

District Advisory Committee Minutes

March 1, 2017

The District Advisory Committee (DAC) met on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 5:15 pm at Deltona High School, media center.

Ms. Leslie LaRue, chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. February minutes were posted on the web for review prior to the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved. Ms. Teresa Marcks, chief academic officer; Mr. Gary Marks, area superintendent; Ms. Rachel Hazel, executive director, K-12 curriculum; Dr. Kati Dyer, coordinator of professional learning and school improvement; Ms. Saralee Morrissey, director of planning; Ms. Marian Ridgeway, specialist, real estate; and Ms. Nancy Wait, director of community information, were all in attendance.

Ms. LaRue asked members for three volunteers to serve as the nominating committee. The nominating committee members are: Andrew Dickens, Galaxy Middle, admoney58@gmail.com, Marci Hair, Deltona Middle, marcihair@mac.com, and Kirsten McGowan, Pierson Elementary, Kirsten_90@yahoo.com. E-mail the nominating committee members if you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone to serve as chairman or vice-chairman for the 2017-18 school year. If you nominate someone, please make sure they are willing to serve.

Ms. Teresa Marcks, chief academic officer, represented the superintendent. Ms. Marcks shared many positive events taking place this time of year in the district. She discussed the following items:

- Science and social studies fairs have seen higher numbers in participation this year
- School board approved three resolutions for the arts claiming the month of March to be Music in Our Schools; Theatre in Our Schools; and Youth Art month
- as the third grading period is coming to an end she encourages students and parents to continue participating in the attendance initiative: Every Body, Every Day
- Florida Future Educators of America conference is Saturday, March 4, at New Smyrna Beach High
- Next year Seabreeze, Pine Ridge and Deltona high schools will be offering the Cambridge program to students. The Cambridge program is similar to the IB program with more flexibility in course selection

Ms. Rachel Hazel, executive director of K-12 curriculum. and Dr. Kati Dyer, coordinator of professional learning and school improvement, gave a [PowerPoint](#) presentation explaining the accreditation process. Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance and the goal is to evaluate, verify and improve an institution's quality. There are five standards that must be met in addition to internal and external reviews. The survey that was recently offered on the district's home page is part of the evaluation process. We are currently within an internal review cycle and have just completed our Accreditation Progress Report (a follow-up to the 2014-2015 external review). We are planning for our third external review during SY 2019-2020.

Ms. Saralee Morrissey, director of planning, and Ms. Marian Ridgeway, specialist, real estate, spoke next about [school choice/open enrollment](#). The new "choice law" or

Controlled Open Enrollment was adopted by the Florida Legislature for implementation in the 2017-18 school year and allows parents to enroll a child in any school in the state of Florida; however, that choice is limited to schools with capacity.

In Volusia, a procedure is already in place allowing parents to have that choice. Formerly called a variance, the new controlled open enrollment process is very similar. One important change is the ability to apply online through the Parent Portal. If a parent is new to the district or does not have a Parent Portal account, paper applications are available at any school during normal school hours.

The deadline to apply for the 2017-18 school year is the last day of school, May 26, 2017. Choice is limited to schools with capacity and parents must provide transportation. A lottery procedure will be used if there are more applicants than seats.

If the parents/guardians of a student who is denied approval for a change of assignment, they may appeal the decision.

School Successes

George Marks Elementary is hosting their Spring Fling on Saturday, March 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Ormond Beach Elementary is celebrating their 100th anniversary on Saturday, March 4

Sweetwater Elementary is hosting a 5K Saturday, March 4, and a Musical Workday and Wild West Auction on March 25

The next meeting will be April 5 at Mainland High School. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.