



**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
KATHLEEN C. WRIGHT
ADMINISTRATIVE BLDG.
600 SE 3RD AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019–6:30 PM-8:30 PM**

July 2018 – May 2019

Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Dr. Allen Zeman, Chair	P	10	0
Robert Audet	A	7	5
Linda Barnett	A	6	5
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	6	6
Amy Ellowitz, Vice Chair	P	10	1
April Jeff (left at 7:35 p.m.)	P	4	3
Terry Large	P	8	4
Jennifer Lovell	P	10	2
Vickie Melus	P	3	2
Dr. Heather Munns	A	6	5
Sarah Owen DelNegri	A	6	5
Lincoln Pasteur	P	8	3
Christopher Relyea (left at 7:23 p.m.)	P	9	3
Betty Shelley	A	5	6
Rory Sponsler	P	2	0
Dr. Michele Verdi Knapp	P	10	1
Yolanda B. Francis	P	1	0
Lillian Small	A	1	11

Staff/Guests

Junia Robinson, Staff Liaison
 Zoie Saunders, Chief Education Officer
 Leslie Brown, Broward County School Board
 Dr. Rosalind Osgood, School Board Member, District 5
 Tatiana Guerrier, Prototype, Inc.

I. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance – Dr. Allan Zeman, Chair

This meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Attendance and Roll Call, 18 appointed members; 10 needed for quorum

As of this date, May 16, 2019, 12 of the 18 appointed members were present, which constituted a quorum.

New member introductions: Yolanda B. Francis and Rory Sponsler

Ms. Francis introduced herself. She works for Broward County Schools in the Exceptional Student Education Department and is a Curriculum Instruction Program Specialist.

Mr. Sponsler introduced himself. He teaches U.S. History, World History, and Travel and Tourism at Fort Lauderdale High School. He also worked in music therapy for students who are seriously emotionally disturbed.

New City Staff introduction: Chief Education Officer, Zoie W. Saunders, M. Ed.

Ms. Saunders introduced herself. Her work has always been focused on education, but from a community building perspective. She started as an undergraduate working in afterschool and summer programming in high poverty communities where she understood that education needs to extend beyond the classrooms and includes wraparound supports to promote the overall wellbeing of children and families. This role with the City of Fort Lauderdale allows her to bring together a lot of her passion related to community building and focus on how the Board can support the overall education success as a partner and carve out space in terms of how to make that impact.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that Ms. Saunders has been able to add seven different states, each having its own State system, and how to measure, assess, and set policies and resources. The way the City is organized, Ms. Robinson and Ms. Saunders both report as City Staff to the City Manager and the Board's job is to make recommendations to the City Council. His hope is that the Board embodies the change, which is how to get all organizations to work toward a common goal rather than having 100 organizations working in the realm of education with each trying to achieve their own goals, etc. He was very moved with Gulfstream Early Learning Center and noted that it is a wonderful model of how public policy can be put into practical progress.

Ms. Jeff questioned what states Ms. Saunders found had the strongest educational system.

Ms. Saunders stated that there is different prioritization for learning gains or growth. Some states were less than 10% or 20%, which was attributed to growth of students, where in Florida, about half is devoted to learning gains. Many states were beginning to increase the rigor, because while every state has their accountability framework, there are some International assessments that help the benchmark, so states were comparing their results to International standards. When looking at results, variability would be expected across states in terms of performance. Overall, there is a movement nationally to promote growth and bring in other elements that help give a better well-rounded view of success. The "Every Student Succeeds Act" advocates for more localized control and identifies non-academic measures of success. She could share more in a presentation to give a sense of the different models.

Chair Dr. Zeman questioned if one state stood out more than others in terms of quality of education.

Ms. Saunders thought that North Carolina placed more of an emphasis on getting to proficiency and not as much in factoring in the growth. In Georgia, the focus is on closing the achievement gap and making sure they are equitable in the way instruction is being delivered. There is a lot of variability within states and different populations and different communities.

**Angel Gomez, Governmental Affairs, Broward County Public Schools, BCPS
announcements and updates**

Mr. Gomez introduced himself and stated that he is the replacement for Charles Webster. He presently works in the Legislative Affairs Office of the School Board and oversees Governmental Affairs. Originally, he was a math teacher, then became an Assistant Principal, and later, a Principal. He is still Principal of Record for Piper High School until a new Principal is found. His goal is to attend each of the Education Advisory Board meetings.

Mr. Gomez distributed a document, "2019 Legislative Session Highlights" and noted that this information has not yet been presented to the School Board, but a highlight was prepared to give a taste of what is coming. There will be a Workshop on May 28, 2019 and that information will be emailed to Ms. Saunders in case anyone wants to attend.

Mr. Gomez mentioned the following House Bills:

- HB 7070: Persistently Low Performing Schools.
- HB 7070: Turnaround School Supplement.
- HB 7070: Voucher Program
- HB 7070: Teacher Certification Requirements.
- HB 7030: School Safety
- HB 7123: Taxation
- Budget: This year, the FTE went up by \$245 per student for a total of \$7,643. That means that the base allocation went up \$75 and last year it went up 41 cents and the base allocation total was \$4,279. The Safe School allocation is \$180 million Statewide, which is an 11% increase, \$75 million, which is an 8% increase in mental health, and \$20 million, which is a \$50 million decrease in visual classrooms. The public- school system was allocated \$0 for PECO, which usually goes to Charter Schools. There is no money from the State for schools that need rebuilding and Charter Schools get \$158 million.
- Additional Funding: There was an enrollment study conducted by Leslie Brown's office, which showed no increase in students 0-17 in Broward County for the next three years, but the population is increasing in adults and students with disabilities.

This year there was an \$800 million additional funding.

Ms. Dinnen mentioned proposals in the budget and noted that some of the things allocated separately last year were put into the FEFP this year.

Ms. Lovell understood the numbers were Statewide and questioned how much safe school allocation was for Broward County. She also questioned if that included funding for SRO's.

Mr. Gomez did not have an answer and stated that he would find out.

Chair Dr. Zeman advised that Mr. Gomez could send those responses to Ms. Saunders, so she could share them with the Board between meetings. He noted that Board members can talk to Mr. Gomez directly, but they are not allowed to come to him or anyone else on the Board.

Ms. Lovell indicated that a big concern she heard from the Principals was that the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department went to the schools, saw where their weaknesses were, and suggested things to make their schools safer. Those things have not been done and she questioned when they would be completed.

Mr. Gomez questioned if that was part of the Safe Haven Report from last year.

Ms. Lovell commented that the sound system and phone system did not work. She mentioned the turnaround school supplement of \$500 and questioned if that was per school or per child.

Mr. Gomez clarified that the \$500 was per child.

Vice Chair Ellowitz mentioned the 8% increase in mental health funding and questioned how that was being implemented. She also questioned how much was going to Broward County.

Mr. Gomez could not answer the question but stated that he would find out. His goal is to listen, and he did not want Board members to feel that they were not getting answers. He will get the answers and send them to Ms. Saunders.

Mr. Relyea advised that Nova High School hired a new person with some of the monies they received. He noted that Guidance workers do not have time to counsel because they do not have time and social workers are split between schools. His guess was that it would be actual human capital.

Ms. Dinnen mentioned that there are 67 counties in Florida and they do not all get equal

money.

Chair Dr. Zeman proposed that a volunteer is needed who wants to track legislation, to know the impact of Fort Lauderdale, not Statewide, not Broward statistics, but how much is coming to Fort Lauderdale schools and how many students fall into these categories. To be effective as an Advisory Board, members cannot talk to the Commissioners or sponsors in terms of Broward or about the State, otherwise there is a risk of losing their interest. To the extent that Mr. Gomez could help the Board understand how these things would be shred down to the City of Fort Lauderdale, that would be useful. He would like someone on the Board to volunteer to follow legislative issues for three months and come back with a report as to how these things affect our students.

Ms. Dinnen volunteered.

Mr. Gomez stated that he would work with them.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that the work could be split and started next month. The critical issue is to sit down with the Mayor or any Commissioners and say, "These monies are going to be available and where are the monies going". Chair Dr. Zeman mentioned that the Board took a recommendation from staff two months ago about asking the City Commission to have an Awards Ceremony for Phil Bullock, who was Teacher of the Year from Walker Elementary, and to his knowledge nothing was done.

Ms. Saunders advised that Mr. Bullock will be honored next Tuesday at the Commission meeting, along with Dillard High School and Fort Lauderdale High School. She did not know the exact time the awards would take place.

Ms. Robinson indicated that the meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. and the awards are done during the first 15 minutes. The Mayor recommended the Fort Lauderdale High School Boys' Soccer for an award, and one of the Commissioners recommended Dillard High School for an award.

Chair Dr. Zeman questioned if Stranahan won a State championship and if they received recognition from the Commission meeting. If not, perhaps they could be quickly added.

Ms. Robinson stated that it could probably be added to next month's agenda. Regarding the Dillard jazz band, they were recognized about three months ago by the Commission. They have been recognized several times, including this year.

Mr. Relyea was unclear and questioned if the City serves the students of people who reside in Fort Lauderdale regardless of where they go to school. If so, then Nova is one of the areas of influence. He advised that the Teacher of the Year for Broward County is a well-known teacher at Nova, and there is only one Teacher of the Year for the entire

County.

Chair Dr. Zeman responded affirmatively. He questioned if most students are from Fort Lauderdale.

Mr. Relyea stated they are not.

Ms. Saunders indicated that is part of the line of questioning as the model is developed. Part of the conversation is the scope of impact the City of Fort Lauderdale hopes to achieve.

Chair Dr. Zeman wants Board members to recommend anyone associated with Fort Lauderdale. The cost to benefit ratio by the Board is huge benefit, zero cost. They could recognize anyone by what they do, and sponsors would be excited. Anytime something can be celebrated that is politically not a front runner issue, such as poverty, education, other social issues, or mental health, it does not register because there is no budget with it and there are no voters, so the Board must keep fighting in education to get attention.

Motion by Ms. Lovell, seconded by Mr. Relyea, that Kristin Murphy, Law teacher at Nova Middle School, who was voted as Broward County Teacher of the Year, be recognized.

Note: Mr. Relyea left the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

III. Current Business

- **City Commission Joint Workshop on Education, 25 April 2019**

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that for the first time in the history of the Education Advisory Board, they had a Workshop with the Commissioners who put them on this Board. The Board worked for a long time and received advice, so they could be very specific about things that have the greatest impact. Copies of the presentation are available with six recommendations and the list of the top six was distributed. The resolution of the Workshop meeting was that the Commission asked the Board to come back within three to six months with very specific plans about what needed to be done. The City Commission has been engaged and have been exposed to some of the ideas. Dr. Verdi Knapp advised that 78% of students in Broward County receive free and reduced lunch. Others found information about Kindergarten readiness scores that were at 40% across the City of Fort Lauderdale; therefore, 60% of Kindergarteners show up in the first month unprepared to start Kindergarten. The challenge of not prepared by Kindergarten to fully prepared by third grade when there is a policy of a pass or retain year, and to get from not ready to passing in third grade is challenging. The biggest and most costly recommendation was the establishment of an Early Learning Center network in west Fort Lauderdale. The Board must decide how to move forward with those things. He thanked

everyone who attended the Workshop meeting and requested everyone share their biggest takeaway from the City Commission Workshop.

Mr. Pasteur commented that they would not be dealing with teacher accountability, which is critical in the early learning piece. He noted that the State is saying that perhaps more incompetent teachers will be in the classrooms.

Ms. Dinnen was encouraged that the Commissioners listened and are going to be involved. She thought they were especially interested in the Early Learning Center, as it got the most attention.

Dr. Verdi Knapp spoke about free Wi-Fi. Comments that came after she presented were that was done with the CRA, so it was provided by Sistrunk Boulevard and she questioned what about north of Sunrise Boulevard, which is still where this issue continues. Her takeaway was that there is still a lack of awareness as to the extent of poverty and the gap, and where it exists. It has been identified as the Sistrunk corridor, but it extends so much beyond that.

Chair Dr. Zeman felt like the Board has some responsibility to present a complete information package on a line of Wi-Fi access, which is what is received when free Wi-Fi is run along a road versus an entire area that is an internet desert. The presentation was compelling to the Commission and the Board must make sure they are prepared next time by having a complete package.

Ms. Jeff advised that she reached out to the Commissioner that evening and asked where specifically the free Wi-Fi was and if it was around Mount Olive Gardens, and if those people would get it in the apartment complexes. He said it was near the County area, so she called Northwest Gardens, because they participated, and the Assistant Manager to the complex said they never had free Wi-Fi. She then called several businesses including Rey's Market, who advised that they pay for their own business internet. She emailed the Commissioner to ask if free Wi-Fi was in the corridor and how far into the neighborhood it would go. She is waiting on a response because that is a vital piece, not just for the CRA corridor, but for the students. The presentations at the meeting were awesome and very well put together. The Commission had an answer for most of the things presented as far as extra activities in the summer; they had a program for 500 students, but there are so many other students to serve. She noticed the interest in the Early Learning piece, but she did not get the answer she was looking for.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that 500 students are 2.5% of the students in Broward County. The more prepared the Board is and the more the Commission is engaged, each conversation will stand on the shoulders of the previous work and will deepen the knowledge. This is the first time the City Commission is getting engaged in education.

Note: Ms. Jeff left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Mr. Large found it fascinating that the City and the Mayor were present, along with the School Board, Police, and Parks and Recreation all in the same room. This needs to be done again, perhaps with more people.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that attendance was amazing and next time it would be great if there were twice as many people.

Vice Chair Ellowitz liked the enthusiasm of everyone. The biggest takeaway for her was the reminder that there is a lack of knowledge on the part of the Commission; there is an awareness, but a lack of knowledge. The Board has an obligation to educate the Commission and there needs to be a stronger relationship between the Board and the Commission.

Chair Dr. Zeman was surprised that Dr. Runcie was present. One of the best parts of the meeting was when it was over, and Dr. Runcie looked at the Mayor and said, "When you do this in three to six months I will be back".

Ms. Saunders agreed with the enthusiasm and noted that there is a lot of energy and interest in education. A major takeaway was that the City is taking a vested interest in education in a formalized way for the first time and looking to launch a new division in an area of government. While doing so, it is important that a model is created, so the City can show how they are going to impact education, and when recommendations are received from the Advisory Board, neighbors, and community organizations, they understand where that fits in terms of how to make an overall impact. There is an opportunity to build upon recommendations coming from the Education Advisory Board, so everyone is coming in with a shared understanding of the City's current involvement in the educational space and what it means to implement and operationalize these recommendations. She would like to get input from all stakeholders regarding Mission, Vision, and Theory of Change, and noted that it comes down to building off the unique assets of the City. There were several questions as to how the City would make an impact. It is important that the approach is defined because it is not necessarily understood. There are models in other Cities that are becoming more formally engaged in public education and that is important to be defined, so we will carve out that unique space, so a big impact can be made. In terms of knowledge building, that is important.

Chair Dr. Zeman advised that at the beginning of the next meeting the Board will shred the 24 Fort Lauderdale schools per member, so one to two schools are picked up by everyone and they will define what it means to have a school; someone to communicate with, and someone to be the liaison to the City through Ms. Saunders. The adjoining park

was mentioned, which is a legitimate City issue. An interesting part of the Workshop was the Commission realizing how many things they did for education. The Parks and Recreation funds, which was a great analysis, the \$28 million out of the \$200 million, is being spent on Parks and Recreation adjoining to a school. The idea of doing joint use things is good government. There is also between \$17 million and \$42 million of money not allocated, which means if the School Board and the City could start thinking about it, there would be room to pick up new projects that would make those joint use parks prevalent. He was encouraged by the Commission going through their own knowledge of what they have done.

Another big impact was that there are 1,000 jobs in Fort Lauderdale for teachers as well as Administrators, Principals, custodians, etc. The School Board is the largest employer in Broward County. Chair Dr. Zeman questioned if the School Board is the #1 employer in the City of Fort Lauderdale. He noted that there is a consistent effort of companies that want to move here or companies who are thinking about staying and putting Fort Lauderdale on the final list of the three Cities where they want to be long-term and then dropping us off the list because their employees do not want to move here or stay here because of the public education, which is a huge impact. There is a direct economic impact of the schools; it is roughly a 5% increase in school performance that delivers 2.5% higher property value. Property value can relate directly to revenue to the City. If the Board wants the Commission to care about education, they could go the direct route and say, "These are important, these are the children and they should have a chance to learn". It is also about a great number of jobs and companies staying or leaving. Over the long-term, Cities that have excellent education have higher property values and higher revenues. He thought those discussions should be tightened, so there are key points that can make the case more pervasively when meeting with Principals or Rotary Clubs, not just with the Commission.

Ms. Dinnen believed that people look at one grade and that is how they evaluate a school in a given neighborhood, which she thinks is wrong. They do not know much about the magnet programs or other assets at the schools. There should be a way to get across to real estate people or to contact people looking for a place to live to provide a little more information about the schools in the neighborhood other than just a grade.

Mr. Sponsler stated that there may be a public perception, which is a problem; the schools may be achieving more than the public is aware. With the resources at each school, the Board could support the Principals by being a marketing voice for the City school system. If it is believed that schools are not being judged fairly, then perhaps, as a Board, a recommendation could be made to offer to support the City in being more proactive at publicizing the great achievements happening within the schools. With that positive message, maybe people working in the schools that are struggling would be uplifted. There is a Social and Emotional Learning and Education requirement that must be

delivered to students starting in 2019-2020, but there is no such provision for the adults who work on the campus, so, maybe the Board could work at building the self-esteem of people in those places, which would rub off onto the students.

Mr. Pasteur indicated that the State has cut \$30 million from the allocations to digital classrooms; it is now \$20 million.

Dr. Verdi Knapp stated that as realtors, their hands are tied because of a term called "steering". Their Code of Ethics restricts their ability to talk extensively about different schools and the characteristics of schools. One challenge she faces is the gap and it is going to get deeper and deeper if no way is found to reformat the grading system; the grade is the first thing her clients look at and that is their determination. Those communities are never going to develop because no one is moving there.

Chair Dr. Zeman advised that the County must make significant decisions. Superintendent Runcie has helped and provided financial incentives, which turned out part of the recipe for getting to that approval. He and Ms. Saunders have been invited to meet with Commissioner Glassman on Monday, who was the first Commissioner after the Workshop to say he was curious about things that could be done prior to meeting in three to six months. At Monday's meeting, the topic of conversation will be the slide that shows ten ideas but has six recommendations. The Board needs to see whether anything was learned from the Commission meeting and how they would like those issues to be addressed. He felt comfortable with the learning gains and stated that there has been a lot of discussion about that and a lot has been learned from the Principals. There is a school in Fort Lauderdale where only 58% of the kids learn one-year material according to the State test in one year of time and it is a "B" school. There is another school where 78% of the kids move forward in one year and it is a "D" school. The Board has requested that the City adopt the most basic model because it is the easiest to communicate, which is one year of education for one year of improvement within the standards and the Board will continue to advocate this until it is brought up and taken in another direction. Other than that specific recommendation, allowing the MLS listings for commercial and personal property for homes to have more than just a grade, but to have a grade and learning gains for the school, would allow people to see that in some schools that are "B" schools, 84% of the students advance one year for one year. That is a different story, people can feel that; it is a real number.

Ms. Saunders mentioned that it is important to drive learning gains and for equity to make sure gains are being looked at. Regarding transparency and communicating, the State already produces a learning gains metric and the Board is proposing another learning gains metric from a communication and PR perspective; it is going to be important that it is communicated in a way people understand. There are states that give a separate score just for learning gains, but the City has an opportunity to think about other measures of

success. This is still tied to the State test, so other metrics might help give a view of students' success more broadly beyond academics. Another consideration is since Early Learning seems to be of interest and is coming up a lot in conversation, the learning gains measure does not get at K-2 and for third graders it is only getting at the retained students. She questioned if there was a way to step back and think about learning gains overall that is all encompassing. As she meets with the School Board and Principals and gets a better handle on what metrics are already measured, that might be something that could be brought into the conversation; that the Board would want to recognize an increase in attendance, a decrease in discipline, and those types of things that ultimately help with the school grade performance.

Chair Dr. Zeman mentioned Recommendation #1 and stated that when this was presented to the Commission it became clear that there is a real opportunity for good government for County Parks and Recreation facilities on County land called School Parks and Recreations for pools at Fort Lauderdale High School, Stranahan, and Dillard and tennis courts at Sunrise Middle School or recreation and parks at elementary schools. It seemed to make a lot of sense that the City had \$28 million already allocated for parks adjacent to schools and some of that money is being spent on County property. The idea became, "Could the Board do 24 joint use Parks and Recreations, so the City of Fort Lauderdale could become the model for Broward County to open up what taxpayers pay for through schools and City Property Tax, and the allocation process Cities have and makes sense". During the day in general, this is what the school needs including City lands and Parks and Recreation facilities, and after school hours when appropriate for school to let locals use everything; basketball, tennis courts, swimming pools, any other Parks and Recreations. The idea was for Phil Thornberg from the City and the same person from Broward County to sit down with 21 of the 24 schools that have not done this and determine how those monies could be used together to make an immediate impact; this is another large benefit, which could be done this week, because the monies are there. The County has money for Parks and Recreation within the 21 schools remaining and the City has a substantial amount of money because of the Bond and it would be great for all residents of Fort Lauderdale if some forward progress could be made on something that would get some publicity and notoriety for the City moving into the education space. Instead of the \$40 million, which turned out to be a non-starter, perhaps the \$28 million could be used with some changes if it makes sense. There are three schools in Fort Lauderdale that let City employees open and close the school and he cannot imagine why that is not the right solution. A City employee for the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation, a Park Ranger, is as trustworthy as a custodian at any school in Broward County. The issue is how to get people over that small trust hurdle.

Ms. Dinnen commented that one of the things that impeded the joint use in the past was worries about liability and about having a guard at the pool; a City certified person. The School Board did not have people on duty on weekends and would have to pay extra for

someone. These are not impossible issues, but they must be discussed. There is a pool by Sunrise Middle School and there is a group who uses it extensively on the weekends, a swim club that has been there for many years. When thinking of opening the pool to the public, they went crazy. There are other things to consider and that is why this discussion by the Principal, the School Board person, and the Parks and Recreation person from the City would be good.

Mr. Pasteur stated that would also mean that someone would be needed with authority such as a security person.

Chair Dr. Zeman indicated that this past week, the City of Sunrise Aquatic Center had to be shut down for maintenance and they wanted to use the Fort Lauderdale pool on a Saturday morning for the City's swim team. All these things came up and at the end of the day the City paid the custodian to open the gate, so the liability about swimming and security issues were addressed. The financial part was addressed; the City paid them. In general, when looking at the City County relationships, the City always pays, and the schools never pay. There must be a point finding 24 solutions; everything could be worked out if everyone keeps an eye on the goal, which is 24 Parks and Recreation areas. The City has it at Victoria Park, Bennett, and Sunrise Middle and it works; it can be done.

Ms. Melus suggested that the Board come up with strategic goals; perhaps there could be a score card that shows what has been done at the end of the year clarifying on what could be accomplished and focusing on those areas.

Chair Dr. Zeman questioned if Ms. Melus thought a Roles and Responsibility sheet for a Board member to a school they are responsible for would be useful.

Ms. Melus replied, "Definitely".

Chair Dr. Zeman stated that a strategy thing was done, and it is very smart to go back and rethink that to make sure the Board is still on an allocating effort. A lot of effort was not spent on the other two pieces of the strategy and they should be considered. A lot of information was received about how to do an analysis and come up with actions, but the Commission was not won over; the 85% solution must go to a 105% solution to get their support. Hopefully when the Board meets in the fall, members will be assigned to all 24 schools and a whole meeting could be taken to discuss what the Board wants and what they achieved.

Ms. Francis mentioned the key issue and stated that the key to the school is for the entire District; any custodian can open any school within the entire District.

Chair Dr. Zeman stated that any Park Ranger can open any park and the City of Fort Lauderdale has about 143 parks.

Dr. Verdi Knapp indicated that there is one person who makes the keys in the County.

Ms. Francis questioned what time the Commission meeting is on Tuesday for the awards.

Ms. Robinson reiterated that the meeting is on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. The first presentation is from 6:00 p.m. to maybe 6:15 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. She noted that Commission meetings are televised.

Ms. Francis mentioned the low performing schools in the CRA zone and stated that one of the issues she has addressed is that the teacher rate is very low, and the teachers are usually new with very low mentorship, so they do not stay because they are stressed from day one. She is very interested how the Early Learning Center will work.

Ms. Dinnen commented that the two alternative schools must be added to the list.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that the alternative schools would be added to the slides. He stated that the way they ended up with 24 Fort Lauderdale schools was because the County did not provide the alternative schools; they thought the focus was on traditional schools. There are only 18 Board members, which is about 1.5 schools per member. When the Board meets again for the next school year, think about whether you can do two schools or one school. There will be discussion regarding goals and responsibilities during the first meeting of the school year and the intent after Labor Day will be to have a strategy session. The Board will think about what was achieved and what they want to achieve at the end of the year.

Ms. Francis mentioned that a couple of schools in our area do not have Principals for the next school year; North Fork and Walker Elementary. The Principal of North Fork is being moved to Coral Springs and Walker Elementary School is being reassigned to Flamingo.

- **Proposed Education Framework by CEO, Zoie W. Saunders**

Ms. Saunders provided a brief Power Point slide as follows:

Greenlit projects:

- The Board is on the Educational web page on the City website.

Basic requirements of what the Board wants to see on the website:

- A list of schools and general information.
- Testimonials, programming, and things that make the schools different, unique and desirable.
- Educational award ceremonies; it seems like October might be a good time.
- Showcase productive partnerships between the City and the schools.
- Spotlight schools regularly during Commission meetings.
- Publish a briefing of current City Educational offerings.

Ms. Saunders stated that Phase 1 is direction setting and making sure everyone is clear on that strategy; What is our mission? What is our vision? Moving into a listen and learn tour, understanding from all key stakeholders across the City what the focus should be. The Board is working to understand the vision of the City Manager and Mayor, and incorporating the Education Advisory Board's recommendations, so the City educational model will be important. If Mission, Vision, and Theory of Change is introduced into the environment it is believed it will impact the outcome, which would be important while establishing the framework and getting buy-in and support when it comes to making investments. The most frequent question is, "Why is the City getting more involved now?" It is important that we are outward and communicating a message of how and why we are getting involved.

Phase 2: Working to meet with a lot of people to understand their view of education and what they see as strengths of the City that can be capitalized on to improve education. It is critical that the Board stay coordinated to make sure they are learning together. It is also important to go out in the neighborhood to get input and build recognition of what is being done.

Launching new education focus: Phase 1-5

There are a couple things to focus on when thinking about developing the City's educational model, which will help define educational excellence for the City. Conversation will provide decision making in a prioritization framework. As the Board goes back to the Commission, it is important to align with and make sure they can route through the framework to make decisions more quickly. As far as creating synergy with partners, when thinking about the City being involved in this education space, there are a lot of other players already involved, so it is important, as a City, to understand the core competencies we bring, so when going into partnership meetings the Board can say, "Here is our model and here is how you fit within that model to support efforts and the shared purpose of promoting education".

Ms. Saunders wants to maximize City assets and differentiators. As a government entity, the Board must be responsible with public dollars, so think about what the City already does, that could further leverage or potentially extend so it could impact education.

When developing grants in the future it will be important that the City's model and Theory of Change be shown, which is often required in grant applications. When getting further into partnerships with memorandums and understanding, it will be critical to have that in place as well.

Key questions are:

- What key elements should be incorporated in the City's education model?
- What City assets can be leveraged to support education?

Ms. Saunders has seen that work that has been done is building upon those assets, which is important, because those things are already in place in the City and can be further leveraged. Her view, from a context perspective, is that the Board is getting into this work because there has been a low public perception based on neighbor surveys. Up until the last couple of years, there was a performance trend that was downward, and currently we are on an upward trend; 41% of the schools are "A" and "B" and the gap analysis by the Board reveals identifying issues of equity and opportunities they can support with effort.

From a City perspective, Ms. Saunders sees that education is core in building communities. Our mission, as a City, is to build communities and education, which improves lives and ultimately communities. She noted that many Cities across the country are becoming involved even though they do not have direct oversight.

Ms. Saunders questioned how the Board can be involved in a way that will promote positive outcomes for our City. More and more Cities across the country are becoming involved even though they do not have direct oversight.

Ms. Dinnen mentioned economic benefits.

Mr. Sponsler stated future of the City.

Ms. Saunders stated that the second question is How? There is not a large staff and we are not directly overseeing schools; work done talks about partnerships. She sees an opportunity for accountability. Assignments with schools is being an advocate for each school; knowing the school and the local community. That is an accountability effort where the Board can support and champion what makes sense. Leverage City assets and think about innovative community-based approaches and different ways of doing things. This group has started to explore what that might look like. The City has a compelling

opportunity to create a model that is truly innovative, that yields results and could be replicated across the country. When thinking about how, there are other things to consider when approaching this work.

Chair Dr. Zeman suggested not limiting to leveraging existing assets but thinking about education as an investment. The City invests in water treatment plants, and buys between the City, County, and State, significant investments in roads, bridges, railroads, and less has been thought about the investment and the beneficiaries of that educational investment. From a purely self-interested perspective, he would say that the City has dramatically underinvested in its opportunities to improve education. He thought that leveraging City assets underestimates and creates a model insufficient to the real need; if the City wants to be a great City, it must have great education. The second issue is maximizing long-term revenue, which is done anyway; it is a human right. There is also a right to imagine a City where everybody has the right to learn. Even if someone does not believe that and does not want to spend money to do that, they would invest in local education issues because it maximizes their long-term revenue.

Ms. Saunders thought the Board would have to be clear about investment decisions and what they are trying to accomplish in terms of outcome. How does a request for an investment from the Board filter in the model to support an outcome? The Board wants to invest in a way the City can deliver. There are schools that are physically located within the City of Fort Lauderdale, but many residents are zoned for other schools, so the Board needs to think through the scope.

Ms. Dinnen commented that the City government benefits.

Ms. Saunders mentioned desired outcomes and noted that equity has been discussed, which is a major driver in work done thus far.

Staff updates:

- Broward County Public Schools approved an Alternative Charter School that will open next year.

Ms. Francis questioned where the schools are located.

Ms. Saunders advised that the school will be located on Davie Boulevard and will be in City Commission District #4. They are currently renovating a campus; it will be in a shopping plaza.

Chair Dr. Zeman suggested coming back to this model as these kinds of discussions did not give it justice. He requested that Ms. Saunders send the Power Point to Board

members. He felt that it would be more effective if things were done between meetings than during meetings. Meetings should be for setting strategies, reporting, and answering questions. Chair Dr. Zeman stated that the City will not get better until certain issues are addressed.

Ms. Robinson announced that she would be going back to her regular job but would always be available for the Board. Any Board related matters should go through Ms. Saunders, as she is the staff liaison.

- **Planning for Return to City Commission in 3-6 Months** – None.
- **Approve minutes (March 21st and April 25th)**

Chair Dr. Zeman indicated that there are members of this Board at risk of being removed due to attendance. The attendance policy for any appointed member is strict and non-negotiable. If a member misses three meetings in a row or four meetings in a year, they will be removed by the City Clerk. The member can go back to the City Commissioner and get reappointed and if their year runs out. It is disappointing when we, as a Board, start to make progress on things and lose people that helped get us to that point. The Statute makes attendance mandatory; no one has the authority to waive it; a member would have to go back and request a reappointment.

Motion made by Dr. Verdi Knapp seconded by Ms. Lovell, to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2019 as amended. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

- Zoie Saunders was not at the meeting.
- Page 2 at the bottom: The Fort Lauderdale High School Principal's last name is **Ribeiro**, not Rivera.

Ms. Robinson advised that if any errors are sent to her via email there is nothing she can do, it has to be on the record, so Prototype can make the changes.

Motion made by Ms. Lovell, seconded by Vice Chair Ellowitz, to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2019. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

IV. New Business – None.

V. Closing

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.