



NASHOBA Regional School Committee
Diversity, Equity, Acceptance, and Racial Justice Advisory
Minutes
October 21, 2021
7:00 PM

Meeting Remote via Zoom Technology

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81384717292>

Meeting ID: 813 8471 7292

Attendees: Sharon Poch, Gregory Denson, Lindsay Chaves, Elizabeth Bendler, Laurie Burnett

- I. **Call to Order Time-** 7:06 by Laurie Burnett
- II. **Citizen's Comments** - none
- III. **Welcome, Introductions & Review of Norms**
- IV. **Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary Attendance** - Postponed for a future meeting when attendance is higher.
- V. **Approval of Minutes from 4/21/21 Meeting** - postponed for a future meeting when attendance is higher.
- VI. **Approval of Today's Agenda**
 1. **Discussion of attendance needed for moving forward with the agenda:**
 - a) Only $\frac{1}{3}$ of members responded to Doodle/ Calendar invite. Group in attendance today will follow up with those on email list to find interest.
 - b) We will use Survey Monkey to identify best time to meet.
 - c) Need to have clarity on our purpose, process, and action steps so attendance feels worthwhile.
 2. **For follow up:**
 - a) What constitutes a quorum for our group?
 - b) Are there additional ways to include the voices of those who are unable to attend our meetings?
 - c) Should we meet in person?

VII. Unfinished Business

1. Brief Overview of Open Meeting Laws
2. Brief Update of Land Acknowledgement Subcommittee
3. Brief Review of Work, Goals, and Purview of DEAR J and School Committee

VIII. New Business

1. Identify Plan for Committee for 2021-2022 school year

- a) Postponed to next meeting consideration of further learning and recommendations regarding Land Acknowledgements and Indigenous People's Day.
- b) Discussed potential topics and structure of DEARJ Committee given its mandate as an advisory to the School Committee:
 - (1) Sharon described her role as liaison to the School Committee.
 - (2) Briefly reviewed current priorities and sub-committees of the School Committee.
 - (3) Briefly reviewed interests/ goals identified by DEARJ participants last year.
 - (4) Discussed the overlap between the SC priorities and DEARJ goals and what potentially falls under the purview of the SC.
- c) Next steps:
 - (1) Sharon will request to have a brief update of our work included on the advisory committee's updates portion of the SC agenda of November 3rd.
 - (2) Sharon will request our committee as an agenda item for the November 17th meeting. The purpose of the agenda item is to receive feedback from the School Committee's as to how DEARJ can support their work.
 - (3) DEARJ will aim to hold 3 meetings prior to November 17th with the goal of identifying possible ways DEARJ could support the School Committee in moving forward on its commitment to Diversity, Equity, Awareness, and Racial Justice including its [Anti-Racism Resolution](#).
 - (4) Elizabeth will split up the DEARJ contact list for outreach regarding participation in future meetings.
 - (5) Greg will follow up with the student social justice group.
 - (6) Agenda for next meetings will be guided by the question: "How might DEARJ support the School Committee in moving forward on their goals and commitment to Anti-Racism and Racial Justice?"

Announcements/ Updates- no additional announcements

Items for future agendas (standing item to bring up future topics).

- Discuss overlap of DEARJ goals and School Committee sub-committees.

Adjourn Elizabeth makes a motion to adjourn Greg seconds. Meeting adjourns at 8:37.

"The items listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law."