AUSD LGBTQ RT

Meeting Minutes for August 28, 2014

Attendance: Terri Elkin, Anne Faria-Poynter, Gene Kahane, Henry Villareal, Jennifer Williams, Olivia Higgins, Sean Cahill, Audrey Hyman

Approved last meeting’s Minutes with one change: add Audrey as in attendance

RT Discussion:

1. Gene has been sharing a summary of the RT meetings for Encinal staff. Next meeting we will decide if his summaries should go to all school sites and what that process should be.

2. Once the minutes are approved, we will post on the RT website.

3. Anne will add Sean M. to the RT email list.

2014-2015 Co-Chair Updates: Anne Faria-Poynter and Olivia Higgins are now co-chairs. Anne will facilitate meetings, set the agendas, and be the overall lead. Olivia will take notes and facilitate the meeting in Anne’s absence.

RT Discussion:

1. Co-chairs will remain in their position for a minimum of one year. In the beginning of the 2nd year of their term, we will have a check-in about these roles.

2. Ideally, the co-chairs will stay in their positions for two years. The note-taking co-chair will rotate into the facilitating co-chair.

3. The note-taking co-chair will submit notes to the chair, who will review and send to the RT members.

4. Co-chairs will identify a replacement at the end of their term or at anytime, if they are no longer able to chair.

5. A time-keeper will be assigned at the beginning of each meeting. If a RT member submits an agenda item, that person will indicate approximately how many minutes will be needed for discussion.

SB 48/FAIR Education update: Olivia and Gene provided an overview of meeting that happened on August 22nd with Steven Fong, Gene Kahane, Alexis Odgie, Olivia Higgins with LA guests: Sara Train, Coordinator of Project Spin and Jamie Scott, Project and Development Manager of ONE Archives Foundation.

Sara and Jamie presented information on the HS LGBTQ history lessons they were working on. Additional information is needed before we can move forward with agreeing to pilot the curriculum. Specifically: 1. We still need to review lesson plans 2. Have a clear sense of the cost.
Olivia will work with Terri to identify the answers to these items.

If AUSD decides to pursue the curriculum, there are a few possible ways we may pursue training. These include: The LA folks provide the AUSD training or we could follow a TOT model; AUSD staff attend a training in LA and then train AUSD staff.

**RT discussion:**

1. If we pilot the curriculum, we will need to have teacher represented, or at least invited, from all 4 high schools and all middle schools at trainings.

2. Non-AUSD schools will be invited to the trainings, but those schools would provide their own substitutes and purchase their own curriculum.

3. Audrey offered to help with outreaching to non-AUSD schools if necessary.

4. Terri suggested that the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) could be used to help make this work more accessible to students.

5. Some feel as though staff respond more seriously when outsiders facilitate trainings and others felt that having a school’s own staff facilitate trainings is more effective.

5. Gene outlined the LA ID lanyard that included a rainbow flag to show support of LGBTQ community.

**Teacher Leader Program Update:** Olivia and Terri introduced a teacher leader program that might be implemented to ensure all teachers are provided with training and resources to create an inclusive and safe school environment, with a particular emphasis on the unique needs of the LGBTQ community.

2 teachers from each school site will be identified. Those teachers will receive a full day training and year-long support.

**RT Discussion:**

1. We discussed options on supporting schools that don’t identify a teacher leader, including possibly having a mentor or teacher leader to provide services to multiple schools.

2. One topic area to possibly include in the teacher leader training would be to provide the historical context of this work.

3. Identify a procedure to vet teachers who are interested in participating.

4. Teacher contractual issues/concerns around “extra duties” was discussed.

5. Another way to highlight our work might include a “road show.” Will discuss at next RT meeting.
6. Important of referring/highlighting the various laws and policies that lead this work, specifically the curriculum work is to be in compliance with SB 48.

**2014 July 4th Parade Gay Pride contingency**- Sean provided an update. It might be good to have an accountant keeping track of our programs. $2,000 cost for the float. Happy to say we had a fantastic time and no negative interaction/engagement!

Sean will send photos of the Gay Pride contingency to Audrey. They are also on the Alameda Harvey Milk Day FB page.

**Harvey Milk Day Alameda Portrait Quilt** – now on display at the Alameda Main Library in the children’s department.

**LGBTQ Teacher Event** - Sean and Audrey updated the group about their work hosting a February event. Sean met with Sandy Wong to discuss a co-sponsored AEA/AUSD event.

**RT Discussion:**

1. Who (teachers, administrators, site staff, RT members?) should attend the event? Audrey thought a more private AEA affair would allow teachers to talk more openly about concerns coming out or introducing LGBTQ topics in class.
2. What role should AUSD and/or the RT play in leading the event?
3. What should the event actually be? A celebration? Workshops that would evolve into a party? Just a party?
4. If AUSD LGBTQ RT is sponsoring this, some thought the entire district community should be invited to participate equally.
5. Maybe there is a need for two events that build upon one another?
6. Important for Sean McPhettridge and district people to attend to show support.
7. Should we invite leaders from other bargaining groups?
8. What role should the Teacher Leaders play?

**Next Steps** –

Gene will send an email to the group outlining his movie idea for LGBTQ history month.

Terri will invite someone to come to the next RT to discuss web updates, etc.

Olivia will follow up with Sara Train and Jamie Scott about a “wish list” of services and continue to gather some additional information about the LA curriculum

Audrey and Sean will continue to work on the February event.