (Warner Pacific College) and featuring Molly Day (Early Learning Multnomah/United Way of the Columbia-Willamette).

Too many children enter school with the odds already stacked against them. How can we build on the strengths and assets of our diverse families and communities to build a stronger web of support for our youngest children? This interactive session will bring participants into the dynamic work of transforming communities, systems and ourselves to build a brighter, more equitable future for all kids.

Chronic Absenteeism – Focused Schools and Aligned Partners (Room 327)
Presented in Partnership with the SUN Service System and Featuring Hedy Chang of Attendance Works
*Hosted by Jennifer Messenger-Heilbronner (Metropolitan Group) and Matt Morton (PPS School Board and Native American Youth and Family Center), featuring Diana Hall (SUN Service System), Ben Keefer (George Middle School), Florence Protopapas (David Douglas School District), Moses Rain (Department of Human Services) and Kamesha Robinson (SUN Service System).

Students with sporadic school attendance are far more likely to disconnect from school and face uncertain career prospects. Yet more than 20% of local students are “chronically absent,” falling below the critical tipping point of 90% attendance. Missing school often signals unstable health, housing, and family and social supports, realities that our schools will never overcome alone. This session will explore breakthrough local strategies and partnerships to keep all students engaged, supported and present in school.

Strengthening the Pathways from High School to College & Careers (Room 238)
Hosted by Superintendent Jim Schlachter (Gresham-Barlow School District) and featuring Michael Burch (Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters) and Kira Higgs (All Hands Raised).

By 2020, 70% of Oregon jobs will require some form of postsecondary education or training. While our region continues to attract highly educated people, our local pipeline is broken with only 27 in 100 Multnomah County ninth graders going on to complete a post-secondary degree or credential. This session will ask the question: How can we think bigger to transcend the unnecessary and unproductive barriers that divide K-12, higher education, career training and apprenticeship programs and the business community?

We encourage you to share your voice: 
@allhandsraised
#raisingourhands
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