

Family Life Advisory Committee (FLAC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 4/10/25, 5:00-6:30 pm

1. Sign in and Greetings

- 1.1. **Attendance:** Kyle Blackburn, Abigail Cobb, Caitlin Edmondson, Kim Ellis, Kimberly Evans, Amy Gilford, Tasha Graham, Alan Grasley, Alyson Guerra, Kelly Guest, Shannon Hinkhaus, Kellie Hurst, Amanda Jozkowski, Colette Moorman, Tara Schoberg, Erin Sipes, Bryan Thompson, Chris Tobias, Bill Vandegrift, Steve Wernick, Steve Whisler

2. Review and Approve February Meeting Minutes – Shannon Hinkhaus

- 2.1. Update attendance list to replace “Lisa Rock” with “Abigail Cobb”
- 2.2. APPROVED with correction. Results: 17 for, 0 opposed.

3. Share Parent Notification Percentages - Steve Wernick

- 3.1. Steve shared the current percentages based on grade level:
 - 3.1.1. Elementary: 44% CCPS, 37% MSDE, 9% No Family Life, 10% No response
 - 3.1.2. Middle: 38% CCPS, 41% MSDE, 4% No Family Life, 17% No response
 - 3.1.3. High: 34% CCPS, 44% MSDE, 6% No Family Life, 19% No response
 - 3.1.4. Total: 41% CCPS, 39% MSDE, 6% No Family Life, 13% No response
- 3.2. Last year’s response rate:
 - 3.2.1. April 2024: 24% CCPS, 52% MSDE, 4% No Family Life, 20% No response
 - 3.2.2. Changes from April 2024 to April 2025
 - 3.2.2.1. 17% Increase overall in parents choosing CCPS
 - 3.2.2.2. 13% Decrease overall in parents choosing MSDE
 - 3.2.2.3. 2% Increase overall in parents opting out of Family Life
 - 3.2.2.4. 7% Decrease overall in parents not responding
 - 3.2.2.4.1. The consensus of the group was that this is a positive because more families are informed of their options and making decisions that reflect what’s best for their students.
 - 3.2.2.5. Note: last year there was no opt-out option for elementary students.

4. Provide Any New Teacher Feedback on Family Life – Chris Tobias and Bill Vandergrift

- 4.1. Bill shared feedback from teachers at Hampstead and Mechanicsville Elementary schools.
- 4.2. Having information on a disk was very helpful and made it easy for teachers who have never taught this before.
- 4.3. Chris expressed the teachers' overall positive experience. Role out from ES teachers has been handled well and professionally. The biggest concern was making sure students were in the appropriate groups.

- 4.4. Bill shared that for the kids, the biggest concerns have been over being split from their friends.
- 4.5. Steve shared that administrators haven't really had any issues either with the role out – their biggest concerns being parent responses.
- 4.6. Chris relayed that Back-to-school nights at the elementary level will have binders with curriculum information available for parents to peruse. There has not been much turnout for separate preview nights.
- 4.7. Teacher-parent contact time is time-consuming.
 - 4.7.1. Chris thinks the number of contacts is part of the problem. Kellie Hurst confirmed this as being an issue – also mentioned how helpful having the asynchronous teaching option has been.
 - 4.7.2. Chris suggested reducing the number of contacts currently required by BOE (two emails, one paper, and one phone call) to include emails and paper with the third attempt being a school newsletter.
 - 4.7.3. Note: framework materials will not be included in the paper copy.
 - 4.7.4. Shannon made a motion to reduce the number of contacts required, seconded by Bryan.
 - 4.7.4.1. APPROVED – Vote Results: For - 17, Against - 0

5. NOT ON THE AGENDA: Update on State Health Framework Committee – Chris Tobias

- 5.1. Chris shared that a Qualtrex survey will be made available on June 24 to gather opinions on family life health curriculum and revisions will be presented to the state board.
- 5.2. Shannon raised concern about pending HB161 legislation and the impact it may have on CCPS.
 - 5.2.1. Steve Wernick said that if the counties have discrepancies with the state, there is a process to bring the county into compliance.
 - 5.2.2. Steve Whisler expressed that the BOE doesn't think it will impact CCPS, but that they will deal with it head on if the need comes.
 - 5.2.3. Steve Wernick noted that the state has already approved the CCPS framework.
- 5.3. Chris shared Carroll is the only county in the state to have certified health teachers – something other counties love and are interested in implementing that model.
- 5.4. Carroll also adheres to SHAPE standards, which is a national organization for PE and health teachers.

6. Review School Family Life Binder and Materials

- 6.1. In the interest of time, Steve suggested we independently review the binders and materials in the back of the room following the meeting.
- 6.2. Motion to review binders independently made by Bryan, seconded by Kyle.
 - 6.2.1. APPROVED – Vote Results: For - 17, Against - 0

7. Share Information Pertaining to Adapted Family Life Curriculum – Chris Tobias

- 7.1. Chris discussed the challenges of figuring out how to teach Special Education students the Family Life curriculum.
- 7.2. Steve Wernick requested resources to which the group may be privy that would be helpful in the process of constructing a specialized Special Ed Family Life curriculum.

8. Discuss and Vote on Permission Form Option Order - Amanda Jozkowski

- 8.1. Current flow option: 1) CCPS, 2) MSDE, 3) OPT OUT
- 8.2. Amanda covered her background experience in survey development and shared her belief that the current order of the permission form was confusing.
- 8.3. She felt the current flow was not logical and that the best practice would be to list MSDE first as the most inclusive option. She suggested the flow be changed to reflect: 1) MSDE, 2) CCPS, 3) OPT OUT
- 8.4. Motion to change the order of options made by Tara.
- 8.5. Discussion
 - 8.5.1. Best practices are subjective and not everyone may agree.
 - 8.5.2. People are going to be confused no matter what order the options are in.
 - 8.5.3. “No response” rate has gone down, so people are educating themselves and making a choice.
 - 8.5.4. The consensus of the FLAC in past meetings was that CCPS was the best of what CCPS has to offer and therefore should be offered first.
- 8.6. VOTE: For - 3, Against - 12, Abstain - 1

9. Review FLAC Committee Member Terms

- 9.1. Steve thanked everyone for serving on the FLAC and noted a survey would go out in June/early July for those interested in another term.
- 9.2. The BOE will use those surveys to appoint the next committee at the August 2025 BOE meeting.
- 9.3. Reminder of current FLAC committee bylaws pertaining to term service: two 2-year terms is the maximum number allowed by one person
- 9.4. Member feedback:
 - 9.4.1. A review of the bylaws was suggested at the next meeting to include staggering terms, consequences for missing multiple meetings, and continued membership.
 - 9.4.2. Suggested formation of a sub-committee to get bylaw ideas. Note that bylaw changes would need final BOE approval.

10. Discuss Future Topics

- 10.1. Approve April meeting minutes
- 10.2. Review FLAC Bylaws
- 10.3. Review Adapted Family Life Curriculum
- 10.4. Future FLAC meeting dates: 9/25/2025, 11/20/25, 2/12/26, 4/16/26
- 10.5. Meeting adjourned.