

Monroe County School District
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the School Advisory Council

September 20, 2023

6 PM

Location of Meeting:

Coral Shores High School Media Center
89901 Old Hwy
Tavernier, FL 33070

Present at Meeting: Laura Lietaert, Jacob Poelma, Teresa Lybarger, Amanda Carey, Lauren Dunn, Lori Guth, Megan Shugarman, Mary Ann Goodwin, Kelly Morales, Alyse Martin, Jaime O'Hara, Jo Collins, Whitney MacEachern, Shannon Hickory, Tatiana Lombana, Jamie Pizer, Debra Ward, Lisa DeLosSantos

The meeting for the School Advisory Council of Monroe County School District was called to order at 6:00 pm on September 20, 2023 at Coral Shores High School Media Center by Kelly Morales.

The previous months minutes had the date of this current meeting incorrect. Once corrected by Jacob Poelma, the amended meeting minutes were approved by Kelly Morales and seconded by Laura Lietaert.

I. New Business

1. Laura Lietaert brought to light that as of May 2023, the CSHS campus was 20 years old! With this comes much needed equipment upgrades.
 - a. The stage rigging in the PAC needs to be addressed. A request was issued for bids and approvals and turns out the same company that did the inspection will be updating and improving the rigging!
 - b. The sound system on the field during the summer started getting bad and now it's even worse. Some speakers were smoking and the ones that weren't were never connected in the first place! No one was able to hear the homecoming court bios. A monsoon made for a wet evening and the equipment was not waterproof. A meeting was just held on 9/20 and a local company was selected to redo the sound system.
2. Laura Lietaert brought up the Free and Reduced lunch will have a grace period until the next month and will expire 9/22. Families still need to fill out paperwork and apply. All kids will get a lunch but the school will personally call the parents– not robocall. Also, for those that qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch will also qualify for a discount for their SAT's and ACT tests.
3. Laura Lietaert spoke about school safety and mental health. COGNEA surveys had gone out for accreditation. 90% participation for each one, 98% on both! Anyone who opted out was revoked and not included in the percentage. Examples from the questionnaire were: do you feel involved? Is there an adult on campus you can talk to? Can you work thru your issues?
4. Jacob Poelma spoke about testing. September was the month of testing, testing, testing. 600 different students / tests. The 9th and 10th took the FAST (the first test is to get the baseline) 187

Freshman (missed 3) and 6 Sophomores were included in the PM1 and PM2. To check scores and tests the students are taking, go to FLFast.org. The PM3 is more important.

5. Jacob Poelma stated that a parent can access students test scores thru the family portal on the school website. If not, Jacob can provide the portal access code or the student will have the code. Within FOCUS on right is the Florida Standards is located in the student portal.
6. Jacob Poelma mentioned with regards to juniors and seniors, 31 students got their ELA concordant scores for graduation after taking the one-day FAST test! 9/20 – 3-day FSA for those who didn't pass the one -day FAST test. 18 students received their Algebra graduation requirement! There is an ability to see where the specific focus was where they went wrong, if needed.
7. Jacob went on to say the seniors that need English and Algebra for graduation will be administered the end of November and beginning of December. 10/11 is an SAT school day. 450 students, 10th and 11th graders will be taking the new digital test, which will be the first time this option is being administered! 9th graders will be taking the PSAT in spring and will not get their accommodation as it has to be college board approved a month or 2 in advance. It was recommended to get with their counselor once approved, and will be good for the rest. Testing proctors are welcomed! Going to make sure all equipment is changed for testing days.
8. For seniors that had passed out of their intensive classes, which were specifically scheduled for either the 1st or 7th periods, have the ability to either get to school an hour late or leave an hour early.
9. A parent inquired about newly arrived out of state students and what needs to be done to get them into the classes they are most suited for, level. Jacob answered that there are alternate tests that one may take, the BEST test, and pass for their graduation requirement.

II. Discipline

1. Deb Ward addressed the ongoing issues with vapes, which were a big issue at the beginning of the year. Consistency is crucial. Tardies have been documented, then referral letters, then disciplinary action. This has to be enforced for the discipline to work. A rule is a rule.
 - a. 1st offense is a 2 day in school suspension with a mandatory attendance in a diversion program. Some students are routinely arriving to school late, so Leandra calls the parents with the student for notification. THC is considered a felony if ANYONE is caught with one on school campus. Law enforcement can get involved and the child and parents will have to deal with the courts with citations.
 - b. 2nd offense is a 2 day out of school suspension and watch program Vape sensors are installed in the restrooms and alert staff via email if any vape is detected. These are sensitive enough to distinguish between the type of units.
 - c. If the office checks the kids bookbags, the staff already knows. There are no random checks, but suspicions. Parents are called if there are suspicions and if the students are in with a group that has been vaping, even if they weren't, they would be considered to be an active participant. This is a nationwide problem with teens! Laura mentioned that the youngest kids caught vaping were in the 4th grade, but they had older siblings and parents that used.

2. Laura Lietaert addressed the F List. Any students with F's on progress reports are given discussions and chances to bring those grades up. The school is being proactive for each students' success.
3. There is a tutoring bus but not an after-school bus.
4. 10/5 is Hispanic Heritage Night and is a month-long celebration. Food from different countries will be available.

III. SPORTS

1. There is a new school based Special Olympic sports team where Shannon Hickory is the liaison for Special Olympics Monroe, who came from KLS and recently filled a vacancy at CSHS. Regina Butler is the coach for Rising Stars cornhole team, which lasts for 9 weeks. The Unified Team of flag football, is coached by Conner Dixon and Colton Strickland. There is a tournament in Naples on 10/14.
2. There is a new Special Olympics Powerlifting Team headed by Coach Erin Hamilton. Volunteers are welcomed and must be 15+ and Shannon can connect them in the appropriate and correct direction. Active volunteers have commented on how much of a wonderful, humbling and and eye-opening experience it was working with the Special Olympians.

III. Agenda and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 6 PM on October 18th at Coral Shores High School Media Center, 89901 Old Hwy, Tavernier, Florida, 33070.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 PM by Laura Lietaert.

Minutes submitted by Teresa Lybarger