

**District Advisory Council**  
**Approved Minutes**  
April 6, 2016

The School Board of Alachua County *District Advisory Council* (DAC) was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Kirby-Smith Center, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida.

Members Present:	Mike Barton	Pamela Gonzales	Janine Plavac
	Elisa Beachy	Meredith Henry	Elizabeth Rowe
	Adam Boukari	Lisa Lauger	Donna Sheffield
	Bob Carroll	Sue Legg	Sharon Surrency
	Tom Cowart	Aimee Oelrich	

Members Absent:	Sarah Beck	Staci Graff	Rachel Meek
	Cynthia Chestnut	Melissa Heitzler	Rick Nesbit
	Jennifer Davis	Josh Jett	Sandy Springer
	Jill Dumas	Joe Keys	Joe Swails
	Erica Gindle	Lisa Lauger	Scott Zofnas

Also present were Eileen Roy, School Board Chairman; Dr. Owen Roberts, Superintendent of Schools; Jackie Johnson, Communications and Community Initiatives Director; Bill McElroy, principal, PAM@Loften; and Jeff Charbonnet, principal, Eastside High School. The topic of today’s meeting: Discussion of Pam@Loften and Eastside High School (continued from March 2, 2016, meeting).

**WELCOME** Board Chairman Eileen Roy welcomed the members, noting that a one possibility that was suggested previously was that the Professionals Academy Magnet @ Loften High School might operate as a satellite to Eastside High School.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** A change was made to the attendance record of the meeting of March 2, 2016. Meredith Henry was in attendance and Donna Sheffield was not. With that noted, there was consensus on approval of the minutes as presented.

**DISCUSSION OF PAM@LOFTEN AND EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL** Mr. McElroy presented current enrollment figures at PAM@Loften, by Academy, as well as committed students for 2016-17.

He reported that the plan for next year includes Design and Technology Academy being separated into two academies, which is expected to increase enrollment Mr. McElroy also reviewed some of the electives offered, awards won, and curricular offerings, including AP classes. He reported that Facilities indicates enrollment can potentially be increased to approximately 450 students on the PAM campus.

Mr. Charbonnet would welcome EHS students availing themselves of CTE offerings. Most look for AP courses, but may have an interest in taking a course or two.

Discussion was held on an issue from last meeting: an unfavorable image of Loften that seems to persist from the past. One suggestion was to change the name, perhaps to *Travis Loften Academy at Eastside High School*.

Ms. Plavic, Coordinator, GHS Academy of Health Professions, spoke about the idea of Loften establishing a Health Academy, which was discussed at the last meeting. The GHS program is so in demand, there are now many applicants that can’t be accepted. Ms. Plavic believes this would be an excellent opportunity for Loften expansion.

She stated that finding appropriate staff might be a challenge, but students come out of this program with industry certifications, a great sense of self-worth, and prepared for postsecondary programs or a thriving job market.

Other topics from the last meeting were also revisited: Loften branding, students' desire to participate in sports, need for marketing, intricacies of scheduling/block scheduling and transportation.

It was noted that Loften is entirely a school of choice and Mr. McElroy pointed out that 75% of Loften students are from the west side. They do not get a lot of east side students and have not been able to determine a key reason for that.

Mr. Boukari felt that the Committee has come to the point where their ideas can be turned over to Dr. Roberts for his direction to staff.

Ms. Sheffield requested figures to accurately compare Loften's cost per student to other programs/schools.

**NEXT MEETING** Mrs. Johnson will notify members when another meeting date will be scheduled.

**ADJOURN** The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.