



## Task Force Brief

February 2016

### Meeting Objectives

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Create three to five recommendations for SWIFT partner sites for supporting boys and young men of color in SWIFT partner schools. We will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of racial issues in America affecting schools
- Build a deeper understanding of high quality education
- End disproportionate identification for special education
- End disproportionate exclusion by out-of-school or alternative school placements

### Big Ideas

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1. Positively impact and empower communities and families leading to better engagement for boys and young men of color
2. Higher quality and culturally relevant professional pedagogy and professional development for school systems and higher education that allows them to inspire and support boys and young men of color (Systems level)
3. The role that culturally relevant resources play in assessment and differentiating the needs for students with diverse backgrounds, particularly for boys and young men of color (School/Classroom level)
4. Understanding equity in today's national context

### Task Force Members

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## Recommendations for SWIFT Partner Sites

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1. Attend a panel discussion at the SWIFT 2016 National Professional Learning Institute about how to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color.
2. Understand tools and resources available to support culturally responsive pedagogy.
3. Develop a shared vision of equity.
4. Use data related to the performance of boys and young men of color to 1) identify and target all stakeholders, 2) guide conversations across the system, and 3) change practices. Examples of data include achievement, suspension/expulsion, attendance, and qualification rates for special education.

## Accompanying Tasks/Products – completed by SWIFT (June 2017)

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1. SWIFT MBK Task Force convened on July 21, 2016 at the SWIFT 2016 National Professional Learning Institute in Arlington, VA. The group hosted a panel discussion about how to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color.



2. In collaboration with the Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center, SWIFT hosted a webinar, *Ensuring Every Student Succeeds: Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Practices for Teaching and Learning*. This webinar examined how practitioners can implement culturally responsive and sustaining practices (CRSP) to achieve high student outcomes via: 1) academic achievement, 2) cultural competency, and 3) critical consciousness within a standard-based and high accountability culture. In this webinar, the facilitator provided key strategies and methods to develop culturally relevant instructional materials that improve student's learning motivation, personal identity, and self-esteem. The webinar is available for viewing on [SWIFT Guide](#).

Additional tools and resources to support culturally responsive pedagogy:

- a. [Culturally Responsive Teaching](#)
- b. [Policy Equity Analysis Tool](#)
- c. [Cultural Competence and Equity](#)
- d. [Equity by Design: Using Peer-Mediated Learning to Advance Equity for All Students](#)
- e. [Diversity Toolkit: Cultural Competence for Educators](#)
- f. [Cultural Identity and Teaching](#)



- g. [Double-Check: A framework of cultural responsiveness applied to classroom behavior](#)
  - h. [Implementing Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Practice](#)
  - i. [Frameworks for Describing Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Pedagogies](#)
3. SWIFT created a facilitation guide for sites to use to develop a shared vision of equity. It is available for download on [SWIFT Guide](#).
4. SWIFT hosted a webinar, *Using Data to Promote Equity in Portland*, covering what data to use, how to look at data, how to use the data to guide conversations across the system, and how to use data to change practice to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color. The webinar is available for viewing on [SWIFT Shelf](#).



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