

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2018– 6:30 P.M**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>April 2017- APRIL 2018</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Austin Scott, <b>chair</b>	P	8	0
Jessica Basi	A	1	2
Matthew Dorsey	A	4	1
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	7	1
Dale Fulton	P	4	4
Deniece Jones	P	4	3
Terry Large	P	3	1
Aniva Lumpkins	A	1	6
Dr. Heather Munns	P	6	1
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	4	3
Betty Shelley	P	3	4
Dr. Barbara Signer	A	5	2
Dr. Stefan Weiss	A	2	5
M. Elaine Wilson	P	4	3
Natasha Wilson	P	3	3
Lauren Wood	A	0	6
Dr. Allan Zeman, <b>vice-chair</b>	P	4	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 19  
Needed to constitute a quorum: 11**

**Staff**

Junia Robinson, Staff Liaison  
Megan Turetsky, Broward County Public School

- I. **Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Austin Scott**
- II. **Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Austin Scott**

**Determination of quorum**

- III. As of this date, January 18<sup>th</sup>, there are 19 appointed members to the board, which means 11 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a **quorum**.

**IV. GUEST SPEAKER: Ms. Jennifer Gottlieb, Legislative Assistant  
Senator Gary M. Farmer, Jr's Office**

Jennifer Gottlieb introduced herself to the board by saying "I started off as a public school teacher in Broward County. I have two kids in Public school system, my older son is a sophomore in college. I was a community activist and after I was teaching and came back from maternity leave, I worked as an advocate for our Broward teachers' union. I later went to Tallahassee to lobby for our teachers issues that were facing in Broward County. That led to me running for the School Board of Broward County and I was elected in 2006 to the countywide seat and reelected in 2010 and served five years on the Broward County School Board".

"I currently work for someone I respect tremendously and idolize his position and beliefs in public education. I am thrilled to work for Senator Farmer; he was elected a year ago and represents this area". She stated that he is a freshman Senator and he serves on all the education committees on the Florida Senate.

I wanted to talk to you about the hope scholarship program. The latest update "the Speaker of the House is pushing legislation which most likely is going to happen. It's been flying through the House and will most likely pass in the Senate". Mrs. Gottlieb explained it was called the hope scholarship but technically called the "universal scholarship program". She continued by saying, it is not just for charter schools, it is basically for any type of public funding to go to private schools. "This is going to be like the tax scholarship program. The funds will continue to grow in this account every year and will become a large pile of money that is taken from our public school dollars and into private and charter schools and other entities".

Mrs. Gottlieb shared that Senator Farmer is not in support of this and he is fighting very much against this, "public school dollars should stay in public schools". "When a charter school lobbyist comes into our office in Tallahassee and say, how can they do this to us"? She continued by saying "basically if a kid is sitting in a charter school and someone steals their cell phone they can then get a voucher to go to a private school".

Mrs. Gottlieb said this is something that is probably happening and most likely the Senate President is supportive of this initiative and is probably going to have that go through the Senate as well.

She shared that Senator Farmer has three bills on education that he is filing. "The first bill that he is filing is that any Owner, Operator, CFO, Administrator, Assistant Principal of a charter school has the same credentials and background as they would in a public school.

"The second bill he is filing is on capital outlay and funding. He wants to give the districts the choice if they want to split the capital outlay dollars. So basically, Senator Farmer believes in local control and districts have the right to say "yes I am going to continue sharing this money or they can vote their own school board district, no they are not going to continue this". The big issue is when a charter school forfeits, the property that is there which is now funded with

public/state dollars, does not come back to the County. Senator Farmer's bill acts that the dollars come back to the school district/county".

Senator Farmer's third and final bill "is a personal pet peeve of his, there have been a lot of parents who have gotten emails, robot calls asking them to write letters to their legislature to basically be lobbyist on their particular issue. Public schools cannot do this; he is trying to level the playing field. Same rules for charter schools, same rules should apply for Public schools.

- V. Approve minutes** – Mr. Large stated the following **CORRECTION** in the October minutes: In the last line of page 3, the word should be innovation and not integration.

**Motion** by Dr. Persi, seconded by Ms. Shelley that the said correction to the October minutes be made and that the minutes for October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion unanimously passed.

**Motion** by Ms. Dinnen, seconded by Dr. Maureen Persi, that the said minutes for November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**Motion** by Dr. Munns, seconded by Ms. Elaine Wilson, that the said minutes for December 21<sup>st</sup>, 017 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Current Business**

### **A. Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) update** - Megan Turetsky, Legislative Aide, BCPS

Megan began her updates by stating that as of now the Hope scholarship is for students that have been bullied can receive the tax scholarship to attend a private school. She continued by saying "the only updates I have for you is our graduation rates, right now they are at the highest they have ever been since adopting the federal uniform graduation rate. The graduation rate in our traditional high schools is 93.8% and our federal graduation rate is 81%.

**B. Board discussion** – Vice Chair Zeman open the discussion with a process to set up goals with things to be achieved by the EAB. Vice-Chair Zeman said "nominate a set of goals that we will work on this year and we can vote on them amongst the people that are present and establish some goals". He continued by saying "the idea discussed last month was to have a small

number of things that we would like to focus on, that speakers would come and talk to us with lots of data facts”. This will be an opportunity to set some specific goals and behind them set some groups that want to work on those goals to research things to inform the debate then figure out if the Board wants to go to the Commission on things to go forward.

**Motion** by Vice-Chair Zeman, seconded by Ms. Dinnen, that the board establish some goals and set them for the balance of 2018. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Zeman shared eleven goals that were discussed in the December meeting. The eleven goals were printed and distributed (see attached); the floor was open for those not in attendance to add additional goals to the list. He continued by saying “ everybody will vote on the things that means most to them and then we are going to rank the goals from top to bottom and then decide if we are going to go with three, four or five goals”.

Vice-Chair Zeman then read the eleven goals from the previous meeting for discussion. The 11 goals were printed and placed on the walls around the conference room. Each board member took 4 colored sticky sheets and did a “gallery walk” around and voted for the top 3 or 4 goals they felt more passionate about. Additional goals added to the list are:

- Feasibility study about school counseling
- How to create better partnership between BCPS and City

Vice-Chair Zeman tallied the votes and read the top 5 goals. They were:

- Define the need and propose a process for establishing a City Charter School (10 votes)
- Expand formal schools volunteer programs across the City (9 votes)
- Conduct feasibility study of school counseling (9 votes)
- Improve partnership between City and BCPS ( 5 votes)
- Explore how much City is a donor to BCPS (4 votes)

Matthew Dorsey asked “what is our next step process, will we all be working on all of this at the same time?” Vice-chair Zeman responded by saying “tomorrow morning I am meeting with the City Attorney to sort this out”. He continued by saying “for this discussion, I assume we will be doing this together although individuals will go and do individual tasks”.

Chair Scott suggested that the board should work on three goals moving forward. Vice- Chair Zeman agreed that the board should begin working on 3 goals and add a goal as “you finish a goal”.

The 3 top goals that the board will begin working on will be:

- Define the need and propose a process for establishing a City Charter School (10 votes)
- Conduct feasibility study of school counseling (9 votes)
- Expand formal schools volunteer programs across the City (9 votes)

**Motion** by Vice-chair Zeman, seconded by Ms. Shelley that the board set aside an hour in the meeting next month to put a fine point on these goals and start to think of how we are going to do these goals as a group. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**C. City Staff update** - Junia Robinson announced the upcoming Neighbor Support Night scheduled for Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. She also shared the Walker elementary school proclamation presentation scheduled for Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the 6 pm Commission meeting. The presentation will be for the complete turn-around and success the school is having. Junia encouraged the board to attend the State of the City scheduled for Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the new South Side Cultural Arts center.

**Motion by** Ms. Shelley, seconded by Ms. Elaine Wilson that the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting be moved to February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 6:30PM. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## **VII. New/Future Business**

- Discussion on top 3 goals

## **VIII. Closing**

**Next Meeting  
City Hall, March 15, 2018**

### **EAB 2018 goals voted and discussed**

- City create pre-school standards (Elaine)
- City publish Schools Data Report including achievement metrics (Dale)
- Improve Flagler Village education/ Establish great schools on the east side of City (Jessica)
- Improve Facilities in innovative ways (Matthew)
- Explore how much City is a donor to BCPS and Increase partnership between City and BCPS (Austin)
- Define the need and propose a process for establishing a City Charter School (Deniece)
- Create a method for “opposing points of view” to be shared with EAB and Commission (Terry)
- Create data books with educational results and what to do about them (Stefan)
- Create a forum for papers to be submitted into the public record (Stefan)
- Expand formal schools volunteer programs across City (Allen)
- Increase partnership between City and BCPS (Austin)
- Feasibility study about school counseling -Terry