



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Board Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes | February 2, 2023

BV Board of Education Room

Members present: Celia Fritz-Watson, Kiwaini Duson, Richard Nobles, Angela Mosby, Dennis Selznick, Jodie Dietz, Gina Knapp, Dr. Tonya Merrigan, Dr. Kelly Wessel, Dr. Tyson Ostroski, Manal Wiedel, Erica McDonald, Fariha Shafi, Sarah Markowitz, Samiya Toliver

Notes:

Dr. Merrigan opened with the opportunity to discuss the vandalism incident involving discrimination and hate at Blue Valley High's District Activity Stadium on January 15th. Dr. Merrigan reviewed the events that transpired, and the committee posed and discussed the following questions:

- Were there any opportunities for students to get counseling?
- Will there be any changes regarding access to the facilities?
- A statement was sent to the BVH community immediately following the incident; were other school communities informed?
- What else can we do to be proactive and not reactive to these events?

Following the discussion about the BVH incident, the committee moved on to discuss their project idea for the year – curating a list of diverse literature to share with families. In discussing the potential next steps, the committee determined that they could better serve the BV community by acting as two-way communication, providing helpful insight into the DEI work occurring in the district. They discussed the need to be briefed at each meeting on strategic DEI initiatives that the District is working toward achieving (e.g., including action steps and metrics). The committee also discussed ways to support school communities in light of the knowledge they gain from participating in the BOE DEI Committee. The committee recognized that this BOE advisory committee is in its infancy stage and still determining its purpose and role.

The next Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Board Advisory meeting will occur on Thursday, April 6th, 4:00 - 5:15 PM in the Board Room at the District Office.