



# Sarasota County Schools

# EQUITY

---

# Committee

February 18, 2021

## Meeting Minutes

Dr. Moore can be reached at ~~941-927-9000~~ <sup>941-927-9000 x31154</sup> Early mornings are the best times.

Introduction of all committee members.

Power point presentation that will be sent out to all on the committee.

Requirements, Goals and Polices reviewed.

Reviewed ESSA group data and attendance information. This can be found on the Sarasota County School's dashboard,

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoimDYxYWNIOGYtNmI0Yy00NDUwLWlVODctMDRwYTMwM2ZkNzJkIiwidCI6ImI3NzFkYTEzLWQzMWQzNDc0NS05ZGE2LTNhMWNlODc0NTJkMSIsImMIOiF9.>

Dr. Moore advised that students need to have a sense of belonging. Once there is a sense of belonging, there will be positive achievement.

We need to help focus on resources and community help for all schools. Not just Title 1 etc.

Committees will be formed within our group for different topics such as community, curriculum, teacher training, etc.

### Member Comments:

- Instead of Achievement Gap, Use "Opportunity Gap".
- Fresh Start Initiative. The community is a small community and teachers talk amongst each other. We need to do away with staff referencing the "baggage" of a student or sibling's prior school year.
- Relationship building. How can we focus on ALL STAFF (Parent Drop off staff, bus drivers, reception, lunch staff, custodial staff, teachers, etc.) to assist in positive support to students on their first impression when they start their school day? For some it is the bus driver, and others it is drop off staff.
- Children are not BAD; they make BAD choices.
- Some teachers automatically have lower expectations of a student because they are a minority. Thus, setting up the student for lower achievement from the start.
- Our perceptions are our truths.
- Preparations/Training on dealing with mental health for all staff and/or some students. IE – melt down on the bus, halls, lunchroom, how do we make sure all staff can handle this?

- **Training student leaders (youth therapists). Peer to Peer.**
- **Request for district level to investigate attendance/distance for some students is an issue and could be the cause of lack of attendance. (Dr. Moore advised this is in the works at the District).**
- **Lack of diversity in teachers. No Hispanic administrators in our District. Recruitment and retention are necessary.**
- **GAP team 5 years ago – any information from that we could use?**
- **Pupil Progression Plan – this is another committee that is working on similar aspects regarding state requirements versus district requirements. These two committees will piggyback off each other but are not the same.**

**Next meeting will be on a Wednesday, March 24th at 5:30 PM.**

**Dr. Moore advised this is in the works at the District.**