



North Area Advisory Council

Be The Change Agent!!!

Broward County Public Schools  
**North Region Advisory Council - General Meeting**  
Monarch High School  
August 31, 2023, 6:15-8:45PM



Email: [NorthAreaAdvisory@gmail.com](mailto:NorthAreaAdvisory@gmail.com)

Website: <http://northareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>

Chair- Cynthia Dominique; Vice Chair- Karla Figueroa; Recording Secretary- Danielle Dunfee; Corresponding Secretary- Yolanda Coulon; Communications Chair- Lucie Di Capua

### August 2023 Meeting Minutes as corrected

\*\*Attendance: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18eLOLEC-WPhaiKhYxnfJoC8AjKVY-cg4/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108024027204976049407&rtpof=true&sd=true>

#### ☐ Item 1: Meeting Called to Order 6:27 PM by Chair: Cynthia Dominique

#### ☐ Item 2: Meeting Etiquette & Approval of Minutes

- Attendance Required for good standing and ability to vote (3 consecutive and 4 total is not in good standing); One (1) question/comment per member until all members have had an to speak; Please stay on topic. Guests will be able to comment/ask questions as time permits
- Approval of Minutes - postponed to September Meeting when more Chairs present

#### ☐ Item 3: Introductions

- Nora Rupert of District 7
- **Special Guest: NEW Superintendent Dr. Licata**
  - Promise not to take the bonus, but to donate that to scholarships
  - Goal to work on Facilities
  - Spent 29 years at Palm Beach County (most of his career in Boca Raton). Grew up in Pompano.
  - Going to look at putting behavioral professionals at every school. Wants more resources in place that will prevent students from making the wrong choices, be proactive.
  - Mention that “money was found”...Need elaboration on this
  - Opened the Floor to Questions to Audience
    - Gerald (Rep for Rickard Middle School, Father of 3 boys): Dr. Licata confirmed permits are in for this school. He spoke to the contractor, Brian Johnson while on his drive to our meeting.
    - Nicole Kearny (Parliamentary): Palm Beach’s Website is user friendly and Broward’s it not. Dr. Licata already met with Dr. Philips to discuss this and will have improvements on the way.
    - Lucie Decapua (Riverside ES & North Area Communications Chair): Clear backpack concerns as this is back on the agenda. Dr. Licata said this was prior to his arrival and he was surprised to hear this. His experience with backpacks is to let the schools work through their parent associations, but community needs to have input. He has more experience with mesh backpacks vs. clear backpacks.
    - Lyons Creek Question regarding buses: Involves student crossing a canal and main highway. Open seat program starts in October – If there’s a bus in your neighborhood that you’re not assigned to and they have an open seat, student can be moved into this bus.
    - Nora Rupert question about Activity Buses or lack thereof as students are uberbing or paying for public transportation on their own because there are no afterschool transportation options. These are BIG on the list and will be expanded. Our bus drivers did just get a boost in pay, but this will be overtime thing that Dr. Licata is committed to.
      - Segway – Cynthia Dominique chairs the Transportation Committee and would love to see this on the Legislative Priorities as a District.
    - Cynthia Dominique:
      - Epic Communication Failures...Here Comes the Bus application was not ready in time for school to start and will not be ready until 2<sup>nd</sup> week in September. The routes were not established in time, hence this delay.

- Technology Concerns – There are so many apps that not even the Tech Officer knows how to use them all.
- Commended Principal of Monarch HS for his First Day of School Success
- Peter Turso (Crystal Lake MS) – Parent Engagement Concerns esp. when there’s such a correlation between the success of students and the school when parents are involved.
  - Dr. Licata mentioned expanding the International Welcome Center for parents. 40% of our district is Hispanic, 38% Black, 19% white (by the end of this year, he’s guessing 18%).
- Desiree (Park Springs) – Safety & Security question: What are we doing for a child left outside when there’s a lockdown and a locked door?
  - Dr. Licata’s answer: The only way to figure this out is through drills. Also need the children to be trained on what to do when they hear code red. Training is key. So far, there have been three incidents this year that were deterred because kids spoke up.
- Nicole Morst (Coral Glades HS): Palm Beach piloted a new metal detection system and what’s your feedback?
  - Dr. Licata’s answer: The best part of metal detectors is NOT making them consistent – that’s when the kids will eventually figure it out. They need to be random.
- Cynthia Dominique’s closing remark to Dr. Licata “Every decision you make, let it be equitable”

#### □ Item 4: Old Business

- **Discipline and Promise Program**

We had a parent sit on this community who shared disappointment in the previous meeting and felt that they weren’t prepared with solutions. We will continue to work with Jodi Washington & School Board on this.

#### □ Item 5: New Business

- **North Region Introductions and Updates**

- Tom LaPace, Dir of Teaching & Learning for the North (oversees all the HS’s and 5 MS’s)
  - **Let’s Celebrate**
    - **Lloyd Estates** – Principal will be going to Germany to participate in Exchange
    - **MSD** – Band students will be marching in Macy’s Day Parade. Florida State Baseball Champions.
    - **Blanche Ely High** – School’s Senior Biance Jusme Student Rep to the Broward School Board
    - **8 National Merit Scholars**
- **Maria Perez (17 ES)**
  - Welcomed a number of new AP’s (4 in ES, 3 in MS, 5 in HS)
  - Thomas Darby – moving to Deerfield Park Elementary to help us improve this school to A Status.
- **Ricardo Santana – Director in the North Region**
  - School Visits Purposeful
    - Coaching Protocol – Everyone needs a coach to elevate
    - Professional Learning – If we’re not growing, w- e stand to become irrelevant.
    - Leadership Team – Does is support learning for ALL? Goal is to have all students to have a connection to our schools.
    - Data
    - Classroom Walkthroughs – aligns all these plans to actualize in the classroom
    - School Operations
- **Merideth Weiss Schnur** –
  - District is bringing back Instructional Facilitators this year
  - Welcomed 3 New Principals – Riverside ES, Heron Heights ES, Liberty ES
- **Michelle Stein (the new Scott Jarvis) – Assistant Director** – has spent her entire career in the North Area.

#### □ Item 6: Legislative Updates

Presenter: Megan Turetsky | Director, Legislative Affairs | Division of Student Services Ph: 754-321-2608

- Budget:
  - o This year Broward secured a “Mentoring for Athletes” Pilot program with \$250K to the state and brings in community partnership.
  - o Overall Broward received \$363.69 increase from last year.
- **Full Legislative Report Found Here:**  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M9frCHqwamUxB2nR4T3iTER4nWe-WHkD/view?usp=sharing>
- **Major Pieces of Legislation that Passed:**
  - o **HB 551 Required African American Instruction**
    - Passed, but won’t go into effort this year. Nothing has changed THIS year. Nicole Morst had a concern that a teacher in their MS mentioned otherwise...
    - Requires districts to provide evidence of instruction of AA Instruction
- **Other Bills:**
  - o SB 240
    - Put a great deal of funds into CTE
    - Requires HS Students to have the option to enroll in at least one work-based opportunity
  - o **HB 733 Middle & High School Start Times**
    - Requires that no later than July 1, 2026 public and charter middle schools must begin no later than 8am and 8:30am for High Schools.
  - o **HB 1069 Prohibits Classroom Instruction on Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity**
  - o **HB 1 School Choice – Expands the State’s Voucher Program**
    - How does this impact the district? We saw a 2,000 decrease but that was on the first day of school.
    - Funding: It will LOOK like we’re getting more funding, but it’s really only going to Voucher students. They put a \$350M Security Pot on this that we’re watching.
- **Other Announcements Megan Turetsky Made:**
  - o Rally to Tally January 16-18
  - o Superintendent Town Halls
    - Sept 14<sup>th</sup> McNab Elementary
    - Sept 27<sup>th</sup> Sheridan Tech College & HS
    - Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Westpine MS
  - o Revamping Strategic Partnerships – We will be seeing a lot more info on this throughout the year.

□ **Item 7: Reproductive Health and Safety**

Jodi Washington | Director, Equity, Diversity and School Climate | Division of Student Services Ph: 754-321-1600

**See presentation –** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M8lf4Q0AgyqoqCisfLN5z3UOez0TL-G2/view?usp=sharing>

**Questions for Future Discussion:**

1. What happens if your student is absent when these required instructions are taught?
2. When the supplemental curriculum is developed, will it come back to us to review?
3. What does the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend for the appropriate age to learn about Puberty?
4. Does Curriculum touch on the slang terms?

**\*\*The Survey Closes September 13<sup>th</sup>.... Board Meeting is October 18<sup>th</sup>**

<https://northareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/content.asp?PageID=0>

**Once/IF approved the goal will be to teach supplemental by Q4. (This list is just to list a FEW, please refer to the presentation for the full list of required and supplemental). The Red sections in the presentation are decision points that we’re looking for feedback on.**

- **Grades K-2**
  - o **Required:**
    - Safe and Unsafe Touch, but they do not use medically accurate terms rather they prefer to as “private parts” and defined by area as covered by bathing suit and mouth.

- Understanding the difference between tattling & reporting
  - **Supplemental:**
    - Teach Students medically accurate names for private parts such as penis, breasts, etc. There is data that backs up WHY children should know the medically correct names. The reasoning behind this is to stop the sexual abuse of children.
    - Teach the definitions for the words sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and domestic violence. **Is this K-2? 3-5? The feedback has been mixed on this one. Many voiced in favor of K-2...** There are already required standards that touch on these, but these actual words are not in there now.
- **Grades 3-5**
  - **Required:**
    - The rights I have with my own body
    - Understanding Cyberbullying, Cyber Safety
    - Standing up to Peer Pressure
    - to as “private parts” and defined by area as covered by bathing suit and mouth.
    - Sexting/photos of sexual parts
  - **Supplemental:**
    - Teach about puberty in females & males.
      - In FL Standards Reproductive system is taught in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.
      - For the last 9 years, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade is when Puberty is Taught. It’s being recommended to move this into end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade bc the average age of girl’s menstruation
      - In the Girls Book it teaches about what happens to boys and vice versa. It just doesn’t go into detail as explicitly for the opposite gender book.
    - Exclude pages on sex, gender, & society (this will come in HS)
- **Grades 6-8**
  - **Required:**
    - Fitting in and acceptance – how not to cave in to peer pressure
    - Grooming
    - Staying safe in a digital world
    - to as “private parts” and defined by area as covered by bathing suit and mouth.
  - **6<sup>th</sup> Supplemental:**
    - Decision Point: At what point in time do we introduce contraceptive/birth control methods? The standard introduces STI’s in this grade. Many felt that teaching this as early as possible was necessary.
    - Right now, STI’s are covered in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
    - Respecting the boundaries of others
    - Puberty & Human Reproduction
    - Understanding the difference between friendship and a romantic relationship.
    - Understanding the difference between liking and loving
  - **7<sup>th</sup> Supplemental:**
    - Abstinence as the expected standard
    - Decision Point: Should age-appropriate instruction in contraceptives & birth control be provided and if so, when should it begin?
  - **8<sup>th</sup> Supplemental:**
    - Talking responsibly to a partner about sex, including texting
- **High School**
  - **Required:**
    - Personal Rights & Responsibilities
    - to as “private parts” and defined by area as covered by bathing suit and mouth.
    - Age of consent in FL is 16.
  - **Supplemental:**
    - Understanding Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation

- Consent (**many felt this needed to be taught even earlier than HS**)

☐ **Item 8: Motion to Extend Meeting**

**8:44pm Motion Passed to Extend 15 Minutes – Nicole Morst First, Muriel Theoprin-Atilus Seconded**

☐ **Item 9: Before and After Care**

- Page 5 shows proposed revisions going before the board.
- For parents with special need students, aftercare becomes even more challenging.

☐ **Item 10: Motion to Extend Meeting**

**9:00pm Motion Passed to Extend 15 Minutes – Jessica Benner First, Second by Lucie Decapua**

☐ **Item 11: Naviance-Xello**

- No longer exists at this moment. They are trying to transition to Zello. Waiting for answer from Dan Shapiro on where we are with this and how the transfer will happen. There's work in this program that starts in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- Push to start BRACE Advising much sooner than Senior Year – start it in Middle School so that students are aware of the steps they will need to take.

☐ **Item 12: Science Curriculum Adoption**

- Looking for parents to be involved in this. See flyer.
- Post this flyer in the Welcome Center of all Schools – It's for all Schools.

☐ **Item 13: Calendars/Meetings- 2024-2025 Calendar Options; Scheduling of Meetings/School Events, Feeder Schools**

- Principals – Please steer clear of hosting family events the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month so that our North Area can hold quorum as it's the same parents that attend both.

☐ **Item 14: Committee Reports:**

- Teacher Rep:
  - **FAST Assessments & 3 Diagnostics for iReady (the adaptive to target gaps)**
  - **iReady – Math, Reading, Flight Fluency (replaces Reflex Math and Success Makers)**
    - Recommended 30-40 minutes per week
    - Pass lessons weekly
    - On Clever
    - All Schools have it now
  - **Gallopade is the new Social Studies Curriculum (this will be shared on our website)**
    - **K-12 adoption**
    - Starts with Maps to understand the basic foundations
    - Very interactive, student friendly, teachers like it, available in multiple formats
    - It does include AA History
- Zoning/Enrollment:
  - For example - what are we doing for the families with children at both Glades & MSD?
    - There's a budget deficit that the school is down 199 students.
    - MSD is over capacity still, BUT they're under what was expected.
  - Why can't they do Hardships now though? Can't you allow Hardships for those parents who have students at two different schools?

☐ **Item 15: Meeting Adjournment**

**9:26pm Motion by Cynthia Dominique, Seconded by Jessica Benner**

## **Please register on our website for updates**

- [SAF Reminders and Call to Action!](#)

Elections at schools-Reps need to be SAF Chair at their school; Loop Reproductive Health/Policies at your schools, Ethics Training to be complete by 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting (October), SAF Training

● Future Meeting DATES:

North Region Steering Meeting	September 21 <sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm at Monarch High (Before General Meeting)
North Region <u>GENERAL Meeting</u>	September 21 <sup>st</sup> at 6:15pm at Monarch High School
DAC Special Meeting	September 13 at 6:15pm at KCW

Submitted respectfully,

*Danielle Dunfee*

**Recording Secretary**