

**Everglades High School  
School Advisory Forum (SAF)  
Minutes  
General Meeting  
April 23, 2019 – 3:10 PM**

**Call to Order**

**Minutes:**

February minutes stand as written. There was no March SAF Meeting.

**Safety and Security:**

Mr. Brian Katz, Chief of Safety & Security informed us the District is setting up a Communication Center where they will be able to monitor all cameras. The analytical cameras will send an alert to administrators' phones if there is a problem. Some cameras will have artificial intelligence on certain campuses. Cameras will not be able to do facial recognition which could lead to racial profiling. Working on developing layers of security starting at home, making sure no bad items are in backpacks all the way up to fence security to last line of defense being the classroom security. Goal is to have professional security teams at each school. Funding will come from the state then sent to the District and will be distributed to schools. Also using funds from the referendum. Safer Space Policy has been approved. A safer space is an area designated upon its concealment to provide additional non-observable space from outside – a safer place in the classroom. Reviewing the policy to provide security for weekend events. Static metal detections provide a level of deterrents not protection. Plan being proposed is to use dynamic metal detection instead of static metal detection. Performed in random fashion at schools picked at random. In the course of random metal detection and bag searches, if something is found that is considered contraband within the school, there will be consequences. Looking into how all this will work. Parents will not have the option to opt out because the law says all that is needed is reasonable suspicion to search any child, property or vehicle on school grounds. Special needs and medical concerns are being addressed.

Status on new security camera installations: New cameras should be installed by the end of summer definitely by the beginning of the new school year. Then there will be training at the school level.

Status of new outdoor PA system: Securing a vendor within the month. Work should begin over the summer.

Protocol for buzzer in the front office: We need to submit to the District what we want to put in and the equipment will be vetted. Administration should know the process.

Mr. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools informed us the District is improving radio systems on buses. Will be completed in the summer. Purchasing new radios for schools to improve communications. Replace intercom systems and improve some intercom systems at schools. District has established a School Safety Office to review and address items that were recommended for improvement by the MSD commission. Several resources are available for parents and school community to report any type of situation. Apps like SaferWatch and tip lines are available.

A problem that has increased by 10 fold is students are bringing on to school property the very highly additive THC Oil. Can be hidden in everyday items like small objects in hair or usb drives. It is a felony if caught with the substance. Mr. Smith stated that if a student is convicted of a felony, then they forfeit their Bright Futures Scholarship if eligible.

From the recent bond that was passed, teachers will receive a 7% raise starting next year. Nothing will be deducted from the benefits they are receiving that would impact the increase. An additional meeting is still pending to finalize negotiations. The District will add 200 campus monitors and safety specialist especially at elementary schools because they don't have support now. Mental health specialist will also be added to schools paid for by the bond.

#### **Smart Bond Update:**

Working on completing investments that impact classrooms first. Technology upgrade is complete, Music equipment is 90% delivered. Athletics – renovated all tracks, fitness centers are completed. Finishing last one now. Safety – Single point of entry will be completed before the start of next year. Twenty schools left to finish. Balance of work to be finished is roof and A/C work. Seventy-three schools are underway right now. Plan is to work on six to eight schools per month.

#### **Dual Enrollment:**

The District is looking at the classes students are taking to make sure they are taking appropriate classes. District doesn't want students taking classes to just raise their GPA or duplicate classes that are offered as AP classes in their school.

#### **Changes to Policy 6000.1:**

Graduation Requirement Chart will have a paragraph narrative to accompany it to explain it better. No changes to the policy.

Grade Averaging – Clarify the language to make it automatic to average the first semester grade and second semester grade if it will help the student's GPA.

Honor's Courses – Change the wording to: all Level 3 courses will receive a 5.0.

Make-Up Work Policy – Committee will present the following three options to the School Board on May 14<sup>th</sup>:

Option 1 – Leave policy as is.

Option 2 – Students will receive full credit for make-up or homework regardless if absence is excused or unexcused.

Option 3 - Same as Option 2 plus teachers may reduce 10% if absence was on a test date or project due date.

Committee is leaning towards recommending Option 2 to School Board. Absences and skipping should be addressed as behavioral issues. Students have 2 days to make up

work after absence. Time starts when you return to that particular class and then work is due two days after. This is for high schools with A/B schedule.

**Parent Survey:**

Don't forget to take the Parent Survey. The link is posted on our school's website. It is open until April 30<sup>th</sup>. Results will be posted with our school's SIP plan.

**Florida Standards Feedback:**

The state is looking for feedback from parents and school community regarding the Florida Standards. Members received instructions how to register and log in to enter feedback. Instructions are also posted on our SAF website:

<http://evergladeshighsaf.ch2v.com>

**Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Helene Malanga