

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CHAMBERS  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 – 6:30 P.M.**

| <b>Members</b>             | <b>Attendance</b> | <b>April 2012-APRIL 2013</b> |               |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
|                            |                   | <b>Present</b>               | <b>Absent</b> |
| Dr. Magdalene Lewis, Chair | P                 | 4                            | 0             |
| Vice Chair Franco Ripple   | A                 | 0                            | 4             |
| Gregory T. Boardman        | P                 | 2                            | 2             |
| Heather Brinkworth         | P                 | 3                            | 1             |
| Theresa Bucolo             | A                 | 1                            | 3             |
| Catherine Cirillo          | A                 | 1                            | 3             |
| Laura Clark                | A                 | 3                            | 1             |
| Joseph Discepola           | P                 | 4                            | 0             |
| Idan M. Eckstein           | P                 | 1                            | 0             |
| Edna Elijah                | P                 | 4                            | 0             |
| Elaine Fiore               | A                 | 2                            | 1             |
| Roland Foulkes             | A                 | 1                            | 3             |
| Walter D. Greene III.      | A                 | 0                            | 3             |
| Trisha Halliday            | P                 | 3                            | 1             |
| Susan L. Ledbetter         | P                 | 2                            | 1             |
| Chester Ludwick            | P                 | 4                            | 0             |
| Wayne Neunie               | A                 | 2                            | 2             |
| Dr. Maureen Persi          | P                 | 4                            | 0             |
| Austin Scott               | P                 | 3                            | 1             |
| Lillian Small              | P                 | 2                            | 2             |

**Appointed Members to the Board: 20  
Needed to constitute a quorum: 11**

**Staff**

Junia Robinson, Neighbor Support and Staff Liaison  
Charles Webster, BCPS

**Students**

None

**A. Opening** - Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

- Attendance and Roll Call

### **Determination of quorum**

As of this date, September 20, 2012 there are 20 members to the Board, which means 11 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

- Motion by Ms. Elijah, seconded by Mr. Discepola, to approve the minutes of August 16, 2012. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.
- **Introduction of New Member:** Idan M. Eckstein
- **Guest Introductions – Mrs. Bunney Brenneman, Utilities Advisory Committee.**

Mrs. Brenneman gave a presentation about the existence of a tree canopy problem in the City that has been identified by the tree sub-committee.

Mrs. Brenneman asked the Board for support to better communicate with the Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), in preserving the tree canopy. She asked the Board to help facilitate a meeting with BCPS, the Commission and the Utilities Advisory Board to discuss the significance of the historic preservation of trees in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

**Motion** by Mr. Discepola, seconded by Mr. Ludwick to recommend to the City Commission that they facilitate a joint meeting between the Education Advisory Board, the Utilities Advisory Committee and Broward County Public School Board to discuss the historic preservation of trees in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The motion was passed and unanimously approved.

### **B. Current Business**

Discussion regarding future of 3 City Schools:

1. Lauderdale Manors Elementary school
2. Sunland Park Elementary school
3. Arthur Ashe Middle school

- Mrs. Edna Elijah gave a brief update regarding the status of the three schools listed above. Ms. Elijah has been attending community meetings regarding these schools and provided details of the various options for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Elijah distributed a hand-out with the Student success opportunity model.

C. Mr. Charles Webster, BCPS Liaison provided additional information in reference to the schools in the City in this situation. Mr. Webster said the District is trying to get as much community input as possible by having various meetings in the community, which would allow for discussion and input. He announced that at the October meeting, Staff from the BCPS will be in attendance to provide a more detailed presentation and answer questions regarding this issue.

Mr. Webster says there is a steering committee which Ms. Elijah alluded to earlier that consists of students and community members as well as focus groups in the community to gather input from the community.

Mrs. Elijah said the parents were contacted to attend these meetings and out of 500 students at Lauderdale Manors only 10 parents showed up. She said at Arthur Ashe with 680 students only 10 parents showed up. Mrs. Elijah says the parents although some may work evenings; the majority is not attending the meetings for this important issue. She said there is a huge problem with parent involvement.

Mr. Ludwick said he is against the closing of any schools. He asked if someone from BCPS can research data to find a better prescription for the schools in jeopardy.

Mr. Scott, an employee at Cardinal Gibbons said their number one issue is the placement of personnel. He asked if there are financial incentives for teachers in schools that are struggling. Mr. Webster says there is a new set of accountability that the legislature passed. He said he will get more information about this issue for next month's meeting.

Chair Lewis suggests that the board hold all their questions and discussions for next month's meeting, when the group from BCPS will be in attendance.

**D. Communication to City Commission**

**Motion by Mr. Discepola, seconded by Mr. Ludwick to recommend to the City Commission that they facilitate a joint meeting between the Education Advisory Board, the Utilities Advisory Committee and Broward County Public School Board to discuss the historic preservation of trees in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The motion was passed and unanimously approved.**

**E.**

**Announcements:**

1. Charles Webster, BCPS

- Mr. Webster provided an update on the success of the Ed Talk event the BCPS hosted at the Broward County convention center. He said the event was a huge success.
- The Old Dillard museum had an event last Saturday which was a successful event. This was their 1<sup>st</sup> major fundraiser event.

**D. New/Future Business**

- Discuss topic of school bullying at future meetings
- Mr. Eckstein said he noticed the student members were not in attendance and wondered what the Board could do to encourage their attendance. Ms. Robinson said she has reached out to the students by phone and email. Mr. Eckstein asked if there are other ways to reach out to the Students or perhaps get replacements for them.

**E. Next Meeting: October 18, 2012**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:25PM**