

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1, 2012

SUMMARY

Members Present:

Barbara Beasley-Williamson	Jessica Abby Herthel	Felipe Pinzon
Harve Brosten	Shevrin Jones	Ernestine Price
Michael De Gruccio	Thomas Lauder	Tammy Reed
Alfred Delgado	Esther Mizell	Nancy Rogan
Roland Foulkes	Daljit Pannu	Andrea Schenck-McKinnon

Members Absent:

Andy Ansola	Marguerite Luster	Carlos Verney
Julian Gazzano	Laura Munoz	Suzanne Yach
Bari Goldberg	Franco Ripple	

District Staff: Kathrine Francis, Executive Director, Student Support Services & ESE

Parliamentarian: Patricia McDougale

Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention Staff: Michaelle Pope, Director; Terri Jones; Carolyn Salters; Marion M. Williams

Guests: Heather Brinkworth; Chris Fertig; Mary Fertig; Latrinsha Greaves; Darlene Lidondici; Catherine Kim Owens; James Sparks

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Foulkes called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Committee adopted the Agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

February 2, 2012 Summary Minutes were approved as distributed.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Foulkes welcomed new members **Jessica Herthel** and **Felipe Pinzon** to the Committee. He congratulated **Ms. Schenck-McKinnon** who has been appointed to The White House Advisory Commission to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. **Mr. Foulkes** reviewed comparison statistics regarding HIV/AIDS and said public services announcements will be aired on and around June 27th, National HIV testing day. **Mr. Foulkes** said there is a great lack in budgeted funds for technology in the District. He asked members to get the word out regarding businesses dedicating a portion of their companies tax revenue to classroom technology. He asked members to submit their completed 2012 Goals, Issues, Agenda Item forms to staff, if they have not done so already.

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Brosten encouraged Diversity Committee members to attend school site visits. He said site visits are illuminating, rewarding and key to the Committee's work. The remaining site visit dates are: Wednesday, May 2, 2012 and Wednesday, May 16, 2012.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Pope welcomed the new Diversity Committee members, the visiting previous Diversity Committee members, as well as the guests present. She said the District is drafting guidelines regarding the development and process of resolutions. The resolutions previously voted on by the Committee are currently on-hold. **Ms. Pope** provided the Committee with the 2011-2012 CCC Indicator Status 2nd Quarter Update.

Mr. Foulkes said the Parliamentarian, **Ms. McDougle** recommended the Committee move past her item on the agenda and to allow ample time for the Citizens Concerned about our Children presentation.

Citizens Concerned About Our Children (CCC) Presentation

Mr. Foulkes welcomed **Chris Fertig, Esq., Mary Fertig,** and **Darlene Lidondici, Esq.** The Committee was shown a Powerpoint presentation regarding the history of the Citizens Concerned About Our Children lawsuit, the subsequent CCC Settlement Agreement, the formation of the Diversity Committee and the ongoing lack of equity between Eastern and Western schools. The current CCC presentation highlighted the disparities at Stranahan High School. **Ms. Fertig** said the site visits are the "heart" of what is Committee is tasked to do. "The CCC Settlement put in the hands of the Diversity Committee a great power, a great responsibility and the authority conveyed upon the Committee by the CCC Settlement Agreement to monitor equal educational access for all students." Discussion followed.

Motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Price "That the Diversity Committee request a copy of the data of monies that has been allocated for upcoming projects in the county, and show what all the monies are allocated for. Receive the material at the next Diversity Committee meeting. Receive the 5-Year Capital Plan that has already been printed." Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ms. Price, seconded by Ms. Mizell "That old and new business agenda items are moved to next month's agenda." Motion passed 13-1.

Mr. Foulkes asked members to review the Peace Poetry/Essays and submit their three top choices to staff by Monday, March 19, 2012 for final selection at the Chair, Vice-Chair meeting.

Ms. Price asked, "Does the appointing Board member dictate what their Diversity Committee appointees can and can't say?"

Mr. Foulkes said "No." He believes members are supposed to provide diverse viewpoints and opinions on issues. **Mr. Fertig** said the intent of the Settlement Agreement was to enable members of the community to express their own heartfelt views as to what they were seeing in the schools. The Committee is to point out inequities of the system and determine if the School Board is allocating its resources in an equitable manner. **Ms. Lidondici** said since the members represent different districts in the county, an overall view comes into play.

Mr. Foulkes said it is the task of all Diversity Committee members to review the CCC Settlement Agreement Status Report 2010-2011, find the gaps, and bring the recommendations to the Response Report Subcommittee. The Response Report Subcommittee will compile the Diversity Committee Annual Report which is scheduled to be presented at the April 24, 2012 Board Workshop. **Mr. Foulkes** said he has requested that the CCC attorneys give their CCC presentation to the **School Board, Mr. Runcie** and **Mr. Carland**, General Council at the April 24th Board Workshop and that the Diversity Committee Annual Report be brought forward to

the Board at a later date in May. With consensus, **Mr. Foulkes** will draft a letter requesting the additions and changes to the Board Workshop calendar.

Mr. Foulkes, with consensus, will send a letter of thanks and possibly a certificate of thanks to past Diversity Committee members **Mr. Sparks** and **Ms. Owens** for their dedicated work on the Committee.

Meeting adjourned 9:04 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the March 1, 2012 Diversity Committee meeting. If any Committee member, or other interested party, would like more detailed information as to the contents of this summary, contact the Diversity, Cultural Outreach & Prevention Department at 754-321-2090.