

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2021

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order [Delayed start due to technical issues]**

Chrya Sanderson called the meeting to order at 5:50 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:

Deanna Blackburn

Caroline Brown

Janelle Chapin

Erin Janoso

Malcolm McEwen

Flora Roddy

Chrya Sanderson

Bennett Wong

Administrative support present:

Heather Christian

Allison Baldock

Kate LaPlaunt

Other:

Rodney Gaskins

Karen Melin

Members Not in Attendance:

Sine Anahita

Marissa Anderson

Allison Carr

Taryn Hughes - Excused

Mae Marsh - Excused

Clarice Mingo

**6. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to adopt agenda moved by Flora Roddy. Malcolm McEwen seconded the motion.

**7. Approval of the Minutes**

Members reviewed the October 21, 2021 meeting minutes. Flora Roddy made a motion to approve the minutes. Caroline Brown seconded the motion.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

**C. REPORTS**

**1. Welcome New Members / Committee Procedures – Chrya Sanderson**

i. Group Agreement Discussed

ii. Verbal roll call completed acknowledging that committee members present will adhere to the agreement and abide by Diversity Committee Group Agreements. Verbal agreement received from present Diversity Committee members: Chrya Sanderson, Bennett Wong, Flora Roddy,

Malcolm McEwen, Caroline Brown, Deanna Blackburn, Janelle Chapin,  
Erin Janoso

2. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Training Update – Rodney Gaskins
  - i. Training update provided for school site locations
  - ii. Adapting training to provide three (3) - one (1) hour trainings
  - iii. Continue open circle community meetings
  - iv. Kate LaPlaunt – How have trainings been adjusted to each audience?
    - Look at needs and culture of the school
  - v. Malcolm McEwen – Report(s) discussed
    - Departments are committed to addressing report topics and continuing to make progress
    - Communication and awareness of DEI initiatives discussed
    - New superintendent DEI training discussed
    - Update on reports requested
      - a. Phase II report available via School Board Meeting August 18, 2020: [DEI Phase II Report](#)

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

1. Student and Staff with Disabilities – Caroline Brown
  - a. Resolution discussed
  - b. Designate month for awareness of disabilities
  - c. Next steps discussed
2. District Form Review – Erin Janoso
  - a. Discussed work to be done to make forms more inclusive
  - b. Next steps moving forward
    - i. Meeting with Jo Malbert Narvaez - Nanook Diversity and Action Center discussed
      1. Federal form requirement challenges noted
  - c. Budget ramifications noted
  - d. Process and procedure for updating forms discussed

#### **A. NEW BUSINESS**

1. FNSBSD Budget – [Presentation from School Board Meeting November 16, 2021](#)
2. FNSBSD Facility Utilization – Karen Melin
  - i. Western Demographics [school efficiency report](#) discussed
  - ii. Task force has been formed and is focusing on this issue
  - iii. Report will be presented at the [December 6, 2021 Board Work Session](#)
  - iv. Opportunity to engage and participate in the process
    - December 7, 2021 School Board Meeting
    - January 18, 2021 School Board Meeting
  - v. February 1<sup>st</sup> vote
  - vi. History and school demographics discussed
  - vii. Chrya Sanderson - Once buildings have been identified, can they be utilized for something else?
    - Property not utilized by the District will revert back to the Fairbanks North Star Borough
  - viii. Erin Janoso – When would closure take place?
    - Fall 2022
  - ix. Malcolm McEwen – What happens to the staff?
    - Negotiated Agreement contract language discussed
  - x. Caroline Brown – Are there particular ways this committee can engage in this work?
    - Give feedback once report comes back
  - xi. Granular information – making an informed decision
    - What services are in that building, where they are going and associated costs

## **B. INFORMATION**

1. [Link to resolutions on District website](#)
2. Dene Atlas Resource
  - i. <https://sites.google.com/a/alaska.edu/denemapped/home?authuser=0>

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

1. Malcolm McEwen – Thanks to Rodney and presenters
  - i. Requested information about how Phase II report is being implemented
  - ii. Requested a copy of the [FNA and School District mediation agreement of 1987](#)
2. Bennett Wong
  - i. Noted need for focus on the impact to marginalized groups while developing the budget and transition planning
  - ii. Noted students who bring up issues with race and other marginalized students need to be protected
  - iii. Requested changing the Diversity Committee's name to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
  - iv. Curious about educator who was let go along with a video from a person of color noted
  - v. Questions raised regarding DEI training and the report of discrimination
3. Flora Roddy
  - i. Bright Futures Training Session update – National Summit on School Safety
  - ii. College Fair held where over two-hundred (200) students throughout Alaska attended
  - iii. Noted incident with the tutor along with a recording being reviewed
4. Chrya Sanderson – [Clarksville Elementary School Video](#)
  - i. [June Nelson Award scholarship](#)

## **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Chrya Sanderson adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm. Motion to adjourn was made by Flora Roddy and seconded by Caroline Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Notes submitted by Heather Christian, human resources executive assistant & diversity committee administrative support.