

MINUTES

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

Minutes of September 27, 2018

School Board Administration Building – Room 559
1450 Northeast 2nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33132

Members Present

Diane Adreon-CARD	Enrique Escallon-Parent	Lisette Rodriguez-SP
Sandy Ames-FCC	Ava Goldman-SP	Elias Seife-Parent
Rosa Maria Barbara-Parent	Kelli Hunter Sheppard-SP	Angie Torres-SP
Lauren Bustos-PTP	Ernie Martinez-Parent	Kathy Vergara-Parent
Amara Condon-Easter Seals	Lynn Miskiel-MCCD	

Parent Alternates

Maria Jakoniuk Ratti (Rosa Maria Barbara)

Agency Alternates

Michelle Schladant (MCCD)

Michelle Cumming (FIU)

School Board Member Designee

Maria Delgado (Martin Karp)

Dr. Lawrence Feldman

Jennifer Iglesias (Mari Tere Rojas)

Laurie Malman (Lawrence Feldman)

Members Absent

Elizabeth Cramer-FIU

Elsa Clarke-Parent

Amara Condon – Easter Seals

Irenaida Diaz-AND

Martin Karp-Honorary

Janet McDaniel-Parent

Madeline Spado-Best Buddies

Miguel Suau-Parent

Arc of SF-TBA

School Personnel Present

Dr. Magaly Abrahante

Sally Alayon
Commander J. Bevilacqua
Marisol Diaz
Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Jesus Aviles
Reagan Chalmers
Maria Selleck
Robin Morrison

Honorary Members Present

Vicky Burley (T)
Chris Reigidas (T)

Guests Present

Tanya Acevedo
Nubia Castillo
Andrea Dos Santos
Beverly Heller
Brenda Lampon
Melina Sabeta
Mark Thompson
Alicia Walford

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

Introduction and Welcome

After introductions, Ms. Rosa Maria Barbara, Panel Chair, welcomed members and guests. All visitors and members introduced themselves. Ms. Barbara welcomed School Board Member, the Honorable Dr. Lawrence Feldman and thanked him for his support.

Approval of Minutes

Members of the Panel approved the minutes of the meeting of June 14, 2018 as corrected. Ms. Barbara moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Ernie Martinez seconded the motion. Rosa Maria Barbara asked members to approve the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Report

Ms. Barbara discussed the change of the body of work of the Panel - which broadens the spectrum of the committee's goals. Ms. Barbara also stressed the importance of attending and participating in Sub-Committees. The meeting dates for the Advisory Panel and Sub-Committees were presented by Ms. Barbara. Enrique Escallon moved to accept the committee dates. Sandy Ames seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Attendance Boundary Committee

No report

Family and Community

Involvement Advisory Committee

The FCIAC has elected a new chair. New priorities and goals are to be determined.

Presentations

Ms. Barbara requested a change in the order of the agenda. All were in agreement.

New Mental Health Initiative Presentation

Ms. Sally Alayon, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services and School Operations, reviewed Senate Bill 7088 that enhances student access to school based mental health care, community resources and prevention resources. The Department is in the process hiring and training staff for the newly established Mental Health Department that will provide support to Regions and Schools. The initiative supports the utilization of Mental Health Preventions that will support schools and students. The Mental Health Department is in the process of training employees in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Mr. Seife requested that the committee review the budget of funded programs. Dr. Feldman inquired – how many staff must be trained, and if the Department has considered creative methods for training. Dr. Abrahante mentioned that the YMHFA should be included in teacher preparation activities. Ms. Barbara wanted the Mental Health Department to be aware of the various behaviors that students with disabilities may display to ensure proper intervention and disciplinary action.

Safety and Security

Commander Bevilacqua from M-DCPS School Police discussed the new initiatives that are a result of Senate Bill 7088. Every school is required to have an assigned police officer. Heightened security measures include single point of entry and increased security at football games. Each school site has a visitor management system and uniformed security officers. Active shooter training has been presented to school sites. The various applications of the Command Center were discussed. Commander Bevilacqua reviewed specific training for officers in preparation for interacting with students with disabilities. Ms. Barbara emphasized the importance of law enforcement officers having the proper training to ensure that there is no escalation of issues. Ms. Barbara thanked Commander Bevilacqua and the M-DCPS Police Force for their support and work.

Dr. Feldman offered the following suggestions for Commander Bevilacqua: Provide a written protocol for active shooter response to schools, invite someone from the Panel to be present at officer trainings, facilitate active shooter drills for students with disabilities.

ESE Family Forum

The forum will be held on October 27, 2018 at Ponce de Leon Middle School from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. A presentation for Parents of the Gifted will be provided with information. Ms. Barbara wants to encourage more attendance and encourages multiple methods for advertising the event i.e. EdConnect.

Committee Reports

Awards Sub-Committee
No Report

Kathy Vergara/Ava Goldman

Early Childhood Sub-Committee
No Report

Kathy Vergara/Marisol Diaz

Educational Programs and Inclusion Sub-Committee No Report	TBA/Reagan Chalmers
Gifted Education Sub-Committee	Lissette Rodriguez/Marie Selleck
Low Incidence Disability Sub-Committee No Report	Lynn Miskiel/Kelli Hunter-Sheppard
Mental Health Sub-Committee No Report	TBA/Jesus Aviles
Nominations Sub-Committee No Report	Ava Goldman/Kathy Vergara
Parent Engagement Sub-Committee No Report	Ernie Martinez/Angel Rodriguez/ Kelli Hunter-Sheppard
Secondary Transition Sub-Committee No Report	Chris Reigadas/TBA

Other

Ms. Barbara shared the dates, times and location of the Superintendent’s Town Hall Meetings.

Ms. Goldman stated that October is Disabilities Awareness Weeks. October 15th Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) will be hosting an event to celebrate Disabilities Awareness.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm. Enrique Escallon moved to adjourn. Ms. Vergara seconded the motion.

Next Meeting

The General Membership meeting is scheduled for at 3:00 pm on November 8, 2018.