



**MINUTES BOARD APPROVED – July 20, 2006**

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2006 - 6:30 P.M.

Old Dillard Museum

1009 N.W. Fourth St., 2nd Floor,

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

<b><u>MEMBERS</u></b>		<b>Current Meeting</b>	<b>Cumulative Attendance</b>		<b>4/06 – 3/07 Meetings</b>
<i>Current Membership: 11    Vacancies: 4</i>			<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	
<i>Quorum: 6</i>					
1	Michael Bacigalupi	A	1	1	2
2	Aaron Bass	P	1	0	1
3	Pam Brown, Co-Chair	P	2	0	2
4	Brian Dassler, Co-Chair	P	1	1	2
5	Lu Deaner	A	1	1	2
6	Alice Hendrickson	A	0	2	2
7	Pearl Maloney	A	1	1	2
8	Janice Olson	P	2	0	2
9	Frances Payne	A	0	2	2
10	Elaine Schulze	A	1	1	2
11	Dr. Niara Sudarkasa	P	2	0	2
12	Judy Zinn	P	2	0	2
<b>Total Members Present</b>		<b>6</b>			
	Leslie G. Carhart, Staff Liaison	P	2	0	2
	Charles Webster, BCPS Liaison	P	2	0	2
	Dr. Elizabeth Hays, CFLCA Liaison	P	2	0	2

**Guests**

Ramon Dawkins, Principal, Sunland Park elementary

Jamie Opperlee, Recording Secretary

## EAB May 2006 Agenda

### **A. Opening** - Brian Dassler and Pam Brown

1. Attendance and Sign-in
2. Announcements
3. Approve April 2006 Minutes, May 2006 Agenda
4. Acknowledge new member Aaron Bass

### **B. New Business**

1. BCPS Legislative Update - Maggie Zalamea, Office of Government Relations

### **C. Old/Ongoing Business**

1. Co-Chairs Report– Dassler/Brown
2. Reports/Updates/Discussion
  - a. Arthur Ashe Middle Proposed Magnet Program
  - b. Sunland Park Elem. Partnership
  - c. Mentoring
  - d. Project Update/Stranahan High School
  - e. Project Update/Fort Lauderdale High

### **D. City Commission/Manager follow-up Items - None**

### **E. Other Regular Updates**

1. Staff Liaison Report –Carhart
2. Broward County School District Reports – C. Webster
3. Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations Report – Hays

### **F. Other Matters**

1. Discussion of Summer Meeting Schedule-Activities (June-August)
2. Discussion of Plans Related to Next School Year (August)

### **G. Next Meeting**

- **Agenda Items:** TBD
- **Location:** Dropouts & Truancy – Suggested by M Schulze  
City Hall, 8th Floor Break Area
- **Date:** Regular Meeting Date: June 15<sup>th</sup> 2006

### **H. Closing**

**Opening – Co-chairs Dassler and Brown** - Attendance and Sign-in

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Brown. The attendance sign-in sheet was passed around.

**Approve April 2006 Minutes, May 2006 Agenda**

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

**Introductions:**

Board members and guests introduced themselves in turn.

**New Business**

**BCPS Legislative Update - Maggie Zalamea, Office of Government Relations**

[This item was taken out of order]

Ms. Zalamea noted that the 7.5% increase in state school funding did not keep up with the increases in gas, insurance, and other costs borne by south Florida residents.

Ms. Zalamea compared the old E-Comp system to the new Star program: E-comp was based upon FCAT scores and the Star program allowed the use of some standardized test other than the FCAT. Ms. Zalamea said the teachers still did not like this, and noted the difficulty with measuring achievement in non-standardized test assessed subjects like art and PE.

Ms. Zalamea listed “some of the good things”:

- The defeat of vouchers
- The defeat of a re-vote on class size reduction
- Full funding of class size reduction

Ms. Zalamea remarked on the “huge deal” of Senate President Tom Lee’s refusal to support the governor’s property tax rollback in favor of education funding, and Senator Villalobos’s vote against vouchers.

Ms. Zalamea noted the increase in the number of people from the community and parent groups who joined them in Tallahassee and met with legislators.

Ms. Zalamea stated two things unfortunately “didn’t happen”: the Jessica Lunsford bill and the bullying bill. Ms. Zalamea explained that at the last minute, they thought they could include changes in the Jessica Lunsford bill that would have made the law less burdensome to implement, but the bill’s sponsor had said, “it’s my way or the highway.” For the bullying bill, the big issue was categories vs non-categories, and this bill’s sponsor had ultimately refused any changes as well.

Ms. Zalamea explained that the A++ Plan was a comprehensive middle and high school reform, with the focus on “adding rigor, relevance, and relationship to the curriculum.” She was concerned about the push to make young kids decide on a career path.

Ms. Zalamea stated that “even though we still didn’t get what we needed to get, it still was a large increase overall and I saw a lot of people stepping up to the plate.” She felt there was continued improvement, and stated they would keep pushing to “get out of the bottom ten percent per pupil spending in the state of Florida.”

**Old/Ongoing Business**  
**Co-Chairs Report**

**Reports, Updates, Discussions**

**Arthur Ashe Magnet Program**

Co-chair Brown said the Principal of Arthur Ashe was changing schools, and the principal from Crystal Lake would take over.

**Partnering at Sunland Park Elementary**

Co-Chair Brown introduced Mr. Ramon Dawkins and explained that the EAB had committed to partner with Sunland Park this year. She offered to help teachers and Mr. Dawkins prepare for school opening in August. The Board had done this at Stephen Foster two years ago.

Mr. Dawkins explained that he believed in rich, powerful teaching, critical content, and “those things that are going to be systemic and make the difference for the child over the long haul.” Mr. Dawkins said he had been to the school to meet the teachers, and the teachers had many concerns and issues. Mr. Dawkins said he did not feel he had the “luxury” of determining what all of the teachers’ problems were; he therefore favored reconstitution at the school. Mr. Dawkins stated that the teachers had the opportunity to transfer to other schools. He wanted to bring in teachers who were “fresh and energized” and prepared to take on the challenge.

Mr. Dawkins said he was very open to the presence of volunteers at the school, and would find the most appropriate match between the kids and the volunteers.

Dr. Hays remarked that Sunland had been plagued with problems for four or five years, and this was having an impact on the entire City.

Ms. Brown had discovered that the City operated the after school programs at the parks, and Parks Director Thornburg had remarked on the high principal turnover at Sunland, which made it difficult to coordinate the after school program.

Dr. Hays stated that the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting would include a presentation on the parks’ after school programs and invited Mr. Dawkins to attend. Ms. Zinn invited him to attend the Communities in Schools Board meeting as well.

**Mentoring Program - None**

**Project Update: Stranahan High School - None**

**Project Update: Fort Lauderdale High School**

Co-Chair Brown reported that construction progress was not improving. She read portions of a letter sent from Commissioner Hutchinson to Dr. Till, describing her disappointment at the failure of the Broward County School Board to “endeavor to a two-year commitment,” and inviting Dr. Till to respond.

**Commission/Manager Follow-up Items - None**

**Other/Regular Updates**

**Staff Liaison Report –Carhart**

Ms. Carhart thanked the Board for utilizing the Old Dillard Museum and invited them to participate. She said there were wonderful opportunities for youth programs at the museum.

Ms. Carhart confirmed that the museum was seeking afro-centric cultural items that were unique and representative of the local community.

### **Broward County School District Reports – C. Webster**

Mr. Webster had discovered that the earliest a magnet program could be implemented at Arthur Ashe was the 2007 – 2008 school year. The recommendations would be presented to the School Board at the May 30 workshop at Deerfield Beach High School.

Mr. Webster had also researched the Board's question regarding notification of Adequate Yearly Progress [AYP] failures. He informed the Board that letters were mailed on March 13 and April 19, the forms were due back tomorrow, and they would know which schools had failed in June.

### **Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations Report**

Dr. Hays circulated a bundle of thank-you notes created by kids at Sunland in appreciation of their King Tut trip.

Dr. Hays informed the Board that she and Co-Chair Dassler had attended an EAB Consortium planning meeting and Dr. Hays had volunteered to be on the steering committee.

Dr. Hays announced that the Florida Neighborhoods Conference would be held in October and she had suggested that the Consortium have a table.

### **Other Matters**

#### **Discussion of Summer Meeting Schedule-Activities (June-August)**

The Board decided to suspend the August meeting.

#### **Discussion of Plans Related to Next School Year (August)**

The Board scheduled a preliminary discussion for their June meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

- **Agenda Items:** TBD  
Dropouts & Truancy – Suggested by M Schulze
- **Location:** City Hall, 8th Floor Break Area
- **Date:** Regular Meeting Date: June 15<sup>th</sup> 2006

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.