**Valley Ridge Academy School Advisory Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 17, 2023 @ 4pm Location: Media Center**

**Quorum: Met**

1. Call to Order: Samantha Calascione
2. Welcome, Introductions, & Membership Composition - reviewed membership composition and voting.
   1. **Approved membership composition.**



1. Review of Meeting Dates:
   1. Reiterated that these meeting dates are posted on the SAC website (3rd Tuesday of each month) 9/19, 10/17, 11/28, 1/16, 2/20, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21 – no December meeting – **Approved meeting dates**.
2. Review of By-Laws - **Approved by-laws.**
3. Review of Finances
   1. SAC - $32,946.31
   2. School Recognition Funds - $88,000 (approximately – rounded)
4. School Board Update: Ms. Barerra present.
   1. Seabrook not moving to VRA.
   2. Believe there is financing to support 2 new schools – next 3 years.
      1. Total of 5 K-8s opening
      2. Beacon Lake , Shearwater, RiverTown (K-8 – smaller – converted to middle school once elementary school is built), SeaBrook, Silverleaf.
      3. Nocatee – still a school site at Coastal Oaks. Rezoning for area is not finished.
   3. Legislative platform approved.
      1. Base student allocation – promote retention to support employee pay scales. Compressed (10 year making just a few thousand more than beginning new teacher). Same thing is happening on employee side (minimum wage increase).
      2. Student transportation – increase appropriation $1,129 per student. Transportation funded at about 42% of cost. St. Johns county utilizes seats on buses to fullest extent possible. Still only funded 52%. Money that they have to use to offset comes from general fund – same fund for insurance, security, special programs, teachers.
         1. Heavily rely on business partners, parents, investors to fund our schools (compared to other states) – we rank 45th in funding.
         2. District is Top 5 in state in most amount of money spent at the school.
         3. Looking at mileage – next election cycle 2024.
         4. District cut 15%, schools cut 10%. State changed funding.
5. Principal Update:
   1. VRA one of 3 PBIS model schools (earned Bronze)
   2. Goals for school improvement plan
      1. Positive culture – rise of behavior issues and lack of support – use PBIS and VRA - 5% decrease in discipline referrals this year vs. last year.
      2. Language arts – bottom quartile – increase % of students achieving level 3 or higher by 3%. YouFly manuals would be helpful.
      3. PLC – district initiative – Common planning time to collaborate – data and share instructional strategies – use common formative assessments to monitor student mastery on an ongoing basis.
      4. Subgroup – SWD – area of reading. During 23-24 school year, at least 5% increase vs. previous year achieving level 3 or higher.
   3. Still trying to hire ELA middle school and ESE elementary.
   4. Ms. Calascione rookie teacher of the year
   5. Ms. Anderson elementary teacher of the year
6. New Business
   1. Funds request (Goodwin and Seplocha)
      * 1. YouFly – UF to support struggling learners. Support bottom quartile. Close achievement gap.
        2. Total cost $1,170. 2 manuals per grade level, 1 for ILC
        3. Ms. Goodwin shared - Supplemental for RTI time. Small groups -struggling readers.
        4. Motion to vote – **APPROVED.**
      1. Ms. Lockwood – funds request.
         1. Took over for a teacher in 2nd grade. $300 for teachers. Ms. Lockwood doesn’t get the funds because it went to previous teacher – Ms. Hunt. Does go with SIP plan.
         2. Motion to vote – **APPROVED.**
7. Closing Thoughts, Comments, and/or Questions
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8. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:42pm.