

District Advisory Committee

October 2, 2024 Minutes

Opening

Chairman Jennifer Marinaccio called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Mrs. Jessie Thompson, school board member; Mr. Ruben Colón, school board member; Mr. John Cash, chief of staff; Captain Smith, director of safety and security; Dr. Angel Teron, REA coordinator; Ms. Stephanie Workman, executive director, human resources; and Mr. Mike Micallef, executive director of graduation assurance/student services, were all in attendance. The minutes from the September 4, 2024, DAC meeting were unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Comments

Mr. John Cash, chief of staff, and Captain Smith shared a [PowerPoint](#) on safety and security. Highlights are listed below:

- Safety and Security is the district's number one priority
- Definitions of a Hold, Secure, and Lockdown were reviewed to give a better understanding of the terms
- When a school is under a hold, secure, or lockdown, please allow the school and resources to do their job to address the situation. Going to the school to check out your student during a hold of any type takes away resourced being used to protect the students
- Random screenings have begun in secondary schools, completed in under 10 minutes and student feedback regarding the screenings have been positive
- Email communication to Principals [link](#) (slide 4)
- Safety and Security [Video](#)
- K-9 "Maverick" will have his debut in November. This new addition to safety and security will be able to detect weapons.

SAC Funds Expenditures Presentation

Dr. Angel Teron, REA coordinator presented a [PowerPoint](#) on SAC Funds Expenditures.

The next portion of the minutes were graciously provided by DAC Chair Jennifer Marinaccio to help give a clear understanding of the SAC Funds expenditures process.

I. SAC Fund Statute Compliance

Dr. Angel Terón, REA Coordinator

- Last year all SACs were newly required to submit all SAC fund requests to the District prior to presenting them to their SAC
- This was the result of a number of requests that were not in compliance with Florida statute regarding allowed use of SAC funds
- Such requests could result in a negative audit of District and school finances
- Following meetings between the District Advisory Chair and the REA Coordinator, this procedure has been revised so that the District process is in compliance with statute

- Retraining has been held with each SAC Chair/Secretary to ensure that all SAC requests are in compliance with uses of SAC funding allowed by statute
- Retraining will also be held at the October 2nd DAC meeting so that each DAC representative may reinforce these limitations with their individual School Advisory Councils
- Dr. Terón shared a power point presentation (attached to this email) on SAC Funds Legislation that includes statute language and examples of allowable SAC funding requests, and those that should not be approved
- The District School Advisory Handbook has been updated to reflect the newly adjusted approval procedure, now in compliance with statute

II. SAC Funds Legislation

- A. SAC funds are to be used for enhancing school performance through development and implementation of a school improvement plan
- B. These moneys may be expended only on programs or projects selected by the School Advisory Council
- C. Neither school district staff nor principals may override the recommendations of the School Advisory Council
- D. The overall purpose of the School Improvement Plan is for schools to review data, set goals, and create an action plan and monitor progress
- E. The purpose of SAC funds is to support these identified resource inequities to ensure improvements in educational outcomes for our students

III. School Advisory Handbook

- A. Volusia County Schools SAC funds support programs and projects to improve educational outcomes outlined on the School Improvement Plan
- B. Use of School Improvement Funds
 - a. Funds are provided for developing and implementing Schoolwide Improvement Plans only
 - b. Funds are to be used on programs and projects to **directly improve educational outcomes outlined in the School Improvement Plan**
 - c. SAC funds cannot be used for incentive-based items that do not have a direct impact on student achievement delineated within the School Improvement Plan (i.e., gift cards, awards, ceremonies, foods, stipends/supplements)
 - d. SAC funds **may not be used** on off-campus experiences that **do not** have a direct impact on student achievement delineated within the School Improvement Plan (i.e., Field Trips, Conferences, Travel)
 - e. SAC funds **may be used** for off-campus experiences that have a direct impact on student achievement for the current school year and are delineated on the School Improvement Plan. The impact on educational outcomes in the School Improvement Plan is determined by time of the year the off campus experience happens. The list below provides examples:
 - i. ACCEPTABLE: Solution Tree PLC Conference at the start of the school year to support teacher collaboration in ELA
 - ii. ACCEPTABLE: Get Your Teach On Conference sessions in September on differentiation and progress monitoring to support ELA/Math Learning Gains
 - iii. NOT ACCEPTABLE: NCTM Conference to increase math achievement in April

- f. SAC funds may not be used on equipment upgrades that do not have a **direct impact on student achievement** delineated within the School Improvement Plan (i.e., school radios, speakers, team uniforms/equipment)
- g. These funds may **not be used** for capital improvements or for any project or program that has a duration of more than one year; however, SAC may independently determine to continue funding a program or project formerly funded with these funds in a subsequent year
- h. Neither school district staff nor principals may override the recommendations of the SAC

IV. Requesting SAC Funds

- A. The SAC Chair will coordinate with the School Principal to ensure alignment to legislation and that the School Improvement Plan is being supported by the application for SAC funds
 - a. Verified applications are uploaded to Canvas Course School File three days prior to SAC meeting in accordance with Sunshine Law
- B. The Research, Evaluation, and Accountability Office will review uploaded application and provide feedback
 - a. Appeals to feedback will be reviewed by committee, composed of REA and Division Directors
- C. The SAC agenda will indicate the voting item
- D. The SAC will vote by adhering to the following voting guidelines:
 - a. Voting cannot occur unless a quorum is present. Virtual voting is not permissible
 - b. A quorum is defined as a majority of the membership roster
- E. SAC minutes must reflect the discussion and voting action (approved or denied)
- F. The meeting minutes and agenda that indicates the voting for the expenditure of these funds shall be uploaded to the SAC Canvas Course School File

These guidelines (use of and requesting SAC Funds) are established based on the language governing the use of School Improvement Funds found in FS 24.121(5)(c) and FS 1001.452

School Board Member Jessie Thompson brought greetings on behalf of herself and Mr. Ruben Colón and thanked the DAC representatives for their continued support by attending the DAC meetings.

Q & A period took place with DAC representatives and cabinet members

Adjournment

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 6**, 5:15 p.m. at Mainland High School in the multipurpose room. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.