

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
September 4, 2014**

**SUMMARY**

**Members Present**

Andy Ansola  
Harve Brosten  
Rebecca Dahl  
Susan Edwards  
Gaspar Garcia  
Julian Gazzano

Reverend Luc Harrigan  
Charlie King  
Frederick Perry  
Ernestine Price  
Bryan Wilson

**Members Absent**

Francesca Blanchard  
Jamie Cutler  
Douglas Harrison  
Thomas Lauder

Esther Mizell  
Beverly Perkins  
Francisco Vargas

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

**Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention Staff:** Amalio Nieves; Carolyn Salters; Marion Williams

**Parliamentarian:** Patricia McDougle

**Guests:** Mary Collis; Diane Kusher; MaryAnn Haywood; Danita Kilcullen

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA**

The Agenda was adopted as presented.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY MINUTES**

The May 1<sup>st</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> Diversity Committee Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Executive Director Report**

**Ms. Pope** welcomed new member Gaspar Garcia. She said there was a strong and smooth opening of the school year; approximately 250 Student Support Initiatives staff were at schools assisting with first day of school activities. **Ms. Pope** discussed the upcoming parking changes at the KCW Administration Building. The south parking lot will have parking fees. Diversity Committee members will be allowed to park in the KCW garage. The meetings will have to end on time and all members and staff must exit the garage by 9:00 p.m. **Ms. Pope** requested the members review *Policy 1.7 School Board-Established Advisory Committees and Appointment of a School Board Member Representative(s) to Such Committee(s)* and be prepared to discuss how the changes to the Policy affect the Diversity Committee. She highlighted several areas of the Policy as it relates to the Committee and decisions that will need to be made. **Mr. Gazzano** requested that a copy of the Audit Plan be provided to members as it affects the Diversity Committee's work. **Ms. Pope** encouraged members to read the entire Policy and noted that Policy 1.7 trumps Policy 1.5 Diversity Committee. Policy 1.5 and the Diversity Committee By-Laws will need to be revised to align with Policy 1.7.

## **PARLIAMENTARIAN REVIEW**

**Ms. McDougle** reviewed main motions as the method to accomplish what you want in meetings. She discussed motions either being adopted, defeated or disposing of motions by postponing indefinitely, postponing to a certain time and to lay a motion on the table, among other methods.

## **ELECTION PROCESS**

**Ms. Pope** discussed the nomination and election process for chair and vice-chair of the Committee, including how it relates to Policy 1.7, A.2. She said letters of interest should be forwarded to staff by September 12, 2014. The nominating Committee will meet at advertised meetings on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. The Nominating Committee members are: **Mr. Brosten; Ms. Edwards; Mr. Garcia; Ms. Price and Mr. Wilson.** **Ms. Dahl** asked if the two consecutive year limit, for chair and vice-chair, starts with this election and is not retroactive. **Ms. Pope** said her interpretation is that because this is new in Policy 1.7 it applies moving forward and that she would double check on the question.

**Motion by Mr. Gazzano: "I move this Committee, this night, September 4, 2014, be deemed the Nominating Committee and vote by acclamation for the Chair of the Diversity Committee for Rebecca Dahl for the remainder of the 2014-2015 year, ending on June 30, 2015."**

Discussion followed. The consensus of the members was that elections were not advertised for this meeting; it would be unfair for the members not in attendance.

**Mr. Gazzano withdrew his motion. Motion to withdraw passed 11-0.**

## **FACILITIES UPDATE**

**Ms. Dahl** gave an overview of the Facilities Needs Assessment Recommendations and the SMART Initiative. She said due to the millage on property taxes being reduced over the last several years the District lost approximately \$1.3 billion in capital dollars. Broward County taxpayers are investing significantly less in education today than they did seven years ago. A homeowner in Broward County, whose home is valued at \$225,000, will realize an average increase in tax of \$50.00 per year over the life of the bond. A condominium owner might have an average increase in tax of \$20.00 per year. **Ms. Dahl** said the Needs Assessment provides an objective status of our schools and the information will provide the basis of current and future capital planning efforts. The bond proceeds will be utilized to address the most critical priorities identified by the needs assessment including safety and security, repairs and renovations and technology and technology infrastructure. **Ms. Dahl** navigated members through the SMART web pages reviewing several schools and how to decipher the breakout of the funding for each school.

<http://browardschools.com/Web/Smart-Futures#.VBsplVemATA>

**Ms. Dahl** said each school will receive \$100,000 to use as capital outlay for additional needs and/or wants at the school as they so choose, along with community input. **Mr. Wilson** inquired as to who makes the final decision as to how the \$100,000 is spent. **Ms. Dahl** said she doesn't believe the exact process has been determined yet. She will find out more and bring the information back to the Committee. **Ms. Dahl** urged members to learn more about the bond issue and said that newly hired, Derek Messier, Chief Facilities & Construction Officer, is doing an extraordinary job guiding the enormous task of the bond issue process. **Mr. Brosten** expressed concern that there will not be enough advertisement or efforts to get the word out about the bond issue and about how vital the funds are for our students. He asked if Committee members could be of help. **Ms. Pope** said principals will speak with parents and their community leaders; the Superintendent is holding Town Hall

meetings. **Mr. Runcie** and Administrators are speaking with staff and they are speaking at community meetings throughout the County as requested. **Ms. Pope** said yes, the Committee can assist. Superintendent Runcie visited this Committee and other District Advisory committees to get the word out. Members are encouraged to share the SMART objectives with other members of the community. **Mr. King** said it seems like the eastern taxpayers subsidize the western schools; I would like to see the bond money be corralled back to the city where it is being collected. **Ms. Pope** and **Ms. Dahl** said information can be found on the SMART web site regarding how the money would be allocated by Board member districts and by school. **Mr. Ansola** asked if all Board members are in support of the bond issue. **Ms. Pope** said “Yes, the Board unanimously approved the Bond Referendum and are all in support of the bond issue.” **Ms. Price** said the money needs to be spent on the schools that have not been touched. She said the Diversity Committee needs to look at all schools to ensure all students get what they need.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.,  
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the September 4, 2014 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.

Approved 100114