



General Meeting Minutes

Monarch High Schools/Teams

December 21, 2023, 6:15-8:45pm

Email: NorthAreaAdvisory@gmail.com

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

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

ATTENDANCE:

In Excel:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QhxcY4HEZvkAgIxoTCK1hxnRtCBZKQM/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108024027204976049407&rtpof=true&sd=true>

PDF:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w3DxUGEtGXO0higdMQULCKTNe9_r21w6/view?usp=drive_link

☐ Call to Order 6:39pm Call to Order, by Chair: Cynthia Dominique

A. Meeting Etiquette and Attendance

1. Maintain Decorum and Respect; silence phones and sidebar conversations; Stay on topic. One question/comment per member; Guests will be able to comment/ask questions as time permits.
2. **Emphasis on attendance and completing ethics training to be in good standing.** Attendance required for good standing and ability to vote; no more 3 consecutive or 4 total but the goal is 100% attendance.

B. Approval of Minutes –

Motion Passed: First by Mrs. TaiQuay Bogle and second by Chuck Harper

- **Last year we went green and are no longer printing agendas and previous meeting's minutes. Please access these digitally.**

C. Introductions

Introduction of committee members and encourage participation in committees based on interests. The various subcommittees mentioned: elementary school committee, academics/curriculum/program subcommittee, high school/middle school subcommittee, zoning/enrollment committee, nominating committee, and policy/bylaws committee.

****Please Remind parents and staff chairs to attend and engage with the committee meetings.**

- Nicole Kearney will be bringing changes to our Bylaws come January
- Online we have our At Large Board Member, Debra Hixon.
- Landyn Spellburg – student advisor to the School Board joined online
- Kathy Keith – School Discipline Department

D. Website Review and Registration

- Urged attendees to register on their website for updates
- **Highlighted where to find the school spotlight.** (Click on the North Region Schools Tab and then on the left-hand side you will see the school spotlight submission to be highlighted at our next meeting)
- **Review the shared resources available for SAF Chairs**

E. School Spotlight: Two Schools

- I. Charles Drew Elementary School – NAAC toured the Media Center, where they had their cheerleaders present, their safety patrol students, ASE students, and “Men of Class” (and there’s “Women in Class”). Men of Class was praised for their efforts in supporting students.... This program is in need of suits and dresses for the students.
- II. Atlantic West Elementary – under Principal Sherene Reynolds – over a year ago the school was in major disrepair but improvement as of today is evident. They have an interactive wall – where kids can press on the wall, hop a

few times, etc. for those students who could use the enhanced stimulation. The kids who improve on the PM get to go to a “Glow Up” party to celebrate improvement.

Old Business

F. Calendars: We have a provisionally approved calendar for '24-'25 School Year that starts on Monday, August 12th – Tuesday June 3rd.

- No, this was not one of the start date options provided to us.
- On the calendar committee there are ~160 members with representatives from various departments and unions in the committee. The Board’s goal was to add more learning days to improve academic performance.
- There are concerns about scheduling conflicts for technical schools with the proposed calendar change.
- **Dr. Fleming** mentioned that this calendar isn’t approved yet, but the point is to end the semester with Christmas break. January 23rd is the next meeting when it will come back for final approval. As parents, we can always provide input. There’s always a planning day and an early release at the end of the quarter as part of the teacher’s collective bargaining. The Board asked for the early release days to become full days.
- The timing of PM2 testing before winter break is questioned by some committee members who suggest moving it after the break instead. Cynthia, Chair of NAAC, discussed the challenges of testing after breaks and the importance of having data for planning.

G. Attendance: Go on the school improvement plan to see where your school lies – what tier you’re in. We have a handful of tier 3 schools in our North Area. **Understand the factors of attendance at your schools to bring this dialogue back to the North Area.** Cynthia made a request for data to see the absentee data on early release days, bus reasons, etc.

**The State doesn’t recognize excused absences – if a student is out of school, they’re out.

- B-Tip: Broward Truancy Program
- Concerns were raised about social workers' workload and counselors' availability to support students. Our school social workers are split between so many schools – they don’t have the bandwidth to go knock on doors. **Debra Hixon mentioned that the duties/job descriptions of school guidance counselors will be reviewed and discussed at the next board meeting to ensure a focus on their designated tasks.**
- There are limitations in incentivizing student attendance due to district policies but proactive approaches such as providing information about consequences for chronic absenteeism were suggested.

H. Motion Updates:

- Reproductive Health Motion that we passed here failed at District Advisory. For some of the same reasons that we discussed here – one being logistics of where to place those children with the opt-outs.
- Passed at DAC: Conversations surrounding allowing students to carry the legal amount of mace without being disciplined for it.
 - o Many students don’t have the luxury to walk home through a safe neighborhood.
 - o **The policy conflicted in two different places pages 20 and 30 are contradictory. Action Item to clarify discrepancies and review such.** Lucie Di Capua, NAAC Communications Chair, pointed out that Policy 5100 from June 13, 2023 contradicts what Kathy Keith said.
 - o Speaker: Kathy Keith (SESIR Management for Broward & Works with the Disciplinary Committee):
 - According to the Code of Conduct, carrying mace is not allowed for any reason. What changed is that it’s no longer considered a weapon A, it’s a weapon B.
 - The State gives us guidelines listed under Zero Tolerance
 - **Behavior Summit: We need stakeholders to attend this – please encourage attendance.** Discuss acts against persons and gather feedback on consequences. Teachers and administrators will meet on the 19th and then January 20th (Saturday) – we will have three meetings (one in North Area, one in South, one in Central, one virtual). Fliers will come out shortly. Just waiting to nail down a location.
 - Nicole Kearny asked: Can a student have a permissible amount of mace that is stored/locked up during the school day and then provided back to the student when leaving – like an EpiPen?
 - Hixon mentioned this was discussed, but then was the school liable for the mace?

- Landryn Spellberg (attending on behalf of the Student Advisors from Millenium & Blanche Ely)
- SESIR data incidents: you can see by month for each school by going to the district website, then clicking on the school.
- For a child issued a felony outside of school and it goes through the court system – student has to go in front of the BIC (Behavior Intervention Committee) for decision.

I. North Region Data Update – Progress Monitoring & Student Achievement Data

Presented by: Dr. Jermaine Fleming (North Regional Superintendent), Mr. Ricardo J. Santana Reyes (experience as Principal in both Middle & High Schools, now Director of North Region), Meredith Weiss Schnur (was an elementary principle for 10+ yrs. before this position as a North Region Director)

- PM3 = the actual assessment that counts toward promotion (3rd graders), graduation (10th grade)

I. Discussion on How School Letter Grades are Implemented:

(Last year was a whole new system & standards + we didn't have the State data last to measure improvement/growth)

1. ELA:
 - a. Elementary Grades 3-5 only for Math, Reading, Science
 - b. MS – all grades count
 - c. High School – it's measured by 9th and 10th grade only
2. Math:
 - a. ES – same as ELA
 - b. HS – Alega & Geometry are the only ones that count. Advanced Math, AP for example – don't count.
3. This coming year, the grayed-out areas shown in the handout that are for learning gains will now count as we have the specific data from last year.
- ii. Correlations with achievement & economic status, attendance
- iii. The Grading Scales for School Grading have changed for Middle & High; ES remained the same.
- iv. Graduation & Acceleration all lag a year in HS...They're published a year late year over year.
 1. Students who withdrawal or drop out will go against that schools 'graduation rate. This is why the school wants and should know where their students are. If the student enrolls into another school though, then that withdrawal at least won't count to that school's graduation rate.
- v. Broward Grade Level of NORTH REGION:
 1. Grade A: 15 Schools (11 are ES)
 2. Grade B: 14 Schools (8 are ES, 5 MS, 1 HS)
 3. Grade C: 33 Schools (22 are ES, 6MS, 5 HS) ...**Based on the recent scaling change, we have more C graded Elementary Schools than last year.**
 4. Grade D: 4 schools (3 ES and 1 HS)
 5. None are F
- K-2 FAST
 - o PM1 ELA – North Region Elem School's were 50% proficient. By PM2 grew to 59%
 - o PM1 Math – 66%. By PM2 76%.
- vi. Coconut Creek & Lyons Creek for example will get an influx of students from Brazil show up to the school around PM2 (because that's when Brazil is on summer break). Dr. Fleming assured that **only students who were present for BOTH FTE count toward the school grade.**
- vii. Lucie Di Capua, NAAC Communications Chair asked what the school does for the students that come in at the beginning of the year at a 5? How are we measuring their gains?
- viii. Lucie Di Capua, NAAC Communications Chair asked: How is testing from FSA compared to FAST? Mr. Santana said that on average the reading curve seems to be lower. Math scores are quite even to where they were before. Then again, you're also getting the COVID kids from 3, 4, and 5th grade who are behind. Students are now taking tests on computers. This led to a discussion on **specials:**

- Cynthia mentioned that schools get to pick their specials. Margate Elementary felt passionate about the need to learn typing, so this has been added to their curriculum starting in K.
- A Plus Funds: Although the SAC votes on how that money is spent, it's the teachers who also vote on it to decide how it is spent.
- Cambridge: Middle School is only a PRE-Cambridge program. It's only a preparation. Cambridge is only HIGH SCHOOL.

8:43 motion to extend Meeting:

First by Jessica Benner and second by Lucie Di Capua, NAAC Communications Chair

J. Announcements:

Note the Future Meeting Dates Below – **These are open to ALL parents. When we're in a forum like NAAC, we can really dial into the issues to then come back to these meetings with some recommendations and soliton**

Elementary Committee	January 9th 6:30-9pm
District Advisory General Meeting	January 10 th 6:15pm- 8:45pm
Zoning and Enrollment Committee	January 11 th 9:30am-11:30am
Academics, Curriculum and Programs Committee	January 16 th 9:30am-11:30am
North Area Steering Meeting	January 18 th 5:00-6pm
North Area General Meeting- Coconut Creek High	January 18 th 6:15pm-8:45pm
North Area Engagement and Outreach- Dave Thomas	January 19 th 8:30am
Policy and Bylaws Committee	January 25 th 9:30am-11:30am
Middle and High School Committee	January 31 st 6:30pm to 9:00pm
SAF Training Committee	TBA

****Access all January Meeting with these codes: Meeting ID: 264 511 103 865 Passcode: fAFzHb**

K. Adjourn

8:55pm Motion to Adjourn

First by Nicole Morst, Second by Nancy Fry

Submitted respectfully,

Danielle Dunfee

Recording Secretary

Links and Resources Discussed During Meeting

- ☐ **NAAC Website:** <http://northareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/> ; Please register to receive emails and updates
- ☐ **Advisories and Committees Meeting Schedules:** <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/32049>; Advisory Calendar: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LOHJMylx-iPhK4Pd1TuOl2MZKbHGomk/edit?usp=sharing&oid=111203372059625663099&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- ☐ **Ethics Training:** <http://browardschools.com/Page/41329>
- ☐ **Broward Schools Policies:** <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/37754>
- ☐ **School Board and Leadership Staff Directory:** [School Board & Leadership Staff Directory / School Board Members \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- ☐ **Facilities: Smart Futures-** [Home - BCPS SMART Futures](#)
- ☐ **Attendance Counts:** [2022 Attendance Memo Report.pdf \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- ☐ **Enrollment Counts:** [Maps and Data / Student Enrollment Counts \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- ☐ **Graduation Rates:** https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/domain/13537/releases/memos/2022_Graduation_Memo.pdf; [2021GraduationAppendixC.pdf \(browardschools.com\)](#)

□ **3rd Grade Promotion Rates:**

https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/domain/13537/releases/briefs/2022_Promotion_Report.pdf

- **BCPS About Us Page:** Scan the QR Code to Visit this page to find demographics, enrollment, promotion and graduation rates, and AP/AICE/IB Enrollment and test rates and program enrollment.