

Broward County Public Schools  
**North Area Advisory Council**  
**General Meeting Minutes**

Monarch High School 5050 Wiles Road Coconut Creek, FL 33073  
October 17, 2024, 6:15-9:00pm



Website

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- Lucie Dicapua    Communications Chair- Nicole Kearney

**Attendance:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12777hpwXD8R5QNGWNRPV6mAhj7VH9JGs?usp=sharing>

**A. Call to order by Cynthia Dominique at 6:27pm**

**B. Introduction & Reminders:**

1. Special thanks to Monarch High School for providing pizza.
  2. Introduction of new SAF Chair and meeting etiquette. Encouraged use of the QR code for anonymous questions.
  3. Reminder: One question per person during discussions.
  4. Reminder for links to our Facebook Page & Website
- \*\*Website is where you register to be added to our email list
5. Attendance reminder: Members may miss no more than 4 meetings (or 3 consecutive).

**C. Approval of Minutes [June 2024 Minutes](#) and [September 2024 Minutes](#)**

a. June

Motion to approve by Michael Pezzicola

Seconded by Muriel Theoprin-Atilus

Motion passed, no opposition.

b. Sept

Motion to approve by Muriel Theoprin-Atilus

Seconded by Shasha Hilbon

Motion passed, no opposition.

**D. North Region Updates**

- a. Welcome from Dr. Fleming

i. Increasing the A+B schools in North Region YOY

ii. Focus on subgroups: ELA population and students with disabilities.

- b. Middle School Expo December 4th at 6pm Pompano Beach High School to assist parents with elementary to middle school transitions.
  - i. Every single middle school participated last year and will participate this year (whether or not they have capacity)
  - ii. All please promote the event (those in Elementary)
- c. High School Expo date to be confirmed.
- d. Discussion on improving communication methods: Request about spreading out the communications (many of us got 2-3 text messages within 5 minutes today)
- e. Dr. Fleming's Engagement with Municipalities (11 in North Region)
  - Lighthouse point for example no schools but students

- Encouraging stronger bonds with the schools in the municipalities

**E. Transportation Survey:** Years ago, a survey was sent for feedback on transportation and it helped launch the app and also brought some changes. Recommendation made to survey annually.

- Related: Law passed so high schools will not be able to start before 8:30 in 2027-2028 (which will greatly challenge bus scheduling and in general scheduling)

If a student doesn't ride the bus within ten days, that route/stop will no longer be serviced.  
Transportation is limited to students who live 2 miles or more from the school.

#### **F. Open Discussion: Calendar Survey**

2025-2026 Calendar [Option 1](#) and [Option 2](#); Calendar Survey: <http://www.browardschools.com/calendarsurvey>

Discussion:

- Two options
- Jan 5th half day, Jan 6th day off, Jan 7th full day
- Last week is also a half day on Monday, then Tuesday and Wednesday are the last days in June
- Comment made by Jessica Benner: Felt like there were no options really as both had same start date without options like that Monday start vs Wednesday start.
- Palm Beach County proactively releases calendars two years in advance.

**Motion Made by Michael Pezzicola (Heron Heights Elementary SAF Vice Chair): We move that the Broward County Public Schools develop and approve school calendars at least two years in advance.**

**Second by Nicole Kearney**

**Vote: Unanimous Approval - Motion carries unanimously**

#### **Rationale:**

**Stability and Predictability:** Planning school calendars two years in advance provides families, educators, and the community with greater stability and predictability. This helps in long-term planning for vacations, childcare, and other commitments.

**Improved Educational Planning:** A longer-term calendar allows schools to align curriculum and instructional strategies more effectively, accommodating for seasonal events and holidays in a way that maximizes educational outcomes.

**Enhanced Community Engagement:** By having a longer window for calendar approval, stakeholders, including parents and community members, will have more opportunities to provide input and feedback on proposed calendars, fostering greater engagement.

**Resource Allocation:** With a two-year planning horizon, the district can better allocate resources, including staffing and funding, leading to improved operational efficiency.

**Adaptability for Future Changes:** Establishing a longer-term calendar framework allows for adjustments to be made more thoughtfully, considering long-term trends in education and community needs.

#### **G. Policy 6400 School Choice Policy**

- passed.
- 102% changed 100% of gross, so portable capacity is not included
- Verification process put in place in large part due to engagement by NAAC with various schools last year
- Boundary choice areas going to a workshop

## H. Cell Phone Policy

- a. Going back to workshop in November
- b. Student advisors to the board and student governments are sending a survey to students for feedback
- c. The North Area Motion Our Motion on Diabetic cell phone use supported by Central Area Advisory was shared with the board to ensure Type 1 Diabetes students can have their phones to communicate with parents/register their levels during the day. All must have a 504 by law and it can be included in there.
- d. Dangerous / Drama driven things are happening less, even if the policy is not being enforced 100%

## I. Committee Reports:

- a. Gifted
  - i. Screening is now done through STAR testing
  - ii. Motion was passed to ACCEL Testing level 5 on PM1
    - \*\*School contacts the parent versus parent contacting the school
    - \*\*Follow-up recommended to determine how many students scoring 5 pass the ACCEL class.
- b. High School
  - i. Drug and Alcohol Awareness Session (posted on the website) - October 29th at Monarch
- c. North Area SAF Policy
  - a) Adding to the Policy that SAF Chair needs to meet with the Principal twice a year.
  - b) SAF Chair & Principal should meet in person to review the SIP before it gets signed.
  - c) Business Partners need to complete a Partner in Education Sponsorship Agreement in order to participate in the SAF. (This might be businesses in the community but the owners might not actually be community members.)
  - d) The policy changes we want to make are on our NAAC website, they were emailed to us, and are in our Drive.

Motion brought by Chuck Harper to approve the grammatical changes to the North Area SAF Policy.

Second by Danielle Dunfee

Vote: Unanimous Approval - Motion carries unanimously

## J. Academic Achievement and Innovation

- a. DAC Presentation of Data: [DAC Academics Presentation Request 10.2024.pdf](#)
- b. Review State Report Card: [Know Your Schools Portal \(fldoe.org\)](#)
- c. Encouraged parents to review school improvement plans. Is your school rated 'A' for every demographic of student?
- d. Review School Improvement Plans: [School Improvement / School Improvement: Plans \(Current & Archived\), Resources, and Support \(browardschools.com\)](#)

## K. Data and Surveys on the BCPS Site (Under Equity, Diversity, and Culture)

<https://www.browardschools.com/page/32846>

- There is an opt-form for parents to complete here, but are parents even aware that their students are taking these surveys and that they can in fact opt out?
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (MS & HS) – done every 2 years through the CDC (so it's sent to all students in the U.S.) and the last year we have data from is 2021. Ms. Matthews told us the results for 2023 would be out this Fall via the CDC.

- Student Climate Survey – comes from the District
  - FL Substance Abuse Use Survey – comes from the State
- \*\*IF surveys are administered, we want to see the results.

Motion Brought by Cynthia Dominique:

**Motion: I move that BCPS notify all parents prior to students being surveyed, acquire parental consent, and make anonymous survey results available on school and District website and make students results available in the student information system.**

**Second By:** Muriel Theoprin-Atilus

**Discussion:**

- Are students logging into their accounts to answer these surveys?
- Data needs to be in a consistent spot on the website where parents don't have to dig.
- Two surveys that students take. 1. Customer Service that is annually. 2. Mental Health last year was new. 3. Life Skills and Wellness. \*\*There could potentially be more surveys that we just don't know about.
- Are there HIPPA compliant issues with this data living under the student's information portal.
- Which surveys are student specific? Just the mental health ones?
- Our primary concern here: notification on which surveys are being administered in schools. Is our concern what the survey might introduce to the child?
- Are the students aware that their results are being shared with their parents?

**Amended Motion: We move that BCPS notify all parents of all governmental surveys including but not limited to state, federal, county, municipal, and school district surveys prior to students being surveyed, acquire parental consent prior to the administration of surveys, and make anonymous survey results available on school and District websites in an easily accessible and unified location.**

**Vote: Unanimous Approval - Motion carries unanimously**

**L. School Improvement Plans**

- Due Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, but Principals aren't required to finalize their SAC Composition until the end of October.
- How many parents actually reviewed their SIP before Sept 20<sup>th</sup>? Only the returning parents of that school actually saw their SIP.
- While reviewing some of the SIP's it was noted that the goals were not really clear and specific.
- Look at these early warning indicators for your school:  
[https://www.browardschools.com/page/49968?school\\_number=561](https://www.browardschools.com/page/49968?school_number=561)
- Some schools in their SIP will detail out a budget on how they're going to meet each measurable outcome/goal.
  - o **Title 1:** Danielle Dunfee brought up the issue on the state of Title 1 Funding after learning that HS Schools were cut by the State from receiving Title I Funds. Dr. Fleming informed the group that these funds were diverted to Title 2 Funding: Teacher Development, Leadership Development
    - Background:
      - o Title 1 is designated for Family Empowerment and Teacher Development.
      - o Title Funding is a District Allocation that follows the child based on their zoned school. So, if that student is Title 1 funded and they go to a Charter School, their funding will go toward that Charter.
      - o This past July, the House Committee approves to cut Title 1 funding was cut 25% that's \$4.7B across the United States.

**M. Announcements**

- a. **Continue sharing about Broward Inspector General Oversight of BCPS Ballot Item**
- b. Future Meeting Dates:
- c. SAF Training Monday @ the Pompano Center (on our Facebook)!! There will be an online link too. 6:30pm.
- d. Hurricane make-up dates will be determined at a later time.

COMMITTEE	DATE
<b>***SAF TRAINING AT POMPANO ADMIN CENTER</b>	October 21 <sup>st</sup> 6-9pm
NORTH AREA STEERING MEETING ON TEAMS	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> 8:30pm-9:30pm
<b>DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS AT MONARCH</b>	October 29 <sup>th</sup>
DAC POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE ON TEAMS	October 30 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm-9:00pm
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON TEAMS	November 4 <sup>th</sup> 9:30-11:30am
<b>ELECTION DAY (SCHOOLS CLOSED)</b>	<b>November 5th</b>
DISTRICT ADVISORY GENERAL MEETING AT PLANTATION MIDDLE	November 6 <sup>th</sup> 6:15pm- 8:45pm
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON TEAMS	November 12 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm-9:00pm
<b>***NORTH AREA GENERAL MEETING AT MONARCH HIGH</b>	<b>November 21st 6:15pm-8:45pm</b>
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPO AT POMPANO BEACH HIGH</b>	December 4 <sup>th</sup> at 6pm

**N. 9:03 Meeting Adjourned**

First: Karla Figueroa  
Second: Nicole Kearny

**Submitted respectfully,**

Danielle Dunfee

**Recording Secretary**

**Notes:**

**Due to the late arrival of the Recording Secretary, the initial notes were taken by Michael Pezzicola. The Recording Secretary resumed note-taking upon arrival 7:31pm.**

**Links and Resources Discussed During Meeting**

- **Ethics Training:** <http://browardschools.com/Page/41329>
- **Advisories and Committees:** <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/32049>;

- **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 \(granicusideas.com\)](#)
- **Transportation:** [Student Transportation & Fleet Services / Overview \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- School Climate and Discipline: [Equity, Diversity and School Climate / Overview \(browardschools.com\)](#)
- Policy 1.3 Existing:  
[https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy\\_1.3.pdf](https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy_1.3.pdf)
- Policy 1.3/1280 Draft: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aVkTKX1cZulXZanytb-8HYnVyUNd7Azy/edit?usp=sharing&oid=111203372059625663099&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- Policy 1.21 Existing:  
[https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy\\_1.21\(1\).pdf](https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy_1.21(1).pdf)
- Policy 1.21/1260 Draft:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aZI9lpCWInnLxhz63rGStq0cDFkOpQIG/edit?usp=sharing&oid=11203372059625663099&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- Broward OIG Information: <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/80598>