



# SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## DEI Communications Subcommittee

### DEI Mission Statement

The mission of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council is to empower our Suffield Public Schools, extended Suffield Public School community, to respectfully and progressively explore, express and celebrate cultural perspectives, individual identities and to challenge and repair biased systems of thinking.

### DEI Communications Subcommittee

- The purpose of the DEI Communications Subcommittee is to introduce and share progress of DEI Council via community forum(s), DEI narrative for district website and write Observer article(s).

### DEI Communications Subcommittee Members

- Brendan Canny
- Bari DeMichele
- Amy Hawkins
- Lynn Petrillo
- Jamie Drzyzga

*January 5, 2021*

## *DEI Communications Subcommittee Meeting Minutes*

**Present:** Tim Van Tassel, Michelle Zawawi, Brendan Canny, Jamie Drzyzga, Lynn Petrillo, Amy Hawkins, Bari DeMichele

**Discussion:** Reviewed areas of focus for the communications subcommittee and established goals.

### **Goals:**

1. Introduce and share the progress of the DEI council to the community.
2. Update community on upcoming activities and events of the DEI council.
3. Gather and share stakeholder perspectives and feedback.

### **Steps:**

1. Group to take a marketing approach to communicating efforts of DEI/ announcements through the following channels:
  - Board of ed minutes (Add to the next quarterly newsletter)
  - Website (look to update district website- efforts of sub committees)
  - Newspaper: Suffield Observer article for June
2. Focus Groups
  - 10-12 people with the subcommittee
  - Clarify mission- where are we going and what are we doing
  - Feedback and comments from focus groups
  - To Do:
    - Develop outline for focus groups
    - ID Participants
    - Schedule Group
      - High school students (March)
      - Parent Group (End March/Beg April)
      - Staff Group (February)

3. *Questions for District Climate Survey*

- a. *Following focus groups the subcommittee will draft questions for the school wide climate survey to gather feedback*

***Next steps for subcommittee meeting: on 1/26/21***

- *Outline talking points for focus groups*
- *Draft a blurb for the board of ed newsletter*
- *Discuss updates to DEI information on the district website*