



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

**Government Center
4800 West Copans Road
Coconut Creek, FL 33063**

**Date: August 13, 2019
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting No. 2019-0813**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Education Advisory Board Chairperson, Colleen LaPlant at 6:00 p.m.

2. PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL

Chair Colleen LaPlant
Vice Chair Janice Jacobs
Robert Hurley
Brian Kenney
Patricia Trick
Susan Sargis

Also present: Assistant to the City Manager Bernadette Hughes and Assistant City Attorney Eve Lewis.

3. INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Welch welcomed the Education Advisory Board members. She recommended Guidance Counselor Cheryl Garfield at Coconut Creek High School as a potential speaker. She also mentioned a potential speaker regarding mentoring is Wanda Robinson, a Broward School Board Program Specialist. She clarified that service hours requirements for students are 40 hours to graduate. She also shared about some other exemplary programs and upcoming events, for example Winston Park Elementary was recognized for the 25th year for their exemplary volunteer programs and Lyons Creek Middle School has had many accomplishments the Board might consider looking at. Angel Gomez, Governmental Affairs Director for the school board, introduced himself. The Chair recognized Commissioner Becky Tooley.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Colleen LaPlant pointed out there was an error in the minutes Item Number 6 should say 2020 and it says 2010. There was a Motion and Second to amend Item Number 6 of the minutes to reflect 2020 as opposed to 2010.

MOTION: Kenney/Jacobs – To amend the minutes of the June 18, 2019 meeting.

Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION: Jacobs/Kenney – To approve the Minutes of the June 18, 2019, meeting as amended.

There was a motion and second to approve the item as amended.

Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

5. DISCUSSION – SCHOOL SAFETY

Coconut Creek Police Chief Butch Arenal presented a PowerPoint presentation about school safety in the City of Coconut Creek including details about each school, and information on School Resource Officers, threat assessments, crime data, calls for service, arrests, and officer familiarity with schools. Chief Arenal also shared information about the Do The Right Thing Program. Discussion Ensued.

6. DISCUSSION – STUDENT PARTICIPATION ON THE EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

Discussion ensued about student participation on the Education Advisory Board. Topics discussed included the age group of participants, the number of participants, student alternates, attendance requirements, and the possible participation of Do The Right Thing Winners.

Commissioner Tooley mentioned that the Do The Right Thing winners range in grade from 2nd to 3rd grade so, so the Education Advisory Board would have to look at that if they only wanted certain ages or grades to participate.

There was verbal consensus that Bernadette Hughes, staff liaison, would draft an invitation letter to the principals of each High School to appoint a student to serve on the Education Advisory Board and send it out in September. The letter would include dates of upcoming meetings and grade requirements. The Education Advisory Board will be copied on the letter.

There was verbal consensus that the student participants would be juniors and/or seniors.

There was verbal consensus that there would be five (5) student participants, one student from each school.

There was verbal consensus to not have student alternates as that would be too cumbersome.

There was verbal consensus to consider Do The Right Thing students as possible participants at a later date, but not to consider it at this time.

There was verbal consensus to build an agenda item into each Education Advisory Board agenda for Student Input to bring forward problems and solutions. At each meeting, the students would each have three (3) minutes to speak, for a total of fifteen (15) minutes at each meeting.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

There was verbal consensus to change the next Education Advisory Board meeting date from October 8, 2019, to October 1, 2019.

Discussion ensued about October 28, 2019, Lunch Bunch Meeting. **There was verbal**

consensus that the Board would stand up and introduce themselves at the meeting.

Chairperson Colleen LaPlant suggested each Education Board member choose a school and visit prior to the next meeting. Broward Schools Government Affairs/Legislative Affairs Liaison Angel Gomez asked to speak and described his role with Broward County Schools. He offered his assistance and suggested the Board members, in addition to talking to the principals at their assigned, get involved in SAC (School Advisory Council), staff meetings, PTA, and PTSA. He suggested they introduce themselves to these group and explain their role - that they are there as a liaison between the City and the schools. **There was consensus not to include private schools.** The following school selections were made:

- Chairperson Colleen LaPlant – Tradewinds Elementary and Atlantic Technical High School
- Vice Chairperson Janice Jacobs – Winston Park Elementary
- Robert Hurley – Coconut Creek High School
- Brian Kenney – Coconut Creek Elementary School and Dave Thomas Center
- Susan Sargis – Monarch High School
- Patricia Trick – Lyons Creek Middle School

There was a question about the vocational schools and if one of them was housed at Coconut Creek High School. Tom Morgan, a teacher at Broward County Schools, clarified that it was the virtual school that was housed at Coconut Creek High School.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Bernadette Hughes
Assistant to the City Manager

Date