

## **RŪT Education Committee Minutes**

### **3/13/24**

**Attending:** Julia Lavine - Chair, Julia Lanter, Pat Yosha, Misty Crompton, Nancy Zajano

- 1) NH Legislature/Board of Education Update (Pat/Shawna) – not discussed
- 2) Possible participation in NH Access Summit (see attached email from Ken) – not discussed
- 3) Diversity Director’s Dinner (See below for Misty’s worksheet for planning the dinner.)

Pat moved to hold the RŪT/DEIJ Directors’ dinner with Misty as the lead; seconded by Julia Lanter

We will invite the DEIJ directors to our monthly Education Committee meetings.

Nancy will check whether NH Humanities mini-grants would support the dinner.

Pat suggested we discuss at the dinner the possibility of offering a panel/fireside chat of DEIJ directors describing what positive things are happening in their school district, as well as what difficulties they have encountered, and what feedback they are hearing.

At the end of the dinner, ask the DEIJ directors what we can do to help; how best to support keeping them in their positions.

- 4) Litfest– not discussed

#### **Additional discussion points:**

Pat asked Julia Lanter if she agreed that we shouldn’t publicize the names of the books being challenged? Julia agreed, noting that national groups would publicize any new titles and encourage others to challenge them locally.

Question: Is the Racial Unity Team here to support those “already in the fight” or to educate the public on what DEIJ is and why it’s important? Answer: BOTH!

Concerns were raised regarding the document “We need to rethink removing school anti-discrimination programs?” We agreed to invite Ken Mendis to the next Education Committee meeting to discuss both the document’s content and the process for developing it.

#### **Next meeting: April 10, 2024**

Pat will propose a September program on banned/challenged books.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Zajano, March 23, 2024

## RŪT DEIJ Director Dinner Planning

| TASK   | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE |
|--|-----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on date/time</li> <li>Finalize guest list (please see below; 10-12 ppl)</li> </ul>   | All                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scout and secure accessible locations–Plan A &amp; Plan B (private or semi-private dining area needed)</li> </ul> <p>Suggestions: <a href="#">Greenleaf</a>, <a href="#">Sol</a>, <a href="#">Roost</a>, <a href="#">Holy Grail</a>, <a href="#">Atlantic Grill</a>, <a href="#">Moxxy</a>, (Last year was Roost and it was great, but I think changing it up is a good idea)</p> | Misty                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design invitations</li> </ul>   | Misty                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send out invitations by 3_____</li> <li>Track replies</li> </ul>  | Misty                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan evening (e.g., discussion stems, timing, etc.)</li> </ul>  |                       |
|  |                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inquire about budget w/ RUT (ballpark number first?) (was \$500 last year)</li> </ul>   | Julia?                |
|  |                       |

Guest list **from last year** (please **double check** spelling of names, current titles, and email addresses):

- Rachael Blansett, ORCSD DEIJ Coordinator; [rblansett@orcscd.org](mailto:rblansett@orcscd.org)
- Christina Philibotte, Chief Equity Officer, Manchester School District; [tphilibotte@mansd.org](mailto:tphilibotte@mansd.org)
- Andrés Mejía, SAU 16 DEIJ Director; [amejia@sau16.org](mailto:amejia@sau16.org)
- Kevin Pajaro-Mariñez, PEA Assistant Director of Equity & Inclusion; [kpmarinez@exeter.edu](mailto:kpmarinez@exeter.edu)
- Dr. Stephanie S. Bramlett, PEA Dir. of Equity & Inclusion; [sbramlett@exeter.edu](mailto:sbramlett@exeter.edu)  
TD
- Quinci Worthey, Dir. of DEIJ, Concord Public Schools; [qworthey@sau8.org](mailto:qworthey@sau8.org)  
6 or so Racial Unity Team members (last year was **Shawna**, **Misty**, **Aliyana**, **Tricia**, **Julia**)

### Tentative Plan:

- We want this to feel special– a “**grand gesture**”
- Ensuring that our primary goal of the evening is to **LISTEN** & continue to build/develop relationships, help our guests feel appreciated & **surrounded by support**
- Some informal community building 😊 (not too cringey)
- Possible discussion questions (**please add your ideas as they come up**):
  - What's **going well** in your work? Celebrations?
  - What are you **noticing** (harmful behavior, areas of marginalization, etc.)?
  - What is **most concerning** at this moment? **What kinds of support would be most helpful?**
    - Who are your **local allies/co-conspirators** (orgs, leaders)? Can we connect?
- Some sort of wrap-up & thank you...moving forward
  - **Positive impact of their work...student testimonials (Ken sent these to Julia last year, shall we again do this or another gesture?)**

### Scheduling considerations:

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### **Schedule-ish from last year:**

- Shawna will start us off with a toast and/or Misty can start us off with a short reading
- Introductions
- Discussion questions (if needed):
  - What's **going well** in your work? Celebrations?
  - What are you **noticing**?
  - **What kinds of support would be most helpful to you?**
    - Who are your **local allies/co-conspirators** (orgs, leaders)?
- Aliyana will read some student testimony re: DEIJ work within the SAU 16 district
- Thank yous