

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2020

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order

Jennifer Luke called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm via ZOOM from the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Roll Call / Introductions – Committee has a quorum.

Members present:

Alyssa Quintyne
Brytan 'Bea' Felter
Ellen Weiser
Jennifer Luke
Malcolm McEwen
Methanie Ongtooguk

Administrative support present:

Heather Christian
Kate LaPlaunt
Carol Jacoby

Members Not in Attendance:

Denise Newman
Elizabeth Holm
Heather Johnson
Rose O'Hara-Jolly

Guest:

Derek Coryell
Melanie Hadaway

4. Approval of Agenda

Question about agenda items – Public notice discussed

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

5. Approval of the Minutes

Members reviewed the June 10, 2020 meeting minutes. Bea Felter made a motion to approve the minutes. Kate LaPlaunt seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Casey Casort – History with district discussed. Spoke regarding colonization and other equity training being provided for students, staff, teachers, and administration and the importance of local input for these trainings.

C. REPORTS

1. Return to School Planning Regarding Inequities and Access for Students

i. Teaching and Learning Update – Mel Hadaway

- History of COVID-19 discussed
- Highlighted equity issues in regards to COVID-19 and response to those issues
- Curriculum Advisory Committee and process discussed

ii. Special Education Update – Derek Coryell

- General SPED Overview and services provided
- COVID-19 specific issues discussed

- SPED summer programs and grants highlighted
- Collaboration with Stone Soup discussed
- Kate LaPlaunt provided update on Care funding
- Update on testing and evaluations currently being conducted at the Bridge Building site
- Safety protocols reviewed in conjunction with training being offered by Foundation Health in partnership with the district

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. N/A

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Committee Update and Review of Roberts Rules
 - i. Change from Administrative Committee to School Board Advisory Committee noted
 - ii. Communication between committee members discussed
 - iii. Open Meetings Act is primary guidance followed by Roberts Rules if not addressed
 - iv. Kate LaPlaunt noted that the move to ZOOM meetings has increased public participation and the reach of committee meetings
 - v. Selection of new members and terms discussed
 - [Policy 236.1](#) & [Administrative Regulation 236.1](#)
 - [Policy 236.2](#) & [Administrative Regulation 236.2](#)
 - Review of School Board approval process for policies and administrative regulations
 - Committee requested more involvement in the application process
2. Discussion of Diversity and Equity Training
 - i. Discussed plan for presenting mandatory training to the School Board
 - ii. Motion made Alyssa Quintyne to formally draft a statement to the School Board. Bea Felter seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
 - Kate LaPlaunt requested to include a recommendation of what key pieces should be mandatory and explain what the minimum requirements should be
 - Ellen Weiser recommended adding that it should be more than resources that are read but should include group dialog with leadership
 - a. Well facilitated online forums can be successful
 - Bea Felter recommended adding testimony requesting Decolonization Training
 - a. Native Movement
 - b. First Alaskans
 - c. NCBI – Expansion and further utilization
 - d. Group Book Clubs or Movie recommendations
 - Jennifer Luke requested that it be mandatory for all employees to take the training
 - Alyssa Quintyne requested focus on local first in addition to the above
 - a. Safe Space – UAF
 - b. Access Alaska
 - c. CPS Training
 - d. LGBTQ – Five local organizations
 - e. Fairbanks Native Association
 - Methanie Ongtooguk added that there needs to be a plan in place to mitigated any backlash from mandatory training requirements and recommends that committee members be required to take the training as well

3. Discussion on Inequities Observed, Experienced or Reported During the School Closure
 - i. What should be considered this year to address these issues?
 - ii. Alyssa Quintyne thanked Derek Coryell for getting face shields and clear masks to facilitate communication with special populations
 - iii. Bea Felter requested that community members reach out if they are having issues or problems and noted that the district has been doing a great job responding to COVID-19 compared to other districts in the country

F. INFORMATION

1. Upcoming Board Meetings
2. Upcoming District Communications
3. Fairbanks Coalition Builders, Open Circles, August 27, 2020
4. Review of Calendar

G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Kate LaPlaunt noted that Fairbanks Coalition Builders and Open Circles was an Opportunity to co-sponsor and support to create a venue for community
 - i. Bea Felter requested invites to the Diversity Committee the week of the events and possible opportunity for guest panelist

H. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Bea Felter. Malcolm McEwen seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.