

## District Advisory Committee September 7, 2022 Minutes

### Opening

Chairman Jennifer Marinaccio called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Ruben Colon, school board chairman, Carl Persis, school board member, Anita Burnette, school board member, Dr. Carmen Balgobin, superintendent; Rachel Hazel, deputy superintendent; Patty Corr, asst. superintendent, middle; Rose Roland, asst. superintendent, student services; Angel Gomez, communications director; Amanda Wiles, ESE executive director, Andrew Olson, middle school director; and Jessica McIntyre, coordinator, mental health services were all in attendance.

Ms. Marinaccio, DAC chairman, thanked all District Advisory committee members for volunteering their time. She presented a [detailed orientation](#) which included the responsibilities, purpose and expectations as a DAC representative. The minutes from May 4, 2022, DAC meeting were unanimously approved.

### Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Balgobin shared the talking points below and a brief first day of school video.

### Thankful to be back with VCS where her heart belongs

- Appreciates all DAC members willing to be an advocate for the students
- VCS is working very closely with local community businesses to come together to create paid internships for our students
- Two very important items as we embark this year:
  - the safety and security of our staff and students
  - Creating pathways and learning experiences for our students
- VCS received a grant from Daytona State College for \$1.8 million which will expand two programs:
  - Teaching Academy at Atlantic High
  - Criminal Justice academy which will be in collaboration with Sherriff Chitwood

### First Day of School

- Enrollment currently exceeds over 64,000 which is an increase from last year
- VCS offers free breakfast and lunch to ALL students. Thank you, School Way Café!!
- Thank you so much to the bus drivers. They have such an important job including being the first and last person to see VCS students every day.
- VCS is hiring. Please share the word and this QR code



- VCS has over 8,000 employees. Dr. Balgobin is committed to creating an environment for staff to feel safe and an atmosphere of belonging
- [Click here to view video](#)

## Dual Language Program

- Spirit Elementary and Holly Hill K-8 have launched a dual language program. This is where English and Spanish-speaking students receive 50% of their instruction in English and 50% in Spanish. The program aims to cultivate bilingual, bi-literate, and bicultural global citizens. They both are at full capacity
- [Click here to view video](#)

## New Programs at High School

- Automotive program began this year at Atlantic High
- Electrical program began this year at Taylor Middle-High

**Jessica McIntyre, Mental Health Services Coordinator**, presented a [PowerPoint](#) on District Mental Health & Wellness.

She discussed:

- Why Mental Health Supports
- Growth of Services
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Community Resources

All though mental health technicians are housed in the secondary schools throughout the county, every school in the district has an assigned Mental Health Technician.

## Port Orange Community Trust/ Hum (Halifax-Urban Ministries)

Jennifer Marano, Executive Director, Port Orange Community Trust, Rhonda Hodges, HUM, along with other volunteers spoke regarding the upcoming empty bowls benefit. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 1 at the Port Orange City Center. Please see [the flyer attached](#) for details. DAC members are encouraged to let their Principals and SAC know that this raises money for scholarships for VCS students and that entries could be open to any student at the school regardless if their art class is participating as a whole. If you would like to participate please contact Jennifer at 386-506-5935 or Rhonda at 386-299-3853

## School Board Member comments

**Ruben Colon**- thanked the DAC members for volunteering their time

## Adjournment

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 5**, 5:15 p.m. at Deltona High School, learning commons. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.