

CPS Continuous Improvement and Data Transparency

Data Transparency Stakeholder Advisory Group

Meeting #15 Summary

Tuesday, May 14th, 2025, 4:00–6:00pm

Virtual

Attendance

Facilitators & Presenters:

Felipe Perez (Facilitator), Jill Gottfred Sohoni (Facilitator), Joe Hoereth (UIC), Jeff Broom (CPS), Michaelan Valesky (K1C),

Committee Members and Attendees:

Ana Mosqueda (K1C), Claiborne Wade (Parent), Erika Gonzalez (Parent), Jacqueline Vargas (Parent), Jasmine L. Thurmond (CPS Exec), Marcelina Pedraza (CPS), Maurice Miles (Parent), Melissa Sweazy (Principal), Perriyanna Clay (CAC), Ryan Bellville (CPAA), Rogelio Aguilar Ochoa (CTU), Daniel Anello (K1C), Ted Canji (CPS), Katina Kopsias (CPS), Chris Hayes (CPS)

Support Staff and Guests:

Paula (Translation), Sarah Cross (Notes)

Meeting Materials

1. [Session 15 Slide Deck](#)
2. [FACE Community Engagement Memo](#)
3. [Agenda](#)

Agenda

1. Welcome and Objectives
2. Refresh on our Progress and Where We are Going
3. FACE Recommendations
4. UIC Survey Feedback
5. Exploring External Data Visuals
6. Summer Planning, Public Comment, Next Steps, & Closeout

Summary

The fifteenth meeting of the CPS Transparency Committee focused on improving community engagement and data usability through FACE recommendations, community feedback plans, and analysis of external data presentation models. Members also reviewed CPS's progress on indicator evaluation and discussed summer planning to maintain momentum on the CIDT project.

Welcome and Objectives

Facilitators welcomed the group and reviewed the session's goals: to discuss community engagement efforts, analyze models from other school districts, and plan for summer collaboration. Members were reminded that the committee had reviewed 11 indicators so far and were on track to produce recommendations by the end of the year.

Refresh on Our Progress and Where We Are Going

Jill presented a memo summarizing feedback for CPS's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) office regarding CIDT rollout. Members were invited to review the document and provide any comments by Friday to ensure their contributions were accurately reflected. Suggestions included adding language about PACs, ambassador training for parents and CBOs, and improving clarity around actionable items versus general communication goals. Members were encouraged to provide additional feedback via comments or email.

FACE Recommendations

Attendees discussed FACE's community engagement memo, noting that it echoed many committee suggestions from previous meetings. Themes emphasized included:

- **Building Trust:** Members stressed the importance of transparency and authenticity in outreach.
- **Language Access:** Several advocated for translated materials and simplified language.
- **Community Channels:** The group suggested that trusted forums—like PACs, LSCs, and community celebrations—should be prioritized for engagement.

UIC Survey Feedback

Joe Hoereth proposed a refined approach to the community engagement process by combining surveys and focus groups instead of conducting them sequentially. The survey would provide broad input while focus groups could dive deeper into nuanced issues, including usability of CIDT tools. Feedback included:

- **Participant Categories:** Members recommended structuring focus groups by parent type (e.g., caregivers, PACs, CBOs).
- **Distribution Plans:** Suggestions included launching the survey at the CAC retreat, attending parent university events, and using community events for recruitment.
- **Tone and Reach:** Members valued this combined approach for reaching people who might otherwise feel intimidated by formal survey participation.

Exploring External Data Visuals

Led by Kids First Chicago, the group examined websites from NYC Public Schools and LA Unified School District. Highlights from the discussion included:

- **Design Simplicity:** Members appreciated LA and NYC's clean layouts and intuitive navigation.
- **Landing Pages:** NYC's layered homepage was favored for its clarity and structure.
- **User-Specific Navigation:** LAUSD's approach to user journeys by role (e.g., parent, teacher) was praised as a potential model for CIDT.
- **Translation Tools:** Multiple participants highlighted the LA site's clear language toggle and easy access to Spanish content.
- **Visual Hierarchy:** Members preferred sites with white space, icons, and minimal text rather than dense charts.
- **Supplemental Glossaries:** The group suggested adding tooltips and plain language support to CIDT to increase accessibility.
- **Inviting Design:** Members described the LAUSD site as inviting and oriented toward helping users find information. They noted the presence of smiling staff photos and a user-friendly tone with minimal fluff. One member recommended that CPS consider adding more color to its own site.
- **CPS Board Access:** A suggestion was made that CPS should provide links to Board members and their websites, following examples from other districts.

Summer Planning, Public Comment, Next Steps, & Closeout

The session concluded with updates and planning:

- **Summer Meetings:** Members agreed to meet less frequently but remain engaged. Jill will send a scheduling form.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Committee to review and comment on the FACE memo by Friday.
 - Jill to send links to external websites and feedback form.
 - Joe to continue developing the community feedback survey and focus groups.
 - CPS design team to reflect on the external site feedback for CIDT improvements.
 - Spanish translation of future CIDT materials will be prioritized.

Upcoming Meetings

- May 29th, 9:00–11:00am (Asynchronous)
- June 11th, 4:30–7:30pm (In Person)
- June 25th – Summer School Begins