**Valley Ridge Academy School Advisory Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2023 @ 4pm Location: Media Center**

**Quorum: Not Met**

1. Call to Order: Samantha Calascione
2. Welcome, Introductions, & Membership Composition - didn’t meet Quorum so can’t vote. 12 total in attendance.
3. SAC Overview
   1. PowerPoint shared to give the overview of the purpose SAC, breakdown of voting and non-voting members, responsibilities of SAC members, procedures of the SAC meeting, and review of the SAC website.
      1. Established by FL Law – public meetings
      2. SAC website accessible via VRA Website
4. 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
5. Review of By-Laws - Presented
   1. Reviewed but no actual vote taken at this time
   2. Hard copy of by-laws provided to all who were in attendance
6. Review of Finances – Presented
   1. Balance $32, 946.31
   2. School recognition funds $87,974.56
7. School Board Update:
   1. Ms. Barrera not present
8. Principal Update:
   1. Social media – rumors of hiring freeze – not exactly. Some spots being filled
      1. Former staff member (Lockwood) coming back to fill 1st grade position.
      2. State funding not released until July 19. Funding formula that has been used in the past didn’t work – drastic change.
         1. No “pots” of money – figure it out with base student allocation.
         2. Didn’t meet student projections. District planned 4% growth. Only had 2.5% (est) growth. Last year 250,000 vouchers. This year over 400,000 vouchers used.
         3. District is $25million in the negative.
         4. VRA technically overstaffed in 2nd and Middle School. Didn’t touch 2nd grade.
         5. Middle School needs not funded – electives – had to pay to keep a teacher
   2. Openings – middle school ELA, Elementary – Special Ed
      1. Interviewing and hoping to fill ASAP
9. New Business
   1. Funds request – program called You Fly Foundations – developed by UF.
      1. Explicit program to teach foundational skills for reading. Aligned with reading research. Systematic program. Follows scope and sequence. Creators developed each component – 2 year process.
         1. Students made gains in phonemic awareness, oral fluency, decoding, reading, and spelling irregular and coded words.
         2. Core instruction or interventions
            1. Asking for 13 teacher manuals. (request of Brianne Seplocha – VRA ILC)
            2. With purchase, gain access to online materials
         3. $1,170 total cost for 13 teaching manuals.
            1. For Elementary – 2 kits per grade level
         4. Not able to vote
10. Closing Thoughts, Comments, and/or Questions
    1. Questions about middle school funding, elective options, parental awareness regarding funding, cuts, etc.
11. Adjournment – at 4:53pm. Next meeting scheduled for Oct. 17, 2023
    1. Motion to adjourn 1st - Kimberley Sanders and 2nd - Kimberley Bostic