



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S OPPORTUNITY AND ACHIEVEMENT GAPS TASK FORCE MEETING

June 6, 2016

The Boston School Committee's Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Task Force held a meeting on June 6, 2016 at 4 p.m. at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, Room 6-66/6-67, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/gaps, email feedback@bostonpublicschools.org or call the Boston School Committee Office at (617) 635-9014.

ATTENDANCE

Task Force Members Present: Co-Chair Sam Acevedo; Co-Chair Jeri Robinson; Co-Chair Ayele Shakur; Jennifer Aponte; Heshan Berents-Weeramuni; Kim Janey; Adrienne Level; Dr. Gil Noam; Carline Pignato; and Filiberto Santiago-Lizardi.

Task Force Members Absent: Dr. Carroll Blake; Dr. Vanessa Calderón-Rosado; Dr. Hardin Coleman; Kenny Feng; Keondre McClay; Liliana Mickle; Alexandra Oliver-Dávila; Marinelle Rousmaniere; Ron Walker; and Sherman Zemler Wu. Suzanne Lee, English Language Learners Task Force liaison to the OAG Task Force, was also absent.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

Agenda

Draft Preamble

Draft 2016 Revised Opportunity & Achievement Gaps Policy for Students of Color and Other Marginalized Groups

Proposed Timeline

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Acevedo called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

June 6, 2016

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Ms. Shakur provided an overview of the most recent draft of the opportunity and achievement gap policy. Since the last Task Force meeting, the co-chairs received feedback from several members, which they incorporated into the most recent draft. Assistant Superintendent of the Office of Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Dr. Colin Rose suggested dates by which proposed action should be completed.

The group collectively reviewed the draft and made real-time edits. Members discussed the importance of developing a policy that contains time-bound actions without putting undue pressure on the district. The group discussed creating a glossary of terms used within the policy. Members also discussed adding an objective related to student assignment and enrollment. Dr. Rose agreed to review section 5.2 and make suggestions.

The revised timeline calls for the Task Force to formally present its recommendations to the School Committee on June 22, 2016, followed by a School Committee vote on July 20, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stanley Onuoha, citizen, testified that BPS should vet curriculum for bias and schools should have the discretion to follow the district's guidance or suggest alternatives.

ADJOURN

At approximately 6:50 p.m., the co-chairs adjourned the meeting.

Attest:



Elizabeth A. Sullivan
Executive Secretary