



Desegregation Advisory Committee

2017-18 Committee Progress



2017-18 DAC Leadership and Members

- Lonette Jenkins-Bell, Chair
- **Keith Poe**, Vice Chair and Parliamentarian
- **Millie Steber**, Secretary
- **Vinny Argentina**, Communications
- Angela Curry, Research Analysis and Report Coordinator
- **Kimberly Flint**
- **Laura Lemley**
- Kristi Santiago
- Florence Owens
- **Preeti Francis**
- **Jy'lah Jones**, Columbia Student Representative
- **Alexis Battie**, Jemison Student Representative
- **Samuel Barnes**, Huntsville Student Representative
- **Savitha Venkatesh**, Grissom Student Representative
- **Julian Parker**, New Century Student Representative
- **Destiny Cordule**, Lee Student Representative

Action Items

- **Community Relationship Building**
Help the Community to understand the true meaning of the DAC and why???
- **Establish a P.O. Box per Consent Order**
Have a place of secure means for sending communications to the DAC for those who may not have regular access to electronic communications.
COMPLETED
- **Repair broken links between DAC website and HCS website**
COMPLETED
- **Formulate Standard Operating Procedures within the DAC**
Operating procedures used commonly amongst committees, boards as a means to make changes to properly run the organization without requesting a change to the decree each time. This will be a document modified as needed and only used for internal purposes.

Action Items *(continued)*

- Post Communications on DAC website

*For the purpose of accountability and transparency– stay up-to-date on meeting minutes being posted and flyers for future meetings for the purpose of good faith and trust within the Community. **COMPLETED***

- Better Communicate DAC meetings both Public and District

*In addition to the use of fliers, we also use the HCS Robocall system and school-cast, news media, social media to update the Community on Public and District DAC meetings. **COMPLETED***

- Response to Comment Forms and Community Feedback

Continuing to work and better the process to be able to respond to all community request, comment forms, emails and mail within a timely fashion even if it is just to give them an informal answer to their concern. Some responses take longer than others given the process and others which do not relate to the Consent Order are forwarded to HCS.

Action Items *(continued)*

- Rewrite Consent Order in Lay Terms

Consent Order broken down by each Green Factor and rewritten to an understanding, that of the education of a 6th. Grader.

**The DAC wrote a summation for each of each Green Factor in the Consent Order and the order itself is being rewritten by the attorneys assigned therein.*

(Awaiting Court Approval)

Establish NDA (Non-disclosure Agreement)

Top 3 Trends received by the DAC from the Community by Letters, Comment Forms and Emails

5/10/2018

Trend 1 - *Student Discipline, Positive School Climate, and Effective Classroom Management*

- The District will not discriminate based on race in disciplining students and will work to creating positive school climates. The District will review student code of conduct and work to reinforce positive student behavior across all schools. The district will review discipline data and develop behavior improvement goals to respond to any racial discipline disparities.

Trend 2 - *Equitable Access to Course Offerings and Programs*

- The District will provide equitable access to course offerings and recruitment for advanced courses, support services, programs, and parent workshops. Teachers will be distributed in an equitable way according to certifications and experience. All staff will receive cultural diversity training. Performing arts curriculum will not conflict with established magnet programs.

Trend 3 - *Non-Consent Order Related Issues*

- Issues that do not pertain to the Consent Order are turned over to Huntsville City Schools to handle as these issues are matters that the Desegregation Advisory Committee are not able to be involved in.

The Consent Order related issues are as follows:

1. Faculty
2. Facilities
3. Extra-Curricular Activities
4. Equitable Access to Course Offerings and Programs
5. Student Assignment
6. Student Discipline, Positive School Climate, and Effective Classroom Management

DAC Community Meetings in 2017-18

All meetings are held from 6:30pm to 8:00pm

- ❑ Tuesday, October 17th. – District Meeting
 - Location - *Huntsville High Freshman Academy*

- ❑ Wednesday, January 10th. – Lee High Feeder Pattern
 - Location – *Calvary Hill Community Center*
- ❑ Thursday, January 11th – Grissom Feeder Pattern
 - Location – *Weatherly Heights Baptist Church*
- ❑ Monday, February 12th. – Huntsville High Feeder Pattern
 - Location – *Blossomwood Elementary*
- ❑ Wednesday, March 14th. – Columbia High Feeder Pattern
 - Location – *United States Space and Rocket Center – Educational Facility*
- ❑ Monday, March 19th. – Jemison High Feeder Pattern
 - Location – *The Fellowship of Faith Church* **(CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER)**

- ❑ Monday, April 9th. – District Meeting
 - Location – *Lee High Auditorium*

5/10/2018

Just a Few *Positive Attributes* Received by HCS Students from the Consent Order

■ HCS Pre-K Program and Elementary

Pre-K

- ✓ Selections based on children that are most academically at-risk
- ✓ All schools have at least two or more than four classes
- ✓ 6 schools with only pre-k classes
- ✓ Opening the World of Learning (OWL) – This program develops language and early literacy skills, including math, science, and social studies

Elementary

- ✓ There are now Math Teams in 100% of all HCE
- ✓ They compete in two competition each year since 2015 with over 600+ students having competed. This year advancing to the Regionals in Atlanta, GA
- ✓ In 2018 There will be training offered to the K-6 Teachers to deepen their knowledge and focus on grade level standards.

Just a Few *Positive Attributes* Received by HCS Students from the Consent Order (*conti.*)

■ Secondary and Club Information

- ✓ National Junior and National Honor Society requirements for induction standardized across the district
- ✓ All high schools now offer a minimum of 14 clubs and extracurricular activities
- ✓ All middle schools now offer a minimum of 6 clubs and extracurricular activities
- ✓ The addition of *POWER HOUR* in all high schools has increased student participation
- ✓ Each high school now offers a minimum of 12 AP/IB classes
- ✓ AP/Honors classes have become more accessible to all students by removing entry criteria
- ✓ Underrepresented students are now actively identified and recruited to participate in Honors/AP classes
- ✓ There has been an increase in student enrollment in Algebra I prior to 9th. Grade
- ✓ Bus transportation is now available to high school students who are interested in attending Career Tech classes offered at other high schools

Just a Few *Positive Attributes* Received by HCS Students from the Consent Order (*conti.*)

- HCS Students grades 6-12 may take part in the *New Voyager School*

Students may benefit from:

- ✓ Collaborating with a group of other students
- ✓ Student working quietly
- ✓ Be engaged in blended learning experiencing
- ✓ Participate in online testing
- ✓ Support at the virtual school

Just a Few *Positive Attributes* Received by HCS Students from the Consent Order *(conti.*

What is Voyager?

- ✓ *HCS's new virtual school experience*

Who is a virtual student?

- ✓ *A student who completes all course work online in a remote location with face-to-face sessions only when requested by either the student or the teacher*

What students are eligible?

- ✓ *Must be enrolled in HCS*
- ✓ *Must have an overall grade average of 75 for grades 6-8 and a GPA of 2.5 for grades 9-12 OR a recommendation from the Superintendent*
- ✓ *Must maintain a minimum of 60% mastery in all courses*
- ✓ *Students must provide their own transportation to the virtual school for tutoring, mid-term and final exams*

Just a Few *Positive Attributes* Received by HCS Students from the Consent Order *(conti.*

Attendance?

- ✓ *Students must log onto the Learning management system daily working towards completion*

Grades?

- ✓ *Student grades will be reported at the end of each semester/term*

Virtual School Calendar?

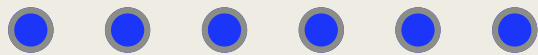
- ✓ *Same as HCS*

More detailed information regarding the new program may be found on the HCS website at www.huntsvillecityschools.org/academis/programs/voyager-school OR by contacting The Non-Traditional Program Coordinator, Veronica R. Haley at 256-428-6898.

Remaining DAC Responsibilities in the 2017-18 Academic Year

- *Meeting with Superintendent in late May to review year-to-date progress*
- *Process of Annual DAC report to present to the United States DOJ Judge Madeline Haikala*
- **Open positions* on DAC for 2018-19 academic year*

Board of
Education

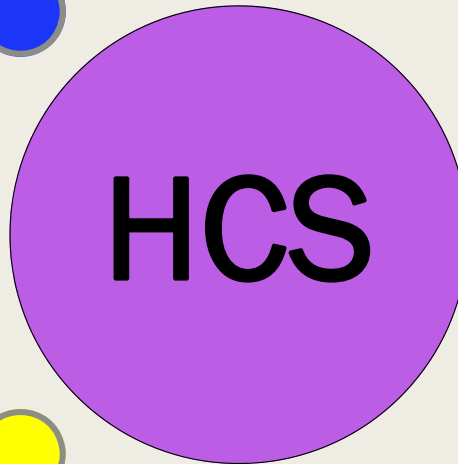


Desegregation
Advisory Committee
along with

Community Support



United States
Department of
Justice



*“If we all work together towards
the common goal for the good of
ALL our children, one day soon
we will achieve Unitary Status.”*

-L. Bell

Unitary
Status



Thank You

2017-18 Desegregation

Advisory Committee

Lonette Jenkins-Bell, Chair

