



District Advisory Council 9/2/26 @ Mainland High

- Attendance and representation rules: **one voting designee per school**, substitutes allowed; guests/students may speak but usually cannot vote.
- District reported strong academic gains: **Volusia County earned an A district rating (66% / 797 points of 1,200)** — the first A since **2008–09** and a major multi-year improvement.
- Data context: district serves **~60,000 students**; moving **1 percentage point ≈ 9,000 data points** (so small % shifts reflect large student-impact changes).
- Meetings scheduled **first Wednesday each month** (no meetings in June/July/August; January exception); aim to start 5:15 and end by **6:15**.

Sign-in & Website resources

- Sign-in sheets are at the back organized by **school and stakeholder**; attendees should add name, school, email and correct any outdated entries.
- All orientation materials, agendas, minutes and presenter PowerPoints are posted on the district site: Departments → Community Information → District Advisory Council (DAC).
- Minutes are published within **one week** of each meeting; use posted minutes for your SAC reports.

Membership & participation rules

- Each school may send multiple guests, but **only one designated representative may participate and vote**.
- Schools may appoint a substitute when the designee cannot attend (by SAC arrangement); substitutes do not have to be the originally appointed person.
- Students (including high schoolers) may attend and **may speak or comment at any time**, but voting remains with the designated representative.
- For contact/communications issues (missing emails or updates), coordinate with **Ms. Carmen Greene (Community Information)** to ensure correct contact details.

Meeting logistics & expectations

- Meetings rotate locations across county to balance travel (e.g., Mainland hosting, Deltona High on west side) to be equitable for both east/west sides.
- Attendance is expected; if unable to attend, arrange a SAC substitute and prepare a written report if you cannot present verbally.
- Robert's Rules of Order is followed for recognition to speak; typically members comment once, then may have a second turn after others have spoken.
- Presenters and district staff usually remain after meetings to answer follow-up questions one-on-one.

District performance & REA (Research, Evaluation, Accountability)

- REA overview: office provides **insightful data** to support instruction and school improvement; it also oversees SACs.
- District results: **797 total points** of a possible **1,200** (**≈66%**), yielding an **A district rating** for 2025–2026 — the highest district rating in over a decade.
- Recent trajectory: district score rose from **~57** five years ago to **66** this past year; number of A schools increased from **7** → **37** in three years (a fivefold increase).
- How scale works: the accountability system has **12 components (100 pts each)**; jumping 1 percentage point district-wide requires roughly **9,000 data points** (so a **2–4 point** jump equals tens of thousands of data-point improvements).
- Learning growth matters: a large share (about one-quarter) of the accountability calculation emphasizes year-to-year student progress (learning gains / “learning games”), not just proficiency.

School-level implications & advocacy

- Many schools achieved historic gains (first A/B in a decade for several sites); principals can detail the classroom-level practices that produced the gains.
- DAC/SAC role: bring school issues (e.g., parking, safety, curriculum gaps) from your SAC to DAC so district leaders and board members hear consistent, representative concerns.
- Use district presentations (budget, security, legislative updates, REA data) to inform SAC meetings and school improvement planning; schools should report back to SAC after DAC.

Student voice & community partners

- Students may attend meetings and **are allowed to speak**; high school students can fully participate but voting remains limited to designated school designees.
- Community partners (Futures Foundation, Bright Futures, Entrepreneur Resource Center, Give Back, etc.) present resources and funding that support student learning and programs.

Outlook / Next steps

- DAC will continue monthly meetings and post timely presentations on the website.
- Expect accountability scale shifts next year (state adjustments that raise A-grade cut thresholds), so continued focus on targeted interventions and growth will be required to sustain gains.
- District asks DAC members to bring school-level priorities and questions forward so presentations and the school improvement plan work remain tightly aligned to student learning needs.