

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2021

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

Erin Morotti called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm via ZOOM 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.**

Members present:

Marissa Anderson

Deanna Blackburn

Janelle Chapin

Brytan 'Bea' Felter

Elizabeth Holm

Taryn Hughes

Malcolm McEwen

Clarice Mingo

Erin Morotti

Denise Newman

Rose O'Hara-Jolley

Alyssa Quintyne

Ellen Weiser

Administrative support present:

Heather Christian

Kate LaPlaunt

Members Not in Attendance:

Allison Carr

Other:

Rodney Gaskins

Mae Marsh

Brianna Gray

**6. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to adopt agenda moved by Alyssa Quintyne. Marissa Anderson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**7. Approval of the Minutes**

Members reviewed the December 17, 2020 meeting minutes. Alyssa Quintyne made a motion to approve the December 17, 2020 minutes. Bea Felter seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

**C. REPORTS**

**1. Departmental/Community Partner Presentations**

- i. Alaska Native Education (ANE) Director, Brianna Gray
- ii. Introduction and personal history provided

- iii. Purpose and focus of ANE reviewed
- iv. New Positions for Cultural and Equity Specialists noted
- v. Parent Advisory Committee for parents, educators and elders to represent student and families
- vi. Vision Statement discussed
- vii. Indigenous inclusion defined with focus on building and fostering relationships
- viii. Grow and move forward mission statements - highlighting leadership
- ix. Functional learning and curriculum discussed
  - Redefine functional knowledge
  - Incorporating issues that affect the community
- x. Discussion with Diversity Committee Members

#### **D. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Review of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Training options - Mae Marsh (See New Business)
2. ANE Board of Education Advisory Representative
  - i. Discussed status of letter of support for the ANE Board of Education Advisory Representative
  - ii. Motion moved by Taryn Hughes to ask Dream Team of Alyssa Quintyne and Bea Felter to collaborate on a draft letter of support. Marissa Anderson second the motion, and it carried unanimously.
3. Action Items to Support Diversity Committee Priorities (Move to next Agenda)
  - i. Document reviewed via screen share from agenda packet and discussed
  - ii. Fairbanks Coalition Builders (FCB) discussed
  - iii. Title IX Policy Update in front of School Board discussed – [January 20, 2021 Work Session](#)
  - iv. Workforce Excellence discussed
  - v. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) discussed
    - DEI is complimentary to SEL
  - vi. Alyssa Quintyne – Requested the details of the strategic plan
    - Kate LaPlaunt – Advised that the committee can motion the board to provide that information from prior year(s)
      - a. Erin Morotti will advise committee when it is available for this year
4. Diversity Committee Website Review
  - i. Committees no longer have bylaws
  - ii. Information Sheet will be updated on the website

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Committee Training Schedule/Platform – Rodney Gaskins / Mae Marsh
  - i. Review of National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) approach and current application in the district
    - Tools / Explanation / Demonstration / Application
    - Building relationships and allies
    - Goal is to encourage and promote teamwork
    - NCBI teaches how disrupt hate and racist actions
    - Need some degree of confidentiality which cannot be replicated in a public meeting though
  - ii. Bea Felter moved a motion to add training as available to the agenda. Motion was seconded by Taryn Hughes, and it carried unanimously.
2. Review of Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Training options - Mae Marsh
  - i. Bea Felter – Hearing the conversation, which training would you recommend starting with?
  - ii. Mae Marsh – When you are working with a heart and trying to change an attitude it is entry, entry, entry and reminder, reminder, reminder

- iii. NCBI is an excellent ongoing program
  - iv. Mae Marsh has experience is in civil rights and creating action plans
    - Looking to supplement NCBI initiative
  - v. Committee will compile a list of questions that will be submitted to Mae Marsh for review
  - vi. Importance of in-person / face to face training discussed
3. Review Diversity Committee Meeting Group Agreements (Move to Next Agenda)

#### **F. INFORMATION**

1. Bea Felter – Thanked Erin Morotti for being an advocate for DEI. Encouraged committee to listen to the School Board meeting from last night (January 20, 2021) – linked above.
2. Alyssa Quintyne – Black History Month coming in February
  - i. Highlighted teaching the truth all communities, marginalized or not, especially black Alaskan history, i.e. settlement of Skagway
  - ii. [Black History Month \(FNSBSD Contest\)](#): January 25 – March 5, 2021
3. Kate LaPlaunt – Open Circles: [Fairbanks Coalition Builders](#):
  - i. January 27, 2021 from 5 – 7 pm
  - ii. Topic: Local politicians – how heal the divide in the country

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

Erin Morotti thanked committee members and attendees.

#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Bea Felter. Alyssa Quintyne seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.