

Ohio School Board Association
Black Caucus Regular Business Meeting

January 23, 2021

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Al Long at 10:10 AM. Warren motioned to open the meeting. Mudd seconded. Voice vote taken. The meeting was opened.

Long welcomed everyone to the meeting. Roslind Moore was thanked for her service as President of the Black Caucus during Covid-19. Moore said a few words about her service and keeping students and communities safe during the pandemic.

Long introduced Rick Lewis, President of the OSBA. Lewis thanked the Caucus, on behalf of the OSBA leadership. He acknowledged that the members are busy and their service is appreciated. The Mission of the Caucus and executive committee is extremely important and the Caucus has the support of the OSBA Executive team to accomplish it, including providing resources. Whatever resources or needs the Caucus needs, the OSBA Executive Leadership is ready to stand and serve with the caucus.

Roll call was taken. Quorum was established. The following members were present: Adair, Cline, Green-Churchwell, Gomez, Kimble, Long, McQueen, Moore, Mudd, Novak, Rhea, Sizemore, Weber. Not present: Garth. Others present: Lewis (OSBA President), Bobo (OSBA Liaison), McFarland, (OSBA Liaison)

The minutes from the September 21, 2020 meeting were presented and reviewed. Adair requested waiver of the reading and requested a motion to approve. Motion made by Novak, second by Long. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker: Rep. Catherine Ingram (House District 32)

Long introduced Rep. Catherine Ingram, HD 32. Rep. Ingram discussed the recognition of diversity and inclusion in education, especially the importance of not glossing over issues for Black students. She encouraged everyone to not treat all black students, teachers, or board members the same and to continue our professional development in the area of DEI.

Ingram mentioned her work to pass legislation to declare racism as a public health crisis, but acknowledged that it is a crisis in every government system, including housing, pay (work), education, criminal justice. All systems contribute to the health disparities and the health disparities contribute to disparate impact within the other systems based on race.

She encouraged the alignment of the Caucus work with OSBA executive work, mentioning her appreciation of President Lewis' comments at the beginning of the meeting.

Ingram then discussed issues impacting education, specifically:

- legislation around the transfer of student records
- legislation around the transfer of property and charter schools

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- legislation Fair school funding
- State budget and education spending
- COVID vaccine for school staff
- an idea to increase school board member pay

Ingram encouraged members to pay attention to the CARES Act dollars received and where/how that money is being spent. Lastly, she spoke about the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, its historical significance, and the near future ability of any black elected in Ohio to become an Associate Member.

Organizational Business

I. Election of Chair-Elect & Secretary 2021

Bobo offered clarification regarding voting, stating the Appointed Committee Members are the voting members of the Caucus.

Long opened the floor for nomination for Chair-Elect. Kimble was nominated by Green to serve as Chair-Elect (Chair for 2022). Kimble accepted. Adair was nominated by Novak to serve as Chair-Elect. Adair declined. Cline was nominated by Rhea to serve as Chair-Elect. Cline declined. Motion made by Gomez to close nomination and unanimously elect Kimble. Second by Green. Voice vote taken. Motion passed. Kimble was congratulated.

Long opened the floor for nomination for Secretary. Adair was nominated by Novak to serve as Secretary. Adair accepted. Motion made by Gomez to close nomination and unanimously elect Adair. Second by Rhea. Voice vote taken. Motion passed. Adair was congratulated.

II. Review of Business Meetings of Caucus

The following meeting dates were reviewed. All meetings will be held virtually.

- 1/23/2021 (business meeting)
- 4/16/2021 (business meeting/scholarship review)
- 7/24/2021 (business meeting)
- 10/30/2021 (business meeting)

Old Business

I. Leo Lucas Scholarship Fund

Bobo provided an update on the Scholarship. This will be the first time the application will be submitted and reviewed online. This will allow an earlier announcement of the scholarship winners. Bobo reviewed the timeline for the application, which will open the beginning of February and close at the end of March. Green asked about how recommendations would be submitted. Bobo responded that the submission of recommendations and student transcripts is still being considered.

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Long reviewed the duties of the Chair of the Scholarship Committee and asked for a volunteer. Kimble indicated that she would lead this Committee. Bobo will send out an email to members regarding service on the Scholarship Committee. McQueen volunteered to help review applications.

Bobo reported that electronic donation to the Scholarship Fund is now available. He will send out information to the Caucus.

II. Year-In-Review

Moore provided a year-in-review. Although unable to do the Caucus Dinner, the workshops were still held. The sessions around Trauma Informed practices are still available to view on OSBA website. The Caucus awarded one scholarship per region. Also held the first Book Study with the book "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools" by Monique W. Morris. A diverse group of people participated in discussion and good feedback was received.

Bobo reported that it is the goal to have the Capital Conference in person this year and want to host the Caucus Dinner.

III. Caucus Organization and Terms

Bobo reviewed the structure of the Caucus Committee. Each June, applications to the Committee. There are 15 seats to the committee. Upon first seating, the terms were staggered with 2 or 3 year terms. Members were selected by region. When selected to become Chair-Elect, an individual's term will be extended automatically to fulfill the 3-year obligation (Chair-Elect, Chair, Immediate-Past Chair).

Central:	Adair, Weber, Cline
NE:	Kimble, Moore, Green, Gomez, Garth
NW:	Rhea, Green-Churchwell, Sizemore
SW	McQueen, Mudd, Long, Novak
SE:	<i>Vacant</i>

New Business

I. 2021 Caucus Theme: IAED

Long reviewed Inclusion, Access, Equity, and Diversity (IAED) as a major theme for the Caucus. This is a new terminology for DEI. Cline requested additional information. Adair provided information regarding ODE's Whole Child Framework and the new initiatives for districts, suggesting that we try to align our language. Long said IAED comes from a National Career Tech Organization. Gomez commented that resources for districts on equity work and policy are critical to getting started. Encouraged us to be in-tune with the diversity within our own district.

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Long recommended that each meeting has an element of PD in IAED themes and topics. Which will be about 30 minutes of each meeting.

Long announced panels on IAED, which will have experts and a member of the Caucus. The first panel will be around Gap Closure and COVID. The second panel will be at the Capital Conference. There was a question about how members and attendees can influence professional development and panel topics. Long said to share feedback with him.

Long discussed regional/engagement events. Each region can decide what part of the mission it would like to design an event around. Members were encouraged to contact member regional districts to determine the best course of action. Novak gave an example of helping to get more diverse candidates to run for School Boards. Bobo gave examples of how the OSBA supports candidates and encourages diversity through information, training, and support. Lewis shared that 3% of school board members are diverse. A few years ago the OSBA had a goal of increasing the pool of candidates by 10%. Will continue efforts for this election cycle. Gomez encouraged us to take a look at our community to encourage our own boards to reflect the diversity. It was noted that since SE region does not currently have representation, it was essential to ensure inclusion for an event.

Long asked the regions to get together and discuss. Would like the regional/engagement event to be done before the Capital Conference. Caucus members are asked to get back to the OSBA by April 1 with the ideas/plans for the regional event and discuss during the April 16th meeting. Sample ideas will be sent out to the caucus. McFarland stated the OSBA is available to help with this.

Good of the Order

No additional issues were brought forth by members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.
Motion made by Green, second by McQueen.
Voice vote taken. Motion Passed. The meeting concluded.

*Recorded and Submitted by
Jennifer Adair, Black Caucus Secretary
Columbus City Schools*