

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

Minutes of October 22, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present

Sandy Ames, Family Care Council	Hermine Wilson -Lang	Chris Reigadas
Emily Andrade, Student Representative	Yvonne Leon, M-DCPS	Elias Seife
Rosa Maria Barbara, Vice Chair	Laurie Malman	Marc Thompson, Special Olympics
Michelle Cumming, FIU	Ernie Martinez	Angie Torres, M-DCPS
Enrique Escallon, Chairperson	Lynn Miskiel, UM Mailman Center	Kathy Vergara
Beverly Heller	Sandra Rancano, Parent to Parent	Alison Walford, PEN
Kelli Hunter-Sheppard, M-DCPS	Maria Ratti	

Agency Alternates

Members Absent

Diane Adreon, UM/Nova CARD
Maria Delgado (Alternate – Dr. Martin Karp)
Brenda Lampon, VR
Gisel Prado, Miami Parks/Recreation

School Personnel Present

Magaly Abrahante
Marisol Diaz
Magaly Ercilla
Ava Goldman
Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Mary Paz
Angel Rodriguez
Patrick Salmasi

Orfirio Sanchez
Ann Marie Sasseville
Maria Sellek

Guests Present

Ceila Leyva
Lucas Robson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.

Welcome and Introduction of Panel Members/Visitors

Mr. Enrique Escallon welcomed all members and visitors. He announced the name of all meeting attendees. He noted that this was a steering committee meeting. Mr. Escallon reviewed the scope of the meeting and explained the “raise hand” feature for members and visitors to use if they would like to speak during the meeting.

Review of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed. Mr. Escallon asked if any changes to the agenda were needed. No changes were requested.

Presentation

ESE and the Reopening of Schools

Dr. Kelli Hunter Sheppard, District Director, Department of ESE

Ms. Maria Sellek, District Supervisor, Division of Academic

Dr. Kelli Hunter Sheppard provided an ESE Update, including information about services, resources and the reopening of schools.

Ms. Maria Sellek provided an update from Advanced Academics, including information about Gifted Services and students participating in classes in school and through MSO.

Ms. Ratti asked about students’ access to books during distance learning. Ms. Torres provided details about accessing textbooks online and at the school site. Ms. Barbara asked if Professional Development has been made available for general education teachers. Ms. Reagan Chalmers provided details about virtual Professional Development sessions offered and the on-demand webinars available on the ESE website.

Mr. Escallon asked attendees for suggestions of topics to be discussed at each of this year’s Advisory Panel meetings. Mr. Escallon suggested Budget as a topic. Mr. Seife recommended that Budget is reviewed in November or January. Ms. Heller suggested Budget; Legislation; Communication between schools, parents and the district; Early childhood. Ms. Malman suggested that agencies provide a presentation about their organizations and resources.

Sub-Committees

Mr. Escallon designated October 30th as the deadline for members to submit their interest in being co-chair for the subcommittees. Ms. Barbara asked for clarification of the sub-committees for the 2020-2021 school year. A list of the sub-committees was provided and will be emailed by Ms. Angie Torres to all members with a reminder of the October 30th deadline.

Community Updates:

Department of Early Childhood provided information about new curriculum resources and applications for Pre-K. Parent Academy shared information about sessions for parents and upcoming events calendar. PEN provided an updated about their resources and upcoming events.

Adjournment

Mr. Escallon moved to adjourn, and Dr. Hunter-Sheppard seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 4:21 PM