

Desegregation Advisory Committee (DAC) Non-Public Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2015
Annie C. Merts Center

Call to Order: A non-public meeting of the DAC was held at the Annie C. Merts Center on Tuesday, November 17, 2015. Chairperson Chaundra Jones called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

Members in Attendance: Members of the DAC in attendance were Nicole Balthazar, Paige Davis, Isha Greene, Talya Hargrove, Chaundra Jones, Ann Kvach, Laura Lemley, Ashley Lopez, Keith Poe, and Melissa Thompson. Also in attendance was Huntsville City Schools (HCS) Director of Strategy and Innovation Edith Pickens.

Minutes from the October 20th non-public meeting and the October 26th public meeting were presented. Mr. Poe made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding the questions submitted at the public meeting and the appropriate parameters for our responses. In doing so, the committee reviewed the Consent Order's provisions about the role and authority of the DAC, which is to advise the superintendent and to report to the court on the progress related to the implementation of the Consent Order. The committee chose to limit our responses to those matters that are directly within the scope of our authority and to defer other questions to the appropriate channels within Huntsville City Schools. Ms. Kvach will email the committee's joint responses to the committee for review prior to having them posted on the website. All of those individuals who had submitted their contact information with their question to the DAC will be emailed to let them know when the responses have been posted on the Huntsville City Schools website. Any editorials will not be addressed.

Discussion was also held regarding how the committee will gather data on various topics. Ms. Pickens suggested submitting questions first to the district to find out what data is currently available. All of the reports that HCS is required to file with the Court were due this past Sunday (November 15, 2015) and should be posted on the HCS website by the end of the week. The committee also discussed the importance of finding out if things are being implemented consistently across the district.

Ms. Jones announced that JO Johnson student and DAC student representative Ms. Paige Davis was selected to represent Huntsville City Schools in Washington, DC on December 10. She will be sharing her experience of being part of the DAC with members of the Department of Justice.

Ms. Jones requested a volunteer to contact Dr. Wardynski's assistant Debby Jennings to schedule our semester review with Dr. Wardynski. Ms. Kvach will email Ms. Jennings.

Ms. Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Kvach
DAC Secretary