

BRENT ELEMENTARY  
Diversity Working Group (DWG)  
May 2018 Meeting Minutes

The Brent Elementary Diversity Working Group met on 5/30/18 in the Brent Elementary library. Brent Elementary is located at 301 North Carolina Ave SE, Washington DC. The meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

Meeting Participants: Danielle Drissel, Sara Ewbank, Melinda Copeland, Jon Berg, Sarah Carr, Adi Segal

Agenda

1. Pride Parade

- Parade is Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup>; 60 people signed up so far.
- Poster Making Party is Tuesday June 5 at 3:30.
  - o Jon Berg will send email to teachers to remind students about it.
  - o Students need to come with parents to the poster making party.

2. DWG Bylaws and Elections of DWG Officers

- Officer positions will include Rising Tides Parent Liaison and Academic Liaison
  - o Positions are an intentional bridge to connect the program and Brent.
  - o When students are invited to the RT program in the fall, their parents will also be invited to join DWG and specifically asked to be the RT Parent Liaison.
- Important to cross-pollinate between DWG and other parent and teacher groups: LSAT, SIT, SCAC, PTA
  - o Article III.d. of draft bylaws amended to mention working with SCAC, LSAT, SIT, and PTA.
  - o Sarah Carr is on DWG as well as LSAT and SIT. Results of elections pending for SCAC & PTA.
  - o Good to keep in mind that DWG is a group for both parents and teachers.
  - o Sara Ewbank will continue to serve as liaison from the Administration.
- Bylaws moved to be approved by Sarah Carr. Jon Berg seconded. Approved.
- Election of officers:
  - o Danielle Drissel approved as Chairperson of DWG.
  - o Adi Segal approved as Secretary of DWG.
  - o Melinda Copeland considering Rising Tides Academic Liaison position.

3. Summer Brain Gain Brainstorming

- Sara Ewbank provided background of last 7 years' worth of summer activities to help families stem summer reading loss.
- DWG brainstormed fresh ideas to help Brent keep in touch with readers and motivate them to keep reading. Ideas included:
  - o Kindle books/kindle app on phones
  - o DC1 card is also a library card
  - o Peer to peer or book buddy pen pals
  - o Using digital media (e.g. Instagram) to have kids advertise favorite books
  - o Using the DWG or staff bulletin board to promote summer reading.
  - o Competition among current 2d grade classes to see which class can have the most students read the class book before the start of 3d grade.
  - o Social events, such as Principal stunts, Dunk a Teacher or Book Swap

4. Summer Reading Book List Recommendations

- DWG discussed the suggestions emailed in by DWG members
- Attendees reviewed last year's book lists and helped add/highlight/refresh/edit the lists.

5. Looking Ahead

- Ranking of priorities for next year were evenly distributed among diverse books, social events, student engagement and parent/community engagement
- Next Meeting: Early August

The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m. ET.