

The School District of Lee County

Curriculum Advisory Committee April 18, 2016 6:00 p.m. – Training Room D Meeting Minutes

Mission Statement:

To advise the School Board by recommending approaches to obtaining improved student achievement for all students through a coherent, rigorous academic course of study that provides the tools necessary to succeed in today's society. Emphasis will be placed on the dynamic development of a K-12 curriculum within a safe environment leading to both career and technical majors, the methods of instruction used to implement it, and the assessments of its effectiveness, together with a complementary professional development program to support it.

Committee Members Present: David Adorno, Joseph Camputaro, Kathleen Cherasia, Connie Dennis, Suzi Donaldson, Patricia Givens, April Ketron, Melissa Knablin-Liebal, Dr. Kelly Lavis, Patti Lochner, Dr. Robert Mahone, Evelyn Murphy, John Steakley, Stephen Whitener, Judy Wilkerson, Sandra Worth

Committee Members Absent: Elizabeth Blundo (excused)

School Board Liaison Present: Pam LaRiviere

Staff Members Present: Brandy Macchia and Melissa Robery

Recording Secretary: Jamie Fowler

Presenters: Dr. Gregory Adkins

Guests: Chris Patricca

Welcome and Introduction of Members

The meeting was called to order by Patti Lochner at 6:00 welcoming all committee members, new members and guests.

Review of Mission Statement and Purpose of Committee

Patti asked everyone to review the mission statement and reminded everyone of the purpose of the committee.

Reading and Approval of April 18, 2016 agenda

There was a motion to approve the agenda as it was presented by April Ketron, Dr. Kelly Lavis seconded and all voted to approve.

Reading and Approval of March 21, 2016 minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes as presented by April Ketron, seconded by Connie Dennis and all voted to approve.

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Board Member Report

Mrs. LaRiviere has had the pleasure of serving on the Insurance Task force. There is an increase in our wellness. More participation in the health screening and an increase in health numbers.

Student Advisory Committee is continuing their discussion on the student code of conduct and making suggestions.

Golden Apple Dinner was a success.

Pam LaRiviere and Melissa Robery attended the Community Action Poverty Simulation. It was a big eye opener seeing what some of families in our community go through in order to access services.

At the Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday April 19th the Board will vote on LLL Property site selection. There will also be a public hearing on 2016-2017 Textbook Adoption resources.

Some of the Changes/additions that will be seen for the FY16-17 School Year:

- The zones are being redistributed and there will be less movement for students going through Student Assignment. The goal is for students to have fewer options of schools to choose from, spend less time on the bus, and be closer to home while still having diversity in the schools. This process will start at the elementary level, offering before and after school programs at more schools. This is a long term strategy and will take time to meet all these goals.
- William Law has been selected as the new Assistant Superintendent for Operations.
- ALC will be known as the Success Academy. Students who attend there will be there for 180 days. The goal will be for Students to develop positive character. The Success Academy will offer JROTC.
- A Reorganization is being done to meet the District's budget. Kudos to Dr. Desamours, the Assistant Superintendent over Finances for working on this and making it happen.

At the last Board meeting, The Finance Advisory Committee shared how they structure their meetings.

Lee County Standards for Excellence

Mrs. Lochner introduced the presenter Dr. Gregory Adkins

The Parent Education Forum will be held on April 27th at 6:00pm at the Lee County School District Office. The public is welcome to attend.

The District is developing the Lee County Standards of Excellence. We want to have standards that are more rigorous to insure that students are getting a high quality education and are college and career ready.

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In moving forward to meet these goals there are steps that are being taken:

1. A balanced score card has been developed. It includes data on all subject areas and learning gains by level. These will be used to help make decisions on schools that are in crisis and can also help to make the decision if leadership changes are needed.
2. Looking for a high quality way to measure our progress without teaching to the test and develop an understanding of how to use testing appropriately.
3. Building the standards so students master specific standards before moving on to the next level.

Kevin Baird will be helping us with this process. We will be engaging our community and businesses. We want to come out of this process with more rigorous standards so that students will truly be prepared and successful in a college/career environment.

We want to expand Pre-K so that students go into Kindergarten more prepared, which will be a community effort. We need to get our culture to understand that time is important. That every student learns at a different pace.

In the effort to get more systematic in the Curriculum & Staff Development Department, Pre-K department, and ESOL department will meet with us once a month, so that everyone is on the same page and there is a common understanding.

At the Success Academy staff members will evaluate the root cause of the students' behavior problems before they go back to their original school.

Innovation Grants are being offered to schools. Schools can apply for a grant if they have a program they think can work and meets student needs.

Plan for next year:

- A Lead Principals will be assigned to each level to help drive best practice through the District.
- Realign Teaching & Learning and Curriculum & Staff Development to have the staff to support our schools.

General Knowledge Tutoring sessions will be offered at the district office for teachers.

Public Comment

Chris Patricca has 3 students in the district. She received confirmation that she would still be able to compare her children to other students in the District with the new standards and progress monitoring.

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Committee Discussion May Meeting

There was a motion to schedule a May meeting by John Steakley, seconded by Dr. Kelly Lavis and all voted to approve.

Items being added to that May agenda:

- Graduation rates
- Schedule and topics for FY16-17

Good of the Order

Motion to end the meeting at 7:46 made by Kathleen Cherasia seconded by Dr. Kelly Lavis and all voted to adjourn.