

LEADERSHIP DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Present at the meeting: *B. Norcia, L. Newell, M. Dolan, R. Gonzalez, A. Romano, V. Caputo, D. Harvest, J. Fike, K. Taylor, M. Aquino, N. Herring, N. Perez, R. Bozza, and J. Rattner*

- **Welcome – Nelyda Perez**

Ms. Perez thanked everyone for joining the virtual meeting and shared that it was nice to see everyone.

- **NJASA Update – Dr. Richard Bozza, Executive Director**

Dr. Bozza shared some information as well as concerns that have been expressed regarding the opening of schools and meetings he has attended. A meeting was held yesterday with the Commissioner regarding the info to be shared with districts for the 20-21 school year. He along with other Executive Directors are meeting today with the Governor's Chief of Staff and representatives of the Department of Health to help them better understand the issues district superintendents face regarding the opening of school as well as the additional financial burdens. Another meeting with the DOE is set for Thursday. He plans to provide an update at the Executive Committee meeting on Thursday morning in addition to sending out updates to association members.

- **Regional/County Share**

Dr. Fike shared that special services, ed services and jointure commissions are in the process of communicating to the Commissioner concerns about the ESY and changes they may be made in light of changes shared by the governor yesterday.

Dr. Gonzalez shared some information about activities held in Teaneck regarding the BLM on the 30th anniversary of racial shooting and the concern that not much has changed in those 30 years.

Ms. Perez shared that as we look at options for the start of the school year that we need to keep in my our students who are not English speaking to make sure that resources are available for all of them.

Dr. Newell commented on the article https://www.usnews.com/news/education-news/articles/2020-06-08/report-schools-need-a-federal-bailout-in-order-to-reopen?src=usn_tw that Dr. Bozza shared regarding reopening and expressed her concerns about students who may be homeless or in tenuous living situations.

Ms. Romano shared some resources regarding difficult conversations that were sent to committee members.

Dr. Taylor talked about the importance of NJASA taking the lead with regarding to sharing info with association members to share Equity Audit and additional resources.

- **P & G “The Look”** <https://youtu.be/aC7lbdD1hq0>

Ms. Rattner shared this brief message with the committee. Dr. Harvest and Dr. Newell shared their personal experiences and other members provided their feedback and insights.

- **Professional Development**

Dr. Gonzalez stated the need for the association to support members be working with LEAD as districts continue to bring police into our schools and the need for everyone to be on the same page. He stressed the importance of our Equity Conference. He also asked that NJASA thinking about helping district leaders deal with teaching tolerance and recognizing and dealing with implicit bias and discrimination.

- **Upcoming Events**

- **September 29 – Committee Meeting (tentative date)**

- **Your Thoughts/Concerns**

Everyone expressed appreciation for the opportunity to get together and the information shared.

“One Vision – Our Voice”

The mission of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the unifying professional association of school leaders, is to ensure a superior statewide system of education by influencing and effecting educational policy, regulations and legislation; and by maximizing the capacity and effectiveness of school leaders through professional development programs and support services.