

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District  
Board Diversity Committee

Thursday, October 9, 2014  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

520 Fifth Avenue  
School District Administrative Center  
Board Room

**AGENDA**

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call / Introductions
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of May 1, 2014 and September 11, 2014 Minutes

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**C. REPORTS**

1. Resolution Honoring Alaska Native and American Indian Heritage Month
2. African American Student Leadership Conference

**D. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Resolution for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History Month

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Terms for Committee Members
2. Goals for 2014-15 School Year

**F. INFORMATION**

1. ANE 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Literacy Challenge
2. International Friendship Day, October 18, 2014
3. Next meeting is: November 13, 2014

**G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2014

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Dorothy Jones at 5:35 p.m. in the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

**2. Roll Call / Introductions**

Members present:

Jo Ann Borges  
Dorothy Jones  
Georgia Sandgren  
Ernest Shipman  
Ava Vent

Administrative support present:

Bett Schaffhauser  
Rebecca Burns

Members absent:

Michael Campbell  
Brian Forrest  
Heidi Haas  
Deirdre Shipman  
Larnetia Skipps  
Beka Zerbst

Guest:

Daphne Gustafson, Johnson O'Malley program,  
Fairbanks Native Association

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Georgia Sandgren made a motion to approve the agenda. Ava Vent seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

Minutes of the April 10, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Ava Vent made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Jo Ann Borges seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Daphne Gustafson thanked the committee for having Paula Ciniero, the itinerant public health nurse, as a speaker. The FNA/JOM program has been working with her and she has been shaping their tutors' training efforts. The training is helping tutors understand how to have and build healthy relationships.

**C. REPORTS**

**1. Resolution Identifying the Military Connected Student**

Bett Schaffhauser explained this is the final draft of the resolution and it is presented for the committee's approval. If it is approved by the committee, we will have one of the co-chairpersons sign and Bett will submit it to the superintendent. Due to the nature of the resolution, this type of resolution calls for an administrative action rather than a Board action. Ava Vent moved to approve the resolution and submit it to the superintendent, Georgia Sandren seconded the motion. All were in favor and passed the motion.

## **D. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Traditional Chiefs Day Resolution:**

Bett Schaffhauser referred committee members to the materials in their packets that we received from Ava Vent. The materials include a copy of the resolution passed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) on March 12, 2014 encouraging TCC regional school districts to honor Traditional Chiefs Day in their yearly school calendar. Bett said that she would draft a resolution for the committee to review and submit in the fall. The day of recognition would be March 16<sup>th</sup> in 2015. Bett suggested that the committee may want to do something similar to what Tanya Mendelowitz contributed for recognition of Elizabeth Peratrovich—that is lesson plans and activities to send out to district teachers along with the resolution. Ava Vent said that TCC is making a video of all the traditional chiefs and their history and they will make it available to the public. She said it has been produced already and is now being publicized. Bett asked if the oral history project at the University has relevant material. Ava said they have 7mm films that are being digitized; films of past leaders and singing songs. Ava said there are a lot of materials that elders and teachers have made at Culture camps in the past that may be open to educators.

### **2. State Custodial Students**

Jo Ann Borges reported that she has contacted the director of the Office of Children's Services (OCS) about changing the district's enrollment form to identify students who are in state custody. The hope is that having these students identified would help teachers to keep kids from being bullied and alert them to potential vulnerabilities experienced by these students. Jo Ann said the director of OCS thought it sounded like a good plan and she will have more information when she hears back from OCS. Bett Schaffhauser expressed concern about there being no way to take that information off the system once it's there. The committee will revisit this issue when more information becomes available.

Addendum: On May 9, 2014, JoAnn Borges received this email message from Coleen Turner, Northern Regional Manager, of the Office of Children's Services, Department of Health and Social Services:  
*JoAnn, Yurii Miller, Sara Alden, and I met and discussed the question about adding information on school enrollment form which identifies a child as being in OCS custody. Thanks for the inquiry. Currently we have a process in place each fall. OCS pulls the list of school age children enrolled in Fairbanks North Star Borough Schools and we provide that list to school principals. In addition we also send letters to schools when children come into OCS custody. Because of these 2 practices we believe the bases are covered re: notification to schools about children in OCS custody.  
Thank you so much for the inquiry. If you should have further questions my contact information is listed below.  
Coleen Turner  
451-2055*

### **3. Recommendation to Board re Historical Trauma Training**

Bett Schaffhauser reported that this recommendation has not been drafted.

## **E. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Annual Report**

Bett Schaffhauser presented a draft of the annual report for review by the committee. Dorothy Jones asked if anyone saw a need for any changes. Georgia Sandgren made a motion to accept the annual report as presented and to submit it to the Board of

Education. Ernest Shipman seconded the motion and it passed without objection. Georgia Sandgren will present the report to the Board at the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**F. INFORMATION**

1. The next meeting is scheduled for **September 11, 2014**.

**G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Bett Schaffhauser said it was a pleasure to work with such a committed, productive, and active committee and that they had accomplished a lot this school year.
- Dorothy Jones gave thanks to all committee members and wished them all a great summer.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Ernest Shipman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Georgia Sandgren seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Diversity Committee

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2014

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Dorothy Jones at 5:30 p.m. in room 341 of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. Since a quorum could not be met, an informational meeting was held.

**2. Roll Call / Introductions**

Members present:

Jo Ann Borges  
Michael Campbell  
Heidi Haas  
Dorothy Jones

Administrative support present:

Bett Schaffhauser  
Rebecca Burns

Members absent:

Georgia Sandgren  
Deirdre Shipman  
Ernest Shipman  
Larnetia Skippis  
Ava Vent  
Beka Zerbst

Guests:

Janet Cobb, Executive Director, Technology,  
FNSBSD  
Daphne Gustafson, Johnson O'Malley Program,  
Fairbanks Native Association  
Patrice Johnson, Military parent  
Tanya Mendelowitz, Teacher, Ryan Middle School

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Since a quorum was not present; the agenda was not approved.

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

Since a quorum was not present; the minutes were not approved.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (23.53)**

Daphne Gustafson announced the first joint JOM/ANE tutor staff meeting which will be an immersion into the Inupiaq culture with presenters to include Willie Hensley, author of Fifty Miles from Tomorrow. The meeting is Friday, October 3, 2014, in the Board room.

**C. REPORTS**

- 1. Meeting Protocols: (27:43)** Bett Schaffhauser explained that meeting minutes will now be recorded and available on the Board's page of the district website. Written minutes will be minimal, but will include action items. Due to budget constraints, sandwiches will no longer be provided. Light snacks and water will be available.
- 2. Attendance Policy and Borough Ordinance on Compulsory Attendance: (32.00)** Bett Schaffhauser discussed the current status, content and purpose of the Borough's attendance ordinance and the approval process.
- 3. Attendance Awareness Month Resolution: (35.50)** The Board of Education put the focus on the attendance issue by passing Resolution 2015-04, Attendance Awareness Month, September 2014, at the September 2, 2014 meeting.

4. **Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month Resolution:** (36:35) This resolution was passed by the Board at the September 2, 2014 meeting.

#### **D. OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Military Affiliated Student Identification Project** (3.25) Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology, gave a presentation about the addition of "Military Connected" options on PowerSchool and corresponding changes to the Student Enrollment Form. Discussion, questions and answers ensued.

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History Month Resolution Draft:** (37:15) Bett Schaffhauser explained the history behind this resolution and asked the committee for input. Discussion ensued. Committee members present agreed they would like the whole committee to weigh in on this topic.
2. **Goals for 2014-15 School Year:** (1:15:56) Bett Schaffhauser stated that the committee did a great job on goals last year and asked that they bring new ideas to the next meeting.

#### **F. INFORMATION** (1:16:35)

1. Hispanic Heritage Events at JP Jones Community Development Center:
  - Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Latinos Unidos del Norte, Hispanic Heritage Gala Scholarship Fundraiser
  - Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Hispanic Heritage Month, Let's Have a Fiesta!, a Multi-Cultural Event
2. African American Student Leadership Conference:
  - Middle School, September 15<sup>th</sup>, Pioneer Park, Civic Center
  - High School, September 16<sup>th</sup>, Pioneer Park, Civic Center
3. Next meeting is: October 9, 2014.

#### **G. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS** (1:17:10)

- Dorothy Jones asked when the committee would elect new officers and recruit new members. She also suggested that Patrice Johnson be appointed to the committee if she is willing to serve.
- Tanya Mendelowitz remarked that she enjoys this meeting. She asked if it would be helpful for her to research what other school districts had in terms of a LGBT resolution. Bett Schaffhauser was asked to provide a copy of the Alaska Association of Student Government's resolution and volunteered to provide information about what other Alaskan school districts are doing in response to that resolution.
- JoAnn Borges requested that Bett Schaffhauser send out a copy of the LGBT resolution written by the students.

#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was concluded at 6:55 p.m.

**FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION 2015-**

**HONORING ALASKA NATIVE AND AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, Alaska Natives were the original inhabitants of the land that now constitutes the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Natives value and respect traditional knowledge and skills as well as classroom education, and

WHEREAS, students of Alaska Native and American Indian heritage comprise more than 15 percent of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District's student body, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native and American Indian parents and guardians are engaged in their students' education; and

WHEREAS, over fifty teachers of Alaska Native and American Indian heritage distinguish themselves as educators in Fairbanks North Star Borough School District classrooms, and

WHEREAS, principals and administrators of Alaska Native and American Indian heritage lead their schools and the district with vision, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Natives and American Indians have served the school board with distinction, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native and American Indian paraprofessional and classified staff support all students' learning, and

WHEREAS, November is the time we traditionally give thanks for the abundance of our blessings, it is an important time to celebrate the historic and current role the voices of Alaska Natives and American Indians have contributed to our nation, state, borough, and district, and

WHEREAS, incorporating Native Ways of Knowing and the Alaska Cultural Standards into the curriculum and teaching the contributions of Native history, culture, society and language in the classroom promotes academic success for Native students and increases the understanding of all students;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District proclaims November 2014 Alaska Native and American Indian Heritage Month and encourages schools and teachers to honor it with performances, readings, guest speakers, displays, lessons, lectures and cultural celebrations throughout the year.

PASSED AND APPROVED:

---

Heidi Haas, President  
Board of Education

ATTEST:

---

Sharon Tuttle  
Secretary to the Board



1 FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

2  
3 RESOLUTION 2015-

4  
5 LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER HISTORY MONTH  
6  
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the month of October has been recognized nationwide since 1994 as Lesbian,  
9 Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) History Month and proclamations commemorating and  
10 honoring the LGBT members of our community have been enacted by United States Presidents,  
11 the U.S. Department of Education, the National Education Association and three of the largest  
12 school districts in the nation; and  
13

14 **WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board to provide an  
15 environment free of discrimination and harassment on the basis of sexual identity and gender  
16 orientation, **and LGBT students are more likely to experience much higher rates of**  
17 **harassment and bullying; and**  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, it is a priority of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District to recognize  
20 respect for the diversity and dignity of all individuals and groups as essential; and  
21

22 **WHEREAS**, LGBT citizens in the Fairbanks North Star Borough have made important and long-  
23 lasting contributions to the quality of life in the Borough; including as district employees serving  
24 in administrative, support, and teaching capacities, and as School Board members serving with  
25 distinction, and;  
26

27 **WHEREAS**, LGBT students are more likely to experience negative educational outcomes due to  
28 much higher rates of reported harassment and bullying, higher absenteeism out of fear for  
29 personal safety, and lack of role models, and  
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the contributions by members of the LGBT community in the Fairbanks North Star  
32 Borough and at the school district often go unrecognized and are not acknowledged, and  
33

34 **WHEREAS**, creating a supportive, accepting environment for LGBT students improves  
35 educational outcomes for all students, so all students can become valued, productive members  
36 of a diverse and changing society; and  
37

38 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the School Board proclaims October 2014 as LGBT  
39 History Month in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, and commends all staff and  
40 students to take the opportunity to learn equality and respect for all.  
41

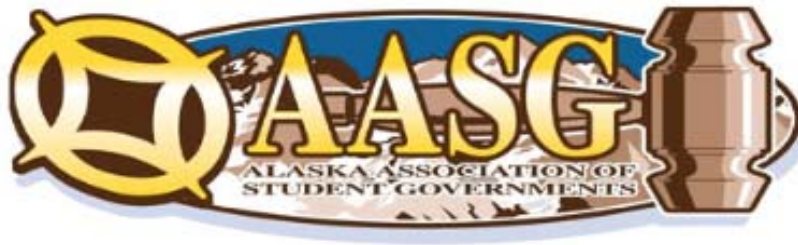
42 PASSED AND APPROVED:  
43  
44

45  
46 \_\_\_\_\_  
47 Heidi Haas, President  
48 Board of Education

49 ATTEST:  
50

51 \_\_\_\_\_  
52 Sharon Tuttle  
53 Executive Assistant to the Board  
54





**Honoring October as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History Month by the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, the State Board of Education and Early Development, and school districts statewide**

Author: Colby Freel

Submitted by: Ben Eielson High School

Be it resolved by the general assembly of the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

**1. Whereas;** The month of October is widely recognized as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) History Month.<sup>1</sup>

**2. Whereas;** The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) recognizes, through board resolution, many minority groups that have experienced prejudice, and honors those groups for their service to our nation, state, and local community, as well as the service of these groups to the FNSBSD.<sup>2,3</sup>

**3. Whereas;** Members of the LGBT community such as Harvey Milk, Harry Hay, Larry Kramer, and countless others have made significant and historical contributions to build today's society.<sup>4</sup>

**4. Whereas;** Individuals who identify as LGBT have served and contributed to the FNSBSD in administrative, support, and teaching capacities.

**5. Whereas;** LGBT individuals have served on the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education with distinction.

**6. Whereas;** Many school districts, including the Broward County School District and the Los Angeles Unified School District, have officially recognized October as LGBT history month.<sup>5</sup>

**7. Whereas;** In today's education system, students encounter issues pertaining to sexual orientation and sexual identity on a daily basis.<sup>6</sup>

**8. Whereas;** The recognition of LGBT History Month would provide opportunities for students to learn about the history of the LGBT community and its civil rights movement.

**9. Whereas;** Recognition of LGBT History month would improve the educational environment, not only for students who identify as LGBT, but for all students by helping turn what was and often is a hostile and negative environment, into an accepting and positive one.

**10. Whereas;** The student leaders of Alaska understand this issue to be of the utmost importance and recognize its direct impact on student's lives and call upon the FNSBSD, the State Board of Education, and school districts across the state of Alaska to do the same and take action to improve the lives of all Alaska students.

**Therefore:** be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Alaska Association of Student Governments that the FNSBSD, through board resolution and any other means, officially recognize the month of October as LGBT History Month.

Be it further resolved that the State Board of Education and Early Development along with school districts statewide recognize the month of October as LGBT History Month.

**Action statement:** this resolution, if adopted by the General Assembly of the Alaska Association of Student Governments will be sent, by the author, to the following people:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, superintendent of schools, FNSBSD

Heidi Haas, Board President, FNSB Board of Education

Board Members, FNSB Board of Education

Board Diversity Committee, FNSBSD

**This resolution, if adopted, will also be presented to the State Board of Education and Early Development by the AASG SBEED representative and will be distributed to school districts across Alaska by the author of this resolution.**

Sources:

1. "About LGBT History Month." *Background*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2014.
2. "Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Resolution 2014 - 03 Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month." *K12northstar.org*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2014.
3. "Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education Resolution 2014 - 7 Honoring Alaska Native and American Indian Heritage Month." *K12northstar.org*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2014
4. Burns, Kate. *Gay Rights Activists*. San Diego, CA: Lucent, 2005. Print.
5. Basu, Moni. "Two School Districts Recognize LGBT Month." *In America RSS*. CNN, 8 Oct. 2012. Web. 15 Mar. 2014.
6. Ojeda, Auriana. *Homosexuality*. San Diego: Greenhaven, 2004. Print.

---

AASG Executive Director

---

AASG President

---

AASG Vice President

**FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board Diversity Committee  
2014-2015**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Appointed By</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Jo Ann Borges	October 2013-15	Member-at-large	Cell 322-0584	Email einnacj91@yahoo.com
Seat is unfilled	October 2015	Lisa Gentry Board Member Seat A		
Michael Campbell	October 2014	John Thies Board Member Seat E	Home 347-6466	Email Michael.p.campbell12.naf@mail.mil
Heidi Haas	October 2015	School Board President Ex-Officio Representative Seat B	Cell 388-1912	Email heidi.haas@k12northstar.org
Dorothy Jones	October 2016	Sue Hull Board Member Seat C	Home 479-4392 Cell 388-3614	Email djones3@alaska.edu
Georgia Sandgren	October 2012-14	Member-at-large	Work 452-2000 ext 11358 Home 978-1737	Email georgia.sandgren@k12northstar.org
Bruce Scott	May 2015	Regional Student Council	Cell 371-8824	Email bruse.scott@hotmail.com
Deirdre Shipman	October 2014	Sean Rice Board Member Seat F	Cell 322-1307	Email raven2424@aol.com
Ernest Shipman	October 2014	Wendy Dominique Board Member Seat G	Work 451-3183 Cell 590-1962	Email eds444@aol.com or ernest.shipman@alaska.gov
Larnetia Skippis	October 2013-15	Member-at-large	Cell 378-6635	Email larnetiaskippis@gmail.com
Ava Vent	October 2016	Allyson Lambert Board Member Seat D	Cell 687-2575 Work 452-8251 x3032	Email ava.vent@tananachiefs.org
Beka Zerbst	October 2012-14	Member-at-large	Home 488-5518	Email bekazerbst@me.com
<b>Administrative Support</b>				
Bett Schaffhauser EEO Director			Work 452-2000 x 11466	Email bett.schaffhauser@k12northstar.org
Rebecca Burns EEO Secretary			Work 452-2000 x 11463	Email rebecca.burns@k12northstar.org

**Alaska Native Education Program Invites ALL K-12 Graders  
to participate in the**

## **4th Annual Literacy Challenge!**



Sydney Huntington, Elizabeth Peratrovich, Eban Hopson, George Attla, Willie Hensley, Katie John, Howard Rock, Ada Blackjack, Sadie Neakok, Mary Sinrock, Chief Peter John, Chief Andrew Isaac, Chief David Salmon, Dr. Ted Mala, Clare Swan, Chief Char



**Students in grades K-12 are challenged to learn about Alaskan Native Leaders. Projects are due Oct. 24, 2014 by 5:00 P.M. @ the A.N.E. Office. There will be 1st through 3rd place winners and Honorary Mentions. Students will win great prizes.**

**K-1st grade: Color a picture or draw an Alaska Native Leader on your own.**

**2nd-3rd grade: Color or create your own picture of an Alaska Native Leader and include a paragraph about that person.**

**4-6th grade: Create an informative poster about an Alaska Native Leader.**

**7-12 grade: Interview an Alaska Native professional that inspires you, and submit the outcome. See interview guidelines for additional information.**

**Deadline: 5:00 P.M. Friday, October 24, 2014 at 520 5th Ave.,  
4th Floor, ANE office**

For information, contact: Alaska Native Education, 452-2000, Ext. 11468.

E-mail: [marlene.flynn@k12northstar.org](mailto:marlene.flynn@k12northstar.org)

