



**School Board of Broward County  
Disparity Study Work Group  
Minutes of Friday, January 15, 2016 Meeting**

**Call to Order**

The inaugural meeting of the SBBC Disparity Study Work Group (Work Group) was called to order at 9:05 a.m. at the TSSC Annex Bank Lobby at 7770 West Oakland Park Boulevard, Sunrise, Florida, Colleen M. Robbs, Supplier Diversity & Outreach Coordinator, presiding.

**Roll Call**

Present: Christopher Atkinson for Sandy McDonald, Sam Bays, Dustin DuBois for Carol Bowen, Marsha Ellison, Lavinia Freeman, Aston Henry, Winston Pierre for Tony Hunter, Brian Johnson, Nell Johnson, Chelsea Jones-Finley, Dodie Keith-Lazowick, Carla Maldonado for Bob Swindell, Shelley Meloni, Mark Modas, Colleen Robbs, Dale Schmidt, Omar Shim, Gaynel Smith for Kareen Boutros, Courtnee Biscardi for Dr. Germaine Smith-Baugh (arrived late), Dr. Carolyn Stewart, Peter Webley, Patrick Reilly, Patricia McDougle, and Robert Vignola

Absent: Shirley Everett, Ayisha Gordon, Liliam Lopez, Frank Nieves, Martha Perez-Garviso, Pamela Prince-Easton, and Lawrence Zolnowski

**Agenda Adoption**

The agenda, as distributed to each member, was adopted by unanimous consent.

**Work Group Expectations**

Ms. Robbs addressed the group explaining the necessity for the Commitment Form and the need to complete the required on-line training for school board advisory groups. She further explained that the Disparity Study Report documents were available on-line and detailed the contents of the orientation binder provided to each member.

**Parliamentary Presentation**

Patricia McDougle, PRP, presented the parliamentary rules of order (attached) that shall apply to the conduct of business in the Work Group.

**Superintendent of Schools**

Superintendent Robert W. Runcie addressed the Work Group expressing the importance of its input and recommendations. Mr. Runcie also emphasized the magnitude of this moment for BCPS. He stressed that the Study provides the foundation upon which to build greater equity and opportunities for minority and women-owned business enterprises. Further, he stated that we must take advantage of the Study to take the agency to the next level by providing good recommendations to the School Board. Additionally, Mr. Runcie pointed out that the work undertaken by the Work Group will create opportunities for our kids, i.e. internships, and their families.

Mr. Runcie closed by stating the significance of the work and the “super critical opportunities” that are before us. He recounted the success of the BCPS partnership with the NAACP of Broward County through the “Eliminating School House to Jail House Program” and the “Promise Intervention Program” which has become a national model. Mr. Runcie expressed confidence in the Work Group’s ability to

achieve similar success in the equitable distribution of procurement and contracting opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses.

**Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Ms. McDougle conducted the election of the Chair and Vice Chair. After nominations were made from the floor, Brian Johnson, President, Minority Builders Coalition, was elected Chair and Dodie Keith-Lazowick, President, Keith and Associates, Inc., was elected Vice Chair. The newly elected Chair immediately assumed the role of Presiding Officer.

**Presentation: Disparity Study Report Findings and Recommendations**

Ms. Robbs presented the Mason Tillman Associates Disparity Study Report—the same report presented to the School Board—summarizing the report’s findings and recommendations.

The Work Group will go through each recommendation in the study, discuss the pros and cons, including the fiscal impact, and prioritize them. Ms. Robbs stated that a facilitator, with expertise in disparity studies, will be brought onboard and help facilitate the process of creating a policy option matrix. The ranked recommendations will go to the Superintendent.

**Good of the Order**

Chair Johnson suggested that the agenda for the next meeting be the establishment of a timeline for the group’s work and research on the report recommendations. It was further suggested that any questions regarding the study be put in writing and submitted to staff for research and response before the next meeting.

**Future Meetings Schedule**

Sam Bays moved that the next meeting be on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. The motion was adopted. Further meetings were scheduled for Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> by unanimous consent.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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Brian Johnson, Chair

APPROVED

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Date                      Initials

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Disparity Study Work Group Kick-off Meeting Agenda - Friday, January 15, 2016*
- Parliamentary Rules of Order for the SBBC Disparity Study Work Group*
- Disparity Study Findings Presentation*