



**School District of Palm Beach County,
Florida**



**ESE Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021**

Note – for all motions below, the member who made the motion and the member who seconded the motion are indicated in parentheses following the motion.

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM

Due to COVID 19 social distancing protocol, the meeting was held remotely via Google videoconferencing.

Members present: Joan Clark, Janice Coe, Heather Cortes, Sarah Cushman, Carla Donaldson, Rachel Frishberg, Randee Gabriel, Ann Levine-Eisenberg, Amy Mazzocco, Kevin McCormick, Hazel McFarlane, Karen McFarlane, Veronica Pappas, Maryellen Quinn-Lunny, Cheryl Shenker, Kimberly Spire-Oh, Sharon Tarlow, Susan Rodriguez, Sue Davis-Killian, Cheri Estevez, Laura Pincus

Visitors present: Lisette Martinez, Theresa Padro-Morel, G Carey, Soren Richardson, Amy Brown, Jeanne Petit, Shaquira Young, Kimberly Doyle, James Schnaderbeck, Christine Ferlita, Theo Harris, Liliana Perez, Jennifer Corcoran, Joanne Thornton, Summer Parr Bochicchio, Autumn Quilles, Joanne Thornton, Sue Alex and Laura Schultze

Introductions were made. A quorum was established (by 9:40 AM). 37 in attendance, 18 voting members present

Motion to approve the minutes – Tabled Minutes were sent, but not shared with membership
Corrections:

Agenda changes: Election of New Officers

Nomination committee – Janice Coe

Committee met in January 2021. Nominate a new Chair, Susan Rodriguez.

Discussion: Carla Donaldson, Chair Susan Rodriguez, vice chair

Donaldson – The subcommittee met and recommended Sue Davis Killian, secretary – vs Joan Clark, secretary

Chair – nomination, Carla Donaldson

Susan Rodrigues would feel more comfortable in a Co-chair role to learn the position

Motion Carla Donaldson Chair of ESE Advisory (Janice Coe, Cheryl Shenker)

Yes 16 No 0

Motion carried with voice vote

Carla accepted position and took office

Susan Rodriguez Vice Chair recommended

Motion – (Sue Davis Killian, Sharon Tarlow)

Yes 18 No 0

Motion carried with voice vote

Recording secretary – Nominees Sue Davis Killian, Joan Clark

Joan Clark, declined

Motion – (Susan Rodriguez, Ann Levene-Eisenberg)

Yes 18 No 0

Motion carried with voice vote

Joan Clark to send past minutes to Sue Davis Killian. Minutes will be reviewed at October meeting.

The meeting continued with the newly elected Chair, Carla Donaldson presiding. Joan Clark, outgoing secretary, continued to take the minutes for this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT– Kevin McCormick

Legislative update: Kevin McCormick

Kevin reviewed HB 149: Restraints

Q: Is mental health training available for older students, for all students – how to teach the regular Art teacher, for example, to deal with the behavioral outburst of a student?

A: The initial focus is making sure teachers serving students with EBD are trained. Updated FBA/BIP should be released next month. Different levels of training available. Recorded sessions are available. Kevin will collaborate with Cheryl Harris.

Q: From the teacher's perspective, how does it impact teacher's workload? Is the training required for ESE, gen Ed, only EBD, or all?

A: No language in bill that addresses caseload. In-service for teachers who teach students with EBD, doesn't delineate reg. Ed. We will make training available. It's a law that requires continuous education – so yes, mandatory.

Q: HB 173 decrease age to 12, what happens to 13 y o this year...in the gap year

A: Automatically included...for students 12 and over. Forced in edPlan – required to complete transition portion of IEP required at that age. We are finalizing it now. It should be available next week.

Q: Can we have a review at the October meeting?

A: Yes

PRESENTATION Access points Information from FLDOE – Laura Schulz

Laura Schultz - reviewed major changes

Access points – only based on IQ

Comment: Ann Levine-Eisenberg disagrees with the DOE recommendations. PBSOA is rewriting and changing. PBSOA looking at the global representation of a child, not just IQ.

The rule was provided by the state, in Statute, not a ruling of the SDPBC.

Discussion ensued.

Q: Sue Davis-Killian questioned circumstances surrounding the information pertaining to “cannot obtain an IQ score”. Very concerned with getting rid of Access points K – 12. What is provided for students who are clearly intellectually disabled and not able to learn the Standards?

A: Attempts to obtain the IQ must be administered. Documented, then provide alternative.

Parent does not give consent, then the student would not be considered for Access points.

Educators are to work through the MTSS process, exposure to core curriculum with ALL students, foundational skill explicit instruction provided, accommodations, assistive technology, working through layering on supports until it is concluded that the student requires modified curriculum.

Q: Will this new law now require teachers to be core content certification? Have the reviews started for current students on Access points. Will these students be reevaluated by a psychologist?

A: Yes, IEP teams are currently convening. Some student may need to be reevaluated, others not. Certification is based on the students in the class and subject area requirements.

Ann Levine-Eisenberg will share the DOE contact information for others to contact the DOE.

Comment: This is an opportunity for the SDPBC to streamline the MTSS process. We need to do a better job of implementing MTSS in Kindergarten, so i=the process doesn’t “drag on”.

Response: The RtI is very well defined in our county; in policy, approved by the State and our Board. We need to follow the process.

Q: What will happen to students who may move from Access points? Will they be mainstreamed in Gen Ed with a support facilitator? The District needs to review how they are “stacking” classes. With a teacher is teaching 2 or 3 different classes in same period – multi-grade teaching.

A: Our goal is that we do not need to put our 9th/10th or 11th grade Access points back on Gen Ed, if that is the only criteria they haven’t met. It is a disservice to children at that point.

Decisions should be made on a case by case, likely after a reevaluation to assist in determining.

Q: How will this impact the support classes, if removing students from self-contained and sent back to gen Ed?

A: Curriculum is not a location.. Students can be anywhere... not necessarily in self-contained unit. Standards do not LRE. LRE is a separate decision.

Q: Are there plans in the works to support our K-1/2 schools regarding behavior; when forcing a child who is not yet ready to learn you will inevitably see a rise in behaviors.

A: Yes, all of that has to be addressed on an individual basis. Also, the proper supports to students need to be in place, communication, AAC/AT, etc.

Comment: Anne Levene-Eisenberg – Charters do not get the information from the State. Curriculum is aligned with Standards, but pacing is different HS do not have to take FSA. K/2 is general standards, but the pacing is slower. PBSOA provides additional supports. Clarification: Students in secondary schools on Access and FSAA, only required 2 FTEs of gen ed standards. All other criteria apply. Exemption process for families who would like to “stay put”. Not a clear method of communication from the State right now.

Q: Who decides which core content is available on campus as a content equivalent?

A: Based on the needs of the students at that particular school.

Q: K/2 without Access points issue. How will this change the instruction? Will they have to take the same weekly test as everyone else?

A: Academic team is discussing. Grading on gen ed standards. The data will show proficiency. Every reporting period we will be meeting with parents reporting on inability to meet standards. Comment: Report card will continually show “Not meeting standards”. Teachers scaffold instruction based on students’ response to gen core.

We need school nurses in PBC. 200 – 3000 students on a comprehensive HS campus. 12 schools without nurses; impacting SWD.

HCD has hired 10 more nurses. Should be in schools by October. Contracted agencies cannot find nurses either.

Para I requires a HS diploma, Para II 30 college credits, Sub needs AS degree

ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE– Randee Gabriel

Randee Gabriel – Multi lingual changes, did not impact SWD

DISTRICT DIVERSITY AND EQUITY COMMITTEE– Kimberley Spire-Oh

Kimberly Spire-Oh

Meets 4th Thursday each month 9 – 11 AM

Keith Oswald, Chief of Equity and Wellness

Change in concordance scores for 10th grade FSA. If students do not pas the 10th grade FSA, PERT can no longer be used as a replacement, and the concordant scores for the SAT and ACT have significantly been increased, resulting in a much larger number of our students facing bars to graduation. SAT and ACT scores significantly increased and eliminated PERT. 16% of students will not meet the graduation requirements.

REGIONAL TEAM LEAD REPORTS

- Central Region – Theresa Padro-Morel, Central
 - All regions still receiving students and collaborating with new processes and directives from state. BPIE, receiving new students, etc.
- North Region –
 - Introduce Shaquira Young, North region team leader
- West/Glades Region – Amy Brown No report

- South Region – Kelley Fisher – not in attendance

MEMBER COMMENTS

Please keep a hard copy of the minutes and attachments are provided with the minutes to be kept in a binder kept in Kevin's office. Damarys will be sending ESE Advisory Committee invites.

Next meeting is October 5th.

Meetings will remain virtual at this time.

GUEST COMMENTS

None

Meeting Adjourned 11:32 AM

(Randee Gabriel, Cheri Estevez)

Unanimous approval