

F.W. Parker Charter Essential School

Minutes

March DEI Meeting

Date and Time

Monday March 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Location

<http://parker.school/deicommittee>

This meeting is hosted online. <http://parker.school/deicommittee>

Committee Members Present

B. Harrigan, E. Moura, J. Green, L. Hayner, P. Gordon (remote), R. Whalen Crockett, S. Razzetti, T. Testa

Committee Members Absent

G. Penna, M. Silva-Rosa

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Whalen Crockett called a meeting of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee of F.W. Parker Charter Essential School to order on Monday Mar 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

J. Green made a motion to approve the minutes from February DEI Meeting on 02-05-24.

P. Gordon seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

A. Welcome

Prompt discussed what people are looking forward to with the upcoming time change.

B. Enrollment Update

- Enrollment period ended on Friday- obtained 263 applications – incredible progress!
- Some of the biggest work done at the Boys and Girls Club in Leominster/Fitchburg via basketball clinic. Also did tabling a few times. Sent out postcards (15K total) over 12 towns, including Leominster. Marketing has helped tremendously. A Leominster heavy group!!!!
- Focus on admitted student activities; will do 8 shadowing days. Virtual parent meeting in evening to accommodate parents who cannot attend during the day

C. Student Affinity Groups Update

Goal is to have a BIPOC affinity group for Parker stood up by end of March. Informally asked some BIPOC students about idea and lots of interest. Focusing on purpose statement – what it is and why we have it. Between now and end of March is to share this information with faculty. Want to educate students and faculty as to why we want to have an affinity group. Preparing for pushback regarding why white students are not part of the BIPOC affinity group. Ruth asked team for feedback on the description, rationale document for the BIPOC affinity group. Committee discussed how an activism and education/advocacy group may be established based on student interest and separate from this BIPOC affinity group. Upcoming BoT meeting – we will bring this topic in order to inform the BoT about this work, where it started (Biscuit and Emily) sharing the need for creating a safe space at the DEI subcommittee September 2023 meeting, and the beautiful framing Ruth and Tiffany have done.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Whalen Crockett