



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: Black Student Achievement Advisory Committee (BSAAC)

Date: Monday, March 5, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: Trustee Co-Chair Tiffany Ford, Community Co-Chair Yolande Davidson, Trustee Chris Moise, Zanana Akande, Dennis Keshinro, Sophia Ruddock, Randy Samuel, Sharon Beason, Warren Salmon, Neil Donaldson

TDSB: Jeewan Chanicka, Kurt Lewin, Jamea Zuberi, Ronell Matthews, Rosalie Griffith, Yvette Blackburn


Guests: Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos, Donna Harrow

Regrets: David Mitchell, Neil Donaldson, Dahlia Bateman, Liben Gebremikael, Trustee David Smith, Margaret Parsons, Carl James, Antoine Derose, Sandy Thomas, Thamara Mendez, Mohamed Ahmed, Michelle Munroe, Deborah Castello

Recorder: Daniel Conforti

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION
Call to Order/Confirmation of Quorum	Meeting called to order.	
Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved.	
Approval of Minutes	Minutes from the 2018-02-05 meeting were approved.	
Declarations of possible conflicts of interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Yolande Davidson: Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) is a partner with the Safe Schools Program	



<p>Check-In:</p>	<p>BSAAC Recommendations 2016-2018: Current State and Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSAAC was provided with a listing of the recommendations/items put forward from 2016-present date • Consider what work we would like to focus on moving forward • For the next meeting, members to have a look and determine the <u>top three</u> items that we can elevate on <p></p> <p>BSAAC Recommendations Lis</p> <p>Other Items: (J. Zuberi)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke to initiatives in partnership with the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) which included Elementary Day and Secondary Day, "Here We Are Here". Students attended this excursion which also had tie-ins with STEM components • Currently in the 3rd year of Elementary Day and the ROM now feels that in the sake of equity, other school boards have been invited to participate • Moving forward, perhaps the committee can look at creative ways to involve more TDSB students in this program <p>(K. Lewin)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights of Passage Program - Looking to convene with superintendents to further this program throughout the TDSB 	
<p>Prioritizing Black Student Achievement and Excellence</p>	<p>Executive Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos attended the meeting for a discussion on next steps for prioritizing Black Student Achievement and Excellence, from a BSAAC perspective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Superintendent Spyropoulos mentioned that he is present at the meeting to listen and assist in the work that BSAAC would like to bring forward 	

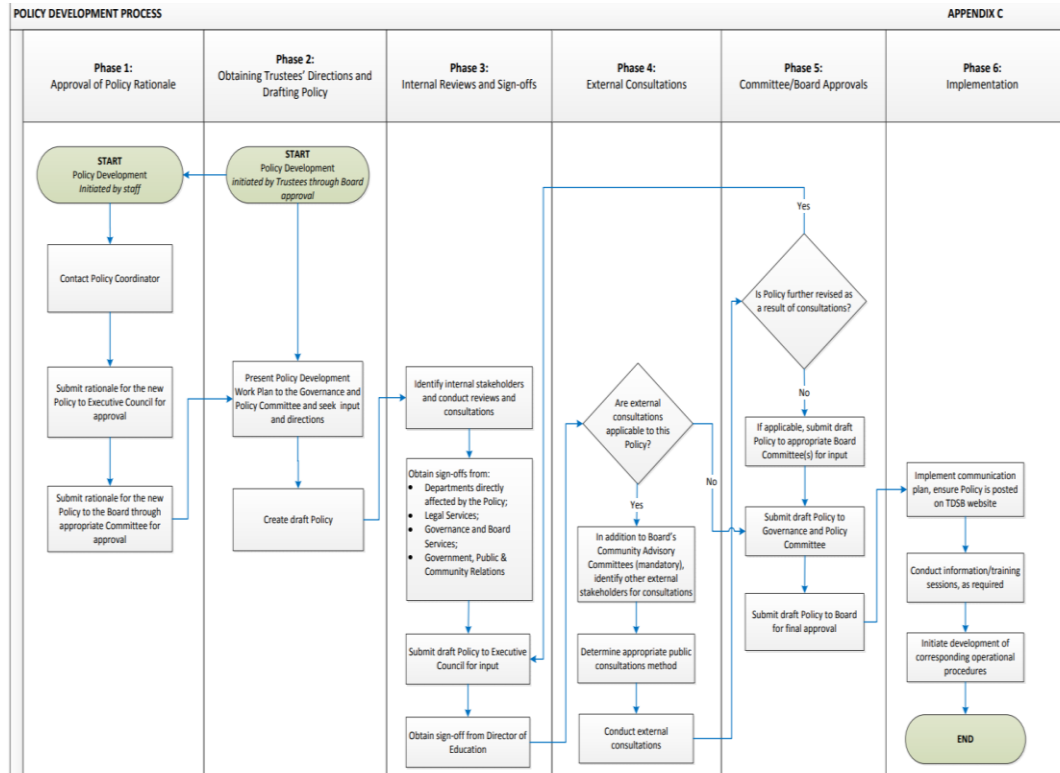


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also highlighted, was recommendation #6 in the Director's Response to the Enhancing Equity Task Force Report: Development of a Strategy for Black Student Achievement and Excellence <i>It is critical that the TDSB acknowledge the achievement and opportunity gaps that currently exist for Black students and that it develop a focused approach to close those gaps. This strategy is necessary to make the fundamental change that is needed: changes to staff bias and mindset as well as structural changes to policies, procedures and budget allocations.</i> The next step is through BSAAC, as well as other partners internal /external, to put this plan together by September 2019. This will connect to the Board's strategic plan. <p>Regarding the Equity Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft version of the policy is going to the Governance and Policy Committee (GPC) meeting in late March. This is when the Trustees decide how to address the next steps of the consultation. Hoping to send the draft out weeks in advance of the GPC meeting in order for delegations to have sufficient time to plan. <p>Comments/Feedback/Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Every board in the province must have a strategic plan. At this point, we have a Vision for Learning, which outlines the ultimate goal of the Board. We would accomplish this goal by the Integrated Equity Framework's (IEF) seven components over a three-year period. Next, the Enhancing Equity Task Force was created and put all of the information into recommendations. We are now taking these recommendations, projecting 5 years ahead, with specific actions on what we intend to achieve and how. This process will create new strategic directions and form the plan moving forward. Consider if the equity policy should be reviewed by BSAAC before it goes to GPC, as BSAAC was the initial entity pushing recommendations. Staff - As we want to ensure that this process is equitable, the draft policy will be shared to 	
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the public through GPC.

The Policy Development link : <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Development>



3. Perhaps BSAAC can look at system barriers when developing/updating policies.

4. "Building relationships of trust" (Vision for Learning) – There are many stakeholders who



	<p>do not trust the board. All voices must be at the same table to create this plan in order to create a trusting relationship</p> <p>5. A decision has not been made by the board on the creation of an Institute for Black Excellence. What does the term <i>institute</i> mean? It could mean a variety of things from staffing to physical location. We do not want to have a “punting” effect where all things to do with black student achievement goes directly to a particular centre. We want every staff member to OWN this. Gate not a barrier.</p> <p>6. We do not want kids to be singled out and seen as “special” for attending a “special” centre or institute.</p> <p>7. Dr. James has been thinking that the centre would help to monitor strategies and be able to intervene and assist. We can build in a type of approach within the strategy, where the research department can assist/monitor so that we may intervene effectively.</p> <p>Next Steps: BSAAC will decide this process moving forward.</p>	
Other Business	<p>a) Chinese Heritage Month and African Heritage/Black History Month BSAAC Working Group – members expressing interest to review heritage months. More to come.</p> <p>Deferred to the next meeting:</p> <p>b) Special Education – specialized programs/optional attendance: how are we tracking that Black students have been accepted into historically marginalized programs?</p> <p>c) Seeking support for instituting a student enrichment/staff professional development trip to Africa annually (K. Lewin)</p>	





	d) Addressing Black staff career advancement as well as the well-being of Black TDSB staff within the equity policy	
Next Meeting Date	Monday, 9 April 2018 – 5050 Yonge St., Committee Room A	
Adjournment		

