



Bakersfield City School District

Minutes of the Closing the Achievement Gap Committee Meeting
February 13, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Closing the Achievement Gap Committee meeting was called to order by Superintendent Mark Luque at 12:00 p.m. A quorum was determined to be present and the meeting proceeded.

Members Present:

Superintendent Mark Luque
Board Member Anthony Fuentes
Mrs. Laura Orozco
Dr. Tim Fulenwider
Mr. Lewis Neal
Ms. Lafleasha Owens
Ms. Kotanya Kimbrough
Mr. Manuel Carrizalez
Mrs. Gwen Johnson
Mrs. Essie Davis
Ms. Jennifer Achan
Ms. Marisa Marquez
Ms. Natasha Harris
Mr. EJ Callahan
Ms. Cheyenne Bell

Members Absent:

Rev. Dr. Oscar Anthony
Rev. Wesley Crawford
Mrs. Laura Cruz
Mr. Leo Holland
Mr. Tyler Jordan

Also Present:

Mr. Myron Williams, Principal, Emerson Middle School
Mrs. Kelli Michaud, Principal, McKinley Elementary School
Mrs. Andrea Selvey, Executive Assistant
Ms. Cindy Elmore, Administrative Assistant

| II. ACTION ITEMS | STATUS |
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| A. Approval of Minutes | The minutes from the November 1, 2023, meeting will be reviewed and approved at the April 17, 2024, meeting. |
| III. DISCUSSION ITEMS | |
| A. Public Comments | There were no public comments at this meeting. |
| B. Introduction and Today's Purpose | Superintendent Luque introduced Mr. Myron Williams and Mrs. Kelli Michaud to the committee. He shared how proud he is of the progress of these two school sites, and the transforming achievement level. |
| C. Overview of School Visits | Mrs. Kelli Michaud provided the committee with details about McKinley such as their vision and current practices. Mr. Myron Williams followed with details about Emerson and the work to build a new school culture. |
| D. Classroom Visits | Superintendent Luque noted his excitement about highlighting these two campuses. Mrs. Kelli Michaud and Mr. Myron Williams led a group of committee members on classroom visits at their respective campuses. Committee members were able to observe classroom instruction, electives, and overall school culture. |
| E. Debrief | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Achan was impressed by the McKinley tour. She noticed nontraditional classrooms get to the select their learning environment for the day. They can buy things in their virtual store by earning points that promotes positive behavior. The campus has a lot of technology, and it was impressive and eye opening to her. • Essie Davis visited Emerson and was impressed with the hands-on learning. She noticed that it was student-led, and they had to solve problems. All the students were on task. It was impressive that they were engaged and learning differently. • Gwen Johnson visited Emerson and enjoyed the environment of the school. It was clean, and they thrived in their environment. She liked that the teachers had the predictions on the board and that the students were engaged with their teaching. • Marisa Marquez shared that in education there is a lot of the blame game; the college blames the high school, etc. Educational members and partners need to see what is going on in BCSD schools. She witnessed |

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| | <p>students who were engaged and looking for answers. The classroom is set up for engagement and involvement. She noticed the students were outgoing and welcoming. She thought it would be great to have a TED Talk here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheyenne Bell was at Bakersfield High School for a long time, and she agreed with Marisa’s hopes that the high schools could see progress. • Myron Williams said that he is reaching out to the high schools to be present for the students’ transition. The high schools are reaching out and asking what they can do for our students. He is including SPED in this process as well. He also noted recent student events and staff participation that helps with student behavior. • EJ Callahan visited McKinley and liked the cleanliness. The learning environment was comforting to see. He was proud to see hidden life skills, such as farming and cooking, made available to the students since he attended Bessie Owens. • Superintendent Luque asked the committee if they had a suggestion for the next school site visit. The committee agreed to leave it up to the BCSD team to decide the next school site. He also noted that he would discuss his personal priorities with the LCAP plan at the next meeting. |
| F. Committee Comments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee members noted that it was a great day, and they thanked the school sites for their hospitality. |

Adjournment: On a motion by Ms. LaFleasha Owens, seconded by Mr. EJ Callahan, it was ordered by a vote of the members present to adjourn the meeting at 1:27 p.m. All members present were in favor, motion carried.

Reported By: Natalie Rosales, Administrative Secretary, III, Superintendent’s Office