

## District Advisory Committee September 4, 2018 Minutes

### Opening

Chairman Angela Kopnicky called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Mrs. Linda Cuthbert, school board chairman; Mr. Tom Russell, superintendent; Ms. Rose Roland, area superintendent; Mr. Greg Akin, chief operating officer; Dr. Amy Hall, coordinator, student & government relations; and Mr. Justin Lipomi, social and emotional learning specialist, were all in attendance.

Ms. Kopnicky shared with District Advisory Committee members the purpose and expectations of their role as a member.

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

### Superintendent's Comments

- Started the school year off with over 63,000 students
- First day of school there was a lunch issue with a student not getting served. The district is reviewing and revising the policy that will apply to every school so this never happens again.
- Pierson Elementary opened with their new school this year. Many schools; Chisholm Elementary, Deltona Middle, DeLand Middle, Seabreeze High have big projects taking place with funding from the half-cent sales tax.
- Senate Bill 7026 was implemented at the beginning of this school year, including an armed individual on every campus and mental health awareness in every school. The state provided no guidance or funding.

### School Guardians

Mr. Akin presented a PowerPoint on [School Marshal Program](#). In just a few short months the district has fulfilled the mandate to have an armed person in every school. Even though there was lack of state funding to meet the mandate, help from some local government agencies helped make the implementation possible. The district also had to develop a mental health plan in a short period of time. Mr. Akin stated that this has not been an easy task; but it has been accomplished. Relationships between our district, Sheriff Chitwood, and many other law enforcement agencies have never been better. Mr. Akin highlighted the following items:

- 35 school guardians reported to duty for the first day of school
- 14 school guardians are currently being trained
- School guardians undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, psychological evaluation, mental health crisis intervention training for school resource officers
- High schools and middle schools have SROs (school resource officers). Contracts are also in place with the cities of Daytona Beach, DeLand, Ormond Beach and South Daytona for municipal police officers at a lower cost and with federal government grant funding

### **Social Emotional Learning**

Dr. Amy Hall and Mr. Justin Lipomi shared a PowerPoint presentation: [Helping Our Students Thrive: An Introduction to Social and Emotional Learning](#). Their presentation covered what is SEL, where does SEL occur and ways SEL is taught and learned. Volusia County Schools currently has seven SEL Teachers on Assignment covering all middle schools and four elementary schools (the school names are listed in the PowerPoint).

### **School Board Member Comments**

No school board member comments or DAC member comments were made.

### **Adjournment**

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 3, 5:15 p.m. at Deltona High School, media center. The topic will be Volusia County Schools budget. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.