

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 SB 559 and simultaneously via Zoom conference on Monday, March 15, 2021 was called to order by Chair Nancy Lawther by at 9:36 a.m.

Attendance/Members Present

Aundray Adams, Evonne Alvarez, Cleo Chumiso, Annalisa Claps, Laura Crenshaw-Philpot, Sherian Demetrius, Enrique Escallon, Vanessa Grice, Deborah Gonzalez, Beverly Heller, Ashley Jones, Nancy Lawther, Rhoda Louissaint, Dannie McMillon, Renata Merjam, Bernadette Montgomery, Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Patricia Ortega, Reinaldo Palacios, Flavia Pedroso, Maiky Perez de Corcho, Carmen Portela, Diane Quick, Lisa Robertson, Angel Rodriguez, Eileen Segal, Meriel Seymore, Lenora Stafford, Nadeige Theresias-Joisil, Sharon Watson, Antonio White, Renee Williams

Also Present

Maria Diaz-Almendral, Gisela Field, Sally Shae, Lisa Thurber, Sara Walkup

Introduction

Nancy Lawther

- Welcome, attendance, and self-introductions
- Minutes from the January 19, 2021 and February 16, 2021 approved as corrected.

Regional Reports

South Region

Vanessa Grice

- Parent Choice Student Transfer process for the 2021-2022 school year begins today. 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.
- The monthly food drive hosted by Dr. Lubby Navarro in partnership with Feeding South Florida was held on March 13, 2021 at Miami South Ridge Senior High School.
- Students in grades 6-12 have the opportunity (\$100,000 grant) to participate in a program "Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs Today at four (4)

South Region Schools (Coconut Palm K8, WR Thomas Middle, G Holmes Braddock Senior and Homestead Senior.

- Pinecrest Music Project will be hosting the 2021 South Dade Schools Art Festival at Pinecrest Gardens on 3/20/21 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. The community event will showcase local South Region school students talents in visual and performing arts.

Central Region

Debbie Gonzalez

- ABC Boundary Committee is monitoring enrollment of schools on the advisory list.
- Schools added: Coral Gables Preparatory, Coconut Grove ES, Frances S. Tucker ES, Auburndale ES.
- Controlled Open Enrollment Transfers. February 12,2021 to March 12, 2021.
- Parent Choice Transfers for school year 2021-2022 begins on March 15, 2021.
- Parent Choice Transfers for the current school year 2020 to 2021 are ongoing.

North Region

Reinaldo Palacios

- Parent or legal guardian must be the one to turn in the transfer form 3280.
- Form always goes to the parent's legal address servicing school.
- Questions to be directed to the office.
- Controlled choice ended last week.

Title I

Lenora Stafford

- March 22 and 24 training for schools without a CIS or CLS.
- We will be offering a training on Epilepsy.
- April and May will be hosting a 6-week training on diabetes.

Bernadette Montgomery

- DAC executive board will be holding elections on April 8 for all 6 executive positions.

Superintendents Panel for Students with Exceptionalities

Enrique Escallon

- Following the legislative process specifically the parts that affect the McKay scholarships.
- Nancy asked a question about change in policy: Enrique answered that there are no major changes they are following at this time; except for C100 that deals with restraint and seclusion.

PTA

Nancy Lawther

- Next meeting this coming Thursday, March 18.
- Presenting an extensive resolution regarding resiliency and sustainability.

Parent Budget Sub-Committee

Nancy Lawther

- Next meeting on March 22.
- Following legislation
- Last meeting: How will federal stimulus funding be used to mitigate learning loss, making sure schools are physically safe, potential infrastructure needs, replacement of technology,
- Dr. Gallon H-item Board Agenda will look at how to spend funds.

Office of Communications and Community Engagement

Lisa Thurber

- We are conducting over 40 focus groups to hear from all stakeholders as MDCPS is currently developing its next strategic plan.
- FCIAC will participate in a focus group on 3/18 at 11 a.m.
- Superintendents Panel for Students with Exceptionalities will be participating in one with the Superintendent this Thursday, March 22, at 3 p.m.
- We have created a website with all pertinent information and a link for stakeholders to take a survey.

<https://strategicplan.dadeschools.net>

- We are also conducting MDCPS Listens-Listening Tour across the district.
- This is the envisioning process and once the feedback is reviewed and the data collected, we will draft a plan to present to all stakeholders.
- We want to make sure all voices are heard.

Testing and Assessment Presentation

Gisela Field and Sally Shae

- Overwhelming feedback from MSO parents that they do not want to bring student in for testing.
- At this time the state has not submitted a waiver to USDOE
 - Expecting possible changes in the next few weeks
 - As of now, 95% of all students must test, third grade and graduation requirements are still in place.
- We would like to have testing data of academic slide, but respect parents' desires to keep students at home.
- We have provided schools safety guidelines to accommodate the returning MSO students.
 - A staggered entry for testing.
 - Separate entrance for returning MSO students.
 - Provide all pencils that don't have to be returned or they may bring their own.
- The testing window has been extended by the state.
 - The paper - due May 28
 - Computer - June 8
- Weekly briefing has been put out with information for schools to send out to parents.
- Alternate test and retakes – Spring, Fall, Winter.
 - Alternate Graduation test will also be available.
- Results will come in later due to extended testing window.
- There will be some challenges for students that may need summer school.
- We don't know if the state will apply for the waiver.
- Schools must keep track of students not testing to apply for state waiver.

Questions and Answers

Q: Renee: ELA junior exam that is required for graduation?

A: There will be retake opportunities Spring, Winter, and Fall
or they may be able to take the SAT.

A: For high school, graduation component is Algebra I

Q: What about parents that don't bring students for testing?

A: We are asking schools to keep records of those students.

A: The students that have not met the requirements for graduation may not be able to graduate unless the governor gives a waiver.

Q: Nancy: iReady and progress monitoring is underway of students that have been asked to return to brick and mortar. Can iReady be used to move students?

A: iReady is diagnostic assessment and cannot be used, it is not aligned to the state standards.

Nancy - iReady is one of the tests that private schools use to receive funding for.

A: There are about 15 different test that are used in private schools, iReady is not a norm reference testing tool.

Nancy: There is some legislature Bill that will require the SAT/ACT for graduation. Also, a civics test.

A: Gisela Field: We have reviewed those bills and we are not opposed to additional testing if the state pays for them.

Additional Comments

- We anticipate that the state will hand down a decision rather sooner than later.
- If a school does not have 95% representation the data is not represented of the school.
- If the data is not represented of the school, we may appeal the school grade to the state.
- Nancy thanked the presenters.

Nancy:

- Next session April 19, 2021, review topics – and come up with recommendations
- Sara to remind us of the topics
 - Covid
 - Early Childhood
 - Communications
 - Assessment

Announcements

Sara:

- Please bring us the recommendations from the organization you represent.

Evonne Alvarez:

- Magnet acceptance decisions released today.
- Off-cycle slots will open April 9-15.
- School choice applications are available on the portal.
- March 23 - Parent meeting Office of School Improvement

Parent Academy

Angel Rodriguez

- Still offering live sessions during the next couple of weeks: This week Online Safety in all three languages
- EESAC Power Hour

Additional Commentary and Questions

Beverly Heller to Sara what happens to the last five-year plan. How do we evaluate?

Sara: On the strategic plan website there are reports that address the goals that were or were not met.

The goals that were not met, we have review them again.

Lisa: We are sending out the Vision 2020 Report.

Next meeting April 19, 2021

Adjourned at 11:14