



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### Continuous Systemic Improvement Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Online

**Committee Members Present:** Lucinda Defreitas, Gerald Goen, Brian Rasnick, William Ribble, Denis Ryan, Jamie VanCleve

**Absent:** Warren Baucom, Jason Grabowski, Ryan McLain, David Montrose, Dr. Michele Stork

**School Board Liaison:** Gwynetta Gittens

**Staff Members Present:** Cindy McClung, Director, Continuous Improvement

**Recording Secretary:** Julie Holcomb

**Guests:** n/a

#### Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Cindy McClung at 6:03 p.m. Dr. Stork is unable to attend due to internet issues.

#### Review and Approval of Agenda and Previous Month's Meeting Minutes

The July 17, 2020 meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

The June 16, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

#### Public Comment

N/A

#### District Reopening Plan

Cindy McClung opened the discussion noting that the process for the opening of schools is changing hour-by-hour.

The Parent Survey is currently in progress and should be sent out soon.

Cindy reviewed the four options parents have for their students during the upcoming start of school.

If a decision to close down a classroom, the school, or the District, the Home Connect option would be the model put into place.

The Superintendent has asked the Task Force to look at delaying the start of schools at least two weeks, with options for starting a virtual model for preparation of classrooms on the scheduled start date, and other considerations.

Pay is a consideration being discussed, especially as it relates to those employees that are not in a 255-month position.

Mr. Ryan had been a board member in a previous location, and noted that the Home Connect model does provide a very positive environment for students, especially secondary students, to remain in contact with teachers and obtaining assistance as needed.

Ms. VanCleve noted that she was impressed with the communication being sent by the District to keep parents up-to-date.

Work is being done to answer the e-mails that have been sent in to date covering topics such as safety precautions, which models are available, etc.

The Human Resources Department is developing a survey for instructional staff to determine how comfortable they are with the model options, and how safe they feel with teaching each model.

Creating the safest environment for learning and working is a challenge and the District is working toward this goal.

Cindy will forward the link to the final video for updates to the Committee Members.

Mr. Rasnick indicated how proud he is of the District and the work that has been completed to date, and that we seem to be far ahead of many other areas around the country. Are students going to be able to get back on track if they are participating in an academy and participate in the Home Connect? A lot of negative press from teachers is being put on social networks and their comfort level has not yet been satisfied, and an effort needs to be made by the District to provide information to teachers to assist with their level of comfort.

Cindy noted that AICE and IB will continue through Home Connect, but some of the academies with hands-on requirements will likely need a different plan and she will work to get information about how those courses will be handled.

Ms. Gittens noted that watching the workshop with the Board Members and Superintendent today covers some of the teacher concerns and how they are being negotiated with TALC first, and this is one of those areas that is a "moving target". Teachers with these concerns should be encouraged to get with TALC to express their concerns and questions so those can be addressed during the negotiation process.

Ms. Gittens discussed the importance of mentoring to help students, as for some their world has gotten very small with not being able to go to school, and just a quick phone call to check on a student and how they are doing would benefit in a big way. Guidance Counselors will be working on this issue, and may be able to provide names of students that would benefit from some mentoring.

Ms. Defreitas added that peer-to-peer mentoring may also benefit students, as well as teachers/employees.

A "tool kit" will be available within the next week that will provide all of the information for each model, how they work, etc.

Mr. Ryan mentioned that communication directly from the District to assist with providing correct responses to individuals.

Mr. Rasnick asked a question about class size decisions. Cindy noted that we aren't able to answer that yet as we don't know how many students will be returning to the school building, so we'll need to wait to see who will be returning and where to make those decisions.

Ms. Gittens encouraged everyone to bring up any questions or areas for discussion as they come to mind, as they provide additional information for consideration that may not have previously been reviewed.

### **Recommendation Update**

From the June meeting, the recommendation for tutoring and mentoring is being reviewed relating to options and funding sources.

## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RECOMMENDATION:** District staff to develop short messages to send out to the public in their area of expertise (i.e. PE teacher discussing importance of physical fitness, librarian discussing importance of reading).

Unanimously approved.

### **Board Member Report**

Ms. Gittens mentioned we are knee-deep in reopening and making sure everyone is aware of all of the available options.

The reopening process has been a "moving target", and thanked staff members that are part of these sessions for their hard work on this ever changing situation.

Make sure that everyone in your community knows that by the end of this week or the first next week that a survey will be available for completion. There are 95,000 students in the District, and information from their families is important to help with the reopening process, as well as receiving information that may not have been previously brought to the attention of the Task Force for consideration.

### **Good of the Order**

Ms. Gittens noted that sports have started in a limited form, and summer school is now available on a limited basis as well. These areas are providing options to watch what could occur if schools open fully.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

### **2019-2020 Meeting Schedule**

September 11, 2019

October 15, 2019

November 13, 2019

January 8, 2020

February 12, 2020

March 11, 2020

April 15, 2020 - cancelled

All meetings are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Training Room D at the Lee County Public Education Center.

### Online Meetings – Scheduled for 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. via Online Link Provided

May 13, 2020

June 16, 2020

July 15, 2020

August 12, 2020

### CSI Advisory Committee Website

The CSI Advisory Committee website provides meeting dates, meeting agendas, and meeting minutes.

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