



**MINUTES FOR BOARD APPROVAL
EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting Minutes for May 17, 2007 - 6:30 P.M.
Fort Lauderdale City Hall
100 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Eighth Floor Cafeteria

**2007 Cumulative
Attendance**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
1. Michael Bacigalupi	A	3	2
2. Pam Brown, Co-Chair	P	5	0
3. Gilbert Borrero	A	1	2
4. Brian Dassler	A	1	4
5. Paula Haliczzer	A	2	3
6. Elizabeth Hays	P	4	1
7. Pearl Maloney	A	2	3
8. Leola McCoy	P	4	1
9. Harriet McMichen	P	1	0
10. Janice Olson	A	3	2
11. Shannon Prohaszka	A	1	2
12. Elaine Schulze	P	4	1
13. Niara Sudarkasa	A	3	2

Total Members Present 4
Current Membership: 15 Quorum: 8

Lu Deaner, Chair Emeritus P
Leslie G. Carhart, Staff Liaison P
Charles Webster, BCPS Liaison P
Betty Shelly, CFLCA Liaison A
Michael Keane, recording secretary

Guests

Nicole Oviatt – Graduate
Petula Burks

IMPORTANT NOTE/REFERENCE August 16, 2007 Draft Minutes

B. Approve Minutes of April 2007, May, 2007 and June 2007.

Motion made by Ms. Hays, seconded by Mr. Bacigalupi, to approve the minutes of the April, May and June 2007 meetings, *pending final corrections to be made by Ms. McCoy and Ms. Brown.* Motion passed unanimously.

Final corrections, as noted in August minutes, were not provided.

Fort Lauderdale Education Advisory Board Meeting
Agenda

Thursday, May 17 2007

A. Opening - P. Brown

- Attendance and Sign-in
- Approve April Minutes & May Agenda
- Announcements
 - - Better Meetings Academy II, June 6, 2007, 5:45 PM, City Hall
8th Floor
- Introduce New Members: McMichen
- Guest Introductions

B. New Business

1. Co-Chair Elections

C. Old/Ongoing Business

- 1. Arthur Ashe - Committee Report - (Truancy Issue`)**
- 2. Sunland Park Elementary – Update**
- 3. Lauderdale Manors Elementary – Update**
- 4. Parent Association - Update**
- 5. Chair Reports/Discussion Items – Brown/Bass**
 - a. BCPS May 21, 2007, Fort Lauderdale Schools Town Hall Meeting
Fort Lauderdale High Media Center, 6:30-8:30
 - b. Summer Meeting Schedule
- 6. Other Reports/Updates/Discussion**
 - a. City Commission/Manager Follow-up: None
 - b. Liaison Reports & Updates:
 - 1) Staff Liaison Report - None
 - 2) Broward County School District Reports – C. Webster
 - 3) Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations Report – Shelly

D. Other Matters - For the Good of the Board – TBD

E. Next Meeting and Closing

- Agenda Items: TBD
- Location and Date: City Hall, June 21st, 2007

Opening – Co-Chair Pam Brown - Attendance and Sign-in

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Brown at 6:38. The attendance sign-in sheet was passed around.

Approve Minutes of April 2007

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

Approve Agenda of May 2007

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

Announcements

Better Meetings Academy II, Wednesday, June 6th, 2007 5:45 PM, City Hall 8th Floor

Introduce New Members

Board members introduced themselves in turn. Now member Ms. McMichen provided background information related to her interest and involvements with individual schools and education in general.

New Business

Co-Chair Election

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum. Chair Brown asked Board members to think about possible nominees before their next meeting.

Old/Ongoing Business

Arthur Ashe - Update

Dr. McCoy stated she had met with Vince Gizzi from Parks and Recreation, Gene Dempsey, Fort Lauderdale City Forester, Principal Luciani and Area Director Post regarding their vision for the habitat proposal. She said they had a list of people to solicit for help, such as the University of Florida, and the South Florida Water Management District. Dr. McCoy felt it would take two years to develop the project. She said they were selecting native species for the project. Dr. McCoy hoped to get the

students and the parents involved, and make this a collaborative effort between the School Board, the City of Fort Lauderdale and environmental agencies.

Dr. McCoy explained to Ms. Deaner that Roy Rogers was involved with environmental and kids' programs.

Sunland Park – Update

Dr. McCoy said Commissioner Moore had put a group together, but they had languished on the Sunland Park issue. In February, Dr. McCoy contacted the State to provide her with the 1996 site assessment, and on March 21st, she had attended a meeting of Commissioner Moore's group. The State had reassessed the Colony Cleaner's/Dry Cleaning Depot site and provided her with a new report.

Dr. McCoy said Ben Williams had appointed a special new steering committee comprising herself, Facilities Director Mike Garrettson, Terry Manning of the South Florida Planning Council and Dr. McCoy's environmental engineer. This group began making recommendations. The state was creating an RFP to award the contract to an environmental engineering group to reassess the dry cleaner.

The group had contacted Bill Burns at the State Department of Environmental Protection and learned that there was a special section, the Water Quality Trust, which included dry cleaning solvent cleanup. Dr. McCoy said by the time she got on the committee, the plan to reassess the site was already in motion.

Dr. McCoy said as of March 21st, their first recommendation to the larger committee was to shut down the water pumps to the irrigation system. Dr. McCoy said this had been done, but the solvent tanks were still in the ground. Dr. McCoy said Bill Burns and the project manager had addressed the larger committee to explain what the plan was. Once they determined how large the plume was, they would begin to assess the data and determine what was in Sunland Park's soil.

Dr. McCoy reported that they had checked the four wells in the parking lot, and these were not that bad. She said the wells that were to the east of the school were the most alarming.

Dr. McCoy explained that the school's air monitors were custom-built and were constantly testing the air. An environmental sweep had been done at the school to identify all possible contributors to environmental contamination. Dr. McCoy had provided a copy of that report to the Board at the previous meeting.

Dr. McCoy said they must remediate the soil and put the school's irrigation system on City water. If they did not get good results by June, they were creating a contingency plan to relocate the students.

Dr. McCoy said she had contacted Fred Littman at Nova Southeastern University, Howard Foreman at the Broward County Health Department and Randy Merchant from the state to help create a plan.

Dr. McCoy said this school had been rebuilt with a total disregard for the impact of the surrounding environment. She stated that after the first site assessment, Colony Cleaners had begun contributing to the State Water Quality Trust fund in 1996. Dr. McCoy said Mr. Burns had told her they would leave no stone unturned at Sunland, and they intended to reassess Carter Park as well.

Dr. McCoy said she, Mr. Garrettson, and Gary Hines had discussed looking at all the schools in the County to identify environmental challenges and bring all schools into compliance.

Dr. McCoy said she had met with the PTA in March and informed the parents of the results of the assessment and what steps they would take to reduce the health risks, and get the kids in to determine if they were having breathing problems, or suffering any long-term affects of the exposure.

Dr. McCoy said the School Board had hired her as a consultant to guide them through this process and act as a liaison among the many agencies.

Co-Chair Brown said she had been present at this meeting, and she was troubled by the level of concern expressed by the people from the State. She reported that when the assessment was complete, the State would send letters to the parents and the community. Dr. McCoy said the letters would be sent to parents if the soil was determined to be contaminated.

Lauderdale Manors - Update - None

Parent Association - Update

Co-Chair Brown said Dr. Bacigalupi had met with Commissioner Teel, who was very supportive of the proposal. Co-Chair Brown thought Commissioner Teel had made a request through the City Manager to put this item on a City Commission conference agenda.

Chair Reports/Discussion Items

BCPS May 21, 2007, Fort Lauderdale Schools Town Hall Meeting Fort Lauderdale High Media Center, 6:30-8:30

Co-Chair Brown said she and Ms. Carhart had met with Ms. Dinnen, Mr. Williams and Fran Klauber. This forum would be the first of many, and would specifically address

communication and security. They hoped that opening this dialogue would get different constituencies working together.

Co-Chair Brown said after presentations, the attendees would break into two groups to brainstorm about what was currently in place, what issues existed, and what improvements should be made.

Co-Chair Brown urged EAB members to attend. For those unable to attend, Ms. Carhart said she intended to photograph the flip charts. She also agreed to email the report to all Board members when it became available to attendees.

School Board community meetings

Co-chair Brown said these meetings had been called by the School Board to discuss the process for hiring the interim Superintendent as the permanent Superintendent. Co-Chair Brown said she and Ms. Deaner had attended one of these meetings, and Co-Chair Brown had been disappointed because it had not been a question/answer session, but a series of people applauding Mr. Notter. Mr. Webster said a subsequent meeting had been a question/answer session with Mr. Notter.

Co-Chair reported that Board members could attend the May 23rd meeting at Piper High School.

Ms. Carhart pointed out that Mr. Notter had been appointed with the understanding that accepting this appointment precluded him from applying for the job. She felt this had thrown the community off a bit, and some wondered why the rules had been changed.

Summer Meeting Schedule

Co-Chair Brown asked Board members to consider whether they wanted to meet all summer long, or skip a summer meeting. A consensus of members present preferred to skip the July meeting.

Other Reports/Updates/Discussion

City Commission/Manager Follow-up - None

Liaison Reports & Updates:

Staff Liaison Report –Carhart

Ms. Carhart urged Board members to attend the Better Meeting Academy on June 6 and the BCPS meeting on May 21.

Broward County School District Reports – C. Webster

Mr. Webster reported that they were co-sponsoring a public employee housing expo with the County on June 1 and 2 at the Convention Center.

The Board discussed affordable housing issues.

Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations Report – Shelly

Dr. Hays announced that at the Council's May 8 meeting, State House Representatives Bogdanoff, Sieler and Thurston provided a legislative update.

Dr. McCoy felt the Board should add their own educational initiatives to the legislative package.

Dr. Hays remarked that the Board had not made a report to the City Commission in three years, and Co-Chair Brown suggested Board members consider issues to present, and the formation of a committee to create the presentation.

Other Matters/For the Good of the Board

Next Meeting and Closing

- **Location:** City Hall 8th Floor cafeteria
- **Date:** June 21st 2007

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.