



Blue Valley Board of Education Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee October 7, 2021

Attendance: Jackie Dearth, Jodie Dietz, Kristi Dixon, Kiwaini Duson, Celia Fritz-Watson, Chris Gray, Caroline Lubbe, Tonya Merrigan, Stacy Obringer-Varhall, Tyson Ostroski, Nayelli Palazuelos-Bowers, Chad Riley, Rabiya Shoab, Ephren Taylor, Brittany Verrette, Yongfu Wang, Kelly Wessel, Manal Wiedel

The Blue Valley Board of Education (BOE) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee met on Thursday, October 7, 2021 via zoom. The meeting began with a feedback session on the district's ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief) funds. Dr. Merrigan shared the requirements of the funds and then reviewed what the district has spent to date from these funds. This information is also available on our district [website](#) and is updated monthly. This part of the meeting ended with a Thought Exchange where the committee gave input and ideas on what they had seen. This thought exchange can be viewed on the same [website](#) that was shared above and can be added to throughout the year.

The second part of the meeting was an update on how the District develops curriculum from Kelly Ott, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Jennifer Luzenske, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. They shared that the work of their department is guided by [Board of Education policies 4000 and 4600](#).

[Policy 4000](#) identifies how curriculum is developed. Curriculum is written and reviewed on a regular cycle and involves the input of all relevant teachers. Each of these documents contain essential questions, big ideas, guiding questions and focus standards. After it is written by teachers it goes through a review process which includes input from the BOE Curriculum and

Instruction committee before it is approved by the entire BOE. The committee reviewed [8th grade history](#) and [3rd grade Integrated Literacy+](#). All curriculum documents are found on the district website. The committee also heard how teachers work to be unbiased in their approach.

The meeting ended with a review of [Policy 4600](#) which identifies the process for the selection of learning resources. These include making sure there is a tie to the curriculum and the quality of the resource will enhance the learning experience.

Next Meeting
Thursday, November 4, 2021
4-5:30 pm via Zoom