District Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes

Date: February 4, 2026
Time: 5:15pm
Location: Mainland High School – Multipurpose Room

- **Welcome and Introductions**
  District Advisory Council Chair, Jennifer Marinaccio called the meeting to order at 5:15pm. She gave a brief greeting and reminded everyone to sign in.
- **Approval of Minutes**
  A motion was made to approve December's minutes. The minutes were approved as written.
- **Superintendent Comments**
  Dr. Kuhn brought greetings on behalf of Dr. Balgobin. Dr. Kuhn presented the Superintendent's Three Pillars and Kyle Schicker presented on the Graduation Rates Release.
  The Superintendent's Three Pillars:
    - Reading: Focus on assessment and support for students.
    - Innovation: Focuses on new practices, such as artificial intelligence in education.
    - CTE (Career and Technical Education): Highlights programs such as Deltona's High School's Welding and Aviation programs.

  Graduation Rates Release:
    - See PowerPoint presentation
    - Volusia County Schools achieved a graduation rate increase for the third consecutive year.
    - All student subgroups saw improvement.
    - Ranked 9th out of 67 Florida districts; 98.6% graduation for traditional schools, 95.6% including charter/alternative sites.
- **Accreditation** – Presenter Kyle Schicker and Jennifer Jackson
    - PowerPoint presentation on Accreditation
    - Volusia County Schools are currently undergoing reaccreditation with Cognia
    - Accreditation ensures student opportunities.
    - Cognia is the "gold standard" for accreditation in Florida and globally.
    - See Cognia Performance Standards Cards

- Contact Information: Kyle Schicker, REA Coordinator
    - Phone Number: 386-734-7190 Ext. 20261
    - Email: kbschick@volusia.k12.fl.us

- **AI in VCS** – Presenter Dr. Matt Kuhn
    - PowerPoint presentation on VCS AI
    - AI Training for clerical, instructional and district staff is being offered.
    - AI is now a component of many educational tools and present in many platforms.
    - Foundational skills are still taught but AI accelerates higher-order learning
    - AI detection tools could be unreliable.
    - Data privacy is protected.
    - Contact Information: Dr. Matt Kuhn, Chief Technology Officer
        - Phone Number: 386-734-7190 Ext. 20113
        - Email: mskuhn@volusia.k12.fl.us
- **School Board Member Comments**
    - School Board Chair, Ruben Colón, thanked everyone for attending the DAC meeting and addressed the recent letter from the Commissioner of Education regarding protests in school.
    - School Board Member, Krista Goodrich encouraged direct outreach for questions or concerns about district actions or policies.
- **Member Comments**
  No member comments
- **Adjournment**
    - The next District Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 5:15pm at Deltona High School in the Learning Commons.
    - The meeting was adjourned at 6:31pm.

Minutes prepared by: Carmen Camuñas,
Administrative Assistant, Community Information Services