



Community Advisory Committees

Name of Committee: Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: 04, March, 2019

A meeting of the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee convened on March 4, 2019 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Committee Room A at 5050 Yonge Street with Co-Chairs Yolande Davidson & Trustee Chris Moise presiding

Present:	Yolande Davidson (Co-Chair) {Jamaican Canadian Association}, Trustees' Chris Moise (Co-Chair) and David Smith, Sharon Beason {Parent}, Tina Beason {Student}, Blacksmith Ben-Moodie {Police}, Rhonelle Bruder {Education/Guidance}, Julian Campbell {Corrections}, Alexis Dawson {Unison Community Health}, Samantha Peters {Black/African History}, Sophia Ruddock {Parent}		
Staff:	Yvette Blackburn, Rosalie Griffith, Amita Handa, Kevin Sutton, and Jamea Zuberi		
Guests:	Sheila Cary-Meagher, Mohamed Ahmed Phone Participation: Dennis Keshinro and Warren Salmon		
Regrets:	Zanana Akande {Communications/Media}, Chiara Duncan Castro {Community}, Alanna Johnson {Arts}, Anthony Morgan {Legal}, Cherie Mordecai-Steer {Ministry of Community & Social Services}		
ITEM	DISCUSSION		RECOMMENDATION / MOTION
Call to Order / Housekeeping /	Meeting called to order t 7:09 p.m.		

Confirmation of Quorum	<p>Read aloud by Yolande Davidson as housekeeping notes: <i>This is a Community Advisory Committee and as such this is an inclusive space where community voice is heard in order to influence the work of the Board and staff. Membership in this committee includes the members that were appointed at the December 10th, 2018 Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee meeting. Others are welcome to observe and be guests.</i></p> <p><i>If any agenda items take significantly more time than allocated, it may be moved to “Matters Arising” at the end of the agenda, so as to cover the intended agenda.</i></p> <p><i>Voting and Recommendations/Motions are at the purview of the Community Advisory membership committee and all others are intended to be a voice of the community.</i></p>	
Approval of Agenda	<p>Alexis Dawson moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by Rhonelle Bruder. No opposition; Carried</p>	
Approval of the Minutes	<p>Alexis Dawson moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by Rhonelle Bruder. No opposition; Carried</p>	
Declaration of possible conflicts of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yolande Davidson: Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) is a partner with Caring and Safe Schools • 	
Co-Chair Updates	<p>Trustee Chris Moise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 recommendations were presented at the Program and Schools Services Committee (PSSC) from BSACAC. These two recommendations were referred back to staff through Associate Director Manon Gardner as part of the review of Heritage Months. Discussion ensued around the recommendations and what occurred at the PSSC Meeting. • Policy 023 (Parent and Community Involvement) is currently under review. There are areas that are very vague in the policy that need clarification – roles of the Community Advisory Committees, role of the Trustees, etc... The Director 	<p>Alexis Dawson requested that Policy 023 discussion be deferred to the April 1st BSACAC meeting.</p>

	<p>was to speak to this matter at the Committee of the Whole meeting that was scheduled for February 27th, but due to the weather, the meeting was cancelled. Committee of the Whole meeting date has not been set as yet. Further discussion at the next BSACAC meeting.</p>	<p>Seconded by Trustee David Smith; No objections; Carried</p>
Staff Update – Karen Falconer	<p>Karen provided an update on questions that were asked at the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership of the BSACAC – Michelle Munroe was unable to attend the meeting this evening however, the following information was provided by Michelle in response to the questions posed: <p><u>Question:</u> Should members represent an organization/institution alliance etc.?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> According to the Terms of Reference for BSACAC Membership will entail a central advisory body representing a wide range of service institutions and community organizations. Up to ten (10) organizations, institutions and alliances representing the following strategic areas: Education/Guidance, Social Service/CAS, Legal, Corrections, Communication/Media, Systemic/organizational/institutional Change, Police, Community, Arts and Health/Mental Health.</p> <p>It can be interpreted that members should be representing organizations, institutions and alliances across the 10 strategic areas although it is not clear. It would have been clearer if it stated: “Individuals representing organizations from the following strategic areas”.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Can a member whose term has ended (served 2 years as outline in the Terms of Reference be continued?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> The Terms of Reference states “organizations representing the 10 priority areas will serve a 2 year renewable term”. This means that members can sit for 2 years and submit an Expression of Interest if they wish to renew membership or serve another 2 year term. If an Expression of Interest form was not submitted, then the member’s term has ended.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a question if the funds that were spent on Black History month may be tracked and shared with the BSACAC? The funds that are spent by the Board's Heritage Committee is trackable but to get the dollar amount on how much schools have spent on Black History, at present this is not tracked, as the funds are not spent just for a month, it would include everything done throughout the year (i.e. guest speakers, conferences, etc....) • There was a request to provide a report on the Human Rights office and hiring. Remi Warner was hired as the Senior Manager for the Human Rights Office and he has volunteered to attend the April 1st BSACAC meeting if the committee so wishes. Confirmed that Remi be invited to attend the April 1st meeting. • BSACAC Recommendations and Board decisions. Everyone received a copy of all the recommendations that were submitted to the Program and Schools Services Committee from March 6th, 2017 until now with the Board's Decisions. Everyone received 5-pages from the Multi-Years Strategic Plan (pages 29-33) that directly addresses Black Student Achievement and Well-Being. These commitments hold the Board and staff to account. Discussion continued on how would these goals be tracked and measured; how they will be achieved; funding; are there community partners; etc. Associate Director Colleen Russell-Rawlins will be attending the April 1st meeting and will be able to provide further information with regards to the Multi-Years Strategic Plan. • The African Diaspora Youth Conference is coming up in May 2019. Students across the Board will be attending the conference that will be taking place at the University of Windsor. Special thanks to Kurt Lewin for bringing this forward. It is the first year that the Board will have such a large group of students attending across all 4 Learning Centres. Leadership support is needed in order to ensure that a plan is in place when students return so that the learning and opportunity are continued. 	<p>Confirmed that Remi Warner be invited to attend the April 1st BSACAC meeting.</p> <p>Associate Director Colleen Russell-Rawlins will be attending the April 1st meeting and will be able to provide further information re Multi-Year Strategic Plan</p>
ONABSE Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A flyer with information on the upcoming conference was left for anyone wishing to attend (April 12th – 13th, 2019). The 	

	<p>flyer was provided by Warren Salmon and confirmed that this is not a conflict of interest as Warren is not a voting member on BSACAC. In the past, Warren had declared his conflict of interest.</p>	
<p>Caring and Safe Schools Update – Jim Spyropoulos</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim is the Executive Superintendent for Human Rights and Indigenous Education; Caring and Safe Schools falls under this portfolio. • Currently the Caring and Safe Schools Policy 051 is under review. There are a series of steps in revising the policy. Community Advisory Committees Co-Chairs were contacted on January 21st regarding a meeting that would be held for advisory committees to provide feedback to the policy. The meeting is open to members of Advisory Committees who will be representing their specific Advisory Committees. However, guests may also attend. Additionally, the policy is posted on line for anyone wishing to provide feedback in this way. A meeting date of February 27th was to be held but due to the winter storm, the meeting was cancelled. A new date has not been scheduled as yet. A request was made to Jim to invite the following people from outside the Board to be included in the consultation process: A.B.L.E., BISN Bonnie or Stacey Clark, Deputy Minister of Corrections David Mitchell, Justice Michael Pollock, Donald Mcleod, Sharon Mcleod from Ryerson University and Roy McMurtry. A request was made to have a copy of the revised policy provided to the BSACAC committee before it goes to the Board for approval. Jim noted that the consultation period will be extended to ensure that appropriate time is given to those wishing to provide feedback. 	
<p>Africentric School Staffing – Yolande Davidson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recommendation brought forward tonight is from a meeting that was held back in May 2018 and should BSACAC wish to proceed the following recommendation to the Board re staffing at Africentric Schools/Programming will be submitted. There are processes and rules around staffing at schools but there is also a need to provide the black students with the support that will have a broader impact. 	<p>RECOMMENDATION: Yolande Davidson recommended the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee (BSACAC) requests through the</p>

	<p>This is not about staff being black or white, it is about expertise and knowledge of appropriate Africentric education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that it is too late to change the process of staffing for September 2019 however, BSACAC may forward the recommendation as noted that this is “a process to begin discussion” and this would allow BSACAC to make changes, remove and add to the recommendation. BSACAC may wish to invite the union staff to a BSACAC meeting to have a follow-up discussion. 	<p>Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee (FBEC) that the Board approach all stakeholders involved in the staffing process to begin discussions on placing teachers with expertise and interest in the Africentric program in those school programs, both at the elementary and secondary level, and that the Toronto District School Board determine a way to facilitate a teacher-initiated application process for Africentric school programs.</p> <p>Seconded by Alexis Dawson and Sophia Ruddock; No objections; Carried.</p>
TDSB Dress Code Policy & Community Update – Tina Beason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tina provided everyone with an update on The Black Excellence, Toronto Black Youth Conference that she attended on January 19th, 2019 at the Toronto Reference Library. The conference was organized by Rayne Sutherland. Two YouTube videos of Rayne were shown. • Tina attended the Caring and Safe Schools TDSB Dress Code consultation meeting recently with Ted Libera and Ken Jeffers. • It was noted that workshops/conferences, etc. need to be better advertised in the schools so that students are aware of these events. We also need to ensure that the administrators support our students with transportation to and from these events. 	

Next Meeting Date	Monday, April 1 st , 2019 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. 5050 Yonge Street – Committee Room A	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. Trustee Smith seconded to adjourn; No objections; Carried	