

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Diversity Committee Meeting

Quarterly Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2019

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

David Rucker called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM in the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

**2. Roll Call / Introductions**

Members present:

Elizabeth Holm  
Flora Roddy  
Carrie Bragonier  
Marilyn Russell  
Michael Angaiak  
Jazzanne Gordon-Fretwell  
Maxine Dibert

Administrative support present:

David Rucker  
Shayna Lunt

Members Not in Attendance:

Rose O'Hara-Jolley  
Sharon McConnell (excused)  
Ashley Strauch (excused)  
Katie Dabney (excused)  
Alyssa Quintyne (excused)  
Kenya Edwards

Guest:

Kate LaPlaunt

**B. REPORTS**

**1. Guest Speaker:**

- i. Michael Campbell was not able to make it tonight.

**2. NCBI Update:**

- i. Kate LaPlaunt and Michael Angaiak talking about the 2-day long exposure workshop for NCBI. It was a very successful event. The goal is to have the leadership team each take on a group of 6-8 team members to train them to spread these values and framework throughout the District.
- ii. 2 leaders per group and people in the group can help move the trainings along. The next step is a train-the-trainer workshop in September 2019. This will allow us to grow the understanding of NCBI through the district with those individuals who are excited to learn more and share this great framework.
- iii. There were 2 days of training. The first day had a better cross-section of community members, teachers, support staff, etc. The second day was more administrator heavy, which definitely had an impact on what was shared, how much was shared and what can come from it.
- iv. Flora Roddy shared that it was physically draining because of the raw emotion that was in the room.
- v. Maxine Dibert was on the second day and was nervous about the number of admins in the room. However, each group had concerns that were in

common with one another. It was sharing and expressing our emotions and experiences in the moment and in creating links across bridges.

**3. Equity Policy:**

- i. Waiting for it to go before the board. Once it has a date for review, we will be sending it out to the committee and then we will send out the finalized date.

**4. Dispute Resolution Conference-Carrie Bragonier & Marilyn Russell**

- i. NCBI connects to this because of the need for connection. Carrie Bragonier said that only 1% of college courses required internal reflection. It is that reflection that allows empathy and internal growth. There is a movement against using “tolerance in diversity” to “celebrating diversity.”
- ii. Marilyn Russell shared how a simple pencil reminded the speaker of the world’s natural resources. Compassion, empathy... Poverty is a new kind of slavery.

**5. Resolution Sub-Committee Update:**

- i. Staff and students with disabilities resolution... Elizabeth Holm is on the committee and would like to be contacted to participate in the drafting of the resolution.

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Equity Policy:**

- i. N/A

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Faces of Fairbanks:**

- i. There is concern that there won’t be vetting for students who participate in Faces of Fairbanks. Running stories up the chain of command, for approval,

**2. NAEP:**

- i. National Assessment of Educational Progress: (This is once a year for 4, 8, 12th grades. It is select schools within the district, which then rotates.) Maxine Dibert would like suggestions on how we can support the students that are on the lower end of the scoring peak.
- ii. Kate LaPlaunt spoke of helping students understand the importance of testing. MAP Testing is adjusted to the students.
- iii. Talking Circles could help families understand the importance of testing, and allow for growth and understanding.

**3. Open Committee Discussion:**

- i. North Pole High School Incident: It is still currently under investigation, but Dr. Gaborik will be releasing a statement soon.
- ii. Tanana Middle School: There has been a change in staff, racism, etc. How can the Diversity Committee help with some of these situations that arise, but how can we better help in a school where racism is an issue?
- iii. How can we help heal the students of our District?
- iv. NCBI—can offer the tools, to the students of our District, to overcome these major issues. Many of these issues are messy and emotional, but through NCBI we can be more willing to listen, than to convince.

**E. INFORMATION**

- 1. 4 weeks left of school.

2. School board meeting last Tuesday had very peaceful discourse. There is a place for everyone to find concern. The District is trying to be very mindful of the students involved and their rights and privacy. There is a due process and we have to trust. Our next level of response will be a healing dialogue.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

1. Flora Roddy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.