Black Parallel School Board

Black Parallel School Board
AGENDA
January 4, 2020

4625 44th Street, Rm 5, Sacramento, CA 95820			
Time	**Description**	**Action**	**Facilitator**
10:00 – 10:02 AM	Open Meeting	I	Pinkston
10:02 – 10:05	Presentation on Board Process and Swearing in	I/C	Pinkston
10:05 – 10:10	Introductions	I	All
10:10 – 10:15	Minutes	I/D/C	Pinkston
10:15– 10:45	SCUSD Updates • Board – Pinkston • SRO - Pinkston • LCAP Parent Advisory Committee – Breazell • African American Task Force - White	I/D/C	Pinkston/White/Breazell
	Testing, Grading and Assessment		
10:45- 11:20	Updates on BPSB Work • Lawsuit – White/Pinkston • Community Outreach update – Bryson/Dewitt • Zero Tolerance Youth Leadership - Breazell • Community Priority Coalition – Pinkston • Status of Black Students - Pinkston	I/D	
11:20 -11:59	Community Input	I	All
12:00 noon	Adjournment		All

Action: D= Discussion, I= Information, C= Consensus

All BPSB meetings are recorded

Thank You for Your Participation

www.Blackparallelschoolboard.com and Facebook

Minutes of Black Parallel School Board Monthly Meeting - 12/07/19

Date and time:	12/07/19 10:00 am to: 12/07/19 12:15 pm
Present:	Bakari Chavanu, Darryl White, Carl Pinkston, Marian Bryson, Lailah Muwwakkil
Absent:	LaShanya Breazell, Faye Wilson Kennedy, Toni Tinker

Discussion

1. Welcome

Visit and subscribe to the BPSB Website: http://blackparallelschoolboard.com

Follow and like @SacBPSB on Facebook

2. Introductions

Note: if your name is misspelled, send a note the minute taker to correct it. Jim Peterson, Renata Peterson, Sable Mensa, Maria Herndon, Mr. White,

3. Minutes

MOTION: Lailah motioned to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Ursula. Motion approved.

AGEND ITEM FOR NEXT MEETING: Report on schools where Black students are doing well.

Schools where Black kids are doing well is where the school gets together and ask what can we do to improve success of the students. The schools and teachers have to believe that all students can succeed.

4. SCUSD Board Meeting Updates — Carl

Nov. 7 SCUSD Meeting (https://www.scusd.edu/board-education-meeting/board-education-meeting-66). Ursula and Marian attending the meeting. Reported on standardized tests. Student Achievement Presentation: Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) (See handout)

The numbers were horrifc for many populations of students. But the board gave accolades for some schools, though the numbers are really bad for groups of students. Any school that had 1% improvement was given praise. The district didn't address what they are going to do differently to improve academic success. Need data on the opportunity gap. The board looks at the report, but they don't always understand what they are looking it. SBAC is not as useful at the high school, and it doesn't really influence or guide instruction. Benchmarks are the way to really assess students, (e.g. the development assessment on CPM.)

Testing can be used in the wrong way. AGEND ITEM FOR NEXT MEETING: Testing, assessment, grading, and student engagement.

Nov. 21st (https://www.scusd.edu/board-education-meeting/board-education-meeting-67):

They covered college prep, and the Native American Students program. Discussed who is identified as Native American, even in a mixed race family. We need sure our African American Native American students are receiving the support they deserve.

Also discussed submission credential waivers to fill the void of lack of children. In 2012 there was a massive layoff of teachers, and now it has a huge impact. The market has dried up for teachers. Teachers are not getting support for the work they do. Schools have to change what they are doing in order to attract new teachers.

5. SRO — Pinkston

Approved Modified Non-School Site Based Resource Officer Contract (See handout)

Some White parents concerned that there are no police on campus. We recommend that principals look at Luther Burbank as a model of how to handle not having an SROs on campus. The pushback on the additional support for restorative justice and PBIS programs is that they don't have the funding to do alternative programs to SROs on campus. If the district is county receivership, the county will have the last word about district budget. The police department are pushing their interests to support the SROs so that they can get more money.

The Big Homie group makes a huge positive difference at the school games in the evening.

6. LCAP Parent Advisory Committee — Breazell

LaShanya not present.

7. African American Task Force — White

We're continuing to develop our transition from a committee to independent entity. There's also discussion in other districts in California about how independent African American advisory committees are from the district. The councils are often made up of district staff members.

In areas like Merced, California City, and Bakersfield. The African American task force there are both independent entities that are connected to school districts.

8. Updates on BPSB Work

8-1. Community Outreach update — Bryson/Dewitt

We have been traveling. Did a listening session about Black migration in Fresno. Marian supported Faye at the Environmental Justice meeting, about decisions that are being made that are and will impact African American communities. There are no people of color apart of the decision making process when it comes to environmental justice.

We're helping two new parents with their 504s and IEPs. There are issues at the MLK school. Marian is researching the rules and regulations about parent visiting schools. Many of the district schools are making it very hard for parents to visit the schools.

Two schools received PBIS awards—John Sloat and Parkway, but there's clear information about why they received the awards. (The most successful PBIS program is in L.A.., where suspensions are down to 2%.).

We're getting a lot of parent calls with IEPs. Some kids are leaving charter schools and transferring back into the district because they are not getting the help they need in the charter schools. We have a new IEP kid who has been out of school for a while, and it was mainly a transportation issues, and lack of follow-up.

We attended a CVMB Fresno Convening: there's going to be a Dolores Huerta Day, and schools will start teaching about the contributions Dolores Huerta has made.

Ursula attended the Alliance for Men and Boys of Color conference which included many other organizations. They discussed SROs, SB 419, and other bills and issues. Discussed the Juveniles Voluntary Probation program (it's really not voluntary. It push targeted kids to volunteer for probation in order to receive certain services.) Also discussed how orgs need to be able to control the money they are given. Implementation of programs and bills are also a huge challenge.

8-2. Zero Tolerance Youth Leadership — Breazell

Youth will participate on policy issues.

8-3. Community Priority Coalition — Pinkston

CPC deals with the LCAP and developing an alternative budget for district. Carl will be drafting an alternative budget after the first release of the district's interim budget. The alternative budget is based on a set of assumptions, like reducing classroom sizes.

Our alternative budgets also show how the District's budget historically has underestimated revenue and overestimated expenditures.

8-4. BPSB Lawsuit

BPSB lawsuit is moved along. The lawsuit has been a wakeup call for district concerning Black students with disabilities. This is major effort for us to push the district to do the right thing. The results of the lawsuit will help non-Black students with disabilities as well who are not receiving the services they deserve.

8-5. African-American Regional Educational Alliance — White

The alliance is made up of orgs like BPSB that monitor what the academic success of Black students. Next month, Darryl will do a presentation at the Alliance conference.

9. Community Input

Carl: the The Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA) will be holding a community forum about "The Future of Sacramento City Unified District: Building a World-Class Public School System" on December 12th.

Marion: Black Parent's Involvement Day, Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

Tom Nelson: I'm advocate for parents. I sit on a LCAP committee, and I focus on parent engagement. Every school and district should post the dates of School Cite Council meetings, and LCAP meetings.

Sable Mensa: Attending meetings to find out more about parent engagement. Examining how resources are being allocated and where's the break down is in implementation. Would like to know more about what is BPSB's thinking about teaching and learning. (Darryl: We should pushing for the development of what good teaching looks like, and share those qualities throughout school districts.)

Mr. White (parent): recently my child was evaluated for an IEP. Want to thank Ursula and Marian for supporting me and my child in those meetings. I think parent involvement is the key to making changes. But we Black parents are not always willing to ask for help or admit that something is wrong with our children. (Ursula: nothing wrong with children. Children learn differently and they sometimes are not getting the opportunities they need.)

Maria Herndon: My granddaughter had a very negative experience with as an IEP student at Luther Burbank prior to Mr. Peterson being a principal. I enjoy being here.

Jim Peterson: We're holding a School Site Council meeting on my Monday. Our Consortium will be making robo calls to get parents to attend the meeting.

Renita Peterson: I'm officially a volunteer over at Bret Heart. We have a young ladies group that I meet up with on a weekly basis. We will also start a group for young men.

Lailah: money collected at the meeting: $151.09

Want to make folks aware of the ACES Aware Questionnaire: Kaiser is responsible from the initial questionnaire being conducted in White communities. Now the questionnaire is being pushed by the Centers For Disease Control And Prevention. The questionnaire is very misleading and can be interpreted in the wrong way. There's a perversion behind the questionnaire.

Sacramento City Unified School District and Advocacy Groups Pursue Settlement of Lawsuit Alleging Disability and Race Discrimination

SACRAMENTO, CA - The Sacramento City Unified School District (District) and plaintiffs suing the District for alleged discrimination against students based on race and disability asked the federal court to pause litigation so the parties may seek potential resolution through settlement.

The lawsuit, alleged as a class-action, was filed by a coalition of nonprofit advocacy groups on behalf of the Black Parallel School Board (BPSB) and three students in the District. The suit alleges that the District's policies and practices in the areas of special education and student discipline harm students with disabilities, and in particular, Black students with disabilities.

While the District does not agree with the allegations in the lawsuit, "we appreciate plaintiffs' willingness to work with us," said District Superintendent Jorge A. Aguilar. "The District believes that we should work cooperatively with the plaintiffs to identify potential policies and practices that may not serve the best interests of the District's students with disabilities, and to jointly find solutions to those issues, which would include addressing factors which limit service options or strategies for serving District students," said Superintendent Aguilar.

The parties have asked the Court to grant a seven-month stay of the litigation. During the stay, and by early February, the District has offered and agreed to implement several measures intended to benefit students with disabilities, including Black students with disabilities. These measures include:

- Halting all District suspensions based on "willful defiance" not only for students in kindergarten through third grade, but up and through eighth grade;
- Offering students a special education assessment plan within 15 days of a request for such assessment; and
- Directing school administrators and staff not to ask or require students to leave school as an informal response to concerns with student behavior.

"These measures are significant to students with disabilities and their parents and guardians whom we and other advocates in our community fight for and support," said BPSB Chairperson Darryl White. "The District's willingness to implement these interim measures has encouraged BPSB to engage in cooperative discussions with the District about potential broader and more permanent reforms and protections for our students."

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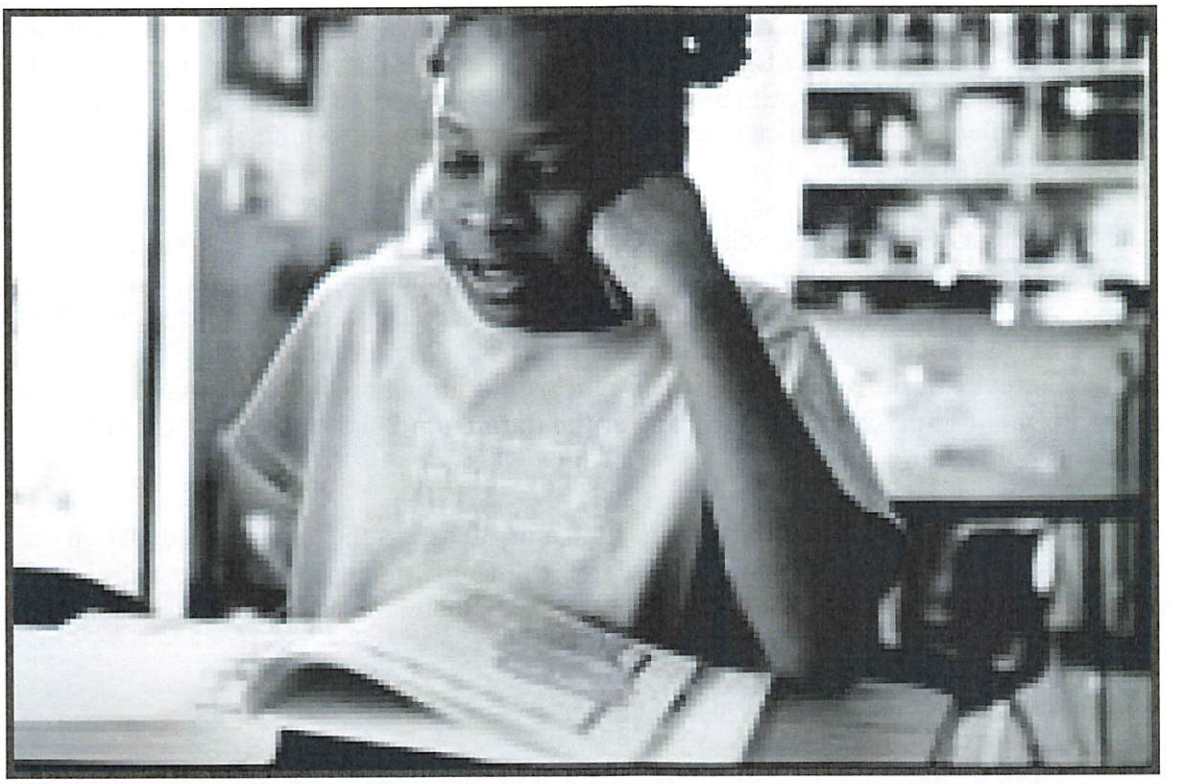
Also, during the stay, an agreed-upon set of experts will review the District's data and practices in the areas of special education, student discipline, and implicit bias. That review will include expert interviews of students, parents, District staff, and other stakeholders. After the assessment and study of the information gathered, the experts will issue recommendations that the parties will consider as part of a possible settlement to create positive, lasting change for students and their families.

The Court granted the requested stay of litigation today, December 20, 2019.

State of Black Student's Education



Sacramento City Unified School District

Black Parallel School Board

Prepared by the Black Parallel School Board
January 4, 2020

Executive Summary

The Black Parallel School Board (BPSB) is a community organization developed to work parallel to the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD). Its major responsibility is to support the educational growth and achievement of students of African descent (Black). BPSB monitors all educational activities and programs of the school district to ensure that they are compatible with the needs of Black students. The primary goal of the BPSB is to support and encourage the Sacramento City Unified School District to consistently address specific identifiable and measurable practices to close the racial achievement gap

In 2009, the Sacramento City Unified School District indicated in its multi-year improvement plan that it would decrease the achievement gap between Black and White Students by at least 20 API Points per year. Based on the data supplied by the California Department of Education Data Quest, the SCUSD has not decreased the "achievement gaps by 20 percent annually" for Black students. **Based on API data from 2005 until 2009 it would have taken 42 additional years to close the achievement gap.** Once again looking at **the data from 2005 until 2011 it will take 72.5 years to close the same gap.**

Today, Districts do not use API score but various indicators to assess the quality of education – CASSP scores, suspension rates, graduation rates, etc. In order to determine how Black students fared the BPSB reviewed the data reported in Data Quest on the California Department of Education web site, Capitol Suspension Report and data prepared for the lawsuit.

The following is an outline expressing the results of that review
:

1. **There are 3,179 or 26.1% less African Descended students from 2006 to 2018-19 in the Sacramento City Unified School District.**
2. **2018-19 CAASPP test results reported for the Sacramento City Unified School District that 12.93% of African Descended students met and exceeded the mathematic level compared to White students of 53.97%. This is an Opportunity Gap of 39.07%**
3. **2018-19 CAASPP test results reported for the Sacramento City Unified School District that 23.79% of African Descended students met and exceeded in the English Language Arts compared to White students of 65.8%. This is an Opportunity Gap of 37.21%**
4. **2018-19 CAASPP test results reported for the Sacramento City Unified School District that 22.28% of African Descended students met and exceeded the third-grade reading level compared to White students of 65.22%. This is an Opportunity Gap of 42.94%**
5. **2018-19 CAASPP test results reported for the Sacramento City Unified School District that 39.86% of African Descended students met and exceeded the third-grade mathematic level compared to White students of 61.09%. This is an Opportunity Gap of 39.86%**
6. **Black students scoring at Standard Met and Exceeded levels decreases as students matriculate through school in math**
7. **After, years of attempting to implement Whole School policy, last year (2018-19), suspension rates in Sacramento City Unified School District went down for Black students by 2.9%**

CELEBRATE

BLACK PARENT'S INVOLVEMENT DAY

On Tuesday

February 18, 2020

To celebrate Black History Month, Black Parallel School Board is participating in the National Black Parent's Involvement Day.

Give your child the gift that will keep on giving for the rest of their lives -- visit your child in class.

For more information contact:
info@blackparallelschoolboard.com or (916) 484-3729

Date: _____

Dear _____:
(Principal or Teacher)

My name is _____.

My child _____ is currently

attending_____ School.

I am participating in The Black Parallel School Board's "National Black Parent's Involvement Day" on Tuesday February 18, 2020. I would like to observe my child in his/her learning environment, and I am requesting permission in advance to spend part of the day in my child's classroom on February 18th. If this date is not feasible, please advise me to the date that I will be able to observe my child in class.

Please call me at _____ or email me at _____ to let me know if I can observe my child on February 18th or on another date. You may also send this form home with my child.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

_____
(Parent Signature)

Please Check One:

☐ You have permission to observe your child in his/her classroom Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

☐ You have permission to observe your child in his/her classroom on this date_____.

☐ You do not have permission to observe your child in his/her classroom Tuesday, February 18. 2020.

_____ _____

Authorized Signature of Principal or Teacher Date