



Committee Report

Parent Engagement & Student Life Committee Meeting

Location	Date	Time
Virtual via WEBEX	November 13, 2023	5:30pm-7:58 pm
Board Members		
Committee Chairperson Dawn Haynes	Allison James- Frison	
Hasani Council	Crystal Williams	
District Liaison & Superintendent Representative		
Carolyn Granato, Assistant Superintendent	Samantha Lott-Velez	
Other District Staff		
Havier Nazario, Chief of Staff	Rashon Dwight, HIB/Title 9 Coordinator	
Malachi Gwyn, Student Representative		
Mary Leigh Harvey, Director OSL	Edwin Mendez, Director, Office of Attendance	
Michelina Thornton, Director Parent Engagement and Federal Grants	Darrell Major, Manager Specialist	
Shamere Williams, Deputy's Office	Vernon Pullins, Supervisor OSL	
Guests		
Del Johnson, Guest Speaker		
Meeting Summary		
<p>The November 13, 2023 Parent Engagement Student Life Committee Meeting commenced at 5:30pm by Committee Chairperson Dawn Haynes. She reminded the committee that all agenda items are aligned with the 10 Year Strategic Plan and committee action will support and fortify the achievement of goals</p>		
<u>New /Old Business</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Chairperson Dawn Haynes introduced and welcomed Malachi Gwyn, NBOE Student Representative to the committee. • The first Parent Engagement Tour will take place on Monday, December 18, 2023 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at George Washington Carver. There will be a virtual option for those not able to attend in person. • Guest Speaker, Del Johnson presented on the importance of collecting and utilizing data regarding diversity, inclusion and equity in organizations. 		

Parent Engagement

Director Michelina Thornton provided the committee with the following updates:

- November 8th - 37th Annual Title I Parent Conference had a total of approximately 450 people.
 - 270 were parents/families
 - 135 district staff (including parent liaisons)
 - 30 community partners (multiple people from each organization)
- Robert Jackson was the keynote speaker. He provided powerful and encouraging words for parents to help their children and strategies to help with their own self-care. Participants received a copy of his newest book, *Mothers Raising Sons*.
- There were 16 workshop sessions and 6 roundtable discussions.
- 20 gift baskets were raffled off to conference participants. All baskets were generously donated by District Central Offices
- Parent Engagement Specialists made 14 school site visits in October to ensure all schools had initial meetings to review parent engagement expectations.
- Parent Engagement Specialists review and support developing parent engagement school Action Plans.
- Example of Parent Engagement Action Plan - [Louise A. Spencer](#)
- By November, all schools have conducted their Annual Title I Parent meeting to provide information to parents about their Title I funding, SMART goals for the year and strategies to address their goals.

HIB

- Rashon Dwight, District HIB/ Title 9 provided the committee with the following actions regarding Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying:
- Review HIB Report for October 2023
- Week of Respect October 2-6, 2023
- School Violence Awareness Week October 16 - 20, 2023
- Collaborated with the High School Leadership Team to provide an SSDS/HIB training (Overview, Reporting, Updates, & Mandates) to HSLT Principals' Meeting on October 27, 2023
- Continued to provide ongoing coaching and support to School-Based ABS'

Office of Student Life

Director Mary Leigh Harvey provided the committee with the following updates:

- Safety Matters Facilitator training, via the Monique Burr Foundation and Goya was provided to all Elementary/Middle School Counselors during a professional development session on October 18, 2023. Five additional schools were identified to receive the pilot program this year: Luis Munoz Marin, Peshine Avenue, South Street, Speedway and Sussex Avenue.

- The Vector Solutions platform is currently being onboarded for NBOE; this platform will provide a course catalogue which can be used to access various trainings, including suicide, substance abuse and others.
- The NBOE Pre-College Fair will take place on November 14, 2023 at 3:30 PM at Central High School. Approximately twenty colleges and programs have registered to participate, including Kean, NJIT, Rutgers, Big Brothers Big Sisters, SEEDs, Saint Elizabeth University, American Musical and Dramatic Academy College of Performing Arts and others.
- Quarter 1 Academic Conferences are being held across the district, with a focus of providing one to one counseling to those students with low academic/ low performing grades of D and F. Engagement of parents, students and teachers is an integral part of this process, with an expectation that we can capture and improve some grades prior to them being stored for the quarter.
- All school counselors created transition boards to provide college and career readiness information to students who will be moving from middle to high school.

Attendance:

Director Edwin Mendez reviewed the October attendance data with the committee highlighting the four attendance categories as well as currently employed strategies

Committee Chair Dawn Haynes adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm