

Agency of Education  
219 North Main Street, Suite 424  
March 26, 2019

Present: Tim Vincent, VSBIT; Mara Iverson, Outright VT; Melissa Horwitz, Human Rights Commission; Bernice Garnett, UVM; Jeff Fannon, VT-NEA; Daniel M. French, Agency of Education

AOE: Suzanne Sprague

Agenda:

1. Work-group session on Council's goals
  - a. HHB model policies to one page
  - b. Listening Tours
2. AOE Update on Student Survey
3. Legislative Report – (due January 2019)
4. Other?

The meeting convened at 2:37 p.m. Vincent asked for introductions.

Vincent began the discussion and reminded the Council of the draft HHB model policies one-page document which would be written in layman's terms. Vincent said that a couple of Council members edited the Google document. He shared the edited version. Discussion followed regarding purpose of the document, edits to the title, removing the reference to the football team under hazing, fixing additional language, location on the web site and inclusion in school handbooks. Vincent proposed sharing the updated version again with the Council via Google Docs and asked for final edits to be made there. Fannon added that the final document will be shared with Secretary French for his consideration. Secretary French said it was a useful document.

Vincent asked for an update from the group working on planning the next round of listening tours. Iverson said the group considered what to ask, which group to address, how to collect data and when the listening tour would occur. She said the group considered October 2019. Garnet added that October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Iverson shared a list of considerations including geographic diversity, urban vs. rural, different sized schools, racial and ethnic backgrounds, socio-economic status, level of school engagement and grade level. Discussion followed regarding number of schools to visit, prior listening tour, reality of high school and starting in middle school, speaking to youth and adults separately, students and reporting, school climate, what students interpret as bullying, standard script, purpose of listening tour, addressing harassment and hazing and the ambitious timeline.

The Council reviewed the prior HHB Listening Tour Action Plan. Garnett wondered if the HHB should use the school climate data to determine the schools to visit on the tour. Discussion followed regarding the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results, revisits, school follow-ups, students attending an upcoming HHB meeting and reviewing the YRBS data.

Iverson suggested reviewing the YRBS data before doing the listening tour. Discussion followed regarding what the HHB is trying to learn, the purpose of the prior listening tour, HHB mission, should the HHB still exist, changes in bullying to cyberbullying, impact on education, mental health impact and the new YRBS data being available in 2020. Secretary French said the State Report Card will be activated in the spring. He explained the State Report Card to the HHB.

Vincent will invite the Department of Health to present the 2017 YRBS data at the next meeting. Iverson wondered if there were any additional data sets available that the HHB should be reviewing. Secretary French said the Agency of Education (AOE) has the Combined Incident Reporting Software (CIRS) which is required by the federal government. He explained CIRS to the HHB. Discussion followed regarding standard data definitions, data driving policy discussion, designated reporter list and student voice not represented on the HHB.

Vincent asked about the HHB Advisory Council's yearly report to the Legislature. Garnett said that she, in the past, wrote the report and asked the HHB members to review it and provide input. She would write it from a strength-based perspective. Vincent said he would work on a draft copy to share with the HHB via Google Docs.

The remaining meetings are below.

June 3<sup>rd</sup>

July 29<sup>th</sup>

September 30<sup>th</sup>

November 25<sup>th</sup>

Garnett lauded the racial equity work by the VT-NEA. She is using the 30-minute video "I Am from Here" in her trainings.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Suzanne Sprague.