

Equity Policy Audit School Board Committee Meeting
1340 Braddock Place
School Board Meeting Room
October 26, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Meeting Participants:

School Board Members: Jacinta Greene, Christopher Suarez, Heather Thornton

Staff members: Kennetra Wood, Jennifer Abbruzzese, Cheryl Robinson

Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA) consultant: Terrence Wilson

Mr. Suarez, Ms. Robinson and Mr. Wilson joined the meeting by Zoom.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Board Member Thornton. Mr. Suarez joined the meeting upon approval of his electronic participation by a 2-0 vote.

Discussion:

The ACPS/IDRA Audit Team reviewed the background and purpose of the Equity Policy Audit, which is to:

- Ensure each policy aligns, guides, and supports educational equity and the Strategic Plan;
- Specifically identify root causes of disparities;
- Focus on the most marginalized populations to ensure equity for all;
- Uncover and revise policies that thwart the success of historically marginalized groups; and
- Dismantle current systems that are barriers to student success.

The Audit Team then summarized the initial policy review completed during Phase I (November 2020 – June 2021) and discussed the plan for Phase II (school year 2021-22). This phase of the audit will include:

- Committee review and policy revision;
- Community engagement with ACPS stakeholders;
- Refinement and adoption of policy revisions; and
- Initial review of Tier II policies.

Phase III of the audit will include:

- Action planning, implementation and capacity building; and
- Development of a five-year outlook and plan for re-evaluation.

The audit team then reviewed the creation of the Equity Audit School Board Committee on October 7, 2021, its structure and its purpose, to perform in-depth policy review at monthly meetings. The committee process will include:

- Review policies;
- Discuss and consider stakeholder feedback;
- Develop revisions; and
- Refine proposals and advance them to the full School Board.

Mr. Terrence Wilson, IDRA Regional Policy & Community Engagement Director, then reviewed the themes and highlights identified in IDRA's Equity Policy Audit Report regarding ACPS' student discipline and conduct policies.

Finally, the committee reviewed and provided feedback on the following policies:

- [Policy JFC](#) & [Regulation JFC-R](#): Student Conduct
- [Policy JFCA](#): Teacher Removal of Students from Class
- [Policy JFCB](#): Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity
- [Policy JFCF/JFCI](#) & [Regulation JFCF-R/JFCI-R](#): Alcohol and Other Drugs in Schools
- [Policy JFCH/GBEC](#): Tobacco-Free School for Staff and Students
- [Policy JFCE](#): Gang Activity or Association
- [Policy JFG](#): Search and Seizure

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2021 in the School Board Meeting Room. The committee will complete its initial review of student discipline and conduct policies by discussing:

- [Policy JGD/JGE](#) & [Regulation JGD-R/JGE-R](#): Suspension & Expulsion; and
- [Policy JGDA](#) & [Policy JGDB](#): Disciplining Student with Disabilities.

Draft revisions for the policies introduced at the October 26, 2021 meeting will then be discussed.