

Equity Task Force Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2018
A.L. Stanback Middle School Media Center

Present: Jean Bolduc, Kiley Brown, Teresa Bunner, Charlene Campbell, Sherita Cobb, Patricia Coleman, Bryant Colson, Jocelyn Glazier, Intisar Hamidullah, Jason Johnson, Victoria Mattison, Elvira Mebane, Todd Wirt, Michele Woodson.

AGENDA

Welcome - Co-chairs Sherita Cobb and Kay Singer and Superintendent Todd Wirt welcomed those present.

Review of News Article - Ms. Cobb asked committee members to review and discuss the recently released WRAL news report and disciplinary data list as redacted of student incidents recorded at schools, reviewing and discussing through a lens of "I think, I see, I wonder". Members discussed where we go from here with regard to disciplinary data collection, analysis, and reporting. Discussion included, but was not limited to: incidents revolving around the presidential election and/or the confederate flag; desire for students to talk about political events and to vote; personal incidents; lack of consistency in data detail; incidents surrounding policies; attitudes of students; parental involvement/thoughts/help/support in the home; how are staff addressing/not addressing incidents; additional training needed for a tiered approach in handling discipline and consequences.

Superintendent Wirt provided background on the purpose of and how the document came to be noting information of this type and detail is not kept in public schools. Dr. Wirt responded to questions asked about the sharing of the document with the public, possible ways to code incidents to group in categories, incidents not included, impact of the presidential election on the number and nature of incidents, training for proper and thorough reporting of incidents.

Committee members listed thoughts on chart paper related to collection of data on these type incidents, thoughts to include: what data to collect, when to collect, how to collect, when to share.

Policy Work – Co-chair Kay Singer reported a Writing Committee has been formed to facilitate the work of the full committee in drafting a policy to be presented to the Board of Education. Writing Committee members include Sherita Cobb, Phyllis Porte-Ascott, Jean Bolduc, Emily Elstad, and Kay Singer.

Equity Task Force committee members continued work on policy review to Revision 2 on 2 sections: Board Commitment; Preamble. Small groups reported out on work on the Preamble. Suggestions presented will be reviewed by the Writing Committee and brought back to the full Equity Task Force Committee for further discussion.

Dr. Singer distributed a sheet titled *Organization of Policies* generated from a review of all policies that have been reviewed and a compilation of *Additional statements taken from policies discussed* dated 8/20/18.

Wrap-up - Information was shared regarding 2 upcoming events:

October 2 – Public School Forum of N.C. *Color of Education: An Evening with Nikole Hannah-Jones*

6pm – Location: Penn Pavilion – West Campus, Duke University – Admission \$25

October 15 – N.C. Council of Churches *The Color of Public Education: Laws That Divide Us, Hopes That Unite Us*

4-9pm – Location: Epworth United Methodist Church, Durham – Admission Free

The meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by: Patricia Coleman