

Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee

Call to Order

The Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC) meeting held via Zoom conference on Monday, October 20, 2020. Chair Nancy Lawther called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Attendance

Evonne Alvarez, Dashia Andrews, Cleo Chumiso, Annalisa Claps, Yanet Cruz, Sherian Demetrius, E. Barbara Doyle, Enrique Escallon, Selene Gomez, Deborah Gonzalez, Beverly Heller, Lina Hodgson, Ashley Jones, Nancy Lawther, Donovan Lee-Sin, Rhoda Louissaint, Mercy Lux, Dannie McMillon, Renata Merjam, Bernadette Montgomery, Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Reinaldo Palacios, Flavia Pedrosa, Maiky Perez de Corcho, Alina Plasencia, Carmen Portela, Diane Quick, Angel Rodriguez, Davindrel Sahatoo, Diana Santangelo, Eileen Segal, Lenora Stafford, Nadeige Theresias-Joisil, Antonio White, Renee Williams

Also Present

Maria Diaz-Almendral, Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Tommy Richardson, Lisa Thurber, Sara Walkup

Introduction

Nancy Lawther reported

- Welcome and attendance
- Review and correction of minutes from the September meeting
- Minutes approved as amended

Sara Walkup

- Code of Ethics for non-M-DCPS employees
- Announcement of the November 9th Budget Sub-Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Overview of the committee
- Ms. Seymore will be the liaison and report

Regional Reports

Regional updates will be submitted to Sara Walkup three days in advance, she will forward to committee members

South Region

Vanessa Cambridge Grice (not in attendance)

Lina Hodgeson (Sub) reported on

- Parent Advocacy
- Monitoring Schools

North Region

Reinaldo Palacios reported on

- Mobile devices

- Directors visiting schools weekly and receiving reports

Central Region

Deborah Gonzales reported

- Supporting help desk
- Dr. Bendross-Mindingall and Mr. Carvalho attended a lunch bags and backpacks giveaway
- Directors continue to monitor schools

Title I

Lenora Stafford reported

- Title I continue to provide live webinars for parents
- Support for families that continue to work with students at home

Bernadette Montgomery added to report

- Advisory council will continue to meet virtually
- Title I Curriculum Support Specialists (CSS) have been assigned to support schools

Superintendents Panel for Students with Exceptionalities

Enrique Escallon reported

- Committee has not met since our last meeting

PTA

Nancy Lawther reported

- Money Matters
- Pandemic Response
- Supporting parents

Parent Budget Sub-Committee

Beverly Heller reported

- Financial losses due to in person attendance
- Decline in student enrollment in the lower grades (8,000)
- Wanted suggestions on how to reduce the budget for next year in anticipation of budget cuts due to reverting to penalizing homeschooled students
- Encouraged members to advocate for equal funding for virtual and in person school

Citizens Coalition

- Citizens Coalition has not met yet. They will meet later this month

District Updates

Iraida Mendez-Cartaya reported

- Schools are open
- End of first grading period this coming Thursday
- We foresee financial hardship and budget cuts due to COVID 19

- Local businesses have been hit hard financially
- Projected shortfall \$5.4 Billion
- Legislative session- appropriation has begun, state agencies must submit budget requests
- \$22.8 billion budget request to the governor
- \$9.42 per student requested
- After elections on November 17, all new members will be sworn in and will select presiding members for each house
- Governor will submit the budget at the beginning of February
- Capitol house is closed, no committee meetings as of now and no guidelines in place for future committee meetings
- As of now, no call for special session. Speculation that November 17, 2020 there may be a special session
- We received funding under stimulus package, we are hopeful that additional funding will come in with the passing of a second package

Office of Community Engagement

Sara Walkup reported

- November Family Engagement Month
- Families Matter Recognition Program

New Business

Nancy Lawther

- FCIAC 2020-2021 Priorities
- Reviewed Survey
- Selected Priorities
 1. Testing and Accountability
 - a. Virtual Learning
 - b. Learning Loss/Slide
 - c. Inclusion
 - d. Staffing
 2. Communication and Engagement
 - a. Digital Divide
 - b. School Climate Survey
 3. COVID19
 - a. Impact in Schools
 - b. Health and Wellness of Students and Staff
 - c. Continuing Ramifications
 4. Early Childhood
 - a. Under-Enrollment
- Principal priority topics for 2020-2021 passed by unanimous vote

Next Meeting: November 16, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting is adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Minutes approved on 11/16/20