

## Equity & Inclusion Committee

February 11, 2021

4:30pm

Zoom

Minutes

Mrs. Foster called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**Present:** Amy Foster, Jen Laden, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Terri Kavanagh, Deane Renda, Kemen Holley, Chris Buckley, Ernesto Davila, Yarel Marshall, S.D., Logan Sullender, Michael Genua, Sean Turner, Amy Lupinski, Jeremy Farrell, Jaco Burger, Trem Ampeloquio, Nora Gravgaard, Maahi Dhote and Julia Roberto

**Absent:** Dotsy Torres

**Public comment:** none

**Committee updates:** Mrs. Foster shared information that a parent at BHS has been working on some programs for Black History Month with Principal Balanda and would like to expand to other schools. New committee member and Director of Human Resources for the district Ms. Terri Kavanagh was introduced to the committee.

Dr. Barile spoke briefly about Governor Lamont's budget proposal and the possibility of Danbury becoming an Open Choice district. He also mentioned that he will be bringing an equity and inclusion policy forward to the policy committee next week for consideration.

**Development of Committee charter:** Dr. Ruby shared slides defining the purpose of a charter and the RULER approach and also examples of charters, many from our own district. The committee then split into 5 breakout rooms for members to share and discuss what feelings they want to experience as part of the group. Each group settled on 4 to 5 feeling words which were brought forward when the full committee regrouped to discuss and decide on the final 4 terms that will make up the charter. A robust discussion followed and it was decided that a survey will be sent to all committee members to rank their choices. The charter development will continue at our next meeting in March.

**Adjournment:** Mrs. Foster adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.