

LEADERSHIP DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 14, 2020

Present at the meeting: S. Abbato, B. Norcia, L. Newell, M. Dolan, L. Perez-Gonzalez, R. Gonzalez, R. MCarry, A. Romano, V. Caputo, D. Harvest, J. Fike, K. Taylor, K. O'Neil, M. Aquino, N. Herring, N. Perez, C. Fues, E. Servilla, S. Williams, J. Sharp, 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.

- **Presentations**

- **CJ Pride -Charity L. Fues / Jennifer Sharp / Erin Servillo / Shunda Williams**

- CJ Pride representations shared information about their organization and diversity job fair with the committee.

- **Rowan - Nadeen Herring, Teacher Education Recruiter and Retention Specialist**

- Ms. Herring was experiencing technical difficulties and requested that we place her on our agenda for our first meeting next year.

- **Congratulations**

- **Dr. Margaret Dolan for being elected President of NJASA and to Dr. Janet Fike for being elected President Elect of NJASA.**
 - **Dr. Kathy Taylor for being selected as a Distinguished Service Award winner along with Dr. Michael Kuchar.**

- **Regional/County Share**

Dr. Fike shared that the WIL central region breakfast typically held in November has been put on hold due to COVID-19.

Dr. Gonzalez shared that Bergen County had to cancel their diversity job fair scheduled for March due to the Pandemic.

Ms. Perez shared that more staff members are choosing to retire and there is concern about filling their positions.

Dr. Dolan shared that because teachers are working from home some of them have requested that their maternity leaves be shortened. Mr. Caputo said he is having a similar experience.

Dr. O'Neil stated that in the south they are looking closely at the Maryland plan for reopening schools.

Ms. Abbato indicated that Hudson County has had significant losses due to COVID-19. She did share that she heard Connecticut is looking at including Saturday in their return to school and having a 3-day scheduled rotation.

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

Dr. Bozza shared some information as well as concerns that have been expressed regarding the closing of schools, ESY, superintendent evaluations timelines and merit goals, and the start of the next school year. He expressed concerns about the reliability of the state aid figures provided in February. He is hopeful that he will have more information as a result of the LEE meeting with the commissioner scheduled for later this afternoon.

- **Upcoming Events**

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

- **Brochure – feedback on draft**

- Dr. Fike made the suggestion to have more photos in the brochure and to include ones that representative of all committee events.

- **Your Thoughts/Concerns**

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

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