

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

August 4, 2016

Minutes

Members Present

Harve Brosten	Esther Mizell
Rebecca Dahl	Bryan Wilson
Gaspar Garcia	Major Diljit Pannu
Doug Harrison	Beverly Perkins
Naima Khan-Ghany	

Members Absent

Susan Edwards
Lillie Harris
Charlie King
Pastor Ben Sorenson
Reverend Luc Harrigan
Ernestine Price

Student Support Initiatives Staff: Michaelle Pope; Terri Jones; Latricia Lauture

Diversity, Prevention & Intervention Staff: Marion Williams

Office of Engagement: Aneatra King

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. A quorum was present.

ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May and June Minutes were approved as distributed.

PAST CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Wilson thanked the members for their work and cohesiveness during the last school year. He shared that he has received appreciation from administration and Board members for the work the Committee is doing. **Mr. Wilson** discussed holding meetings at alternative locations; having student representation on the Committee; talking with students during site visits; having continuing dialog regarding race relations and encouraging the public to attend meetings.

PAST VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Dahl requested a moment of silence for **Damian Huttenhoff**, previous Director, Athletics & Student Activities, who recently passed away. **Ms. Dahl** asked for information regarding school grades, noting there were a lot less A Schools. She asked, "Why did some schools receive an I or no grade at all?" **Ms. Pope** said, "I will follow-up with the Student Assessment & Research Department and provide a response."

Ms. Dahl shared that Martin Luther King Elementary moved from an F to a D school.

More information on school grades can be found at the following links:

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sar/releases/memos/2016-SchoolGradeMemo.pdf>

<http://www.browardschools.com/School-Info/Elementary-Schools/School-Grades>

<http://www.browardschools.com/School-Info/Middle-Schools/School-Grades>

<http://www.browardschools.com/School-Info/High-Schools/School-Grades>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Pope welcomed back the reappointed members. She relayed information about a new department within the Student Support Initiatives Division, which is Parent & Community Engagement. The Department may be renamed to Family and Community Engagement (FACE). **Ms. Pope** shared information about the Superintendent's Colloquium, some of the discussion included race and policing; the Social Justice Committee (#youthvoicesmatter); and working with local law enforcement and the school resource officers. **Ms. Mizell** expressed concern about the students going from Perry Middle to New Renaissance Middle School. **Ms. Pope** said, "Various departments on the SSOS Team, including Student Support Initiatives, are in place to provide wrap-around services for the school to ensure the school has the support they need." It was noted that the diversity in Perry and New Renaissance is compatible. **Ms. Pope** said, "Cultural competence is one the items she will bring back to the table with the SSOS Team." In regard to policing and students, **Ms. Perkins** suggested getting police officers more involved with the schools and the District. **Mr. Wilson** suggested a possible presentation at the next meeting from law enforcement regarding the issue. **Ms. Pope** said, "The District is moving forward with joint conversations, training regarding implicit bias and working with local law enforcement." She shared some information on discussions, the work, resources, professional development, training and various facets of "Courageous Conversations", implicit bias and race relations. **Major Pannu** expressed concern regarding students not standing up for the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ms. Khan-Ghany** shared, after working at Perry Middle for thirteen years, she saw that the sixth and seventh graders she interacted with and who met New Renaissance's principal, are excited about the move and the programs at New Renaissance Middle School. She assured the Committee, the students are being taken care of.

PARLIAMENTARIAN REVIEW

Ms. McDougle shared a handout regarding Parliamentary Procedures, which includes resources for the Committee. She encouraged the Committee to review the handout, look at the resources and to use Robert's Rules to enhance and move forward the work of the Committee with motions. Ideas, suggestions and concerns are moved forward with motions.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ms. Pope reviewed the process and procedures for the Nominating Committee and for the election of chair and vice-chair. The Committee discussed a meeting time for the Nominating Committee, which will be held August 10th at 5:30 p.m. The Nominating Committee is as follows: **Mr. Garcia**, **Ms. Mizell** and **Ms. Kahn-Ghany**. **Ms. Price** will be the alternate.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Site Visit Subcommittee: **Ms. Dahl** shared a draft list of schools selected to be visited and/or re-visited by the Committee. She reviewed the strategy and intentions for the selections. The Site Visit Subcommittee will review testing dates and bring the list forward for a full Committee vote.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Committee discussed student representation on the Committee. **Ms. Pope** shared the experiences of two previous student members. The students were upset with the tone of the meetings, comments made to students and treatment of fellow members. One of the students was traumatized as a result of comments made at a meeting, **Ms. Pope** had to address the matter with the student and her parent. She said, "The voices of the students matter and how the Committee treats them and one another needs to be a critical consideration." **Mr. Wilson** said, "The Committee needs to be mindful when the students are present, we need to prepare them for adult meetings without whitewashing discussion." **Mr. Garcia** said, "I don't think it is acceptable for any member of this Committee to be disrespectful to another member, certainly not to

a child. There should be a zero-tolerance policy and if a member behaves in such a way there should be sanctions taken, whatever that may be.” **Mr. Wilson** shared that he would like the Committee to explore putting something in place in the By-laws or Policy that allows a member to be removed for extreme misconduct, breeding discord and not serving for the promotion of diversity and the mission of the Committee. **Ms. Mizell** suggested training regarding the By-laws, the Conditions and why the Committee exists with a presentation by the Fertigs. **Major Pannu** suggested three students from the student advisory and seven students from the guard and have some kind of acknowledgement for the students at their school. In addition, he suggested the Committee select a topic and send it to the schools for debate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

DRAFT

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the August 4, 2016, Diversity Committee meeting. For more information a Public Records Request may be submitted by contacting Public Relations & Government Affairs Department, SBBC, at 754-321-2300.