

Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Subcommittee Meeting
December 11, 2023

MINUTES

Attendees: Silvia Calderon, Josee Gregoire, Katie Hart, Beverly Heller, Lynn Maceyras, Laurie Malman, Lynn Miskiel, Victoria Quintanilla, Mark Thompson, Javonie Wilcox, Delsey Yancoskie

I. Welcome/Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m.
- Introductions

II. Review/Approval of Minutes

- Dr. Gregoire reviewed the meeting agenda. Ms. Maceyras made a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. Miskiel seconded the motion. The motion to accept the agenda was approved. Dr. Gregoire reviewed the committee minutes from October 23, 2023. Dr. Hart motioned to accept the minutes with changes. Dr. Miskiel seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes with changes was approved.

III. Parent Academy Presentation

- Ms. Yancoskie reported that the Parent Academy offers webinars in English, Spanish, and Creole and multiple modalities (in-person, virtual workshops, weekly webinars, and watch parties).
- During the 2022-2023 school year, Parent Academy conducted 650 workshops with 7,353 parent participants. Additionally, 750 staff members were trained on accessing Parent Academy resources.
- The Parent Academy offers a variety of pre-recorded virtual sessions for prekindergarten families on topics such as programs for prekindergarten children with disabilities, everywhere learning, challenging behaviors, FAST assessment, language development, picky eater, kindness, welcome to your school, and prekindergarten/kindergarten registration. Families should visit <https://parentacademymiami.com/> and select virtual campus for additional information.
- The Parent Academy has community resource hubs at Northside Shopping Plaza, Parkway Educational Complex, and Hialeah beside Amelia Earhart Elementary School.
- The next Parent Academy Family Fest is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the Hialeah hub. Additional information is forthcoming.

IV. Motion to Extend Meeting

Ms. Maceyras made a motion to extend the time of the meeting to 11:45 a.m. Ms. Malman seconded the motion. The motion to extend the time of the meeting was approved.

V. Early Childhood Update

- Ms. Maceyras reported that MDCPS' VPK program enrollment decreased by 3%. This decrease in enrollment is specifically for VPK. There were other areas of growth in Early

Childhood as demonstrated by additional seats that were open in MDCPS's Head Start program.

- An enrollment toolkit has been created to assist schools with enrollment challenges.
- The Head Start/ Early Head Start team is collaborating with Dr. Hunter and ESE Region offices to process 181 pending requests for assistance referrals.

VI. Pre-K ESE Update

- Dr. Gregoire reported that schools with Pre-K ESE classes are currently holding reevaluation meetings (RT) for students articulating to kindergarten. In the spring, meetings will be held with parents to discuss students' kindergarten needs and placement.
- Dr. Gregoire reviewed the five-year enrollment data. The enrollment has increased from May 2022 to May 2023. Additional data will be added in May 2024.

VII. Q & A

- Ms. Heller urged the subcommittee to involve parents with enrollment and legislative properties. She informed the subcommittee of the various PTA standing committees, particularly the legislative committee.
- Ms. Heller stated that she would like to increase the duration of subcommittee meetings. Dr. Gregoire recommended that a poll be created and shared with subcommittee members to determine whether meeting times should be extended by an hour, whether the number of subcommittee meetings should be increased, or whether presentations should be limited to 15 minutes. The results will be shared at the next meeting.

VIII. Next meeting (s)

- Tuesday, February 20, 2024; Time: 10:30 a.m.; Location: TBA

Ms. Malman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Yancoskie seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.