

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Diversity Committee Meeting

Quarterly Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2019

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

David Rucker called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM in the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

**2. Roll Call / Introductions**

Members present:

Denise Newman  
Bea Felter  
Katie Dabney  
Rose O'Hara-Jolley  
Alyssa Quintyne  
Ellen Weiser  
Janet Ferris  
Marilyn Russell

Administrative support present:

David Rucker  
Heather Christian

Members Not in Attendance:

Jennifer Luke  
Heather Johnson  
Elizabeth Holm  
Othnelia Amegashie

Presenters:

Yatibaey Evans  
Ed Alexander  
Kristi McEwen

**B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

1. Plantation Project added to the agenda in new business
2. A motion was made to approve the minutes with corrections for November 7, 2019. The motion was seconded, and passed.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

1. A motion was made to approve the minutes from August 22, 2019. The motion was seconded, and passed.

**D. INTRODUCTIONS AROUND THE TABLE**

1. Instructions given to new members
2. Emphasized respect for all members

**E. REPORTS**

1. N/A

**F. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Equity Policies Update
  - i. Policies are being considered and are now pending with the School Board
  - ii. Twenty-three (23) policies have completed review process
    1. Working on consolidation into the 100 Chapter of Admin Regulations
2. Dress Code policy update requested by Marilyn Russell
  - i. Clarified as policy regarding graduation attire

- ii. Policy 985.4: Advancement in Instruction - Commencement Ceremony Participation - Graduation Regalia & Attire
  - 1. Adopted October 1, 2019 by the School Board

## G. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Non-Voting Alaska Native Education Parent Advisory Committee (ANE PAC) School Board Member:
  - i. Presentation by Ed Alexander, Yatibaey Evans, and Kristi McEwen regarding the Resolution the ANE PAC passed
    - 1. ANE PAC defined
    - 2. Non-voting military representatives discussed
    - 3. Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) discussed
    - 4. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) discussed
    - 5. Graduation rates and borough demographics discussed
    - 6. Alaska Native history discussed
  - ii. Committee discussion
    - 1. Non-voting vs voting member discussed
      - a. Demographics explored
      - b. Advantages and disadvantages explored
      - c. School Board institutional structure clarified
      - d. Title VI Federal grant briefed
      - e. Current School Board non-voting member positions discussed
      - f. ANE PAC clarified as representing nations / governments which is not race based
  - iii. A motion was made to review the ANE PAC Non-Voting School Board Member resolution and develop a letter of support. The motion was seconded and approved.
    - 1. Rose O'Hara-Jolley will create a Google Doc for members to review.
      - a. Shayna Ellingrud will forward the resolution to Rose O'Hara-Jolley
- 2. ANE Parent Advisory Committee Drafted Resolutions:  
Draft resolutions in packet reviewed.
  - i. International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL) [read into record]
    - 1. Purpose and reasons for resolution discussed
    - 2. Value to people who do not speak those languages discussed
    - 3. Other community events related to this resolution discussed
    - 4. Relationship to curriculum clarified
    - 5. A motion was made to adopt the ANE IYIL resolution 2019-01. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
  - ii. Land Acknowledgements [read into record]
    - 1. History of Land Acknowledgements discussed
    - 2. Impact on stakeholders discussed
    - 3. Tanana Khwt'ana clarification
    - 4. A motion was made to pass and support the Land Acknowledgement resolution 2019-04. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- 3. Mission and Vision Statement for Diversity Committee:
  - i. Current Mission Statement in packet read into the record and reviewed
  - ii. No vision statement could be located
  - iii. Request to add, 'and making recommendation to address those concerns,' to the mission statement
    - 1. Committee supports this addition to the mission statement

- iv. Vision Statement discussed
  - 1. Will be addressed at the next meeting
  - 2. A motion was made to have Allyssa Quintyne generate a draft vision statement on Google Docs. The motion was seconded and passed.
- 4. Diversity Committee Goals for the 2020 School Year:  
Discussed in conjunction with mission and vision statements in regards to direction for committee moving forward.
- 5. Plantation Project: [NEW AGENDA ITEM ADDITION]  
One-day project that a teacher had students do in one class
  - i. History and nature of project discussed
  - ii. Discussed constructive notice as reporting method
  - iii. District response explained
  - iv. Committee involvement discussed
    - 1. Action plan discussed to prevent further incidents of this nature
    - 2. Do right by every student and model what it means to grow, change, and support students
      - a. Possible lead into vision statement
  - v. Mandatory training initiative discussed in relation to White Supremacy Culture and / Decolonization Training with a solution focused model
  - vi. District Diversity Consultant, Rodney Gaskins, discussed
    - 1. Committee requested to have Rodney Gaskins attend a Diversity Committee meeting and speak with the members.

#### **H. INFORMATION**

- 1. Current Positions open on the Diversity Committee
  - i. Parent Representatives (3)
  - ii. Community Member(1)

#### **I. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Round table comments accepted

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

David Rucker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM

Submitted by Shayna Ellingrud, EEO/Title IX Assistant and Diversity Committee Administrative Support