

Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee

April 3, 2024

Committee Members in Attendance

K. Amenabar	L. Henry	M. Lavalley	R. Shaw
G. Becerra	L. Henson	L. Mondragón	M. Vereb
J. Bensinger	A. Janan	G. Nagaraja	K. White
Q. Craig	W. Kang	J. Potten	
M. Dickey	C. Kim	D. Quan	

Committee Members Absent

A. Aldave	C. Farrish	T. Narcisse	A. Sparrow-Kamara
Z. Abughazaleh-Limparis	C. Fuller	E. Osborne	L. Tate
E. Bonhomme	K. Kardelis	E. Rodriguez	D. Walker
R. Brown Small	V. Long	N. Samaniego	
H. M. Capps	S. McKinney	M. Smith	

Staff and Guests in Attendance

J. Melendez	T. Humphrey
M. Hall	M. Zometsky

Minutes

Topic	Notes
Old Business	<p>Call to Order George Becerra opened the meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Bussey Memorial Equity Award Kim Amenabar shared that the website is live and accepting applications. There are flyers with QR codes which can be distributed to members organizations. The information also went out to school administrators and Equity Leads and was shared in the FCPS News this week.</p> <p>Budget Advocacy Letter George Becerra discussed the budget letter and decided to do this at the beginning of the year next year since the 2024-25 budget has already been decided by the School Board.</p>
My Brother's Keeper Program	Jonathan Melendez, Prevention Coordination Specialist and Marla Zometsky, Cross-System Prevention Manager, and Tony Humphrey, Youth Intervention Manager from Fairfax County's Department of Neighborhood

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	<p>and Community Services (NCS) shared information about the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative.</p> <p>Successful Child & Youth Policy Team (SCYPT) is a collaborative body with input from the community, government, and schools. Decision makers from the various systems meet to work on changing policy to support youth. Meetings are open to the public and livestreamed.</p> <p>MBK was launched in 2014 by Obama foundation to improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color. It takes a collective approach to looking beyond just school for advancement. MBK focuses on 6 key milestones where intervention can have the greatest outcomes in life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten readiness • 3rd grade reading • Graduation from high school & career ready • Entering the workforce • Keeping kids on track and re-engaging them when needed <p>In Fairfax the 3 initiatives they are focusing on in year one of MBK are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving HS graduation rates 2. Increasing the numbers of Advanced Diplomas 3. Reducing drop-out rates and reengaging those who have dropped out. <p>MBK is part of One Fairfax and gives added leverage to programs already in place in addition to starting new initiatives. The Obama Foundation has certain processes that must be done to be a MBK city and the work with the foundation is in process. The county government is looking to work together with schools on our shared goals.</p> <p>MBK is not a program – it is a collective policy approach where the community comes together to look at what is needed to advance opportunities for boys and young men of color, so they have a better chance of success. NCS would like MSAOC representation as they build the action plan for MBK. Those who are interested can email MyBrothersKeeper@fairfaxcounty.gov to attend steering meetings.</p>
Subcommittee Work	<p>Kim Amenabar reminded the group that each subcommittee must submit their draft section of the annual report prior to the May 8th meeting. They should also prepare a brief (10 minutes maximum) presentation for the committee to share their findings and recommendations.</p> <p>Learning Environment, Workforce, and Partnership subcommittees met in small groups to continue their work on the annual report to the School Board.</p>
New Business	<p>Annual Report Vote & Signature Information</p> <p>The vote on the annual report will be on June 5th. It will be in person because we need actual signatures for the School Board. As per the bylaws, members who have missed more than 50% of the meetings are not able to vote.</p> <p>Additional Business/Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes from the March meeting were voted on and approved as submitted.

Topic	Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="613 205 1398 300">• The Annual Report presentation to the School Board has been scheduled for June 20th from 5:00 – 6:00. Calendar invites will be sent.<li data-bbox="613 323 1425 552">• George Becerra proposed that MSAOC School Board representatives should share the annual report recommendations personally prior to the June 20th meeting. This will save time for the presentation and help them to retain the information. New School Board members may especially benefit from hearing the recommendations in advance so they can prepare questions.

Meeting Adjourned Time: 8:30 p.m.