



Anti-Black Racism and Black Excellence Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024 | 7:00 p.m. | North Boardroom, 650 Rossland Rd. West, Oshawa

In Person: Chair Bookal, Vice-Chair Chevers, Director Winn, Superintendent Stevenson, Kayode Akomolafe (HREA), Candice Cavalier, Nicole Emanuel, Lara Awoleye, Anissa Voisin, Michelle Skerritt, Nicole Cyrus

Online Attendees: Angela Adu-Morrison, Nikki Reason, Trevor Aitcheson, Tracy Forde, Cristina Alyssa, Geraldine, Tania, Jamaal Augustine, Kellee Gaines, Alexa Rodney, Tanika Riley

7:00 p.m.	Land Acknowledgement	Chair Bookal
7:05 p.m.	African Ancestral Acknowledgement	Chair Bookal
7:10 p.m.	Opening Prayer	Vice-Chair Chevers
7:15 p.m.	Welcome Remarks	Kayode Akomolafe
7:20 p.m.	Adoption of Minutes from September 25, 2024: Moved by A. Voisin, seconded by L. Awoleye. CARRIED	Chair Bookal
7:25p.m.	Review of Equity Invitational Learning Series & Black Student Excellence Award: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall positive feedback, although event seemed rushed.• Trophy sponsor has committed to 4 years (3 years remaining).• Consider two separate events in the future; stream presentation as well as slides; have nominees and recipients speak about their journey; provide mapping for those who have not visited the facility; small tweaks for next year needed.• Consider the speakers presenting to younger students and administration.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Student Senate initiated visits○ Transition road trips• A debrief will be held on both the Equity Invitational and Black Student Excellence Award ceremony.• Consider more staff involvement in nominations (e.g., Chaplains, CABs, Guidance).	Chair Bookal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two schools only selected one nominee. Ensure both spots are filled in the future. • Consider seeking sponsors to provide bursaries, offset expenses for event (e.g., connect with other municipalities that have budgets). <p>ACTION: Planning Committee will review feedback for implementation for future editions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book date for 2025 event. • Seek support from Black Students Union, Intergenerational Hub. • Focused conversation at Student Senate and bring back information to the committee. • Committee to send more feedback to Kayode, if any. • Share notice of ABR&BE meetings with administrators to share with parents. 	
7:40p.m.	<p>Pickering and Oshawa Parent Area Representative Election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An election will need to be held for Pickering/Oshawa Representatives due to resignation and continued absence. • Draw attention to sections 4.1.3 (unexcused absences), 5.3 (vacancy), 11 (Elections), 11.3 (Election of a parent area rep, notice required) of the Terms of Reference. • Election will be conducted in January. • Formal notice to members required to request nominations – begin to think of names of individuals. • Principals could give parents a nudge, and post on social media pages listing provisions (what the role is/commitment). • Parent rep required to live in the area and have a child currently in the system. • If after 3 months, the committee is unable to find a rep from the Oshawa community, other community parents will be considered. <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to Principals of the community to communicate the vacancies to parents. • Notify members of election date last week of December. 	Kayode Akomolafe
7:50p.m.	<p>Sub-Committee Initiatives for 2024-2025:</p> <p>Scholarships/Bursaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chair Chevers is leading a sub-committee to develop a framework for making information more accessible to families. 	Vice-Chair Chevers Chair Bookal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering hosting a hybrid ABR & BE session on how to apply to post-secondary (inside and outside of Canada), preparation tips, steps on how to fill out applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential to partner with BFCN or guidance departments to avoid reinventing the wheel • Tanika and Lara shared information about some organizations that can assist and/or offer scholarships/bursaries. • Consider providing this information to grade 8 students also. • Board staff advised that they were not aware of what was already being done and could invite a consultant to speak to the committee to share what is being done to have all information in one spot. <p>ACTION: Sub-committee to provide update at January meeting; staff to see if a consultant can speak to the committee.</p> <p>DRPS/DCDSB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information regarding a pilot project through the Ministry connecting Black police officer with Black students was shared by Chair Bookal. • Chair Bookal sought confirmation from DCDSB with respect to commitment. • Staff shared that they required commitment from Student Services before moving forward and they would seek confirmation in the next couple of days. • Chair Bookal shared that she had a meeting on November 22 to finalize details. • Director Winn inquired as to whether there was any flexibility for deadline. • Chair Bookal advised that the funding deadline is set for December 6, and the funds would need to be spent by November 31. • Chair Bookal would reach out to see if the meeting could be deferred a week. <p>ACTION: Board staff to seek confirmation of available services from Student Services by tomorrow if possible. Chair Bookal to inquire if meeting can be deferred to finalize program.</p>	
8:10p.m.	<p>Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	Chair Bookal
8:25p.m	Closing Prayer	Nicole Emanuel
8:30 p.m.	Adjournment Moved by N. Emanuel, seconded by A. Voisin. CARRIED	Chair Bookal