

District Advisory Committee

February 5, 2020

Minutes

Opening

Chairman Angela Kopnicky called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Mrs. Linda Cuthbert, school board vice-chairman; Mr. Carl Persis, school board member; Mr. Mark West, chief of human resources; Dr. Carmen Balgobin, deputy superintendent; Ms. Susan Freeman, area superintendent; Ms. Rachel Hazel, chief academic officer; Ms. Nancy Wait, facilitator, vips; and Ms. Kelly Schulz, director, community information were all in attendance.

December minutes were unanimously approved.

Superintendent's comments

Mr. Mark West, chief of human resources and Dr. Carmen Balgobin, deputy superintendent brought greetings on behalf of Dr. Fritz. They both feel very welcomed and shared their happiness to be part of Volusia County Schools.

Raptor

Ms. Nancy Wait, VIPS Facilitator, provided information regarding the Raptor system. Here is an overview of the information she shared: Volunteer applications now expire annually on June 30. An email asking if you would like to renew your application will be sent 30 days in advance to the email address in your volunteer profile. If your drivers license has already been scanned into Raptor, it should not need to be scanned again. Be sure to select all of the "functions" you would like to see when you sign in on the kiosk – whatever you select on your application is what you will see when you sign in (i.e., classroom helper, chaperone – day field trip, PTA function, etc.). Approvals are immediate unless your name matches a name on the sexual offender/predator database; however, if you select overnight chaperone, band adjunct or mentor, your application will not be approved until fingerprinting and/or mentor training has been verified.

Overnight chaperones and band adjuncts are now required to be fingerprinted. The cost is \$41.25 and the clearance is good for one year, but can be renewed at a nominal cost.

The volunteer portal allows you to change your address and phone number, as well as input volunteer hours that were not captured by Raptor. Go to tinyurl.com/volusiavolunteer. Your username is your email address that is on file in Raptor. Click "forgot password" and a link will be emailed to you to create your account. Changes to email addresses must be made through Raptor customer service (the volunteer office can make this request for you).

Code of Student Conduct

Ms. Rachel Hazel, chief academic officer, gave a presentation regarding the Code of Student conduct. She reviewed School Board Policy 208 – Code of Student Conduct and Discipline (Elementary) or (Secondary). She discussed the levels of referrals stating level three and four are the most serious cases.

Recommendations for revision to the policy is solicited annually.

- Must be submitted in writing
- All submissions will be considered
- Not all will be implemented
- Review process
- Legal Department
- Superintendent and Cabinet
- Draft disseminated for further review
- Draft to Board for approval to advertise
- Final draft advertised (28 days)
- Public hearing and vote

Click [here](#) for the Code of Student Conduct form. The deadline to submit recommendations is April 1.

The following information regarding Code of Student Conduct was provided by Craig Pender: We are currently retooling our Code of Conduct. We are trying to make it more administrator and parent friendly. Our goal is to make it transparent, thus creating a more uniform and consistent application across our district. We are also trying to include critical contact information for both staff and parents, ensuring we can best serve our students' needs, using our district resources.

Steps are being taken to create a strong oversight of discipline district wide. This is in order to ensure consistency and ensure that schools are doing all that they can, before suspensions are issued.

A districtwide ISS program will be implemented in the secondary schools, for the next school year, with a focus on restorative practices.

School Board Member comments

Mrs. Linda Cuthbert shared current stories highlighting VCS listed below:

- Spruce Creek Elementary was highlighted on Access Hollywood regarding kindergarten student Eva Chapman who has begun a food drive to ensure no student goes hungry over the summer
- Dr. Yoder Milton, Turie T. Small, was recently surprised by Good Morning America recognizing her on Make your Monday!
- Congratulations to Spelling Bee winner Kate Thompson, Creekside Middle and Beatrice "Trixie" Meckley, Southwestern Middle runner-up
- Congratulations to Spruce Creek High student Ashna Sai for winning the Florida Fragile Ecosystem Problem Solver Award

- Please click here for [2020 Graduation dates](#).

Ms. Cuthbert shared she had recently attended the All County Band event and highly recommends checking out any upcoming Arts/Performing Arts events taking place.

She closed with mentioning the 2nd anniversary of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland shooting is February 14. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

School Successes

Indian River Elementary hosted a 5k fundraiser with the proceeds going to their media center.

A Deltona Middle representative shared information about an event hosted by their Stem Academy called, "The Amazing Shake". The Amazing Shake was a competition that was held on January 30 that emphasized teaching students manners, discipline, respect and professional conduct.

Ms. Linda Witherwax, VCCPTA president, announced the VCCPTA Founders Day celebration and general meeting will take place February 13, 6 p.m. at Enterprise Elementary.

Spruce Creek High mentioned they had a student, Ashna Sai, win the Regional Tomoka Science Fair

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is **Wednesday, March 4**, 5:15 p.m. at Deltona High.