



North Area Advisory Council

Monarch High School 5050 Wiles Road Coconut Creek, FL 33073

August 29th, 2024, 6:15-9:00pm

Email: NorthAreaAdvisory@gmail.com

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

Chair- Cynthia Dominique; Vice Chair- Karla Figueroa; Recording Secretary- Danielle Dunfee; Corresponding Secretary- Lucie Dicapua; Communications Chair- Nicole Kearney

General Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1R_tOllyO1bCuR1EaUOlyHQy4y1T8rygC/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=108024027204976049407&rtpof=true&sd=true

A. 6:24 pm Call to Order by Chair Cynthia Dominique

B. House Keeping and Meeting Etiquette

1. SAF Chairs are required to attend all meetings. You will not be in good standing and lose voting privileges if 3 consecutive meetings or 4 total are missed. This affects quorum for us, which is 30% according to our bylaws.
2. Principal I-Zone Representative should attend monthly meetings; all are always welcome
3. 1 question per member and if time permits will have a second round of questions- Please raise your green placard to be acknowledged by the chair or vice chair; Use the QR code to ask your questions during presentation- they are monitored; Guest will be allowed to speak if time permits.
4. Respect for each person and their views is expected even when disagreeing
5. Communication: Our formal methods of communication are via NAAC Website, BCPS email, Gmail; Informal methods include Facebook- please adhere to sunshine laws
6. *****Ethics Training due by Sep 15th for all members and Approved Volunteer Application
7. **SAF Chair Elections** can be held at a general assembly of parents if needed; Training on Sept 30th
8. **2024-2025 Meeting Dates- See Calendar at Sign-In table – ALL meetings are open to the public.**
9. **Vacant Position of North Area Committees** (some are District where we have representation from our North Area)

C. Approval of June Minutes tabled to September

D. Feedback from on first 3 weeks of School- Focus, Cellphones/Code of Conduct/Discipline Matrix Changes,

1. Middle & High School Committee Chair, Nicole Morst spoke on the subject of metal detectors.
 - a) By day 3 the school day was uninterrupted.
 - b) Vaping in the bathrooms seems to have been deterred.
2. SAF Chair Danielle, along with River Glades Elementary, praised the school board for addressing concerns from upset parents about schools being used as polling sites during the primary election. The school board has pledged to consider this feedback in planning for future primary elections.
3. Chair Cynthia Dominique gave feedback to the District that if/when rolling out new policies all parent communications and documents are checked for accuracy and relevancy, one important one being the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct was not updated when most parents signed it the first week of school as the District then updated this document August 14th.
4. **FOCUS: *Emily Coppa, Task assigned Director of Data Intelligence (Focus, Clever)***
 - a) Feedback
 - Instructions on how to sign up for Focus were not user friendly to parents.
 - A few parents from Country Hills were able to log-in from their tablet/PC, but couldn't access the from the app on their mobile devices.

- Room for improvement on the Back-to-School Forms
 - o Fields that auto-populated from last year left some parents without the option to edit. Emily Coppa explained custody changes need to be brought to the student's school personnel responsible for making student record updates. If the parent is not marked as the custodial parent, they won't be able to access the student's info on the app.
 - o At the moment parents cannot update pick-up and emergency contacts, this was a section Ms. Coppa will take back to her team as it should be editable in the app, but is not at this time.
- b) FocusCommunications@browardschools.com goes to a dedicated Focus team to help parents with questions on the app.
- c) 504s did not move into Focus. IEPs, Eps are in there though.

E. New Business

Strategy & Innovation Proposed Policy Changes

Dr. Valerie Wanza, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer for BCPS

July '24 School Board Mtg, the Superintendent directed conversations to Re-loop the School Choice Policy & School Boundary Policy.

- **Dr. Wanza's Input:** Dr. Wanza suggested that procedures should not be included in the policy because they can change, which would require revising the entire policy—a time-consuming process. Instead, the School Choice policy will state that by October 1, we will communicate to parents about the application window and process, but specifics of the window will not be detailed in the policy to allow flexibility.

School Choice Policy 6400

Donte Collins, Director - Choice/Charter Schools Management Support for BCPS

Feedback from previous district and council meetings has been incorporated into the latest policy revision.

- **Streamlining Terms:** Terms used in other policies, such as the 5000 Boundary Policy, have been standardized for consistency.
- **School Capacity Management:** Principals have always been required to allocate available seats to the Office of School Choice. The new proposal includes a platform where the Office of School Choice inputs school capacity data, and principals then update information on open seats, classrooms in use, and those designated for special services. For instance, a classroom might have a physical capacity of 27, but due to its specialized programs, it may only accommodate 10 students. This information will be verified by the school region office to properly report available School Choice seats.
- **Application Process Changes - Second Round Applications:** If applications significantly exceed available seats in the first round, a second round will not be offered at that school to avoid giving parents false hope.

Motion Made by Nicole Morst (Middle & High School Rep): I move that the reassignment capacity be left as currently stated in policy and the choice seats capacity definition be left as definition for procedural verification only.

Second: Chair, Cynthia Dominique

Discussion:

- Amendment request from Nicole Kearny for the percentage amount to be added into the motion.
- Dr. Wanza reminded that the state definition needs to be consistent with the state. Nicole Morst replied that the State leaves this up to the District.

Amended Motion: "I move that the reassignment capacity be left as currently stated in policy", 102% of permanent capacity and the choice seat capacity definition be left as definition for procedural verification only."

Second: Chair, Cynthia Dominique

Vote: Unanimous Approval - Motion carries unanimously

Further Conversation:

**Any motions that come from the advisories to the board are taken as recommendations.

**As of right now, the only motion the board has is the motion from the Diversity Committee.

**There's a possibility that this motion will not be seen by the board until October because the Sept 10th agenda is already set and posted. NAAC would need to take this motion to DAC first too.

Motion Made by Chair, Cynthia Dominique: I move that we, the North Area Advisory Council reject policy 6400 revisions and maintain the current policy as is.

Second: Nicole Morst

Discussion:

- Such a rejection will remove the open time frames now being proposed.
- DAC's motion mirrors our concerns.

Amended Motion made by Chuck Harper: The North Area Advisory Council moves to supports DAC's motion on Policy 6400.

Second: Chair, Cynthia Dominique

Vote: Unanimous Approval - Motion carries unanimously

Further Conversation:

- Diversity recently passed a motion to reject Policy 8010 in its entirety, except for any components required by law, unless the recommendations from Diversity are taken into account.
- Joe Beck, Director of Demographics & Enrollment Planning, reminded that this policy has been in effect since 2014. Problem is 10 years ago; the District was in a much different place. The last time we did significant changes to repurpose schools was because the state told us we had to do it.
- The District Advisory Council also did a motion requesting to leave the policy as it now, but urges a total revision later this year.

Motion made by Nicole Morst: We move that due to all of the changes post looping and that this current version 8010 be rejected and the current policy 5000 be left in place.

Second Karla Figueroa

Vote: Motion carries unanimously

Athletics, Name, Image, & Likeness Policy 5800

NEW policy coming to the Board Sept 10th, Policy 5800 pertaining more to the High Schools. HS Athletes being compensated for their name, image, and likeness just like collegiate athletes. Here's the caveat – 1.) Whatever students do in this area is separate and apart from the District. The District is not their agent, not their pass-through. 2.) Parents & Students need to have concrete financial and legal advice when entering into such contracts. 3.) The district can in no way be connected to recruiting. When being compensated and posting on social media for sponsors – the District cannot be mentioned. Uniforms, logos cannot be in view of the post or mentioned.

- a. How are we engaging the Student Athletes? There will be a parent University. The largest group is typically the football team, but it applies to any sport. The District's involvement will be to educate.
- b. The District has spoken to several municipalities recommending they consider information sessions for businesses that may want to enter into agreements with student athletes and the legalities surrounding such.

F. North Region Updates

By: Dr. Fleming, Regional Superintendent

Introduced Directors of Teaching & Learning for North Region:

- Todd LaPace, Middle & High Schools
- Maria Perez, Elementary Schools from Oakland Park to Deerfield Beach & Bright Horizons
- Meredith Weiss Schnur, 13 ES (Parkland, most of Coral Springs), 3 MS (2 Coral Springs, Westglades) – picked up Cross Creek Center
- Ricardo J. Santana Reyes, Middle Schools
- Michelle Stein, Assistant Director for all the Schools

Discussion:

- Celebrating A School District. North Area Schools did an amazing job – almost 70% of our schools are A or B. 98% of all schools went up significant in points. Goal of the North Region is to have all A & B Schools. A level = 62% of the points in Elementary Schools. We have no D or F schools in our District.
- We had three major initiatives to start school this year.
 - o Metal Detectors
 - o Focus
 - o Cell Phone Policy
- Dr. Hepburn’s Philosophy & theme this year: Believe, Empower, Achieve

Motion to Extend the Meeting by 5 Minutes

- **First:** Nancy Fry
- **Second:** Nicole Kearny
- **Opposed:** 3
- **Outcome:** Motion Passed

School Grades and Their Impact: The pressure stemming from school grades creates a trickle-down effect from the District to the Principals, then to the teachers, and ultimately to the students.

- **Reminder:** Attendees were encouraged to vote in the upcoming November election.
- **Concerns Raised:**
 - o The impact on socialization: Students are currently not allowed to talk or sit with their friends during lunch, and they spend too many days focused on testing.
 - o **Eligibility:** There are concerns about how the eligibility of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for FAST tests affects a school’s grade negatively, rather than recognizing and celebrating schools that provide these essential resources. Dr. Fleming clarified that test eligibility is determined by state regulations.
- **Communication Encouraged:** Mr. Thomas Schroeder, Principal of Margate Elementary School, urged parents to share their concerns and ideas with their school’s administration.
- **Historical Context:** Since the introduction of FCATs in 1995, which brought school accountability and letter grades, high-stakes accountability has influenced funding. Unfortunately, these letter grades often reflect the socio-economic status of the school rather than its true quality.

G. Announcements

1. SAF Chairs should be meeting with your principals; Discuss the past year and goals for this year.
2. Future Meeting Dates:

Committee	Date
Policy and Bylaws on TEAMS	September 9 th 9:30-11:30am
District Advisory General Meeting at KCW	September 11 th 6:15pm- 8:45pm
***North Area General Meeting at Monarch High	September 19 th 6:15pm-8:45pm
North Area Steering Meeting on TEAMS	September 24 th 8:30pm-9:30pm
SAF Training at Monarch High – open to all chairs – new and returning	September 26 th 6-9pm
Middle School Expo @ TBA	TBA- September 30 th ?

High School Expo	TBA- October 8 th or 21 st ?
Drug and Alcohol	TBA

H. 9:06pm Motion to Adjourn
 First: Karla Figueroa
 Second: Nicole Kearny

Submitted respectfully,

Danielle Dunfee

Recording Secretary

Links and Resources Discussed During Meeting

- **NAAC Website:** <http://northareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>; 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/1LOHJMyflx-iPhK4Pd1TuOl2MZKbHGomk/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=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 \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- **Board Meeting Public Comment:** [Broward County Public Schools \(granicusideas.com\)](#)
- **Legislative Updates:** [Legislative Information / Legislative Updates \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- **Transportation:** [Student Transportation & Fleet Services / Overview \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- **Name Image and Likeness:** [A Letter from the FHSAA about NIL - Florida High School Athletic Association; https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_ULB-UzfszHGdGHjTjuLsgrIHmE5M8s/view?usp=sharing](#)
- **Metal Detector Policy:** [Microsoft Word - Policy 2010 Metal Detectors 202401104 kja edits 8-15-24 \(2\) \(legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)
- **Focus Presentation to School Board:** [Focus Board Workshop Presentation.pdf \(legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)
- **23-24 Student Achievement:** [Student Performance Spring 2024 August 27.pdf \(legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)
- **25-26 Calendar:** https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_KNBF6HrUB-8vYkauRL72N7miKeHGLdU/view?usp=drive_link
- **Policies:** https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_hvu08cWm0RGWs7lqKl8KFJBtpp_lgBQ/view?usp=sharing, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_hxVl4rnzMH-yUpLLThW1yRSLxs6KZni/view?usp=sharing, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_jciKYtCdEtRusFlp0lcgNgTMfsiYlwy/view?usp=sharing, https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_lgVgqw7a_oGB_3WUHNsEGML97qE4NYb/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=111203372059625663099&rtpof=true&sd=true,

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