

District Advisory Committee March 6, 2024 Minutes

Opening

Chairman Angela Kopnicky called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Jamie Haynes, School Board Chairman; Ruben Colón, School Board Member; Jessie Thompson, School Board Member; Dr. Carmen Balgobin, Superintendent; Dr. Rachel Hazel, Deputy Superintendent; Danielle Johnson Communications Director; Craig Pender, Coordinator, Student Relations; Nate Anderson, Coordinator, Student Services; and Jessica McIntyre, Coordinator, Mental Health Services, were all in attendance.

The minutes from the February 7, 2024, DAC meeting and the revisions to the By-Laws were unanimously approved.

Nominating Selection Committee

Mrs. Kopnicky and Mrs. Long reviewed the responsibilities of the DAC Nominating Selection Committee

- The Committee is composed of three DAC Representatives
- Duties may be fulfilled virtually/by email
- The District will send out an email with the Nominating Committee members' contact information to all DAC members
- Committee members will be contacted by DAC members interested in serving as DAC Chair or Vice-Chair for the 2024-25 academic year
- Committee members will forward the names of all DAC members interested to Lisa Long prior to the April DAC meeting
- At the April DAC meeting the Nominating Committee will report with any nominations that were submitted; nominations will also be taken from the floor
- At the May DAC meeting each nominee will have the opportunity to briefly address the members before voting
- The members of the Nominating Committee are:
 - Leslie LaRue, Woodward Avenue Elementary, lelarue@volusia.k12.fl.us
 - April Jaques, Galaxy Middle, apriljaques@aol.com
 - Tracy Haigh, Highbanks Learning Center, tmhaigh@volusia.k12.fl.us

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Balgobin spoke about the Cambridge International Awards and CTE programs. See some of the highlights below:

Cambridge Scholar - Top in Country

- 1 student from Deltona HS received the highest mark in the USA and placed 6th in the world rank.

Cambridge Scholar - Award with Distinction (3 exams with "A" grades or higher during this exam series)

- 2 students from New Smyrna Beach High School

Cambridge Scholar - Award with Merit (3 exams with “B” grades or higher during this exam series)

- 11 students from Seabreeze High School
- 5 students from New Smyrna Beach High School
- 3 students from Deltona High School

Cambridge Scholar - Award (3 exams with “C” grades or higher during this exam series)

- 35 students from Seabreeze High School
- 16 students from New Smyrna Beach High School
- 8 students from Deltona High School
- 4 students from University High School

CTE Highlights

- Over 70 Industry Certifications
 - 17TH in the state for pass rate
 - 13th in the state for students tested
- 15 Career Clusters
 - 53 CTE Programs
 - 27 Career Academies
 - 98 CTE Honors Courses
- 27 Career Dual Enrollment
- 62 Middle School to High School Career Pathways
 - 51 Middle School Courses

Code of Conduct

Mr. Craig Pender, and Nate Anderson, Coordinators, of Student Services presented a [PowerPoint](#) presentation on Code of Student Conduct and Discipline policy 208E and 208S

- The district is working on creating one Code of Student Conduct instead of having Elementary and Secondary versions
- The Code defines four levels of discipline offenses and a selection of appropriate responses for each level
- The Code can be found under School Board policies on the District website as well as on the website for every individual school
- When a referral is received by the school administration, the following steps are set in motion:
 1. School investigation into referral, including student’s explanation
 2. Administration determines appropriate offense(s) codings and appropriate response

3. Parents/Guardians may request a conference with the school principal
- Level III infractions may be referred to the District; Level IV infractions must be referred to the District
 - Recommendations for revisions to the Code are currently being accepted through April 5, 2024. Revisions are recommended to reflect SESIR (School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting System) changes, respond to community trends/concerns, and support school staff
 - Recommendations for Code revision must be submitted through Forms Document available on the District website or by email to Craig Pender clpender@volusia.k12.fl.us
 - Potential revisions will be reviewed by the Legal Department, and the Superintendent and Cabinet, and then a draft will be disseminated for review. A draft will be presented to the Board for approval to advertise; a final draft will be advertised for 28 days, after which there will be a public hearing and Board vote

Jessica McIntyre, Coordinator, Mental Health Services

Mrs. McIntyre spoke regarding a new partnership the district is working on with State Attorney Larizza. Please see her brief description of what she shared at the DAC meeting below.

State Attorney partnership for a proactive approach to discipline and safety. Collaboration with Flagler, St. Johns, Putnam and Volusia counties to provide a unified message on education and prevention program supports. We are meeting next week to further discuss specifics, such as video messages for students to learn about consequences and safety, career development, community outreach and parental involvement. We will look to students and the DAC for help in getting messages out and support.

School Board Member Comments

Ruben Colón – Mr. Colón emphasized how complex the student discipline process is. He recently was contacted by a parent regarding a discipline concern of their student. Every student has a unique situation and staff goes above and beyond to help resolve the situation in the most effective way possible.

Jamie Haynes – Ms. Haynes recently participated in National School Lunch Week by serving meals at multiple schools and also helping judge new food items that may be added to the school lunch menu.

Jessie Thompson – Thanked the DAC Representatives and students who were at the meeting for taking time out of their schedules to attend the meeting.

Adjournment

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, at 5:15pm, at Mainland High School. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm