

Minutes

Inclusivity Advisory Committee

Wednesday March 9, 2022

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Meeting Location: ZOOM

Opening: Mindfulness Breathing Exercise

The committee engaged in a short breathing activity.

Power Hour Feedback

Director of Student Services Shana Cutaia shared feedback from the February Pittsford Parent Power Hour. Around 17 community members attended to hear from the panel around updates on Equity goals specific to student voice. Feedback surveys were sent with a variety of responses, including appreciation for the event. Additionally, participants listed some topics they would like to engage in for future events (some included curriculum, social and emotional learning, mental health and social media).

The next Pittsford Parent Power Hour will be Monday, April 4, 2022, in which the theme of "Student Voice" will be on display. In addition, students from the Superintendent Student Advisory Committee (SSAC) will share what was learned at Nazareth College's 11th Annual Global Citizenship Conference.

Superintendent Student Advisory Committee

Coordinator of Equity & Inclusivity Vincent French shared with the committee the news that members of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee (SSAC) were invited to Nazareth College to participate in the 11th Annual Global Citizenship Conference. The theme of this year's conference will be "Resilience & Patience." Students will participate in the discussion and share with students from other schools in the area. In addition, students will encounter and engage with people from different backgrounds and learn how to use social media to advocate for peace and respectful tolerance from this conference.

Urban-Suburban Updates

***Busing Timeline**

Vincent French and Shana Cutaia shared with the committee a timeline highlighting the work done in response to RCSD cutting transportation to students within the Urban-Suburban program this year. Since July 2021, PCSD (including PTSA) has been seeking to work with Urban-Suburban and the Rochester Regional Transit Service (RTS) to provide adequate transportation for PCSD students being bussed in from the city. The RCSD, while legally obligated to transport students residing in the City of Rochester to Pittsford, had refused to meet that obligation despite several attempts by PCSD to meet with PCSD Administration. The collective efforts resulted in an RTS bus stop being purchased in November 2021 and re-installed at Mendon High School. In addition, a crossing guard was hired and appointed to assist students as they crossed at the corner of Monroe Avenue and Sutherland St. The installation of this bus stop at Mendon HS allowed students from Barker Road Middle School and Pittsford Mendon High School to participate in after school programs/activities.

The share out led to a discussion in which ideas were generated as "next steps" to create a more sustainable transportation plan for next year.

***Ridership Survey Responses**

Vincent French shared with the committee that despite the bus stop being installed at Mendon High School, ridership by Middle Schoolers has been low. Therefore, Vincent French sent out a survey to the families of PCSD students in the Urban-Suburban Program to identify why ridership had been down. Most of the feedback received spoke to parents "not feeling safe/comfortable" with their child(ren) riding an RTS bus or being dropped off at the Regional Transit Center located on St. Paul Street in downtown Rochester.

Cultural & Religious Dates

Director of Student Services Shana Cutaia shared the listing of the Cultural & Religious Dates observed by PCSD. Emphasis was placed on "Red Dates," which are brought to IAC annually for feedback. "Red Dates" signify dates where no other events can be planned on the District calendar. However, school may still be in session on these dates. The IAC recommended adding Diwali to the list of red dates for next school year. This feedback will be brought forward for consideration when creating the District calendar.