

*REIAC Minutes*

*September 12, 2019, 6:30 pm in the District Office Conference Room*

*Start time: 6:44 pm/End time: 8:15 pm*

*Attendees: Pilar, Carlos, Levi, Jesse, Paris, Cathy, Sophia, Melissa, Kristen*

*(BOE members Glenn LaPolt and Kathy Preston greeted the committee and Michael O'Donnell attended.)*

- 1. Establish minute-taker and chair for next meeting: Sophia and Levi*
- 2. Confirm date and time of next meeting: based on the conflict with the night before Yom Kippur with the October 8th date, all in attendance agreed to move to Thursday, October 10th. This has been confirmed with Dusti and the change will be updated on the school website. Location: DO Conference Room.*
- 3. District Safety Forum update and feedback -*
  - overall the committee expressed concerns around community lack of understanding around why there is apprehension around police presence at schools (the documented evidence of disproportional impact on students of color and children with special needs/disabilities). When appropriate, the committee can work to issue a formal statement on this.*
  - proposed visitor management system - how can we support those community members without gov't IDs and assure those whose immigration status may inhibit access/participation? Can school ID's be issued to family/legal guardians?*
  - anonymous reporting feedback:*
    - Levi created a google doc to compile specific feedback on the existing pilot program on the District Website ("Quick Tips"). This is in process as some were able to edit and some were not.*
    - How will the community learn about the program? Principals are meant to introduce it to Open House. What about families who cannot attend Open House? Will there be specific outreach for the ELL community?*
    - Can this digital generate anonymized data that can indicate any patterns.*
- 4. Community Building Groups/Middle School Incident*
  - Sophia shared personal experience with her 6th grader - the immediate gathering of the new Community Building Groups, learning about the context and history of the swastika symbol — as well as the immediate letter from both the building principal and the Superintendent communicating out to the larger District community. Committee concern that in-class approach is specific and strong enough around naming anti-semitism, etc. This was similarly echoed in an email by Jenn who was not attendance about her own childrens' experiences.*
  - committee response from students: "great letter" "sign me up" "I want to go to the MS" - overall: huge improvement in communication from last year, excellent small group setting to process the incident (vs. large assemblies).*
  - can CBG be replicated at the other schools?*
  - can HS students offer to lead peer education in response to incidents?*
  - concern for what the response would be to the next incident*
- 5. HS Principal - grade level assemblies remarks*
  - Students committee members raised this issue and described unsuccessful attempt by HS Principal to relate to students with inappropriate and inaccurate comments regarding vaping and menstruation, as well as reference to former principal making light of her gender and age.*
  - Students observed that the apology the HS Principal made on NPZ was received well - the idea of an apology by a someone in that position was unprecedented.*
  - While considered a rough start, the new principal was hired to be a leader for and to demonstrate equity, dignity, as advocated by REIAC policies/protocols. This could be problematic in terms of introducing the new, more equitable Dress Code.*

6. *Public Comment - parent of HS questioning the judgment of the new Principal based on grade-level assembly remarks.*

7. *Executive Session - to review two new applicants for REIAC. Both applicants were approved. The BOE Clerk has since been updated and the new applicants will be informed and their names will be submitted to the BOE on the next agenda for final approval with the hopes that they will attend the next REIAC meeting.*

8. *(resume public meeting) - Request the BOE to allocate funds for new REIAC members to attend Undoing Racism and for returning members to attend again, if possible.*

*Report out items:*

Prepared by Sophia Skiles