

## Equity and Inclusion Task Force Minutes

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**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024  
**Location:** Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre | Virtual  
**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to order

Trustee Chair Childs called the meeting to order.

### 2. Territorial acknowledgement

Superintendent J. Johnston shared a territorial acknowledgement.

### 3. Roll call

E. Childs welcomed attendees and a roll was taken.

### 4. Approval of agenda

J. Johnston noted a correction to the date of the previous minutes.

Moved by K. Picken that the agenda be approved as amended.

### 5. Committee action items

5.1 Approval of the minutes of the April 3, 2024 meeting

Moved by S. Fegan that the minutes of the April 3, 2024 meeting be approved.

### 6. Administrative updates

6.1 Student Census 2024

J. Johnston shared a presentation on the 2024 Student Census results, including a comparison to the 2022 results. The census report and infographic will be shared publicly alongside a media release. The data will be integrated into PowerBI over the coming school year.

6.2 Professional learning update

J. Johnston shared the following updates regarding professional learning taking place across the system:

- Guest speaker Chris D'Souza has worked with administrators in a two-part session focused on anti-bias and anti-oppression.

- William Parrett and Kathleen Budge's presentation to administrators earlier in the school year focused on addressing student achievement in high poverty schools.
- Aubrey Noronha of Hello Hope continues to visit schools to work with students and staff on empathy-based anti-racism training.
- The Ministry of Education has directed all school boards to create policies regarding external presentations and third party speakers. The draft BD-2500 External Presentations and Third-party Speakers Policy was shared for committee review and feedback.

## **7. Department update**

### **7.1 Communications Services**

Communications Manager C. Bull shared the following updates:

- The Communications Services Department continues to receive many orders for the new TLDSB Pride swag.
- C. Bull recognized Communications Clerk for her work on the dates of significance promotion on social media and in the monthly newsletter.
- Key messaging for Pride Month has been shared with principals and trustees.

### **7.2 Indigenous Education**

Indigenous Education Consultant K. Moore shared the following updates:

- Indigenous students are reporting positive feelings of pride due to the representation that they are seeing across the Board, resulting in more students stepping up and wanting to share their cultures in their classrooms.
- The number of self-identified Indigenous students has increased to over 800.
- There have been more than 60 visits to classrooms made by Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Holders, which is a significant increase over previous years.

## **8. Subcommittees updates**

### **8.1 Enhancing 2SLGBTQIA+ Inclusion and Belonging**

Vice Principal C. McLean-Wilson shared the following updates:

- More than 180 students in Grades 6 to 12 attended the Day of Pink GSA Conference in April in Muskoka.
- This month, more than 50 high school students attended a Muskoka Queer Film Festival screening at BMLSS.
- The subcommittee has put together a Pride Calendar that includes resources for educators for the month of June and beyond.

### **8.2 Addressing Anti-Black Racism**

Principal K. Picken reported that the subcommittee is working on three major projects including a gathering of student and family voice, the creation of 'The First 10 Days' social justice and norms that set a baseline for addressing prejudice in the classroom, and a Google Classroom with lesson plans that educators can use throughout the year. The committee is also working on an adaptation of the equity walk tool used to review equity and representation in schools.

## 8.2 Equity and Inclusion Newsletter

Vice Principal K. Henshall reported that the June newsletter would be shared shortly, and welcomed input in advance of the September newsletter.

## 9. Other Business

There was no other business.

## 10. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

## 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.