

Committee of the Whole Minutes  
Wednesday, October 9, 2024 4:30 PM

Harlem Administration Center  
8605 North Second St  
Machesney Park, Illinois 61115

## **EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINUTES**

7. **EQUITY:** (Limited up to 60 minutes) *Began at 4:37 p.m.*

Administrator: Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

7.A. Roll Call: Evelyn Meeks, Jason Blume, Terrell Yarbrough, Kris Arduino

Union: Elana Schelling-Tufte

E Team members:

Loves Park – Mike Valentine

Machesney

Maple – Emily Bjork

Marquette – Brock Morlan

Olson Park – Marya Nelson

Parker Center – Erin Anderson

Ralston –

Rock Cut – Gloria Martinez

Windsor –

High School – Jeremy Bois, Alaina Mach, Kyra Newnam

Middle School

7.B. Meeting Minutes Consensus: September 4, 2024

All voted aye to approve

7.C. Public Comments (if any) none

7.D. Goal Statements, Vision & Mission Statement were read by Jason Blume. The Four Agreements were also reviewed.

7.E. Discussion Items:

a. Meeting Norms

b. Training: Culture presented by Jason Blume and Kyra Newnam

What is culture? Culture refers to the knowledge, experience beliefs values, attitudes, meanings, hierarchies, religion, notions of time, roles, spatial relations, concepts of the universe, and material objects and possessions acquired by a group of people in the course of generations through individual and group striving.

How do microaggressions impact culture.

Microaggression is a subtle but offensive comment or action directed at a member of a marginalized group, that is often unintentionally offensive or unconsciously reinforces a stereotype. The act of discriminating against a marginalized group by means of such comments or actions.

BuzzFeed – Photographer Kiyun asked her friends at Fordham University campus to write down an instance of racial microaggressions - “You don’t act like a normal black person”, as well as many other examples were presented.

A student video was shown regarding feelings about the football game with Auburn. Reflection activity was performed. Two postings were shown from different perspectives that were very offensive to Auburn/Rockford. It would assume that Auburn which is a very predominantly black population is violent and the student’s perception followed this. It perpetuates racist ideas and we need to identify this and interrupt it per Kyra. You need to create a culture of what is not acceptable and admit to that rather than maintaining silence.

Kurt noted giving the student the platform was great and then bringing it forward to this group is great.

c. Building E-Team Support

Hispanic Heritage Month - a video was shown to show the culture

7.F. Announcements and Updates: Monthly themes are linked on the website

a. Next Meeting Date: November 13, 2024

i. Topic: Allyship

ii. Presenter: Ralston

b. Equity Monthly Themes

8. *Adjourned at 5:27 p.m.*

*Minutes taken by Kris Arduino*