

Oriole Park Local School Council  
Equity Committee  
Minutes  
Monday, June 10th, 2019  
Start time: 5:30pm

1. Call to order: 5:45PM  
Committee members present: Barb Brodsky, Sara Arnold, Libby Madej, Daun Vaswani, Ewa Mascarenhas, Karen Torres, Liz Schultz, Anne Breen, Candace McGuffey, Al Grippe  
Committee members not present: Julie Fehler-Render, Matt Render, Annie Rarey, Radostina Apostolova, Emily Hogan
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Acceptance of agenda
  - a. Suggestion to move Public Participation to the beginning of the agenda for this meeting and future meetings
    - i. Motion: Liz; Second: Sara; Approved unanimously
4. Acceptance of minutes from the last meeting
  - a. Motion: Sara; Second: Candace; Approved unanimously
5. Public Participation: None
6. Update on LSC meeting
  - a. Bathrooms
    - i. School has an “everyone” sign on a private bathroom now, but it is not being messaged to students
    - ii. Safety concern about the lock being only on the inside of the door
    - iii. Al will recommend to admin that the “everyone” bathroom be messaged to students by staff so that they will know it is available to students who need a safe place to use the bathroom
      1. Messaging suggestion: During Teacher PD / How to mention it in our back to school messages - “We are a safe school and we have specific expectations within our school. One is that students in need of a safe space to use the bathroom have that space. If you see this symbol \_\_\_\_\_ this is the location.”
  - b. Lanyards
    - i. “OUT” badges were ordered for all of the staff to wear (optional) that signifies that OPS is a safe school for individuals who are LGBTQ
      1. Candace will email staff about what the OUT badges are and what they mean
      2. Al will recommend that the OUT lanyards be messaged to students by staff so that they will know what they mean
    - ii. Question: Can this be discussed during health class?
      1. No health being taught right now at OPS, but CPS mandates that all grades have a specific number of minutes of health education



- c. Regional committees
  - i. Ask LSC to add EC to the bylaws
  - ii. LSC member will add this to the July organizational meeting
  - iii. Other LSCs have been contacted on the northside are interested about starting ECs as part of their LSC
    - 1. Suggestion: invite members of nearby schools' LSCs to come to our meetings and we can offer our support at their meetings if they want to
- 8. Other business and/or announcements
  - a. Digital access: this was brought up at the LSC meeting and was received well
  - b. NAMI has mental health curriculum for kids that is well-formatted for 7-8 grades and they are currently creating a curriculum for younger grades – Liz is a resource for this
  - c. Yearbook: several individuals have emailed the principal and expressed concern and providing resources to address the white nationalist gesture in the yearbook
    - i. Response has been that there will be a statement, but no word on actions to be taken
    - ii. MAGA hats & shirts are also in the yearbook – a local group is looking into bringing MAGA-wear issue to the CPS school board to ask for a statement. Discussion regarding banning MAGA wear in our school since dress code is up to individual schools.
- 9. Future tasks and/or agenda items
  - a. Update EC membership forms
  - b. Add following agenda items to organizational LSC meeting in July:
    - i. Bathrooms & OUT lanyards
      - 1. Acknowledge and show appreciation for the bathroom update
      - 2. Discuss: How to announce that there is an “everyone” bathroom and the OUT lanyards’ meaning
    - ii. CPS-mandated Health curriculum
    - iii. Committee / LSC relationships and adding EC to the LSC bylaws
  - c. Send out poll about August EC meeting date
  - d. Possibly add more inclusive words to the EC form/logo/description (ex: kindness, compassion, inclusiveness etc.)
- 10. Adjourned at 7:47PM
  - a. Motion to adjourn: Libby; Second: Sara; Approved unanimously
- 11. Next Meeting: TBD (August)