



**FORT WORTH ISD MISSION:**  
 PREPARING <sup>all</sup> STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN  
 COLLEGE, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP.

**Fort Worth Independent School District  
 Racial Equity Committee  
 Meeting Minutes  
 Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom**

**Committee Members Present:**

Anderson, Sue	Cytron-Walker, Adena	Krochmal, Dr. Max	Poullard, Eric
Benavidez, Dr. Dorene *	Garcia-Lopez, Norma	Mattingly, Dr. Cissy *	Poullard, Precious
Bond, Clint	Grover, Barbara	McKinney, Wanda	Sorensen, Marcy
Breed, Sherry *	Hall, Mia	Nickerson, Porshe *	Starr-Malone, Sonja
Chavez, Aracely	Herrera, Alfonso	Pérez, Jonathan *	Walker, Dr. Carlos *
Clark, Rickie	Hodges, Charles	Phillips, Quinton	

**Committee Members Absent:**

Affleck, Holly	Harris, Cleveland	Masterson, Twyla	Paz, Ashley
Argumedo, Miguel	Harrison-Jordan, Tina	Mohamed, Mohamed	Turcios, Carlos
Balzer, Dr. Jill	Jones, Dr. Trevon *	Moss, Christene	Villalobos, Lupita
Darr, Anne	Jones, Ebony	Nixon, Glenn	West, Bill
Dominguez, Nyssa	Lee, Yassmin	Pace, Brandi	West, David
El, Robert	Luebanos, Anael	Richter, Breinn	Williams, Dr. Jared
Gravelle, Elizabeth	Masterson, Tim	Rincón, Cynthia	Young, Patricia
Griffith, Barbara			

***Courageous Conversations About Race Affiliate Practitioners (\*) Present:***

--	--	--	--

***Courageous Conversations About Race Affiliate Practitioners (\*) Absent:***

Burrell, Dr. Stacy *	Mouton, Dr. Marion *	Ramos, Jr., Jacinto "Cinto" *	Townsend, Rian *
Crespo, Mirgitt *	Niedziela, Joe*		

**Guests:**

Boyd, Ayesha	Pantoja, Xavier	Garcia, Daniel	Miller, Megan
Ordonez, Monica	Smith, Patricia	Chamblee, Nikki	Gordon, Charles
Meadows, Cid		Elliott, Clara	Ramirez, Leticia

**CALL TO ORDER:**

- The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.
- Minutes from prior meeting approved by consensus
- Mrs. Breed reviewed the Racial Equity Committee (REC) Meeting Protocol - revised for Zoom

## DISCUSSION ITEMS:

### 1. Watch and Discuss video related to Senate Bill (SB) 30: Community Safety Education Act, which requires instruction on interaction with law enforcement.

(Presenters: Joseph Niedziela, Executive Director of Social Studies/Daniel Garcia, Executive Director for Safety & Security/Staff from Social Studies and Safety & Security)

- The presenters provided an overview of SB30 committee work
  - The current video “*Flashing Lights: Creating Safe Interactions Between Citizens and Law Enforcement*” is a product of the Texas Community Safety Education Act (SB 30), passed by the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature.
  - This is a graduation requirement.
  - The article “[Why the Texas Police-Stop Video is a Problem](#)” was also shared, which discusses how the video places all the responsibility on the student and not on law enforcement. Also, the racial dynamics in the video are not realistic nor authentic.
- Today’s Objectives:
  - inform the REC about SB30, its requirements, and how it has been implemented in FWISD;
  - identify and explain the need to provide a more equitable and supportive environment through an updated SB 30 experience;
  - elicit feedback from REC.
- What is SB 30? Effective August 27, 2018, this rule requires schools to provide instruction to students in grades 9-12 on proper interaction with peace officer during traffic stops and other in-person encounters. The requirement applies to any student who enters grade 9 in the 2018-2019 school year and thereafter.
  - SB 30 Texas Education Code (TEC) Standards: per TEC, the instruction must include all of the following information:
    - The role of law enforcement and the duties and responsibilities of peace officers;
    - a person’s rights concerning interactions with peace offices;
    - proper behavior for civilians and peace officers during interactions;
    - laws regarding questioning and detention by peace officers,
    - including any law requiring a person to present proof of identity to a peace officer, and the consequences for a person’s or officer’s failure to comply with those laws;
    - how and where to file a complaint against or a compliment on behalf of a peace officer.
  - Can a school district change and or alter the required instruction?
    - Yes, school districts may tailor instruction as appropriate for their community. In tailoring the instruction, the district or school is required to solicit input from local law enforcement agencies, driver training schools, and the community.
    - The tailored instruction must cover all the content specified above and in the video and instructor’s guide on the [Texas Gateway](#).

- Implementation in FWISD:
  - FWISD has implemented the SB30 instruction in grade 9 social studies since Fall 2018.
    - In January 2021, lesson enhancements were developed in collaboration with the social studies department, Restorative Practices, and Equity Team. These include:
      - A lesson survey to give student feedback;
      - brain break to decompress;
      - article analysis on article on [What the World Could Teach America About Policing](#);
      - bold statement to read, analyze, and take a stand and act on thoughts;
      - virtual big paper activity to debrief and respond to other students' responses.
  
- Comments & Feedback from student participants:
  - "I was thinking about how the video tiptoed around how Black people are treated disproportionately more unfairly by the police and how officers of color were being used for good optics."
  - "I want them to know that I still feel unsafe about it and want them to know that I learned a little bit about having to be calm around officers."
  - "Just comply because you can easily be harmed."
  - "One thing I found is that other countries don't immediately result to violence with police harming citizens."
  - "One thing I find interesting is that police have to go through only 21 weeks of training to be able to enforce the law."
  
- FWISD Vision for Change:
  - A custom video produced through a partnership with FWISD and the Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD). The planned 10-minute video will:
    - be aligned to our District vision for racial equity,
    - be informed by District stakeholders,
    - feature District students and FWPD officers.
  
  - Collaboration Partners: Social Studies, Teaching and Learning, Academics; Equity and Excellence; Restorative Practices; Communications; Specialized Education Services; Safety and Security; and FWPD.
  
  - Working Project Timeline for Implementation for the 2021-2022 school year:
    - December – March: Meetings between collaboration partners and SB 30 curriculum team meet to create value statements and lesson objectives;
    - April: REC feedback informs script development by a collaboration between partners and SB 30 curriculum team. Script outline created;
    - May: script development with FWISD and FWPD;
    - June – October: video production and editing;
    - November – December: implementation of new video and lesson in grade 9 Social Studies (class of 2025 cohort).

- Goals of a New Video:
  - Create learning spaces driven by authentic multiple perspectives and meaningful conversations;
  - represent genuine and varied interactions (e.g. interactions beyond traffic stops; interactions that are responsive to students with specialized needs; interactions responsive of students and families that do not have ID);
  - empower student voices while growing their understanding of police perspectives (e.g. students share their experiences with police then have students listen to student and police testimonies).
- REC members watched the video [“Flashing Lights”](#) and provided feedback via online survey.

2. **Subcommittee charge to finalize recommendations for consideration.** – *Not discussed due to time constraints.*

**REMINDERS:**

- Next REC Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021, 5 p.m., via Zoom
- Discipline Subcommittee Meeting: April 8, 2021, 5:30-6:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Academics & Segregation Subcommittee Meeting: April 22, 2021, 5-6 p.m. via Zoom
- Communications Subcommittee Meeting: May 3, 2021, 5-6 p.m. via Zoom
- Staffing & Recruiting Subcommittee Meeting: TBA

**FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:**

- Race and Disparities in Healthcare

**ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Signed: Quinton Phillips Date: 5/6/21

Mr. Quinton “Q” Phillips, Co-Chair

Signed: Maximilian Krochmal Date: 5/6/21

Dr. Max Krochmal, Co-Chair

/clm & bg