

CAC DEI COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 3, 2023

In Attendance

Lolly Bentch, Jonathan Casey, Vanessa Cilento, Christina Garber, Betsy Gayner, Jessica Henderson Regan, Deborah Lawrence, Adrian Murray, David Pettegrew, Autumn Reely, Emily Rudy, Teresa Smith, Tanisha Young

By Zoom: Laurie Kennedy, CM

Absent: Teresa Smith, Dan Serfass

Welcome

Adrian Murray called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm and welcomed everyone. A group photo was taken of the committee members prior to the start of the meeting.

He recognized that May is the month of Mental Health Awareness, Asian Pacific Heritage and Better Speech and Hearing.

Debbie read the FERPA statement.

Approval of Agenda

Adrian asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes

Adrian asked if there were any changes to the meeting minutes. Hearing none, the April meeting minutes were approved.

Introduction of new CAC for DEI member

Adrian welcomed and thanked Vanessa Cilento for joining our committee. Vanessa has 3 children in the district, one in each building next year, and is looking forward to working with us on our initiatives.

Support for New Families to the District

Adrian reviewed the Lions Connection program framework. It will include two parts: the welcome packet that will be given to new families registering that includes resources and contacts for services and activities and the second part is the Lions Connection Ambassador Program. This part of the program will pair families (Family A) that are in need of assistance in navigating the school system and community with families (Family B) that can offer assistance in those areas.

Discussion about families that struggle with online communication. Autumn stated new students must register online. If families are unable, they will offer assistance so they would extend that assistance to having new families fill out our survey form, if they choose to participate.

In reviewing of survey questions, we ask for language needs of Family A. We might want to note, if available by that question. We may not have resources for all languages. We should add "other" after religion question so families can add other things such as autism. For family B, we should add a question asking them to commit to at least 6 months to a year.

Are their families within the community that don't have students in the district that might be willing to assist as a Family B? Advertising our program in the CH Borough newsletter might bring in community members willing to assist. We might find some bilingual families willing to assist too.

Autumn reported there are 12-15 different languages spoken within our district. Currently the district has access to Language line for translation services. She recently attended a PA Student Services meeting where they were shown a new translation device that has access to 140 languages. Other districts have it and like it. Autumn is hoping to pilot the program in CH.

Our committee will need to form a subcommittee to be the contacts for this program to assist with matching families, answering questions, and for monitoring the program.

Discussion about having a get together for Family B people to review program and answer questions. It was mentioned that maybe a FB page for those families could be helpful so they can support each other with information.

Next steps are to finalize the surveys that will be sent out on Blackboard alert to all families (Family A) and given to new families registering in the district (Family B). Once these are finalized, the program can begin.

Motion made

Debbie made a motion that was approved to change the order of the agenda due to time constraint issues.

Districtwide Data and Metrics

David reviewed the data he collected from the Future Ready PA Index about the changing demographic characteristics within the CHSD. This data is represented as a percentage versus actual number of students. Autumn stated that is due to the large size of some schools. Autumn will send CEDAR data to David, which is the special education report. The purpose of analyzing this data is to visualize and bring awareness to the changing characteristics of students within our district.

CAC for DEI Web Presence

David reviewed handouts of an enhanced web presence of our committee on the district website. The school district is in the process of revamping their website. Discussion about adding links to information such as the Lions Connection Program, Tabletop gaming, calendar as well as links to informational articles that relate to our initiatives. Parent permission is needed for photos of children, so we could use photos that the district already has. Once finalized, it will be taken to the CEC for their review and approval.

Addressing Bullying

Adrian inquired about the Leader In Me (LIM) program and how it might address bullying and if it was possible to see the information. Autumn stated there are components and lessons within the LIM program on bullying. Core 1 training will take place next year that will address all different components of leadership, community and cultural of school.

Discussion about current bullying policy which is on the district website, under school board link, under board policies. There is a set protocol for principals to address bullying issues, including cyber

bullying. The consequences are linked to the situation. Autumn will check and see how she might be able to share the LIM specifics on bullying.

Tabletop Gaming to Support Neurodiverse Students

Adrian discussed the need to recruit people to be trained to run this tabletop gaming program. Autumn has sent information to the MS and HS teachers. Adrian has reached out to the library for volunteers. There are 2, 8-hour days of training that are required.

Students Use of Electronic Devices and Social Media

Autumn reported that the leadership team met and discussed brining in a speaker next school year for a presentation to parents one evening. They will finalize the district calendar for next school year on May 10th in regards to mandated trainings and professional development and then a date can be selected. Autumn has researched potential speakers and will have some recommendations.

Discussion about organizing other small, information events for parents in regards to device usage, social media dangers, etc. Other civic groups in the area have done some of these programs so we could contact them for information and assistance. Jessica will work with Christina on this initiative.

Christina shared that Baltimore and some other cities are suing some social media companies in regard to the harm they have done to children. Utah and Arizona recently passed laws with more restrictions on minors being able to access social media.

"The Social Dilemma" is a documentary on Netflix that several on the committee says is a great resource.

School Lunch Options

Autumn stated she has a meeting with the Director of the Cafeteria and Business manager on May 25th.

Comments, Announcements, and Any Other Business

We will discuss the turning over of our committee at our August meeting.

Adjournment

To contact the CAC for DEI please email us at CAC4DEI@camphillsd.k12.pa.us

Adrian adjourned the meeting at 7:28pm

Our next meeting is June 7th at 6:00 pm