

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

District Advisory Council

January 18, 2017



Mission Statement: The District Advisory Council in cooperation with the Lee County School Board will gather information and seek input from the schools and the community at large in an effort to advise the Board and develop recommendations for constant improvement of our educational system.

Call to Order/Minutes

Mrs. Cyndee Crosby, Chairperson welcomed the audience and called the District Advisory Council meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Kelly Lavis made the motion to accept November 16, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Scott Hertz. All in favor, the motion carried.

Public Comment (Non-DAC Members – Agenda Items)

None

Board Member Update

Mrs. LaRiviere reported she will attend the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Advocacy Institute in Washington DC and indicated the Board will be meeting with the legislative delegation to discuss the Board's direction and the needs of our students.

Chief Academic Officer Update

Mrs. Soretta Ralph shared some of the opportunities that will be offered at Bonita Springs High School and encouraged the audience to attend visits planned during February and March to see some of the visuals for the high school.

Mrs. Ralph shared that Data Chats for the second quarter have taken place and support is being offered for those schools in need. Mrs. Ralph also discussed the formation of a graduation committee that will assist high schools and charter schools to meet graduation needs.

Mrs. Ralph announced the upcoming Education Forum scheduled for February 8, 2017. The Forum will not be part of a DAC meeting and will be held at the Cypress Lake High School Auditorium from 6:00 PM until 8:15 PM.

Transportation Committee Selection

The District Advisory Council members selected to serve on the Transportation Committee are:

Andrew Evans – South Zone

Rachel Mas - East Zone

Barbara Schoonmaker – West Zone

Presentation: Financial Update- Capital Funding

Dr. Ami Desamours, Chief Financial Officer shared a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included school growth and impact, utilization rates, needed projects, capital funding and shortfall, as well as innovative ways to raise additional funds needed by the District. A brief question and answer period followed the presentation.

Breakout Group Discussions/Visitation

Chair Crosby dismissed the DAC audience for breakout sessions at 6:58 pm and asked breakout groups to return at 7:45 pm. Reports from breakout groups were shared with the audience upon return to the Board Room and are on file.

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Questions Submitted at Breakout Session/Answers from Administration

Q. Is there Dual Enrollment at all high schools? **A.** All Schools have the opportunity for Dual Enrollment courses. *(Soretta Ralph, Chief Academic Officer)*

Q. Is there a program guaranteeing admittance to FGCU? Partnering Programs? **A.** The program with FGCU and Bonita Springs High Schools will be the first in the District. Our mutual goal is that students will continue their course work at FGCU. The articulation agreements have not been Board approved, but details will be shared when finalized. *(Soretta Ralph, Chief Academic Officer)*

Q. How is afterschool tutoring set up? Are particular teachers assigned to that task? Please address afterschool tutoring transportation. **A.** After School Tutoring – Teachers get paid, so teachers apply for the positions – they need to “want” to be there. Transportation is essential and many schools set aside funds to pay for the bus, or use the activity bus. *(Soretta Ralph, Chief Academic Officer)*

Q. Is a Golf Course Maintenance Degree a possibility? **A.** Question will be shared with Rita Effing, Director of Adult and Career Education *(Soretta Ralph, Chief Academic Officer)*

Public Comment (Non-DAC Members-Non Agenda Items)

None

Good of the Order

Mrs. LaRiviere reminded the audience about the upcoming Education Forum scheduled for February 8, 2017. The Forum will be held at the Cypress Lake High School Auditorium from 6:00 PM until 8:15 PM.

Mrs. Ralph shared the topics that will be discussed during the Education Forum:

- Student Assignment
- COMPASS Learning Paths
- Career Academies
- Graduation Requirements – getting ready for college

Adjournment

Chair Crosby called for a motion to adjourn. Scott Hertz made the motion to adjourn at 7:56 pm and seconded by Cedric Hall. The motion carried.

Thank You to the following schools for representation at this DAC meeting:

Elementary Schools: Allen Park, Bayshore, Caloosa, Cape, Colonial, Dr. Carrie D. Robinson Littleton, Edgewood, Edison Park, Gateway, Gulf, Hancock Creek, Harns Marsh, Heights, James Stephens, J. Colin English, Lehigh, Manatee, Orange River, Orangewood, Patriot, Pelican, Pine Island, Rayma C. Page, River Hall, San Carlos Park, Sunshine, Tanglewood, Tice, Tropic Isles, and Villas

Middle Schools: Caloosa, Diplomat, Fort Myers, Gulf, Lexington, Mariner, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts, Oak Hammock, Paul Laurence Dunbar, The Alva School, Three Oaks, Varsity Lakes and Veterans Park Academy for the Arts

High Schools: Cape Coral, Cypress, Dunbar, East, Estero, Ida S. Baker, Mariner, North, and South

Special Schools: Buckingham, Cape Coral Institute of Technology, DJJ Sites, Dunbar Community, Fort Myers Technical College, LAMP, and Royal Palm

Principal Representatives: Chris Siebenaler – Elementary, Dr. Michelle Cort-Mora – Middle and Dr. Ruthie Lohmeyer - High

School Board Liaison: Mrs. Pamela LaRiviere

Staff Liaison: Mrs. Soretta Ralph, Chief Academic Officer

Presenter(s): Dr. Ami Desamours, Chief Financial Officer

Guests: None

Schools not represented at this DAC meeting:

Elementary Schools: Bonita Springs, Diplomat (excused), Fort Myers Beach, Franklin Park, G. Weaver Hipps, Hector A. Cafferata, Mirror Lakes, Pinewoods, Ray V. Pottorf, Skyline (excused), Spring Creek, Three Oaks, Tortuga, Trafalgar, and Treeline,

Middle Schools: Challenger (excused), Harns Marsh, Lehigh Acres, The Sanibel School, and Trafalgar

High Schools: Fort Myers High (excused) and Lehigh Senior High

Special Schools: Success Academy and Virtual Schools

The next meeting of the District Advisory Council is scheduled for February 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the School Board Meeting Room, 2855 Colonial Blvd. Ft. Myers, Florida.

Presentation(s): Curriculum – with additional presentations in each of the Breakout Sessions

Mary Reider, Recording Secretary

An audio-visual recording of this meeting has been produced to provide a verbatim record of the proceeding and may be viewed on the School District's Website at www.leeschools.net/district-advisory-committee. Members of the public wishing to obtain a copy of the recording of this or any meeting of the District Advisory Council must make a request through the District's Communication Department at (239) 337-8327.