

Parent Diversity Advisory Council

December 10, 2015

**Welcoming and including families of diverse Race, Ethnicities, and Languages**

Minutes

**Mission**

*To advance District 204's commitment to equity and educational excellence.*

**Welcome**

- Saily Joshi and Sindy Mondesir welcomed the group to the meeting and provided an overview of the activities.
- The Norms of the Group were reviewed
  1. Be on time.
  2. Stay on task.
  3. Be relevant... It's about Equity.
  4. Be Honest. Be Open. Be Respectful.
- Ivette Dubiel shared the District Communication Protocol to have issues properly addressed. See the document entitled, [\*Where to Go If You Have A Concern\*](#)

**Video** Being 12 Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6xSyRJgle8>

**Teacher Input**

Teacher input was provided by Lori Cosby (Patterson), Carol Hess (Owen), Gustavo Gonzalez, (Georgetown and Welch), and Becky Trybus (Cowlshaw).

Comments included:

- Lori Cosby discussed the *Celebrate Me and Celebrate You* unit that is taught in Kindergarten and how student's self-identity is embedded in the curriculum.
- Becky Trybus shared her insights into her first grade ELA curriculum and the emphasis on diversity, cultures, traditions and customs.
- Carol Hess shared her ELL second grade food and government activities. She also shared the third grade multiple perspectives activities and a variety of books that are offered to the ELL population. They will talk about their family and their cultures. International section of the library with books in different languages.

- Gustavo Gonzalez is an ELL teacher that teaches different grade levels. Equity in the curriculum and equity in the diversity of books is very important to the district. Bringing different cultures, background, religions into the classrooms. Differentiated learning to make sure that they have the language support to understand the curriculum content.

### **Parent Testimony -**

- Silvia Vega Mitchell (PDAC liaison) shared her experience with a mystery reader for a Hispanic parent to read to the classroom. The parent read the book in Spanish while another parent read it in English. The children were enthusiastic in the experience.

### **Table Discussions and Share Outs**

- District #204 does take an opportunity to teach students about diversity.
- Religious differences need more discussion in the community when opportunities present themselves. The stereotype of a religion being bad and issues regarding the topic of religion vs. morality were discussed at tables.
- A variety of stereotypes still exist in the adult world.

**Final Video -** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v+NjyppljWx2Y>