



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY  
EQUITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 12, 2021  
APPROVED**

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County Equity Committee met virtually on the above date at 11:30AM. Committee Chair Bunmi Omisore opened the meeting. Committee members, Melissa Ellis, Joanna Tobin and Michelle Corkadel were also in attendance.

Staff members present were Monique Jackson, Deputy Superintendent of Student and School Support; Maisha Gillins, Equity and Accelerated Student Achievement; and Jackie Money, Associate Assistant to the Board. Citizen Advisory Committee Member attending the Equity Committee was Tanisha Howard.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Omisore called the meeting to order at 11:35AM.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 14, 2021:** The meeting minutes of September 14, 2021 were approved by consensus.

**CANDACE ANTWINE MEMORIAL:** The committee discussed ways to honor Ms. Antwine. Ms. Omisore suggested a book series and a speaker series centered around district 1. She suggested that the series be based around what Ms. Antwine was most passionate about, anti-bullying and the Military. Ms. Jackson informed the committee that April is the “Month of the Military Child” and offered to help facilitate this. Ms. Jackson also offered to reach out to Sarah Bonise as she would be a great resource. Dr. Tobin suggested that the committee reach out to CAC Member, Nelson V to include him in the conversation. Ms. Corkadel suggested the Ft. Meade alliance as they have business connection to help support and would be a good resource to help facilitate. Ms. Howard suggested that the Board engage in events that the Military puts on/attends to intertwine the communities. The committee agreed to continue the conversation about ways to honor Ms. Antwine to include book and speaker series as well as town hall meetings.

**DISCUSSING/DEFINING CRITICAL RACE THEORY AND RESPONSE TO IT BEING TAUGHT IN AACPS:** Ms. Omisore thanked Dr. Gillins for bringing the topic to the table even though Anne Arundel County Public Schools does not currently teach CRT she feels like people have wildly differing viewpoints on the topic. Dr. Gillins believes in getting ahead of things and reiterated to the committee that teaching and learning is being done in house. Ms. Ellis informed the committee that CRT will be a topic of discussion at the first workshop of the year which is scheduled to take place on October 18, 2021. Ms. Omisore suggested that the committee work towards making a statement about where the Board stands on this topic. Ms. Omisore asked Dr. Tobin “what’s the best way to make a statement as a Board?” Dr. Tobin recommended a resolution but stated that it would first need to be a topic of discussion. Ms. Corkadel suggested that an accurate definition be sent to the Board members as it is important for



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2644 Riva Road • Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-222-5311 • 410-222-5500 (TDD) • 410-222-5629 (FAX)

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the Board members to be informed before the discussion. Ms. Omisore tabled the next steps to the November 9, 2021 Equity Committee meeting at which time the committee will discuss how to navigate moving forward.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Ms. Howard saw that the value and goals statement is finalized and asked if there will be a sub page on the AACPS website for the Equity Committee. Ms. Omisore will look into it. Ms. Corkadel asked that the committee think about what else they can do to help support the training for the Board member to include continued education. Ms. Omisore gave a heads up to the committee that she will be inviting connecting the dots members to a future meeting.

**ADJOURN:** The committee adjourned at 12:43PM.