

**Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education
Diversity Committee Meeting In-Person and By Video Conference**

**Wednesday, January 10, 2024
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

Hosted from the Board Room and via ZOOM
School District Administrative Center
520 Fifth Avenue

For Devices: Public Zoom Webinar [Link:](#)

Or by phone, please dial:

**888 788 0099 (Toll Free)
877 853 5247 (Toll Free)
Webinar ID: 857 6597 9359**

AGENDA

*For callers - *6 mutes and unmutes; *9 raises a caller's hand.*

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order
2. Land Acknowledgement:
The Diversity Committee would like to take this moment to respectfully acknowledge we are residing on the traditional land of the Dena people.
3. District Mission Statement:
Our mission is to provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society.
4. Diversity Committee Vision Statement:
Students, parents/guardians, staff, and community stakeholders at the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District envision learning without boundaries, recognizing, respecting and celebrating differences. Whether our differences are skin color, language, culture, ethnicity, religion, family structure, skill level, challenges or development, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or socio-economic status or condition, we will ensure all students have the opportunity to realize their lifelong learning potential.
5. Roll Call / Introductions
6. Approval of Agenda
7. Approval of December 6, 2023 Minutes

B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

C. REPORTS

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Disability Resolution
2. Diversity Committee Member on Principal Search / Selection Committee
3. Future Community Partner Presentations

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. DEI Priorities
2. Tribal Consultation Member on Diversity Committee

F. INFORMATION

1. [Resolutions on the District Website](#)
2. [Dene Atlas Resource](#)
3. [Diversity Committee Group Agreements](#)
4. [First Alaskans Institute Dialogue Agreement](#)

G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

H. ADJOURNMENT

Diversity Committee Priorities 2021:

- ~~Restructure the Diversity Committee meeting agenda resulting in better engagement with the members and community.~~
- ~~Identify the committee's priorities.~~
- ~~Build new partnerships with community organizations and district departments.~~
- ~~Respond as a team to community crises.~~
- ~~Submit a letter of support to the ANE PAC for an ANE Board Advisory Member.~~
- ~~Author a memorandum to the Board of Education emphasizing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion and calling on the board to engage in implicit bias training prior to starting the superintendent search again.~~
- Facilitate a vision of more inclusive district forms.
- Draft a resolution for students and staff with disabilities.
- Draft a letter to the Board to request that they change the name of the committee to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Recognize DE&I champions in our district/community

Diversity Committee Priorities 2023:

- Disability Resolution
- Resolution Against Bullying
- Status / Review of Mandatory Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Training Letter (9/17/2020)
- DC Representative on Principal Hiring Committees

Diversity Committee Priorities 2024:

- ~~DC Representative on Principal Hiring Committees~~
- Faces of Fairbanks
- Training opportunities
- Draft a resolution for students and staff with disabilities
- Tribal Consultation member on Diversity Committee
- Tribal Consultation Advisory School Board Member

Date Presented	Organization or Department	
2/28/2019	Human Resources / Employee Relations	
11/7/2019	Alaska Native Education PAC (ANE)	
2/25/2020	Discussion on Public Testimony	
2/25/2020	Rodney Gaskins	
4/23/2020	Fairbanks Alaska Youth on Environmental Action (FAYEA)	
4/23/2020	SOAP	
4/23/2020	The Door	
6/10/2020	Federal Programs	
7/28/2020	SPED Department (FNSBSD)	
7/28/2020	Teaching and Learning (FNSBSD)	
9/17/2020	Human Resources / Employee Relations	
10/15/2020	Alaska Native Education (ANE)	
10/15/2020	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)	
1/21/2021	Alaska Native Education PAC (ANE)	
2/18/2021	Bright Futures Fairbanks (BFF)	
2/18/2021	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)	
3/25/2021	Stone Soup Cafe	
4/22/2021	Student Support Services	
5/20/2021	After School Programs	
10/21/2021	Teaching and Learning (FNSBSD)	
4/28/2022	UAF Rural Student Services	
5/3/2023	FNSBSD - The Center	
5/3/2023	Bright Futures Fairbanks (BFF)	
12/6/2023	Fairbanks Food Bank	
PENDING REQUEST	PFLAG	
	Love Inc. - Now Helping Alaska	
	Access Alaska	
	Bread Line	
	CDC	
	Children's Museum	
	Fairbanks Native Association (FNA)	
	Family Centered Services Alaska (FCSA)	
	FCAC Interfaith Working Group	
	FNSB Librarians	
	Fyndout Clinic	
	Gender Pack	
	Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts	
	Girls & Boys Club	
	Native Movement	
	OCS	

Date Presented	Organization or Department	
	Police Chiefs	
	RCPC - Resource Center For Parents	
	Stone Soup Group	
	Student Organizations in Schools	
	The Alaska Center	
	UAF Gender and Sexuality Alliance (UAF GSA)	
	United Way	
	University Presbyterian Church	
	Fort Wainwright School Liaison Officer	
	Eielson AFB School Liaison Specialist	
	Pavva Ifupiaq Dancers	
	Guys Read/Gals Read	
	Migrant Education - Student Support Services	
	Student GSA's	
	EEO Office	
	BEST	
	Superintendent	
	Fairbanks Queer Collective (Fairbanks Queer Youth Council)	
	Planned Parenthood	

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

TO: MEMBERS OF THE FNSB SCHOOL BOARD VIA ANE PAC

FROM: BOARD DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: DIVERSITY COMMITTEE ANE PAC SUPPORT LETTER

The School Board Diversity Committee is writing in support of Alaska Native Education Parent Action Committee's (ANE PAC) Resolution 2019-02. This resolution requests; one school board member of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) to be assigned to and regularly attend monthly ANE PAC meetings to better learn about the issues important to the Alaska Native Community in Fairbanks, and that the School Board grant ANE PAC one non-voting representative seat on the FNSBSD School Board.

The School Board already has several advisory representatives, including a student representative and two military representatives. Today, Alaska Native / American Indian Students make up 20.7% (2,327 students) of our student population within the FNSBSD (https://public.tableau.com/profile/k12northstar#!/vizhome/Enrollment_1/Enrollment). We must recognize that an Alaska Native representative is needed to support the unique needs of our Alaska Native students.

This resolution aligns with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title VI and recognizes that the best people to "ensure that [Fairbanks North Star Borough's educational] programs that serve [Alaska Native] children are of the highest quality and provide for not only the basic elementary and secondary educational needs, but also the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of these children" (ESSA Sec. 6101) are Alaska Natives themselves.

The ANE PAC is federally mandated by ESSA Title VI and involves Educators, Parents, and representatives from Tanana Chiefs Conference and Fairbanks Native Association. As the school board already has many other committees to support them in their decisions and this committee already exists as per law, the Diversity Committee believes it would behoove the School Board to become more aligned with this group.

The United States has a history of Indigenous genocide and forced assimilation, the effects of which are still being felt by our Alaska Native students, staff and families today. Schooling especially has a very traumatic history for US Indigenous peoples as the last of the Assimilation Boarding schools did not close until 1978.

Our Alaska Native students are often exposed to racism, violence, microaggressions, curricula violence, and suppression of cultural ways of being. Having a School Board member sit on the ANE PAC and having a representative appointed by ANE PAC sit on the school board in an advisory capacity would help this district address and create solutions around attendance, holistic academic achievement, and increase graduation rates with Alaska Native students.

The School Board Diversity Committee believes this resolution is necessary and would help provide a greater voice for Alaska Native students, families, and staff. Alaskan Native peoples having a greater voice and a larger audience during educational decision making processes is an important step forward in creating a school district that can provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society.

We, the members of the Board Diversity Committee, approved this letter of support on September 23, 2021.

DocuSigned by:
Erin Morotti
B2EEA3CC1664457

Erin Morotti
School Board Member Diversity Committee Chair

DocuSigned by:
Katherine LaPlaut
Katherine LaPlaut
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education

DocuSigned by:
Clarice S. Louden-Mingo
Clarice Mingo
FPA Representative

DocuSigned by:
Bennett Wong
Bennett Wong
FEA Representative

DocuSigned by:
Brytan W. Felter
Brytan Bea Felter
ESSA Representative

DocuSigned by:
Caroline Brown
Caroline Brown
Parent Representative

DocuSigned by:
Allison Carr
Allison Carr
Parent Representative

DocuSigned by:
Malcolm McEwen
Malcolm McEwen
Parent Representative

DocuSigned by:
Deanna Blackburn
Deanna Blackburn
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Janelle Chapin
Janelle Chapin
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Taryn Hughes
Taryn Hughes
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Erin E Janoso
Erin Janoso
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Rose O'Hara-Jolley
Rose O'Hara-Jolley
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Alyssa Quimtyne
Alyssa Quimtyne
At-Large Community Member

DocuSigned by:
Ellen Weiser
Ellen Weiser
At-Large Community Member

**Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education
Diversity Committee
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

Minutes

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. **Call to Order:** Erin Morotti called the meeting to order at **5:41 pm**
2. **Land Acknowledgement:**
3. **District Mission Statement:**
4. **Diversity Committee Vision Statement:**
5. **Roll Call / Introductions ~ Committee has a quorum at 5:41 pm.**

Members Present:

Erin Morotti
April Scott (Zoom)
Sarah Dimmick
Erin Schupp
Kel Gitter
Sandy Clark (Zoom)
Alexis Howell (Zoom)
Viletta Knight (Zoom)
Michelle Pippin (Zoom)

Members Not Present:

Kaneisha Radgosky ~ Excused
Jazzanne Gordon-Fretwell ~ Excused
Jackson Brannan
Donna Fitzpatrick
Sall Duncan ~ Excused
Maliah Ganatta ~ Excused

Administrative support:

Flora Roddy

Other:

Bobby Burgess
Sam Kirstein

6. **Approval of Agenda**
Viletta Knight moved to accept the agenda. April Scott seconded. Motion passed.
7. **Approval of September 6, 2023 Minutes**
Kel Gitter moved to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2023 meeting. Erin Schupp seconded. Motion passed.

B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ~ None

C. REPORTS

1. **Fairbanks Food Bank – Sam Kirstein**
Sam Kirstein gave a report, including handouts, regarding how the Food Bank and the schools interact.
 - a. 3 months of food on hand at all times.
 - b. Career Education Center in their building.
 - c. 25 years or so as a School Partner.
 - d. May No Child Go Hungry, solving the problem of childhood hunger.
 - e. Recycle food by sharing with farms for animal feed & composting.
 - f. Lowest months of volunteering ~ Hunting & Gardening Season. Need 15-30 volunteers.
 - g. Biggest need for food is January.

- h. 501c3 Agency Shopping
 - i. 907-45-share = 907-457-4273
 2. This space can be used for any Diversity, Equity, Inclusion reports, as well as for Community Partner presentations.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Disability Resolution** was discussed. Erin Schupp made a motion to have Kel Gitter and Sarah Dimmick present a draft at the January meeting. Kel Gitter seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Diversity Committee member on Principal Search/Selection Committee.** During the discussion the quorum was lost at 6:45 pm. The quorum was regained. Kel Gitter made a motion to have Erin Morotti contact to the Superintendent, Luke Meinert, regarding having a Diversity Committee member on the Principal Hiring Committee. Sandy Clark seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Future Community Partner Presentations
 - i. There is a list of potential partner presenters.
 - ii. No presentation for January 10, 2024 meeting.
 - iii. Time/length of presentation and business on the agenda were discussed.
2. The quorum was lost at 7:15 pm
3. DEI Priorities – Faces of Fairbanks, Training opportunities, etc. (moved to January agenda)
4. Tribal Consultation member on Diversity Committee (moved to January agenda)

F. INFORMATION

1. [Link to resolutions on District website](#)
2. Dene Atlas Resource
 - i. <https://sites.google.com/a/alaska.edu/denemapped/home?authuser=0>
3. Diversity Committee Agreements: attached
4. First Alaskans Dialogue Agreement

G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Erin Schupp's first meeting, she's looking forward to having a Tribal Rep on the committee.
2. Sarah Dimmick expressed her appreciation for Erin Morotti.
3. Sandy Clark said Thanks to Flora Roddy & Erin Morotti.
4. Erin Morotti commented how the Diversity Committee has been since back in 2021. She's heard comments about the Committee not meeting often enough, therefore not getting things done. She hopes to get more Community Partnerships through this committee.

H. ADJOURNMENT

1. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm by Erin Morotti. There was not a quorum, so no motion was made.