

## **Anti-Bias Task Force Meeting Minutes**

*Syosset Central School District*

*February 26, 2024 - 8 to 10pm*

### **I. Opening**

The fourth meeting of the Syosset Anti-Bias Task Force took place in the South Woods Middle School library on February 26, 2024.

### **II. Attendees**

The following individuals were present at the meeting:

#### **Chair persons**

Pastor Rebecca Sheridan, *Faith Lutheran Church*

#### **Members**

Taiisha Calbert-Foster, *Syosset Teachers Association*

Mikey Goodman, *Jewish Community of Syosset*

David Steinberg, *Syosset Principals Association*

Asma Malik, *Muslim American Community of Syosset*

Hafsa Mercan, *South Woods Middle School*

Zehran Muqtadir, *Syosset High School*

Sharmin Panjvani, *Middle School PTA*

Jacqueline Braunstein, *Elementary PTA*

Chase Pendrick, *HBT Middle School*

Inna Ryu-Choi, *Korean American Friends of Syosset*

Kelly Zhang, *Chineses American Association of Syosset*

Co-chair Rabbi Jaimee Shalhevet, *North Shore Synagogue*, Imam Tanweer Ahmed, *Al Kawthar Institute*, Rabbi Jason Fruithandler, *Woodbury Jewish Center*, and Tina Ng, *High School PTA* were unable to attend.

#### **Syosset Administration & Staff**

Dr. Thomas Rogers, *Superintendent of Schools*

Dr. Theresa Curry, *Deputy Superintendent of Schools*

Adam Kuranishi, *Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*

Philomena Hefferon, *Public Information Officer*

### **III. Objectives and Agenda**

The objective of the meeting was for the members of the task force to report to the larger group about the progress they have made while meeting in their individual work groups.

#### **IV. Proceedings**

The meeting was held in the South Woods Middle School library.

The meeting began with a catch up about the school break. The larger group then broke down into subgroups, and reported to the larger groups the progress they have made in their subject areas. Those subject areas are:

1. Best practices and existing initiatives
  - Identify existing anti-bias initiatives and best practices from other communities, experts, community-based groups, and non-profit organizations dedicated to combating bias
2. Student Experience
  - Develop strategies for acquiring feedback from students to understand their experiences encountering bias
3. Family Partnerships
  - Develop strategies to engage parents, guardians, and families as partners in anti-bias action steps
4. Code of Conduct and DASA Reporting
  - a. Review the district's Code of Conduct, disciplinary process, accountability measures, and DASA reporting procedures and make recommendations regarding improvements
5. Data Collection
  - Research systems to collect meaningful data that will give the school community an accurate understanding of the district's climate as well as measure and evaluate outcomes

At the conclusion of the meeting, it was determined that each of the subgroups would submit an early draft of their findings to the task force leaders to compile into an initial report for the Board of Education.

#### **V. Closing**

The task force determined they would meet again the week of March 11th to review the initial draft of the recommendations to the Board of Education.