

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 7, 2019 Minutes

Members Present

Lorraine Angelakos	Luke Harrigan
Steve Barrow	Easton Harrison
Victoria Bastidas	Norman O. Hemming III
Natalie Beasley	Michelle Jones
Jane Bolin	Vida Kalhor
Harve Brosten	Charles King
Rebecca Dahl	Diljit Pannu
Henry Graham	Jasmine Sanchez
Carolyn Hardy	Beau Simon

Members Absent

Afeefa Abdool-Ghany	
Vania Bredy	Esther Mizell
Keisha Goldstein	Mikelange Olbel
Douglas Harrison	Ernestine Price
Naima Khan-Ghany	George Rich

Student Support Initiatives & Recovery Division Staff: David Watkins; Terri Jones; Latricia Lauture; Marion Williams

Parliamentarian: Patricia McDougle

School Board Staff: James Payne, Curriculum Supervisor/Specialist, Career, Technical & Adult/Community Education

Guests: Sheri Johnson; Edward Nelson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 6:38 p.m. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 3, 2019 were approved by unanimous consent.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Easton Harrison shared that he reported to the School Board at a Board meeting and a Board Workshop. The item of having Muslim holidays as a day off on the District Calendar was discussed at those meetings. The District will review data on the topic in various aspects such as identifying student Muslim population and is attendance historically affected by Muslim holidays.

VICE CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Barrow shared the importance of the obligations of Diversity Committee members in serving all students. He gave an update on the conditions at Stranahan High School and looks forward to having Mr. and Mrs. Fertig come to a meeting to present information and history regarding the Citizens Concerned about our Children (CCC) Settlement Agreement.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Watkins announced that Jack Fitzpatrick, a student at J.P. Taravella High School, won the Hispanic Heritage Month State essay contest. **Mr. Watkins** briefly reviewed the recently held Ed Talk event and the 2024 Strategic Plan, noting that the Committee's work aligns with the Plan in various ways. Discussion followed regarding the Strategic Plan, the Bond funds, vocational classes, career and college readiness, condition of schools, focusing on the agenda and tasks at-hand, members reaching out to their Board members, and alignment to the campaigns of the Strategic Plan.

PARLIAMENTARIAN REVIEW

Ms. McDougle discussed moving the Committee forward by making motions. She also discussed the various methods of disposing of main motions.

UPDATE ON PAST PRESENTATION-CTACE

Mr. Payne discussed various methods of getting information about Career, Technical & Adult/Community Education (CTACE) programs out to the public. He shared information about 14 local hotels, restaurants and trade companies partnering and adopting high schools and workforce dual enrollment which allows high school students to dual enroll in Broward College.

A Motion by Beau Simon, seconded by Carolyn Hardy: "I move to recommend to the School Board that we better promote our career, technical programs within our high schools and promote more informational sessions on these programs." The motion was postponed to the Standards of Service Subcommittee and required to report at the December 5, 2019 Diversity Committee meeting.

Motion by Norman Hemming, seconded by Mr. Barrow: "I move to refer the main motion to the Standard of Service Subcommittee and required to report at the December 5, 2019 Diversity Committee meeting." Motion passed 16-0.

UPDATE ON PAST PRESENTATION-MEDIA CENTERS

Marion Williams shared that a Resolution in Support of Library Card Sign-Up Month presentation was made to the School Board, which included information about importance of media centers and media specialists. The presentation was well received by the Board and more media specialists have been hired since last year. The link to the presentation was emailed to members.

<https://becon.eduvision.tv/directplayer.aspx?q=CT1wecDsedAhJhk2pdQFnp9jQS%252fNr2Vlu3KLb0ycoozv7GppWB72gr%252bJmZQISHI%252b>

FOCAL POINTS FOR 2019-2020

The Chair briefly reviewed the subcommittees and their focus. He encouraged members to become involved on subcommittees to move the mission of the Diversity Committee forward.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Dahl gave a list of site visit dates and the schools to be visited. She noted a re-visit may take up to 3 hours. A new site visit may take up to 4 to 4 ½ hours depending on the size of the school. **Ms. Dahl** requested that all members add the dates to their calendar and attend at least one site visit or as many as possible.

Motion by Ms. Dahl, seconded by Norman Hemming: "I move that Leslie Brown, Chief Portfolio Services Officer and Brian Katz Chief Safety, Security & Emergency Preparedness Officer to make presentations to the entire Diversity Committee." Motion passed 16-0. Ms. Dahl noted she would like

Ms. Brown or her staff to present on boundaries, hybrid schools, as well as the schools that will be visited to get a general ideas about those schools. She would like **Mr. Katz** to present on security added to schools and in regard to security to look for on school site visits.

Ms. Dahl shared that the Student Discipline/Suspensions Subcommittee met and some of the discussion focused on what types of discipline are occurring in the District. A link to an Incidents and Suspensions in Broward County Public Schools Report was shared with the Committee:

https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/domain/13537/releases/briefs/2018_Incidents_Suspensions_Brief.pdf

Ms. Dahl encouraged all members to attend subcommittee meetings. **Mr. Watkins** shared that he and **Ms. Williams** will be meeting with the School Performance & Accountability Directors, who the school principals report to. The meeting will be about stressing the importance of the site visits, a refresher about the nine conditions and to ensure there are no barriers to smooth running site visits.

Mr. E. Harrison said he would like to research how the Committee can set-up focus groups, for the schools that will have a site visits, to get input about experiences at the school from a diverse population that utilize each particular school. Discussion followed which included conducting research on current surveys and creating a pilot to possibly use in the spring. **Mr. Simon** shared that he surveys students from across the District with questions about their school experience and he would be able to share the results with the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- Report to the Board: motions passed and facilities.

Adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.