



New Hanover County Board of Education

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Family Communications Committee Meeting Minutes **January 15, 2020, at 5 p.m.**

ATTENDEES: Stefanie Adams, Katie Barsaleau, Maria Black, Caress Clegg, Angela Gaines, Bernice Johnson, Allison Linkner, Dr. Tim Markley, Michael McGuire, Dr. Somya Navejar, Jeannette Nichols, Kate Tayloe,

5:00 Meeting called to order; reviewed agenda

5:05 The Committee reviewed and discussed feedback from the 12/12 Roundtable Discussion, “Multicultural Language Families”

- The importance of PTA information and accessibility for all families was highlighted; Ms. Johnson has committed to facilitating a multi-language discussion and resource sharing session during an upcoming county PTA Presidents Meeting to address these concerns.
- Assuring that families are receiving Connect 5 messages in their preferred language needs to be addressed, as well as voicemail systems at individual schools; Dr. Markley will discuss with Technology.
- Due to the fact that phone numbers can change, Ms. Johnson suggested a mid-year review of family contact information at all schools; reminder to parents to update their information if it isn’t accurate.
- Ms. Black provided feedback notes from the Roundtable Discussion; Dr. Markley will share notes either via email, or in person at an upcoming Principal’s meeting.
- A “bi-lingual student work program”, that would award service learning credit to students who could translate or create documents in other languages was discussed; the Committee will revisit this idea once a Project Leader has been selected.

5:35 The Committee discussed options for February's Roundtable Discussion. At the request of Dr. Markley and Jerelle Lewis (Director of Title IX) the topic will be Title IX; the format will be presentation, followed by Q& A, and optional roundtable discussions, all facilitated by Mr. Lewis, with administrative support from FCC members.

- Due to the high level of interest in this topic, Mr. McGuire offered to facilitate live streaming, and later post the meeting on various NHCS Communication channels.
- Meeting date TBD pending confirmation with Mr. Lewis; once date is confirmed, 3-4 FCC members will volunteer to provide support for the event.
- For individuals that are unable to attend, but have questions they would like answered, Ms. Clegg will create a public Google doc prior, for families to submit.

6:00 The Committee discussed goals for 2020.

- 2020 Proposed Roundtables
 - EC Families
 - Nontraditional Caregivers
 - New to NHCS
- Family Communication Survey
 - Ms. Linkner will act as Project Lead
 - FCC will create survey, and distribute to all NHCS families to better understand communication gaps and successes
- Redistricting Support
 - Ms. Tayloe shared her school's plan for transition; the question was raised if all schools have a plan.
 - FCC will share thoughts on how to communicate with incoming families to provide consistent experiences across the county.
- Parent Mentor Program
 - Ongoing discussion regarding creation of a parent share network; ideas in process.

6:25 The Committee reviewed action items.

- Dr. Markly to speak with Technology regarding language barriers.
- Dr. Markley to share 12/12 Roundtable Notes with all principals.
- FCC members to submit question suggestions for Communication Survey to Ms. Linkner.
- FCC members to submit ideas to ease redistricting transition to Ms. Adams; Ms. Adams will combine and forward to Dr. Markley to be shared with principals.

6:30 Meeting adjourned.