

Draft to be Approved

## **Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

The Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC) meeting held in SBAB 559 and simultaneously via Zoom meeting on Monday, September 20, 2021, was called to order by Sara Walkup, Director, Community Outreach at 9:40 a.m.

### **Attendance/Members Present**

Losa Constant, Laura Crenshaw-Philpot, Sherian Demetrius, Enrique Escallon, Kenny Francois, Deborah Gonzalez, Beverly Heller, Laura Hernandez, Lina Hodgson, Adele Ijeoma, Sheila Jackson, Ksenia Koryakina, Brittany Lambert-Brown, Nancy Lawther, Nancy Levy, Dannie McMillon, Yasmin Mendoza-Sewell, Renata Merjam, Bernadette Montgomery, Chris Moreno, Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Tyler O'dneal, Reinaldo Palacios, Flavia Pedrosa, Dislamy Pelayo, Maiky Perez de Corcho, Lisa Robertson, Angel Rodriguez, Alessandra Saligo, Meagan Sawyer, Meriel Seymore, Lenora Stafford, Nadeige Theresias-Joisil, Sharon Watson, Antonio White, Renee Williams, Natalia Zea

### **Also Present**

Maria Diaz-Almendral, Tabitha Fazzino, Daisy Gonzalez-Diego, Mary Lawson, Lisa Thurber, Sara Walkup

### **Introductions and Procedures**

#### **Sara Walkup**

- Review 20-21 Bylaws
- The purpose of this committee: Board policy 2111
- We have 37 voting members
- All regions have three parent members and one alternate
- We will have selection of officers today
- Vote on meeting dates for the year

#### **Questions on the Bylaws**

- Clarification on how parents can attend the meetings.
- Sara- Regions select parents and PTA select the parents that they want to represent them.
- Clarification on quorum- 37 members including alternates, 13 for a quorum. This number can be changed.

### **Sunshine Law**

#### **Lisa Thurber**

- Public notice of the meeting
- Open to the public
- Minutes are public documents
- During social gatherings committee business cannot be discussed

- All documents including emails are public record
- Penalties for violating Sunshine Law
- We operate under Roberts Rule
- Code of Ethics – please sign forms

### **Questions and Suggestions**

- Nancy – Suggested that email communications should not be reply all.
- Lisa – Our role is to facilitate the meeting
- Sara – will send a follow up email after the meetings

### **Parent Bill of Rights**

#### **Tabitha Fazzino and Mary Lawson**

- Legislature passed a Parents Bill of Rights
- This bill creates the “Parents’ Bill of Rights,” providing that no governmental entity can infringe upon the fundamental rights of a parent unless the action is reasonable, necessary, and narrowly tailored in the service of compelling state interest. Some of the enumerated parental rights related to school district functions include:
  - The right to “direct” the education and care of his or her minor child.
  - The right, pursuant to s. 1002.20(13), to access and review all school records relating to his or her minor child.
  - The right to consent in writing before the state or any of its political subdivisions makes a video or voice recording of his or her minor child, however, there are exceptions for recordings related to a legitimate academic or athletic activity, security videos, and photo identification cards.
- School boards will also be required to adopt a policy, after consulting with parents, teachers, and administrators, that promotes parental involvement in the school system. There are several requirements regarding notice to parents about parental involvement, including that the parent policy and engagement information is to be posted on the district’s website.
- We will be bringing it to the board for approval
- This information will be available in parents handbook and our website, parents can also request this information in writing.
- The policy mirrors the law 100 percent

### **Superintendent Carvalho**

- Welcomed and thanked all members
- We are in the process of mitigating many challenges such as employee shortages
- New accountability system be watchful of and aware of all changes

- We remain steadfast in our position for the safety measures that will protect all of our students and staff
- We are hopeful that we will soon have a Pfizer vaccine for younger children
- Addressed a question on the state's new formative assessment measures

### **Continued with Presentation on Parents Bill of Rights**

- All the rights and consents are not new, all parents have had these rights. This is a consolidation and a desire to make parents aware of their rights and how they may access this information.
- This will go to the board for the first reading in October and second reading in December.
- By December we will have a fully adopted policy
- The Bill was 241 1014.01-06

### **Election of Officers**

Open for nominations

- Chair: Nancy Lawther was nominated and elected
- Vice Chair: Dannie McMillon nominated and elected
- Secretary: Tyler O'dneal nominated and elected

### **Turned over to Nancy**

- Nancy welcomed everyone
- Review the minutes from last year
- Corrections: add a #5 Possibility of testing all children for exceptionalities
- Minutes approved as amended
- Nancy requested that prior to next meeting everyone please review last year's priority and come up with suggestions for this year.
- Beverly made a motion to meet on the third Monday of every month, except in January and February.
- Motion carries: 2020-2021 Dates as follows
  - Monday, October 19
  - Monday, November 16
  - Tuesday, January 19
  - Tuesday, February 16
  - Monday, March 15
  - Monday, April 19

Monday, May 17

- Motion to present all documentations at one time or throughout the year.
- Motion to present all documentations at one time by Enrique Escallon and seconded by Beverly Heller
- Angel Rodriguez suggested a midyear review of submissions due to changes throughout the school year.
- Enrique accepted the recommendation
- Beverly suggested that we stick to the yearly submission of recommendations  
Renata Merjam suggested that we can amend or change through a motion of any changes.
- Enrique did not accept the change to a biyearly recommendation
- Motion on the floor to submit recommendations yearly made by Enrique and seconded by Beverly was passed unanimously

## **Regional Reports**

### **North Region**

Reinaldo Palacios

- Lake Stevens Middle and Miami Lakes Educational Center earned 1st place in the Middle & High School Division M-DCPS VEX Robotics Virtual Programming Challenge on September 11, 2021
- Miami Gardens Elementary earned 2nd place in the Elementary Division M-DCPS VEX Robotics Virtual Programming Challenge on September 11, 2021
- The Miami Heat sponsored a back-to-school event and handed out supplies at Ruth K Broad/Bay Harbor K-8 at the end of August.
- Miami Lakes Middle Received at the District Level and Superior at the National Competition Level in "Project Citizen". Project Citizens is for legal studies students. They take on a concern/issue from the community and try to develop a plan of action to resolve this community concern. During the 2020-2021 school year, the students took on the issue of FLOODING in the Town of Miami Lakes. They did research, met with community stakeholders, participated in Town of Miami Lakes advisory meeting and actually came up with a proposal that went through the process of becoming a Town of Miami Lakes Ordinance.
- NRO has two Parent Advocates available to aid our NRO parents with school related matters.

- Contact number: 305-572-2800
- Schedule: M-F from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

### **Central Region**

Deborah Gonzalez

- Central Region Office is overseeing all CRO school's following the updated Covid-19 quarantine protocols.
- Current protocol allows unvaccinated adults and high school students may return with a negative PCR test administered on or after the fifth day since exposure as long as they remain symptom-free.
- Not applicable for Elementary, K-8 and Middle School Students.
- Central Region has distributed hotspot connections for all students enrolled in schools having met criteria such as free lunch.

### **South Region**

Lina Hodgson

- Parent Choice Student Transfer process for the 2021-2022 school year continues. Parent or legal guardian can apply to attend schools with student populations that are less than 100% capacity. Application and procedures are available on the MDCPS website [www.dadeschools.net](http://www.dadeschools.net).
- Our parent's advocates work diligently with parents to support them with their concerns as they navigate to resolve their concerns with the schools. We have two Advocates at our location: Helen: Tuesday and Wednesday 8:00am to 4:30pm and Ms. Carolina Naveiras, M-F 11:30am-4:30pm. Our office number is 305-251-4870
- Several of our schools are hosting "Open House" to welcome parents meet school administrators, teachers, and staff. The parents have opportunity to explore their child classroom and view some of the excellent work their children have completed.
- State Mandated Assessments are being held at all sites with waiver options available to students
- Virtual tours of facilities for registration and subject selection continues at school sites.

The Off-Cycle application period will remain open through the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. Students must meet all eligibility criteria and will be accepted on first-come, first-serve basis. After applying, the Magnet school will contact applicants. Assistance from the School Choice & Parental Option Office is available by calling 305-335-1922. Applications and procedures are available on the M-DCPS website at [www.dadeschools.net](http://www.dadeschools.net).

## **Title 1**

Bernadette Montgomery

The Title I calendar and flyers are accessible by visiting the Title I website, <https://title1.dadeschools.net/#/>, and clicking on Monthly Calendar of Events, which is located in the dropdown menu of the Title I Neighborhood Resource Center tab. This link, <https://title1.dadeschools.net/#/fullWidth/1983>, will take you directly to their calendar webpage. Additionally, I am attaching a collaboration between Title I and Informed families, an overview of opioids and prescription drugs on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

## **Superintendents Panel for Students with Exceptionalities**

Enrique Escallon (not present at time of report)

Beverly Heller

No report at this time, the committee meets every other month.

Working on a one pager list of resources for parents.

## **PTA**

Nancy Lawther

- They held a training session for Building Leaders Today  
Another session on PTA finances will be held in October

## **FCIAC Parent Budget Sub-Committee**

Nancy Lawther

They have not met

## **Citizens Coalition**

Enrique Escallon/ Nancy Lawther

## **Office of Communications and Community Engagement**

Daisy Gonzalez-Diego

- Thanked all members for coming and for taking the time to participate in this committee
- She is committed to making sure recommendations and concerns are addressed
- August had 180 media inquiries about masks

- We will be reviewing COVID protocol weekly. We just released new protocols on quarantine time.
- Our Dashboard is not in real time
- We now have a medical opt out for masks
- We are looking at different options, our goal is to continue to keep everyone as safe as possible

### **Parent Academy**

- Visit our website to register to our live interactive webinars
- Flyers were sent to Sara

Next meeting October 18, 2021

Meeting is adjourned 11:43