



Minutes of the Equity and Inclusivity Task Force (TF) of the Lester B. Pearson School Board
Meeting

Held On-Line
January 8, 2021, 19h:00

Chaired by Dr. Myrna Lashley

Present:

Tiffany Callender
Chad Cowie
David Chisholm
Natalie Constant
Lisa Davis Mancini
Andrew Henry
Sabi Hinkson
Colin Jamieson
Wusua Mitchell
Fariha Naqvi Mohamed
Matthew Pike
Finn Poirier
Thomas Rhymes
Felix Robitaille
Shari Waldrich

Absent- Regrets:

Sharad Bhargava
Khobee Gibson
Carol James
Kemba Mitchell
Nimalan Yoganathan

The Chair called the meeting to order at 19h:00 and welcomed the members to the meeting.

The Chair reported that there have been some letters from the community that are politically charged and requesting action from the TF. It is not the position of the TF to be involved with politics, but to remain focused on the TF mandate.

Task Force Mandate

1) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of existing policies and procedures pertaining to addressing and eliminating all forms of systemic racism and discrimination; and

2) Produce actionable recommendations to serve as a foundation upon which individual institutions, based on demographic and educational requirements, can build to promote equity and inclusivity for all students and staff.

Matthew Pike gave an overview of his additional role with the TF. Matthew has taken on the task of aiding the TF with the academic articles that are collected and placed in the research folders. Matthew will write a synopsis of the articles in the TF folders and ensure that the information is made available to the respective subgroups. He will also research and source any request for articles.

The Chair opened up a discussion regarding the progress of the report writing process. The TF is adhering to the report timeline. A lengthy discussion ensued with regards to the direction of the report and its contents, with the goal of delivering comprehensive recommendations based on the academic articles and community letters. The discussion resulted in positive feedback amongst the TF and confidence in their ability to produce a solid report addressing the issues of equality and inclusivity within Lester B. Pearson School Board community.

Next TF meeting, January 22, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 21h:22