

Academie Lafayette Diversity Committee Meeting
July 30, 2020
6:00-7:30

Attendees- Kelly Baker, Elimane Mbengue, Robyn King, Lisa Benson, Pam Gard, Carlos McClain, Beth McCarthy, Alonda Lona, Leslie Kohlmeyer,

Notes:

Kelly Baker introduced the two newest committee members, PTO current and future president, Alonda Lona & Leslie Kohlmeyer. They were invited to be permanent committee members to help engage parents in DEI efforts.

The committee discussed hosting a series of discussions/ speakers related to DEI. Possible topics/ facilitators to include:

- Lisa Benson could facilitate conversations focused on shared definitions and/ or on the history of race, potentially including the series she previously shared with the committee for parents to watch prior to the conversation [The Difference Between Us, The Story We Tell](#), and [The House We Live In](#)
- Other facilitators the committee plans to look into related to topics such as antiracism, microaggressions, and other DEI topics: Stephenie & Rodney Smith (including possibly their Race Equity & Inclusion in-depth training for teachers), PaKou Her, Diverse Charter School Coalition
- Robyn will look through resources provided by Diverse Charter School Coalition for possible ideas.
- Beth will look for possible recorded or live nonprofit sessions that could be shared with parents prior to the conversation.

The committee discussed the goal of being a place of resources for parents. Develop shared definitions about racism & prejudice.

The committee discussed reaching out to SchoolSmart regarding funds for DEI trainings for parents & teachers.

Use recorded sessions to focus conversation. Get them to want the knowledge

Lisa, Beth & Carlos will meet to further discuss plans for moving forward with the parent series, including engaging other parents interested in helping with the conversation beyond just committee members, and bring ideas to the next committee meeting.

Mr. Mbengue shared an update school opening. His team has been busy figuring out the plan for re-opening school, but his team has also been engaged in participating in UMKC's DEI trainings and back-to-school PD sessions will focus on both effective virtual teaching strategies & DEI. Curriculum evaluation related to DEI will be ongoing throughout the school year.

The committee is continuing to reach out to other partners to seek advice on what survey tools others use to best measure school culture.

Meeting schedule has been set to continue meeting every other Thursday until plans for the year are more established and moving forward. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 13 from 6:00-7:30.