



Oswego Community Unit School District 308
SERVING ALL OR PARTS OF THE COMMUNITIES OF
AURORA, JOLIET, MONTGOMERY, OSWEGO, PLAINFIELD AND YORKVILLE

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting
School District 308
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
School District 308 – District Administration Center (Room 61)
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 5:03 pm by Jared Ploger, seconded by Dominick Cirone; all were in favor.

Members in Attendance: Dominick Cirone, Board Member/Chair, Jared Ploger, Board Member/Chair, Faith Dahlquist, Associate Superintendent, Renee Sartore, Director of English Learners, Dr. Jadon Waller, Director of DEI

Members Absent:

Guests in Attendance: Sarah Honetor, Victor Ortiz, Liana Melton, Kaitlyn Jobes, Hannah DeSpain, Audrey LaFountain, Kaz Cachero, Bella Johnson, Aanya Roy, Gabriel Lopez, Monica Lopez, Olivia Schwab

2. Motion was made by Jared Ploger to approve the February 16, 2023 minutes, seconded by Dominick Cirone; all were in favor.
3. Students and their perspective on equity - 10 Students, Co-chairs/Board Members and staff were divided into two groups.
4. Writing of the summary of the meeting:
Students were asked:
 - What did they think was impactful
 - If you were in charge of the district what would you do differently
 - Question for the district

Impactful:

Stark difference between the types of kids in the district
Which students can communicate with their parents about mental health due to cultural differences, SEL training will not work in some households
Differences between OEHS and OHS



Clubs - when you are in a club, you feel comfortable and work for the goals of that club, once you step outside that club, you feel unsafe, lack of respect.

Implicit bias

Personal perspectives

How others discover their identity

Hearing the adults perspective and hearing information you don't hear every day, nice to hear that Admin is working on hiring teachers and staff of color

Identity - if they found their identity and how or if they haven't yet

Safe spaces and do you feel your school is safe, gun violence, therapy dogs, mental health

Everyone is thinking of other perspectives during this meeting

The difference between OE and OH is astronomical, worlds apart, because we are not in the same social area or same school

The two different schools - what they see at OH and OE

If you were in charge of the district, what would you do differently:

Start by working with mental health training for teachers and staff

It's ok to interact with other groups and foster an environment to talk to each other

Give students Wednesday off

Get more resources for mental health and counselors, therapy animals in school

Therapy dogs are great, but we only get them when there's a huge tragedy, set a schedule of therapy animal visits so it can prevent a tragedy

More money towards mental health

Take mental health more into account, take more actions, spend more money on this

Question:

What can schools do to get knowledge of other people's perspectives to students who do not have personal experience?

How will the district make changes/decisions, how will you vocalize those changes to students?

How will you improve communication between students and staff?

What do you think of our experiences and what made you want to hear our voices?

Next meeting is April 26 and the agenda is Allocations for next year for DEI.

5. Public Comment

Victor Ortiz - I am honored and humbled to witness the power of dialogue. As student representatives, how are you going to share the wealth and what will you implement to enrich other students' lives?



Sarah Honetor - Thanks to the students. It was great to hear you speak, I was not able to be at the meet and greet the other night and wanted to hear from students how you are feeling. I am really impressed with all of you. It was humbling to see how trusting you all are and has given me hope for my children's education.

6. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 pm by Jared Ploger; seconded by Dominick Cirone; all in favor.