

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING
April 4, 2013

SUMMARY

Members Present:

Andy Ansola	Annette Gardiner	Kevin Love
Brendan Barry	Julian Gazzano	Esther Mizell
Harve Brosten	Rev. Luc Harrigan	Ernestine Price
Rebecca Dahl	Jessica Abby Herthel	Bryan Wilson
Michael DeGruccio	Jeanne Jusevic	
Susan Edwards	Thomas Lauder	

Members Absent:

Douglas Harrison
Francisco Vargas
Carlos Verney

Parliamentarian: Patricia McDougle

Student Support Initiatives Staff: Michaelle Pope, Task-Assigned Executive Director; Terri Jones; Latricia Lauture

Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention Staff: Karen Moreland; Amalio Nieves; Carolyn Salters; Marion M. Williams; Teri Williams

Guests: Whitney Bostick; Quinecca Bulloa; Catherine Eddins; Richard Eddins; Jack Gillies; Danita Kilcullen; Susi Koornsten; Diane Kualner; Terry Preuss; Steve Rothaus; Richard Vail

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jusevic called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Mr. DeGruccio: “That the Indicators Revisions section scheduled for 8:15-8:30 p.m. be moved to the May meeting.” **Motion passed unanimously.** The agenda was adopted, as amended.

APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY MINUTES

March 7, 2013 Summary Minutes were adopted.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Ms. Jusevic said shared information on recent Legislative topics including: the parent trigger bill; a bill possibly eliminating the State textbook adoption cycle; a bill requiring State school boards to hold regular evening meetings at least once quarterly; student data warehouse bill and two bills regarding graduation requirements. **Ms. Jusevic** said the School Board recently received an update on the State of Florida Sunshine Law; she would like to bring a similar training to the Diversity Committee. She said Committee members are not supposed to communicate with each other about the agenda or Diversity Committee business using “reply all” via email. If a member would like to suggest a topic for an upcoming agenda they may attend the Chair, Vice Chair meeting or send an email to Department Staff in advance of the meeting.

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Lauder gave the floor to **Mr. Brosten**. **Mr. Brosten** said **Ms. Jusevic**, as Chair, has a responsibility to the Committee to speak respectfully to members. **Mr. Wilson** requested that the Committee be provided with a report regarding when and how it is appropriate to question the movements of the Chair according to Robert's Rules of Order,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Pope said within Student Support Initiatives with the Black Male Task Force and within the District as a whole, paradigms are shifting in addressing discipline to reduce suspensions, expulsions and school-related arrests of youth, as well as to address the disproportional representation of minorities in these areas of discipline. Positive Behavior Intervention Plans are being developed for every school, which includes school leadership training. **Ms. Pope** said Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention staff are providing training on positive behavior interventions with school administrators and teachers, as well as developing a Diversity Training for teachers for the Summer. She said staff is providing training and guidance to administrators, teachers and school staff regarding LGBTQ students in an effort to reduce the bullying and suicides of this population of students. **Ms. Pope** said Division staff is the process of developing means of engaging parents and the community regarding student support initiatives.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Site Visitation Subcommittee

Ms. Dahl provided an overview of the draft McArthur High School site visit report. She requested that the Committee review the revised format of the site visit report.

Textbooks, Technology, Media Centers Subcommittee

Mr. Gazzano said he and **Mr. Barry** met earlier in the evening. They requested that District staff attend the next subcommittee meeting on May 2nd to provide updates on current media technology and library materials and also what might be on the horizon via legislation and/or laws that may possibly have an impact in this area.

Indicators Revisions Subcommittee

Mr. DeGruccio said the Subcommittee met on March 11th. He said the Subcommittee requested that District staff, from the Technology Department, attend the next meeting on April 15th. He provided the Committee with Indicator Recommendations from July 2012 and asked that all members receive a copy of the CCC Settlement Agreement so that language is followed during Indicator revisions.

LESBIAN, GAY, BI-SEXUAL, QUESTIONING, TRANSGENDER CRITICAL SUPPORT GUIDE

Dr. Teri Williams said the *Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Questioning, Transgender (LGBTQ) Critical Support Guide* is a tool, which was developed for school administrators, teachers and staff to clarify School Board Policies, as well as State and Federal laws regarding the safety of our students. **Dr. Williams** gave a brief overview of the Guide. The LGBTQ Critical Support Guide video was shown to the Committee. **Bryan Wilson** and **Jessica Abby Herthel** addressed questions from the Committee. **Ms. Herthel** said diversity and what different families look like is what is addressed on the elementary education level. The LGBTQ Guide and Video is about adult leader education, i.e. principals, assistant principals, teachers and support staff. **Ms. Pope** said this presentation was brought forward for the Diversity Committee via the Committee's request. She said public discussion about the item is welcomed at regular School Board meetings upon notifying the School Board with a request to speak at a select regular School Board meeting.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE BYLAWS REVISION

Mr. Lauder moved that, as a substitute for the present bylaws, the bylaws distributed with the notice of this meeting be adopted with the proviso that they become effective upon approval by the School Board. The Chair, by unanimous consent, began consideration of the revision paragraph by paragraph. Ms. Mizell moved to amend Article I by inserting “/CCC Settlement Agreement” after the word “Diversity” in the first sentence. The amendment was adopted after debate. Mr. DeGruccio moved to postpone consideration of the bylaws revision to the next meeting and make it a special order. The motion to postpone was adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the April 4, 2013 Diversity Committee meeting. If any Committee member, or other interested party, would like more detailed information as to the contents of this summary, contact Student Support Initiatives at 754-321-2090.

Approved 051613