

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 7, 2024
Minutes

Members Present

Ashley Eubanks
Beau Simon
Carolyn Hardy
Corey Shearer
Erica Hansinger
Faheema Abdool-Ghany
Lisa Yurkin

Narnike Pierre-Grant
Rasheed K. Gray
Ruben Nesbitt
Victoria Bastidas
Windsor Ferguson

Members Absent

Aedan Jones
Alana Borrero
Antonio Burgess
Briana Jacques
Emilia Mackiewicz
Harve Brosten
Marie Compas
Nicole Murad Scarcella
Rebecca Dahl
Teresa Williams
Thomas Alberto Vasquez

STUDENT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF: Dr. Jodi Washington, Task Assigned Executive Director, Tom Albano, Coordinator, Carlisa Russell, Instructional Facilitator, Marion M. Williams, Committee Liaison, Equity, Diversity & School Climate; Latricia Lauture, Office Manager, School Counseling.

DISTRICT STAFF: Dr. Angela R. Fulton, Deputy Superintendent, Teaching & Learning

GUESTS: Aneela Abad, Lubra Hamad, Yahya Sakallah, Samir Kakli, Omar Saleh, Wilfredo Ruiz, Nigma Mizyed, Sabeen Abdellantif, Naima Khan, Shaden Hamad, Masa Hammad, Shadya Made, Mairam, Ahmet T., Mahra M. Mishka Ahmad

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the School Board of Broward County, Florida Diversity Committee was held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Kathleen C. Wright Building. The meeting was called to order by Narnike Pierre-Grant at 6:32 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting for September 5, 2024, were approved by unanimous consent.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Pierre-Grant met with the Superintendent on October 31st. She shared with Dr. Hepburn the committee's goals and expectations; other topics discussed were creating a district team for site visits; consistent communication with the district and the committee; timely updates; presenting a comprehensive report in April; school facilities, security, playgrounds, testing assessment; and streamlining work orders. Ms. Pierre-Grant created a summary of three schools visited. She requested that the members review and add their comments.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Jodi Washington mentioned the discipline audit that began in 2017-2018 will be discussed at the November School Board Meeting. She informed the committee that the 5k Run went well. They raised \$12,169 and the proceeds will support the Mentoring and Preventions programs. Mr. Albano updated the committee on student events facilitated by staff within the Equity, Diversity & School Climate (EDSC) Department. He shared that the first week in November is Holocaust Education Awareness Week. There was an event at JCC Posnack about 300 students attended. The theme was 'Hate Speech' and how the internet and social media are being used to perpetuate certain things around hate speech and what students

can do to impact those areas. Mr. Albano also shared that there have been three assemblies held at Broward College-Central Campus and Pompano Beach High Schools with about 400 to 600 students. The staff has been working on prevention programs with the students in the areas of violence prevention, such as Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Promise; Think B4U Post and Be the One. He stated that forty-five students went on an HBCU tour organized by the EDSC department. He also stated that the department has started a Black Student Union (BSU) at the high schools. There are thirty-seven active BSUs.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Naima Khan led the conversation on the challenges the Muslim students are experiencing in the current climate that exists in the schools. She expressed that all students should feel safe, comfortable, and inclusive. Several guests including parents and students shared stories of loss and feeling neglected. Ms. Khan shared four recommended action plan items: for the district to acknowledge all effective communities; encourage open dialog and support; anti-discrimination clarifications; and family and community outreach. Discussion followed.

2024-2025 SUBCOMMITTEE FORMATION

Ms. Williams requested that the committee sign up for at least one subcommittee. District staff has been selected to work with all the conditions. She also stated that the members must decide which day to meet for each subcommittee. Discussion followed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

The next Diversity Committee meeting is scheduled on
Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.