

DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL
APPROVED MINUTES
JULY 7, 2020

The virtual meeting of the School Board of Alachua County's District Advisory Council (DAC) was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Eileen Roy, Adam Boukari, Stacy Cannon, Cynthia Chestnut, Superintendent Karen Clarke, Jamie Coons, Director of Maintenance and Construction Thomas Cowart, Julie Crosby, Quinten Eyman, Cyndi Fields, Cindy Holmes, Public Information Officer Jackie Johnson, Deputy Superintendent Donna Jones, Isaac Jones, Sue Legg, Shari Mack, Staff Attorney Brian Moore, Eliscia Mosley, Melissa Pratto, Supervisor of Health Services Michele Shelar, Kimberly Taylor, Keith Watts, Mary Williams, Executive Director Jennifer Wise, Director of Transportation Reginald Thomas,

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION Board Chair, Mrs. Eileen Roy, welcomed all. The agenda was discussed and approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Moved by Keith Watts Seconded by Cindy Holmes

Moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2020, DAC meeting.

The question was called. Motion passed: Unanimous

REVIEW OF DRAFT ACPS RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN Superintendent Clarke went over the draft ACPS Return to School Plan. Members were emailed copies. Twenty six staff members worked on different sections of the plan that related to their area. She received an executive order from the Commissioner that ordered schools to be open 5 days a week in the fall. Districts could offer other options, but to be considered they must offer the 5 day a week brick and mortar option. Digital Academy is something she would like to offer, but the plan will need DOE approval.

Executive Director Jennifer Wise explained the Instructional Model options. She went over the Traditional School Model, the Alachua digital Academy, pending state approval, and the Alachua eSchool.

Director of Transportation Reginald Thomas discussed the cleaning/decontamination of school buses, and hand sanitizer stations for school bus drivers and students. If a bus is contaminated, it is removed from the fleet for 48 hours. Personal protective equipment for drivers and students, signage and student education, and driver training was discussed.

Director of Maintenance and Construction Thomas Cowart went over the protocol for cleaning/disinfecting facilities where there is a confirmed case of COVID-19. A member asked if we have enough staff to do the work. It was noted we do have enough school staff and vendors to help. Mrs. Clarke stated the Purchasing department is stocked up on PPE. A member asked why a

summer teacher had to buy their own supplies. Mrs. Clarke stated that should not have happened and she would look into it.

Supervisor of Health Services Michele Shelar went over the Nursing duties. All nurses will wear PPE. They will clean the nurse area. They will limit the visits to the clinic, for example, providing band aids to teachers instead of sending them to the clinic. They will be doing education on wearing masks, etc.

It was mentioned testing is done every one to two weeks, the question was asked how do you know who has it? Ms. Shelar stated whenever a student comes to the clinic their temperature will be taken. Any teacher or staff can have their temperature taken.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Will there be a standard check as students enter the school? In order to do that, you would have to limit entry to a single point.

If a student tests positive that rides on a bus, what is the protocol? Mrs. Johnson stated if they find out a student has COVID-19, they would notify the families and if the bus driver had significant contact, they would quarantine.

What happens if a teacher gets sick on the job? What if they use up their 10 days? Mrs. Clarke noted Mr. Purvis would be the one to answer that question; however, he was covering a D. O. E. call. She did say through December federal coverage is available. They will be working with teachers and staff regarding this.

If it is proved that a classroom made a teacher sick, do they have to use their own leave time? Mr. Moore answered everyone under the federal law was given 10 days to use and they should still have it.

If we require masks and a student is willingly defiant and coughs on another person what do you do? They want to avoid those situations.

What if a student doesn't have a mask when picked up by the bus? Masks will be given out and the student would not be left on the side of the road.

What about curriculum? Mrs. Wise stated they would follow the brick and mortar curriculum. Mrs. Clarke noted if a building has to be closed, this is where the Digital Academy would be helpful.

A member raised concern that some students will think online learning will be the same.

Is the Digital Academy teachers the same teachers for brick and mortar? Will students be able to go back and forth or is it one choice? Mrs. Clarke answered

brick and mortar teacher will only teach brick and mortar, digital teachers will teach digital only, it would be difficult to do both.

A member noted masks should not be optional. If we bring students back they should wear masks.

How will the CTE, IB, and Gifted programs be handled? Mrs. Wise said the information they get by survey will make a difference for Canvas courses. Where there is a demand, they will build. The goal is to keep all students on pace. In regard to health programs, it will depend on how many will be returning.

Is there any scenario where we will randomly test students? Mr. Moore stated we would need more guidance and direction from the state.

What do you do if parents refuse to pick up their students when they are showing symptoms of COVID 19? Ms. Shelar noted they will put students in an isolated room for students with temperatures.

Concern was made about needed substitute teachers. Mrs. Clarke noted the substitute pool will be increased, they are trying to get more. It is a major concern.

At the high school level, there are a lot on high touch areas in Band, and Theatre, how will these be handled? Mrs. Wise stated there are probably going to be some courses that they won't be able to do, but if they can they will or they may have to be done in a different semester.

Concerning ESE students or students with IEPs, Physical and Occupational therapy may be difficult online. Mrs. Wise stated Tele therapy is being used for SLP, OT, and PT as an option for those who cannot come to the school.

Did additional funds come only for the summer? Mrs. Clarke stated the district has not received the funding. They have the grant paperwork, but it has not been completed.

Mrs. Clarke stated she appreciated the questions, feedback, and willingness to weigh in.

Mrs. Roy thanked everyone for attending.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will not be Thursday, July 16, 2020, due to the change of date for the current meeting. Once determined, members will be contacted.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 5:10 p.m.