



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

District Advisory Council

December 13, 2006

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

Ms. Donna Butts welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Ms. Butts gave thanks to Mary Pierce, Snack Bar Manager, for coming back after her regular work day to prepare and set up the refreshments for tonight's DAC meeting.

Ms. Butts noted that Mr. Shafer read the minutes from the November meeting and made the following correction regarding his presentation: on page 3, in the last paragraph, it should say: "Mr. Shafer stated that the goal is for elementary schools to have a minimum of 4 surveillance cameras, middle schools a minimum of 18, and high schools a minimum of 24."

Ms. Butts asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the DAC Meeting of November 8, 2006. Ms. Carrie Chase-Robideaux made the motion to accept the minutes with the correction noted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Christina Chuderski. The motion carried.

Public Comment (Agenda Items)

None

Board Member Update

Ms. Butts noted that Dr. Scricca is ill and not able to attend tonight's meeting.

Dr. Connie Jones, Chief Academic Officer, indicated that she extends greetings to DAC from the Board and will be glad to field any questions that would normally go to Mr. McNerney.

Call Center Proposal

Ms. Butts noted that DAC would be coming up with a proposal to give to the Board to assist them in advertising/promoting the Call Center. She asked that the subcommittees brainstorm and bring back ideas in their report that can be put together for a proposal. Ms. Butts indicated that the Compliance Advisory Committee is also assessing/ reviewing the Call Center. Dr. Kuckel, Board Liaison for the Compliance Advisory Committee, suggested that DAC and the Compliance

Advisory Committee work hand-in-hand with a proposal to the Board. Ms. Butts noted that she reviewed the last minutes of the Compliance Advisory Committee on the website and they are recommending that calls that are going to Human Resources now be sent to Julie Nieminski, Board Auditor, with follow-up when warranted.

Ms. Butts asked members if they are noticing the Call Center posters at their schools. It was noted that more posters can be obtained from Linda Boyle – just e-mail Ms. Boyle and she will send them through the pony.

Substitute Training Handouts

Ms. Butts referred to the two handouts on substitute training obtained from Jim Short in Curriculum and Staff Development. She noted that if anyone had further questions to e-mail her and she will forward the questions to Mr. Short.

Breakout Group Discussions

It was noted that Dr. Jones and Dr. Tihen are present here at tonight's DAC Meeting to present and answer questions regarding curriculum continuity to the Elementary Subcommittee.

Breakout Group Reports

Elementary Report: Christina Chuderski reported that Dr. Jones and Dr. Tihen gave a depth of data showing how decisions are made in regard to the Pupil Progression Plan.

Middle School Report: Brian Mangan reported on some of the ideas that the Middle School Subcommittee had for the Call Center:

- Run ads in the local movie theatres before the movie shows
- Place information in open house packets
- Send information in notices home with students
- Have high schools plan design a commercial to videotape – possibly a drama competition. The winner could be put on the District TV channel. This could be given to local affiliates for rebroadcast.
- Place posters in a highly visible area.
- Automated phone calls from Parent Link.
- Saturate the media with newspaper ads and articles.
- Magnetic posters on buses.
- Advertise on school marquees.

Mr. Mangan shared that Donna Butts joined their subcommittee and updated them on the District proposed plan for the STAR (Special Teachers Are Rewarded) Program.

Documents brought to the subcommittee for discussion were:

- The survey that was given last month was refined into talking points.
- A technical assistance memorandum from Chancellor Yecke to District Superintendents regarding A++ (promotion requirements). Subcommittee members will read this memorandum and come back to it next month.
- A memorandum from Dr. Browder and Donna Mutzenard to high school teachers regarding block scheduling.

- A proposal for Middle School Principals to implement the A++ legislation. “Proposal: Promotion at the Middle School Transition to Credit Based System,” dated 9/29/06.

High School Report: Ava Roeder reported that the High School Subcommittee went through the following topics:

- Dropout Prevention – The subcommittee is requesting data from the District to find out which students are 16 years of age and have 3 credits or less by the end of the semester, by school. This data is requested so that the subcommittee can see if there is a dropout problem. The subcommittee would like to request a speaker on this subject.
- A++ Initiative – The subcommittee does not have enough information on this subject and would like to request a speaker on this subject.
- Call Center – Information needs to be distributed to parents in a parent-friendly manner. The subcommittee feels that the current poster has a design problem.
- Surveys – The High Tech Central safety survey was shared.

District Issues Report: Dr. Faezeh Andrews reported that the District Issues Subcommittee had several past topics that are pending that they would like to resolve:

- Transportation
- Health
- Safety
- Increase in District communication
- Changing the meeting time

A new topic is utilizing the resources in the community.

Ms. JoeAnne Thomas-Joseph said that she had made a request for information regarding East Lee County High School and Varsity Lakes Middle School several months ago and has not heard anything back. Ms. Butts requested that Ms. Thomas-Joseph e-mail her the original request so that she can look into it. Ms. Thomas-Joseph asked that when requests are made on the Committee Action Forms that the responses are put with the requests in the notebooks. Ms. Butts said that was a fair request.

Ms. Chuderski stated that she is concerned that requests are being made without voting. Ms. Butts noted that if the requests are formalized in the minutes, that the requests will come back to the DAC.

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

None

Good of the Order

There was discussion about the “I Pledge” cards that were not passed out at last month’s meeting by Gayle Mullins. Ms. Butts noted that she does not want anyone to feel pressured to fill out and return the cards - that they are not coming from the School Board or DAC. She noted that Mr. Lee Legutko, Chief Business Officer, is

scheduled to speak at the January DAC meeting to present information on spending for public schools, so that members are better informed and can make a better decision. Ms. Butts also noted that Pat Lochner is in attendance at tonight's meeting and would like to speak regarding the "I Pledge" cards. Ms. Lochner shared that she is a retired teacher with 40 years in our District. She noted that by filling out the card and turning it in, the Florida Education Association is asking the community to make a pledge for public education. After the cards are collected they will be turned into the legislature. Ms. Lochner noted that cards could be taken home and turned in to Gayle Mullins at the next meeting. If anyone wants more cards they can contact their TALC representative.

Ms. Butts thanked everyone for coming and for having a productive meeting. She noted that if every member tells two other people about the good things that the District is doing, and then they tell two other people, and so on, the community will get the opportunity to hear about the positive things going on. She added that it is this committee's job to be the eyes and ears for the Superintendent and the School Board.

Adjournment

Ms. Chuderski made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Peggy Bos. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Thanks to the following schools for representation at this DAC meeting:

Elementary Schools: Allen Park, Alva, Caloosa, Cape, Diplomat, Edgewood, Edison Park, Ft. Myers Beach, Gateway, Harns Marsh, Hector A. Cafferata, Jr., Heights, J. Colin English, Littleton, Mirror Lakes, Orange River, Orangewood, Pinewoods, Sanibel School, Trafalgar, Tropic Isles. **Middle Schools:** Alva, Bonita Springs, Caloosa, Challenger, Diplomat, Dunbar, Gulf, Lexington, Michigan International, Trafalgar, Varsity Lakes, Veterans Park Academy for the Arts. **High Schools:** ALC-Central/LAMP/Academy High, ALC-West, Cape Coral, Cypress Lake, East Lee County, Ft. Myers, High Tech Central, Ida S. Baker, Mariner, N. Ft. Myers, Riverdale, South Fort Myers, Juvenile Justice Sites. **Principal Representatives:** Elementary, Middle, and High: Nancy Adams (alternate), Brian Mangan, and Dean Winder (alternate). **Board Appointees:** Faezeh Andrews, Christine Austin, Donna Butts, Dieter Philippi, Nannette Smith, JoeAnn Thomas-Joseph, Karen Wood. **Staff Liaison:** Mike McNerney. **Guests:** Connie Jones, Larry Tihen, Patti Elkin, Anne Oakes, Betty Morando, and Penny Farmer.

Schools not represented at this DAC meeting were:

Elementary Schools: Bayshore, Bonita Springs, Buckingham ESC, Colonial (excused), Franklin Park, Gulf, Hancock Creek, Lehigh, Pelican, Pine Island, Rayma C. Page, Ray V. Pottorf, River Hall, San Carlos Park (excused), Skyline, Spring Creek, Sunshine, Tanglewood/Riverside, Three Oaks, Tice, Villas. **Middle Schools:** Cypress Lake, Fort Myers, Lee (excused), Lehigh, Mariner, N. Ft. Myers Academy, Royal Palm Exceptional, Three Oaks. **High Schools:** Dunbar, Estero (excused), High Tech North, Lehigh Senior.

Approved 1/17/07

The next meeting of the Executive Committee for District Advisory Council has been scheduled for: Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room, third floor of the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center, 2055 Central Avenue, Ft. Myers, Florida.

The next meeting of the District Advisory Council has been scheduled for: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the School Board Meeting Room, first floor of the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center, 2055 Central Avenue, Ft. Myers, Florida.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Johnson