



MASON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Diversity Committee
Wednesday, September 9, 2020
5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Present: Mike Prelesnik, Angie Vandecar, Dr. Karlin Tichenor, Ted Berryhill, Liz Evans, Janet Alleman

Kevin Jones, , Lynn Goedert, AmySue Hopkins, Jennifer Sauser, Mary Hilker, Courtney Vincent, Abby Strachan, Kathy Hicks, Kimberly Clark, Rachel Foster, Laura Lange, Summer Issawi, , Lance Delbridge, Kim Dickinson, Anne Gill

Not available: Ron Drzewicki, Rick Brooks, Marlon Brown, Mark Sundermann, Jennifer Harrington, Albiona Beka, Alexander Charlot, Desiree Waters, Jennifer Schlosser

Public Comment

No public comment

Subcommittee Reports

Community Education Resources & Communications - Chairperson: Ted Berryhill

Ted reported on the meeting with Dr. Tichenor to develop three main goals using a logic model.

Resources for Teachers - Chairperson: Jennifer Sauser

Jen shared that the subcommittee is comprised of teachers, ancillary staff, and parents. They did not meet this month.

- *DIG into Diversity Update* – Jen discussed with the committee shifting the initial meeting on the current read to October due to professional responsibilities. The members agreed unanimously.

District Procedures - Chairperson: Lynn Goedert

Lynn reported that the subcommittee met in August to begin work using the logic model form.

Resources for Students - Chairperson: Mary Hilker has agreed to chair this subcommittee. She will meet with Kristin in order to move forward with existing work. The team will reach out to social work/counseling staff to join the committee.

Curriculum Awareness/Resources Inventory - Chairperson: AmySue Hopkins

AmySue reported that the subcommittee met in August. AmySue, Lynn, and Mary attended a conference recommended by Dr. Tichenor. Work on the bias document was reviewed in preparation for sharing with staff.

Dr. Karlin J. Tichenor - Presentation

Karlin appreciates the state we are currently in due to the pandemic and that the proposed plan is a dynamic tool – not a fixed position. Dr. Tichenor shared the proposed meeting schedule for implementation, as time allows. The committee reviewed and discussed the frequency of meetings. The committee, recognizing the impact of the pandemic, sees the leveling out of availability for the schedule by mid-October. The communication team meetings will work toward the goal of quarterly communications developed by high school students. Additional communications, by the superintendent, are also in development.

A cross comparison of subcommittee goals and recommendations of goals by Karlin is planned. Angie shared the need for targeted and actionable goals for moving forward. The committee discussed adding additional student representation from the high school and middle school. Ted recommended adding students when the meeting content is actionable. Building principals will work to identify students that would bring varied voices, experiences, and opinions to the group. The committee discussed creating a smaller group for elementary students to meet separately from the full committee and facilitated by a social worker. Alignment across grade spans is recommended by Dr. Tichenor. Build in questions for students with behavior problems to determine the reasons they are disengaged or feel unsupported. He also supported the work of counselors/social workers as facilitators for these student groups.

Professional Development Ideas/Plans

Angie received and will share out to staff a MEMSPA release with webinars on Diversity and Equity Training Opportunities

Next Steps

Future meeting dates

- Wednesday, October 14 at 5:30 PM
- Wednesday, November 11 at 5:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 9 at 5:30 PM

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.