

LNSU/LNMUUSD Social/Racial Justice Committee
Minutes of Meeting
June 6, 2022

In attendance: Maria Davies, Jeff Hunsberger, Betsy Goodman, Eric Remmers, Jan Sanders, Bethanne Pirie, Jen Hulse. Denise Webster

Meeting called to order @ 5:15pm

Reviewed minutes from meeting on May 9, 2022, changes made to paragraph at bottom of page 1 re: Clemmons Family Farm field trips. Changing word “group” to “grades” on dates of May 17 and June 7th.

Updates from Maria Davies:

Outright and Maria are in discussions about creating inclusive environments for LGBTQ+ youth. She is meeting with two of Outright Vermont's Transforming Team Rep's (Mercedes Maurice and V Pearson.) She will be meeting again with Jay Covert tomorrow morning to plan the June in-person meeting re: how they will support our GSA at the High School and the Middle School Level. She is hoping that the Elementary Schools will also be able to collaborate on this effort. Betzi from Eden sounded interested in forming a group for her students. We will incorporate Elementary School Youth in the new academic year as some youth already identify differently in Elementary School.

We are hoping to collaborate with our GLOW students on how to best move forward to help them feel supported and heard. We know that this is a journey and expect this work to be ongoing. She will plan to ask for further funding for this work, as this work is critical.

Girl Be Heard- workshop May 17 for Cambridge Elementary and Hyde Park. This group focuses on girl empowerment, with a focus on BIPOC and LGBTQ+, but since we are underserved they spoke to all. She is working on a post workshop test for the 5th and 6th graders after the workshop.

Last Clemmons Family Farm trip tomorrow 6/7. Maria is hoping to attend.

She is speaking with Alexa Condry about possibly working with Elementary schools on painting madalas as ornaments, possibly over the holidays.

She is working on funding for a mural for one school, either with Juniper Creative Arts or Miso Bang.

The BIPOC Affinity Space is shaping up. There is a BIPOC BBQ -6-4-2022.

There will be Afterschool Programming for youth by River Arts at the Lamoille campus, focusing on how kids perceive each other.

Possibility of Therapeutic Theater with Stowe Performing Arts Center.

She is attending more Outright Vermont meetings, policies, and practices

She is collaborating with Mark Hughes from Justice for All.

SJC team to become mentors at LNSU. Possibility of this for new academic year will touch base with them again in August.

Other Updates/Business:

Jen H. asked how can we involve this work into other marginalized families in our area. We have families in poverty experiencing cultural difference, who also struggle to feel part of the district. How do we weave that into this work? Maria stated she spoke to Betzi about this and will plan on working with Eden next academic year for an afterschool program just for her youth.

Jeff H. asked if we had contacted Capstone Community Capstone about working with them, possibly on community dinners? There are families experiencing food insecurities, Cultural Connections. We need a program for this population.

Betzi G. spoke about the hidden native population in our community. Discussed speaking to Jeff Benay on how to support this group of students and for him to provide some Cultural Competency Training to Staff and Youth.

Lamoille Health Partners have an invested interest. Shannon at the Recovery Center is a resource.

Maria spoke to the lack of transportation to get at risk students to these programs. Question contacting the AOT, get them to sponsor transportation and/or drivers.

Maria brought up activities at the Eden Recreation at the Lake Area and the need to get someone to be there and supervise kids and run activities there.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.