

**Miami Dade County Public Schools**  
**Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education**  
**Family Engagement Sub-Committee Meeting**  
**February 25, 2022, Friday**

Individual's Present: Vivian Nunez, Sandra Ames, Bev Heller, Maria, Courteney Fitzgerald (Best Buddies), Bailey Humyn (Best Buddies), Dr. Katie Hart (F.I.U), Cecilia Nieto (FDLRS), Holly Starnes (FDLRS)

Vivian presented a brief overview of committee goals, vision, and purpose. Minutes reviewed and passed.

Holly (FDLRS) presented a slide presentation outlining services:

- Child Find
- Family services
- Assists in Exceptional Student Education Parent Survey (Feb. 1 till May 31)
- Professional Development ESE and Gifted
- Technology

Vivian presented Family Services Padlet and demonstrated items.

Courteney Fitzgerald (**Best Buddies**)

- Told history of Best Buddies that it is in 50 States, 6 Continents and 54 Countries
- Four Missions:
  - One To One Friendships
  - Integrated Employment
  - Leadership Development
  - Inclusive Living
- Rosetta Bakery (co-owned by Best Buddies)  
1/2 of receipts go to Best Buddies

Katie Hart (**F.I.U.**)

- Summer Academy
  - Thena Crowder Early Childhood & Diagnostic Center and Paul Bell Middle School funded by Children's Trust
    - Behavioral, preschool full day program
    - Parent group once a week
    - Parenting Workshop live or by Zoom
    - New workshop on temper tantrum

## **Updates:**

### Review and update of 3 Goals

- Concern on how to know County wide that the information sent to Principals is getting to parents
  - Vivian will follow up to see if materials are being shared
- Concern on PTA reaching all parents
  - Maria will follow up with Enrique about having someone from ESE on PTA to be able reach these parents and to speak for these parents' concerns
- School Board Members and Agencies
  - Members need to be invited to attend the Advisory Meetings
  - Agencies also need part of sub committee Parent to Parents was one mentioned
  - Agencies deal with parents so important for them to be involved in our meetings