Venice Elementary School

SAC Minutes - 12/9/25.

Attendance:
Ray Wilson, Tammy Vowell, Whitney Bartlett, Michael Bacon, Jenn Ayer, Denise Harris, Erin Holloway, Shauna Kessler, Jill Flores, Kara Morgan, Amy Claude, Kelly Marsh, Kelly Corona, Amber Roberts, Shauntelle Hoffman, Tasha Umstead, Kerry Lewis

Call to Order:
A meeting of the Venice Elementary School Advisory Council was held in Room 107 on 12/9/25. Chair Kara Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:38 AM . Tammy Vowell will record minutes for this meeting.

Minutes:
Jenn Ayer motioned to approve the minutes of 11/13/25 , with no corrections. Motion outcome: Seconded by Denise Harris. Motion carried unanimously by a show of hands.

Old Business:
Kara Morgan will work on getting sample letters for communicating with state representatives sent to SAC members to share with community members and any concerned citizens. It was also pointed out that anyone can attend Sarasota County School Board meetings and voice their concerns there.

A discussion was started concerning ideas for supplementing funding cuts. More discussion to come in future meetings. A suggestion was made for the PTO to help with this issue through fundraising. Amy Claude, who is a SAC member as well as the PTO secretary, welcomed any ideas for how to get people more involved in their efforts.

New Business:
Supplements/Stipends Percentage Approval – The 2025-26 supplement stipends approved by SDMT were submitted for SAC to approve. Jill Flores motioned to approve. Motion outcome: Seconded by Jenn Ayer. Motion carried unanimously by show of hands and "aye".

A+ Recognition Funds Approval for Distribution – Since the language was changed in the Senate Appropriation Bill to say *Instructional Staff*, instead of *Faculty and Staff*, the SDMT voted to approve a new option (option 2) in the voting ballot for distributing these funds. K,1,2,3,4,5 teams voted to add the change to the ballot. ESE and Classified staff voted not to change the ballot. The 4 choices were:
Option 1: Our entire bonus will be used as bonuses for all staff, amounting to $467 for a full share, before taxes.
Option 2: Our entire bonus will be used as bonuses for staff in the following allocation:
- Instructional and Admin – 1.0 share near $613, before taxes
- Full-time Classified - .50 share near $317, before taxes
- Part-time Classified - .25 share, near $158, before taxes

Option 3: 80% of the bonus will go towards bonuses listed in option 2, and 20% allotted to classroom purchases.
Option 4: I am in disagreement with options above.

These options included distribution to all staff from 2024-25 who are either still at VES, or staff who left on an involuntary basis.

64 of 73 people eligible to vote voted, totaling about 88%. Option 2 was selected with 33 votes. Option 1 received 31 votes, and options 3 & 4 each received 0 votes.

Kelly Marsh stated that this has created a divide among staff, particularly between Instructional and Classified staff. She pointed out that the staff has always voted for Option 1 before the new option was added. Jenn Ayer stated that

it creates hard feelings among staff members and it is not good for our school. Michael Bacon stated that the decrease of approximately $30,000 might be part of the reason for the change.

Mr. Wilson stated that the votes were from a sample across roles, including teachers, aides, admin, custodial, cafeteria staff, and office staff.

Amy Claude asked if email was the only way the voting information was shared. Answer: Yes.
Amber Roberts asked what the ratio of instructional to classified staff was. Mr. Wilson answered approximately 70% (I) to 30% (C).

SAC's job is to approve the school's vote and send the results to the School Board for approval. Jill Flores motioned to approve. Motion outcome: Kelly Corona seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by show of hands and "aye".

Reports:
None

Next Meeting Date & Time:
The next meeting will be held on January 8, 2026 in the Media Center.

Meeting Adjournment:
Motion: Kara Morgan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,
Name of Recorder_Tammy Vowell_____,
Name of Position on Board: Secretary__
Approval Date: _____