

Bainbridge Island School District #303
Multicultural Advisory Council

MAC Council meeting

Nov. 29, 2016 - 4:33 - 6:30

Blakely School

Present:

Voting Members

Amy Nakata, Chair/Community
Eileen Okada, Past Chair/Community
Katy Curtis, Co-Vice Chair/Community
Karen Vargas, Co-Vice Chair/Community
Joyce Nishimura, Recorder/Community
Jill Mullins-Cannon, Treasurer/Community
Tess Haddon, Parent
Kathryn McGowan, Parent
Kathryn Keve, Community
Marsha Cutting, Community
Steven Soltar, Community
Spencer Bispham, BHS Student

Staff Members – Non-Voting

Sheryl Belt, District Administrator
Reese Ande, Blakely Principal
Brandy Bispham, Woodward MS
Susan Tolley, COS -K-8
Margaret Hitchcock, Sakai Intermediate
Carrie Holloway – Blakely Elementary
Denise Melton-Todd – Ordway Elementary
Beth Riggs, Wilkes Elementary

Not present:

Christina Peato, Indian Ed Coordinator
Ryenn Dietz, BHS lead teacher
Sarah Frost, COS – Eagle Harbor HS
Christina Wakefield, Parent

Meeting called to order by Amy Nakata - 4:33 pm

Agenda passed out

Minutes to October meeting accepted

Introductions: Carrie Holloway joins us from Blakely and Spencer Bispham is our new student rep.

I. Reese Ande – Principal, Blakely School

Question: What is one thing, given unlimited resources, you would like to be implemented that would impact multicultural/diversity/inclusion experience for your students?

Discussion:

- A. Reese - Under the umbrella of social justice, I would like to see a K-12 effort to have compassion and empathy integrated into the curriculum. Integration needs to provide students with knowledge of the past, and simultaneously prepare students for the future. Certain things, we will never experience, but how can we empower them to see what's outside of our community and see through someone else's eyes. How can we pull our efforts to determine skills we want to provide our kids when they leave our system?
- B. Kathryn – We are tailoring our resources to help all teachers. We can help with continuity throughout the District. We can still have flexibility if we have a core belief.
- C. Sheryl - Social-emotional standards are established by the state, but not necessarily on social justice. In the next few years, this can be part of our social studies curriculum. The history piece can be part of the curriculum. Policies dictate requirements and that allocates time.
- D. Kathryn - As a Blakely parent, Reese, Carrie, and Victoria are terrific on social justice. Shoes Project - We collected over 800 shoes. It takes 2000 gal on water to make one pair of shoes. Carrie – “On the way to school” project
Blink now – program based on a school in Nepal. – They can tell you what specifically the money is used.

II. Old Business

A. Update on Committee Reports

1. Training – Jill, Katy, Sheryl, Joyce – no report
2. Kitamoto Social Justice Award – Leadership Class
 - Eileen – met with Leadership Class – nothing specific. We will meet again on the 9th.
 - Meanwhile, they will meet with UBS, GSA, (Gay Social Alliance) LGBTQ (Joe Rice), Social Justice League Jason Uitvlugt, Mike Holloway, Brad Lewis
 - No place for Hate – ADL group and other groups to plan together. The group is comprised of a wide range of kids. Staff nominated.
 - Model United Nations – Mr. Holland advisor – Training of leadership skills on world leader groups Students role play representatives of different countries that come together to solve problems. They are trained to know each country and the issues of each group. Spenser is part of group. They meet after school on Mondays from 1:35 – 2:45.
 - Houston Kraft – Some of them thought he was ok.
 - ADL – Spencer liked the ADL presentation. He had you look into the eyes of someone else which was powerful.
 - They didn't care too much about the idea of linking MLK message with today.
 - Dwayne Fish came to the 2nd session and we talked about the banners in the hallway. We pointed out that most of the pictures were of people that are white. Dwayne said he would do something to address that.
 - It was suggested that we could ask UBS to come up with guidelines for the Frank Kitamoto Social Justice Award.
 - Establish criteria
 - Determine how it will be launched, publicized, and awarded
 - Who would qualify? Grade level? School? Etc.
 - Committee members would help

How do we link up to reach students and teachers? Clubs meet at lunch period, 0 period, or after school. MAC can be represented at each group if they want support.

3. Social Studies Curriculum

Curriculum review – The HS is processing how American Studies should look in students' lives.

The block configuration drives the schedule for the whole school. With new teachers and new ideas, the course is often taught separately anyway causing unnecessary restrictions on student schedules.

4.. Community Events - Eileen

Documentary film – 13th – Film by Ava DuVernay on the race and the criminal justice system and how slavery is effectively being perpetuated through mass incarceration.

- We would show this Netflix film to the community and start an informed discussion on social justice.
- We cannot charge admission (Netflix policy) but can suggest a donation to benefit MAC.
- Tentative venue – BI Public Library – Rent is \$35/hour
- Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017 from 6:00 – 9:30 pm during MLK week
- Invite local people who works with prisons, ACLU reps, YUYR, Columbia Legal Services, etc. to facilitate a discussion, provide materials, etc. Could be very powerful.
- Publicize through school listserv, local organizations like BIJAC, BIHM, Interfaith council, etc.
- Invite teachers and staff to attend.
- Invite students to attend. (Depending on film rating)
- Max. capacity – 80
- Introduction: Kathryn McGowan
- Facilitator: Marsha Cutting
- Refreshment sign up will be sent by email.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed that we approve \$500 to cover expenses for this event. If more money is needed, we will conduct an email vote. Expenses include, room rental, film licensing fees, etc.

B. Grant Application review –

BISD staff were excused at 6:20.

- Six grant applications were read and rated on a 5-pt. scale
- Total budget of \$1000 was awarded to applicants.
- UBS request for transportation cost to the Human Rights Conference was granted through separate District funds.

Next meeting: Jan. 24, 2017

Meeting adjourned 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Nishimura