

Miami-Dade County Public Schools
SUPERINTENDENT’S DISTRICT ADVISORY PANEL
FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

Minutes of January 26, 2023

Suite 559 – 1450 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33132

Members Present

Dr. Diane Adreon, UM/NSU-CARD (Virtual)	Dr. Kelli Hunter-Sheppard, M-DCPS (Physical)	Maria Ratti, Parent (Physical)
Sandy Ames, Family Care Council (Physical)	Brenda Lampon, VR (Virtual)	Patrick Salmasi, M-DCPS (Physical)
Rosa Maria Barbara, Parliamentarian (Virtual)	Amanda Ley, Advocacy Network (Physical)	Elias Seife (Physical)
Dr. Michelle Cumming, FIU (Physical)	Laurie Malman, Honorary Member (Physical)	Kathy Vergara, (Virtual)
Magaly Ercilla, M-DCPS/Staff Liaison (Physical)	Ernie Martinez, Parent (Physical)	Alicia Walford, Parent Education Network (Virtual)
Enrique Escallon, Chairperson (Physical)	Gisel Prado, Miami Parks/Recreation (Virtual)	
Beverly Heller 2 nd Vice Chairperson (Physical)	Sandra Rancano, Parent to Parent (Virtual)	

Members Absent

Dr. Diane Adreon
 Anthony Julio
 Lynn Miskiel
 Dr. Lisette Rodriguez
 Mark Thompson
 Shirkyla Trimble
 Hermine Wilson-Lang

School Personnel Present

Reagan Chalmers (Virtual)
 Martha Diaz (Virtual)
 Shannon Gottardi (Virtual)
 Josee Gregoire (Virtual)

Yvonne Leon (Physical)
Carla Magluta (Physical)
AnSeing Partridge (Physical)
Magda Pereira (Virtual)
Marie Sellek (Virtual)
Ray Novo (Physical)

Guests

Michele Throm, Chancelight Education (Physical)
Nancy Torres, University of Miami (Physical)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:11 AM.

Welcome and Introduction of Panel Members/Visitors

Mr. Enrique Escallon welcomed all members and visitors to the Panel meeting. Each member and guest introduced themselves. Ms. Magaly Ercilla read the meeting norms.

Consent Agenda and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approval of Minutes was tabled as there was no quorum to approve the minutes.

STArts Magnet Presentation

Magda R. Pereira
Administrative Director
School Choice and Parental Options

Ms. Pereira provided a general overview of the magnet school program. The program is at K-8 Center Schools and the schools are fully inclusive magnet programs. The programs will increase access to STEAM education district-wide, student enrollment and student diversity. Students must live within the boundary or apply through an application process. The magnet program blends space and environment STEM education, technology and the Arts. It is aligned to ACCESS Curriculum. The participating schools are Boman Ashe, Citrus Grove, and Thomas Jefferson.

Budget Presentation

Martha M. Diaz
Chief Budget Officer, Budget Management
Office of Financial Operations/Budget

Shannon Gottardi
District Director
Department of Exception Student Education

Ms. Diaz reviewed the 2021-22 vs 2020-21 General Funds. She provided information about the decrease due to vacant positions and decrease in FTE.

Ms. Gottardi reviewed the 2019-20 and 2021-22 total budget and expenditures for IDEA grant. IDEA K-12 Budget Salary expenditures, fulltime personnel counts (146 open positions in March

2022), non-salary expenditures, IDEA Pre-K budget update, FDLRS budget update were also discussed. The 2022-23 IDEA Grants were reviewed (\$130 million currently). Rollovers will be used for: hourly, ESY, Child Find, and software license.

Panel Election of Officers 2023

- Nominations Subcommittee Report
- Nomination from the Floor

Ms. Ercilla reviewed eligibility criteria. All members interested were directed to email Ms. Ercilla or Mr. Escallon. All suggestions will be reviewed in the Bylaw subcommittee meeting and then brought back to the board for a vote.

Meeting was extended.

District Updates

Exceptional Student Education

Patrick Salmasi
District Director
Department of Exceptional Student Education

Mr. Salmasi shared information about the new transition program at the John F. Kennedy Library. He also discussed the increased ESE Graduation rate for M-DCPS for the 2021-2022 school year (86%). Mr. Salmasi also announced that one of the TEACH Strong ESE 2022 teachers, Mr. Rickenson Marc, was selected as the Rookie Teacher of the Year at North Miami Elementary.

Gifted

Dr. Lisette Rodriguez
Executive Director, Advanced Academics
Division of Academics

Dr. Lisette Rodriguez shared that the number of schools with itinerant gifted services has been reduced from 54 schools to 32 schools. A new partnership with Miami Dade College concerning dual enrollment courses was discussed. Dr. Rodriguez explained that students are able to take certain courses even when they don't meet the statutory requirements.

Pre-K ESE

Dr. Josee Gregoire
Executive Director
Pre-K Program for Children with Disabilities

Dr. Josee Gregoire shared that the Pre-K ESE department is now aligned with K-12 ESE instead of Early Childhood, although they will continue to collaborate with Early Childhood. There will be no changes to the Early Steps process. Enrollment increased to 177 from 168 and VPK Inclusion from 55 to 59.

Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee reports were distributed via email prior to the meeting for review.

Community Updates

No community updates were presented.

Meeting Wrap-Up and Adjournment

Mr. Escallon made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Selfie moved and Ms. Malman seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 1:14 PM.