



Office of School Choice and Charter Schools

TO: School Board of Sarasota County
Dr. Todd Bowden, Superintendent
Dr. Laura Kingsley Assistant Superintendent

FROM: Natalie Roca, Ph.D., Executive Director
Integrated Instructional Services

DATE: August 11, 2017

RE: Suncoast School for Innovative Studies (SSIS) Charter School
Presentation of Initial School Improvement Plan to School Board

As you know, s. 1002.33(9)(n)(1), F.S. and SBE Rule 6A-1.099827 requires that a charter school who receives a “D” rating appear before the School Board to present a school improvement plan (SIP) that addresses the barriers to student success, the action the school will take to improve student achievement and the student achievement goals to be achieved. Suncoast School for Innovative Studies (SSIS) charter school was rated a D school and therefore will come before you at your August 15th Work Session to submit their proposed plan for discussion and to receive your feedback.

Staff and I have met with the school principal, Mr. Stephen Evans, the SSIS school leadership team and Mr. Larry Robbins, SSIS’ Governing Board Chair, to discuss the SIP process and timeline, offer guidance and to communicate the district’s expectations for improved student achievement. Upon receiving the school grade, SSIS immediately began the process of examining the data and identifying educational programs and strategies that will support teachers and lead to improved student achievement. Mr. Evans and Mr. Robbins will present the school’s priority goals and proposed plan to improve student achievement during your August 15, 2017 School Board Work Session.

Subsequent to the Work Session, the school will take into consideration your review and feedback as they continue their work to complete the comprehensive and detailed SIP. My office will review the SSIS SIP to confirm that all areas are addressed and to ensure that the performance targets establish for 2017-18 reflect the School Board’s high expectations for students. The SSIS 2017-2018 SIP will be on the September 19, 2017 School Board meeting agenda for your approval. District staff will continue to work with SSIS to offer assistance and support and, as statutorily required, to monitor the school’s implementation of the SIP throughout the school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 941-927-9000, ext. 32250 if you have any questions or need additional information.