

Pinellas County (FL) Schools
District Monitoring and Advisory Committee Minutes
January 12, 2017
Gibbs High School

Members in Attendance: Lawrence Clermont, Ron White, Thomas Bradwell, Rick Bose, Cara Walsh, Martin Shapiro

Others in Attendance: Joanne Lentino – School Board Member, Mike Gandolfo – PCTA President, Paula Texel – Assistant Supt., Human Resources Services, Dr. Lewis Brinson, Minority Achievement Officer, Mary Schoonover – League of Women Voters, Pona Piekarski and Sue Rishworth – North Pinellas County League of Women Voters, Dr. Michael McPherson – community

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. It was determined that we did not have a quorum. (At 6:15 our 6th member arrived which meant we had reached a quorum.)

Order of Agenda

Welcome – Ms. Texel shared that we now have a recording device for the meetings. Introductions were made. It was requested that we have name tags for future meetings. Ms. Texel will take care of this request for future meetings. As we didn't have a quorum (at that time) we moved on with agenda.

Adjustment of Agenda – Group agreed to adjust the meeting agenda in order to accommodate Dr. Brinson's schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Minority Achievement Officer presentation – Dr. Burt was unable to attend the meeting tonight as he is traveling to Memphis with a group of teachers to observe schools and classrooms. Ms. Texel introduced Dr. Lewis Brinson, Minority Achievement Officer, to share his new role and goals for the district. Dr. Brinson shared his background with the group. He talked through our Bridging the Gap plan, sharing specific action steps he will be taking in order to put the plan into action. Members asked Dr. Brinson questions regarding the plan as well as his plans for the district.

(As it was determined a quorum had been met we moved to official order of agenda.)

Approval of Agenda – Agenda was adjusted and reviewed. Mr. Bradwell moved to approve the agenda. Dr. Shapiro seconded the motion. Agenda was approved 6-0.

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Bradwell moved to approve the minutes from 11/10/16. Mr. Bose seconded the motion. Minutes were approved 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Election of Officers – Ms. Texel shared that she received one bio for potential officer for DMAC. Mr. Clermont turned in his name for either Chairperson or Vice-chairperson. Mr. Bradwell stated that he would be willing to serve as an officer as well.

Dr. Shapiro made a motion to approve Mr. Clermont as Chairperson. Mr. Bradwell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Bose made a motion to approve Mr. Bradwell as Vice-chairperson. Mr. Clermont seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

There were no nominations for position of Secretary. At the next meeting, Mr. Clermont will discuss possibly having this position rotated between members of DMAC.

OPEN AGENDA

1. Ms. Texel shared information in response to the open agenda from last meeting. She shared the variety of career training programs that connect with the City of St. Pete, including:
 - o Gibbs High (Fire Fighter program partnering with St. Pete Fire & Criminal Justice program partnering with St. Pete Police)
 - o Pinellas Park HS (First Responders program partnering with St. Pete Fire - along with other Pinellas municipalities and Criminal Justice Academy partnering with St. Pete Police - along with other Pinellas municipalities)
 - o Lakewood HS (pre-Criminal Justice Academy partnerships with St. Pete Police and SPC)
 - o Pinellas Technical College – St. Pete (Public Works program partnering with St. Pete Public Works and Fire Fighter Academy partnering with St. Pete Fire - along with other Pinellas municipalities)

Discussion was held on possibly hearing more about career academies and helping those specific students who might not seek out these opportunities.

2. Future meeting topics were discussed. Topics such as academics, TZ schools, discipline and professional development were suggested. Mr. Clermont will work with Ms. Texel to arrange speakers and staff who can assist with information for upcoming meetings.
3. Mr. Bose requested to discuss the start time of high schools and the need to push the start time back to a later time.
4. Dr. Shapiro asked the committee if a later start time for DMAC might be an option, in order to accommodate family dinner times and activities.
5. Ms. Texel will check with Dr. Burt to see if he is available to attend the February meeting to share his work with the TZ schools.

Reminder that our next DMAC meeting is on Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting will be held at the PCTA Building (located at 650 Seminole Blvd.).

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.