

**EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 15, 2019**

Present	Absent
Mitchell Anton	Jacqueline Grant
Dan Derrico, Chair	Allan Libero
Carol Fischer	
Donna Greene*	
Mari Khoury	
Matthew Laskowski*	
Joel Levine	
Cheree Liebowitz, Vice Chair	
Grahm Rubin	
Ellen Suppa	
Kathy Thomas	

*Arrived after meeting began.

Staff

Clay Milan – Staff Liaison

Peggy Eads – Administrative Assistant 1, Community Development Division

Non-Members

Jeremy Acaba

Eduardo U. Aguilar, Principal, Oakridge Elementary School

Patty Brown, Principal Intern, South Broward High School

Traci Callari, Vice Mayor, Hollywood City Commission

Yisenia Diosa

Edward Gelwasser

Ken Gelwasser

Leyla Kayan

Jennifer Lizardi

Officer Henry Lumpkins, Hollywood Police Department

Danielle Miller

Caitlyn Morales

Olivia Ortiz

Angelica Perez

Sara Pierce, Language Arts Teacher, Hollywood Hills High School

Edmonde Prosper
Jasmine Sanchez
Ana Souza

Call to Order/Roll Call

The presence of a quorum was noted and Dr. Derrico called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Attendance was taken and it is noted above.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Derrico asked if there were any comments or changes to the March 18, 2019 minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Anton **Motioned** to approve the minutes, Ms. Suppa seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously by voice **vote**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BCPS PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Derrico asked the non-members other than the Youth Ambassador applicants to introduce themselves and they did so. Vice Mayor Callari explained that Lieutenant Perez was not able to attend but Office Lumpkins was filling in for him.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of Candidates for the Hollywood Police Department's Youth Ambassador Program – Lieutenant Osvaldo Perez, Hollywood Police Department

Mr. Anton asked how many positions would be selected. Vice Mayor Callari answered that there were five openings and nine applicants, one of whom had dropped out. Dr. Derrico and Ms. Liebowitz asked each applicant to introduce themselves and tell the Committee why they thought they should be a member of the Youth Ambassadors. Each one of the eight applicants did so. Dr. Derrico thanked the applicants and commended them on doing such a great job.

Evaluation of Applications for the Youth Ambassador Program

Ms. Liebowitz asked about the fact that the rules state the program is a two-year program; however, two of the students are in the eleventh grade and therefore would only serve one year. Office Lumpkins replied that the preference would be for students to apply in their freshman year; however, the eleventh grade students would still be allowed to apply, but they would only receive half of the scholarship money. Officer Lumpkins stated that the Committee should make their decision based on the student's qualifications and not their grade level. Vice Mayor Callari stated that the two senior applicants had been very proactive in expressing their desire to be involved in the program. A general discussion ensued on the best strategy to use in making the selections. Mr. Rubin said that he would have to leave the meeting early and made his choices known to the other members. Ms. Liebowitz stated that going forward the Committee should consider how thoroughly the applicants had adhered to the rules regarding their application submissions. Dr. Derrico suggested having each member vote for their top five choices and the applicants with the

most votes would be chosen. After the vote and tally, the applicants chosen were Edward Gelwasser, Danielle Miller, Olivia Ortiz, Jasmine Sanchez and Ana Souza. Mr. Anton made a **Motion** to accept the five applicants. Ms. Liebowitz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by voice **vote**.

Discussion with Sara Pierce, Language Arts Teacher, on Matters Related to Hollywood Hills High School

Ms. Pierce stated that she had been in contact with Mr. Anton at the Mission Possible Workshops, and asked how she could work with the Committee to improve Hollywood Hills High School. She went on to say that the school currently has the Military Academy Magnet, which is a leadership and entrepreneurship program. She also said the school is working to boost enrollment, especially in underrepresented demographics. She then said the school has a Latinos in Action program, as well as a Caribbean Club, and they are working to boost their student government program as well as their drama program. She also said the school has a phenomenal robotics program. She went on to say that the school has advanced placement and dual enrollment. Dr. Levine asked about the school's FACT committee. Ms. Pierce said the school struggles with that and there are not a lot of people on the committee. She went on to say that her school suffers because it doesn't have Title 1 funding. She said the school is open to any partnership the Committee had in mind. Mr. Anton asked what the feeder schools are for Hollywood Hills. Ms. Pierce answered that Driftwood Middle, Attucks, Apollo and Olsen are feeder schools. Dr. Levine asked if teachers had gotten together to brainstorm ideas for the school. Ms. Pierce said some of the teachers had started an engineering program for the school. Vice Mayor Callari asked what percentage of the students are from Hollywood. Ms. Pierce answered that she didn't know the exact percentage but they have a good number of students from the 33024 and 33021 zip codes. Vice Mayor Callari suggested the school build a partnership with Broward College. Ms. Liebowitz talked about the importance of bringing in a big magnet program to the school to attract students. Vice Mayor Callari suggested sending survey to parents to see what would draw them to the school. Dr. Derrico thanked Ms. Pierce for coming and suggested keeping a line of communication open with the Committee.

Old Business

None.

Member Comments

Mr. Anton said that the Childcare Accreditation Subcommittee had met the previous week and had chosen three priorities for the Committee. First was a Preschool Accreditation Workshop, with attendees to include Layne Poliakoff, Early Learning/School Readiness for Broward County Public Schools, and Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr. The second priority was to meet with Eduardo Aguilar, Principal at Oakridge Elementary, to get his thoughts and advice on adding VPK classes to existing schools. Mr. Aguilar was present at the meeting and stated that his school had added two VPK classes in the last two years that are funded through Title 1 and state vouchers. The classes are completely

free to the students. The teacher salaries for these classes are funded by the VPK Program, through Headstart. Mr. Anton asked what the downside is and Mr. Aguilar said he doesn't see one. He went on to say that currently he has 40 VPK students in his school. Ms. Liebowitz asked what the criteria is for a child to be enrolled in his school, and Mr. Aguilar answered that is based on the child's needs. Mr. Aguilar recommended that the Committee invite Paul Gress, Coordinator, PreK/Early Intervention for Broward County Public Schools, to come to a future meeting to discuss the Broward County VPK program. Ms. Greene asked if the Committee could use Oakridge Elementary as a model school for a VPK program, and he agreed to do that. Mr. Aguilar thanked Ms. Greene for bringing used books to his school. Ms. Greene added that the third priority recommendation from the Subcommittee was to investigate putting childcare classes in high schools, but she had visited South Broward High School and learned that there is not enough interest from students to warrant it. Ms. Greene asked Mr. Aguilar if he was aware of House Bill 1091 and if the VPK in his school would be graded as other preschools will be in Hollywood. He responded that he knew very little about it up to that point but based on the conversation with the Committee, he would begin to prepare for it.

Dr. Derrico distributed a letter he had written regarding a Major Event Idea for 2019 for the Committee's consideration and asked that it be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

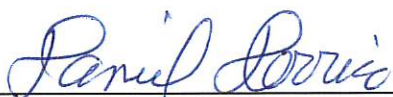
Ms. Liebowitz stated that the members should be thinking about questions for a survey to be distributed to residents in the Hollywood Hills High School area to ascertain their thoughts on the major issues at the school. Mr. Milan asked the members to send their questions to him to compile. Mr. Aguilar recommended focusing on the goals of the survey and being very general with the questions.

Staff Report


Mr. Milan reminded the Committee that Hollywood students, teachers and school administrators would be honored at the upcoming City Commission meeting on Wednesday April 17, 2019.

Adjournment

Mr. Anton made a **Motion** to adjourn. Dr. Derrico seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by voice **vote**. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Signed



Date