



NASHOBA Regional School Committee
Diversity, Equity, Acceptance and Racial Justice Advisory
Sub Committee Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2021
6:00 PM

Meeting Remote via Zoom Technology

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81050317937?pwd=TWt3RlFkYlQ3MjJlVnNRYytMc2M4dz09>

Meeting ID: 810 5031 7937

Passcode: 334839

I. Call to Order: 6:03pm by Elaine Sanfilippo

II. Citizen's Comments: None

III. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: *Christine O'Brien moved to approve meeting minutes. Gary David seconded. Motion to approve last meeting minutes passed unanimously.*

IV. New Business

- a. Norms presentation (Presented by Elizabeth Bendler) and discussion/breakout rooms (45 minutes group activity based on self-reflection prompts)
- b. DEARJ Community Norms created collaboratively with all attendees. *Maura Bailey motioned a vote to pass the group norms that were compiled collaboratively. Gary David seconded. Motion to create group norms passed unanimously.*
- c. Introduction to the concept of Land Acknowledgements. *Based on time this item was moved to a future agenda*
- d. Introduction to NRSD Policy Manual

V. Unfinished Business

- a. None

VI. Announcements/Updates

- a. A group of WPI students are working with the School Committee to do primary research and document the conversation around the mascot change. The goal is to document an accurate history of what has transpired over the years so that NRSD can create a positive culture moving forward.
- b. For any current students or parents of current students, Tania Rich sent an email over February break about meetings being held this week discussing the mascot. There are student forums that will be led by faculty. Two new mascot proposals will be unveiled.
- c. The school committee has kicked-off the process of searching for a new superintendent for an effective start date of July 1, 2021. There is a search committee that will be responsible for vetting applicants. Elaine Sanfilippo encourages people to apply to be a part of the search committee to ensure there are diverse voices and perspectives, as well as people with a DEARJ lens involved. The Massachusetts Associate of School Committees are consulting on the process.

VII. Items for Future Agenda:

- a. Land Acknowledgements: Intent to form subgroup (vote required) to research and make recommendation to DEARJ Advisory.
- b. Brainstorm of ideas and discussion of priorities for future work

VIII. Adjourn: *Olivia Liang moved to adjourn at 8:23pm. Emma Caviness seconded. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.*