



**CITY OF COCONUT CREEK
EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

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

**Date: October 1, 2019
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting No. 2019-1001**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair 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

Also present: Assistant to the City Manager Bernadette Hughes and Deputy City Attorney Kathryn Mehaffey.

Absent: Susan Sargis, Alternate

3. INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Sandra Welch read a letter into the record that had been sent to Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie from the City of Coconut Creek, regarding video access to surveillance cameras in Coconut Creek schools. The letter requested to amend the agreement between the City and the School Board to provide for real time/live and recorded video at all times in order to enhance the City's efforts to protect Coconut Creek schools. She asked for support from the Education Advisory Board and those in attendance to ensure this amendment was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING(S). (2019-0813)

MOTION: Trick/Jacobs - To approve the Minutes of the August 13, 2019, meeting.

The Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Agenda Item 6 was heard before Agenda Item 5.

5. GENERAL UPDATE OF THE BROWARD SCHOOL DISTRICT BY SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT RUNCIE

Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie shared a *PowerPoint* presentation regarding the Broward County School District, including academic

progress; safety and security; mental health; how money in the district is being spent; and the SMART Bond program. Following the *PowerPoint* presentation, School Board Member Nora Rupert inquired about the letter sent by the City of Coconut Creek to Superintendent Runcie discussed by Mayor Welch during Input from the Public, and Superintendent Runcie said he would review it. Board Member Robert Hurley inquired about threat assessments and special needs students. Superintendent Runcie noted threat assessments in the County had increased from 300 three years ago to approximately 3,000 this year. He spoke about training provided by the schools for special needs students and appropriate placement for those with significant behavior disorders. He mentioned that the district does an annual audit of threat assessments. There was discussion about security staff attire, and Superintendent Runcie mentioned that was a change this year for all security staff to wear the same attire. There was a question about having only one entrance into a classroom, and Superintendent Runcie spoke to the layout of classrooms, security training and drills, and balancing that with funding. A question was asked about armed guardians and if there were any in Coconut Creek schools. Superintendent Runcie described their role and mentioned that he was unsure if there were armed guardians in Coconut Creek schools. Questions were asked about school discipline and the SMART Bond program, and Superintendent Runcie spoke about those issues.

6. EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD VISITS TO ASSIGNED SCHOOLS

Board Member Patricia Trick spoke about her visit to the Lyons Creek Middle School School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting where the topic of school safety and security was discussed and shared the following updates from the meeting:

- the school has two full time School Resource Officers (SRO) along with campus monitors;
- there is a single point of entry and everyone entering the school is registered through Star system;
- students and staff wear ID badges at all times;
- all the gates are locked and monitored by campus monitors;
- classroom doors remain locked;
- the school has addressed how students congregate in the mornings;
- dismissal is staggered for safety;
- all staff and students are trained on safety precautions with quarterly updates;
- use of security cameras; and
- “Say Something” boxes for anonymous reports from students.

Vice Chair Janice Jacobs was unable to secure a meeting with Winston Park Elementary School and commented that she would make a report at the next meeting.

Board Member Brian Kenney shared information from Coconut Creek Elementary School, where he is the SAC Chair, including the following updates:

- the school has two campus monitors and an SRO on campus;
- there is a perimeter gate for security;
- the campus monitor is in the driveway announcing who enters;
- there is an aftercare program; and
- there are three blast nights throughout the year – math night, science night, English/language arts night.

He commented that he had been unable to meet with representatives from the Dave Thomas Education Center, but he planned to meet staff at the Lunch Bunch meeting.

Board Member Robert Hurley met with Coconut Creek High School Principal Scott Fiske and provided the following updates about the school:

- the availability of innovative programming, including a mentoring program;
- they have barriers with students being bussed in so activities have to be during the day;
- the school has a single point of entry system; and
- the SROs and security staff use positive affirmation and motivation to speak with the students.

Chair LaPlant talked about her visit to Tradewinds Elementary and updates from their SAC meeting. She attended the Atlantic Technical College SAC meeting and shared information about the Fort Lauderdale Aviation Academy. She explained that the academy was a pilot program in partnership with Broward County Public Schools. She spoke about Fort Lauderdale's new Chief Education Officer and mentioned that Atlantic Technical College Director Bob Crawford spoke about the possibility of establishing a similar position in Coconut Creek. Chair LaPlant suggested that the Board may consider presenting the idea to the City Commission. She distributed flyers from each of the schools she visited.

Chair LaPlant shared Board Member Susan Sargis' updates from Monarch High School in her absence, including:

- the school has two security specialists, two SROs, and seven campus monitors;
- there is a single point of entry;
- there are several after school programs, clubs, and athletics for student engagement;
- Parent involvement is encouraged through participation in SAC;
- Students are required to obtain 40 service hours;
- the school provides a scholarship database and Brace Advisor; and
- the school is interested to generating a list of needs that can be addressed at the school with funding available from the Seminole Tribe.

Discussion ensued regarding any actions the Board wanted to take at this time.

There was consensus for continued attendance at SAC, PTSA, and staff meetings and that each board member would continue to meet with their assigned schools and report their findings at the next meeting.

Discussion ensued with regard to Education Advisory Board member attendance at North Area Advisory meetings, and Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey clarified that board members could attend the meetings but cautioned them not to discuss matters that could come before the Board. She suggested that only one board member speak per meeting, and to notify Assistant to the City Manager Bernadette Hughes if they planned to attend so the City could notice the meeting if more than one board member were attending.

7. UPDATE ON STUDENT PARTICIPATION ON THE EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

Ms. Hughes mentioned that she sent letters asking for student participation on the Education Advisory Board to all the high schools in Coconut Creek and followed up with hand delivered letters. She noted that two students were confirmed to participate in future meetings, Monarch High School student Lincoln Lee and Atlantic Technical Center student Jaanai Scott, who both were current members of the Coconut Creek Teen Political Forum.

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Board Member Trick suggested that there be a presentation on the Discipline Matrix for a future meeting.

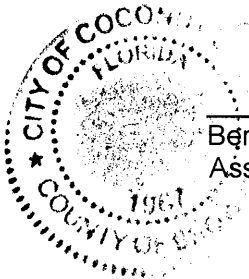
Pablo Calvo, Director of Community Engagement for the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, shared that his organization was the state-designated agent for school readiness, child care subsidies, and the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program. He asked to do a brief presentation at a future meeting on the agency's services.

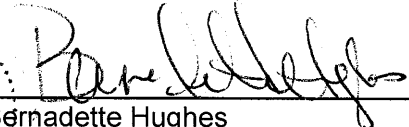
Angel Gomez, Broward County Public Schools, stated that he would provide the Board information regarding the SMART Bond program updates for Coconut Creek schools. He shared that the City has 12 SROs and no armed guardians, per the earlier question asked of Superintendent Runcie. He noted that he would send a copy of tonight's *PowerPoint* presentation by Superintendent Runcie.

Ms. Hughes announced that the next Lunch Bunch meeting would be on October 28 at noon at the Community Center and that the next Education Advisory Board meeting would be on December 10 at 6:00 pm at the Coconut Creek Government Center Public Meeting Room.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.




Bernadette Hughes
Assistant to the City Manager

12/10/19
Date