

Broward County Public Schools
North Area Advisory Council
GENERAL MEETING
MONARCH HIGHSCHOOL
May 21, 2026
6:15-8:45 PM



MINUTES

Email: NorthAreaAdvisory@gmail.com

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

Chair- Nicole Morst Vice Chair- Michael Pezzicola Recording Secretary- Nicole Kearney
Corresponding Secretary- Lucie Dicapua Communications Chair- Karla Figueroa

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- A. Call to Order** at 6:24pm
- B. Meeting Etiquette-** SAF Chairs, please remember to sign in so that your attendance is recorded, a Guest Sign in is also available. When speaking, **ask one question or make one comment** at a time to ensure everyone has an opportunity to participate. Guests may speak if time permits. Please be respectful throughout the meeting.
- C. Broward Principals' & Assistant Principals' Association (BPAA)** - Lisa Maxwell presented as the President of the BPAA - explained process previously used to funds schools involved principals looking at enrollment with Demographics Department and then to be funded based on their FTE (full time equivalent) and to see funds in their account and be able to hire and fund staffing accordingly with their decisions being reviewed and approved by the Region/Area teams - this process would include participation from other groups, i.e. ESE.

Now, enrollment numbers came from an alternate source then Demographics and there is no confirmation where the enrollment numbers came from or how they were derived. Principles have reported discrepancies with some schools not expecting a drop in enrollment being projected for unexplained drops, resulting in principals having to cut staff. Now, the District is no longer showing schools their money available based on FTE and instead are showing units and stating that a set number of units equals staffing. The Budget office has demanded staffing changes from schools to support the new model. Principals are concerned they will lose staff over the summer and not have staff available for hire when increases come in October and also have concerns about significantly higher class sizes at the beginning of the year because of staffing shortages, especially in high schools. North Region team stated the unit model is similar to process used in Miami-Dade County.

There was a lot of discussion about alternate ways we can save money as a District in order to better directly fund schools - one suggestion that warrants future research is the Academics Department that it was stated has an \$80 million annual budget with \$25 million allocated for "materials"

Members had questions about formulas for budgeting schools. The District has a Staffing Allocation Model that strictly sets the guidelines for staffing at the school level. This model is expected to change and was recently presented to principals in a 90 slide presentation. The District is aware that there is a potential for increase in class size and the current model does not have a plan to reduce class size -

elementary class sizes could go as large as 30 students. Additionally there has been significant reduction in ESE support and that will cause impact.

The School Board Members are the ones that ultimately make staffing model decisions and funding allocation decisions, however they do not have control over individual school budgets. School Board could request the Superintendent present alternate models for change. Also discussion about how the School Board rejected higher level cuts.

Questions about the new Unit model impact on it could reduce checks and balances on FTE distribution and reduce a school's spending ability.

It was stated that Florida is ranked 50th in the nation for educational funding and teacher salary. Also stated that Broward lost 3,000 ESOL students at the beginning of the school year, likely due to political climate. Parents expressed communication concerns and lack of control on rumors for example that all music classes were being removed at the elementary level. AICE funds - schools were told they could submit requests for needed funds and were denied - school impacted made a Motion to designate teachers to fund tutoring and educational support.

Discussion about upcoming Referendum vote and how that will just continue to fund teachers salary as is and is not for an increase - District will have a deficit if Referendum does not pass.

Committee members expressed concerns that a certain staff member resigned from the Budget Office and since then committee members have struggled to get answers to questions - they have had the same issue with the new CFO.

D. Elections – Presented by Nominating Committee Chair, Nicole Kearney

Position	Name	Status
Chair	Mario Marcano	Approved
Vice Chair	Brooke Panagakos	Approved
Recording Secretary	Nicole Diamas	Approved
Corresponding Secretary	VACANT	
Communications Chair	VACANT	
Elementary Reps	Lisa Reas (Park Springs)	Approved
Middle School Reps	Loomi	Approved
High School Rep	VACANT	
Parent at Large	Cynthia Dominique	Approved
Citizen at Large	Jose “Joe” Morera	Approved
Business Rep	VACANT	
Facilities Rep	Muriel Theophin-Atilius	Approved

Position	Name	Status
Student Rep	VACANT	
Gifted Rep	Loomi	Approved
Parliamentarian	VACANT	
ESE Rep	Jacqui Luscombe	Approved
Legislative Rep	Dr. Tai Quay Bogle	Approved
Teacher Rep	VACANT	
ESOL Rep	VACANT	

E. Approval of Meeting Minutes - April 16, 2026 - Motion to Approve the Minutes by Michael Pezzicola, 2nd by Lisa Reas - Motion passed with no opposing votes.

F. Elementary Subcommittee - Provided 2 handouts they prepared to be posted on our webpages. The Committee has met several times throughout the year and collected data and information relating to the volume of testing, specifically computer-based testing, that young students are being asked to complete. They have also done research into concerns relating to data collection and privacy concerns. A lack of ready information from the District has been an issue - with the Committee being unable to have access to or know whether data is collected regarding actual classroom impact of this testing vs. the District's estimation of impact. The District is proposing to make certain testing optional at the school/teacher discretion and the Committee wanted feedback.

Members had concerns about how making certain tests optional will impact growth and ability to identify student issues. Also concerns that data points are necessary throughout the year and testing provides those data points. Members agreed that more information is needed

Motion to Extend the Meeting by 10 Minutes by Murial Theophin-Atilitus, 2nd by Nancy Fry - Motion passed with no opposing votes.

Members requested the ability to make Technology Contracts available to parents to see how data collection/storage and privacy concerns are handled and what guardrails the District has or may need.

G. Old Business & Updates - Accelerated Funds - As previously discussed, JP Taravella HS recently encountered an issue getting AICE funding reimbursements from the District because there was a limit on how principals could designate instructional staffing allocations and JPT passed a Motion to allow their principal to make those designation and thereby get funds generated by the Cambring, AICE and CTACE programs.

We MOVE that the District allow principals to make instructional staffing allocations based on funds generated by their schools through the Cambridge and CTE programs - Moved by Jacqui Luscombe, 2nd by Cynthia Dominique - Motion passed with one (1) opposing vote.

Motion to Extend the Meeting by 5 Minutes by Lucie DiCapua, 2nd by Cynthia Dominique - Motion passed with no opposing votes.

H. North Region Updates - Thanks and acknowledgements were provided by the North Region Team to the North Area Board members. We were told that Dr. Fleming and his team will be moving to the South Region for the 2026-27 school year and Alan Strauss and his team will be moving to the North Region.

I. Upcoming Dates/Important Reminders

DISTRICT ADVISORY TRANSITION MEETING AT KC WRIGHT BUILDING **JUNE 10TH AT 6:15 PM- 8:45 PM**

NORTH AREA TRANSITION MEETING VIA VIRTUAL MEETING **JUNE 4TH AT 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM**

J. Adjourn - Seeing no further business the Meeting is adjourned at 9:05pm

Important Links

- **MANDATORY Advisory Ethics Training:** <https://www.browardschools.com/bcps-departments/human-resources/hr-operations/committee-training-program-resource-page>
- North Area Budget Training Presentation: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FPte4xxTtalwQEoBLxIEC8iTaOs2rUT6/view?usp=sharing>
- Title 1 Funding Presentation: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nCUCaCTFasoGMdL6aqBvHrLLFafNRyQg/view?usp=sharing>
- School Board Meetings, Agenda Packets, and Recorded Videos: <https://www.browardschools.com/Domain/12453>
- Student Performance Data: <https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/3154422/Presentation.pdf>
- School Improvement Department and Plans: <https://www.browardschools.com/page/35378>
- School Accountability and Improvement Policy: https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy_1403
- School Accountability and Improvement Guidelines: https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy_1403
- School Advisory Forum Policy: https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=Policy_1.3.pdf