District Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes

Date: March 4, 2026
Time: 5:15pm
Location: Deltona High School – Learning Commons

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
   District Advisory Council Vice Chair, Angela Kopnicky called the meeting to order at 5:13pm. She gave a brief greeting and reminded everyone to sign in.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
   A motion was made to approve February's minutes. The minutes were approved as written.
3. **Nominating Selection Committee**
   - The district will send an email to all DAC representatives that includes the Nominating Committee's email address and information regarding the nomination process.
   - DAC representatives interested in serving as DAC Chair or Vice Chair for the 2026–2027 school year must contact one of the Nominating Committee members listed below.
   - Nominating Committee members will forward the names of all interested DAC representatives to Carmen Camuñas at ccamunas@volusia.k12.fl.us prior to the April DAC meeting.
   - The Nominating Committee will report the names of all candidates at the April DAC meeting.
   - No additional nominations will be accepted after the April DAC meeting is adjourned.
   - At the May DAC meeting, each nominee will have an opportunity to briefly address the members prior to the start of voting.
   - Members of the Nominating Committee are:
     1. Mary DiPadova medipadova@gmail.com
     2. April Jaques amjaques@volusia.k12.fl.us
     3. Nicole Smietanowski nikol7280@gmail.com
4. **Superintendent Comments**
   - Patty Corr, Acting Chief of Staff, brought greetings on behalf of Dr. Balgobin and emphasized that the district's top priority is school safety followed by high levels of learning.

5. **Code of Conduct** – Presenter Jay Strother, Coordinator, Student Services
    - PowerPoint Presentation on Code of Conduct
    - Student Code of Conduct is reviewed annually for updates. April is the deadline to submit feedback.
    - Major overhaul: combined elementary and secondary discipline matrices.
    - Consequences are now tiered by severity, frequency, and student developmental level.
    - There are four offense levels.
    - VAPE Prevention Program was started in grades 4 – 12
    - Culture walks assess daily experiences and safety in classrooms and common areas.
    - Ongoing professional learning for administrators and weekly specialist visits to high-needs schools.
    - A Q&A session was held.
    - Cell phone policy in compliance with House Bill 1105.
    - Contact Information: Jay Strother, Coordinator, Student Services
        - Phone Number: 386-734-7190 Ext. 20076
        - Email: jbstroth@volusia.k12.fl.us
6. **School Board Member Comments**
    - School Board Chair, Ruben Colón, thanked everyone for attending the DAC meeting and highlighted the district's safety initiatives, the normalization of metal detectors, and the importance of "See Something, Say Something"
    - School Board Member, Jessie Thompson, gave positive feedback on "My Words, My Power" and its effect on elementary discipline.
    - School Board Member, Jamie Haynes, explained the new state budget enabling charter schools to co-locate within public school buildings, raising concerns about funding equity, resource allocation and potential for public schools to be overtaken.
7. **Member Comments**
   Deltona High School students were congratulated for their recent play.
8. **Adjournment**
    - The next District Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 5:15pm at Mainland High School in the Media Room.
    - The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm

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