

District Advisory Committee Minutes

April 3, 2019

Revised 4/10/19

The District Advisory Committee (DAC) met on Wednesday, April 3, 2019, at 5:15 pm at Mainland High School, media center.

Ms. Angela Kopnicky, chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm. March minutes were posted on the web for review prior to the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved. Mr. Tom Russell, superintendent; Ms. Susan Freeman, area superintendent; Ms. Monie Holland, mental health specialist; and Ms. Kelly Schulz, director of community information, were all in attendance.

Ms. Kopnicky opened the floor for nominations for the upcoming school year DAC Chairman and Vice Chairman positions. Mr. Andrew Dickens from the nominating committee reported one name for both chairman and vice chairman were received prior to the meeting. Ms. Angela Kopnicky current chairman, has submitted her name for chairman and Ms. Jennifer Marinaccio, Ormond Beach Middle representative, submitted her name for the vice chairman. The nominations are closed and will be voted on at the May meeting.

Mr. Russell addressed the committee that he would speak regarding the new bell schedule at the May meeting. Mr. Russell proceeded to speak on the following topics:

- Transportation – Senate Bill 802, House Bill 675 purposing reducing the 2-mile radius to 1.5 miles to be allowed to ride the school bus
- Elementary text books- math books have already been selected. ELA (reading) books are being reviewed and should have a decision by the end of this month. Sips, a phonic program, that is in the elementary schools will be used as remediation.
- SEL – Social Emotional Learning- a program called Sanford Harmony is used at most elementary schools, SEL TOA's (teacher on assignment) at middle schools
- Great People, Great Deeds – employee recognition program highlighting people that do great things out of the kindness of their heart. Two employees, one from the east side, and one from the west side of the county, will be recognized. Wednesday, April 10 will be the first announcement of winners. Visit the district's home page slide show to see more about this program. <http://myvolusiaschools.org/Pages/default.aspx>
- Mr. Russell met with 17 CTE (career and technical education) students advisory board and asked them some questions regarding safety:
 - How many do not feel safe when at school? 6 raised their hands
 - How many do not feel safe in a section of their campus? 16 raised their hands
 - How many have at least one adult they can go to in the course of the day if they need to? All 17 raised their hands

He then asked them to make recommendations on what would make them feel safe. The responded by saying the accountability of the adults, example they must show ID's to leave campus but when they return their ID's are not

checked. They said if the school is going to do things a specific way to create a safe campus then the adults need to do it with consistency.

Ms. Monie Holland, mental health specialist, gave a [PowerPoint](#) presentation sharing procedures the district has been implementing as a part of the state statute that was passed last year after the Parkland shooting.

- A response team and SEL preventative teams have been created
- SEL TOA's help teach student social skills, how to deal with emotions and how to cope, also helps with teaching kindness and respect
- Ms. Holland and Mr. Richter, both mental health specialist, help as a response team in the event of a student crisis whether it is an individual student crisis or school wide student crisis
- Five mental health teams were created to include: licensed mental health counselors, social workers and school psychologists.
- Each team member is housed at one of the schools listed in the PowerPoint. A chart is also included that reflects what team a school may be designated to.
- Youth Mental Health training required by Florida Statute has been taking place weekly targeting specific sub groups. The sub groups are listed in the PowerPoint.
- New next year on the student's platform there may be an option for a teacher or administrator to add an alert that could appear to notify teachers when they take roll and let them know if a student is going through a hard time. This would be a "Handle with Care" alert. A teacher may notice a student is having a bad day and would like other teachers to handle them with care. The reason why the alert is there will not be listed but examples could be: the student lost a pet, or broke up with significant other, or even domestic violence at home. The purpose of the notification would be to share with the teacher to handle that student with care versus reprimanding them if the student is not engaging. The teacher would be able to see that the student is dealing with something and they could check with the student and see if they could help them with anything.
- The second Mental Wellness Community Forum will take place on May 6th at Spruce Creek High, 5:30 p.m.

School Successes

George Marks Elementary will host their farewell party to their old campus May 11, 9-11 am. Retired teachers will be in attendance and bricks from the retiring school will be sold for \$10

Financial aid and college planning workshop is taking at Atlantic High school, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. on April 29.

Galaxy Middle HOSA recognition includes the following:
Introducing Galaxy's very first HOSA INTERNATIONAL TEAM! These students won awards at states that now qualify them to compete at Internationals in June:

- Tyeona Grayson - Outstanding HOSA Chapter (1 of only 3 out of 27 middle schools who earned this distinction)
- Zoe Elam - 2nd place Prepared Speaking
- Kathryn Antune - 4th place Healthy Lifestyle
- Payton Cooper - Bronze medal for Barbara James Service Award
- Haley Soukup, Alexandra Parodi, Dazmin Grayson earned Silver medals for Barbara James Service Award
- Ariel Dickens and Abraham Garin earned Gold medals for Barbara James Service Award.

The next meeting will be May 1, at Deltona High School.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.