

District Advisory Committee October 3, 2018 Minutes

Opening

Vice Chairman Sydra Desaussure called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Mrs. Melody Johnson, school board member; Mr. Tom Russell, superintendent; Mr. Gary Marks, area superintendent; Ms. Carolyn Carbonell, Deltona High principal, Mr. Mike Micallef, Deltona High principal intern, Ms. Deb Muller, chief financial officer; Ms. Rachel Hazel, executive director of K-12 curriculum; and Ms. Kelly Schulz, director of community information services were all in attendance.

Mr. Russell introduced Ms. Kelly Schulz, director of community information services and DAC liaison.

The minutes from September 5, 2018 DAC meeting were unanimously approved.

Deltona High Principal Comments

Principal Carolyn Carbonell gave a brief overview of the newly renovated Learning Commons (former media center) area. [The Learning Commons](#) is a 21st century environment providing students and faculty areas to collaborate on projects.

Superintendent's Comments

- Student Enrollment is up- as of Friday, September 28 there were 63, 384 students enrolled
- Discussion on legislative priorities:
 - Teacher salaries – Mr. Russell has heard there will be attempts to address teacher pay in the next legislative session
 - Base Student Allocation (BSA) this year .47cent per student was received. This amount is controlled by Tallahassee.
 - DCD – District Cost Differential – Ms. Melody Johnson spoke regarding this. See School Board Comments below.
- Senate Bill 7028- security and mental wellness bill
 - Positive feedback from schools and the community regarding school guardian program
 - Pleased with the support the district has from Sheriff Chitwood with the school guardian program. Many other school districts do not have the same support from their law enforcement.
 - \$400 million was appropriated for school safety. So far \$342 million has been distributed. Governor Scott has asked the legislative committee to release those funds to the district. Senate President Negrón and Speaker of the House Oliva said no, it is too early in the school year. This money was appropriated for school safety and it should not be returned to the general fund. FADSS (Florida Association of District School Superintendents), which Mr. Russell is a member of, wrote an open letter to the Governor and candidates pressing them to release the school safety funds and addressing salaries.
- College and Career Expo is Thursday, October 4, 2018 at Mainland High 5:30 p.m.
- A question was asked regarding students that enrolled to VCS during the hurricane last year. Please click [here](#) to view the data.

Budget

Ms. Muller presented a PowerPoint on [VCS Final Budget Fiscal Year 2018-2019](#). There is a lot of legality getting the budget approved. Even though the budget is effective on July 1, it is not officially approved until the proposal to spend is presented to the school board. A temporary budget is adopted until the revisions are made. The final budget will take place in September.

School Board Member Comments

Ms. Johnson spoke regarding the District Cost Differential:

- For every taxpayer dollar, Volusia only receives .9617cents
- VCS is the only system in the county that does not receive the full dollar back on the taxed dollar. Police and Fire department are not affected the way the school system
- VCS has lost more than any other county in the state of Florida due to DCD (look at page 9 on the Budget PowerPoint)

School Success

Woodward Avenue Elementary is pleased to announce the increase in their PTA participation.

Adjournment

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 8, 5:15 p.m. at Mainland High School, media center**. The topics will be Student Progression Plan and FUTURES Foundation. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.