

The School Board of Broward County, Florida
District Advisory Council @ KCWright
DRAFT MINUTES
Wednesday, Sep 21, 2024 6:15 pm-8:45 pm
DAC Website: browarddistrictadvisory.ch2v.com/
Email: Districtadvisorycouncil@gmail.com

Chair – Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh

Vice Chair – Carmelo Borges

Recording Secretary – Brie-Anne Pendlebury **Corresponding Secretary** – Midge Royer

Communications Chair – Linda Ferrara

1. Call to order at 6:30 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Housekeeping: Please remember to sign in. All representatives are required to attend DAC meetings, missing more than three consecutive meetings or four in a year will result in removal. Raise your DAC placard to ask a question.

4. Ethics Training: Access annual required training via the [Committee Training Program & Resource Page](#). The advisory chairs will be meeting with the Board and will ask for them to provide the list of completion participants.

5. 2024-25 DAC Meeting Dates:

10/9/24 • 11/6/24 • 12/11/24 • 1/8/25 • 2/12/25 • 3/12/25 • 4/9/25 • 5/14/25 • 5/29/24 • 6/2/25

6. Approval of the May 30th and August 21st Minutes:

Motion to approve August 21, 2024 minutes by Linda Ferrara, seconded by Bob Mayersohn, passes unanimously.

7. Old Business

a. Cell Phone Ban

i. State Definition of "instructional time." (links) This information will be sent back to the District and Board for review and potential correction to the new policy. It is important to note that this policy was never moved through the looping process. Additionally, there is a concern that Interim and Addendums are no longer permitted due to Focus limitations, which is a violation of the IDEA federal law. The Board has agreed to bring the cell phone policy back for a workshop discussion. The student advisors are working collaboratively with Dr. Hepburn to survey all secondary students.

1. See Full-time Equivalent (FTE) General Instructions 2023-2024, p. 10: "NOTE: Time allotted for lunch and changing class periods should not be reported as part of the "FEFP Membership Minutes, Weekly" data element."

2. The number of instructional minutes (carried to four decimal places) for which the grade PK-12 student is eligible for funding in a course during the FTE survey week. The FEFP membership minutes for all classes reported may not exceed a maximum total of 1500 minutes for the week for PK-12 students during Survey Periods 2 and 3.

3. State Statute: [1011.62 Funds for operation of schools](#)

4. FLDOE [FTE Information](#)

5. Motion: We recommend that the workshop for cell phone code of conduct policy be completed by November 30, 2024, and that the workshop include "looping" feedback through all advisories per the school board looping policy.

Moved by Michael Pezzicola, Seconded by Linda Ferrara, passes unanimously.

8. New Business

a. Academic Achievement

- i. [Student Performance Spring 2024](#) (8/27/24 SB Workshop)
 1. [FLDOE Accountability: Where to find your school's grade](#)
 2. [Learning Gains—what strategies were successful?](#)
- ii. [Testing – Frequency, purpose, practices](#)
- iii. iReady - use, time spent in and out of class
- iv. Goals for 2024-25 school year?
 1. 2012 Strategic Goals
 2. [2022 Goals and Guardrails](#) (Overview); [Monitoring](#)

The district is promoting the achievement of an “A” district, however, it is important to note that an “A” rating is only 62%. There is also concern regarding student achievement and learning gains, particularly at the elementary level where curriculum is dictated and governed by pacing guides. There is also concern that data is being compared to testing formats prior to FAST. Resources provided to struggling schools are also removed when the school earns an acceptable level, despite the reality that those resources were needed to make that growth. Teaching and Learning and the Office of Academics will be invited to an upcoming meeting to respond to these concerns.

Motion: We recommend to the Broward School Board that they place on their legislative platform that the Florida Board of Education create a task force composed of an academically diverse group of educators to address ways to improve academic achievement of all students.

Moved by Michael Pezzicola, Seconded by Linda Ferrara,

26 in favor, 3 opposed

b. FOCUS ([8/27/24 Workshop Presentation](#))

i. ESE Issues

There are many issues with Focus meeting the needs of documenting ESE services, IEPs, and other relative documents. This includes the inability to capture interim IEPs and addendums to IEPs. The ESE advisory created a motion to address this issue that will be presented at the October school board meeting. Progress Reports are also not an option in Focus along with many other required documents that are not generated by Focus. We will be asking a representative from the district to attend an upcoming DAC meeting to address these concerns.

ESE Advisory Motion:

Whereas Broward ESE Advisory recognizes the critical importance of ESE case documentation management for providing timely and effective services to students; and

Whereas there have been significant concerns raised regarding a decline in the capabilities of such systems between the last and current academic years; and

Whereas these declines have resulted in non-compliance with federal law, and challenges for ESE specialists and other staff, parents, and students - including in the ability to make necessary adjustments to IEPs and hold interim meetings, limited access to previous years' IEPs, security risks associated with sharing IEPs as PDF attachments, and increased workload for ESE staff;

We recommend that Broward County School Board directs the Superintendent and district staff to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of the changes in ESE documentation management capabilities available to ESE specialists and other staff, and parents, between the 2023/24 and 2024/25 school years.
2. Develop and release a comprehensive plan of action, including timelines, to address the identified issues and restore the necessary capabilities for effective ESE documentation management to ensure full compliance with federal law.

3. Disclose all tickets of concern submitted by staff regarding ESE documentation management systems since August 1, 2024.

Motion: We move to support the ESE advisory's motion regarding deficiencies in ESE case management.

Proposed by Cynthia Dominique and seconded by Karla Figueroa

Passes unanimously

c. Area Advisory Council Reports/Updates from Other Committees

- i. Motions/Consensus/Discussions
- ii. Follow-up: SAF Policy Review Feedback (please complete this month)
- iii. Related Resources - [School Improvement Plan](#); [SAF Manual](#) (NEEDS REVISING)
- iv. Redefining Community Meetings (updated information will be sent out and posted on the website)

Gifted Advisory:

Broward County Public Schools offers a variety of excellent programs throughout its district, including curricula and options for accelerated instruction. Programs such as the Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) provide advanced instruction and acceleration opportunities. However, many parents are unaware of these programs, leading to their children not being sufficiently challenged during the school year. Furthermore, parents who are aware of ACCEL often report that schools discourage them from enrolling their children in these programs. With the transition from the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) to the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST), the district has enhanced its ability to identify students who could benefit from more advanced educational opportunities. Although Broward County Public Schools is adept at offering support through interventions, pull-outs, camps, and summer school for students needing extra help, it does not consistently offer similar resources to advanced learners. Currently, parents and students are to contact the school to obtain information on a student's acceleration eligibility and or requirements as it pertains to ACCEL. The Gifted Advisory Council suggests a reversal of this approach, proposing that schools proactively contact the parents of eligible students to discuss advanced curriculum opportunities, such as ACCEL. Our motion/recommendation reads as follows: We, Gifted Advisory Council, recommend that elementary school students scoring a level 5 on their FAST PM1 assessment in either ELA or math, should automatically be considered for advanced curriculum opportunities and informed about the ACCEL program and parents should be given the option to opt out rather than having to opt in, making challenging curriculum equitable for all students.

Motion: We move to support the Gifted advisory's motion regarding accelerated opportunities for students scoring a level 5 on FAST PM 1.

Proposed by Danielle Hoffman, seconded by Cynthia Dominique

Passes unanimously.

North Region Advisory: Report and Motion pending receipt

d. Upcoming Meetings:

- i. 09/17/24 [School Board Workshop](#)
- ii. 09/19/24 Bond Oversight Committee, 5:30 p.m. Nova High School - Media Center
- iii. Advisories: Need a Master Calendar

e. Adjourn: 8:45 PM

KNOW YOUR POLICIES!

[Policy 1330 – Student Advisor to the School Board](#)

[Policy 1.3 – School Advisory Forum:](#)

Every school shall have a School Advisory Forum (SAF) that shall foster and promote communication between its stakeholders, the school, and the Area Advisory Council. The SAF shall bring forth recommendations, concerns and interests to and from their Area Advisory Council.

[Policy 1.21 – Area Advisory Council:](#)

The Area Advisory Council shall foster and promote communication among School Advisory Forums, School Advisory Councils, and the District Advisory Council. The Area Advisory Council shall bring forth recommendations, concerns, and interest from the area and to and from the District Advisory Council.

[Policy 1.2 – District Advisory Council](#)

The District Advisory Council (DAC) shall foster and promote communication among School Advisory Forums, School Advisory Councils, Area Advisory Councils, the District Advisory Council, the Superintendent of Broward County Schools, and the Broward County School Board. The District Advisory Council shall act as a forum for Area Advisory Councils and others to propose recommendations and discuss issues that are germane to the District. The DAC shall bring before the School Board and the Superintendent of Schools information based on this intercommunication.

In addition to School Advisory Forum, Area Advisory Council, and District Advisory Council, there are at least four School Board policies that are meant to directly support parent and family involvement:

1. [School Board Policy 1165 - Parent/Family Involvement](#) (Last amended 7/24/2007)
2. [School Board Policy 1403 - School Accountability and Improvement](#) (Last amended 3/16/2010)
3. [School Board Policy 1164 - Communication and Public Engagement](#) (last adopted 3/06/2007)
4. [School Board Policy 5312 - Standards of Student Services](#) (repealed 9/13/22; PLEASE NOTE this policy is specifically and explicitly referred to in [CCC Condition 7](#): "The SCHOOL BOARD agrees to develop a plan to collect data on current disciplinary practices including suspension rates and additional support provided by the Standards of Student Services (SOSS). The SCHOOL BOARD shall analyze this data and implement a plan to address the conclusions of said analysis and to assure equity in the administration of student discipline countywide").

Area Advisory Websites

District Advisory Council

<http://browarddistrictadvisory.ch2v.com/content.asp?PageID=0>

North Region Advisory Council

<http://northareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>

Central Region Advisory Council

<http://centralareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>

South Region Advisory Council

<http://southareaadvisory1.ch2v.com/>

DAC Website: BrowardDistrictadvisory.ch2v.com

Email: Districtadvisorycouncil@gmail.com