

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

### **Call to Order**

The Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC) meeting held via Zoom conference on Monday, November 16, 2020. Chair Nancy Lawther called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.

### **Attendance**

#### **Members Present**

Aundray Adams, Evonne Alvarez, Cleo Chumiso, Annalisa Claps, Sherian Demetrius, Enrique Escallon, Beverly Heller, Ashley Jones, Nancy Lawther, Rhoda Louissaint, Dannie McMillon, Renata Meriam, Bernadette Montgomery, Chris Moreno, Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Reinaldo Palacios, Diane Quick, Lisa Robertson, Diana Santangelo, Eileen Segal, Lenora Stafford, Nadeige Theresias-Joisil, Sharon Watson, Renee Williams

#### **Also Present**

Maria Diaz-Almendral, John Dibenedetto, Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Lisa Thurber, Sara Walkup, Mark Zaher

#### **Introduction**

Nancy Lawther

- Welcome and attendance

Sara Walkup

- Introduction of guest speakers: Mr. Mark Zaher and Mr. John Dibenedetto MDCPS

Mark Zaher

- Contact Tracing is not the responsibility of the school district it's the responsibility of the Department of Health.
- School District must do a Contact Investigation on any communicable disease like COVID to determine potential exposure and mitigate exposure when students and employees present symptoms.
- Students - Self-report by parent and principal reports to District Health office.
- Employees - Self-report
- Primary responsibility is the schoolhouse and mitigating exposure.
- All principals have been trained on contact tracing procedures.
- Region directors have also been trained on COVID protocols and procedures. They support the principals.
- Our mitigation process is aggressive and immediate.
- Investigative Process in place. MDCPS follows CDC guidelines.
  1. Cohorts within school, classes, bus, sports, aftercare.
  2. Reports from MSO - must determine on close contact with sports.
  3. Individual calls to parents, teachers, and staff who may be affected.

John Dibenedetto

- COVID Dashboard – not real-time reporting.
- Dashboard updated after school and CDC notification.

Mark Zaher

- In addition to personnel, a schoolwide notification of exposure is sent.
- MDCPS has a group of epidemiologists that assist in the mitigation process.
- Testing negative does not release you from the mandated 14 days of quarantine.
- Continuous monitoring of positivity rates.
- Closure decisions are made by the superintendent. A decision to close would go against the governor's order.
- COVID cases are also reported by students enrolled in MSO.

Nancy Lawther

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

### **Citizens Coalition**

- They have not met yet.

### **Regional Reports**

The information/reports have been submitted.

#### **South Region**

Vanessa Cambridge Grice

The region office continues to support all schools and prioritizes in keeping students and staff safe. Robert Morgan High School hosted a Zoom Picnic. Also, Sunset High School was honored with Cafecito on Us.

Mr. Leonard Ruan, Administrative Director responsible for COVID 19 protocol.

#### **North Region**

Reinaldo Palacios

The North Region continues to support their schools by providing laptops. Mr. Luis A. Bello, Region Administrative Director responsible for COVID 19 protocol.

#### **Central Region**

Debbie Gonzales

No report. Sara shared that Mr. Eric Acosta Administrative Director responsible for COVID 19 protocol.

### **Title 1**

Lenora Stafford

Provided information on upcoming events at the Title I Neighborhood Resource Center prior to meeting.

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

Enrique Escallon

Will be holding a meeting the following Thursday to discuss mental health concerns and contact tracing.

### **PTA**

Nancy Lawther

The Townhall Virtual Q&A with the Superintendent was rescheduled from November 10, 2020 to December 1, 2020. They will send out a new link for the meeting.

### **Magnet**

Not in attendance

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

Sara Walkup

No news, November 10, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to storm.

### **Citizens Coalition**

Enrique Escallon

The meeting will be right after today's FCIAC meeting.

No additional news to report at this time.

### **District Updates**

Iraida Mendez-Cartaya

- President-Elect Joe Biden prioritizes education. His plan includes:
  1. Increasing teacher salaries
  2. Tripling Title I funding
  3. Simplifying public service loan program
  4. Increasing counselors and social workers
  5. Investing in community schools and public schools' infrastructure
  6. Funding IDEA at 40%
  7. Investing in career and technical education
  8. Establishing a Universal PreK program
  
- US Senate  
50 Republicans/48 Democrats - 2 seats undecided in Georgia  
Senator McConnell

## Senator Schumer

- House of Representatives  
222 Dems/211 Republicans (2 vacant)  
Pelosi will remain Speaker of the House
- Florida Senate  
24 Republicans/16 Dems  
District 37 was flipped by a hand re-count  
Senator Simpson- Senate President  
Senator Passidomo- Majority Leader  
Senator Gibson- Minority Leader
- Florida House  
78 Republicans (increased by 5)/42 Democrats  
Speaker of the House – Rep Chris Sprowls  
Majority Leader – Rep Dane Eagle  
Minority Leader – Rep Bobby DuBose
- Financial Outlook  
Precarious \$5.4 B shortfall over next 2 years  
Revenue has come up last 2 months above projections (\$400,000)  
Recovery could take in excess of 5 years  
Budget Drivers - response to COVID
- No special session
- First Committee meeting the week of January 11, 2020.
- March 2 Session starts for 60 days
- 2022 - critical session with re-districting from Census
- Board will approve the legislative priorities
  1. Funding- Continue the Funding Compression and Hold Harmless Allocation and address learning loss as a result of required school closures due to COVID19.
  2. Accountability and Assessment- waive the sanctions related third grade promotion, end-of-course calculations, graduation test requirements, performance evaluation of school-site instructional and administrative staff.
  3. Teacher/Personnel Shortage- Invest in teacher salaries, loan forgiveness, and fund teacher fellowships. Include Pre-K Teachers in DROP.
- MDCPS is an advocate for the continuation of MSO.
- County is still in Phase 3 - FLDOE has not issued recommended guidelines.
- District is a major proponent of parental choice in selecting brick and mortar or MSO options.

## **Office of Community Engagement**

Lisa Thurber and Sara Walkup

- Kicked off our Virtually Engaged Webinar Series last Tuesday. Next webinar topic will be on partnerships. The webinar will be December 8, 2020 and it will be led by Alina Llevat and feature Principal of the Year, Rafael Villalobos from Ferguson Senior High
- November as Family Engagement Month.
- Briefing sent to schools with ideas for celebrating virtually through Social Media/News Articles/Parent Connections Newsletter.
- National Family Literacy Day was November 1,2020 and being celebrated throughout the month.
- National Parental Involvement Day - November 19 (Thursday)
- National Family Week - November 22 through 28
- Principal TODAY will be celebrated virtually the week of December 7 – 10.

Meeting is adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Next meeting on January 19, 2021