

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

February 4, 2016

Minutes

Members Present

Harve Brosten	Charlie King
Rebecca Dahl	Esther Mizell
Susan Edwards	Major Diljit Pannu
Gaspar Garcia	Ernestine Price
Lillie Harris	Guithele Ruiz-Nicolas
Reverend Luc Harrigan	Bryan Wilson
Naima Khan-Ghany	

Members Absent

Andrea Gundersen
Beverly Perkins
Michael Sirbola

Student Support Initiatives Staff: Michaelle Pope; Terri Jones; Latricia Lauture

Diversity, Prevention & Intervention Staff: Carolyn Salters; Marion Williams

District Staff: Zuzel Rodriguez, Curriculum Supervisor, Gifted and Talented Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 p.m. A quorum was present.

ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 3, 2015 and the January 7, 2016 Minutes were approved as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Committee discussed the following motion as put forth by **Ms. Harris** at the January 7, 2016 meeting: **“I move to make a resolution that an official Broward County School’s generated form be included in the appeal process as the first level of the appeal process flowchart and that this form is tracked and noted in the teacher’s file as a complaint.”** **Mr. Wilson** added a friendly amendment **“that it be with that form and also available online.”**

Mr. Wilson noted that Parliamentarian, **Pat McDougle** relayed an Email Memorandum regarding the motion. She noted, “Is the Motion Out of Order”? “It is my opinion that the same motion referenced above, and as written, is out of order because the area of concern is not related to the committee functions outlined for the Diversity Committee-see BCSB Policy 1.5.” **Mr. Wilson** shared that he believes the opinion is because the form is related to teachers as opposed to students. He said it is his opinion that the motion does fall under the Committee’s functions under Policy 1.5, Number 4, Letter M, Number 6 “implementation of plans to bring equity in the administration of student discipline.” **Ms. Pope** said, “Documents that are placed in a teacher’s personnel file is based on the Broward Teacher’s Union Contract.” She said, “There are mechanisms in place to track complaints both at the schools and at the Chief School Performance & Accountability Office. **Ms. Harris** noted that her main concern is about a form being available and that there is tracking put in place. **Mr. Wilson** said, “I like that complaints may be submitted in a variety of different ways and I believe a form, as a sample and option, would be helpful for many families.” Discussion continued on where the form would go, tracking and possibly combining with other forms.

The motion was revised as follows: **Motion by Ms. Harris, seconded by Gaspar Garcia: “I move that a formalized, approved Broward County School’s generated form be included in the appeal process at the first level of the appeal process flowchart and available online and that this form is tracked.”**

Motion passed 12-1.

MATH, SCIENCE & GIFTED PRESENTATION

Mr. Wilson shared that the Committee conducted a site visit at Hollywood Central Elementary. It was noted that out of over 800 students only 15 students were identified as gifted.

Zuzel Rodriguez, Curriculum Supervisor for the Gifted and Talented Department, gave a presentation on various aspects of the Gifted Program, including but not limited to: the screening process; gifted verses high-achievers; referrals for screening; and instruments for evaluation. She discussed the consent for evaluation; determination of eligibility; the evaluation process; State eligibility requirements; challenges with the identification process and encouraging parents to permit their child to be screened. **Ms. Rodriguez** said, “All 2nd graders are universally screened in the spring.” A question and answer session followed. **Ms. Rodriguez** invited the Committee to attend the upcoming New Gifted Eligibility Rule Webinar to be held on February 12, 2016. She discussed the training that gifted teachers are required to have to teach gifted students and the various methods of outreach to relay the benefits available for gifted students. She welcomed any suggestions and/or ideas on reaching more parents. **Mr. Garcia** shared that he would like a subcommittee to explore the topic of how to relay the benefits and true value of screening for gifted, to reach more parents. **Ms. Edwards** suggested a video presentation, possibly sharing samples of the screening instruments and presentations to neighborhood community groups. **Mr. Wilson** requested a list of schools that do not have any identified gifted students. **Ms. Rodriguez** said she will invite the Committee to the *Talented and Gifted Symposium* which is held annually in September.

SITE VISITATION

Ms. Dahl thanked members who have attended the first three site visits. She encouraged members to make every attempt to attend the remaining site visits.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Wilson encouraged members to attend the February 8th Chair/Vice-Chair meeting. He said, “Indicator revision has been on the agenda. He would like to know if the Committee is legally allowed to, or to what degree, revise the indicators and if District staff can attend a general meeting to discuss what our leeway is in revising the Indicators.” **Mr. Wilson** reviewed upcoming subcommittee dates.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the February 4, 2016, Diversity Committee meeting. For more information a Public Records Request may be submitted by contacting Public Relations & Government Affairs Department, SBBC, at 754-321-2300.