

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2017– 6:30 P.M**

Members	Attendance	April 2017- APRIL 2018	
		Present	Absent
Austin Scott, chair	P	4	0
Matthew Arbucci	A	1	3
Towana Bonaparte	A	1	3
Matthew Dorsey	P	2	0
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	4	0
Adam Fortner	A	1	2
Dale Fulton	A	1	3
Deniece Jones	A	2	2
Terry Large	P	1	0
Aniva Lumpkins	A	1	3
Dr. Heather Munns	P	4	0
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	3	1
Betty Shelley	P	2	2
Dr. Barbara Signer	P	4	0
Dr. Stefan Weiss	A	1	3
M. Elaine Wilson	P	2	2
Natasha Wilson	A	2	2
Lauren Wood	A	0	4
Dr. Allan Zeman	P	1	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 19
Needed to constitute a quorum: 10**

Staff

Junia Robinson, Staff Liaison

Martha Mercier, Broward County Public School Liaison

I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Austin Scott

II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Austin Scott

- **New Board Member Introductions:** Mr. Terry Large and Dr. Allan Zeman

Determination of quorum

- III. As of this date, October 19th there are 19 appointed members to the board, which means 10 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is **a quorum**.

Motion by Dr. Barbara Signer, seconded by, Ms. Betty Shelley that the said minutes for March 16th, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dr. Maureen Persi, seconded by, Ms. M. Elaine Wilson that the said minutes for April 20th, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Amend: Ms. Dinnen noted in the June 15th 2017 meeting. She said “at the bottom of the 2nd page, the second to last sentence should be look”.

Motion by, Ms. M. Elaine Wilson, seconded by Ms. Betty Shelley, that said minutes for June 15th, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dr. Maureen Persi, seconded by, Ms. M. Elaine Wilson that the said minutes for August 17th, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- IV. **Guest Introductions:** Jorg Hruschka, Chief Service Officer, Neighbor Volunteer, Office of the City Manager, Neighbor Support

V. **Current Business**

A. **Martha Mercier-** Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), Legislative Affairs
Martha Mercier in attendance on behalf of Mr. Charles Webster provided updates from BCPS. She announced: BCPS has opened its doors to receive families that are displaced due to the storm. BCPS has 25 schools that received the five star rating honored for exemplary community involvement. She announced two Fort Lauderdale schools were amongst the five star ratings. Both Floronada and Harbordale elementary school were recognized for the 2016-2017 school year from the Florida Department of Education. Martha announced Ed Talk which will take place Saturday, November 04th and will be held this year at Hollywood Hills high school. She also shared the latest S.M.A.R.T update document for the month of September. Martha explained to the new Board members that S.M.A.R.T is a new initiative that BCPS took to address the needs of the district with the \$800 million bond and the acronym stands for Safety, Music, Art Athletics, Renovation and Technology. Ms. Dinnen requested that BCPS Staff brings the board up to date on Stranahan high school. Ms. Betty shared “one of the things they reported last Tuesday at that meeting was the fact that they bought more picnic tables to put out at Stranahan and that was a bone of contention”.

Chair Scott shared “if we seem to have a strong opinion about these things I would say one it’s because we endorsed it as a board and two, the Superintendent himself when out on a limb and said at every meeting he went to including the City Commission meeting that he was well aware that another bond will never get passed ever again if this doesn’t go well”. Ms. Dinnen continued by saying “it’s really our job to advocate for these students and it may make some people uncomfortable but it is our job to advocate for the students of Fort Lauderdale and Stranahan is the oldest high school building in Broward County”.

B. Vote for new Vice-Chair/Board discussions-Member updates

Chair Scott opened discussions for a motion to nominate a Vice-chair.

Ms. M. Elaine Wilson nominated Dr. Allan Zeman for Vice-chair and Ms. Betty Shelley seconded his nomination. Dr. Heather Munns stated “I am also interested in becoming the Vice-chair”. Dr. Munns said “I recently received my Doctoral degree in March, first generation first one in my family to go to college. I am the Director of Admissions at Johnson and Wales University in North Miami and have been in higher education for 14 years”.

Dr. Zeeman introduced himself by saying “I was born and raised here and attended Wilton Manors elementary and Sunrise middle school. I am a very proud flying L, Fort Lauderdale High and went to Florida State afterwards. I got a PhD in econometrics and taught at the law and business school”. He also shared that he was later hired by a “think tank” company in Washington DC where he has lived for the pasts 25 years and moved back three years ago. Ms. Betty said “nominations will now come to a close”.

MOTION by Ms. Elaine Wilson, seconded by Dr. Munns that Dr. Allan Zeman serves as Vice-Chair to the Education Advisory Board. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Terry Large introduced himself by saying “a long time ago, I was in the service during Vietnam. I graduated in 1967. When I got out of the service I went back to college and got a degree in psychology and became a mental health counselor for about 10 years and then started my own computer business. I am currently an adjunct professor at Springfield College in Tampa”.

Mr. Large continued by saying that he is in favor of “769 because I kind of like charter schools and I like the idea.

Chair Scott replied by saying “there are complex issues that come up here about charter schools”.

Mr. Large then said “I do like they idea that maybe we can find some different ways of doing things and innovation”.

Ms. Dinnen said “I think we need to get some information about this particular bill because it isn’t just an anti-charter school bill. I would be glad to bring more in depth information about this. I have a perspective that I would

like to bring some information about because if we do have perspective about this piece of lawsuit and we want to either support it or be neutral about it I think we need more information that what we have so far”.

C. Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association – Ms. Betty Shelley

Ms. Betty shared at the last Civic Association meeting Rob Corbin with Broward County Public Schools was in attendance to give a report on the status of the S.M.A.R.T bond initiative with the oversight committee. She stated that he presented a PowerPoint presentation with some details but “people want to know specifics”. Ms. Betty also announced an upcoming meeting in November at Northeast High school. She said although the school is not in the City of Fort Lauderdale, many children from her neighborhood attend Northeast high school.

D. City Staff update – Junia Robinson

Junia began her updates by sharing with the board that she has reached out to several State Representatives to invite them to an upcoming meeting. She has left messages with the assistants too: Bobby DuBose, George Moraitis and Gary Farmer’s office. George Moraitis is not available for the November meeting. Junia asked the board what specific topics they would be addressing with the State representatives. Ms. Dinnen replied by saying “whatever hot button items that they are going to talk about in this legislative session”.

MOTION by Ms. Betty, seconded by Ms. Dinnen that the November 16th meeting be moved to Stranahan high school. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Communication to Commission

VII. New/Future Business

Invite State Representatives to future meetings to discuss “hot button” education items in Tallahassee.

VIII. Closing

The next meeting is scheduled for
Thursday, November 16th, 2017, City hall, 8th floor conference room