

Culture and Climate Committee Report

Meeting of March 10, 2022

Attendees: Monk Inyang, Kathryn Weller-Demming, Crystal Hopkins, Marcos Vargas, Dr. Felice Harrison-Crawford

2020-2021 School Year HIB Presentation – Marcos Vargas

Mr. Vargas presented the committee the findings of the HIB self-report that each school's safety and climate team completed for the school year. The self-assessment is based on a rubric of 0-3. The assessments are sent to the NJDOE and then published to the district website as well as the school websites. During the presentation, the committee and Mr. Vargas discussed the following:

- Schools have improved since previous report but there is still room to grow. Coordinator will work with school administrators and school action teams on ways to continue progress
- Discussion around the changes in the HIB law from the state that will be happening in July of 2022. The suggestion is to provide families with a reminder of the changing laws that will eventually be adopted into policy
- Each school district does up to 2 hours of training. Will improve on documenting the training going forward.
- The district is looking for a full time HIB Coordinator. Candidate needs certification in mental health background to provide staff and students with suicide prevention support and training

Plan for April Meeting – Deep dive into suspension reports. Committee will be looking into concerns around disproportionality, causes of suspensions, resources for suspended students, and issues and recommendations.

April committee meeting is set for April 12th at 6:30PM