



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### Continuous Systemic Improvement Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Lee County Public Education Center, Training Room D

**Committee Members Present:** Warren Baucom, Lucinda Defreitas, David Montrose, Brian Rasnick, William Ribble, Denis Ryan, Amanda Smelker (virtual), Dr. Michele Stork (virtual)

**Absent:** Ryan McLain, John Miller

**School Board Liaison:** Gwynetta Gittens

**Staff Members Present:** Cindy McClung, Director, Continuous Improvement

**Recording Secretary:** Julie Holcomb

**Guests:**

#### Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Michele Stork at 6:03 p.m.

#### Review and Approval of Agenda and Previous Month's Meeting Minutes

The March 10, 2021 meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

The February 10, 2021 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

#### Board Member Report

Ms. Gittens encouraged members to watch Board meetings for recent updates.

The Tutoring Program started on Monday night, with over 100 students participating the first night.

Work continues on the Pre-K initiative, and Ms. Gittens discussed the process available to connect students to the program, even if they wish to maintain a virtual status and allows them to keep up with their education. Ms. Gittens will provide cards to committee members with information about the program.

Proms will be held, and schedules are being discussed surrounding testing windows and process quarantine. The prom must be held outdoors, and students from other schools may not attend.

Graduations will be held at FSW, Hertz, and the downtown venue, and use of FGCU is pending based on decisions on their graduation schedule.

Discussions are taking place regarding mask mandates. Vaccines are being prioritized for educators, and this will assist in reducing some of the quarantine issues.

The Governor's edict ended and committee meetings must be back in-person with a quorum for voting purposes.

The discussions regarding public information requests took place, covering the new request process. The new system will assist with management and overseeing requests. The process for staff exemptions to their information being included in a public information requests was discussed, and training is being developed for staff to be aware of their options.

The issue concerning standardized testing was discussed. Parents can opt out of standardized testing for their students. Discussions with the Legislature are ongoing with regard to using scores as a diagnostic tool only, as well as how the VAM scores are calculated for teachers.

Senate Bill 886 was discussed regarding positive outcome for standardized testing issue, and members were encouraged to review for updates.

A discussion about the students returning to the classroom and their level of learning while in a virtual classroom or home schooled, and the importance of getting the students assistance to cover this gap in learning.

Ms. Gittens reminded members that she is always available for questions or if further information is needed.

## **Committee Recommendations**

### **Virtual Meeting Process**

The virtual meeting process was discussed, and consideration of a formal recommendation prepared for Board Members to share with the State regarding allowance of a virtual meeting rather than in-person.

Dr. Stork noted that many community volunteers participate in multiple District-related activities, meetings, etc., as well as a consideration of the increased residents in our area during this time of year, are factors in favoring a virtual meeting format for committee meetings.

Moving to a virtual format has increased operational efficiency and participation of all advisory committees, and continuing this format would be beneficial as we move forward.

Consideration of a quorum being met whether the participants are virtual or in-person.

**Decision:** Cindy McClung will prepare a draft of a letter and share the information through a Google document for review and updates by committee members.

### **Videotaping of Board Advisory Committee Meetings**

The Finance Advisory Committee has made a recommendation that committee members no longer be video taped in light of recent concerns regarding information posted on social media. Information posted on social media can be misconstrued and edited, and may lead to misinformation being made public.

Discussion took place regarding the videotaping as it relates to participation by teachers on the committee, and feeling comfortable with expressing their personal opinions and not worry about their employment.

The Zoom link is available to anyone who asks for access.

The committee members discussed the options relating specific to teachers participating and community members, and how each group may be affected by the video taping of meetings.

Ms. Gittens noted based on the concerns, there is some additional research on the climate and how employees participating on the committee may be affected negatively.

**Recommendation:**

Mr. Rasnick made a motion to continue the video taping process as it currently stands. Mr. Montrose seconded the motion.

The majority of members voted in favor of continuing the video taping process as it currently stands.

Mr. Ribble opposed the motion.

**Elementary Proximity Plan**

Cindy McClung provided an update on the Elementary Proximity Plan presentation from the February 2021 meeting.

Policy Development Teams have been formed to review the grandfathering options, the lottery process, and programming across zones to make the program opportunities equitable. The three teams have started their work, and are developing two options for review in May 2021.

The tentative plan is scheduled to bring draft options to the Board in July 2021, and after feedback from the Board, the anticipated date for a formal plan is September 2021.

The question of how to ensure students have the same extra-curricular activities in all zones was discussed.

Discussion continued regarding economic impacts to families.

Before and after school is being reviewed for all elementary schools, as well as areas that can be controlled like transportation and balancing all equity areas.

Mr. Ribble asked about feedback relating to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice selections, and if/when that data could be available for review. Ms. Gittens and Ms. McClung will look into obtaining that data.

Ms. Gittens will take the committee recommendation that the goal of the Elementary Proximity Plan should be equitable access to quality public education for all students.

**Strategic Plan Communications**

The Strategic Plan Communications topic will be moved to the April 2021 meeting.

**Public Comment**

N/A

**Good of the Order**

April is our last meeting of the year, and a list of those members who have an expiring term will be available for consideration for applying for the next school year.

Mr. Rasnick made a motion to schedule a May meeting to develop official recommendations for the Board. Mr. Ribble seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

## 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule

September 16, 2020 (Online via Zoom)

October 14, 2020 (Online via Zoom)

November 11, 2020 (Online via Zoom) – CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER

December 9, 2020 (Online via Zoom) – Make-up

January 13, 2021 (Online via Zoom)

February 10, 2021(Online via Zoom)

March 10, 2021 (Training Room D)

April 14, 2021(Lee County Public Education Center, Room TBA)

May 2021 (date tentative upon availability of a room)

All meetings are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

## CSI Advisory Committee Website

The CSI Advisory Committee website provides meeting dates, meeting agendas, and meeting minutes.

[https://www.leeschools.net/leadership/school\\_board/advisory\\_committee\\_information/csi\\_advisory\\_committee](https://www.leeschools.net/leadership/school_board/advisory_committee_information/csi_advisory_committee)

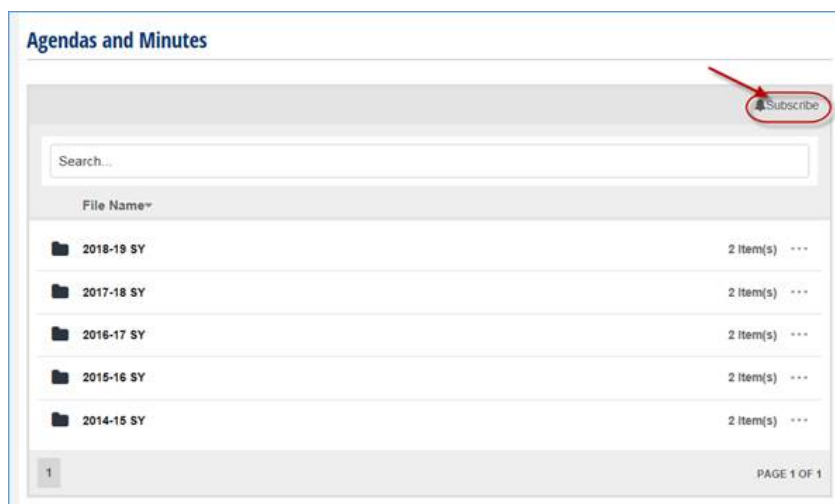
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In order to receive automated alerts as new documents are posted to the CSI Advisory Committee website, you can subscribe to the site following the steps below.

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