

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building  
June 3, 2010  
SUMMARY

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order, at 6:35 p.m. by **Roland Foulkes**, Chair, with a quorum.

**Members Present:**

Andy Ansola	Julian Gazzano	Coral D. Pusey
Dr. Veda Bailey	Patrick Jabouin	Graham Rabinowitsch
Barbara Beasley-Williamson	Jeanne Jusevic	Michael E. Rajner
Harve Brosten	Rosita Kenigsberg	Nancy Rogan
Mariah Brown	Raphael Lopez	Suzanne Yach
Randy A. Fleischer	Marguerite K. Luster	Alyce V. Zahniser
Roland A. Foulkes	Catherine Owens	
	Ernestine Price	

**Members Absent:**

Shevrin Jones

**Diversity & Cultural Outreach Staff:**

Michaëlle Pope, Director; Terri Jones; Nancy Weintraub; Marjon M. Williams

**District Staff:**

Dr. Katherine Blasik, Associate Superintendent, Research Development & Assessment; Jack Ciminera, Database Researcher III, Research Services

**Guests:** Clementees Foulkes; Thomas Monnay; James Sparks

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Committee adopted the Revised Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Committee approved the minutes of May 6, 2010, as amended:

- Page 3, under the BLANCHE ELY HIGH SCHOOL subsection, add: *Ms. Luster said the Site Visitation Team upon entering the cafeteria kitchen, observed water coming out of a leaking faucet although a hose was attached to it. She reported that a cafeteria worker had suffered a slip and fall, two weeks prior, as a result of water that had leaked onto the floor.*
- Page 5, LETTER #2, include the following statement: *Ms. Price did make the Committee aware that two teachers were removed from Blanche Ely High for bullying and harassment.*
- Page 7, the second paragraph under ADVANCED PLACEMENT & HONORS subsection, amend the second sentence to read: **Mr. Rabinowitsch** said, "AP and Honors students do take final exams and that the IB, AP, and Honors programs are all high rigor courses."
- Page 7, **Mr. Rajner** said last paragraph under HIRING PRACTICES subsection, amend the second sentence to read: *He said that, the media has reported mostly...*

The Committee observed a moment of silence for **Michael Garretson**, Deputy Superintendent, Facilities & Construction Management, who passed away June 3, 2010, due to complications of heart surgery.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT, Roland Foulkes**

**Mr. Foulkes** welcomed **Michaëlle Valbrun-Pope**, the new Director of the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department.

**Ms. Pope** said, "I am really happy to be here, because I believe in the Department and in your work as a Committee." **Ms. Pope** informed the Committee that she is of Haitian descent and grew up in New York City. She began her career as a teacher in elementary education. Later she moved on to become Curriculum Facilitator, Assistant Principal, Principal and then Area Director for the Broward County School District. During her time as an elementary school teacher, she came up with two main concepts she felt encompassed how children and adults should treat each other, "Be nice and be fair." **Ms. Pope** stated that the poem *We Pray For Children*, by Ina J. Hughes (See Attachment #1), has had a prominent place in her office because it helps her to stay focused on the task at hand, the children. She said, "I know that all of you are here, as part of this Committee, because you are committed to children." She then read the poem because it "speaks" to her and she feels that children should always come first. **Ms. Pope** asked that the Committee keep this in the forefront as they perform the tasks they have been charged to do.

**Mr. Foulkes** informed the Diversity Committee that **Ms. Pope** is the artist responsible for the large map of the African Continent, the eagle (school mascot), and several other paintings at Dillard Elementary. She drew these paintings while teaching there a few years ago. **Mr. Foulkes** recommends that **Ms. Pope** sign her name to the drawings, because he feels it is very important for the student body to know the person responsible for such great art. **Ms. Pope** received a welcome card signed by each Diversity Committee member.

**Mr. Foulkes** informed the Committee that his **Chair's** Report to the Broward County Public School Board, for May 8, 2010, included motions from the May 6, 2010 Diversity Committee meeting and a motion from the Diversity Committee Executive Leadership Team Subcommittee meeting that was held on May 17, 2010. (See Attachment #2)

#### BOYD ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL - UPDATE:

**Mr. Foulkes** reported that the school hired a former Middle School Principal as the new Principal of Boyd Anderson High. This would be his first year as a High School Principal. He stated that the community is concerned about the process used in selecting this gentleman. **Mr. Foulkes** informed the Committee about his meeting with the Lauderdale Lakes Educational Advisory Board to discuss this matter, along with several other issues.

#### BLANCHE ELY HIGH SCHOOL – UPDATE:

Staff distributed copies of two separate articles: *School Officials, Clergy To Meet Over Holy Water Incident* (See Attachment #3) and *Holy Water Meeting Set For Friday* (See Attachment #4), regarding the March 11<sup>th</sup> incident at Blanche Ely High.

**Mr. Foulkes** provided a copy of the email update he received from **Jacquelyn B. Haywood**, North Area Director, regarding the status of Building #2, a 58 year-old structure which houses (1) a weight room, (2) a computer room, and (3) an automotive garage. After the site visit Pilot Test to Blanche Ely High on April 20, 2010, **Mr. Foulkes** took immediate action in requesting the removal of asbestos and

petro-chemicals after the site visit team discovered its presence within the building. The Committee was extremely concerned about the health and safety risk this posed to students and teachers. (See Attachment #5)

**Mr. Foulkes** urged members who have yet to complete the Broward County School Board security clearance process, to do so as soon as possible. Diversity Committee members who wish to participate during school site visits are required to present the ID clearance badge prior to accessing school premises.

**Mr. Foulkes** informed the Committee that he filed a formal complaint against **Mr. Fleischer** as a result of an incident that occurred during a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Staff Member meeting. He said he was advised that, "Diversity Committee members have no rights" under Anti-Bullying Policy 5.9. **Mr. Fleischer** indicated that he was not aware of a formal complaint and nor did he receive a copy of any documentation in that regard. **Mr. Foulkes** said, "Presently, there are no Broward County School Board policies that allow volunteers to have rights." He suggested the Committee think about this lack of rights and to keep it in mind for future discussions. **Mr. Foulkes** said he intentionally submitted his seven-page complaint to **Mr. Fleischer's** appointing School Board Member, **Jennifer Gottlieb**, so that she could use her discretion in determining his continuation as a Diversity Committee member. The Anti-Bullying Policy protects students, teachers, and certain volunteers within the school system. **Mr. Foulkes**, at the suggestion of his appointing School Board Member, **Benjamin J. Williams**, has agreed to meet with **Mr. Fleischer** and **Dr. Wilhelmena Mack**, in the presence of **Dr. Blasik**, to discuss their conflicts. **Mr. Foulkes** said he wants the meeting to take place as soon as possible because negative dynamics impacts the entire Committee. **Ms. Owens** suggested **Mr. Foulkes** and **Mr. Fleischer** meet outside Diversity Committee meetings, in order to resolve any issues they have. She said it infringes upon the rights of the Committee as volunteers. **Mr. Foulkes** agreed.

**Mr. Foulkes** informed the Committee that the complaint **Dr. Bailey** filed against **Ms. Jusevic** and **Ms. Weintraub** has been resolved.

**Mr. Foulkes** sought consensus as to the availability of Committee Members and determined that no Diversity Committee meetings would take place in the month of July.

#### **DISTRICT UPDATES, Jack Ciminera**

In response to **Mr. Foulkes's** request for a presentation on the Requirements For Volunteer Appointees Serving on District Committees, **Mr. Ciminera** clarified that anyone free of a criminal record could serve on a District Committee. He said he would forward members a Volunteer Services information packet containing information that pertains specifically to Diversity Committee members, as informational sections regarding school volunteers would not apply to them. He encouraged members to visit the Broward County Public Schools Volunteer Services Web site ([www.getinvolvedineducation.com/volunteers](http://www.getinvolvedineducation.com/volunteers)) to read the Volunteer Guidelines. **Mr. Rajner** said his concern is whether the Volunteer Guidelines applies to individuals serving under Policy 1.7. **Dr. Blasik** responded that she could not provide an answer; however, staff will request a response from the appropriate individual and forward the information to the Diversity Committee.

**Ms. Price** and **Ms. Luster** reminded staff that they do not have access to the Web. **Dr. Blasik** ensured the Committee that a hard copy of the Volunteer Services information packet would be included in the August 5, 2010 mailing. **Mr. Ciminera** added that, those who opted to not receive paper mailings, would receive the information electronically. Staff will send another request asking members who prefer electronic information only, to identify themselves.

**Mr. Foulkes** thanked **Dr. Blasik** and **Jack Ciminera** for taking over the management of the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department, since December 2009 in the absence **Dr. Elizabeth L. Watts**, former Director. The Committee gave them a round of applause.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on Internal Procedures, Policies, and By-Laws: Randy Fleischer, Chair**

Members requested that reports be circulated in a timely manner to allow an opportunity for the report to be read in its entirety, so that they can competently participate in any discussion. After discussion, the Committee gave consensus for the By-laws revisions to be brought back at the August 5, 2010 Diversity Committee General Meeting for a vote.

**Mr. Fleischer** called a Point of Order, because he is concerned about votes being restricted before an item has actually been presented for discussion.

**MOTION by Mr. Lopez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Rajner: "That reports by any committee or reports received by the Committee be discussed at regular committee meetings and not read to the members at committee meetings."**

**TABLED 11-4**

**Mr. Fleischer** reported that the Ad Hoc Committee discussed By-laws revisions (See Attachment #6) at its June 1, 2010 meeting. He said there was a unanimous vote for all changes passed.

Members made the following recommendations:

- Article 1, last line after Diversity Committee, add: *"Herein after referred to as Committee"*.
- Reference Policy 1.5 under Article III, instead of writing detailed language.
- Article III, amend the first sentence to read: *The Diversity Committee shall be representative of the ethnic/racial diversity of the schools' district's student populations.*

**Ms. Price** requested a copy of the Student Council By-laws so that she may cross check the contents making sure it aligns with the Diversity Committee By-laws.

#### **Diversity Committee Executive Leadership Team: Roland A. Foulkes, Chair**

No Report.

#### **Five-Year Capital Plan, Athletics & Extra-Curricular Activities, Facilities, and Assignment & Reassignment: Graham Rabinowitsch, Chair**

No Report.

#### **Media Centers, Textbooks, and Technology: Randy Fleischer, Chair**

No Report.

#### **International Baccalaureate, Standards of Service, Advanced Placement & Honors, and Student Discipline & Suspension: Jeanne Jusevic, Chair**

No Report.

#### **Diversity Issues, Hiring Practices, and District Policies: Michael J. Rajner, Chair**

No Report.

**Site Visitation: Ms. Owens and Ms. Price, Co-Chairs**

No Report.

(Motion to adjourn passed).

**Meeting adjourned 8:26 p.m.**

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 5, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.,  
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

**DRAFT**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the June 3, 2010 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 Department at 754-321-2090.

## ATTACHMENT #1

### *We Pray For Children*

“We pray for children who put chocolate fingers everywhere, who like to be tickled, who stomp in puddles and ruin their new pants, who sneak Popsicles before supper, who erase holes in math workbooks, who can never find their shoes.

And we pray for children who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire, who can't bound down the street in a pair of new sneakers, who never count the potatoes, who are born in places where we wouldn't be caught dead, who never go to the circus, who live in an X-rated world.

We pray for children who brings us sticky kisses and fistful of dandelions, who sleep with the dog and bury gold fish, who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money, who cover themselves in Ban-Aids and sing off-key, who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink, and who slurp their soup.


And we pray for those who never get dessert, who have no safe blanket to drag around behind them, who watch their parents watch them die, who can't find any bread to steal, who don't have rooms to clean, whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser, and whose monsters are real.

We pray for children who spend all their allowance before Tuesday, who throw tantrums in a grocery store and pick at their food, who like ghost stories, who shove dirty clothes under the bed and never raise out the tub, who gets visits from the tooth fairy, who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool, who squirm in church and scream in the phone, whose tears we sometimes laugh at, and whose smile can make us cry.

And we pray for those whose nightmares come in the daytime, who will eat anything, who have never seen a dentist, who aren't spoiled by anybody, who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep, who live and move but have no being.

We pray for children who want to be carried and for those who must be carried, for those who never give up, for those we never give up on, and for those who didn't get a second chance, for those we smother, and for those who would grab the hand of anybody kind enough to offer it.

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department**  
**DIVERSITY COMMITTEE**  
**Chair's Report / Presented by Roland A. Foulkes, Chair**  
**Thursday, June 3, 2010**

1. Transitions
  - a. Congratulations / Welcome – Ms. Michaelle “Mickey” Valbrun- Pope, Director, Diversity and Cultural Outreach Department
  - b. Congratulations / Thank You / Farewell / Best Wishes - Maryse Nelson – Secretary/ Administrative Assistant (Clerk Specialist III) / Effective June 30, 2010.
2. Chair's Report to School Board – May 8, 2010
  - a. Motions
    - (1) May 6, 2010 Minutes: Page 4  
“To send subcommittee report form to select committee on Internal Policy, bylaws & Procedures for review.” [Fleischer / Jusevic: Passed 17-1]
    - (2) May 6, 2010 Minutes: Page 7  
“In all cases where Advanced Placement and Honors are referenced that the International Baccalaureate “I.B. be included” [Owens / Rabinowitsch: Passed 19-0]
    - (3) May 6, 2010 Minutes: Page 8  
“Recommend Diversity Committee request a presentation from Adult Education “CTACE” on the Community Schools, provide information on the demographics, note with emphasis on Literacy – ESOL, A.B.E., G.E.D., ESOL.” [Yach / Jusevich: Passed 19-0]
    - (4) May 17, 2010 Executive Leadership Team Motion  
“That we recommend the School Board approve / adopt Superintendent Notter’s recommendation of Ms. Michaelle “Mickey” Valbrun Pope as the next Director of the Diversity and Cultural Outreach Department. And, that in all future searches include a member of the Diversity Committee --- as a representative of the school board --- on the interview panel.” [Jusevic / Price: Passed 6 – 0]
3. Boyd Anderson High School: Update
  - a. New Principal selected [First Year in High School / Formerly a Middle School Principal]
  - b. Met with Lauderdale Lakes Educational Advisory Board about Principal Hiring Process
4. Blanche Ely High School: Updates
  - a. Building # 2 – See attached second update from Area Director Haywood
  - b. “Holy Water” Incident – See attached recent articles – *South Florida Times*
    - A Diversity Matter – Jim Notter / Ben Williams to host meeting with ministers on Friday, June 4, 2010 @ 1:30 p.m., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kathleen C. Wright Building.
5. Appointment: Diversity Committee Chair Roland A. Foulkes to City of Fort Lauderdale Educational Advisory Board – By Commissioner Bruce Roberts [Notified on Wednesday, June 2, 2010]
6. Status of Diversity Committee Member I.D.’s (?)
7. Written Complaints Received (Not including Oral / Verbal Complaints Received)
  - a. From Foulkes (Re: Fleischer)
    - See attached Bullying Complaint Form
  - b. From Bailey (Re: Jusevic / Weintraub)
    - Unprofessional Behavior
8. Proposed: July 1, 2010 Meeting? [Focus: Complaints & Bylaws & Other Motions ]
9. August 5, 2010 Monthly Meeting: Superintendent’s Annual CCC Update 2009-2010 (Invite Guests)

# SCHOOL OFFICIALS, CLERGY TO MEET OVER HOLY WATER INCIDENT

Written by ELGIN JONES May 28, 2010



POMPANO BEACH — Broward school officials have agreed to meet with church leaders to discuss issues surrounding the alleged sprinkling of holy water onto an atheist teacher.

"We do not have a date as of yet, but I do know Superintendent [Jim] Notter and [School Board Member] Mr. Williams have received calls from some pastors about having the meeting," said Ruth L. Lutz, executive assistant to Broward County School Board Member Ben Williams. "Yes, they will both attend the meeting when the date is finalized."

The agreement to meet comes on the heels of a Monday, May 23 press conference that local pastors held at the Worldwide Christian Center in Pompano Beach.



There, they expressed concern over the removal of Blanche Ely High School teachers Djuna Robinson and Leslie Rainer from their classrooms following accusations that the teachers sprayed holy water onto an atheist colleague, Schandra Rodriguez. If the allegations are substantiated, the 20-year veterans could be fired.

The pastors are also seeking equal time with students of Rodriguez, who allegedly discussed anti-Christian topics with her students during class.

"There is no telling how much harm this teacher has done to the Bible-believing children," said the Rev. Mathes Guice, an associate minister at Pembroke Park-based Koinonia Worship Center. "We are asking for pastors to be given equal time with her students to refute her teachings."

Organizers say they hope to schedule the meeting, which will be open to the public, for some time next week.

Appearing on websites and newscasts around the world, the holy water controversy has garnered international attention. It has also attracted local Tea Party activists.

"I think it's an outrage," said Danita Kilcullen, founder of the South Florida Tea Party group, who attended the press conference. "From what I heard, the one teacher is supposedly indoctrinating the children with atheism, and she still has a job."

Kilcullen said her group is not officially involved, but is ready if the situation warrants.

"I told one of the teachers that if we are asked, we are ready, but I haven't sent out any notices or emails," Kilcullen said. "I founded this group, and we are about the Constitution and what's right, and this isn't right."

Holy water is sterile water or oil that Christians use in prayer rituals. After the water is sanctified by a



priest, preacher or congregational leader, it is deemed to have been blessed with divine powers. It is used to build faith, heal, and bring about blessings.

"The students say there was no holy water or anything else sprinkled, and none of the teachers should have been removed, and this has to be corrected," said the Rev. O'Neal Dozier, pastor of the Worldwide Christian Center, who is organizing the meeting with Notter and Williams. "There was a discussion, no violence, so the only controversy is what they have created by removing the teachers."

During the press conference, Dozier described the teachers' plight as "humiliating" and "mistreatment." He also said the school's principal, Karlton O. Johnson, "grossly mishandled" the incident and improperly singled out the two Christian teachers.

Johnson did not return repeated calls or respond to several emails seeking comment.

Nonetheless, organizers of the upcoming meeting are demanding that the Christian teachers be returned to the classroom, and they have asked Notter to bring Johnson to the meeting.

"He has to be there. It started with him," Guice said. "At the very least, we are calling for the principal to undergo training on what is allowed in the classroom. By his not taking action against the atheist teachings, it appears the school district is supporting it and that may be a violation of state law."

Robinson and Rainer were removed from their classrooms and escorted off school grounds on April 23.

According to Johnson, the reassignment was in response to a complaint filed by Rodriguez. Rodriguez could not be reached for comment and did not respond to interview requests sent to the school email address.

Rodriguez's complaint alleges that she was sprinkled with holy water on March 11. Students who witnessed the incident say Rodriguez was having a discussion with them about her atheist views, her disbelief in God and the Bible. One student reportedly said, "Sounds like somebody needs some holy water."

Robinson then retrieved and displayed a small bottle of liquid from the doorway, but did not spray it, according to the Christian teachers' attorney, Johnny L. McCray Jr.

"It's not a fabrication, it's a lie," McCray said during the May 23 press conference, when asked if he believes the sprinkling accusation may have been fabricated.

The three women later ate lunch together as they regularly do, and – according to McCray – his clients were surprised more than a month later when they received notice stating that a complaint had been filed.

Further complicating the matter, all three teachers are members of the Broward Teacher's Union (BTU). Robinson is the union shop steward at Ely. Rodriguez's husband, also a teacher, is a BTU shop steward at Western High School.

"The BTU questions why the two teachers and members including one who is a BTU steward were removed from the school when the allegations do not involve a threat of or physical harm to an employee or student," Broward Teacher's Union spokesman John Ristow said in an email to the *South Florida Times*. "This goes against the general past practice of the district and its investigations."

District spokesperson Eddie Arnold said he could not discuss the pending case, but would clarify the policy and criteria for an employee to be reassigned during an investigation.

*EJones@SFLTimes.com*

*Photo by Elgin Jones/SFT Staff. The Rev. O'Neal Dozier, forefront, with teachers Djuna Robinson, left, and Leslie Rainer, right, at press conference. Below is teacher Schandra Rodriguez.*

## HOLY WATER MEETING SET FOR FRIDAY

Written by ELGIN JONES Wednesday, June 2, 2010



FORT LAUDERDALE – Broward School District officials have scheduled a meeting this week with church leaders about an alleged sprinkling of holy water at a high school.

“We’re meeting in Jim Notter’s office on Friday,” said Mathes Guice, an associate minister at Hallandale Beach-based Koinonia Worship Center.

Notter, the Broward school superintendent, was in a board meeting on Wednesday morning when a reporter called for his response. A secretary in his office said the meeting was scheduled by School Board Member Ben Williams.



“Ben Williams and Jim Notter will both be there,” Guice said. “We have also asked for the principal, [Karlton O. Johnson] to be present.”

The meeting stems from a March 11 incident at Blanche Ely High School in Pompano Beach, where two teachers who profess the Christian faith are accused of sprinkling holy water onto another teacher who is an avowed atheist.

That teacher, Schandra Rodriguez, filed a complaint alleging that Djuna Robinson and Leslie Rainer sprinkled her with holy water, according to the women’s attorney, Johnny L. McCray Jr.

The alleged sprinkling happened as Rodriguez was in her classroom, talking about the Jan. 12 earthquake that devastated Haiti with students. During the discussion, Rodriguez talked about the Bible and the fact that she does not believe in God.

Through their attorney, Rainer and Robinson have denied the sprinkling allegations. They insist that Robinson stood in the doorway of Rodriguez’s classroom, and merely held up a bottle of perfume. The gesture followed one student’s remark that, “Somebody needs some holy water,” in response to Rodriguez’s comments about religion.

On April 23, Robinson and Rainer were reassigned and escorted off school grounds. They were instructed not to return to the school without permission, pending the outcome of an ongoing investigation.

Some members of the clergy expressed concern over the Christian teachers’ removal based on the unsubstantiated accusation, and the fact that no action was taken against Rodriguez’s discussions about atheism in the classroom.



"The church has taken an interest and a stand on this issue," said the Rev. O'Neal Dozier, pastor of the Worldwide Christian Center, which is near the school where the alleged sprinkling occurred.

Dozier said he will attend the meeting with school officials.

"We need to know why they have been removed from the classroom, and who requested it," he said.

The meeting is scheduled to take place in Notter's office on the tenth floor of the district's downtown Fort Lauderdale headquarters at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 4.

"We want the teachers reinstated. That's the first issue. We also want them to rectify the atheist doctrine that has been taught to these children," Guice said. "How they do that is somewhat up to them, but this entire situation has been mishandled."

Guice said the meeting is open to anyone, and that he is not sure exactly how many pastors will attend.

*Pictured above is Broward School Superintendent Jim Notter, below is Rev. Mathes Guice and Rev. O'Neal Dozier, bottom.*

**IF YOU GO:**

**WHO:** Broward School District Officials and clergy

**WHAT:** Meeting about alleged holy water incident

**WHEN:** Friday, June 4, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** K. C. Wright Building, Broward County Public Schools headquarters, Superintendent Jim Notter's Office, 600 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale

**CONTACT:** 754-321-2600





---

**Blanche Ely HS Update - #2**

---

**FROM: Jacquelyn B. Haywood <jacquelyn.haywood@browardschools.com>****Thu, May 27, 2010 at  
1:20 PM****To: rolandafoulkes@gmail.com****Cc: "Joanne W. Harrison" <joanne.harrison@browardschools.com>, "Sharon K. Airaghi" <sharon.airaghi@browardschools.com>, Katherine Blasik <kblasik@browardschools.com>, "JoAnn T. DiLallo" <joann.dilallo@browardschools.com>, "Carol A. Hadvab" <carol.hadvab@browardschools.com>, Jackie Primeau <jackie.primeau@browardschools.com>**

**It is my desire to share all updates and information that I receive in regards to the status of conditions as they relate to Building 2 at Blanche Ely High School. On April 30, 2010, the County inspected the entire school. At that time they directed the District to clean up and dispose of oil soaked materials from the shop area. This task was completed by EQ of Florida on May 17, 2010.**

**In lieu of removal, the hydraulic tank has been pumped out and drained and the lift has been locked. The task of removing the lift cannot be completed by Physical Plant Operations. There is currently no potential for leaks. Neither the County nor the State has indicated any need to test for contamination of the soil at this time.**

**On May 6, 2010, Jerry Graziose sent out a request asking for information relating to the change in use for the rooms in building 2. Both the State and County have inquired as to the intentions for the future use of the room. The school administration, in conjunction with the Area Superintendent's Office, will need to determine the building's future use. Their decision will be able reported to the appropriate staff and a determination of next steps will be made.**

**On May 10, 2010, a project manager from Facilities and Construction Management Environmental Division conducted an inspection of asbestos-containing materials. It was determined that there are materials within building 2 that contain asbestos (asbestos rolled roofing, three rooms with asbestos ceiling plaster and four rooms with VAT flooring). As determined by the Environmental Protection Agency, intact and undisturbed asbestos materials generally do not pose a health risk. They can become hazardous if damaged and fibers are released. The potential for an asbestos-containing material to release fibers is based on its condition. All of the asbestos-containing materials identified in building 2 were determined to be in "good" condition and pose no immediate health risk.**

**On May 18, 2010, the State (Department of Environmental Protection) inspected the entire school. The State requested proof of proper disposal of hazardous waste which is on file in the office at Risk Management and has been forwarded to the State.**

**These actions have been documented and reports of inspections and findings are available if necessary.**

**I will continue to call you or reach you by email as updates continue to come forth. As always, thank you for your interest in our schools.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jacquelyn B. Haywood, North Area Director  
(754)321-3411 FAX(754) 321-3489  
[jacquelyn.haywood@browardschools.com](mailto:jacquelyn.haywood@browardschools.com)**

Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. Your email address and the contents of any email sent to the sender of this communication will be released in response to any request for public records, except as excluded by F.S. 119.071, 1002.22(3)(d) [student records], or any other law of the State of Florida. If you do not want your email address to be released as part of any public records request, do not send email to this address, rather contact this office by phone or in writing. The School Board of Broward County, Florida expressly prohibits bullying, including cyberbullying, by or towards any student or employee. See Policy 5.9: Anti-Bullying for additional information.

## ATTACHMENT #6

### Select Committee on Internal Diversity Committee Policy, Bylaws, Procedures and Practices

#### Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2010

#### 4:32 CALL TO ORDER

Present: Randy Fleischer, Shevron Jones, Jeanne Jusevic, Jack Ciminera, Nancy Weintraub

#### 4:35 DIVERSITY COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

Recommendations by Randy A. Fleischer – May 20, 2010

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the Committee shall be The School Board of Broward County Diversity Committee, and shall be known as the Diversity Committee. Authority for establishment of the Diversity Committee shall be the BCSB Policy 1.5 and 1.7 in accordance with Florida Statute F.S. 1001.41.

#### ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The primary objectives/functions of the Diversity Committee shall be to:

- A. Make recommendations through the Superintendent to the School Board regarding policies to promote equity, parity, diversity and cultural outreach.
- B. Work to establish the Broward County School System as a model to promote and encourage respect for ethnic and cultural diversity within its student population, and staff and communities within Broward County.
- C. Ensure that equity, parity and diversity are is being promoted by monitoring the terms of the CCC Agreement and making recommendations through the Superintendent to the School Board. The responsibilities and duties of the Diversity Committee will be in accordance with Florida Statutes and Broward County School Board Policy.

#### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

The Diversity Committee shall be representative of the ethnic/racial diversity of the school's/district's student population. The Diversity Committee shall consist of ~~34~~ 30 members appointed by the School Board. Each School Board member will appoint 3 members to the Committee. ~~have 3 appointees of his/her choice.~~ The Student Advisor to the School Board or his/her a designee shall serve on the Committee, representing the student's ~~his/her~~ geographical area. The Student Advisor shall appoint ~~3~~ 2 student Committee members representing the remaining ~~three~~ two geographical areas. The Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department Director shall oversee the membership and notify the School Board member of the status of their representation.

Section 1. Voting: All members of the Committee shall have one vote each. A voting member shall must be present to vote.

Section 2. Terms of membership: Members are appointed in accordance with School Board Policy 1.7. Members of the Diversity Committee shall attend meetings on a regular basis. A member will be removed from membership after (3) consecutive absences or (4) absences in the appointed year (December to November), from properly noticed meetings.

Each member must participate in at least one subcommittee.

Removal will be conducted and vacancies will be filled in accordance with School Board policy 1.7.

Section 3. The term of the member appointment shall adhere to School Board Policy 1.7 and shall expire on the day of the next School Board Organizational Meeting. A member may resign by providing written notification to the Chair and the appointing School Board member.

Section 4. Any member may be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire membership of the committee at any regular or special meeting after ten (10) days notice to the committee that a motion for the purpose of removal of said member will be considered at the regular or special meeting. The removal may be for causes including, but not limited to, the following: malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, and conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude.

Section 4.5 The Director of the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department or designee will work with the Diversity Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Subcommittee Chairs to facilitate preparing the agenda and conducting the business of the Diversity Committee.

Section 5. 6. Each new member shall receive training on the Diversity Committee's history, mission, purpose, and related School Board Policy statement(s) from appropriate district staff.

Section 6. 7. Each member shall sign off on a School Board approved statement, which validates that the member accepts and will abide by proper professional conduct and actively supports the mission, purpose, and related School Board Policy statements. Also, The statement will acknowledge that the member has received training on Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised), School Board Policiesy 1.5 & 1.7, and the Florida Sunshine Laws.

Section 7. 8. The staff member assigned to the Diversity Committee shall be trained in parliamentary procedures and serve as parliamentarian. The parliamentarian shall be responsible for advising the Chair on matters of parliamentary procedure according to Robert Rules of Order (Newly Revised). The parliamentarian shall be a person recognized as having expertise.

#### **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

Section 1. Officers of the Committee will consist of a Chair and Vice-Chair.

Section 2. All terms of office shall be for 1 year. Officers shall be eligible for no more than two full consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 2. 3. The officers shall be elected annually at the January meeting. A slate of candidates for Chair and Vice-Chair will be presented by the Nominating Committee with additional nominations solicited from the floor at the January meeting. ~~Voting shall be conducted following Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised). Each member, including student members, present at the January meeting may vote for Chair and Vice Chair. Unless the election is uncontested, the Chair shall be elected by signed paper ballot. A majority of the votes is necessary for election (50% plus one). If no nominee for Chair receives a majority of the votes of the members present, a run-off shall be held between the candidates with the two highest vote totals. Multiple run-offs will be held if there are more than two candidates receiving the two highest vote totals. After a Chair is elected, a vote for Vice-Chair shall be held immediately thereafter, following the same voting procedures.~~

~~Section 3. 4. Installation of officers will be held following elections at the January meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair shall take office immediately upon election.~~

Section 4. 5. If for any reason the Chair is unable to complete the term of office, the currently elected Vice-Chair will replace the Chair. A new election will then be held at the next regular meeting for Vice-Chair. If the Vice-Chair is unable to complete the term, a new election will be held at the next regular meeting.

Section 5. 6. Nominating Committee:

A nominating committee will present a slate of officers for consideration by the Diversity Committee. The Nominating Committee, to be seated in December, will be an odd-number committee composed of volunteers from the membership. ~~This does not preclude nominations from the floor. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the January meeting prior to the election of Chair and Vice Chair.~~

#### **ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

A. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Diversity Committee and will be an ex-officio member of all subcommittees. Chair or a designee will represent the Diversity Committee at all District committees. The Chair or Vice-Chair shall not be an employee of the School District of Broward County. Chair shall have the discretion of creating subcommittees. Said subcommittee's members shall elect its chair. The Chair will prepare the agenda and shall distribute it at least 7 days in advance of meetings. A copy of the agenda shall be available to the public if requested. The Chair shall present a monthly report to the School Board.

B. The Vice-Chair shall preside at all meetings in the Chair's substitute for the Chair during his/her absence, and shall perform such other duties from time to time as may be assigned by the Chair.

#### **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS**

The Diversity Committee shall meet regularly. The schedule of the meetings for the year shall be published at the December meeting for the year. Notification of meeting date and place shall be included in the agenda.

Section 1. Guests: All meetings are open to the public and adhere to the Florida Sunshine Law; however, nonmembers/guests may not vote on issues at the Diversity Committee.

Section 2. Attendance: Attendance of all members will be kept for all meetings by the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department and will be available at the office.

Section 3. Minutes of all Committee meetings will be recorded and summarized by the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department staff. Approved minutes will be kept at the Diversity & Cultural Outreach Department and posted for public view. Minutes will reflect a summary of meeting including all motions, maker of the motions, seconding, and any decision reached by consensus. All requests for information shall be germane to the business of the Diversity Committee and/or sub-committee and may require Committee approval if deemed necessary.

Section 4. Special meetings: may be called by the Chair or by majority (50% +1) of the membership.

Section 5: Meeting scheduled: all meeting times and places shall be appropriately announced according to Sunshine Law. Members must be advised of change in the established date, time, or location. All meetings require notification.

Section 6. Diversity Committee meetings will be scheduled with times and locations convenient for all stakeholders.

Section 7. A quorum: constitutes one third the majority of the current membership of the Diversity Committee. At least three members must be present to constitute quorum at any meeting. (50% + 1). Student membership will not affect quorum.

Section 8. Meetings shall follow the approved agenda.

Section 9. Voting will be by voice vote unless any member requests a show of hands. Votes will become part of the minutes. Alternate or a proxy is not permitted (per Florida Sunshine Law).

#### ARTICLE VII. SUB-COMMITTEES

- A. The *Chair* shall create such sub committees as may be required in School Board Policy 1.5 to promote the objectives of the Committee.
- B. All members must serve on at least one subcommittee. Sub-Committee members shall attend sub-committee meetings on a regular basis. A member will be removed from subcommittee membership after (3) consecutive absences or (4) absences in the appointed year (December to November), from properly noticed subcommittee meetings

#### ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

- A. By-laws must conform to State of Florida Statutes and School Board Policyies.
- B. Amendments to the by-laws will be approved by a majority of the Diversity Committee members. By-laws shall be reviewed as deemed necessary as required by School Board action or legislation.



C. All by-laws and subsequent change(s) shall require School Board approval prior to being implemented by the Diversity Committee.

Approved as amended at the 6/06/06 Regular School Board meeting

MOTION TO APPROVE BYLAWS AS AMENDED JUNE 1, 2010 – Shevron Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanne Jusevic – passed unanimously.

5:15 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion for Reconsideration- passes unanimously

Motion is made to reconsider the title of the award and to discuss whether it should be limited to students, as teachers, administrators or parents might also be considered for a Diversity Leadership Award.

*3 "To adopt the Nomination Form as amended for the Broward "Diversity (Student) Inclusion and Educational Equity Leader-in-Action" Award."*

*4. "That the summary submitted by [on behalf of] the student nominee for the 'Broward Diversity, Inclusion and Educational Equity Leaders-in-Action Award" be limited to a 2000-word maximum."*

*5. "To restrict the ['Broward Diversity, Inclusion and Educational ]Equity Leaders-in-Action Award to Broward County Public School students."*

*Motion By Jeanne Jusevic – Diversity Leadership Award shall be given annually in May to the student, staff or parent in the Broward Public School District who exemplifies the spirit of diversity, equity and parity.*

*Second by Shevron Jones*

5:25 Next Steps

Procedures and Practices – Telephonic appearance, subcommittee attendance; Leadership committee membership; Diversity Leadership award procedures/form; subcommittee report form;

Guiding Principles

5:36 Adjourn