

DeBary Elementary School School Advisory Council Meeting

February 11, 2021

3:00 PM
Art Room 1-131

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**.....Nicole Strocchia
2. **Review/Approve SAC minutes**.....Nicole Strocchia
Motion to approve by Stephanie Philyaw, motion second by Delaney Lehman, minutes approved.
3. **Public Comments on Items on Agenda**.....PUBLIC
None
4. **SAC Membership**.....Nicole Strocchia
*Additions/Deletions
None
5. **SAC Budget Review**.....Nicole Strocchia
No new request. The School Improvement and A+ (SAC Funds) report has \$825 added to Column B which are funds from the VCS School Board and updates our new balance to reflect \$6,061.79.
6. **SAC Funds Request**.....Nicole Strocchia
None
7. **Principal's Report**.....Mrs. Frazee
The Sunshade is now awaiting Dr. Fritz's, VCS Superintendent, signature because the purchase price is over \$20K; however, the process is still moving forward. The reconstruction of the Parent Pick Up Loop is also moving forward. We have been meeting with the construction company and the city of DeBary. Plans are being drawn up and will then need to go before the School Board for final approval. We are optimistic for a June approval. This project can be worked during school hours if the need be (barriers will go up for safety).
8. **SAC Training**.....Nicole Strocchia
*Review Code of Conduct
We are looking for feedback on code of conduct from all stakeholders. The District Code of Conduct is online, and pages 15-37 are the elementary polices. Email any questions and concerns regarding the Code of Conduct to Mrs. Strocchia. Mrs. Strocchia presented an overview of the current code of conduct with the only changes this year being changes due to COVID-19 (mask, etc.) The DeBary Elementary Code of Conduct is located in the front of the student planner. This Code of Conduct in the planner is a shorter version of the District Code of Conduct but very similar. The policy on birthday celebrations was changed due to COVID-19. Parents may send in treats that are store bought and individually packaged 72 hours prior to the date they are to be passed out. This policy has been working well for teachers, parents, and students. Discipline has not change; however, bullying is still a zero-tolerance policy. In the event of a bullying accusation, there is an investigation process that involves administration and Mrs. Hazelton. The dress code policy has remained the same this year as it was in the past.

Mrs. Frazee requested open discussion regarding hair dye. There is no current district wide hair dye policy and policy can be on a per school basis. DeBary Elementary School's current hair policy is natural hair color only. We do not allow unnatural hair dye for students (blue, green, etc.). This policy is relaxed during red ribbon week and other school wide events. There is no discipline action taken on those days with parents actually being given the entire week and weekend to get the child's hair back to normal color. Stephanie Philyaw agreed with the current policy of lifting the hair dye restriction for special events only. Ken Dietzel also agreed that the hair dye policy for special events was acceptable; however, he is opposed to having hair dye of any color allowed all year long. Pam Howard agreed that as a classroom teacher one week of fun is great; however, year-round any color hair would be a classroom distraction. Alfredo Ruiz

agreed the policy should remain the same; however, no student should be sent home for hair dye infractions.

If there are any changes for your child's emergency card, please change emergency cards asap for safety and security.

Mrs. Frazee addressed attendance policy: Currently there are 15 days of unexcused absences allowed before a social worker communication is triggered. Mrs. Frazee is open to discussion regarding the concern of vacations being excused or unexcused. Past practice has been principal discretion. Pre COVID-19, absences were excused for up to 15 days. Anytime a student is absent parents are required to call and use the automated absence system. After 15 absences a doctor's note is required. For every five tardies a student receives, it is equivalent to one absence.

9. District Advisory Council Update.....Ken Dietzel

It is still too soon to change any COVID-19 related policies for next year. At the February 3rd meeting Dr. Fritz returned as the Superintendent. Graduation rates are up 3.2% to 87.7%. New instructional materials for English Language Art (K-12) have been selected and will be recommended and presented to the school board on February 9 and will be voted on at the March 9 school board meeting. The district is becoming a One-to-One district. Middle schools and high schools are currently receiving laptops. Laptops are approximately \$700/student. Parents must sign for the device and include their license number. Students do not have to take a laptop and may opt to have the school download the educational materials to their own personal device. DeBary will pilot the K-2 iPads as a one-to-one school beginning on or about March 5th. Our DeBary students will not be allowed to take home these iPads. Deadline for free and reduced meal application to be submitted is February 12. This could impact Title 1 funds. February is African American History Month. Events taking place will be posted on social media and there will be a school board presentation February 9 recognizing African American History month. We are also celebrating School Counselors and National Counseling Week. The Strategic Plan will be presented at the February 23 school board meeting.

10. Announcements:

*PTO – The Candy Grams and music in lunch was a success.

***DeBary Parks and Recreation** – Flag football will begin February 20th and is already full. This year there will be no Father Daughter Dance. Parent's Night out on January 15th was a success. Our next nights out will be February 12th and May 21st from 6-9pm at the Florence K. Little Town Hall with a cost of \$15 per child to register. Deadline is one day prior to event or until full. Drop the kids off for a night of fun, games, food, drinks, music, and more! Our next Movie in the Park is Saturday, March 6th at 7:00pm at Gateway. Join us for a FREE movie in the park and come out to watch the movie Soul! Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy the show. FREE admission and FREE popcorn while supplies last! Summer Camp programs are being organized.

***Armored Academy** – Enrollment is up since winter break, we received 20+ students after Christmas break.

***DeBary Elementary:** Upcoming events include the 5th Grade Celebration and the 25th Anniversary of DeBary Elementary School. We have over 30 parents that have offered to help with the 5th Grade Celebration and the planning will get underway after spring break. We will be planning a great celebration for DeBary Elementary School's 25th Anniversary.

11. Council Member Discussion.....Nicole Strocchia

Nancy Hatch: I have 3 student pieces chosen to be displayed at the 49th Annual Volusia Students Created Exhibit which will be held at the Gateway Center for the Arts in DeBary. The Exhibit will be from March 28th – April 25th. The opening reception will be March 28th from 2:00-4:00 with masks and social distancing policies in place for the duration.

12. Adjournment.....Nicole Strocchia

Motion to adjourn Stephanie Fasking, motion second Delaney Lehman, motion approved.

Mission Statement:

Our school community will provide a solid foundation for academic and social growth, promoting diversity and inclusion while establishing life-long learners and positive contributors to society.

ATTENDANCE: Nicole Strocchia, Nancy Hatch, Chad Miller, Ken Dietzel, Alfredo Ruiz, Pam

Howard, Stephanie Fasking, Delaney Lehman, Stephanie Philyaw, Leslie Frazee, Bethany Watson, Chrysti Ayers, Ian Holm

Parents and Community Members:

Stephanie Philyaw
Stephanie Fasking
Alfredo Ruiz
Ken Dietzel
Gernelle Bokuniewicz
Delaney Lehman
Chrysti Ayers
Ian Holm
Bethany Watson

Staff Members

Nicole Strocchia
Pam Howard
Nancy Hatch
Linda Prettyman
Chad Miller
Leslie Frazee

Next SAC Meeting: March 11th 2021