

BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Equity and Social Justice Committee Meeting
November 4, 2021
MINUTES

Attendance: Jean Borrup, Lisa Budris, Abby Caliandri, Jeanne Cannarella, Aurora Corteville, Dorothy Foster, Laurie Gjerpen, Pam Hamad, Michelle Hannon, Steve Jenkins, Lisa Turgeon, Tim Chiaverini, Sarah Patel, Kevin Wilhelm, Chris Barlow, Twanette Price, Mary Jane Bezares, Jen Jurgen, Cindy Martin, Cheyanne Valinsky, Lynn Addamo, Dave Bosso, Eileen Eustis, Mary MacFarland, Cara Quinn, Katie Amenta, Jen Caridnes, Libby Dunn, Lani Jones, David Kitzman, Juliana Mancini, Ana Nascimento, Michael Sobolewski, Tiffany Trowbridge- Bernard, Emily Roche, Kristin Beudet, Brian Benigni, Erin McGurk

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Erin McGurk at 4:32 p.m.

II. Social Justice Standards: Ms. Laurie Gjerpen presented a brief overview of the Social Justice Standards, developed by Teaching Tolerance (now Learning for Justice). She described the structure of the document, with K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 standards in four domains: Identity, Diversity, Justice and Action. Committee members engaged in an activity in which they were given strips of paper with an anchor standard on each strip. Committee members worked in small groups to read and discuss the anchor standards and to classify the standards into the four domains. Following this, committee members examined the vertical articulation of the standards, reviewing the sequential development of grade level outcomes. The standards can be downloaded using this link: <https://www.learningforjustice.org/sites/default/files/2020-09/TT-Social-Justice-Standards-Anti-bias-framework-2020.pdf>

III. Subcommittee meetings: The committee split into subcommittee work groups for the second half of the meeting. The following subcommittees met: Curriculum Audit and Anti-Bias/Anti-Racist Efforts with Students; Parent/Family/Community Outreach; Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Workforce ; Professional Learning for Educators and Other Members of the School Staff; and School Culture and Student Opportunities. Each subcommittee was charged with the task of developing 3-5 action steps for their subcommittee for the upcoming year.

IV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin K. McGurk, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction