



Commission on Children and Youth
Meeting Minutes-Approved
March 10, 2021
Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS (virtual)

Members Present via Microsoft TEAMS: Kirsten Andersen, Stephanie Clark, Leslie Copeland-Tune, Luciana Crotti-Espinoza, Alex Kern, Renae McPherson, Stephanie Nesmith, Jeanette Peralta, Julie Riley, Andrea Shore, and Shané Tate

Members Absent: Jerome Jackson, Ijeoma Okoro and Pamela Taylor

Guests: Dr. Annette Campbell Anderson, Daniel Espinoza, and Lynne Harris

Staff Present: Erin Stillwell (DHHS)

Renae McPherson, chair, called the full commission meeting to order at 7:04 pm

- Chair roll call
- Chair provided opening remarks about hosting meeting via Microsoft TEAMS

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Dr. Annette Campbell Anderson-Deputy Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Safe and Healthy Schools

- Initially responded to Great Mill HS where student was killed by her ex-boyfriend; thinking about how to train teachers/staff; shift the communication from safety to safe and healthy schools
- March 2020-had to rethink work; needed to look at equity during the pandemic; created ESchool+ (center for education, schools of bioethics and health)
- Children from poverty and systemic disadvantage have been impacted the greatest by the pandemic; needed to look at equity when considering school reopening strategies (looking specifically at operational and ethics/equity)
- MSDE has equity focus areas (12 categories)
- Focus: now on “parent choice”; teacher and staff choice was underreported
- In winter began tracking vaccine availability; launched a teacher and school staff vaccine dashboard; large issue of “trust” with teacher vaccination and children returning to school
- As schools reopen, pressing equity issues: housing (families facing evictions and foreclosures), teacher retention (how will teachers work on virtual, hybrid and in person teaching), instructional quality, assessments (how much of a learning gap?) planning for fall (how to get more students back into the classroom, sports

- programs, etc.) and SRO (pandemic of racism impacts conversation; do SRO's need to be part of the program)
- 5 Key Items to Consider for Reopening: Prioritize the needs of most vulnerable students; how to triage the multiple needs to students when they return (social emotional and academic; having support of trusted adults); developing an equity strategies for the "entire village" (students come from a village-need to support the village as well as the student); putting the right people into learning spaces with the most vulnerable students; must be willing to learn first before leading
 - Q&A with Dr. Anderson

Meeting Summary Review and Vote: Review and vote on February 10, 2021 full commission meeting minutes

ACTION: Motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 10, 2021

Motion: Luciana Espinoza

Second: Stephanie Nesmith

Roll Call Vote: All in Favor

Debrief of Youth Having A Voice Roundtable Event (February 23, 2021)

- Commissioner felt it was a successful event and were very impressed with the feedback/thoughts shared by the youth participants and facilitators

Subcommittee Report Outs

- **Coordinated Services Subcommittee:** Reflected on notes from youth roundtable: issue around access to food, mental health, PPEs, technology for schools; harder to have a relationship with a caring adult during virtual learning
Action Item: invite guest from clusters project meeting (Kirsten will share information with Erin to extend an invitation to speak at the April subcommittee meeting)
- **Youth/Law Enforcement Subcommittee:** waiting to see more data before making recommendations (specifically students with disabilities); trying to determine focus of recommendations; issue of centralize training seems to be a big focus

CCY Discussion and Review about Draft Letter to BOE re. Students with Disabilities Interactions with Law Enforcement

Action Items: Kirsten and Stephanie will take a final look at the letter

ACTION: Motion to approve the letter to the BOE

Motion: Kirsten Anderson

Second: Jeanett Peralta

Roll Call Vote: All in Favor

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm

The next full CCY meeting will be held on April 14, 2021