

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

September 6, 2023

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order

Margaret Matheson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm from the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. District Mission Statement

4. Diversity Committee Vision Statement

5. Roll Call / Introductions – Committee has a quorum @ 5:33 pm.

Members present:

Margaret Matheson

Caroline Brown

Sandra Clark

Donna Fitzpatrick

Maliah Ganatta

Kelly Gitter

Jazzanne Gordon-Fretwell

Viletta Knight

Mae Marsh

Michelle Pippin

Flora Roddy

April Scott

Administrative support present:

Heather Christian

Other:

Members Not in Attendance:

Jackson Brannan – Excused

Sarah Dimmick

Kaneisha Radgosky

6. Approval of Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda moved by April Scott. Caroline Brown seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

7. Approval of the Minutes

Members reviewed the May 3, 2023 minutes. Caroline Brown made a motion to approve the minutes. Flora Roddy seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

C. REPORTS

1. None

CI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Disability Resolution – Caroline Brown
 - a. Discussed history of resolution and focus on a month of awareness and celebration of the history and stories of people with disabilities
 - b. Wants to include more active engagement, resources, and approaches to disability in the district
 - c. Viletta Knight – Wanted to identify timelines for motions and committee actions
 - d. Michelle Pippin – Discussed student worker positions with the district
 - e. **Viletta Knight moved a motion that the Diversity Committee work on a disability resolution. Flora Roddy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**
2. Resolution Against Bullying – Margaret Matheson
 - a. No committee discussion
3. Status / Review of Mandatory Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Training Letter (9/17/2020) – Flora Roddy
 - a. History of Fairbanks Coalition Builders discussed
 - b. Maggie Matheson – Requested clarification of the ask from Flora Roddy
 - c. Flora Roddy – Does not know the next step that she is specifically looking for
 - d. Michelle Pippin – Reviewed this topic prior to the meeting and requested clarification of the type of training provided
 - i. Flora Roddy – History discussed
 - ii. April Scott – Described training that she attended
 - iii. April Scott – Believes that there is a true focus and desire to do DEI in the district
 - iv. Viletta Knight - Emphasized the language from the letter, “We strongly encourage the district to invest in and consult with local and state community organizations and leaders who are already engaged and providing DEI training and resources.”
 - v. Committee discussion of letter

CII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Diversity Committee Goals for 2023-2024 – Margaret Matheson
 - a. Committee discussed goals and direction of the committee
 - b. Disability resolution – full draft by December meeting
 - c. Sandy Clark – Discussed member of the Diversity Committee involved in the selection of principals
 - d. Maggie Matheson – Climate Study discussed
 - e. April Scott – Would like to see the following three (3) goals:
 - i. Re-establish committee in active roles
 - ii. Disability Resolution
 - iii. Research and present an equity activity
 - f. Committee discussed specific goals
 - g. Viletta Knight – Called the question
 - h. Maggie Matheson suggested:
 - i. Disability Resolution – final draft due in December
 - ii. Members of the Diversity Committee on the Principal selection committee
 - iii. Research options to provide/ find resources for exposure
 - i. **Caroline Brown moved a motion for committee to consider to take on the three (3) following goals for this year:**

- i. **Draft a Disability Resolution to be reviewed by December 2023 meeting**
 - ii. **Establish a diversity committee member on principal search / selection committee**
 - iii. **Find resources / equity activities for diversity exposure that are free, sustainable, and voluntary**
 - iv. **Viletta Knight seconded the motion.**
 1. Yes – Maggie Matheson, April Scott, Flora Roddy, Caroline Brown, Kelly Gitter, Sandy Clark, Donna Fitzpatrick, Mae Marsh, Viletta Knight, Maliah Ganatta
 2. Abstain – Michelle Pippin
 3. Motion carried.
2. Diversity Committee Schedule
 - a. Caroline Brown – Liked the addition of the agenda due date

F. INFORMATION

1. [Link to resolutions on District website](#)
2. Dene Atlas – Google Sites
 - i. A collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to collecting, preserving, and displaying traditional Alaska Dene place names.
 - ii. <https://sites.google.com/a/alaska.edu/denemapped/home>

G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Viletta Knight – Requested expiration date for Diversity Committee term
2. Michelle Pippin – Welcome and want input as one person department – call or email

H. ADJOURNMENT

Margaret Matheson adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by April Scott and seconded by Mae Marsh. Motion carried unanimously.