

MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Monday, October 8, 2018 ~ 3:00 – 7:30 P.M.
Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids, 5700 28th St., S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546

HEARING AND TESTIMONY ON EDUCATION & CIVIL RIGHTS

Monday, October 8, 2018

- Opening Remarks, Co-Chair Mumtaz Haque (3:00 - 3:05 P.M.)
- Welcoming Remarks (3:05 – 3:15 P.M.)
 - **Wayman Britt**, Kent County Administrator
 - **Lupe Ramos-Montigny**, Michigan State Board of Education
- **Panel #1** (3:15 – 4:45 P.M.) Focusing on challenges facing high school students in school settings.
 - Approximately 10 to 13 high school students

 - Commissioner Q&A
- **Panel #2** (4:45 – 6:15 P.M.) KConnect – focusing on educational disparities in Kent County and the community’s collective response to them.
 - **Milinda Ysasi**, Executive Director of The Source and Co-Chair of KConnect’s Accountability Partners Council
 - **Paul Doyle**, Founder and CEO, Inclusive Performance Strategies and KConnect’s Equity Consultant
 - **Mark Woltman**, Associate Director, KConnect

 - Commissioner Q&A
- Break (6:15 – 6:30 P.M.)
- Public Comment (6:30 – 7:30 P.M.) No more than 3 minutes per person
- Commission Discussion and next steps (7:30 P.M.)
- Adjournment

Summary/Background on Panels

Panel 1 - Students:

- High school students or recent graduates aged 15 to 20 years of age
- Open to presenting to the Commission and taking questions/has approval of parent to present and identify himself/herself.

Proposed Questions for Essay:

Select one of the essay questions listed below and provide a write up of up to 2 pages in length that you are prepared to recite at the education hearings to be held on October 8th in Grand Rapids. Your essay when presented should be no less than 2 minutes in length and no more than 4 minutes in length.

1. If you attend a high school that is primarily made up of students of color located in an urban setting, what are the greatest challenges you face in receiving an education? And why?
2. If you attend a high school that is primarily made up of white students located in an urban or suburban setting, what are the greatest challenges you face in receiving an education? And why?
3. What are your perceptions and realities about race and color that you face or faced every day while attending or when you were attending high school? Did this prepare you for after graduating high school?
4. If you are a student of color attending a high school primarily made up of white students or attended such a high school, what were your experiences in interacting with teachers? Please provide examples and support for your conclusions.

Due Date: September 30, 2018

Submit write up to:

Agustin V. Arbulu, Executive Director, Michigan Department of Civil Rights
Email: arbulua@michigan.gov

Goal is to identify a total of 10 to 15 students to participate in a student panel and present their essays to the Commission.

Panel 2 - K Connect Presentation:

K Connect is proposing to do a data presentation on the education disparities in Kent County with an emphasis on race/ethnicity. It will be put in the context of how Kent County is structured, as well as the economic realities of people of color within the community. K Connect will be highlighting the community's collective response to these disparities, which includes the K Connect collective impact and the network.

Lastly, K Connect will be planning, if feasible, to invite the commissioners and audience, to participate in a gallery walk of data that follows Kent County students from 9th grade to college completion that will highlight the disparities of race/ethnicity, economics and disability within the area.

The presentation with gallery walk should last about an hour, which leaves about 30 minutes for Q&A.