





Agenda

Wednesday, September 29th 2025, 6:15 pm - 8:45 pm (Second Session 10/6)

Remote on Teams

School Advisory Forum (SAF) Training Minutes

Date: September 29, 2025 **Time:** 6:00–9:00 PM

Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

1. Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting commenced at 6:00 PM via Teams.

Welcome remarks were provided by **DAC Chair** and **District staff** from the Office of Advisory Councils. Purpose of the session: to review responsibilities, procedures, and best practices for School Advisory Forums (SAFs) for the 2025–2026 school year.

2. Overview of the Advisory Framework

- **Governance Structure:** SAFs are governed by **Policy 1.2** and **Policy 1401**, operating under the School Advisory Council (SAC) and District Advisory Council (DAC).
- **Purpose:** Serve as a communication bridge between school communities and the School Board.
- **Composition:** Includes parents, staff, students (secondary), community members, and the principal or designee.
- Meetings: Must follow Florida Sunshine Laws, be publicly noticed, and allow open attendance.

3. Roles & Responsibilities

- **SAF Chair:** Leads meetings, ensures agendas and minutes are prepared, attends Area and District Advisory meetings.
- **SAF Vice Chair:** Supports Chair and may serve as alternate at higher-level meetings.
- **Secretary:** Records accurate minutes and attendance.
- **Principal:** Ensures staff support and compliance with board policies.
- **Voting:** Each school gets one official vote at Area and District Advisory meetings, regardless of how many representatives attend.

4. Meeting Procedures & Documentation

- **Agendas:** Must be posted at least **48 hours in advance** on the school's website and in a visible location on campus.
- Minutes: Must be taken for every meeting and approved at the following meeting.
- **Quorum:** A quorum must be established before voting on motions.
- Attendance Tracking: Required for compliance; consistent absence may lead to leadership review.
- Virtual Meetings: Allowed if properly noticed and open to the public.

5. Sunshine Law & Ethics Compliance

- Meetings must remain open and transparent.
- Members cannot discuss business outside the meeting ("no backroom deliberations").
- Public Records: Emails, chats, and meeting notes are considered public records.
- **Ethics Training:** Required annually for all advisory officers and members (available through the Committee Training Portal).



6. Communication Channels & Reporting

- SAFs report issues and recommendations to their Area Advisory Council and the District Advisory Council (DAC).
- Reports should reflect consensus and official motions, not personal opinions.
- Each SAF Chair should register on the <u>DAC website</u> for updates and meeting reminders.

7. Budget & Resource Coordination

- SAC vs. SAF Roles:
 - SAC manages the school improvement plan and related funds.
 - SAF focuses on broader community and district-level issues (e.g., safety, facilities, academics).
- **Title I & Grants:** SAF chairs encouraged to coordinate with principals on how Title I funds impact family engagement.

8. Common Compliance Issues

- Missing minutes or agendas posted late.
- Inaccurate membership lists.
- Failure to post meeting recordings or summaries.
- Not maintaining quorum during votes.
- Inconsistent attendance at Area/District meetings.

9. Best Practices

• Rotate speakers and share updates from other committees.

- Use QR codes for agenda questions.
- Encourage student voice and parent participation.
- Submit motions in writing for recordkeeping.

10. Questions & Open Discussion

Participants asked about:

- Clarifying voting eligibility when both Chair and Vice Chair attend Area meetings.
- Proper documentation for virtual attendance.
- Process for posting minutes and reports to the public website.
- Handling community concerns not directly tied to school operations.

11. Action Items

- Ensure all schools post **agendas and minutes** publicly and maintain documentation for audit purposes.
- Chairs and Secretaries must complete ethics and sunshine law training by second Area meeting.
- Submit updated **SAF contact lists** to Area Advisory by **October 15, 2025**.
- Schools should verify their SAF link on the school website directs to the correct public page.

12. Adjournment

Training concluded at 9:00 PM.

Participants were thanked for their service and reminded of the upcoming **DAC General Meeting on October 8, 2025 (KCW Building)**.