**TDSB Task Force on the success of Students of Somali Descent**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday June 11, 2013

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**Time:** 6:00PM  
**Location:** 5100 Yonge Street – Committee Room 1


**Guests:** Maymuna Abukar-TDSB Intern, Khadija-TDSB Intern, Mahad Mohamood-Student, Karlo Cabrera-TDSB Inclusive Schools.


**Minute Taker:** Zahra Hassan

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### AGENDA ITEMS

1. **5:30 pm - 6:00 pm - Dinner**

2. **Welcome and approval of June 4th meeting minutes**
   - Minutes approved
   - Haweïya Egeh chairing the meeting
   - Meeting called to order at 6:22 PM

3. **Discuss Working Group membership**
   - Question: What are the expectations/goals for the working groups today?  
   - Answer: This process will be at least two meetings. The goal is to come up with 4-6 defined and focused recommendations per group pertaining to each theme. Next meeting we will review and see any redundancy
   - Question: Do we come together at the end to review?  
   - Answer: Yes. At 7:30 we will come back together and discuss as large group.

  **Identity and Representation**
  - Abdi A- *Lead*
  - Fatouma A
  - Marja T
  - Muna A
  - Munira A
  - Shadia A

  **Curriculum and Academic Support**
  - Ahmed I- *Lead*
  - Haweïya E
  - Karlos A
  - Maymuna A

  **Early Intervention and Alternatives**
  - Mohamed Sambul –*Lead*  
  - Abubakar H
Meeting schedules

- Suggestion: Have meeting on Tuesdays because we are having issues with room bookings @ 5050 Yonge St. – providing advanced notice will help secure space – all in favour

Next meeting schedules
- Tuesday June 18 and Tuesday June 25
- Location: TBD

4. Split into working Groups and begin to discuss recommendations

6:34PM-split into working groups

7:51PM-Working group report back:
- Discussed draft recommendations with large group
- Subgroups will bring notes to next meeting

Discussions:
- Member made point that positive school cannot be accomplished on Socratic Method of teaching – question the use of such phrasing by the ministry. The model is outdated. We need to change how information is shared with the digital generation. Curriculum and teaching need to put more emphasis on hands on methods of teaching (i.e. field trips, computers, etc.)
- Another speaker disagreed responding that a positive school climate does exist – it is not about what is being taught and how it’s being taught, but rather where it is being taught (i.e. some schools achieve better than others)
- TDSB is more than happy to offer high school high school credit in Somali course but the Depart of Continuing Education never received enough interest
- Trustee Maria Rodrigues: thanked everyone for their participation
- Jim: We are off to a great start and appreciate how focused everyone is

Next Steps:
- Next week come back together discuss the points/recommendations more specifically with time frames (around 3 years) within working groups – groups will continue discussing and further defining recommendations
- Group leads will distribute a draft of recommendations to working group members to work on further

5. Other Business
- n/a

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 18th, 2013
5:30PM Dinner
6:00PM-8:00PM Meeting
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| ADJOURNED: | 8:10PM |