

LIBERTY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

September 14, 2023 at 9:30am

WELCOME *by DAC Chairperson, Becky Shuler*

ATTENDANCE

- Asst. Supt. Jeff Sewell
- Becky Shuler
- Beth Brown
- Tim Davis
- Jessie Bennett
- Robyn Conyers
- Tessa Byler
- Lara Deason
- Melissa Kincaid
- Tammy Pullam
- Chesnee Layne
- Ricky Sansom
- Mary Davis
- Danielle Summers
- Mary Waller
- Derringer Edwards
- Ashlie Waldorff
- Jodie Bailey
- Heather Cain
- Dusty Arnold
- Cari McSpadden
- Emmie Peddie
- Camden Brock
- Ciana Dillmore
- Dalynn Smith
- Allie Roberts
- Scout Harr

APPROVED MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING –March 30, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes by Ricky Sansom. Seconded by Tim Davis. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS - N/A

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT- *Report given by Mr. Jeff Sewell*

1. Superintendent Peddie is at the Florida Association of District school Superintendents (FADSS) Fall Leadership Conference this week in Orlando.
2. At the request of LCI Warden Walt Summers, the District provided the new school bus to transport 77 staff members to the Region 1 Legislative Luncheon at Jackson CI last week. The prison has been a big help to the district over the years and we are looking forward to

continuing the partnership.

3. The monthly meeting of the PAEC board will be held in the Boardroom on September 20th at 10:30am. The LCHS Culinary Class will be providing lunch after the meeting around 12pm.
4. Work will begin next week for the new LCHS Softball Fieldhouse. This will be paid for by a \$475,000 legislative appropriation by the Florida Legislature.
5. Rex Lumber will be at LCHS on September 25th for a presentation. Rex Lumber is a wonderful business partner and supporter of all things Liberty County!
6. The Liberty County Delegation Meeting is Friday, October 6th at 10:30am at the Civic Center.
7. Tolar/Hosford Volleyball. Tolar on Friday at 1pm, and at Hosford on 9/29 at 1pm.
8. Home Volleyball game against Btown on Thursday. JV at 6, Varsity at 7.
9. LCHS Homecoming is October 6th. We play Wewa at 7pm.

Thanks to all for your service to the District Advisory Council. It is much appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS:

We will be electing new officers later during the meeting. Offices to be filled are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary. The Chairperson will preside over all meeting; the duties of the vice-chairperson shall be representing the chairperson in assigned duties as needed. The secretary shall keep the minutes of each meeting.

School Reports:

Liberty County High School-Report giving by Tim Davis, Asst. Principal

Extra Curricular Activities

Football

The Bulldogs are 1-2 going into their game Friday night in Franklin. We had a big win on Senior Night against Freeport last week!

Homecoming activities-Tryouts are Sept. 22nd. Coronation is Sept. 29th. Parade and game vs. Wewa is 10/6.

Volleyball

The girls are defending their state championship this year and doing great! Their record is 7-2 with their losses coming against Tallahassee powerhouses Lincoln and Chiles. We have a big match tonight vs. Blountstown as the two top area 1A teams face off.

Cross Country

Cross Country has its first regular season meet coming up on Saturday, 9/16, in Wakulla.

Academics

PIP and SIP

PIP-Copies of brochure on request

SIP-Our two areas of improvement again this year are 1) attendance and 2) Mathematics. Both improved last year, but still can be better moving forward.

Math proficiency went from 43% to 47% and seat time continues to shrink each year.

2023-24 Enrollment

9th grade-93

10th grade-94

11th grade-81

12th grade-90

358 total enrollments

Testing

Re-takes are taking place this week for the Geometry and Algebra 1 EOC and the 10th grade ELA exam.

SAT School-Day on Oct. 11. ACT School-Day on Oct. 17.

Progress Monitoring

PM1 was given a couple weeks ago and about 70% of the students made either a 1 or 2 on the 9th and 10th ELA. This gives us plenty of area for growth as we continue to prepare for PM2 and PM3.

Hosford-Report giving by Danielle Summers, Asst. Principal

Area of Focus: ELA

1. ELA is an area of focus based on state assessment data. The current 4th grade has 52% of students who scored below proficiency, the current 5th grade has 54% who scored below proficiency, and the current 7th grade scored 14 points lower than the previous year.
2. Measurable Outcome: The 4th and 5th grades will increase proficiency on the ELA state assessment by 10%. 7th grade will maintain at or above the state average.
3. Monitoring: Data chats 3 times per year Strategic coaching to improve practice Implementation of scope and sequence
4. Evidence-Based Intervention: Targeted, small group instruction with experienced teachers in both ELA and intensive reading classes will occur. Collaboration with the state regional literacy director will help support this.

Area of Focus: Math

1. Math is an area of focus based on state assessment data. The current 4th grade was 22% below the state average, and the current 5th and 6th grades scored were slightly below the state average.
2. Measurable Outcome: The 4th grade will increase proficiency on the math state assessment by 10%. 5th and 6th grades will maintain at or above the state average.

3. Monitoring: Data chats 3 times per year (students, teachers, leadership team) Strategic coaching to improve practice Implementation of scope and sequence
4. Evidence-Based Intervention: Targeted, small group instruction with experienced teachers in math classes will occur. Collaboration with the math coach will help support this.

Area of Focus: Attendance

Based on the Early Warning System data, increased student attendance is a crucial need.

1. Measurable Outcome: 95% of students will attend at least 90% of the school year.
2. Monitoring: Student attendance will be reviewed daily utilizing FOCUS daily attendance. Attempts to contact parents of absent students will be made daily through Parent Square. Students who are sick will be encouraged to use on-site Pan Care. If excessive absences occur, a parent conference will be held. District attendance policy will be followed.
3. Evidence-Based Intervention: Increase parent contact and support to engage families.

WR Tolar School-Report given by Jessie Bennet Assistant Principal

1. Welcomed 5 new teachers-Madison Wright, Summer hill, Kim Goodwin, Julie Brock and Hal Summers.
2. Welcomed 3 new paras-Destiny Lemieux (started in May 2023), John Brock, and Angelica Holley (from PreK)
3. Enrollment is up! Currently, we have 514 students enrolled. This number does not include PreK.
4. Open House was busy. All classes were very close in having all parents show up.
5. Volleyball, football. And cheerleading is in full swing. Volleyball is 3-0 and football 2-0. Go Dawgs! Volleyball has a game today in Franklin and tomorrow against Hosford at home. Football has a game next Tuesday in Blountstown.
6. New at Tolar-Jr. Volleyball is for students in 5th-6th grade. The group is divided into two teams who play each other on Friday afternoons. Last Friday, we had a big crowd come out to show their support for these girls.
7. Grandparent's breakfast was a huge success. We had over 300 grandparents attending. A special thanks goes to our PTO who planned and organized this event.

23-24 WR Tolar School improvement plan

- ELA Achievement 57%
- Math Achievement 64%
- Science Achievement 55%
- Social Studies Achievement 71%

Tolar's 3rd-8th students scored 64 level 5s in the 2022-2023 year.

42 students scored one or two level 5s. That equals 14% of the students in 3rd-8th grade.

1. Goal #1 Improve Attendance
 - Area of Focus-Increase Attendance rates for all students.
 - Measurable Outcome- Average daily attendance will increase too at least 95% for grades K-8
 - Monitoring- Daily attendance in monitored by FOCUS by administration. Regular updates will be shared with staff and plans made to address any area of need.
2. Goal #2 ELA Proficiency
 - Area of Focus- Increase or maintain ELA proficiency for all students. The school and district will coordinate with our state literacy liaison to address any subgroup needs.

- Measurable Outcome-Overall proficiency for all tested students will maintain or improve from last year's PM3.
- Monitoring-Progress monitoring data will be reviewed as a staff and with parents and student by data chats, sharing reports, progress reports, and CST meetings.

Pre-K-Report giving by Chesnee Layne

- Enrollment is up we have over 70 students in the district. 50 students Tolar 25 students at Hosford.
- Held screenings on 9/13/23. We are adding to our attendance Screenings are held every other month.
- VPK are also testing PM1, PM2, AND PM3.

Our goals are Attendance-VPK does have an attendance policy.

Student Concerns – No student concerns at this time

Parent Concerns

Culture is Negative at LCHS

- Students felt no support.
- Students did not feel welcomed.
- There was no rallying.
- There was no school spirit.
- Student felt Negativities.
- Students feel they are a burden to staff.
- Teachers support students at their games.
- Teachers take time for after school activities.
- I have been putting things on my list. Everything from the lunchroom being over filled to the volunteers not feeling supported and so much more.
- Positive relationships can bridge a lot of gaps. Make the culture change turn the attitude to positive. Let's Build Relationship from top to the bottom with staff, students, parents, and volunteers. Rally behind our kids, go over and beyond to make our kids feel a part of a loving family.

District Reports:

ESE, ELL Director- Lara Deason

ESE & Student Services updates

1. The district obtained 93% of staff training in Youth Mental Health Awareness this previous school year. The required percentage by the state was 80%. We will be providing another training course for all new staff hired since our last training session on Oct. 16th.

2. The district is currently providing ESE services to approximately 223 K-12 students (89 of these are Speech as primary exceptionality students); and 25 PreK SWD. This does not include students at the DJJ camps that the ESE office provides oversight/monitoring for as well. Since the start of school, we have held approximately 61 official IEP mtgs. In addition to IEP amendments and transfer

IEPs.

We are see-

ing an increase in students identified as a SWD upon entering school and ESE service numbers are steadily rising.

3. The district currently has approximately 22 ESOL students enrolled in the district, primarily located at W.R. Tolar School. In process of increasing license for Rosetta Stone language program as well as looking into other curriculum resources to help teacher support these students within their classrooms. Teachers who are required to have the ESOL certification are working on obtaining that certification. There are currently 2 of the ESOL courses needed for that certification being offered through PAEC (Panhandle Area Education Consortium). Other courses will follow during the 2nd semester of this school year. ELA/Reading teachers are required to obtain 120 in-service credits; Social Studies, Math, Science and Computer Literacy are required to obtain 60 in-service credits. The remaining subject areas are required to obtain 18 in-service credits.

4. Progress of Grants: The following grants have been completed and submitted to the Dept of Ed and are waiting for the approval process.

- IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) K-12 and Pre-K Grants (provides partial funding for related services and materials for SWD): A proportionate share of these funds also support SWD in our local Private School.
- Mental Health Allocation (provides for LCSW and supports for mental health services): a percentage of these funds are also provided to the DJJ facilities within the district to support Mental Health programs.
- We are still waiting for the RFA for the Youth Mental Health First Aide Grant to come in so that this grant can be completed and submitted. This grant provides funding for districts to provide all staff with the Youth Mental Health First Aide course and related cost to support the implementation.

Technology- Lynn Guthrie – Out *Report given by Jeff Sewell*

1. In the process of installing wireless access points. They have completed Hosford and are working through Tolar and the District Office.
2. Tech hardware Two Clear Touch panes have been ordered. One for PreK and one for Tolar.

Jeff: Big shout out to Lynn and her team. With all the testing there is New secure browser update and installed they have to touch every device to make sure that happens. They work hard to make sure we are ready for testing.

School Safety- *Report given by Ricky Sansom*

2023 Safety upgrades

- New access control at gym entrance of high school.
- New fencing at bus yard.
- Four new cameras at high school.
- Two new cameras at WR Tolar.
- Guardian program was implemented.

2023-2024 Upcoming Safety Projects

- Install fencing around back side of LLC.
- Install signal amplifiers at Tolar.
- Install signal amplifiers at LCHS.

- Install vape censors at all schools.

Continued rounds and inspections are being conducted at all schools and I am very proud to announce that everyone is doing a great job on Keeping their doors and are as secured and locked. I feel very good about our schools and look forwards to improvements in the future.

Curriculum- Mandie Fowler-Out Report given by Jeff Sewell

Updates on Federal Grants for 2023-24

- Title I, Part A was \$334,274.00 and is used for computer software, supplemental teaching positions and instructional materials (textbooks). Parent Involvement funds were spent on printed calendars and ParentSquare.
- Title I, N&D was \$133,738.00 and is used for LLC positions, teacher salaries and educational supports for Liberty Wilderness JUST/AFYC.
- Title II, Part A was \$49,097.00 and used for a lead mentor for beginning teachers and principals support, mentors for all new teachers, and stipends for professional development.
- Title IV, Part A was \$27,112.00 and used for more mentor teachers for new teachers, stipends for school leadership teams, WriteScore and ACT/SAT to assist students in meeting graduation standards.
- Title V was \$31,622.00 and is used for partial salary for instructional coach and instructional software as well as professional development.
- Perkins Rural was \$47,116.00 and is used for our CTE programs, partial salary for two teachers, fees and travel for students to participate in CTE events, and program supplies and 11% to Chipola to support workforce programs.
- Perkins Secondary was \$14,509.00 is used for capitalized and non-capitalized equipment to support the nursing program and supplies for the nursing program.

Updates on non-recurring Grant funds

- We have submitted an application for a new reading grant, the total amount is \$150,000 for this year. Preliminary approval has been sent, funds will be used to provide targeted small group interventions at Hosford and Tolar Schools as well as hiring afterschool 1:1 student tutors for up to 40 hours per position, during the spring.
- We also will be applying for an upcoming music grant.

If you have suggestions or requests for use of grant funds, please email mandie.fowler@lcsb.org, all grants approval letters are published on the district website, under the Curriculum & Instruction tab, if you would like additional information.

Updates on Curriculum

All Social Studies curriculum has been delivered and full adoption has started for this year

- Scholastic Weekly Reader Kg-3rd
- Gallopade 4th-5th
- McGraw-Hill 6th-12th

In the spring, we will begin reviewing science curriculum for adoption during the 2024-25

school year. Please look for requests for reviewer participation via ParentSquare.
Homeless Students update.

Liberty County currently has approximately 67 students experiencing homelessness, majority of those are living with friends/family or substandard housing (ie. campers). While Liberty County has access to McKinney-Vento funds to support these students school fees and providing counseling, we do not have funds for much else.

We would like to thank RCC for donating supplies and over \$1,400 to support these students. Funds will be distributed on an as needed basis.

21st Century-Report given by Beth Brown, *Project Manager*

Summer Programs were a success with enrollment above average.

We partnered with the

- Liberty County Sheriff's Department for a Deputy Day Camp
- Centennial Bank - banking activities
- Liberty Arts
- Sewing Camp was provided by Monica Brinkley.

Also, in July we had two on site activities-

- The Junior Museum brought reptiles AND stories to share with students.
- Gulf Specimen brought critters and shared learning experiences with both Tolar and Hosford Sites.

Assessment- *Asst. Superintendent Jeff Sewell*

- All LCSB students are finished with PM1 Testing. Data shows opportunities for improvement and our school are reviewing the data and being responsive.
- LCHS is currently in the middle of Retakes. Some occurring today for FAST ELA (10th grade assessment).
- District progress monitoring in other areas is ongoing.
- State Assessment Meeting is next week, and I should have more updates to share after that.

Food Service- Stacie Fant Out Report given by Jeff Sewell

No updates at this time

Election of 2023-2024 School Year DAC Officers:

Nomination for Chairperson: Beth Brown nominated Becky Shuler. No other nominations were made. All were in favor for Becky to remain Chairperson for the 23/24 School year.

Nomination for Vice Chairperson: Grant Conyers was nominated by Tessa. No other nominations were made. All were in favor that Grant should remain as Vice Chairperson for the 23/24 School year.

Nomination for Secretary: Tammy Pullam was Nominated by Becky. No other nominations were made. All were in favor that Tammy should remain Secretary for the 23/24 School Year.

Chairperson, Becky Shuler:

At this time, we will vote on the school improvement plans. All in favor of the school improvement plans say I, it was a unanimous vote to approve the School Improvement plan.

Ms. Becky Shuler announced our next meeting will be December 7th, 2023 @ 9:30am

Adjourned Meeting: