



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018–6:30 PM-8:30 PM**

May 2018 – April 2019

Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Austin Scott, Chair	P	3	0
Dr. Allen Zeman, Vice Chair	P	3	0
Robert Audet	A	1	3
Linda Barnett	P	2	1
Maureen S. Dinnen	A	1	3
Amy Ellowitz	P	2	1
Thomas Harrison	A	0	4
Deniece Jones	P	4	0
Terry Large	P	4	0
Jennifer Lovell	P	4	0
Dr. Heather Munns	A	1	3
Sarah Owen DelNegri	P	2	1
Lincoln Pastuer	P	2	1
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	3	1
Christopher Relyea	P	3	1
Betty Shelley	A	1	3
Lillian Small	A	1	3
Dr. Michele Verdi Knapp	P	3	0

Staff/Guests

Junia Robinson, Staff Liaison
Brigitte Chiappetta, Prototype, Inc.

- I. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Austin Scott, Chair**
- II. Attendance by Roll Call, 18 appointed members; 10 needed for quorum**

As of this date, October 18, 2018, 12 of the 18 appointed members were present, which constituted a quorum.

- III. Approve Minutes (September 20, 2018)**

Motion made by Ms. Lovell, seconded by Dr. Persi, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2018. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

- IV. Current Business**

A. Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), Legislative Affairs

Chair Scott advised that a liaison from the School Board was not expected. It was noted that a motion was made a few months ago not to add things to the agenda that take lengthy periods of time unless the majority agrees.

Dr. Zeman mentioned that this Board has had some significant influence in active shooter training in the past. The report provided last month stated that all the training was done. The School Board has decided to staff the security requirement that was passed in the law by Florida in all Cities who do not pay for it on their own with School Resource Officers. Those people earn significantly lower wages than uniformed Police Officers and have fundamentally different capabilities compared to Police Officers. Cities in Broward County are going to have to decide whether to pay for the difference between a School Resource Officer and a fulltime Police Officer. At some point this needs to be discussed and the Board needs to decide if a recommendation should be made to the City Commission. The difference in price is significant, a School Resource Officer costs 35% of what a Police Officer gets. It could be that high schools and middle schools have a different requirement than elementary schools, but this Board could decide that there is no difference, that there should be Police Officers in every school in Fort Lauderdale. This is an open issue and the City Commission has not made their views known. The current status is that the Broward County School Board will only pay for School Resource Officers and the City of Fort Lauderdale is already paying for Police Officers at middle schools and high schools, which they plan to continue. The budget issue is if fulltime Police Officers are going to be dedicated to being in the elementary schools like they are committed to with middle and high schools or if the City of Fort Lauderdale is going to go down the path of what is funded by the County in School Resource Officers. The law is very clear about who is supposed to pay for this and that is the Counties. The Counties have been given a significant amount of monies; however, Dr. Zeman did not think it was enough and the School Board would have to find additional money. To him, it is an open education policy issue to which this Board is formed to help the Commission think through.

Ms. Jones questioned the difference between Resource Officers and Police Officers.

Dr. Zeman indicated that there is a Guardian program. Guardians are what the Counties have enough money to pay, they only work when the schools are in session, they do not work over the summer, and the standards for being hired as a Guardian in training is different. There are definitely different levels of qualifications and standards of training. The money the County has been given is equivalent to a Guardian program and either Broward Sheriff's Office or the Cities are picking up the tab for the Police Officers. Cities are paying the difference, which is significant at 65%. In Fort Lauderdale, the City has always paid for Police Officers to be in middle schools and

high schools. The question is if the City should pick up the tab to have fulltime Police Officers or if it is appropriate given the budget conditions of the City to have Guardians in the elementary schools.

Ms. Jones' opinion was that Guardians are armed security guards who were previous Police Officers or in the military, so they have training; she did not see anything wrong with that.

Mr. Relyea understood why an SRO would allegedly be preferable to a high school because of the student incidents that may occur as opposed to an elementary school campus. Internal security wise, he understood why the Board could delineate between the risks that would be inherent to high school and middle school campuses as opposed to elementary schools. Mr. Relyea disagreed that Police Officers are not necessary in elementary schools due to the external threat and could argue that elementary schools are an easier target than high schools. Mr. Relyea's recommendation was that if Guardians are needed as a potential budgetary stock, they are better than no one, but if it was allowed for an infinite timeframe he would almost rather not have a solution, which would force the issue to get a real solution. Mr. Relyea does not like the Guardian program and would like to fix this quickly.

Dr. Persi questioned if the Guardians carry guns.

Ms. Jones advised that the Guardians do carry guns, they are former Police Officers and military.

Ms. Barnett indicated that the Guardians carry weapons and have prior experience, but there is a quality control difference. She commented that the Guardians might not be able to handle any situation. Ms. Barnett noted that the Police Officer at Bayview Elementary was privately funded through an alliance through the parents.

Chair Scott stated that updates are provided every other month from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and there is usually a positive response when asked about the communication between the School Board and the Fort Lauderdale Police Department. Chair Scott mentioned that two years in a row the Fort Lauderdale Police Department was the first to reach out during a high school sporting event regarding internet traffic saying that a problem was expected between Stranahan and Dillard High Schools. He was told there would be about 20 SWAT teams or the meet was going to be cancelled. Chair Scott's thought was that private and parochial schools in the City limits all hire uniformed off-duty Fort Lauderdale Police Officers for the beginning and end of the school day as well as for team sporting events. He hopes they are not cutting corners by not hiring off-duty Police Officers. Chair Scott was all for pushing uniformed personnel.

Mr. Relyea commented that one person establishes a presence.

Dr. Knapp advised that she attended a Commission meeting last week when this was brought up and the Commission really pushed it back on the School Board and said, "This is not their issue". The Chief of Police was there and said, "They did not have the staff, that it was going to be a three-year resolution to fill the empty spots because they are not going to cut corners in hiring". During her PT meeting, the suggestion was for the School Board to loosen the requirements; the City did not want anything to do with it.

Ms. Robinson tried her best to send the Board a link to the Commission meeting; the conversation was interesting.

Mr. Pasteur questioned the options in terms of budget.

Dr. Zeman stated that Broward County Schools have decided they are not going to fund at some point, but currently they are funding overtime money and it is costing a fortune to pay all the Police Officers. Broward County Schools has said that eventually, as a matter of policy, they will not fund the Officers any longer. They are passing the bill to the Cities and where there are no Cities, to the Broward County Sheriff's Office to fund uniformed Officers. The issue was that there are Police Officers in Fort Lauderdale middle and high schools and he did not think there was any challenge to pulling the Police Officers out of those schools. The real policy discussion was what should be done long term. It was questioned what would be done while the City hires Police Officers for the security of the City unless rotating overtime Police Officers could be found to cover the schools, which is a stop gap measure. Fort Lauderdale has said they would take someone off a Police beat dealing with crime in the City to sit at a school fulltime. Dr. Zeman thought this was a relevant issue and that the Board should have an opinion soon or take a month to think about it and provide their best recommendation next month. The Guardians are going to be the program for the next three years.

Ms. Lovell questioned how much the School Board was willing to pay and how much the City had to front. She also questioned if there was an update as to any of the repairs of speaker phones and telephone systems.

Dr. Zeman suggested thinking about this for a month and "teeing this up" as Current Business. Perhaps the Board can come up with an intent message; the intent that the Board thinks the Guardians are going to be okay long term or the intent that the Board would like uniformed Law Enforcement people at every school. At least that would inform the Commission about which direction they might go as they hire more uniformed Police Officers.

Dr. Knapp mentioned people were at the Commission who did not want the Guardian program because essentially that is casting a wider net, loosening the standards, and putting those people in the school instead. Apparently Fort Lauderdale is the only City that is not doing it, all the other Cities in the County have figured out a way to make this happen. Perhaps this Board can look at what the other Cities are doing. Dr. Knapp has not verified that information but stated that was the argument presented. There was an editorial that went out to the Sun Sentinel that said, "How are the other Cities doing it? Miami-Dade is apparently doing it and has figured it out, how come the City of Fort Lauderdale cannot?"

Chair Scott advised that Miami-Dade has a much more extensive Police Department.

Dr. Zeman indicated that both Palm Beach County and Miami-Dade have a School Board Police Organization, which is dedicated School Board Law Enforcement. Broward County chose not to do that and not to fund it. An argument could be made that the County pays for Miami-Dade and Palm Beach. When there are questions about the 19 Cities in Broward County there is no one to ask because the County might know, but it would not be current, and the City of Fort Lauderdale does not know. Dr. Zeman requested anyone with an hour or two to come up with an answer before next month.

Ms. Jones questioned if someone from the School Board or the Chief could come to the next meeting to explain or give it to the Board in writing.

Dr. Zeman stated that the Special Investigative Unit, which is headed by Chief Hutchinson, could be invited. The expectation is that Chief Hutchinson would not know what the 19 Cities do. This is a factual question, "There are 19 Cities in Broward County; how many pay to have fulltime Police Officers wearing the City's uniform in their schools?"

Ms. Jones commented that Fort Lauderdale does not want to pay \$50,000 to have their own department like Miami-Dade and Palm Beach.

Dr. Zeman advised that Superintendent Runcie or Chief Hutchinson could be invited to address that issue and ask where they are in consideration of having their own Law Enforcement community.

Motion by Ms. Lovell, seconded by Dr. Zeman, to invite the Superintendent of Broward County Public Schools to come to the next meeting and discuss why Fort Lauderdale does not have their own school funding Police Department. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. (12-0)

Ms. Robinson indicated that she would send a request for the November meeting.

Dr. Zeman questioned if anyone volunteered to find out about the 19 Cities that have school Police Officers and if they fund it to have Police Officers at every school.

Ms. Lovell indicated that Chief Hutchinson could probably point this Board in the right direction of who to talk to.

Mr. Relyea volunteered to find the information.

Dr. Zeman thought that the School Board could answer the other two questions. He suggested tabling this to next month.

Chair Scott questioned if anyone has any updates on the bond program, the SMART topic. Generally, there are members who attend the meetings at Stranahan, Northeast, etc.

Ms. Robinson stated there was an email about Stranahan.

Dr. Zeman indicated that the City of Fort Lauderdale opened a new position on the City staff to cover education issues and questioned if that was eliminated.

Ms. Robinson advised that she is working on that. The Commission approved a position for a fulltime Chief Education Officer. The job description will be done through the support of the City Manager's office and will be any and everything related to education, attending School Board meetings, reaching out to communities, working on different items, attending meetings in Tallahassee, and reporting to the Education Advisory Board. Ms. Robinson has reached out to other Cities to see if this position exists and there have not yet been any responses. The City of Atlanta had a position called Chief Education Tsar, which was an appointed position by the Mayor.

Mr. Relyea believed that position was in direct response to the standardized testing scandal and the School District was no longer accredited. The position was probably temporary.

Ms. Robinson reached out to that Human Resource Department to see what the job description entailed, but they did not want to share that information. As more information is received she will reach out. At some point the Board will be asked to give an idea as to what they would like this position to do.

Dr. Zeman thought there was a model where certain Cities have a significant amount of Public Charter Schools that are not managed the same as the Broward County Schools. The question is how they are managed.

Ms. Robinson stated that she and the Human Resource Department would be meeting with Pembroke Pines Charter School to get an idea as to how they communicate with City staff and their Charter Schools. They are also going to meet with Coral Springs. The information will be brought back to the Commission.

Dr. Zeman questioned the approximate compensation for the position.

Ms. Robinson believed the position was equivalent to an assistant to the City Manager; they are still working on that.

Chair Scott felt strongly that the position could not help cast light on ongoing issues. The position could also act as a great liaison between potential City programs that do not exist.

Ms. Robinson indicated that it could help on a grander scale with Charter Schools.

Dr. Zeman commented that the Commission was actively talking about a Public Charter near the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, but it was not formally voted to ask the County for a Charter. Mr. Zeman believed it was part of the Commission's plan to discuss that at the next available meeting. The Vocational Public Charter is very small, but it would be the first in Fort Lauderdale. The intent of the school was to fill aviation jobs at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. It was noted that there are 93 Charter Schools in the County.

Dr. Knapp questioned if the Charter School of Excellence counts. She indicated that Fort Lauderdale has one, not with high school, only to the fifth grade.

Chair Scott advised that they are typically unincorporated.

Ms. Robinson stated that the school was not City chartered.

Chair Scott advised that it was comparable to Pembroke Pines and Coral Springs.

Dr. Persi questioned if there was a building on the property or if they were looking to build a new construction.

Dr. Zeman indicated there is currently no facility in that location that could do education or vocational training in aviation. There are two options; build out a space and get a company to manage and educate under a Public Charter or ask a Public Charter Company to include building out the facilities as part of their price.

Dr. Persi mentioned that they are looking at two years for students to attend.

Dr. Zeman stated even that was not certain; it would be like part of the building could do junior and senior year and then maybe Broward could come in and teach aviation.

Dr. Persi questioned why a vocation school was not considered for the children.

Dr. Zeman advised that Broward County would not fund it. The City of Fort Lauderdale owns the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, so all that land can be either leased where they are generating revenue, or it could be used for parks and schools. The land is available; it is not cheap to build a school, even a relatively small vocational school. With all the equipment they need to teach avionics it is not a cheap build out.

Chair Scott commented that the City has land all over town. There is a huge demand for middle school grades.

Dr. Zeman believed that the City Commission was anxious to see the conclusion of the gap analysis before Commissioner Moraitis, who is leading education issues for the City Commission, moves forward.

Mr. Large mentioned the Broward League of Cities has a lot of information about schools and security. It was noted that there are 423 employees involved in security throughout the County for a cost of \$12,645,000.

Chair Scott stated the last time he heard anything from the Broward League of Cities at this meeting was when the Cities implemented a Challenge for Chess, which studies show is a great academic program.

Mr. Pasteur questioned if the aviation industry was supporting this.

Dr. Zeman advised that the aviation industry is in support. There are many aviation companies around the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport saying that they must go out of state to find people who have aviation mechanic and repair skills to manage the planes already there. They are even interested in helping with internships and taking old engines and equipment and placing them in a vocational public school.

Mr. Pasteur commented that once students complete the program they could move into aviation jobs.

Ms. Jones indicated that McFatter does not have an aviation program but there is an aviation program at Miramar High School and Broward College. Ms. Jones questioned if the Commission was only interested in a Charter School for aviation. She believed technology should also be there.

Dr. Zeman suspected it was a combination of many companies and growth. He thought there would be interest in a different Public Charter, but it would be in addition to the one related to avionics and technology.

Chair Scott commented that other City run Charter Schools are not limited to City residents.

Dr. Zeman stated that companies are Fort Lauderdale based companies. He thought that Commissioner Moraitis wanted to innovate in education; 2,000 new homes are being built in her district.

Chair Scott indicated that the entire Oak Tree Golf Course was going to be developed. Ms. Robinson will send the last education themed survey results. Once the survey results are received from the general survey he thought it would be fair to summarize them by saying, "Perception of our educational system is not positive", but there is pressure on the City Commission and staff to get companies to locate here, to get people to move here, and to get people to stay.

B. Goal oriented discussions

Chair Scott referenced the gap analysis and noted that the Commission was waiting to hear the results this Board has come up with. Board members have done some work independently over the past month. The question that has come up as the Board has been looking at data is how data can be analyzed to find a gap and if there is a significant number of different gaps. There have been many gap measures proposed along with a summary of pros and cons. The Board cannot determine the rest of the data to gather or the rest of the analysis to report unless the gap the Commission was referring to could be identified. Some people on the Task Force have suggested that it would be interesting to think about how many children going to private schools are going to cheap colleges versus how many from the Fort Lauderdale High Schools are doing the same. There is literature about gaps and education. The Board can learn from Pembroke Pines and Coral Springs and make an informed recommendation to the Council. The Task Force would like to move that this Board have an additional meeting between now and November 15th to work look at the data as a group. A few dates suggested were October 26 or October 27, 2018. When thinking about an education gap that needs to be filled by a variety of things, not just by a Public Charter School, but by local financial incentives to administrators and by thinking about the size of schools. One high school is being used at about 50% capacity and that offers other opportunities for middle schools in the area to have cooperative education. There are many ways to influence the quality of education.

Mr. Relyea mentioned a couple of constraints. Some of the gaps are more objective than measurable. He would recommend sticking to gaps that are more easily measurable, so they could be identified. There are some the Board might be able to affect and others are State issues, which he did not think the Board could influence. Mr. Relyea's opinion was to use those two lenses to prioritize. He thought the drop off would be measurable and real and thought data could be found. Mr. Relyea also thought it was relevant and he has a plan about how to address that.

Dr. Zeman questioned what it means when gap in education is heard.

Ms. Barnett stated that as a mother and a teacher, she agreed that fifth or sixth was the gap, she sees it daily. She thought it was relevant and impactful to the community and to the citizens who live here. This is something that is discussed and brought up all the time but never really analyzed for solutions.

Dr. Knapp advised that was one topic she was very interested in. She contacted the School Board and got the counts. If there is going to be another meeting, Dr. Knapp did not have a chance to analyze the information as she spent time formatting and making it make sense. She noted that the information could be emailed to the Board members. Dr. Knapp invited everyone to look at this and see what other information might be helpful for her to gather. She was able to get the number for the past three years of how many children on the benchmark day were in fifth grade and sixth grade for the following year, and then from eighth to ninth grades.

Dr. Zeman indicated that the intent for the additional meeting was to bring data and spreadsheets. A new database came out last month and is microtargeting individual streets as to whether middle-class families on those streets have children that exceeded middle-class, hit middle-class, or fell below middle-class. The next meeting will be a working meeting, probably 90 minutes. All the data will be presented and there will be discussion about gaps and the Board will reduce what the analysis is going to be, so a report can be made to the Commission.

Mr. Relyea believed that the second gap, retention, seemed to have some traction and the Commission was asking the Board to maybe make a vote as to what to go after.

Dr. Zeman advised that a motion was not required.

Mr. Relyea wanted to be smart about what could be found and what the Board could affect.

Dr. Zeman nominated one other gap and noted that it was very clear to Superintendent Runcie to Broward County Commissioner Heather Brinkworth that the State's Department of Education grades were backward and related to test scores. In their

view, they would like a group to think about coming up with a way to do forward looking scores that might add something to the Florida Department of Education grades. The value of grades is that every school has the same report card. The most immediate metric found about school quality is Department of Education grades. The problem is that it is all about last year's grades on a single test at the end of the year; it is great to compare but it does not tell how well the best children do, if there is a new principal, etc. It does not track teacher retention and there is a huge correlation between teachers coming back for another year and quality of education. One thing the Superintendent and our local School Board member for Fort Lauderdale asked this Board to think about proposing was some general notions about how that grade could be modified so there was not an absolute score based on test scores from last year. Dr. Zeman proposed that the Board think about what else they would like to know about schools, so people would get more than a test grade.

Mr. Relyea questioned if it was as simple as determining what should end up on a survey and then collecting and collating the data.

Dr. Zeman stated it may be as simple as a plus, minus, or a no score; a lot of things change.

Mr. Relyea commented that would indicate a trend, so the question would be how long the principal has been here, when the last time the facility was updated, how many new students were coming, and how many new teachers were being retained; the overall trend line for that context and the number of volunteers.

Dr. Zeman advised that it incentivize people in low performing schools to do some things so they could at least get the plus mark, so people would focus on not just the performance, but on all the things that might make the performance better. Dr. Zeman indicated that it was for anyone who wanted to know about the context of education, which is not exclusively about one letter grade.

Ms. Jones questioned what was looked at 20 years ago when the school grades did not exist.

Dr. Zeman advised that funding for people was looked at. There was an absence of the letter grade and he thought it added value and gave an objective score about how test scores ended up the year before. According to Superintendent Runcie, letter grades are causing some people to give up; the children do not know enough, and they are not able to get the test scores up. It was noted that every failing school has a chance to become an "A" school.

Ms. Jones questioned who the audience was for grades.

Chair Scott stated that could be an actionable item for the Commission or the Commission could offer it on FortLauderdale.gov or the realtors could share it.

Dr. Zeman indicated that one of the intended audiences would be everybody who was running a company and thinking about staying and everybody that was trying to find another place to come.

Ms. Jones did not think grading was important because of the neighborhood and surrounding areas that people want to be in.

Chair Scott knew a couple of realtors who said people are constantly asking which side of Commercial Boulevard is the line to Northeast and Lauderdale High. That is a significant change; Lauderdale High's reputation has clearly changed and gone up significantly in the last five or six years.

Mr. Pasteur commented that teachers looking for jobs look at the letter grades. When looking at where Fort Lauderdale, they are training children for the 21st Century. This is International, we are competing Internationally on many different levels, so our children cannot compete in aviation. People want to come here who are better educated. In order to compete Internationally we must look at how children are being educated and reform what is being done. Mr. Pasteur referenced an article, "The battle over Charter Schools", which presents both sides, from the Education Magazine from the Summer of 2017. There is also a documentary by Dan Rather that everyone should see; it addresses the International issue. Mr. Pasteur would like the Board to look at what is happening Internationally and see what could be done to compete internationally.

Dr. Zeman questioned if Mr. Pasteur was talking about academic achievement when talking about the comparison on an International scale.

Mr. Pasteur replied yes, he was talking about academic achievement.

Ms. Barnett appreciated the consideration of looking at more than just a grade and questioned how date of children that have left can be compared to now. It is very enticing as an educator to want to be innovative and creative, but it is so difficult to do so when one test accountability measure is used. Those innovations are shadowed by test results that lead to a grade and to the funding.

Chair Scott indicated that it is not just the neighborhood. Broward County is the sixth largest school district in the United States and that affects the local schools and corporations moving here. The end result is affected by perception more than almost anywhere in the United States and there is a very high percent of citizens that do not go

to the schools, so there is an open schooling system. There does not have to be a way to get into a magnet if there is a school that is remotely under-enrolled.

Mr. Relyea commented that Chair Scott mentioned that Fort Lauderdale has significantly increased its perception in the last few years. If the Board wants to tap into how to move schools, tap into the ones that have done it; Sunrise and Fort Lauderdale have made strides. If a survey is done and it can be measured; it is repeatable in theory to places that need to be moved.

Dr. Zeman asked everyone to check their calendars; there are two meeting opportunities where this room is available. They could meet next week on Friday between 12:15 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The motion would be to have a 90-minute meeting; not everyone has to come for 90 minutes. The second alternative was next Monday, four days from now, between 10:00 a.m. to about 2:45 p.m. He would like to have a formal meeting within eight days. Dr. Zeman asked Ms. Robinson if a meeting could be noticed in eight days and Ms. Robinson replied yes. Dr. Zeman asked if the Board could legally get together in four days and Ms. Robinson replied no. Dr. Zeman questioned if the Board wanted to meet from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. next Friday or from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; those were the two options. Some people are highly committed to work on the gap, but there would be no votes because there would only be 10 or 11 members present.

Motion by Dr. Zeman, seconded by Ms. Lovell, to meet from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. next Friday, October 26, 2018, as an Education Advisory Board, and request Ms. Robinson to notice that appropriately so it could be a legal meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. (12-0)

Chair Scott clarified that there would very likely be votes at the meeting.

Dr. Zeman indicated that the topic would be the discussion of the Fort Lauderdale gap in education. There are motions that could be made to enable Board members to go out as a representative of the Board rather than going out as an independent person gathering data.

Mr. Relyea stated that he was going to ask the Board to consider something that addresses a gap issue and it is something he is working on. He is going to personally reach out, not as a member of the Board, on some information gathering he wants to create something.

Dr. Zeman questioned if Mr. Relyea could do that on his own between now and November 15, 2018. If it is about transitioning from one school to another, there is a lot of chatter about that; it is a topic of great interest.

Ms. Lovell left the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Chair Scott mentioned that the other two goals were to define the need to propose a process for establishing a City Charter School and expand former schools and volunteer programs across the City and conduct a feasibility study of school counseling. The Board was going to appoint people for that.

Dr. Zeman stated that Terry Large was running the community-based education model. The Chair left the Board on that task, so it is open if anyone wants to pick it up. The concern is that the Board has the Commission's attention on this gap analysis. If the gap could be identified, a good analysis produced, a report written and shared with the Commission, a lot of things could be done.

Chair Scott indicated that this is something the Board could work on as individuals. He was curious if one school was being fixed if the other would suffer. He was also very curious about the statistics that may seem overly harsh and noted that they are important because they drive perception. Most of the Board thought vocational programs need to be expanded and that not every student should be going to college. Chair Scott liked the International talk and stated that comes up frequently in the political world. Whether it is the aviation magnet or magnets in general, some of the qualitative programs are worth having; those decide the reputation.

Mr. Relyea stated that they are called innovative programs.

Chair Scott commented that some are not necessarily popular, but others are a major deciding factor.

Mr. Relyea advised that schools can fill out annual applications for developing new innovative programs to address how to attract people and retain students within that school zone. The application process begins in Spring and ends in October for the following year and there are seminars that explain how to do this. He did not know how clearly that is advertised or how often new ones are approved, and he did know that once there was one law innovative program in the county, another law innovative would not be approved in the county. The avionics innovative has not been done. Mr. Relyea is putting together proposals for his school for a public policy/civic engagement innovative program. His school is losing students from eighth grade who are best and brightest, and they are testing to go to Heritage. He is going to propose an innovative program for Nova specifically or maybe for Northeast or someplace else to have something that deals with public policy and public service because that does not exist. The hope is to have that entity become a work engine for this Board so when research is needed there is a group of children dedicated to doing this; it includes students taking

AP Statistics and AP Micro and Capstone and Research, not just Civics and Gov. Universities are often places of cheap and free research that will produce government opinions.

Ms. Barnett questioned if the innovations were specific to high schools. She also questioned why they couldn't start sooner.

Mr. Relyea did not know why the innovations would be exclusive to high schools.

Chair Scott mentioned replacement of the Broward College campus in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. He stated that another question would be if the School Board was coordinating and if that would be everything from the Cambridge program and Magnet programs to Hollywood Hills with the Military Academy. Chair Scott assumed all the Board members were very passionate about these programs even though it is known that most young people are going to change their decisions about careers many times, but it helps them stay focused.

Mr. Large mentioned Finland high schools and stated that 43% are vocational.

Mr. Pasteur had conversation with Superintendent Runcie about vocational schools. In the innovative programs, as the world gets smaller, those programs are going to address jobs that will exist. The questions are, "What are we training people for?" and "Are we training people for things that are going to be obsolete?"

Dr. Persi left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Chair Scott believed that sometimes this Board is ideally the perfect intermediary for information. He mentioned the dramatic shortage of Fort Lauderdale Police Officers and noted that maybe one school has a Junior Office program that others do not know about.

Mr. Relyea indicated that one of the innovative programs is something that is called Linking Education and Employment Outcomes and many locations were published. The LEEO Innovative program in Maine exists at schools specifically to address employment. There are other innovative programs at other schools and funding comes from outside sources. Perhaps creating new programs and finding partners for them, which is what he plans to do, is a way of addressing employment, International competition, and linking students early before they hate school and closing the fifth to sixth gap and the eighth to ninth gap.

Dr. Zeman left the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Chair Scott indicated that Ms. Robinson sent out the notice for the next meeting to be held on Friday, October 26, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

Chair Scott mentioned an email sent from Ms. Robinson regarding Ed Talk on December 1, 2018 at the Convention Center.

C. City staff update – Junia Robinson – None.

V. Future Business – None.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2018 at City Hall from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

[Minutes transcribed by C. Guifarro, Prototype, Inc.]

Attachments: