

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 6, 2014**

**SUMMARY**

**Members Present**

Andy Ansola	Julian Gazzano
Brendan Barry	Reverend Luc Harrigan
Francesca Blanchard	Douglas Harrison
Harve Brosten	Thomas Lauder
Rebecca Dahl	Ernestine Price
Susan Edwards	Francisco Vargas
Piero Falci	

**Members Absent**

Michael DeGruccio  
Charlie King  
Esther Mizell  
Logan Silverman  
Bryan Wilson

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

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

**Parliamentarian:** Patricia McDougale

**Guests:** Catherine Eddins; Jack Gillies; Danita Kilcullen; Fred Perry; Maureen Perry; Rhonda Ward

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Ms. Dahl** called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY MINUTES**

**Ms. McDougale** said, in the parliamentarian review section, the minutes should be corrected as follows: strike out “the rules of” and insert “motions which control or apply to.” **Mr. Lauder** said, for the record, the minutes don’t include the comments that were made regarding the issues. It is vague and generic regarding the issue of contracts. **Mr. Falci** agreed. He said comments were summarized and not all of the discussion was documented. **Mr. Barry** agreed. He said he spoke several times at the meeting and his name is only mentioned in the attendance. He said the minutes are not accurate and he does not support the document. **Ms. McDougale** said minutes are supposed to be a legal record of what was done, not what was said, according to Robert’s Rules of Order and the Attorney General of the State of Florida.

**Mr. Gazzano:** “Motion to accept the January 9, 2014 Summary Minutes, with comments noted.”  
**Motion passed 8-4. Opposed: Mr. Lauder, Mr. Falci, Mr. Barry, Mr. Harrison**

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

**Ms. Dahl** welcomed new member **Francesca Blanchard**, appointee of School Board Member Ann Murray. **Ms. Dahl** reviewed meeting norms and added the following “that there is no belittling or disparaging of one another.” **Ms. Dahl** said at the last Board meeting the Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention Department hosted a wonderful Black History Month event. Members can review the event on the School Board website. She suggested **Mr. Nieves** give a brief overview of the following three policies that went to January 28, 2014 Board Workshop, for rule development: Policy 2401-Tobacco-Free; Policy 5315-Family Life/Human Sexuality; Policy 1.51-Human Relations Committee.

**Motion by Ms. Edwards: “Requesting a presentation on Family Life and Human Sexuality, to the Diversity Committee.” Motion passed unanimously 13-0.**

**Ms. Dahl** discussed revisions to Policy 6000.1-Student Progression as it relates to a shift from having a valedictorian and a salutatorian towards having Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Cum Laude. **Mr. Vargus** said this is a good change; we have some brilliant middle school students that need recognition and incentive as well. **Ms. Dahl** briefly reviewed possible changes to Student Success Opportunity Schools (SSOS). **Ms. Dahl** said she considers it a privilege to work with the Student Support Initiatives Division; we have one of the best administrative leaders to work with, **Ms. Pope**.

### **VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT**

**Mr. Lauder** said the minutes [January 9, 2014] contain nearly a whole page, from the Director, and a paragraph from the Superintendent, which is more or less a press release covering the behind of the District and the Department. None of the Committee’s comments are reflected.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Ms. Pope** gave an update of work of the Student Support Initiatives Division: Walk a Mile in my Shoes Event; Black History Month Resolution and event; and the Tri-County LGBT State Conference.

**Ms. Pope**, with guidance from **Mr. Runcie**, provided members with a follow-up memo regarding the motion from the December 5, 2013 meeting.

**Motion by Mr. Harrison that: “all information in regard to any member of the Diversity Committee, for the last five years, pertaining to any contract with/or payment of any kind or form from the Broward Schools, Broward School Board, or any foundation, 501.3.Cs, umbrella groups, included source of funds used to pay any contract. Motion passed 15-0.**

**Ms. Pope** said, as guided, she submitted a list of Diversity Committee members, for the last five years, to the Purchasing Department. As a result, there were two Diversity Committee members who had contracts with the School Board, Jessica Abby Herthel and Jeanne Jusevic. As further directed, this was brought through the Public Records Department, with a tracking number; the search was completed as a courtesy by **Superintendent Runcie**.

### **PARLIAMENTARIAN REVIEW**

**Ms. McDougle** said to make a motion always start with “I move”. She reviewed secondary motions which apply to a main motion that is pending. Secondary motions assist to dispose of a main motion rather than adopting it or defeating it.

### **DIVERSITY COMMITTEE ORIENTATION**

**Ms. Williams** reviewed the orientation packet. Information and resources from the District’s Legal Department was shared. Videos were presented regarding: Government in the Sunshine Law; Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees and the Florida’s Public Records Law. This information can be found at <http://www.browardadvisory.org/>, click on training. **Ms. Williams** requested that members fill out the forms in the packet to receive a parking decal and a security badge. **Ms. Pope** said, Policy 1.7-Appointment of a School Board Member Representative(s) to a Committee(s) would be reviewed at the February 25, 2014 School Board Workshop. **Mr. Gazzano** asked, “How long is a students’ information protected; until a certain age or as long as they are in school?” and “are special education students’ information protected up to age 21?” **Ms. Pope** said she would research the questions and get back to the Committee. **Ms. Pope** reviewed the Citizens Concerned about our Children (CCC) Settlement Agreement as it relates to the Diversity Committee formation and the work of the Committee. **Mr. Falci** asked, “Were the two members, with the contracts, aware of Code of Ethics?” and “penalties and punishments

are prescribed in the Code of Ethics; how will this be pursued with the two members?" **Ms. Pope** said, in the past, the District has not conducted this type of training systemically and comprehensively with advisory committees. She said, with new training in place for staff and advisory committee members, all parties will be informed. She said it is not a function of the Committee to pursue penalties. This issue regarding contracts is being addressed by the Legal Department, Board members, the Superintendent, Chief of Staff and senior leaders.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE FORMATION**

**Ms. Dahl** shared a video with the Committee: "*Working Together as a Group*", obtained from [www.simpletruths.com](http://www.simpletruths.com). **Ms. Dahl** reviewed the various subcommittees. She encouraged all members to attend school site visits, take an interest in what the Committee is doing and consider serving on one or more subcommittees.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Indicators Subcommittee: Ms. Williams** said the Subcommittee is still reviewing Indicators 7, 8, and 9. **Ms. Williams** relayed that **Mr. DeGruccio** and the **Chair** would like to bring Indicator 7, Student Discipline & Suspension, to the full Committee for discussion.

**Motion by Mr. Brosten: "to extend the meeting by 10 minutes." Motion passed 11-1.**

**Site Visitation Subcommittee: Mr. Brosten** discussed recent site visits to McFatter Technical High School, Monarch High School and Lyons Creek Middle School. **Mr. Brosten** encouraged all members to attend the upcoming site visits on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Mr. Falci** said, he would like to see all schools observe September 21<sup>st</sup> International Day of Peace. He would like this information brought to the entire Committee. **Ms. Price** said it is important that members attend events and programs as their schedule allows; it is important that the community sees the Diversity Committee's presence.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.,  
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the February 6, 2014 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.
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Approved 030614