

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING
December 5, 2019 Minutes**

Members Present

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| Harve Brosten | Vida Kalhor |
| Rebecca Dahl | Naima Khan-Ghany |
| Keisha Goldstein | Charles King |
| Henry Graham | Diljit Pannu |
| Luke Harrigan | Ernestine Price |
| Easton Harrison | George Rich |
| Michelle Jones | |

Members Absent

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| Afeefa Abdool-Ghany | Carolyn Hardy |
| Lorraine Angelakos | Douglas Harrison |
| Steve Barrow | Norman O. Hemming III |
| Victoria Bastidas | Esther Mizell |
| Natalie Beasley | Mikelange Olbel |
| Vania Bredy | Beau Simon |
| Jane Bolin | Jasmine Sanchez |

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

Parliamentarian: Patricia McDougle

School Board Staff: Neena Grosvenor, Curriculum Supervisor/Specialist, Innovative Learning Department

Guests: Edward Nelson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 6:47 p.m. A quorum was not present.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Easton Harrison shared that the Vice Chair, **Steve Barrow**, could not attend this meeting because he is attending a conference, *State of Education in Florida Town Hall Meeting*, presented by the Florida Department of Education.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Watkins shared that he and **Marion Williams** met with Cadre Directors, who oversee principals, regarding the work of the Committee and the site visits.

MEDIA CENTERS AND MEDIA SPECIALISTS

A quorum was not present but **Neena Grosvenor** shared a powerpoint presentation regarding the value of and numbers of media specialists in media centers, noting that there is still not a media specialist in every school. Following the report, a quorum was present and Committee members had questions and comments. Members shared great concern about the lack of media specialists in so many schools. It was noted that monitoring media centers is part of the Citizens Concerned about our Children (CCC) Settlement Agreement and **Mr. King** suggested that a resolution is crafted to bring forward to the School Board. Discussion followed including reaching out to philanthropic organizations. It was discussed that it is a principal level decision to fill or not to fill the media specialist positions.

With a quorum present there was a motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. King, “To limit questioning to 2 minutes.” Motion Failed. 5 in favor, 8 opposed.

Mr. E. Harrison created a Media Center/Media Specialist Ad Hoc Committee. The following members volunteered: Ms. Dahl, Mr. King, Ms. Jones, Ms. Kalhor. The Ad Hoc Committee is to report at the February, 6, 2020 Diversity Committee general meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Dahl shared that there will be a re-visit to Markham Elementary the following week. The school was previously on a list to be closed by the State but the school has since raised its grade to a C school. She gave a brief overview of the previous visit to Markham Elementary and the things the committee will be looking for at the re-visit. **Ms. Dahl** reviewed the site visit process and encouraged members to attend.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Khan-Ghany said, “On December 10, 2019 the School Board will be voting on the school calendar for 2020/2021.” Previously there were three calendar options, now there is only one calendar option listed on the Board agenda, and the one option is not addressing the request to have a Muslim holiday off, May 13th, added to the school calendar.

NEW BUSINESS

- By consensus the Committee agreed that the January meeting will be Thursday, January 9, 2020.
- **Mr. E. Harrison** will report the following to the Board: The newly formed Ad Hoc Committee regarding media specialists in all schools, as well as, a Muslim holiday off on the 2020/2021 school calendar.
- **Ms. Dahl** requested the Committee consider ways to increase attendance at subcommittee meetings.

Adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**