

District Advisory Committee April 5, 2023 Minutes

Opening

Chairperson Jennifer Marinaccio called the meeting to order at 5:18pm. School Board Members Anita Burnette, Ruben Colón, Carl Persis, and Jessie Thompson; Dr. Carmen Balgobin, Superintendent; Dr. Rachel Hazel, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Matt Kuhn, Chief Technology Officer; Dr. Julio Nazario-Valle, Chief Academic Officer; Rose Roland, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services; and Angel Gomez, Director, Community Information were all in attendance.

Ms. Marinaccio, DAC Chairman, opened the meeting by expressing appreciation for DAC members' commitment and sharing a reminder that next month's meeting will be the last DAC meeting of the school year. The minutes from the March 1, 2023 DAC meeting were unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee

Ms. Rhonda Lawhun, Indian River Elementary, reported that the Nominating Committee collected one nomination for each category for the 2023-24 DAC Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Nominations were closed as of this meeting. Both nominees will have a few minutes each to share information about themselves at the May meeting. Voting will be by show of hands.

Superintendent Dr. Balgobin

- Business Encounter meetings with community business leaders have been held on the east and west sides of the county. These meetings have resulted in a number of new partnerships for Volusia County Schools.
- VCS is embarking on a partnership with Embry-Riddle University that will support career paths in the field of aeronautics at Holly Hill School and Deland, Deltona, Campbell, and Southwestern Middle Schools. VCS is increasing the availability of career pathways throughout the District.
- On March 28th the CTE District Pitch Competition was held in partnership with the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship; high school entrepreneurship students presented their business ideas to a panel of judges from the business community. Angel Gomez shared a [video](#) highlighting the Competition.
- The VCS website has a page dedicated to all CTE programs throughout the District; programs can be found through searches by location or by career area, and can be further explored by school or career cluster <https://www.vcsedu.org/academics/career-and-technical-education>
- The District Organization Chart is being tweaked with regard to some job titles and responsibilities. The responsibilities and reporting structure for the department Chief positions have not changed. Dr. Nazario-Valle has the title of Chief Academic Officer for Teaching, Leading, and Learning and will be supervising PreK-12 curriculum; he is the resource for daily reporting for the Assistant Superintendents and is the first reference point for any academic issue. Dr. Hazel's responsibilities as the Deputy Superintendent of Student Services and Operations include Human Resources and Labor Relations and oversight of Operations, with Dr. Earl Johnson as the first point of contact for any

operations issue. The organizational chart is being updated and may not reflect all changes at this time.

Technology Update

Dr. Matt Kuhn, Chief Technology Officer shared a [PowerPoint presentation](#)

- 2022-23 has been a year of reorganization
- VCS Information Technology Services (ITS) consists of four departments:
 - Educational Technology
 - Teaching Software
 - Learning Software
 - Training
 - Students Device Management Procedures
 - Copy Center
 - Infrastructure
 - Network
 - Communications
 - Telecommunications
 - Cybersecurity
 - Software and Systems
 - Server Systems
 - District Operations Software Systems
 - Student Information Systems
 - Client Services
 - Technical Support
 - Logistics and Repairs
- 2022-23 projects include:
 - Technical outfitting of new school construction; this process usually takes 2 years
 - Selecting a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System, an integrated computer system to manage all District information and resources; currently using two outdated systems that need to be replaced by one integrated system
 - Policies update; currently being reviewed by the School Board
 - Replacement of 21,000 older K-5 devices, to be completed by June 2023
- 2023-24 projects include:
 - Replacement of projectors with TVs
 - Improve data processing and usability
 - Implement an online ITS store; schools will be able to see what is available through ITS and what is able to be funded
 - Start high school tech support apprentice program
 - Upgrade telecommunications system

School Board Member Comments

Anita Burnette – Ms. Burnette thanked Dr. Balgobin for putting together a wonderful team of leaders in District administration; she also thanked DAC members for their commitment to the students. Ms. Burnette shared that while School Board Member Jamie Haynes was unable to attend the meeting she sent her support.

Ruben Colón – Mr. Colón thanked the DAC members for their dedication and shared that it inspired him to attend tonight’s meeting on the east side of the county in addition to his regular attendance at the west Volusia meetings; Mr. Colón commended the members for all they do for the District.

Carl Persis – Mr. Persis expressed appreciation for the commitment of DAC members. He shared that he was in Tallahassee as education bills were being passed, and while at times the bills may not reflect the challenges at the District level we must keep chipping away; there are some good things coming for the education budget.

Jessie Thompson – Ms. Thompson shared her gratitude for all the DAC representatives and thanked them for everything they do for their schools and the District.

Member Comments

Chisolm Elementary enjoyed a wonderful Literacy Week in which the whole school was engaged, coordinated by their Media Specialist.

George Marks Elementary has a farm! To support its new agricultural program, George Marks now has an on-campus farm that includes two miniature cows and a donkey that serves as the “protector” of the cows.

Adjournment

The next District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3rd, at 5:15pm in the Deltona Learning Commons at Deltona High School. This will be the last DAC meeting of the 2022-23 school year. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.