



**DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DAC)**  
**2020-2021**  
**Thursday, March 4, 2021**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**via Zoom**



	WHAT	WHO	TIME	OUTCOME
1.	Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Michelle Gayle, Assistant Superintendent	10 min.	
2.	Welcome from Superintendent	Rocky Hanna, Superintendent	15 min.	Information
3.	Approval of Agenda	Johnitta Wells	2 min.	Vote
4.	Approval of Minutes	Johnitta Wells	2 min.	Vote
5.	SDAC Update from DAC Student Representative	Ariauna Range James S. Rickards High	2 min.	Information
6.	United Partners for Human Services (UPHS)	LaShawn Gordon, Director Membership Engagement	30 min.	Information
7.	Foundation for Leon County Schools	Eric Clark, Executive Director Foundation Leon County Schools	20 min.	Information
8.	LCS Communicating for Student Services	Heather Thomas, Coordinator Marketing	10 min.	Information
9.	Policy -po8407 Safe-School Officers -Policy Package po0151 - Organizational Meeting & po0154 Motions	Jimmy Williams, Coordinator LCS Safety & Security  Michelle Gayle  Marline Peaten, Coordinator Planning & Policy Management	10 min.	Vote
10.	DAC Ad Hoc Legislative Committee	Johnitta Wells	20 min.	Information
11.	2021/2022 DAC Elections	Michelle Gayle	10 min.	Information
12.	2020/2021 Presentation Requests	Johnitta Wells	10 min.	Information
13.	SAC Questions	Johnitta Wells	10 min.	Information
14.	Wrap Up on Issues	Johnitta Wells	10 min.	Information
15.	Adjourn      Daylight Savings Time begins at 2am on Sunday, March 14, 2021. Spring Forward!			

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ONE OR MORE BOARD MEMBERS MAY ATTEND THIS MEETING.**  
**THE NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 • 6:00-8:00pm • via Zoom**

**District Advisory Council Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 4, 2021**  
**Virtual Meeting 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

- I. **Schools/Members Attending:** Adult Community Education: Edna Walker and Noal Weiland; Apalachee: April Wetherington; Astoria Park: Cara Garrett; Bond: Brenetta Lawrence; Buck Lake: Linda Edson; Canopy Oaks: Kandra Bryant-Rogers and Kristy Ward; Chaires: Keshia Paul; Chiles: Chris Chaback; Conley: Lashawnda Swanigan; DeSoto Trail: Damaris Barrios and Michele Keltner; ESE: Amanda Moore; Gilchrist: Kristy Newland; Godby: Desmond Cole; Heritage Trails: Josette Capuano; LCTA: Scott Mazur; LCSB/Bowen: Louis Dilbert; LCS Administration/Hanna: Regina Browning; LCVS: Darlene Fowinkle; Leon: Kirsten Olsen; Montford: E. Keith Berry and LillieThomas; Nims: Dr. Demetrius Coley; Rickards: Johnitta Wells; Riley: April Knight; Roberts: Jacqueline Steele; Sabal Palm: Regina Randolph-Hollis; SAIL: Matthew Kopka; SDAC: Ariauna Range; Sealey: Nena Parnell; Springwood: Roshan Hamilton and Vernestine McLeod; Success Academy/Second Chance: Kelvin Norton; Sullivan: Emily Toner; Swift Creek: Lauren Pierce and Selika Sampson
- II. **School Board Members/District Administration/District Staff:** Professional and Community Services: Michelle Gayle and Brenda Jackson; School Choice: Jamie Holleman
- III. **Excused:** ACE: Travis Jones; Astoria Park: Beth Ray and Shapale Cooper; Buck Lake: Jennifer Peavy; Chiles: Joe Burgess and Jennifer Portero; Cobb: Janet Tashner; DeSoto Trail: Bill Armstrong; Fairview: Cheryl Collier-Brown; Gilchrist: Amy Taylor; Hartsfield: Bomani Mustapha; LCBS/Jones: Christic Henry and Marcus Nicolas; LCSB/Rasmussen: Ruth Feiock; LCS Administration: Tonja Fitzgerald; LCTA: Paula Pearcey; LCVS: Jessica Lowe; LESPA: Sheria Griffin; Lively Technical College: Shelly Bell; Moore: Melanie Phillips; Oak Ridge: Dwanna Moore; Raa: Julie Hatfield; Rickards: E. Melissa Cooper, Andrew Thomas and Kia Sanders; Roberts: Angela Tewfik; Ruediger: Raven Anderson; Sabal Palm: Kristine Gregory; Sealey: Shayla Cole; Success Academy/Second Chance: Dr. Genae Crump
- IV. **Guests:** Florida School Board Association: BillieAnne Gay; Rickards: Alicia Ash and Jennifer Weaver
- V. **Welcome and Introductions:** DAC Chair Johnitta Wells opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. She then turned it over to Dr. Michelle Gayle who



proceeded to call names for each individual to state their school representation and share other information about themselves.

- VI. **Approval of the Agenda:** A motion was made to approve the agenda by Jacquelyn Steele and seconded by Sampson Selika. Motion passed.
- VII. **Approval of the Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes by Roshan Hamilton and seconded by Louis Dilbert. Motion passed.
- VIII. **Student District Advisory Council Representative:** The majority of the meeting was spent talking about the mental health week planned by the district on the dates, March 8-12, which is the week before spring break. The district decided to expand the mental health activities from a day to a week due to the feedback from SDAC on the mental health day, December 15. Over the wellness week, there will be 3 lessons dealing with test anxiety, mindfulness, and self-care. These lessons will be sent to family in a newsletter so they can discuss it at home. Additionally, there will be 10 wellness tips given to faculty and staff and they are planning a student art contest to get students more involved. Rickards and Leon are hosting their own individual mental health weeks during the month of February as is SDAC through the instagram SDACCARES. We also discussed some community service opportunities with Student United Way, the calendar decisions, and students spoke about some of the struggles with chromebook so Dr. Gayle is bringing the IT workers from the district to the March meeting to help.
- IX. **Navigating Advocacy in the New Year:** BillieAnne Gay, Director of Advocacy and Legislative Services for the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) presented an overview of the tools to successfully advocate during the upcoming legislative session.  
  
The FSBA is the collective voice for education in Florida, representing 66 of Florida's 67 school districts. Their mission is to increase student achievement through the development of effective school board leadership and advocacy for public education. (View the full presentation on the DAC page located on the LCS website).
- X. **DAC Ad Hoc Legislative Committee:** DAC Chairperson Johnitta Wells stated a meeting was held the week after the January 7, 2021 DAC meeting. She said Superintendent Hanna met with the group and presented his priorities for the upcoming session along with BilleAnne Gay. Others present were representatives from the Title I Advisory Council and

LCTA. Brooke Brunner, Director of Early Childhood Programs will be at the next meeting.

XI. BillieAnne met gave in-depth information on advocacy priority. These are the highlights:

1. School voucher expansion – SB 48;
2. Assessment and accountability – the Superintendent prefers that school grades not be a determining factor for school funds nor teacher pay raises;
3. Early education funding and;
4. ESE – SB 192, which will end restraint seclusion.

These items will need the support of the local elected officials. Title I is preparing a letter with the talking points of the top priorities.

XII. **2021 School Choice:** Jamie Holleman provided information on how to apply for school choice which ends on March 1. Parents of current Leon county school students should apply through their parent portal. Parents with students not currently enrolled in a Leon county school should apply online; information is available on the Leon County School website [www.leonschools.net/schoolchoice](http://www.leonschools.net/schoolchoice). The number of requests 1,951 are up from last year's 1,565 during this time period. The schools with the highest request are Leon High and Gilchrist Elementary. Parents/students may also request the four magnet middle schools: Cobb, Fairview, Nims and Raa; or the two magnet high schools Godby and Rickards. Parents/students may apply for three (3) schools. Lottery process will be held to place students at those schools with limited openings. Notifications will be mailed by March 26.

Questions: Do you have data on where the request originates? Ms. Holleman said the data is available however she did not have it with her at the moment. She will provide the data to Dr. Gayle who will make it available to DAC members. Do most requests from parents/students want to leave low income areas? Ms. Holleman said most request are based on convenience.

XIII. **2021/2022 and 2022/2023 Calendar Updates:** Dr. Gayle presented the results of the calendar survey which was an overwhelming approval of the Option 2. She stated voting was available for one week to all not only parents and students but also the community. Option 1 (18.40%) which allows only two days without school during the Thanksgiving holiday; Option 2 (81.60%) with the entire week without school during the Thanksgiving holiday. There were 4,365 votes cast. A DAC member asked if the numbers this year were similar to the numbers from the prior year. Dr. Gayle said they were. A motion was made by Chris Chaback to present

Option 2 Calendar to the Leon County School Board for adoption as the official school calendar for 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 and seconded by Jacquelyn Steele. Motion passed. Chairperson Johnitta Wells will report this decision to the school board on February 9, 2021.

- XIV. **2020/21 Presentation Requests:** Any additional request should be emailed to Dr. Gayle.
- XV. **SAC Questions:** Question: Where are the students that were assigned to a school however they have not reported, what is being done to locate them and are this only affecting one particular area of town? Dr. Gayle reminded the DAC member that Dr. Rogers gave a presentation during the January meeting. This issue is all over. Dr. Rogers and her staff along with social workers have been making visits to the residents leaving contact information on doors when no response is received and providing hot spots to those who need it.  
Question: What criteria were used to determine the amount of tickets each graduating student will receive? Dr. Gayle said the high school principals met last Friday, January 29 to discuss graduation. They came up with this as the most equitable solution. She also stated all graduation ceremonies will be streamed live.
- XVI. **Wrap Up on Issues:** The ESE parent survey is available February 1 thru May 1. DAC Chairperson Johnitta Wells stated this will be her last year serving as DAC chairperson. She admonished members to decide if they or someone they know would be interested in being nominated for the position.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.**

**Next meeting – March 4, 2021**





## **POLICY & PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

### **Policy Update**

**March 4, 2021**

**Policy po8407— SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS →Public Hearing & Adoption: 03/23/2021; Effective: 03/24/2021**

In accordance with Senate Bill 7026, Leon County School District created policy 8407—Safe School Officers, and established safe-school officers at every district school. Recommendations from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Committee was approved by Governor DeSantis, amending Florida Statutes §1011.62, where additional categorical funding was made available to school district in order to improve the safety of students, school personnel, and the school community of the Leon County School District.

- **Section (I):** The proposed revision in this section adds the option to utilize school guardians per §1006.12 (3), F.S.
- **Section (IV):** This section was implemented to provide guidance and authority to appoint a school guardian in accordance with §§ 30.15 (1)(K)(1.a.) and 1106.12 (3), F.S.
- **Section (V):** This section was implemented to provide guidance and authority for public records exemption in accordance with section 1006.12 (6), F.S., to protect information that would identify individuals who have been appointed school guardians.

**Policy Package po0151— ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING & po0154—MOTIONS →Public Hearing & Adoption/Repeal: 04/13/2021; Effective: 04/14/2021**

- **Section (A):** The proposed revision places the repealed language from policy 0154—Motions and places it in a more appropriate location under policy 0151—Organizational Meeting, section (A), in accordance with §§ 100.41 and 1001.371, F.S.
- **Policy 0154—Motions:** Recommending repeal.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 Operations
Title	DRAFT of SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS
Code	po8407
Status	
Legal	F.S. 30.15 F.S. 1006.12
Adopted	May 14, 2019
Last Revised	March 23, 2021

#### 8407 - **SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS**

The headings in the policy are for convenience or reference only and will not govern the interpretation of the provisions.

##### **I. PURPOSE**

For the protection and safety of students, school personnel, visitors, and property, the District will partner with local law enforcement agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school facility within the District, and may implement any combination of school resource officers, school safety officers, and school guardians to best meet the needs of the District.

##### **II. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

- A. The School Board will enter into cooperative agreements with law enforcement agencies for the provision of school resource officers. School resource officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1) and employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in F.S. 943.10(4). School resource officers will:
1. undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and psychological evaluation;
  2. abide by Board policies and consult with and coordinate activities through school principals; and
  3. complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. Such training must be designed to improve school resource officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.
- B. With respect to matters relating to employment, school resource officers are responsible to their law enforcement agency, subject to agreements between the Board and law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by school resource officers which are part of the regular instructional program of schools is under the direction of school principals.
- C. The powers and duties of law enforcement officers will continue throughout school resource officers' tenure.



### III. COMMISSIONED SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS

- A. The Superintendent will recommend, and the Board may appoint, one (1) or more school safety officers.
- B. School safety officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1), certified under the provisions of F.S. Chapter 943, and employed by either a law enforcement agency or the Board.
- C. School safety officers must undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and psychological evaluation.
- D. School safety officers have and will exercise the power to make arrests for violations of the law on Board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. School safety officers have the authority to carry weapons when performing their official duties.
- E. The Board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one (1) or more law enforcement agencies as provided in F.S. Chapter 23.
- F. A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the Board and law enforcement agency.

### IV. SCHOOL GUARDIAN

- A. Per section 30.15, F.S., the School Board may utilize school guardians pursuant to The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program.
- B. The Superintendent is responsible for appointing school guardians. Prior to appointing school guardians, the Superintendent must verify through evidence provided by a Florida sheriff's office that potential school guardians have met all the requirements set forth in s. 30.15, F.S.
- C. School guardians do not have the power of arrest or the authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident on District school premises.
- D. District employees or contracted personnel hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a Florida's sheriff's office.

### V. EXEMPTION FROM PUBLIC RECORDS

- A. Any information that would identify whether a particular individual has been appointed as a safe-school officer pursuant to section 1006.12, F.S., held by a law enforcement agency or school district is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- B. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.