

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
August 6, 2015**

**SUMMARY**

**Members Present**

Andy Ansola	Esther Mizell
Harve Brosten	Beverly Perkins
Rebecca Dahl	Ernestine Price
Susan Edwards	Michael Sirbola
Gaspar Garcia	Bryan Wilson
Andrea Gundersen	

**Members Absent**

Lillie Harris  
Reverend Luc Harrigan  
Douglas Harrison  
Charlie King

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

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

**Parliamentarian:** Patricia McDougle

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by **Ms. Pope**. A quorum was present.

**ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY MINUTES**

The minutes for June 4, 2015 were approved, as submitted.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Ms. Pope** shared information regarding projects the Student Support Initiatives Division and the District are working on. Staff are engaged in *Courageous Conversations about Race* which include where and how race matters and how it plays a role in students' education. Workshop training on the topic was provided to approximately 180 staff members. **Ms. Pope** said, "**Mr. Runcie** was invited to present at the White House regarding the Eliminating the School to Prison Pipeline project the District is committed to. "She said, "I was honored to attend the event, *Rethinking School Discipline*, with **Mr. Runcie**." Our District was chosen as one of five to present; another 100 plus districts attended the event along with community, partner and parent affiliate groups. She said, "It was exciting to share that Broward County has gone from 1<sup>st</sup> on the list for school-related arrests to 7<sup>th</sup> from the bottom of the 67 counties in Florida, all due to the hard work of staff, school leaders and teachers." Of all students that have gone through the PROMISE Program there is an approximate 90% rate of those students not committing the same offences again. **Ms. Pope** said, "The Committee, along with the District, is collaborating on critical work for all our students." The work on cultural competence for staff is continuing including addressing all the needs of students, we are focused on becoming a community of care while looking at social/emotional learning, RtI and three-tier processes as a priority; all connected to the work of diversity.

**Ms. Mizell** asked if there was an update on Stranahan High School. **Ms. Pope** said, "She did not have information but a formal information request may be submitted to ask for an update."

**Ms. Price** said, "She is very happy about the good work the District is doing with the PROMISE Program."

**Mr. Sirbola** said, “Congratulations on what you accomplished and getting invited out of 50 thousand school districts, to go to Washington.” “It is quite an honor.” “Do you know how we compare with other states?” “Are you able to compare with other states?” **Ms. Pope** said, “The report is a State of Florida report which ranked the counties. We were one of five nationally to speak about our outcomes, we are top-five in terms of the work.” **Mr. Sirbola** said, “To be clear because sometimes I say things, and people aren’t listening, or think I am making it up, or I am incorrect.” “It is a guideline that you cannot publish, by state regulation, a statistic comparing state to state. Is that correct?” **Ms. Pope** said, “I don’t know.” **Mr. Sirbola** said, “Can I ask you to do it next time, then we will see if you are able to do it or not.” **Ms. Pope** said, “Sure.”

### **PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT**

**Ms. McDougle** reviewed the difference between debate and discussion. Under Robert’s Rules the Committee is allowed to have discussion to give ideas, share things and give points of view. Debate follows a motion on the floor and the member should speak in reference to being for or against the motion. Once a motion is seconded the maker of the motion has the right to speak to the motion first. Members are to address the chair not each other, it helps to de-personalize the debate.

### **ELECTION PROCESS**

**Ms. Pope** reviewed the Diversity Committee election process and selection of a nominating committee. It was noted that nominations may be received from the floor during the election process. A member of the nominating committee may run for chair or vice-chair.

### **SELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Ms. Pope** opened the floor for volunteers for the nominating committee members. The following Committee members volunteered: **Ms. Mizell, Ms. Price, Ms. Gundersen, Mr. Garcia** and **Mr. Brosten**. After discussion the nominating committee will meet on August 17, 2015 and before the next general meeting on September 3, 2015. There was discussion about the duties and tasks of the chair, which is outlined in the Bylaws. **Ms. Pope** suggested that the nominating committee share expectations of the chair and vice-chair before the election process begins.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE ORGANIZATION**

The Committee discussed and selected which subcommittees they wanted to get running and operational. The following were selected: Five-Year Capital Plan & Facilities; Assignment and Reassignment, Site Visitation; Technology; Student Discipline and Suspension; Advanced Placement and Honors and Standards of Service. The Committee discussed Standards of Service as it has evolved over the years. **Mr. Ansola** asked if the Report to the Superintendent falls under a subcommittee and when was the last time a report was completed. The chair steers the Committee to get the Report completed and it should be inclusive of the Subcommittee’s work, which includes the Site Visit Reports. **Mr. Sirbola** said “The Federal government made a new law stating you don’t have to show there was intent, you just have to show there was harm as far as segregation and diversity issues. Where would something like that fall in the subcommittees?” **Ms. Pope** asked that **Mr. Sirbola** share that information with her on the report and it can be brought to the full Committee. **Ms. Dahl** said, “All Committee members are welcome to attend the site visits even if they are not on the Assignment and Reassignment, Site Visitation Subcommittee.”

The members selected to serve on subcommittees as follows:

- Five-Year Capital Plan & Facilities: Ms. Dahl, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Mizell, Ms. Price, Mr. Sirbola, Mr. Wilson
- Assignment and Reassignment, Site Visitation: Ms. Dahl, Ms. Price, Mr. Brosten
- Technology: Ms. Dahl, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Sirbola
- Student Discipline and Suspension: Mr. Ansola, Ms. Gundersen, Ms. Perkins, Ms. Price, Mr. Sirbola

- Advanced Placement and Honors: Mr. Brosten, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Mizell, Mr. Sirbola
- Standards of Service: Mr. Brosten, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Mizell, Mr. Sirbola, Mr. Wilson

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Site Visitation:** **Ms. Dahl** reported the following: All 14 site visits reports from last school year have been completed and the subcommittee is working on the list of schools to visit this school year. She requested members, who are able, attend the Site Visitation Subcommittee meeting on Monday, August 10, 2015 for input on finalizing the list of schools to be visited and to review the reports.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Ms. Mizell** asked if they could form a subcommittee on the Indicators. She said updating the Indicators and compiling the Diversity Committee Report are vital to the Committee's work. She said, "There are serious issues at Stranahan High School." **Ms. Pope** said, "If this is a priority for the Committee, she recommends sharing it the newly elected chair of the Committee."

**Mr. Wilson** recommended that the Site Visit Subcommittee may want to prepare the Site Visit Report as a full report. He said it will be his recommendation to the new chair and to the full Committee to bring the Site Visit Report forward to the Board as The Diversity Committee Report for last year. He agreed the Indicators need to be looked at but it can done after the Report is presented. **Mr. Wilson** recommended members talk with their Board members about the best and most appropriate method to review the Indicators. **Ms. Pope** shared that a lot of work was done on the indicators two years prior. She suggested making this a priority for the new chair, along with preparing a Diversity Committee Report.

**Ms. Dahl** talked about the importance of the Five-Year Capital Plan & Facilities Subcommittee. The Board and District are looking at the District Educational Facilities Plan (DEFP) and how 30-million capital dollars will be spent.

**Mr. Sirbola** asked **Ms. Pope** to use her power, as chair, to talk to **Mr. Runcie** to make sure all advisory committees have Web sites; we don't show we have value; all the committee information, transcripts and voice recordings should be published. **Ms. Pope** indicated she will give more information on the Division web site as part of her report at the next meeting; she does not have authority over other District Advisory Committees.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.,  
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the August 6, 2015 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 090315