

Approved Minutes

Meeting of the Black Community Advisory Council

Monday, April 29, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CEC Boardroom

Co-Chair: Gord Gallimore

Co-Chair: Wayne Brunton

ATTENDEES:

Chris Shelton (<i>Regrets</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Horace Wright (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Ebenezer Addei (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Gord Gallimore	Parent/Guardian and Co-Chair
Muna Said-Ahmed (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Anita Andoh (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Edith Pencil (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Crystal Land (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Linda Tobi-Isiekwena (<i>Regrets</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Tineke Harrison (<i>Absent</i>)	Parent/Guardian
Eloghosa Enogieru	Student Member
Raheem White	Student Member
Zaida Smith	Student Member
Pinre Ibitoye-Ajayi	Student Member
Trisha Johnson-White (<i>Regrets</i>)	Agencies – ResQ Youth International
Marcia Glasgow (<i>Absent</i>)	Agencies – United Achievers’ Club
Jackie Maloney	Agencies – Congress of Black Women
Jason Eduful (<i>Absent</i>)	Agencies – The Black Educators Association of DPCDSB
Crystel Campbell (<i>Absent</i>)	Agencies – Black Youth Student Success Initiative
Sharon Douglas (<i>Absent</i>)	Agencies – Black Youth Student Success Initiative
Cherene Randall	Agencies – Salvation Army
Nailah Peters (<i>Absent</i>)	Agencies – Salvation Army
Duke Nicholson	OECTA Representative – Elementary
Jamie Philip (<i>Absent</i>)	OECTA Representative – Elementary
Bianca Gagliostro (<i>Absent</i>)	OECTA Representative – Secondary
Nicole Salmon (<i>Absent</i>)	OECTA Representative – Secondary
Bailey Clyne	Indigenous Student Trustee
Tara Persad	Elementary Principal/Vice Principal Association
Kwadwo Adusei (<i>Regrets</i>)	Secondary Principal/Vice Principal Association
Renee La Croix	Graduation Coach for Black Student Success – DPCDSB

(TBD) Dr. Carl James	Graduation Coach for Black Student Success – DPCDSB Advisor – Professor, York University
Wayne Brunton	Staff – Superintendent, Equity and Indigenous Education and Co-Chair
Nancy Cargioli	Staff – Acting Coordinator, Equitable and Inclusive Education
Jaclynn Deveaux-Matthews	Staff – Acting Consultant, Equitable and Inclusive Education
Richard Moriah	Staff – General Manager, Plant Department
Max Vecchiarino (<i>Regrets</i>)	Staff – Director’s Designate
Marianne Mazzorato (<i>Regrets</i>)	Director
David Amaral (<i>Regrets</i>)	Associate Director – Instructional Services
Margaret Beck (<i>Regrets</i>)	Legal Counsel
Caroline McFarland	Recorder

1. Opening Prayer

Gord Gallimore led the prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Wayne Brunton read the land acknowledgement.

3. Welcome, Introductions and Attendance

Gord Gallimore called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Renee La Croix, Bailey Clyne and Tara Persad were welcomed as new council members.

Attendance

Attendance was taken and those who sent regrets were noted.

Denize Alphonso-Balogun joined as a guest.

4. Approval of the Agenda

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

Moved by Tara Persad

Seconded by Jackie Maloney

5. Approval of the Minutes – January 15, 2024

The unapproved minutes of January 15, 2024 were distributed to BCAC members via e-mail.

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2024 MEETING BE APPROVED.

Moved by Raheem White

Seconded by Zaida Smith

6. Programming Equity Department 2023-2024 School Year

A handout was provided of the 2023-2024 Equitable and Inclusive Education: Focus on Dismantling Anti-Black Racism. Nancy Cargioli shared what the Equity Department has been doing and continues to do with a focus on dismantling anti-Black racism and decolonizing education. Senior administration, administrators and teachers have all been provided with professional development on Addressing Discriminatory Language including the use of the n-word.

A discussion ensued around the use of the n-word, discipline, resources and expectations.

Staff have been offered a variety of professional development opportunities including monthly learning table series on Equity Best Practices, an example of this is Best Practices on Supporting Affinity Spaces in schools. There have been parent engagement opportunities and students have been given co-learning workshop opportunities and author read alouds. All learning opportunities

center pedagogical frameworks that are Culturally Relevant and Responsive. The department also continues to work on the development of resources rooted in Culturally Relevant and Responsive pedagogy.

Zaida Smith asked for clarification on the process of vetting external presenters.

Nancy Cargioli discussed the Board's process and procedures for approving external presenters.

A discussion ensued.

Raheem White shared that they had a presentation on mathematics and he had a question on math achievement as it pertains to Black and Indigenous students and wanted to know what work was being done with regard to math achievement.

Wayne Brunton shared that when the census data came out, the Family of Schools superintendents talked about how they would promote student achievement during the year within their own Family of Schools. It is an understanding that Black and non-Black racialized educators are underrepresented. We also acknowledge that we have few Black guidance counsellors. There is still work to do. The new Strategic Plan will be uplifted as they respond to what the data shows. We will look at how students are streamed and what opportunities are offered or created for Black students.

Dr. Carl James commented that there is evidence but is the evidence a reflection of the students and not the teaching and the curriculum. What is being done to have the math teacher understand about their approach of math. Math should be translated to effectively engage Black students.

Tara Persad shared that in elementary school they were doing the Professional Learning Cycles. Two grades went for in-services and brought that information back to the school and worked with their classes. One of the lessons was about math in the real world and how math connects to you in the real world. It is being addressed in elementary schools.

A discussion ensued.

7. Information Items:

a. Police Protocol

Wayne Brunton shared that the Local Police School Board Protocol from 2021 for Dufferin-Peel Catholic and Peel District School Board is a 68 page document that will be shared by Caroline. It can also be located on the Board website. Preliminary discussions are taking place regarding policing in schools amongst the community.

Police are in our schools. Police will be in schools according to our local police/board protocol and are always called for any emergency responses. They are also in our schools to follow up on any investigations. Police sometimes do their investigations outside of the school. Police sometimes visit students at their homes as part of their investigations. If the student is a minor, the school calls the parent/guardian to inform them of the questioning. Parents may attend or have the administrator attend on their behalf.

A discussion ensued.

b. Update Hiring Practices within DPCDSB

Wayne Brunton shared that when they put together hiring panels for all working groups in Dufferin-Peel, every panel has a Black or non-Black racialized member on the panel. We have recently promoted Black and non-Black racialized administrator candidates.

c. Racialized Mentoring Programming

Wayne Brunton shared that he carries out meetings for Black and non-Black racialized teachers who are interested in becoming vice principals. This is then followed up with a separate session where he guides, supports and mentors racialized staff wanting to become vice principals and principals. They usually meet 3 times a year. They are looking at expanding the racialized mentoring system wide as there are a lot of staff on the corporate side who have identified as Black or racialized.

A discussion ensued.

8. Closing Remarks

Nancy Cargioli thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.