



Community Advisory Committees

Name of Committee: Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: 03, February, 2020

A meeting of the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee convened on February 3, 2020 from 7:09p.m. to 9:10p.m. in Committee Room A at 5050 Yonge Street with Co-Chair Alexis Dawson and Trustee Chris Moise presiding

Present:	Alexis Dawson Co-Chair, (Unison Community Health), Sharon Beason (Parent/ FSLAC Rep), Tina Beason (Student), Sophia Ruddock (Parent Rep), Dennis Keshinro (EPAC Rep), Cherie Mordecai-Steer (Social Service Community Rep) Trustees: Trustee Chris Moise (Co-Chair), Trustee David Smith Staff Lead: Associate Director Colleen Russell-Rawlins, System Superintendent Jacqueline Spence Administrative Support: Oyin Orekoya Phone Participation:
Staff:	Rosalie Griffith, Thando Hyman, Yvette Blackburn, Karen Murray, Khadra Hussein, Kevin Sutton, Jamea Zuburi,
Guests:	John Malloy (Director, TDSB)

Observers	Raymond Guiste (Tropicana Community Centre), Valarie Taitt, Stephen Mensah, Tina Opare, Osagyefo McGregor, Mohamed Ahmed (SBL Community), Melissa Enmore
Regrets:	Zanana Akande, Yolande Davidson,

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/ RECOMMENDATION / MOTION
1. Call to Order / Quorum	Meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.	
2. Approval of Agenda	Motion to accept the agenda was moved and seconded with a revision – item 7 moved to the March meeting.	
3. Declaration of possible conflicts of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexis is a Board member of ONABSE which receives funds from the TDSB. Tina Opare is also a member of ONABSE. 	
4. Co-Chair Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the job action, the official launch ceremony of the African Heritage month has been postponed. Some centrally planned programs and conferences are still tentatively been planned pending the job action. 	
5. Secondary Review and Optional Attendance Policy	<p>Director Malloy’s presentation on the Secondary Review and Optional Attendance Policy review was well received. Feedback from the Committee include</p> <p>Clarifying Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Which of the 5 pathway leads to greater socioeconomic outcomes for our underserved communities?</i> <i>Clarify what limiting but not eliminating’ will look like in the proposed Optional Attendance Policy?</i> <i>Is the Catholic system using this same optional attendance model</i> 	

as a lot of our students who don't get their choice of school in the TDSB end up going to the Catholic Board? How are we interfacing with TCDSB?

- *Clarification on the priority sequence group. When we have new immigrants coming into the country, the guidance process is often outdated and places these group of students in the wrong programs. Will the priority sequence group work with students in the experiential learning schools?*
- *Are specialized schools and co-op programs being looked at in the Secondary program policy review?*
- *Priorities for Optional Attendance; where are the students going*
- *Can community organizations access the empty spaces in secondary schools to provide services which align with the Boards goals?*
- *When we think about these consultations, how do we capture the voices of those who are not part of the process? A lot of the families most affected by this don't understand how the hierarchy of their current school is formed and how to get their children to the 'better' schools.*
- *Elaborate on the Campus Model as it pertains to perspective around hierarchy and LOI?*

Discussions:

- From a guidance perspective, we are happy to hear about the optional attendance policy name change that is coming into effect.
- Limiting the choice of optional attendance schools and programs to 1 is also welcomed. Certain schools have 2 home schools whereas some areas downtown, in forest hill and the east side have a multitude of schools choices which creates a disparity in student choice.
- Will ESA and Rosedale have entrance by auditions? Currently one has an audition process and the other does not.
- Can we remove the Commerce and Tech components of the pre

	<p>categories? It is very confusing to parents and again shows that there is a disparity in the number of schools in a certain demographic location compared to others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding Optional Attendance, can we eliminate the line on the form where the educator/ administrator has to signed off/ comment on if they approve the level type of study for the student in order to eliminate bias. • Spec Ed and gifted students are often the last group that are offered optional attendance as they are waiting for central placement which often comes after all groups have settled on their placement. Can this long wait times be reviewed? • Can we remove the sibling rule? Especially in the Secondary program where a lottery should be a lottery so that the presence of a sibling already in the school does not give an advantage. • The concern is that the majority backlash from these Policy review consultations may cause a delay in the points that have been identified in the MYSP • The process by which students gain access to Specialized schools needs to be examined to give greater access to all students • We hope you will engage members of the community at large who have their own process and expertise of sporting natural talent when developing the auditions process for the specialized schools • A big hindrance to students following a path specifically in the trades is that they are not often aware of the opportunities that is available in the community especially in Co-op • The quote earlier made that all the voices want all students to succeed is a flawed statement – The director clarified that he does not believe the statement That everyone wants all students to succeed. • BSACAC reiterated that strong support will be there from the black and south East Asian communities when the call is made and action is ready to be made. • It is important to note that disruption through the work of the guidance staff in the elementary panel has been significant. The 	
--	--	--

	<p>next piece is to ensure there is enough programming and support for these students in the secondary panel to provide a continuum for all students in the academic programming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A concern voiced around the Arts program is to look at having community members (students, professionals, experienced parents etc.) seat on the panel to be a part of the admission exercise as opposed to only the school administrators and educators chairing the auditions • In terms of location; even if the board changes the application and audition process, underserved families won't have the same access to those programs due to the distance to those schools. What stops the Board from placing a specialized program in a location with predominantly underserved students? 	
6. Nominations Working Group Update	A motion was moved and seconded to move this item to the next meeting.	
7. Strategic Planning	A motion was moved and seconded to move this item to the next meeting.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned 9:10 pm	
Next Meeting Date	March 2, 2020	