

Inclusion Alliance
a Committee of the Neah-Kah-Nie School Board
May 24, 2022 5:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Michele Aeder
Scribe: Carol Mahoney

Attendees: Michele Aeder, Kathy Kammerer, Ally McCann, Michael Simpson, Carol Mahoney

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

An opening statement was given by Michele to honor the Tillamook, Neahlem, and Nestucca tribes upon whose land we meet. Michele also noted that May is Pacific American Heritage month.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

The minutes from our last meeting need to be revised and then approved at our next meeting.

Old business:

Bus driver video to showcase diversity in our district-The group discussed ways the video could be used. The group felt that it should be seen by the students who were interviewers if it hasn't yet been viewed. Due to the short time left in the school year, it may be that it won't be used until next school year. The two bus drivers featured will be moving on to other jobs. As a committee our recommendation would be to use it during diversity training for staff and the school board in the fall. We are hopeful that Liwaru would be available to help with this training. Determining if and how to use the video with the general student population would then follow.

It was suggested that we need a day set aside to work on the Bullying/Harassment complaint form. Committee members present agreed to meet June 20 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Michele will ask Liwaru to resend the policy and complaint samples he has.

Name pronunciations for Native peoples- Kathy was in contact with the Grand Rhonde school librarian who indicated that our common pronunciations for Tillamook and Nestucca are correct. Nehalem is pronounced with a short a sound in the first syllable, which may sound slightly different than we are used to.

We will write an update for the board policy and student handbook relating to pride flag type incidents on June 20 at our work session.

New business

Superintendent Erlebach asked the Inclusion Alliance to answer some questions submitted to the school board from some patrons relating to diversity. As we worked on these it became clear that more time was needed than we had in our meeting. A subcommittee was formed to work on this. They will submit the answers to the full committee before submitting them to the superintendent.

Committee concerns

Administrators in the schools expressed confusion about the role of the inclusion alliance committee during a meeting with Michele and Carol. We want to be sure that we follow the processes in place, the chain of command, and our role as related to policy issues. The mission statement and goals delineate our role. Revisiting them would be helpful on a regular basis.

Next meeting: June 21 5:30 (Michele will be gone)

Facilitator Michael Simpson

Scribe Ally McCann