



**School District of Palm Beach County, Florida**  
**ESE Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 4, 2022**



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 9:40.

Introductions were done. A quorum was established.

**FAST Presentation (Laura Schultz)**

- The FAST has replaced the FSA. (Florida Assessment of Student Thinking)
- There are three tests for Progress Monitoring – PM1, PM2, PM3
- PM3 will be the accountability test, like the FSA.
- Grades K-2 – assessment is called STAR
- The tests are designed to be adaptive. They get progressively harder as students answer correctly.
- Aligned to B.E.S.T. standards.
- This is the first year of the test, so many things are up in the air. The state is going through the “norming” process.
- EOCs are not changing, except to update EOCs to new B.E.S.T. standards
- The requirement for third grade promotion remains scoring a level 2 on PM3.
- FSAA will not be revised until next school year.

**Digital Accessibility (Jim Dunlap and Sue Alex)**

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)
- POUR
  - Perceivable – user can access the information using any of their senses
  - Operable – user friendly
  - Understandable
  - Robust – can be used by a wide variety of users
- The Google suite is very accessible.
- All ESE students and teachers now have *Read and Write* and *Orbit Note*
- Read and Write – makes any Google Chrome web site accessible. Reads text, does word prediction, talk to text, plus many other things.
- Orbit Note – makes any PDF accessible.
- There is ESE staff at all textbook adoptions to check for accessibility

- All students with Learning Disabilities or Visual Impairment are supposed to have access to Learning Ally. Right now, any teacher can sign up and assign students and books to a student. Soon, students will be able to access it on SIS automatically.

### **Interventions Vertical Planning Updates (Kevin McCormick)**

- Mr. McCormick spoke with the Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Sheffield, about this. She told Mr. McCormick that we have a document called Do this, not that. Kevin told her that the document does not fill the request from the ESE Advisory. The new Elementary and Secondary Directors will come in Dec to talk about this.

### **Academic Advisory Committee** (Randee Gabriel)

Dual language program students re scoring on average much higher on standardized tests than English-only speakers.

### **District Diversity and Equity Committee** (Kimberly Spire-Oh)

Meeting canceled due to hurricane

### **Boundary Committee** (Carla Donaldson)

Have not yet met this school year

### **Director's Report (Kevin McCormick)**

- Everyone has been trained on what is new in legislation.
- Focus this year is on getting back to basics and recovering from the pandemic.
- Had regional collaborative meetings.
- School District Accreditation – district will be submitting data to be accredited. This is necessary for our students' diplomas to be considered high quality,
- Students with disabilities should be receiving all interventions that Gen Ed students do.
- ESSA – Every Student Succeeds Act – A school will not be considered an 'A' school if their SWD subgroup is not also an 'A'. The ESE department will be working with schools on creating their master schedules to serve all students.
- Every ESE teacher in a cluster is offered multi-sensory training. They also provide the materials and strategies. The next step will be to offer the same support to teachers who support students in the Gen Ed classroom.
- At this point, I lost my Zoom connection, so some items may have been missed.
- When I was able to get back on Zoom, there was something about nurses in the schools. All schools do not have RNs. Some have LPNs and CNAs. There is a critical nursing shortage.

### **Member Comments**

- The Downright Extraordinary Walk for Down Syndrome will be October 23 in John Prince Park.
- Andrew's Place will open this month in Jupiter. This is a program for students over 18.
- Question about the PAL Program. Currently have one PAL. The number of PALs is based on need.
- PEN has worked closely with Project TEN and has created a parent training.

### **Guest Comments**

None

Meeting adjourned at 11:38