

District Advisory Council
Approved Minutes
February 21, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Julie Brown Valerie Scott
Carolina Currea Tarena Stanley
Kathryn Dumoulin Natalie Strappy (Ty Keys)
Chad Essary Amy Trask
Kathrine Faenza Keith Watts
Taylor Gilfillan Jeff Wilkinson
Adriana Keen Carolyn Woods

ABSENT: Lonika Boston Jazzlyn Harrell
Emily Brandel Mary Ferris Hyde
Sara Felix Josh Jett
Evelyn Foxx Stacy Long
Amy Gandy Stacie Oyenarte
Jenn Garrett Nancy Pearl
Judi Hebert

BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Leanetta McNealy, Kay Abbit

DISTRICT STAFF: Susan Seigle, Staff Attorney
Dr. Dontarrius Rowls, Director of Transportation
Jackie Johnson, Communications Director
Patty Underwood, Communications Office

CALL TO ORDER/ Meeting was called to order at 4:13 by Co-Chair Amy Trask, without a quorum.
WELCOME: Self-introductions were made by all present.

ROBERT’S RULES Attorney Susan Seigle went over a shortened presentation on Robert’s Rules of Order
OF ORDER: along with passing out a handout that included ‘scripts’ for various situations.

- Brief overview included instructions for motions and seconds, amendment motions/seconds and the order in which should be voted on.
- No requirement to have a motion to adjourn for an agenda-type meeting.
- Motion and a second are required before discussion.
- Motions to amend have to be voted on before the main motion is voted on.

There was also discussion of the role of the chairs, responsibilities and limitations, particularly in making and seconding motions. While permitted in most cases, Ms. Seigle stated it’s preferable that chairs not make/second motions.

TRANSPORTATION A presentation titled “Transportation Optimization” was presented by Dr. Dontarrius
PRESENTATION: Rowls, ACPS Director of Transportation.

The presentation highlighted the impact of the recent changes to the transportation system, including the elimination of courtesy busing for all but SI (School Improvement) schools and the consolidation of magnet stops. Dr. Rowls noted the positive changes in on-time statistics and cost savings. The changes went into effect January 16.

Dr. Rowls explained that the state reimburses the district for only 1/3 of the cost of providing transportation.

Definitions:

SI Schools -- highest-needs schools (based on school grades)

FEFP – Florida Education Funding Program – the funding formula for schools in Florida

FTE – Full Time Equivalent, which outlines how students are counted

Dr. Rowls also discussed bus tiers – essentially, the use of the same buses for multiple routes in the morning and in the afternoon to promote efficiency and generate more reimbursement from the state.

Information was also provided about hazardous walking routes, which are defined in state statute. Essentially, the state will reimburse K-6th grade students whose walking route to school meets the state’s definition of hazardous.

It was suggested that the Hazardous Walking Route information/application for parents be created and shared with parents during Kindergarten Roundup and Meet Your Teacher.

Concern was expressed about families who live just outside that 2-mile range and whose parents cannot provide transportation. There was further discussion of state law and the shortage of bus drivers.

The issue of the potential Newberry charter conversion and the impact on transportation was raised. It was explained that if the conversion occurs, the charters would get their proportionate share of state funding, which again covers only about 1/3 of the actual cost of transporting students.

**MINUTES
APPROVAL:**

This issue was taken up when additional members arrived, leading to a quorum.

Taylor Gilfillan made motion, seconded by Kathrine Faenza to approve the minutes of the 1/24/24 DAC meeting.

Motion passed

**MENTAL HEALTH/
BEHAVIOR:**

Discussion was held on the Mental Health presentation presented at the January meeting.

Taylor Gilfillan made motion, seconded by Kathryn Dumoulin to recommend that the DAC develop and bring to the superintendent recommendations that the district set and share with the public measurable goals for each of the mental health programs that are federally funded.

Mr. Gilfillan withdrew his motion for future discussion.

Taylor Gilfillan made motion and seconded by Natalie Strappy
To table this item for future discussion.

No objections – passed.

OTHER

There was further discussion of how goals would be measured/what data would be used.

DISCUSSION: It was suggested that there are district staff who can provide information, including about federally-funded projects that include monitoring/reporting requirements.

The issue was raised about the process of the DAC making recommendations to the Superintendent. There was a suggestion that the DAC hear presentations on an issue and propose/discuss recommendations at the following meeting, and that those recommendations should be put in writing.

It was asked if it would be appropriate for DAC members to send recommendations to Jackie Johnson so she can compile them and send out to members to review and discuss at next meeting. There was also discussion of focusing primarily on developing recommendations at the March 26 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next DAC meeting was set for March 26 @ 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned 5:31 p.m.