

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CHAMBERS  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 – 6:30 P.M.**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>April 2013-APRIL 2014</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dr. Magdalene Lewis, Chair	P	3	0
Gregory T. Boardman	A	2	1
Heather Brinkworth	P	3	0
Idan Eckstein	A	2	1
Edna Elijah	P	3	0
William Exemar	A	1	2
Elaine Fiore	A	0	3
Trisha Halliday	P	2	1
Susan L. Ledbetter	A	2	1
Chester Ludwick	P	1	2
Wayne Neunie	P	1	2
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	2	1
Austin Scott	P	2	1
Lillian Small	P	2	1
Shelby Smith	P	3	0
Ben Sorensen	P	2	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 16  
Needed to constitute a quorum: 9**

**Staff**

Junia Robinson, Neighbor Support and Staff Liaison  
Charles Webster, Broward County Public Schools (BCPS)

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

**II. Attendance and Roll Call**

**A. Student Members** – The following students were present for the meeting:

1. Cole Fiedler – Cardinal Gibbons High School
2. Aya Ikematsu - Dillard High School
3. Jazzmyne Pearson – Westminster Academy
4. Catherine Greene – Fort Lauderdale High School
5. William Haeffner – PineCrest School

**III. Approve minutes (April thru November 2012)**

Ms. Robinson asked Chair Lewis to address the Board to clarify the revised minutes for 2012.

She began by welcoming everyone back; the Board has not met since May. She hoped everyone had a nice summer.

Ms. Robinson explained the agenda prepared is a “working agenda”. She said several board members contacted her office concerned about the board’s direction. Ms. Robinson contacted Chair Lewis for input regarding this matter. Chair Lewis agreed to put this matter on the agenda and discuss at the upcoming meeting.

Ms. Robinson said the Clerk’s office asked the board to re-approve the revised minutes from April thru November 2012. The Clerk’s office directed Staff to add more information to the minutes. She said since March of last year Pro-type no longer takes minutes. Ms. Robinson said Staff reviews the recordings and takes the minutes, she said it is very important for board members to speak clearly and state their names into the microphone. The Board is asked to re-approve the said 2012 minutes as well as the minutes from April and May of this year.

Mrs. Elijah asked if the Board has to approve the minutes separately for 2012. Ms. Robinson clarified by saying the 2012 minutes can be approved as a group.

**Motion** by Mrs. Elijah, seconded by Ms. Smalls that April, June, August, September, October and November 2012 said minutes be re-approved. In a vote by roll call, the motion was unanimously passed.

**Approve minutes (April and May 2013)**

Mr. Smith noted the following corrections:

- On P. 2, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, “green year” should be “green your”.

**Motion** by Ms. Elijah, seconded by Mr. Ludwick, to approve the minutes as corrected. In a voice vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

- **Determination of quorum**

As of this date, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 there are 16 members to the Board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

#### IV. Student member updates

- William Haeffner from **PineCrest** announced that this evening is back to school night. He said the school has a different administrative structure and it is working out really well.
- Cole Fiedler from **Cardinal Gibbons** announced that everything is going well at his school. The school also has a new administration and new teachers. Cole said the school is in its second year of transitioning to I Pad's from text books and it is going pretty well.
- Aya Ikematsu from **Dillard High School** announced this year the school changed from 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade. She said it has not been a big change in the high school because they usually keep the middle and high school separate. The school has new teachers and a new tech program geared towards robotics. Aya is currently the President of the robotics club.
- Jazzmyne Pearson from **Westminster Academy** announced that the school has begun the STEM program. She said the class of 2014 will be the first to qualify for the STEM award. Jazzmyne also shared that she too is in the robotics club.
- Catherine Greene from **Fort Lauderdale High School** announced that the administration at the school has not changed much. She said a few new teachers have been added to the Math and Science department. Catherine shared that she has a couple of the new teachers and they are "really, really good". She continued by saying they have not begun using the new buildings as yet, but they are looking really great. Catherine said on Friday, the school had a "clean up day" and there was a really big turnout and the school looks really good. The star program which is tutoring students has started in the media center during lunch and after school. Catherine said a bunch of students are coming thereto get extra help. She is helping students with history and they are getting along pretty well.

#### V. Open discussion on goals and objectives for Education Advisory Board

- Ms. Robinson opened the discussion by sharing the concerns from Board members who contacted her office. She read an email from Board member Shelby Smith with some suggestions for the Board. Ms. Robinson also read past agenda topics and discussions from 2012 to present. She

asked the Board after the presentations and discussions, “what would you like to do and where would you like to go with the information”?

- Ms. Robinson said another topic brought to her attention were elections. She said board members have expressed that they have not voted for a new Chair or vice-chair in a while.
- Ms. Robinson asked the Board to open the floor to discuss these specific items.
- Mr. Shelby Smith clarified his points in the email Ms. Robinson read earlier from him.
- Mr. Ludwick commented on student member contribution and participation.
- Mrs. Elijah stated “we need to be mindful that we are directing our kids in the audience to bring issues to us”. She continued by saying “we need to find out if there is a procedure from maybe their Principals before they bring items back to us”. Ms. Elijah said “we do not want to get our children into trouble”.
- Ms. Trisha Halliday said if there is an issue at the school, she does not see a problem with the students coming to share. She continued by saying she does not want the students “censored”.
- Mr. Austin Scott said the Board is making this more complicated than it is.
- He continued by saying, everything said by board members can apply to the students. Mr. Scott said, Ms. Robinson could get involved when a very formal or serious matter arise by contacting the school Principals in writing.
- Ms. Robinson reminded the Board that any communication coming from the Board must go through the Commission’s office.
- Ms. Betty Shelley commented that the Board should not be “boggled down” on the students.
- Chair Lewis asked the student members for their expectations for being a part of the Board.
- A Student responded by saying “ being a part of this Board, I was one excited to see both public and private schools and how they would work together and how decisions were made”. “I think getting the input from Students is a crucial part of that”.
- The discussion continued with the Board members and Students.

## **VI. Current Business**

- Chair Lewis announced that the house is open for a new Chair. She stated that she has enjoyed serving as the Chair, she does not mind continuing but if the Board wants a new Chair....she continued by asking Mrs. Smalls to take it over from here.

- Mrs. Smalls opened the discussion by asking for nominations for a new Chair at this time.
- Mrs. Elijah made a recommendation for Mrs. Heather Brinkworth to be nominated for Chair.
- Mrs. Smalls asks for any other nomination.
- Mrs. Brinkworth asked “is there anyone currently on the Board who wants to volunteer for that position”?
- Mrs. Brinkworth shared concerns that she is the PTA President at her child’s school. She continued by saying, she has a 1st and 5<sup>th</sup> grader, and there are some meetings that she is not able to attend.
- Mrs. Brinkworth concluded by saying she will be happy to serve as Chair as long as everyone knows, she might miss some meetings.
- Mrs. Smalls said the nomination is closed because only one name was said, so Mrs. Brinkworth will be the new Education Advisory Board Chair.
- Mrs. Elijah announced for the record, that Mrs. Heather Brinkworth is the new EAB chair and the Vice- chair is Mr. Chester Ludwick.
- Mrs. Robinson announced the EdTalk event forum hosted by the BCPS scheduled for Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Broward County Convention Center. She also announced a Community meeting, Conversation with the District at Stranahan High School scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Mrs. Robinson announced Commissioner DuBose’s telephone town hall meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

**VII. New/Future Business**

Goals and Objectives for Education ‘Advisory Board

**VIII. Next Meeting and Closing**

Location and Date: City Hall, November 21, 2013