



Committee Report

Committee Name:

Parent Engagement & Student Life Committee Meeting

September 20, 2021

Location	Date	Time
Virtual	September 20, 2021	5:35p.m.- 6:36p.m.
Board Members		
	A 'Dorian Murray-Thomas, Co-Chair	
Josephine Garcia	Dawn Haynes, Board President	
District Liaison & Superintendent Representative		
Carolyn Granato, Assistant Superintendent	Samantha Lott- Velez, Assistant Superintendent	
Other District Staff		
Michelina Thornton , Parent Engagement		
Nicole Johnson, Deputy Superintendent		
Guests		
Meeting Summary		
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Due to an unforeseen emergency Committee Chair Anderson was not present, in her place was Co-Chair A 'Dorian Murray- Thomas. At 5:35p.m. A 'Dorian Murray- Thomas, Co - Committee commenced the September Parent Engagement and Student Life Committee Meeting at 5:35 p.m.</p> <p>Committee Co-Chair Thomas began with the Parent Engagement Tour. She suggested hosting the tour on October 6, 2021 so that parents get the most current information and have all of their questions and concerns addressed. All agreed to this date.</p> <p>Co-Chair Thomas introduced Michelina Thornton, Director Office of Parent Engagement for updates:</p> <p><u>Office of Parent Engagement</u></p> <p>Grants or New Opportunities:</p> <p>Project F.E.E.D. (Friends Ensuring Every Dinner) provides healthy, nutritious meals through FREE food box distribution and supporting other organizations in their meal delivery efforts. <u>Project F.E.E.D.</u> is a new program the district was selected to participate in and 10 schools were selected based on needs by Assistant Superintendents. They will deliver schools weekly from September 1, 2021, and January 31, 2022. Schools will select meals from local restaurants that complete the application process and are approved by the State. Once a week delivery to 10 Newark Public Schools – 150 meals per school</p> <p>The 10 schools are:</p>		

1. Luis Muñoz Marin
2. Dr. William H. Horton
3. Camden Street School
4. South Street School
5. Chancellor Avenue School
6. Speedway Avenue School
7. Barringer High School
8. Weequahic High School
9. Elliott Street School
10. Peshine Avenue

Operation Warm – This non-profit organization partners with organizations to provide coats to children. This year in partnership with Benjamin Moore they will provide approximately 400 coats to students at South 17th Street School. Coats will be distributed Sept. 29th.

Supportive Schools Grant - The Supportive Schools Newark is a partnership between the NBOE and Fairleigh Dickinson University to create a pipeline of school psychologists into high needs schools and increase the capacity to effectively address the needs of youth who have experienced trauma.

Parent Training/Opportunities:

Tuesday, Sept 14 - *Fall Spring Parent University* launched. The new format can be found on our district website by going to Parents, then Parent University. There are 9 series and course descriptions of what is available. The calendar tab has the monthly calendars with 2 sessions happening almost daily.

Tuesday, Sept 14th. – Parent Liaisons had their 1st PD session to build capacity. Agenda topics included the role of the PL; Lunch Applications; Strategic Plan alignment; Parent University In partnership with Newark Work Force, SkillUp is a free platform offering thousands on online training also presented to Parent Liaisons so they are familiar with the platform.

Upcoming Events: *Title I Conference December 4, planning to begin early October.*

Co-Chair Thomas introduced Carolyn Granato, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services for updates:

Office of Student Life

High School Guidance:

1. August 20, 2021, our College and Career Readiness: Class of 2021 concluded and all of our participants gained acceptance to Bloomfield College for the fall of 2022!!! - [Press Release Bloomfield College](#)
2. Our partnership with Princeton University's W.E.B. DuBois Scholars Institute summer program concluded. We had five (5) participants from the following schools: American History HS, Science Park HS, and Elliott Street School. Courses included: Intro to Molecular Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Math Logic, Introductory Analysis: A Long Black Freedom Struggle? and Mathematics of Population Dynamics.
3. We have established a partnership with Amazon for employment opportunities for seniors and post-graduates and will host an information session on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 12:50pm.

Homeless/Displaced McKinney Vento:

1. On boarded two BSW-Rutgers Students Intern to support with McKinney-Vento Students
2. McKinney-Vento Homeless Act Training for School Social workers & School Counselors
3. Received school supplies/book bags and hygiene kits delivery to distribute to all schools

Parent Training/Opportunities:

On Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at the NBOE Parent Academy, the Office of Student Life in collaboration with the NJ HESAA, will offer a FAFSA information for parents.

Upcoming Events:

1. ***Newark Board of Education Staff Support Group:*** NBOE and the Office of Student Life will continue providing a Staff Support Group in the Fall from September 15th through December 22nd. Sessions will run biweekly on Wednesdays (5:15pm-6:15pm). The NBOE SSG is an opportunity for employees to learn more about topics that can impact overall mental health and well-being. The SSG will continue to provide a safe space for staff to connect with others. Weekly sessions are open to all staff and will be facilitated by an outside licensed clinician.
2. ***Newark Museum and Conflict Resolution Partnership:*** The Office of Student Life, in partnership with FP YouthOutCry Foundation will work with High School Social Worker 2 and School Counselors to identify and complete the referral process for HS students who have been identified as survivors of trauma. The Program is projected to run a cycle of 6 cohorts throughout the 21-22 SY with the first cohort slated to begin October 5th. Each cohort will support 5-10 students (who meet criteria for trauma) and will run a duration of 6 weeks. The **weekly** program will take place offsite at the HUBB located at 135 Prince St. Newark, NJ during after school hours. The support staff received an overview of the program, the steps to complete for the referral process, and receive weekly emails to actively recruit students for this program.
3. The Office of Student Life -- High School Guidance will offer parents FAFSA information sessions in English and Spanish during semester 1 of the 2021 school year!
4. October 2021-Providing McKinney-Vento training to Early Childhood Social Workers
5. 9/23 and 9/24 Special Programs Training for Power School on streamlining and digitizing intervention plans for students.

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