

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
SBAB - Room 559**

**MEETING AGENDA**

September 10, 2012  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 pm
II. Approval of Minutes( April 16, May 7 & 21)	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:45 pm
III. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair		6:00 pm
IV. Revenue Generation for Critical Needs	Dr. Richard Hinds Mr. Jaime Torrens Ms. Silvia Rojas	6:15 pm
V. Meeting dates for FY 2012-13	Chair	7:15 pm
VI. Adjournment	Chair	7:30 pm

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

TBD

# MINUTES

**District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 559  
Miami, FL 33132**

**Monday, September 10, 2012**

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Michelle Johnson, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Rose Painsion, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Ms. Leslie Coller, Ms. Darla March.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Don Kearns, Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Dr. Richard H. Hinds, Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Ms. Judith Marte, Mr. Paul Wilson, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m., welcoming all present. He asked for a brief introduction from the committee, staff and the guests. Mr. Barea then proceeded to give words of gratitude to the committee for true dedication and commitment to the school district last year.

**II. Minutes:** The chair then asked for the minutes for April 16<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> to be approved. The May 7<sup>th</sup> minutes had one update, once the update was noted; a motion was made, seconded and accepted for the minutes to be filed.

**III. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair:** Mr. Barea thanked the committee again for allowing him to serve as chair to a committee that is dedicated and takes seriously the collaboration required to face the challenges of providing a quality education for our children. He thanked Ms. Marte for her leadership and guidance. He thanked Dr. Hinds and Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for their service and coming to present on the issue at hand, the Bond Referendum.

Mr. Barea relinquished his position as chair and turned the election of officers over to Ms. Marte. Ms. Marte addressed the committee that the election of Chair and Vice Chair can be made either by nominating a member or nominating oneself. The floor then was opened for election; Ms. Karen Rivo nominated Mr. Eddy Barea to continue his leadership as Chair for another year. Ms. Marte asked Mr. Barea do you accept the nomination, Mr. Barea responded "Yes". Ms. Isabelle Exume seconded the nomination, the committee voted and unanimously accepted. The floor then was opened for the election of Vice-Chair; Ms. Jennifer Wollmann then nominated Mr. Charles Viscito. Ms. Marte asked Mr. Viscito do you accept the nomination, Mr. Viscito responded "Yes". Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover seconded the nomination, the committee voted and unanimously accepted. For the FY 2012-13 the District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee Chair is Mr. Eddy Barea and the Vice-Chair Mr. Charles Viscito.

Mr. Barea thanked the committee for allowing him to be the chair for another year. The meeting continued, Ms. Marte explained the main purpose for tonight's meeting is to educate the committee on the General Obligation Bond Referendum (GO Bond). Dr. Hinds and Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya spoke on this.

**IV. Revenue Generation for Critical Needs:** Ms. Mendez-Cartaya then thanked the committee for their work last year and welcomed them back for another school year. She explained the GO Bond Referendum through a Powerpoint presentation. "The presentation that we are going to show will be

a helpful tool for yourself, the communities and your neighbors. We are hoping that this school year will be a fabulous one with lots of high hopes and for accomplishing many things in the next few months.” Now let us turn to the Powerpoint presentation entitled “21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools” the “Prosperity and Security Now and Into the Future.”

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya said the board approved agenda item from the August 1, 2012 board meeting has given us the authorization to ask voters of Miami-Dade County to issue a \$1.2 billion dollars GO Bond Referendum. It has been placed on the ballot of November 6, 2012. The voting numbers on the ballot will be 222 “For” and 223 “Against”. The purpose of this GO Bond Referendum for \$1.2 billion dollars is to **“Empower voters to authorize a long term solution for modernizing school facilities and installing state of the art technology to prepare students for the 21st Century Global Economy.”**

For all of our schools that comprise the project list for the GO Bond Referendum was approved by the Board. The project list was reviewed and approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE). This approval from FLDOE of the certification of the project list enabled us to take the second step by placing it on the November 6<sup>th</sup> ballot. Dr. Hinds and I will take turns explaining the Powerpoint presentation. The highlighted points that will be covered are the **“What”**, the **“Why”**, the **“Why Now”**, the **“Benefits”** and the **“Guiding Principles”** of the GO Bond Referendum.

**What – The Project List sectioned into four essential buckets:**

- **Renovation projects at approximately 280 schools:**
  - Health and safety deficiency corrections
  - HVAC and electrical system upgrades
  - Energy efficiency and “green” building enhancements
  - Building envelope
  - Interior renovation
  - Site improvements
- **Full or partial campus replacements at one-third of the schools:**
  - Demolition rather than renovation of outdated buildings, where cost-effective
  - Construction of replacement buildings properly sized to planned enrollment
  - Renovation of remaining buildings on the campus
- **Instructional technology equity for all students:**
  - Best-in-class educational trends
  - Interactive boards in all classrooms
  - Connectivity upgrades at all campuses
  - Network bandwidth upgrades
- **New capacity projects in areas with projected enrollment growth:**
  - New Schools
  - Classrooms additions
  - Facility conversions and repurposing

**Why – The inequity and inadequate in our Classrooms:**

- Need exists for the \$1.2 billion dollars from FLDOE certified needs.
- Inequity that exists between instruction experience of students between the newer and the outdated schools.
- Learning and teaching environment has changed with technology.
- Improve safety and security.
- Nearly 50% of our schools are 40+ years.
- One-third of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) schools over 50+ years.
- Solution will not come from Federal or State funding.

The State funding solutions what we receive for Capital are:

CLASS SIZE	Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO)	Local Optional Millage Levy (LOML)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$(22M) Miami-Dade Loss</li> <li>• 14% Students</li> <li>• 5% Allocation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue Constrained</li> <li>• University and Charters Given Priority</li> <li>• No Funding Past 2 Years for M-DCPS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (25%) Millage Reduced (2 to 1.5 Mills)</li> <li>• Swapped for Operating</li> <li>• No Non-Voted Debt (Strand Case and 75% Rule)</li> </ul>

**Class Size:** Though we represent 13% to 14% of the students in the state we have in our best years only

received to 5% of allocation.

**PECO:** These funds continue to decline. Current K-12, Universities, Community Colleges, and Charter Schools, all apply for this declining resource. In the past two years only charter schools have been the winning recipients of this funding.

**LOML:** The millage rate has been declining that the local school can levy. For the past two years it has declined from 2 mills to 1.5 mills.

#### **Why Now – Waiting Adds Costs:**

- Investing now will yield greater return for the taxpayer than the cost to repay the bonds.
- Historically low interest rates.
- Low construction costs.
- Sunset of the 1988 GO Bond.
  
- \$5 in 2012 for the “Continuing” General Obligation Bond Program
  - \$23 in 2013 for the existing General Obligation Bond Program, and
  - \$28 total School Board Debt Service estimated taxes for 2013 (Smooth Transition).
- Estimated over the full (2013 thru 2050) the average of the new GO Program on a taxable value of \$100,000 is projected to approximate \$27 annually.

***Interest Rates at Historical Lows: 30 Year Tsy 2.454% 7/24/12***

***School Construction costs have fallen since the peak of the South Florida building boom in 2006-07.***

***Timing is Critical to Not Add Costs.***

**Benefits – Show the benefits for the schools and the property value to the community:**

- **Improve safety and security of our students and staff**
- **Improve learning environment for students**
- **Improve the teaching environment for teachers and teach job satisfaction and retention**
- **Increased student attendance and academic gains**
- **Investment in the local economy**
- **Create sustainable jobs in Miami-Dade**
- **Increased residential property values**
- **Equity across communities**

**Benefit Points – from Dr. J. Antonio Villamil, Dean School of Business, St. Thomas University and Principal Economic Advisor, The Washington Economic Group, Inc.:**

- **Inadequate capital facilities and the inability to use state-of-the-art technology to teach and educate students have cumulative and detrimental impacts on the human resources development of Miami-Dade County.**
- **The targeted industries in the State and County’s Strategic Plans\* require an educated workforce in world class educational facilities and with the ability to use the latest technologies.**
- **The modernization of school facilities and improvements to technology capabilities yield a greater Return on Investment (ROI) to taxpayers than the cost to the service to taxpayers of the GOB over time.**
- **Postponing the GOB into the future carries significant added costs to taxpayers.**

**Guiding Principles –**

1. Enhance the safety and security of school buildings
2. Renovate or upgrade every school
3. Guarantee technology equity across all schools

4. Seek stakeholder input while minimizing taxpayer burden
5. Promote greater public/private partnership ventures
6. Provide economic development and employment opportunities to our community
7. Provide transparency and confidence with citizen advisor and oversight committees to ensure timely and equitable distribution of projects.
8. Reinvested in the local economy.

When the presentation concluded, Dr. Hinds opened the floor for comments, questions and answers. He said Ms. Mendez-Cartaya, Ms. Marte and I will be at your service for answering questions.

Ms. Rivo expressed that the Miami Herald was supporting the issue with remarkable coverage in the newspaper. It is correct in what was said "A picture "Tells a Thousand Words". Hopefully they will keep the coverage up for the next two months.

Question from Ms. Cohen: "What percentage would contribute the needs to this bond from the state's lack of funding to Miami-Dade County Schools appropriately?"

Answer from Dr. Hinds: The issue is the class size, the district has constructed in the last five years over 100,000 student stations, to provide adequate student stations to accommodate the compliance of class size. The state used some of those funds to fund construction. Though we have 13% to 14% of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) we only receive (at best) 5% of the funding. Ms. Mendez-Cartaya stated that to add what Dr. Hinds said. Historically the Florida Legislature has only appropriated about 25% capital outlay needs. The state as relates to class size did not give the district its fair share. Historically this district has been a donor. We have been solving our own problems without being a donor district. The monies that gets levied stays here. Historical the state has only given us about 25% in account.

Mr. Viscito mentioned that after reviewing the project list he noticed it was categorized into three parts 1) Renovations; 2) Rebuilds of schools; and 3) New Capacity.

Question from Mr. Viscito: With the district under capacity, why not do more leveling and not add more capacity?

Answer from Dr. Hinds: This bonds sale concept is that we are not going to be build additional facilities because we have net surplus there for student stations, that concept is not applicable for bond sale. This is the major plus for doing this bond sale.

Mr. Viscito mentioned to be an advocate for the Bond Referendum, we should advise the public of the state intentions of a creation of an Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee will ensure the public that the plans and monies will go for the renovations and rebuilds of the schools as listed.

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya mentioned that the district is recommending an Oversight Committee as well. The committee will be comprised of representation from various prominent individuals from the Board Members, PTA, Greater Miami Commerce, NAACP, and the Miami-Dade Legion City, appointed expertise in the field of finance, development, real-estate, construction, architecture and engineering. The individuals at the table will be overseeing the allocation and the expenditures of the resources.

Ms. Wollmann stated that consistency in the message is very important. What is said in meetings and to the public needs to be duplicated in what is mentioned in the newspaper, television and radio. Consistency of the message will help the public see the uniformity and this will help them make a decisive decision.

Question from Ms. Wollmann: After the GO Bond Referendum is approved; will we be able to maintain the schools after the rebuilds and renovations?

Answer from Ms. Marte: Yes, the district has the funding to be able to maintain the schools.

Mr. Spaulding expressed that the small businesses need to be in the same position for the contracted

bids that will be created from this Bond Referendum.

Dr. Hinds told Mr. Spaulding that there will be a meeting tomorrow night with the MBE Committee open to the public, asking for you to please come, hear and lend your voice of the process. The Superintendent made a public commitment that there will be fairness to all.

Questions from Ms. Baker Hoover: Is there a needs assessment for each school? If yes, is it on online?

Answer from Dr. Hinds and Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: Yes, there is a needs assessment. As for it being online no, because the project list is online, it is a result of the needs assessment.

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover: Has administration and staff been educated on what the GO Bond Referendum is, so they can be able to answer questions?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: A fact sheet has been given to each school, so at their Open house they are to be passed out. The fact sheet provided important facts about the bond sales. The fact sheet provided a website address BONDSFORSCHOOLS.DADESCHOOS.NET to give more reading material on the Bond Referendum. Also the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Alberto Carvalho had an opening address for the parents, students and staff that was very precise to listen too.

Mr. Gebara stated that he and Ms. Watson have been visiting the schools talking at PTA meetings and school meetings. We have met several times with Ms. Mendez-Cartaya's office regarding the issue. We need to be advocates in our communities. With the pictures that were shown, I agree that pictures speak volume.

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya thanked Mr. Gebara and Ms. Watson for taking a leadership role to speak on this. We need to get the information out and it starts with our efforts.

Questions from Ms. Rivo: What is the marketing plan strategy that is being presented?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: There are two major marketing plan strategies, the first plan is the grassroots in which we spread the information throughout the communities' via media through radio or television; the second is the educational part, to educate communities about the bond sales. The Superintendent is going throughout the communities by community meetings, at various events, functions, and municipalities.

Mr. Barea reiterated that pictures do tell a thousand words. When the advertisements of those pictures of schools that are in need of renovation are shown, then the public will see even more reasoning behind the bond sales. He also reiterated to Mr. Spaulding that addressing the small business is important. Let us look at what Tallahassee has done they are not giving us the monies needed for the capital outlay needs. So with that Mr. Barea asked the committee to formulate a motion to show that this committee supports the GO Bond Referendum.

A motion was made by Ms. Wollmann and seconded by Ms. Karen Rivo "To Support the Miami-County Public School Bond Referendum." After questions and discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Marte thanked Dr. Hinds and Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for coming and highlighting the Bond Referendum. Mr. Barea also thanked them and stated that we need for it to be spread throughout our communities the importance of this issue.

**V. Meeting dates for FY 2012-13:** Ms. Barea explained that the meetings could occur on the second Monday of each month. The committee agreed with the statement. Then he turned it over to Ms. Marte for the actual dates. Ms. Marte mentioned that the next several meetings starts as: October 8<sup>th</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup> since November 12<sup>th</sup> is a legal holiday, she asked the committee if they want a meeting for the month of December and it was agreed upon not to have a meeting this month, and the for the month of January 14<sup>th</sup> of 2013. The committee voted and the census of the meetings was accepted unanimously. The time will remain the same at 5:30 p.m. and the location in room 559, unless otherwise

notified.

Mr. Barea asked for Mr. Wilson to say a few words. Mr. Wilson thanked all for allowing him to be part of such a wonderful group, for dedicating your time and efforts. This is a committee with a voice. The recommendations that you put forth toward the Superintendent, you have come out of the trenches and taken the issues to the front line.

Ms. Marte told the committee if they know anyone that would like to become part of this group to please invite them to come and sit in. If they see that this is what they desire to be a part of please let us know.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
SBAB - Room 559**

**MEETING AGENDA**

January 14, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 pm
II. Approval of Minutes September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:45 pm
III. Ethics Form	Ms. Judith Marte	5:50 pm
IV. Review Board's Legislative Agenda 2013	Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya	5:55 pm
V. Review Impact of changes to World Language Programs	Ms. Milagros Fornell Dr. Maria de Armas Ms. Beatriz Zarraluqui	6:20 pm
VI. Areas to Review 2013-14	Committee	6:55 pm
VII. Approval of Meeting dates	Ms. Judith Marte	7:25 pm
VIII. Adjournment	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:30 pm

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES (TENATIVE)**

February 11, 2013  
March 11, 2013  
April 8, 2013  
May 13, 2013  
June 10, 2013

# MINUTES

District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
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Monday, January 14, 2013

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Michelle Johnson, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Rose Painsion, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Ms. Darla March and Ms. Karen Rivo.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Resigned Member:** Ms. Leslie Coller.

**Others Present:** Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Ms. Judith Marte, Ms. Milagros Fornell, Ms. Beatriz Zarraluqui, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m., welcoming all present. Mr. Barea wished the committee and speakers a Happy New Year; we look forward to a collaborative and productive year. The Chair told the committee that Ms. Leslie Coller will no longer be a member, she has given her resignation. He thanked her for her dedicated work to the committee and her devoted service to the school district.

**II. Minutes:** The chair asked for the approval of the September 10, 2012 minutes. There was an amendment to the minutes, once amended; a motion was made, seconded and accepted for the minutes to be filed.

**III. Review Board's Legislative Agenda for 2013:** Ms. Mendez-Cartaya thanked the committee for inviting her to speak on the legislative updates. The Legislative Session for 2013 is scheduled to begin on March 5<sup>th</sup> concluding on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The legislation committee has been already working diligently for weeks now, even prior to the winter recess.

The big issue looming in Tallahassee is the budget. It seems that this year it will have some of the same gloom and doom, but now there may be a speckle of light. That speckle of light is there may not be cuts from the state level; the revenue at the state level is recovering. Some of the indicators are unemployment is down and homes sales are up. The estimating conference has indicated that there will be a small surplus. The surplus when compared to the current expenditures and the projections for next year will be \$200 million dollars. It seems like a lot, but overall it is not. The governor has indicated that he is making K-12 funding a priority, for when the children win, we all win. It is anticipated the last week of January that he will come out with his recommended budget.

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya then showed a presentation titled "2013 Legislative Session" that highlighted the issues in the legislature. She explained these are 2013 potential pressure points as follows:

- Fiscal Cliff/Debt Ceiling – This is what is taking place in Washington on the discussion of the debt ceiling. The federal government months ago had a discussion on how they are going to balance their budget and how they are going to reign in their expenditures to tie it with the debt ceiling. They issued an order to curtail federal expenditures, so now there will be a mandatory reduction that is supposed to go into effect at the beginning of this calendar

year. That discussion was delayed for a couple of months. So school districts are looking at a reduction of 5% to 9% in revenue for 2013-14. So we could be looking at a reduction in our Title I, II, III, and IDEA funds anywhere to 5% to 9% percent. So obviously that is going to have an impact no matter what happens at the state level.

It is also going to impact the State Budget with Medicaid Reimbursement and other programs that the state receives through Federal dollars that get implemented by the state budget. These are the huge looming issues that we are closely monitoring.

- Impact of increase in Payroll Taxes – Starting January 1st payroll taxes will increase from 4.2% to 6.2% for our social security. So what does that mean, how does that calculate in consumer's behavior? People hold back, because they do not have that disposable income. So that could potentially impact the projection that has already been put out there by the state of Florida.
- Health Care Costs – This is the other elephant that is in the room for the state budget. Health care costs have continued to skyrocket. With the combination of education and health care, how will the state manage these costs and find ways to provide the means for them? We are waiting for the governor's budget to find out.
- Pension Lawsuit – Another big issue that can explode the budget is the Pension Lawsuit that is pending. We are anticipating a resolution from the Florida Supreme court by Friday. You can recall two years ago when Governor Rick Scott came on board; he passed a Pension Law, that half the state and public employees retirement was shifted to the employee. A union sued based on a contract for public employees, that they could not do that unilaterally. The lower courts ruled that in fact there was a contract and it could not do that to employees that were employed prior to June 30 of that year. The state is appealing this; it has gone to Florida Supreme Court and depending on that, this is a huge fiscal impact to state around \$1.4 billion. So we are meeting with the Governor, House and Senate based on that, they are basically saying that this lawsuit could be catastrophic to the state budget.
- Class Size Reduction Penalty – This will continue to be a discussion and is an issue of priority in the legislative program. We are looking for parity with the charter schools. Not so much the compliance piece, but the Class Penalty compliance should be on the same level that the charter schools have.
- Election Reform – This topic will be a major part of discussion in the legislative process.
- Retirement – Not only with the issue of the Pension Lawsuit, but this also impacts the budget. The Speaker of the House has made it his one priority for this session to shift from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. Public employees can choose if they want to participate in defined benefits, which mean that employees will know what their benefits will be after their 30 year service. A defined contribution plan, which means the employee, knows how much is being contributed into that account for that individual, but the liability for the actuarial is with the employee, like a 401K.
- Health Care – How they are going to deal with that? The Governor and State are not going to participate with the Obama Care.
- Education – The following pressure points breakdown for Education:
  - School Safety – We know that school safety is going to be a huge issue. It is going to range from having a sworn police officer at every school, to increases in counselors and/or the installation of metal detectors. The discussion will run tomorrow in the Senate.

- o Charter School Capital Outlay – No doubt, the discussion on Charter schools receiving capital outlay monies will resurface this session. The remedy for the capital outlay issue is that the Florida Legislature took an approach by creating a task force from equal members on both sides to come up with a recommendation. The committee met during the summer and the results were: 1) their recommendation was compulsive Charter School Capital Outlay funding, from the millage levy (.25); 2) the school districts can choose from 1 or 3 sources they can take from their current level of 1.5 mills that currently generate. I am sure Ms. Marte has already told you that 1.5 mills is not generated sufficiently because we had to go out and ask the people of Miami-Dade County to tax themselves to deal with our deferred maintenance; 3) the next option is to take it out of our operating revenue and give to the equivalent of .25. No doubt this is unconstitutional and provides for uneven or unequal education. You look at Miami-Dade with over a 100 charter schools some school districts have no charter schools in their district; 4) the last issue they provide local school districts to levy other ¼ mill. So the local school districts 1.5 mills could go up to the 2 mills or quarter of that mill go to charters and the other quarter goes to the local school district if they choose to levy it. At the end of the day that recommendation failed.
- o Parent Empowerment – Will no doubtfully resurface, we don't know who the sponsor is going to be. They have been meeting with staff both in the House and Senate they both said, and I quote, "This is way above us, for this is big money."
- o Co-enrollment – Is an option for students to use to ensure that they graduate on time with a degree. Co-enrollment is for students in high school to enable them to graduate that have a missing credit or two and do not have time within his or her schedule to fit in that credit. The school district registers them in the Work-Force-Development (WFD) program and they earn the credit to graduate through this process. We believe this is cost effective and that it costs \$460 dollars per class for that student. A number of school districts use this as a vehicle, an option for students to graduate. The issue is there is a school district, Manatee County that does not offer this type of program that does not take this approach; they look at it as redistribution. The discussion in Tallahassee is not to cut WFD. It is a shifting of allowable usage. Therefore school districts that use this, their dollars will be shifted; those dollars will be going to other school districts. This bill has been filed in the senate by Senator Flores SB76. We are trying to look beyond the Florida Legislative, because this is not a bill that only relates to MDCPS, but also to Pinellas County, which is another major district that is heavily impacted by charters. Hopefully tomorrow we will have a discussion with Representative Grant on this issue so that he would be willing to sponsor this for us.
- o Accountability – The whole discussion was on the end of course exam. Most of you all know that the end of course exam is going to replace the FCAT, this will be used for graduation. It is all or nothing if you do not pass this course exam, you do not graduate. So staffers and the legislators realized they have to do something to make sure it does not create a huge back load of students that will not be able to graduate.

So those are some of the pressure points/priorities in the legislation that are our priority. Providing charter schools with capital outlay has consequences, because it requires tax increases to the local taxpayers; it comes off the school district funding and pending funding whether you are talking about capital or operating; and it does not protect the tax payers interest in their investment in public education. Ms. Mendez-Cartaya told Mr. Chair that concludes my presentation; you may open the floor for questions.

Question from Ms. Wollmann: "On the charter schools if the increase of the millage is approved by the legislation will that affect the Bond Sales distribution that was passed last year"?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: "The millage increase will not affect the Bond Sales. One reason

why, the Bond Sales has an approved project list in place and none deals with the charter schools.”

Question from Ms. Cohen: “The issue with the penalty for class size, has there been discussion for special area classes”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: “The discussion has not been on defining how and what classes, it been on how to define and calculate the penalty. The penalty would be assessed for the school average vs. class size bases.”

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover: “When a charter school gives up a building and then the charter school folds, what happens to the building”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya: “In the conversion of a charter school, the building will be the property of the local school district, if the property came from that local school district.”

Questions from Mr. Barea: “What is the growth number for the FTE for charter schools”?

Answers from Ms. Marte: “The projected number for FTE for charter schools is 6,000.”

Questions from Ms. Mensch Raval: “Is there growth in Miami-Dade County Public Schools Magnet schools, do we see strengths in this”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: “Yes, we are making a dent little by little. We have created a marketing plan to start at the beginning of this year to make parents and students aware of our programs, so that they can know how great our Magnet and School of Choice programs are that the school district offers.”

After questions and answers, the Chair Mr. Barea and Ms. Marte thanked Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for coming and giving us a detailed presentation on the legislation session. With this provided information the committee has more insight into the happenings occurring in Tallahassee.

**IV. Review Impact of the Changes to World Language Programs:** Ms. Fornell greeted and thanked the committee for inviting her to come speak to the committee. Last year your recommendation of “Implementing and Expanding Foreign Language (EFL)” has started the restructuring for Elementary World Language Program.

I would like to first introduce Ms. Beatriz Zarraluqui the new District Director of Bilingual Education and World Languages. It has been through the tireless work of Ms. Zarraluqui and her department that we have been able to get this off the ground. I think it has been a fairly good implementation so far for the first year of this program. There were issues and she will touch upon that. After she has spoken I will come and give the next steps. What we want to make sure, that not only do we replace EFL programs that are better, that we do it. Ms. Zarraluqui will come now and give a little background of what has been done.

Ms. Zarraluqui thanked them again for inviting her. Last year, under your direction and approval of the Superintendent, the Department of Bilingual Education and World Languages prepared a webcast that was shown to every principal, elementary teachers and K-8 teachers in the district. The webcast was the first information that they received for expanding the Foreign Language in M-DCPS from 150 minutes weekly of Spanish instruction to 300 minutes, basically doubling the amount of time. A week after that a Weekly Briefing went out to the schools and a letter in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole to give to every parent of a kindergarten student that was going to advance to 1st grade. The letter also went to every incoming student that was coming into kindergarten or 1st grade that was new to the district.

Once that was done we asked the Principals to fill out a survey to give us insight on how many programs were going to expand and/or how many existing programs at their school that did not offer extended foreign language, now they were going to raise the initiative. We have now 127 elementary schools

and K-8 centers that are extending. Ms. Fornell stated that each school is doing it as a choice program. In November we provided 3 days of Intense Professional Development (PD) to the teachers that are teaching this program kindergarten and 1st grade, they were very happy with the presentation and with the Professional Development. The target of that PD was to educate on what the program is about; to provide instructional material that they were going to receive; and how to teach Spanish as a Language Art program that encompasses the development. Ms. Fornell added that every school that is offering the program has been provided with the instructional material.

The program consists of auditory comprehension, verbal expression, to read, and to write in depth, just as in teaching English Language Art. We have developed daily lesson plans to be implemented by the teachers, we also posted it on the portal. We told the teachers that they did not have to use the lesson plans in entirety; they could use it as a facilitator. We just wanted to make sure that the teachers would be on target. On February 1st there will be a districtwide PD that is a mandatory follow-up training for those teachers. We are going to concentrate on grammar convention. We are also going to talk a little bit about literary connections for Spanish teachers and for Spanish SL. Remember this program has no boundaries; you do not have to be a native Spanish speaker. That is where we are right now. One of the things that Ms. Fornell is going to talk about is what we envision.

Ms. Fornell mentioned that offering of the program for one more year in kindergarten and 1st grade allows schools the year with the continuation into 2nd grade next year. We need to delay the budget reduction of Spanish Teachers for one year for the 2nd grade. We are not shifting into full EFL program; it will give us the opportunity to sit down with Human Resources. We need to have conversation about making sure there are enough linguistically qualified teachers to be able to deliver the program, in the schools that are requesting. We are working closely with Mr. Schuster and Ms. Brown to craft strategies for the marketing plans for the program that the school district has to offer. We will now be happy to answer any questions or concerns you that you may have.

Statement and Question from Mr. Viscito: "I think that you answered my question, but I am going to ask it still. You mentioned 127 elementary schools and K-8 centers; I expect that we really did not get that many more seats in total. The way the information was conveyed it was not that many new students were added into the EFL Program"?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: "We actually added 52 new schools to the program; a reminder that EFL was a choice program. What we emphasized is that the program not only includes Spanish, but French and Haitian Creole as well."

Question from Mr. Viscito: "So you expect with the next year even though you are delaying one year for 2nd Grade. Your intention would be a significant increase K and 1st for next year to expand it"?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: "Yes in fact, we have engaged with Dr. Pablo G. Ortiz who is the Assistant Superintendent of the Education Transformation (ETO) schools. Those principals are very interested in this program and in fact he has a Plan of Action to address it with his principals, to offer that option to parents in those schools."

Statement from Mr. Barea: "Hopefully by next year there will be more than 200 schools involved. I think that it should be something that needs to be highlighted in our marketing materials."

Statement from Ms. Fornell: "The next step now that the program is implemented across the elementary schools is that we start working next year on mapping out the middle and high school component. We want to be able to have bi-literate students."

Statement from Ms. Mensch Raval: "I want to say that I am so thrilled with the program. I have a 1st grader and was happy to see the progressive work my child is doing. This is going to be a rich experience for the students."

Statement from Ms. Fornell: "It is wonderful to hear this kind of response."

Statement from Ms. Wollmann: "Part of this committee is to look at budgetary efficiency. If a particular program is not functioning how it was meant to function, let's bring in a program that will provide the services that is supposed to for the children."

Statement from Ms. Fornell: "Yes, we want functionality with results."

Chair Mr. Barea and Ms. Marte thanked Ms. Fornell and Ms. Zarraluqui for coming. Mr. Barea emphasized that this committee was at the same level as you all were for the last four years in trying to get this through. We are very happy that to hear the success stories of the program. We know that we have challenges ahead, but whatever you need for this committee to do please let us know.

**V. Areas to Review for FY 2013-14:** Ms. Barea explained that he needed to leave a little early tonight due to a family gathering, so Vice-chair Mr. Viscito will be covering the rest of the meeting. Mr. Barea thanked everyone for coming again as we look forward to a promising year. Mr. Viscito said that for the review of the recommendations in the previous years we started by tackling it with the prior guidelines. We want specific levels for our recommendations, so with that we are asking for a volunteer to come and write down our recommendations on the board.

I would like for our discussions to be at a higher level, we are not going to get into details at this point. We need to hit areas as a group that we feel that we can tackle in the next couple weeks in terms of getting information. We do not have the numbers as of yet from Tallahassee. Our role and responsibilities is list things that can be reviewed, readjusted or revalued. With that we will begin with our recommendations. Ms. Marte added that is a good way start with the recommendation, not getting into the detail as of yet.

Ms. Marte told the committee that the cabinet has been sitting with the Superintendent getting his feedback on matters at hand. It has been mentioned already that we have not heard of the Governor's budget, so what direction to go with the budget we cannot refer to as of yet. I will bring in next meeting the prior list of recommendations. Mr. Viscito said this would be great for informational purposes, whether we want to include any of those recommendations onto this list.

After lengthy discussion on each of the recommendations, the list is as follows:

1. Review Virtual and Blended Education
2. Safety and Security
3. Counseling/CAP Advisors (SB 154/No \$ - \$30 Million)
4. Reduction of Work Days
5. Differentiated Teacher Salary Scales
6. Funding of Health Costs (Containment)
7. Market Schools/Performance/iCare
8. Substitutes Spending/Substitutes/Sick Leave Buy Back
9. AB/IB Back to Core Curriculum/Class Size
10. Operational Efficiencies

**VI. Ethics Form:** Ms. Marte explained to the committee that every year an Ethic form must be filled out by each member to be kept on file for auditing purposes. You can take the forms home, review and then turn them in at the next meeting. The members present, knew the criteria on the form, they signed and turned in their forms that night. There now are a few forms pending return, from those not present at tonight's meeting.

**VII. Approval of Meeting Dates:** Ms. Marte asked for the validation and a vote on the forthcoming meetings dates as follows February 11<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, April 8<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Viscito asked the committee for a consensus on the following dates and the committee voted and approved of the meeting dates. It was advised that whenever a fill in meeting needed to added it will be as such.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
SBAB - Room 559**

**MEETING AGENDA**

February 25, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 pm
II. Approval of Minutes January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:40 pm
III. Review Governor's Budget	Ms. Judith M. Marte	5:45 pm
IV. Review changes to School Allocation Plan FY 2008-09 thru 2012-13	Ms. Eddy Barea Ms. Judith M. Marte	6:05 pm
V. Areas to Review 2013-14	Committee	6:30 pm
VI. Items for next agenda	Ms. Eddy Barea	7:25 pm
VII. Adjournment	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:30 pm

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

March 11, 2013  
April 8, 2013  
May 13, 2013  
June 10, 2013

# MINUTES

District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 559  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, February 25, 2013

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Darla March, Ms. Rose Painsan, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Michelle Johnson.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Ms. Judith Marte, Mr. Paul Wilson, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m., welcoming all present. He thanked everyone for coming. He thanked Ms. Marte for the thank you letter that was sent to Ms. Leslie Coller who resigned.

**II. Minutes:** The chair asked for the approval of the January 14, 2013 minutes. The minutes were seconded and accepted for the minutes to be filed.

**III. Review of the Governor's Budget:** Ms. Marte explained to the committee that what we want to accomplish today is to understand the Governor's Budget 2013. The Governor's budget has been outlined in the newspapers stating that we are receiving all this money and in essence it is not quite so good. To aid and assist in the discussion a PowerPoint presentation was used. The Governor's Budget for Miami-Dade revenue consists of Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) in the amount of \$109 million and for the first time a Technology Grant for \$13 million. To receive the technology grant funding it has to be applied for. For the expenditure side the mandates are composed in these categories: the teacher salaries, technology, Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and other itemized funding. Embedded in the teacher salaries are the distributions of the \$2,500 raise per teacher totaling \$57 million; the school recognition bonuses totaling \$7 million; the supply gift certificates totaling \$2 million; and the teacher's pensions totaling \$23 million. These individual funding are earmarked for those specific use. The technology grant funding is earmarked for technology. The FTE funding earmarked for increase in teacher positions is a total of \$6 million if FTE increases. The other itemized funding also includes the Fund Balance 3% increase totaling \$8 million dollars. Ms. Marte stated the revenue total is \$122 million, subtracting the earmarks of \$116 million; so the bottom line is that we are receiving a total of \$6 million of new unrestricted money. Ms. Marte told the committee that embedded in the FEFP is predicated that the student membership increases. Also the FEFP does not include the distribution of McKay Scholarship of \$35 million in which the revenue has already been paid. This is the information that we are looking at now.

Ms. Marte told the committee on the second page of the presentation it shows the general fund actual adopted budget for FY 2012-13 verses next year's budget FY 2013-14 itemized categories. The bottom line in the variance will be an increase of \$69 million in new costs. The increases for each of the itemized categories are as follows: salaries/retirement total \$20 million; medical insurance total \$23.5 million, charter school disbursements total \$18.1 million; and other total \$7.4 million. The district will need this funding to help keep up with the new expense increase. This does not include any funds for collective bargaining.

Ms. Marte said the third page is the summary for FY 2013-14, the Governor's Budget is an increase of \$6 million subtracting the \$69 million equals a reduction of (\$63) million. This concludes the presentation on the Governor's Budget, Mr. Chair you now can open the floor for questions.

Question from Ms. Cohen: "What is included in the category "Other and Fund Balance of \$8" million?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: It includes various detailed items. One of the detailed items that the state statute requires us to maintain a 3% fund balance, so when the budget increases the fund balance budget also increases. Another is a decrease in our driver's education revenue, because we received this year a double payment, therefore for next year we will be receiving no funding

Question from Ms. Wollmann: "Regarding the issue for the raises of the \$2,500 and the merit based raises for teachers, aren't these a conflict of pay"?

Answer from Mr. Wilson: There is discussion in Tallahassee right now on this issue. I can research it some more and get back with you all on this matter.

Question from Mr. Viscito: "On the first slide for the FEEP increase, does it include the projection of the student increase rate and if yes, what is the projection"?

Answer from Ms. Marte: Yes, the projection was included and estimated at a 1,200 increase.

The chair Mr. Barea then thanked Ms. Marte for the informative presentation on the Governor' Budget. We will wait and see the direction the Governor's Budget will go. Now we will proceed to the next item on the agenda, Ms. Marte will give us the update.

**IV. Review of the changes to the School Allocation Plan FY 2008-09 – 2012-13:** Ms. Marte handed out two handouts and explained that the first handout is a synopsis of the changes to the School Allocation Plan that were recommended by this committee and adopted in the budget. These are your recommended changes that have impacted the Allocation Plan. Also right now there are bills generated by legislation that have impacted our budget, both positively and negatively. One of those bills you discussed at your last meeting was SB 154 a cost to us of \$30 million. Tallahassee is discussing the mitigating of the class size penalty. This cost the district over a million dollars a year ago. The district has filed a bill to counteract this, spearheaded by liaison Ms. Mendez-Cartaya, the bill states, "That a school that meets class size by average, the school should not be penalized.

Another issue that we are discussing is the property value increase, to turn it around so that it will be an asset to us, based on the last tax roll in January. We know that in capital there can be a \$9 million increase. We may be able to take the property insurance and put it back over into the Capital fund and then be able to balance. This will cause the problem to go down by \$11 million. So, if we get the ability to have a tax roll increase, it will increase to \$12 million to the general fund. So you have \$12 million plus \$11 million that equals a \$23 million increase. We are looking at the issue of the actuarial of the health insurance costs. The final line is that the Superintendent does not want to touch the schools. With that being said, this is the list of areas from prior years and from the last meeting:

Areas outstanding from prior years

1. Develop attendance incentive for staff where substitutes are required.
2. Provide only required transportation
3. Eliminated/reduce athletics/extra-curricular activities
4. Reduce administrative allocations to schools
5. Reduce Central Administration
6. Reduce work year
7. Reduce teacher planning days
8. Reduce/renegotiate maintenance agreements
9. Expand virtual education
10. Consolidate schools
11. Consolidated alternative education centers

12. Reduce vacation accruals
13. Administrative pool
14. Media Services
15. Counseling services
16. Hourly vs. full time
17. Outsourcing
18. Clerical Allocations
19. Support Staff Allocations
20. Seasonal Workers

Areas added at January 14, 2013 meeting

1. Review Virtual and Blended Education
2. Safety and Security
3. Counselors/Cap Advisors SB 154
4. Reduction of Work Days
5. Differentiated Teacher Salary Schedules
6. Funding of Health Costs (Containment)
7. Market Schools
8. Sick Leave Buy Back
9. AB/IB Back to Core Curriculum/Class Size
10. Operational Efficiencies

Question from Ms. Wollmann: "Can you identify which items are pertaining to collective bargaining"?

Answer from Ms. Marte: These items that pertain to collective bargaining from both lists:

- 1 Develop attendance incentive for staff where substitutes are required.
- 6 Reduce work year
- 7 Reduce teacher planning days
- 12 Reduce vacation accruals
  
- 4 Reduction of Work Days
- 5 Differentiated Teacher Salary Schedules
- 6 Funding of Health Costs (Containment)
- 8 Sick Leave Buy Back

Question from Mr. Barea: "Remember when the Thanksgiving week and the Calendar were once on the list"?

Answer from Ms. Marte: We can add the calendar back to the list. Also so do you all want to combine the lists to make it one list?

Mr. Barea asked the committee for a motion to combine the lists.

A motion was made by Ms. Wollmann and seconded by Ms. Exume "That we move to combine the lists to one", the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barea asked for Art/Music to be added to the combined list, the committee agreed.

Added items

- 1) Calendar
- 2) Art/Music

Statement and Question from Mr. Barea: Everything is going on in the nation about the safety issue. "What is included in the Governor's budget for safety for the district"?

Answer from Ms. Marte: "In the Powerpoint presentation shown earlier it is included in the category labeled "Other". The funding for safety is \$2 million. To give you an update there is \$40 million that

was spent on safety for this district, so \$2 million being received shows the shortage of funding in this area.

The question then generated discussion on this topic of safety, after the discussion a motion was made as follows:

A motion was made by Ms. Wollmann and seconded by Mr. Spaulding "To have a presentation on safety", the motion passed unanimously.

**V. Review of the Parent Advisory Committee:** The chair Mr. Barea asked for a couple minutes to discuss the position of the parent advisory committee. He then opened the floor for statements, questions and suggestions on this matter. Ms. Rivo asked a question regarding the adding of new members to the committee, what is the procedure? Mr. Wilson answered that according to the bi-laws of the Family and Community Involvement Advisory Community (FCIAC) that the membership comes from the existing body of the FCIAC. There is a meeting coming up and the invitation will be extended for a one of them to be part of this committee. If no one there accepts, then we will bring it back to you all to make a recommendation for the new membership. Ms. Rivo asked how many members make up this committee and what is the maximum number of members allowed? Mr. Wilson answered no less than 10 members and no more than 20. Ms. Rivo then asked how many slots are opened for membership. Ms. Marte answered there are two open slots. Ms. March told the committee that when we first started, the core committee members were trained out of the Certified Parent Advocate (CPA). The training was on the School Allocation Plan, Capital and other vital information. Ms. Rivo stated that this committee should be a total empowered advisory committee. Mr. Spaulding stated that this committee should remain under the umbrella of FCIAC. Mr. Wilson said that the FCIAC governing board discussed this matter and for now this committee remains as an extended committee of them. Ms. March advised that we should carefully weigh the pros and cons of being a stand-alone committee or remain under the umbrella of the FCIAC. After much discussion two motions followed:

A motion was made by Mr. Viscito and seconded by Ms. Perez "To limit any new membership until the next year", one opposed Mr. Spaulding, the motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. March and seconded by Ms. Mensch Raval "That we request that the Superintendent provide a Certified Parent Advocate (CPA) Training in the spring of this year", the motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Items on the next agenda:** Ms. Marte stated in the last meeting you all asked for a follow up discussion on Virtual and Blended Education, as well as for the reverse marketing campaign with charter schools. I spoke to the individual departments and they stated since they last presented to the committee that there is not enough update to present at this time. That they can present at a later meeting whenever you all request. Mr. Barea said, "Yes" the committee would like presentations on both of those. Mr. Barea asked the committee regarding the calendar, should we request a presentation on this. After much deliberation from the committee they felt that Ms. Marte could just provide the numbers of the potential savings and a presentation at the moment was not necessary. Ms. Marte told the committee to please review the combined list, edit and email any suggestions regarding the list. Mr. Barea thanked Ms. Marte again for the presentations and told everyone that he looks forward to seeing all of them at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
SBAB - Room 559**

**MEETING AGENDA**

March 11, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 pm
II. Approval of Minutes February 25 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:40 pm
III. School Safety Presentation	Major Dermot Horgan	5:45 pm
IV. Review changes to School Allocation Plan FY 2008-09 thru 2012-13	Ms. Eddy Barea Ms. Judith M. Marte	6:20 pm
V. Areas to Review 2013-14	Committee	6:45 pm
VI. Items for next agenda	Ms. Eddy Barea	7:25 pm
VII. Adjournment	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:30 pm

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

April 8, 2013  
May 13, 2013  
June 10, 2013

# MINUTES

**District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 559  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, March 11, 2013**

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Rose Painson, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Ms. Michelle Johnson, Ms. Darla March, and Ms. Alice Mensch Raval.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Don Kearns, Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Ms. Judith Marte, Major Dermot Horgan, Ms. Viviana Jordan, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. He thanked Major Horgan for coming to present on tonight's topic School Safety.

**II. Minutes:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair asked for the approval of the February 25, 2013 minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously and will be filed.

**III. School Safety Presentation:** Major Horgan gave a brief history on the establishment of the School Police department which started in 1957. He compared the duties and responsibilities of the department when it was first started to the duties and the responsibilities that have changed over the years and how they have increased significantly. The school police are called School Resource Officers (SRO). The SRO duties and responsibilities come with wearing many different types of hats during a daily workday. One of those hats is the ability to communicate effectively when dealing with students, parents and staff. Another one of those hats is to have a positive and trusting relationship with the students, parents and staff. Major Horgan stated that the Miami-Dade Public School Police department is ranked in the top 10 of the largest police agencies in Miami-Dade County; we are #7. We have 156 Sworn SROs in our school district. The Superintendent is committed to having a SRO at every high school.

Major Horgan told the committee that a SRO's duty and responsibility is to protect the students and patrol the schools, but they also execute other duties and responsibilities:

- Safety Program – The Safety Program consists of the Random Metal Detectors program; the assisting of the county in the Bounty Weapon's Program; and the Aggressive Driving Unit that monitors high walking traffic in schools and the speed zones.
- Court Appearances – The SRO have to attend court appearances and attorney appointments as required.
- Missing children – When a child fails to return home or report to school, the SRO assists with the locating of the missing child.
- Surveillance of the Schools – They monitor the schools 24 hours.
- Site and Security Screening – They observe daily activities at the schools and provide helpful hints to administration to help improve safety at the schools.
- Security Surveys – This is crime prevention through environmental design. The School Police works with the architect/designer to provide safety tips around the schools as with the proper lighting, placement of security cameras so as not to obscure its visibility, and the placement of landscaping, like shrubbery and trees, to make sure they are properly placed.

- Security Monitor Training – Miami-Dade School Police are developing curriculum to help train our security monitors to be more effective. On March 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be training seminars for the full-time security monitors.
- Technology – The department is always looking at methods to further technology as to stay in the forefront with it.

After the discussion and the presentation the floor was opened for questions and comments to Major Horgan.

Question from Ms. Rivo: “As to the budget implementation of this topic, please let us know what the school police department sees as the outcome”?

Answer from Major Horgan: The school police department is currently looking to enhance and increase the size of the department. We are waiting for more information for the funding from the federal government on this.

Answer from Ms. Marte: We are going to receive additional revenue from the governor’s proposal, but unfortunately what is appropriated is less than what the school district is currently spending. In the 5 years of his superintendency Mr. Carvalho has not decreased the budget for School Safety; it is a high priority for the school district. Now at the same time their budget has not increased either, the decrease of the student population over the years has contributed to the status quo of their budget allocation.

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover: “Have there been any discussion on the using of retired military or retired police officers to join the SRO”?

Answer from Major Horgan: We are currently discussing a program of implementing the reserved/retired military and retired police officers. It is a discussion in progress.

Question from Ms. Rivo: “What is the policy for when a school goes into code red lockdown”?

Answer from Major Horgan: The SRO, the primary agency in charge, implements what is called “Rapid Action Response”, where rapid action is put into effect; the school is locked down and action is executed to control the situation. Also an immediate alert notice is sent to the local police department. Once the situation is attained then the proper procedures are taken to release the students and staff safely from the facility.

Question from Mr. Viscito: “For the school monitors, who do they report to and what communications access do they have”?

Answer from Major Horgan: The school monitors report to the school police since 2004, though the hiring and evaluating is done by the principal, because they have the close proximity with the monitors. For the communication access the monitors have their own radios, with their own frequency that we do monitor. Their frequency is not on the same line as the SROs.

Question from Ms. Perez: “In the training, will it detail their functions and duties”?

Answer from Major Horgan: This will be addressed. We will talk about the dos and do not of their work assignments.

Question from Mr. Barea: “The comparison of budget for a SRO vs. 3 or 4 monitors what is the difference in the funding”?

Answer from Ms. Marte: This matter is being discussed by the school police and administration. We will provide the comparison data once fully vetted.

**IV. Review of the changes to the School Allocation Plan FY 2008-09 – 2012-13:** Ms. Marte explained to the committee that what was discussed and presented at the last meeting in March, regarding Tallahassee was the current information as to date. Ms. Marte handed out several hand-outs including the documentation for the Budget Calendar for FY 2013-2014. Please be cognizant of the dates on the calendar, the Chair may ask you to attend meetings that are listed. She told the committee that the principals have convened their first meeting and they have a preliminary list of items they have been discussing. One of the discussions is on the topic of the inclusion of the supplement for the ESE allocation; you all deserve praise in the supporting of this issue. On one of your items that Ms. Fornell spoke about, the world language program hiring of new teachers and staff is also a discussion among the principals. These are the latest updates.

**VI. Items on the next agenda:** For our next meeting, Ms. Marte told the committee, per your request, on April 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a Certified Parent Advocate (CPA) training workshop, at 5:00 p.m. in the School Board Administration Building, room 916, and this workshop is open to the public. Hopefully the workshop will open doors to the recruiting of new members. Ms. Mendez-Cartaya and I will be doing the training, which most of you have already attended, still please come and learn new material. The training is going to be very informative.

I feel that tonight's meeting was very successful on the topic of the School Safety that Major Horgan presented. Mr. Barea brought up an excellent point on getting more full-time SROs and trading off security monitors, so that we are still spending the same amount of dollars. Administration will review this idea. Ms. Marte asked the committee to prioritize the next topics that you would like to have presented at the next following meetings, starting with the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The committee discussed that they would want to cover Technology, then ESE and then ESOL. Ms. Marte said she would get in contact with the perspective departments.

Question from Mr. Spaulding: "How is it determined which schools will receive technology"?

Answer from Ms. Marte: The schools that will be receiving the technology as to the wireless incentives, replacement of devices, the roll out of the General Obligation Bond money, virtual E-books and the E-facilitators, can be summarized with a presentation on this subject.

After the question was presented and answered, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Mr. Spaulding and seconded by Ms. Exume "To have a discussion and presentation on technology and to also include training". After discussion Mr. Barea amended the motion to include training, because you can have the technology and then not be able to properly operate it, due to lack of training. After the amendment, the motioned passed unanimously.

Mr. Barea then concluded the meeting and thanked everyone, especially Major Horgan for the presentation on School Safety and Ms. Marte for the updated information.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee**  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
SBAB - Room 559

**MEETING AGENDA**

April 15, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 p.m.
II. Approval of Minutes March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:40 p.m.
III. Update on Session	Ms. Mendez/Dr. Hinds	5:50 p.m.
IV. Technology Presentation	Ms. Fornell/Dr. Diaz/ Ms. Karcher/Dr. Blanch	6:10 p.m.
V. Other Issues/Concerns	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:15 p.m.
VI. Adjournment	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:30 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

May 13, 2013  
June 10, 2013

# MINUTES

District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 559  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, April 15, 2013

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Ms. Darla March, Ms. Rose Painson, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito.

**Members Excused Absent:** Ms. Isabelle Exume, Ms. Michelle Johnson, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Jacqueline Perez and Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Absent:** Susan Marie Kairalla, Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Dr. Richard Hinds, Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya (via phone), Ms. Judith Marte, Ms. Milagros Fornell, Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Dr. Helen Blanch, Ms. Debbie Karcher, Mr. Paul Wilson, Ms. Viviana Jordan, Student Advisor Mr. Jude Bruno, Ms. Katherine Cohen, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. He gave a heartfelt hello to committee members and guests. He gave a special thanks to Dr. Hinds, Ms. Mendez-Cartaya (via phone) Ms. Marte, Ms. Fornell, Dr. Blanch, Dr. Diaz, and Ms. Karcher for coming and providing us with updated information on the topics at hand.

**II. Minutes:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair asked for the approval of the March 11, 2013 minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously and will be filed.

**III. Update on Session:** Dr. Hinds stated that he is going to explain the budget section and Ms. Mendez-Cartaya (via phone) will explain the legislation section. He then proceeded explaining the handout for page one titled "Total FEFP Funds per FTE" which details the fact that Miami-Dade County school district receives the lowest total FEFP funds per FTE among large school districts each year. We have been below the State average despite being among the top 20 counties in sending tax revenue to Tallahassee. Dr. Hinds said this was uncanny, how we being one of the largest school districts are receiving the lowest funding per FTE. The chart showed a five year range from fiscal years 2008-09 through 2012-13. When you compare what the school district received in 2008-09 there is a \$400 decrease of what is being received this year from Tallahassee. Even though the governor put a billion dollars last year and \$1.2 billion this year earmarks for teacher salaries, pension costs and McKay Scholarships use up all the funds.

On the next page titled "2013-14 FEFP Revenue Outlook", shows the comparison between the senate and the house budget for next year; their totals are close in proximity. The chart illustrates the budget comparison between the senate and the house by these categories: unweight FTE, state revenue local revenue, FEFP Revenue, earmarks and non-earmarked FEFP revenue changes. Dr. Hinds explained that the house budget is projected to be lower in funding, because of the way they are handling the virtual education. Their budget is going into committee the deadline is by May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Hinds explained the chart shows the legislation earmarks, which means they have conditions on the usage of the funds for specific purposes. For example, the senate earmarks for the teacher's salaries is a \$65 million. For the house they have an earmark called FEFP Enhancement, which can be used for teacher's salaries, however 50% has to be used for merit based pay. For the earmark for technology there will be a small increase and also for FRS unfunded liabilities. Another earmark is the McKay Scholarship which the legislation appropriated to us as revenue, but during the course of the year we

have to convert it to an appropriation, which does not flow to us, but goes directly to McKay Scholarship.

On the next page titled "Budget Issues" it shows four main budget issues as follows:

- **Compression Adjustment** – About four years ago the legislation put a small amount of discretionary millage of .7 of a mill. They wanted to equalize the average. The appropriation started very small around \$47 million, but this year they want to equalize 105% to the average, putting in \$31 million more, this is an appropriation of \$178 million. How much of that will Miami-Dade school district be receiving, the district will be receiving zero dollars. Whereas other counties will be receiving up to \$30 million from this appropriation. This is a very interesting aspect.
- **Sparsity Supplement** – This funding is much less; this funding is for small districts that run small capacity high schools. When you have a small populated high school it can be very costly, because of the overhead. Because we have large capacity high school ranging from 3,000 to 3,500 students, we are able to spread the overhead. The house wants to put \$10 million into this program. Most districts express that the funding should be divided among all school districts.
- **Flexibility with the use of funds to Technology** – The senate wants to put \$75 million into improving technology. We are in the process of doing that and we also use eRate for this purpose. We can use this funding elsewhere.
- **Virtual Education and Dual Enrollment** – Presently students in virtual education can enroll without any cost to the district. We can claim the FTE. The house wants to implement per credit on a period basis. For example if a student is taking 7 credits through virtual education, we will no longer get the full FTE instead we will receive only 7/8 FTE and the other 1/8 will go to virtual education. This will cost the district out-of-pocket \$10 million. This means we may have to adjust the teacher/student ratio. For dual enrollment, the house wants to implement that for a student taking classes on a college campus, that we pay tuition for that student as if they were college students. If the advanced class or college class is on our facility then we pay the salary of the instructor directly.

Dr. Hinds said that now that I have explained the budget section of the legislation, Ms. Mendez-Cartaya will come and give the legislation part.

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya explained on page four of the outline titled "Substantive Legislation" for education as follows.

- **End-of-Course of Exams** – This is the most important piece of the legislation that has been discussed this entire legislation session as it relates to education in both chambers that deals with high school graduation requirements. Senate Bill 1076 basically said that high school students in the State of Florida must be able to pass Algebra I, II, Biology, and other specify classes to be able to graduate. They have modified the bill now to read that the end-of-course exam contributes 30% of a student grade and a student must be able to pass Algebra I to show a level of proficiency in mathematics for graduation.
- **Standard High School Diploma** – With the addition the end-of-course exams, students must be able to pass the FCAT language arts section to be able to earn a high school diploma. These are important aspects for graduation.
- **Parent Empowerment** – The Florida House of Representatives passed House Bill 867 last week. What the bill allows is for parents to be able to petition the board at a public hearing regarding a decision on the turnaround model for a school. When a school receives a letter grade of "F" by federal and state statute, there are 4 turnaround models that can be used by the school district. The parents will now be part of the decision process, if this passes. We are watching the outcome of this bill.
- **Charter Schools Accountability** – There are 2 bills relating to this between the house and the senate. Though, neither bill is addressing the important issue of capital outlay funding distributed to the charter schools. It does not appear these bills may survive the process in the legislation.

- **Instructional Materials Flexibility** – In the legislation house bill 1031 and the senate bill 1388 are moving. These provide flexibility to school districts in purchasing digital content. This is important for our school districts as we move forward with more online curriculum.
- **Co-enrollment** – For the last couple years this has been a huge issue affecting our graduation rate approximately by 14%. It is hoped that the house and senate confirming bill will pass to allow students lacking one or two credits for graduation will be able to earn these credits through adult education classes which will allow them to graduate on time.
- **Distribution of Obscene Materials** – A couple years ago Mr. Carvalho appealed to our representative to obtain some type of recourse to someone who distributes any obscene material on school property. House bill 113 and Senate bill 6 are addressing this issue.
- **Class Size Reduction** – This has been a high priority of our board to modify the penalty associated with none compliance for class size reduction. Due to the lack of fairness the state the calculation with class sizes is the charter schools are calculated by school wide average, whereas the public school is calculated on a stricter class size of compliance. We may not be able to change the compliance ruling, but we want to change the unfairness of the calculation. In the house the bill has passed making changes to the calculation, we are hoping that it will be included in the confirming bill.

These are the important issues as of today in the legislation session. Now that you have heard the provided information, we are open for questions.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “Regarding the bill pertaining to virtual education and dual enrollment is it likely to pass”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya – Some form of the confirming bill within the house bill 5101 will pass.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “With that being said, what will it affect the school allocation plan that the school receives less funding or will the district take the hit”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – Dual enrollment is created by the individual schools and it is paid from their discretionary funds.

Question from Ms. Rivo – “What do you think is the substantial piece of legislation that needs to occur for the parent advocacy”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya – The most important part for parents to effectuate for maximum flexibility on the budget.

Mr. Barea and Ms. Marte thanked Dr. Hinds for coming and Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for conferencing in via phone from Tallahassee to give us the latest from the legislation. The provided information will guide us as we move forward.

**IV. Technology Presentation:** Ms. Fornell introduced staff Dr. Blanch, Dr. Diaz and Ms. Karcher they will be assisting in the technology presentation tonight. Mr. Fornell explained that we are going to give an abbreviated presentation that was used at the technology workshop last Monday. You know that we passed the General Obligation Bond (GOB) last November. For the bond \$100 million has been earmarked for technology. Technology and education are entwined therefore, we are pressing forward to keep them up-to-date. Dr. Blanch and Ms. Karcher will start the presentation. Dr. Diaz will talk about the instructional implementation.

Dr. Blanch started with the technology PowerPoint presentation entitled “Building a Pathway to the Future”. The first part is a visual presentation featuring students from the PLC and iPrep that were asked a question, “What could the schools look like”. The students responded with vibrant and compelling answers.

Technology has changed the way we communicate, work, access information, and it has provided options for learning that we could never have imagined. Teaching and learning are changing and the classroom needs to change as well, to meet the needs of the today’s learners. Great teachers are essential to the classrooms and technological tools are much needed. As we go throughout the

presentation it poses questions in which we will provide precise and defined answers to paint a picture that is vivid for "Building a Pathway to the Future using Technology".

Question: "What does this mean to teach in the 21st century"?

Answer: It means that students today can access information anytime, anywhere, with anything that connects to the internet. Students are able to use Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Tablets, iPads, mobile devices, Smart Phones, Wikipedia, RSS feeds, chat, Skype, Google Docs, blogs to gather and share information. Students today "create" by blogging, podcasting, animating, recording, designing, programming, collaborating, and creating websites.

Question: "What does this mean for the classroom"?

Answer: It means we have to rethink the tools that we use and the types of problems we ask students to solve. Technology tools should be functional, inspiring and innovating. Students are not to be entertained, they need to be engaged.

Question: "What do student need to be successful"?

Answer: Students need great teachers, high standards, differentiated/personalized instruction, multiple attempts at mastery, lots of feedback and real world applications. With the exception of great teachers and high standards, technology facilitates all of the things the research says we need to have in place in order to have successful students. Another reality which is fueling this effort is the adoption of Common Core State Standards Initiative to prepare students for college and a career. Common Core is to have students use technology as learning tool.

Question: "What do our classrooms look like today"?

Answer: Classrooms do have technology, but no uniformity across the district about 1/3 of classrooms have presentation technology (boards, projectors, etc.) and banks of computers with hard wires in the perimeter of the room. Computer banks do not allow for flexibility in classroom's arrangement, nor are they conducive to collaboration. While we need to address technology hardware and infrastructure needs, our district has been a leader in providing all students with access to high quality digital contents. We were the first district in Florida to deliver web-based instructional content to all district students. Our goals in terms of digital content are to provide high quality, research based instructional content that extends learning beyond the school day, and in some cases help to remediate and accelerate learning and give students opportunities to recover courses and credits they need to be promoted or graduate. The biggest part of our success is we have content that is agnostic to specific devices. We build on what we have in place with digital resources. Our digital resources are what make our district unique. We support ELL students and language acquisition is part of the uniqueness of the district and providing individualized instruction at the level. Upgraded technology will ensure greater access to these resources and equity of access across the district.

Question of the hour: "What will our classroom look like in 2 years"?

Answer: Many of our classrooms are already here, but our goal is to raise all classrooms in the district up to the same standard. We have more uniformity across the district regarding classroom technology and to increase integration of technology in the classroom. We have greater capabilities for our student with multimedia presentations, videoconferencing, and project-based work. We have greater use of mobile devices working with classroom technology to track student responses, monitor progress, and collaborate on projects.

Question: "What will our classrooms look like in 7 years"?

Answer: We will have attractive space, presentation capabilities, flexibility in furniture arrangement for project-based instruction. There will be an environment promoting collaborative work and group assignments. Interactive technology will promote student engagement. Mobile devices address teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; extend access to digital resources beyond school day. Technology facilitates all of the things the research says we need to have in place in order to have successful students. Another reality which is fueling this effort is the adoption of Common Core State Standards; students will use technology to learn. Now Ms. Karcher will come and speak on the funding for the technology.

Ms. Karcher said that the funding for technology for the GOB is earmarked of a \$100 million. This funding will be utilized over the next couple years. Also the funding from the instructional materials is used for building our digital contents; eRate is used for building our infrastructure outlay; and for federal grants such as RTT-D grant used to buy iMast classrooms in middle schools which gives the atmosphere of an iPrep high school classroom. So when you talk about the classroom interactive technologies infrastructure that we are going to be adding to our schools in the next years our focal points are with the network infrastructure, classroom interactive technologies and digital devices to be successful. We are always looking at the mobility and agility of devices that add to our classrooms for the technology that is out there. Over the next seven years with renovations, we are making an effort to have interactive technology with devices and infrastructure upgrades by July 1, 2015. While we are upgrading the schools, we are upgrading the pipes coming into the schools. Our carrier is AT&T and what they are doing is increasing the band that is going to cost less than what it is today. In giving that we have eRate which currently pays 86% of the charges. For example, a digital device costs \$100 the district pays \$14 right.

Dr. Diaz mentioned that we are now testing online about 6,000 students at a time. The online testing is gradually increasing per grade year after year. Parents and students may not realize how much their daily school function is affected by what is implemented by the legislation to the school districts. The floor was then opened for questions.

Questions from Mr. Barea: "How much do you feel that we need to be able to budget for the projected seven years plan"? "How is that plan going to impact the parents going forward, since you mentioned that eRate is going to pay 86%"? "Have you made any projections of how much it is going to cost for staff and for training of staff"?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: Most of the training is being tied in with the common core standards. In the past two years every summer we have training session for our teachers in kindergarten, first, second and third grades. The training consisted of common core for mathematics and language arts that has been under the new generation Florida Sunshine standard. This summer we will also have a training session that will include the utilization of technology. We have nine iPrep academies in nine high schools. For next year we are gearing to have iPrep mathematics in the middle schools. There will be two teachers trained in the utilization of the technology. As for the budget to train staff we have to do the training in increments, to pay to train over 20,000 teachers will a cumbersome cost. So it is mostly very organic and we are creatively using funds elsewhere, as not to take away from the general fund.

Question from Mr. Spaulding: "When the instituting of the technology is done districtwide will it be done equally"?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: Yes, every classroom will be done in every school.

Statement and Question from Ms. March: I commend you all for the excellent setup of the parent and student portal. It keeps parents updated and has great access. My question is "eRate where do you see it in the next couple years is the program at risk and what resources are available to provide data redundancy"?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – For eRate funding is not at risk, this funding is generated by the school district and by the federal government. The data is backed up on tape, but no simultaneous redundancy at this time.

Question from Ms. Mensch Raval – I attended a PTA meeting just recently. Where they explained in detail iPrep program and I am on board with this program. My question is "If this program becomes huge in size at a school, how does that translate cost wise"? I know that it is organic, but this is a concern of the parents.

Answer from Ms. Fornell – With this type of instruction allows the teacher to have more of one-on-one interaction with the students, then the regular learning environment now. When you permit students to have more involvement with their learning process they tend to be eager to learn and they will excel.

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover – “In regard of the more technicians and the training to the expanding of technical programs what and where is the budget on this”?

Answer from Ms. Marte – The budget will be aligned to accommodate this.

Statement and Question from Ms. Katherine Cohen: An eighth grader from Carver Middle, Ms. Cohen mentioned that students are finding ways to get around the language art portion online, to appear that they are advancing and putting maximum effort into it. It is that students are exploiting it; therefore they are not really receiving their full education. I know that when consulting with my peers that they rather take tests on paper than on a computer. I know this sentiment is felt with eighth graders with the FCAT virtually they feel a sign of relief not having to have taken it online. My question is “Will there be a choice for students that do not want to take virtual classes at all”? Again many of my peers want an actual teacher than a computer screen”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: The online class begins with 9<sup>th</sup> grade and it is a requirement that is implemented by the legislature to be able to graduate a student must have taken an online class. As for virtual education there is no discussion on ever replacing a teacher with a computer; teachers are a necessity to the classroom.

Answer from Dr. Blanch: Regarding testing online, this has been a mandated by the state. Parents who what to inquire about this mandate can get in contact with their legislators.

Mr. Barea again thanked Ms. Fornell and staff for coming and providing an innovative technology presentation. As a budget parent committee we want the best education for our students and we know that technology will be a forerunner in it. Ms. Marte thanked staff for coming and presenting.

**V. Other Issues/Concerns:** Ms. Marte told the committee we are on a very fast track, so for the month of May we will have two meetings May 13<sup>th</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup>, with extended time to 8:00 p.m. She asked the committee do they accept this and the committee unanimously accepted. For the next meeting our agenda we will address the two motions that have been presented by Mr. Viscito as a committee. We will also cover ESE, ESOL and the path of World Language that will be presented by Ms. Fornell and staff. When we meet the legislative session would have ended on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, consequently Dr. Hinds, Ms. Mendez-Cartaya and I will be able to let you know where we stand and what is needed. At the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting is where we will cover our recommendations.

Mr. Barea motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was accepted by committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

**MEETING AGENDA**

May 13, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**SBAB - Room 916**

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:30 p.m.
II. Legislative Update	Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya	5:40 p.m.
III. Bilingual/World Language Presentation	Ms. Fornell/Dr. de Armas	6:00 p.m.
IV. ESE Presentation	Ms. Fornell/Ms. Goldman	6:40 p.m.
V. Approval of Minutes April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:15 p.m.
VI. Motions	Mr. Eddy Barea	7:25 p.m.
VII. Adjournment	Mr. Eddy Barea	8:00 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

May 20, 2013  
June 10, 2013

# MINUTES

**District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 916  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, May 13, 2013**

**Members Present:** Ms. Kelli Cohen, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Darla March, Ms. Rose Painsen, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Michelle Johnson, and Ms. Karen Rivo.

**Members Absent:** Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Ms. Iraidia Mendez-Cartaya, Ms. Judith Marte, Ms. Milagros Fornell, Dr. Maria de Armas, Ms. Ava Goldman, Ms. Beatriz Zarraluqui, Mr. Paul Wilson, Ms. Carolina Naveiras, Mr. Maxim Lorenzo, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Charles Viscito, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. He thanked all for coming.

**II. Minutes:** The minutes for April 15, 2013 will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**III. Legislative Update:** Ms. Mendez-Cartaya told the committee that the 2013-2014 legislation sessions concluded last Friday and the state budget is now at \$74 billion, the budget for education for K-12 has an increase. For Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) that translates to a \$1 billion increase. The student allocation has increased by \$404 per student and the base student allocation has increased by \$170 per student. Of the \$1 billion being received \$480 million is specifically earmarked for instructional purposes and part of that is earmarked for the \$2,500 salary increase to instructional personnel. As specified in legislation SB 1664 it is delineated based on performance pay. After significant discussion in both the house and senate we were able to get some flexibility as it relates to the dollars in the conforming bill, so school districts can payout those dollars by June 2014. School districts can follow the provisional language or other local negotiated distribution methodology at the local level with collective bargaining units. Charter schools will get a proportion share based on their teaching personnel about \$9 million of our \$62 million. Of the \$2,500 that is designated to specific instructional personnel, it will include FRS and FICA taxes. The teacher lead is another \$14 million which is another increase which will be used towards teachers' supplies of \$250, which will be appropriated to the local school districts. The issues in the legislation session regarding education are as follows:

- Florida Retirement System - The legislation has taken a position as the Governor did last year regarding FRS. It is not 100% funded and consequently the rate will be increased to provide the 100% funding.
- Virtual Education – There has been a change in this funding. In the past the funding was set aside on a separate line item, by itself as the Florida Virtual School and also the school district had a per pupil funding on a separate line item. Now the school district has to pay for the virtual provider at whatever rate the student passes the virtual class; this is a cost increase we did not have before.
- Dual Enrollment – We have paid for textbook costs and other expenditures, but we did not pay the university/college costs for the professor services. In the conforming bill that passed in the legislation, the school district now has to pay per credit the cost of the dual enrollment courses to the post-secondary institution; this is a cost increase.
- New World School of the Arts – The school did see an increase of \$100,000 to \$500,000.

- Instructional Material – We did receive some flexibility for instructional material and instructional allocations that can be used towards technology and equipment.
- High School Graduation Requirements – In legislation SB 1076 that passed earlier in the session, it created two pathways for the standard high school diploma; 1) the post-secondary track and 2) the workforce with industry certification.
- Class Size Reduction – The legislation that would have eliminated the penalty that was associated with non-compliance, passed the house, but could not get a hearing in the Florida Senate. Despite that it is a part of the charter school bill; this provided a provision that the schools of choice and programs of choice do not have to adhere to the strict class by class compliance, but now by the school average.

Ms. Mendez-Cartaya stated these are the latest issues at the end of the legislation session. The floor can be opened for questions and answers.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “Based on the schools of choice ruling now, does that include magnets”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya – That is the understanding that we have.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “Can you give us an update on the security and safety in the legislation”?

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya – The funding in the legislation remains the same for security and safety. There is a SB 2084 that deals with lockdowns. Which the local municipalities notify local public schools, now it will include notifying the private schools and charter schools in the immediate neighbor.

Question from Ms. Cohen – “On a statewide basis how do other schools compare with our schools of choice? Do class size penalties any longer apply to these schools”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – We have identified 163 schools in Miami-Dade county out of the 354 existing schools of choice.

Answer from Ms. Mendez-Cartaya – The compliance measure was modified in HB 7009 which is the charter school bill which allows all schools of choice the option that they do not have to comply with the class by class requirement, but must meet averages.

Statement from Ms. Marte – We are in the process of working on these details for class size, for virtual learning, dual enrollment and how it is going to impact the district. Once we have it worked out, we will present it to the committee.

Mr. Viscito and committee thanked Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for coming and presenting the latest updates from the legislative session. Ms. Marte thanked Ms. Mendez-Cartaya for presenting. Now that we received the latest updates, we should be able to come next meeting and compile our recommendations.

**IV. Bilingual/World Language Presentation:** Ms. Fornell introduced staff Dr. de Armas and Ms. Zarraluqui who we will be presenting on the Extended Foreign Language (EFL). As you know we have decided to spend one more year in having EFL in kindergarten and first grade. Now Dr. de Armas will come and start off the presentation.

Dr. de Armas explained slide one entitled “2013-2014 Allocations”:

- ESOL Self-contained program 6601 – Basically levels 1 and 2 students are placed in an ESOL self-contained class if the school has 18 students. There was not much change in this program.
- ESOL Resource program 6600 – The program is ESOL resources for a teacher with levels 3 and 4 in a regular classroom. The update in this program is that a school with 50 to 399 ESOL students that are not self-contained will have one 6600 teacher. The teacher’s function is to provide resourceful services for ESOL. Those schools with 400 or more ESOL students that are not self-contained will have two teachers and for those schools that have between 20 to 50 students they will have an itinerate teacher.
- CCHL/HLA program 6630 – There was update in the formula for the Haitian language arts. This program is for students that receive assistance in their home language according to federal regulations. The students basically are ESOL level 1 and 2. They get assistance in their home language in the understanding of science, mathematics facts, social studies and the terminology.

- Spanish programs 6610 and 6620 – These programs remained the same in their functionality deliver.

Ms. Fornell then asked for questions on this section on the presentation.

Question from Ms. Perez – “So regarding the delivery of program 6630 is it not just language arts”?  
 Answer Dr. de Armas – Correct, it is the whole content area.

Question on from Mr. Viscito – “Based on those changes were there any budget implementation”?  
 Answer from Ms. Marte – Less by \$2 million due to the formula updating.

Question from Ms. Painson – For the students that came after the earthquake how are they placed by age or grade”?

Answer from Ms. Zarraluqui – When the students come they are placed usually by age. Once they are placed in the school the support is put in place to give them the needed remediation at the level they are at. We have found that placing the student by age brings about a smoother transition for learning for the student.

Dr. de Armas continued to slide two entitled “Extended Foreign Language (EFL) Program Initiative:

- 2012-2013 Update
  - This is the first year after the roll out since it started May 20, 2012 and we have 124 elementary schools that have taken the opportunity for the EFL program, we are confident that there will be more schools next year. We have provided extensive staff development, three days of professional development and also teacher planning days in November and February provided additional training. Your committee approved a couple of meetings ago to extend for an additional year to ensure that this is a parental choice.
- 2013-2014 Development
  - We have developed the EFL implementation plan guidelines and procedures that were sent out through a weekly briefing. We developed questions and answers document that both were embedded with input from the region, labor relations and with the principals.

Ms. Fornell emphasized that after the next year 2013-2014 the allocation for Spanish/Creole teachers for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be abridged. Meaning if the student was not placed in EFL in the kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade there will not be an opportunity of EFL instruction in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, because that allocation for the foreign teacher was not generated, this will have a domino effect for the following grades. The only way that a student can take upper elementary EFL classes will be to take a proficiency test. That is why this is very important to understand this. Dr. de Armas told the committee that there are three models for the EFL: model A is very simple it provides 300 minutes a week for the student; models B and C are very similar, it is a little more daunting the students are taught the content in mathematics, science and the proficiency in language arts. We have several schools that have this curriculum. Dr. de Armas expressed that we are providing opportunities to meet the needs of our ESOL students and to expand the programs to accommodate them down the road. Over the next five years this will be a cost savings to the school district of \$22 million. Some of these dollars will be reinvested back into the bilingual to create new avenues and to make new services for our student. The floor was then opened for questions.

Question from Ms. March – “We are tracking at the elementary level, is it being done at the middle school level”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – For the middle schools level it is by choice. It is an elective class.

Question from Ms. Wollmann – “How do you deal with students that come into 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, because they have relocated here”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – They will have to take a proficiency test.

Question from Ms. Wollmann – My observance is if they are going to have all these proficient students,

by the time they graduate from elementary school to middle. What is being done at the middle school level to accommodate these students, will there be levels 2 and up for them”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – Yes, there will be middle schools level the upper levels.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “The issue with the qualified linguistic teachers that can teach the dual language will we be able to transition them into the pool of teachers”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – The questions and answers document does address this, it provided the principals with the method of how to schedule their school and to departmentalize, so that this issue is addressed.

Statement from Ms. Wollmann – “It is very important that we get the word out to the parents, that if they desire this program for their child, they need to select it. I know that some parents are not aware of programs and services at their child school that are being provided. So, when parents enroll their child, this information needs to be provided.”

Response from Ms. Fornell – You are correct, planning stages have already been implemented, starting with our schools and with a subject selection letter for parents advising them on the program indicate if they want their child to be enrolled in the program.

Response from Dr. de Armas – The information to the schools is very clear of the steps how to inform parents and how implement the program at the school effectively.

**V. ESE Presentation:** Ms. Goldman thanked the committee for the opportunity to present on this topic Exceptional Student Education (ESE). The presentation will start with the “Statistical Information” so you can see that ESE student population in our school district consists approximately 10% of our membership totaling 37,787 ESE students. Of that total reflects 9% are students with autism; 8% are students with emotional/behavioral disabilities; 45% are students with learning disabilities; 7% are students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> that 98% of these students participate in the Alternate Assessment (modified curriculum), in which they participate in state assessments for reading or for mathematics (standard curriculum); and then 57% are students that graduate with a standard diploma. This is the breakdown of the students in ESE statistical information.

Let’s look at the next slide entitled “New Programs 2012-2103” that details this year endeavors:

- Opened Thena C. Crowder Special Education Early Childhood and Diagnostic Center – This is a wonderful new piece and we are going to expand it for next year to add another 27 students to that head start center to focus on early intervention. We have a partnership with University of Miami that will part of the Thena C. Crowder School.
- Launched Bridges to Tomorrow Transition Academy at Barbara Goleman Senior High school – We also launched this program for 27 high school students ages 18 to 22. If you saw the Board Meeting, we are concentrating on manufacturing. You saw the beautiful clocks that they manufactured that were presented to the board members as well as the culinary treats they presented. The important thing is that this is in school business; they will have industrial and culinary experiences and hopefully preparing them for a vocation. These are students that needed a customary program, very hands on; they are thriving.
- Conducted STEPS Parent Resource Conference in October 2012 – In October 2012 we conducted this program we had over 400 participators. It was a wonderful workshop for parents as well as for exhibitors, the experience was magnificent.
- Explored feasibility of providing continued programs for MDCPS students 22-25 – The Superintendent is initiating the exploration of the new programs for M-DCPS students ages 22-25. Our parents with children with disabilities are hopefully for there is a huge gap for this age group. We have explored this and researched the possibilities; we will be the first school district in the state that will apply to be an agency provider for students with disabilities in this age group.

The next slide entitled “Proposed Programs 2013-2014” illustrates the upcoming programs:

- Launch FIU Project CREST for standard diploma 12th grade students with disabilities; expand Panther LIFE program – This program is partnership with Florida International University, for standard diploma students to enable them to have dual enrollment opportunities in the 12th grade, as well as additional support once they enrolled in college. Panther LIFE is another partnership program with FIU which affords the opportunities for students with intellectual

disabilities to have a modified curriculum with the opportunities to audit courses to have the flavor and the taste of a college experience. That will expand to 2 campuses North and South and will be extended to 16 students.

- Establishment of ESE Service Center in Homestead – Deep in the south an ESE Service Center in Homestead, which is good access and good for parents.
- Behavior Analysis training for targeted instructional staff and Paraprofessionals – We are training for targeted staff and paraprofessionals in behavioral analysis. As part of this we are going to be offering a small ABA certification to our instructional staff to begin this process. Again to provide additional instructional support for students with disabilities.
- Launch “jumpstart” program for 3 year old children with ASD – Then for our children with ASD - Autism Spectrum Disorder we are going to launch a 3 year old program, starting really early called “Jumpstart”, partner with UM card. Again the earlier the intervention the better for our students who will start this coming year.
- Pending application approval from APD, provide vocational and life skill programs to MDCPS students age 22-25 – Again as I spoke about earlier about the age 22 – 25 population, if our application is approved we will offer our Vocational and Life Skill programs. To fill that gap it will be great for former MDCPS students, as well as for those in the community.

The last slide entitled “ESE Allocation Fine-tuning” details the work your committee has done, that staff for the past two years have spent focusing on the formula allocation.

- Schools (K-5 and K-8) that have small mixed exceptionality student groups were adjusted to maximize teacher allocation – Those schools K-5 and K-8 that had mixed exceptionality student groups and small population we have worked on an adjustment to maximize teacher allocation. What that means is some of our small schools that would have low numbers of EBD, SLD, mixed groups are now what we say are allowing the counting of the bits. So that maximizes and move away from the small school where there was only 1 teacher with 10 or 12 students all grade levels, we can count those bits to maximize the allocation. So that is fine-tuning.
- Review of “outlier” schools for possible mitigation – So we counting all the bits not leaving any bits on the table to make this adjustment, with every formula there is an outlier. We review outlier schools for mitigation.
- Review School FTE Reports for maximizing school allocations – We are working very well with School Operations and with our Principals to provide professional technical assistance on how they report their FTE. This will help to so they can maximize their allocation so that they will know how to code the student properly and therefore maximum service to the students.

Now you all have heard on this subject, Mr. Vice-Chair, please open the floor for questions.

Question from Mr. Viscito – “Is this only in ESE or is World Language is the school allocation plan will be fine-tuned and there will be changes for next year”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – There will be changes for bilingual.

Answer from Ms. Goldman – There will not be any changes in the ratio, but a technical adjustment in the programming.

Question from Mr. Spaulding – “Regarding students group ages 22 to 25 will this be night school or adult education”?

Answer from Ms. Fornell – It will be during regular school hours.

Question from Ms. Cohen – “I am thrilled to hear that we are going to be efficient with the utilization of space in our schools with the use of this program. My question is, will it be housed predominately in high schools”?

Answer from Ms. Marte – The utilization of the program will be facilitated in vacant spaces or wings of schools.

Mr. Viscito and committee thanked Ms. Fornell and staff for their presenting on the two topics and the clarity in which they presented.

**VI. For the next meeting:** Ms. Marte mentioned to those present that information was given to her regarding the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting that there is a GOB meeting that is the same day. It may be that some of the committee members will not be able to attend. Ms. Marte then asked the committee in light of this information do you approve that we reschedule the next meeting for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The vice-chair and the committee consented. Ms. Marte explained to the committee that the Superintendent at this upcoming board meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup> is presenting a reorganization and part of this is his promise to the community for the alignment of capital staff to GO Bond needs.

Ms. Marte then asked the committee about the agenda for the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, please advise if this layout is okay, the approval of the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, virtual learning, dual enrollment, class size compliance in light of the new laws, the balancing of the budget and the motions. The vice-chair and the committee consented for the agenda for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Mensch Raval asked for another Certified Parent Advocate Training Workshop in the spring, because she was unable to attend the last workshop due to an emergency. Ms. Marte said that we can and it would probably be better to have it on a Saturday, to get more involvement from the committee members and for community participation. Also Ms. Marte told the Mr. Viscito since one of the committee members had to leave early that we will not be able to review and vote on the minutes nor the two motions until next meeting.

Mr. Viscito then motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was accepted by committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

**MEETING AGENDA**

June 10, 2013  
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**SBAB - Room 916**

- |   |                             |           |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|
| I. Approval of Minutes April 15 <sup>th</sup><br>and May 13 <sup>th</sup> | Mr. Eddy Barea              | 5:30 p.m. |
| II. Virtual Learning  | Ms. Fornell/Dr. Sylvia Diaz | 5:35 p.m. |
| III. Dual Enrollment  | Ms. Milagros Fornell        | 6:05 p.m. |
| IV. Class Size Compliance   |                             | 6:35 p.m. |
| V. Budget Balancing –<br>School Allocation Plan                           | Ms. Judith Marte            | 7:05 p.m. |
| VI. Motions   | Mr. Eddy Barea              | 7:35 p.m. |
| VII. Adjournment  | Mr. Eddy Barea              | 8:00 p.m. |

**UPCOMING MEETING DATE**

June 17, 2013  
at 5:00 p.m.

# MINUTES

District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 916  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, June 10, 2013

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Rose Painsan, Ms. Alice Mensch Raval, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Michelle Johnson, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Darla March and Ms. Jacqueline Perez.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Others Present:** Ms. Judith Marte, Mr. Ron Steiger, Ms. Milagros Fornell, Dr. Helen Blanch, Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Dr. Maria de Armas, Ms. Carolina Naveiras, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. He thanked the committee, staff and guests for coming tonight.

**II. Minutes:** Mr. Eddy Barea, asked Mr. Viscito to preside over the approval of the minutes for the meetings of April 15, 2013 and May 13, 2013. He asked the committee, the minutes were approved unanimously and will be filed.

**III. Budget Balancing – School Allocation Plan:** Ms. Marte explained to the committee the budget that is coming from Tallahassee and the Federal government for FY 2013-2014. She detailed the itemized resources for the revenue. They are as follows: the total federal is \$1.3 million; the state FEFP is \$83.1 million; the state categorical/other is \$62.8 million which includes the earmark of \$2,500 for instructional personnel; the other local revenue is \$10.9 million; the local discretionary is \$10.5 million, assuming the levy is for the full amount of 0.748 DLM (.061 in capital outlay); the local miscellaneous is less by \$11.2 million; capital outlay transfer is \$11 million; and the fund balance is less by \$5.7 million. These are the itemized sources for the General Fund Revenue for a grand total of \$162.7 million.

For the expenditures side the itemized sources are as follows: the legislative school-site salaries for \$62.8 million; the legislative teachers lead increase for \$1.7 million; the legislative FRS increase for \$37 million; and the legislative virtual FTE changed results in cost of \$5.7 million. The General Fund expenditure itemized sources are as follows: salary increase backload \$20 million, which was the December mid-year salaries increase; the medical insurance for \$4.8 million; charter school increase (net) for \$12.0 million; and the fund balance and the bus leases for \$5 million. The grand total for the expenditures is \$184.2 million. The difference between the revenue and expenditure is a shortfall of \$21.5 million.

Ms. Marte then explained those shortfalls have been identified and adjusted with the following: the Board agenda item SP-1 for the May 22, 2013 board meeting for \$10 million reduction in General Fund and Capital; the change in ESOL pull-out allocation for \$3 million consisting of the realignment; the efficient use of extra-period teaching supplements for \$5.7 million, both of these items were done to properly service our students; and the last is the revenue increase by the updated estimate of the property tax roll identified by the property appraiser for \$2.8 million. These itemized sources cover our shortfall and thus balances the budget. The floor was then opened for questions.

Statement and Question from Mr. Viscito: "Based on the agenda it does not identify any changes to the school allocation plan. Will this affect the teacher's supplement?"

Answer from Ms. Fornell: As mentioned the ESOL pull-out is the only change.

Answer from Ms. Marte: Note that teacher's supplement is not included in the school allocation plan.

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover: "A couple meetings ago Major Horgan did a presentation on the School Security and Safety. We discussed the plans of converting the allocation of school monitors to full-time SROs?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: The matter was brought forth when the chair asked a question "Why can't we put more SROs in more schools and how can we efficiently fund this". It was taken into consideration and now it is being reviewed by staff. This will be aided with allocation of state grants from the federal government and dollars from vacant part-time security monitor positions.

Statement and Question from Ms. Kairalla: When you compare virtual education and supplements that allows for a more efficient way for a student to graduate in four years. "Now with the extra-period supplements decreased, will this allow students to graduate in the four years?" Additionally more funding should be added to virtual classes since there will be a decrease in supplements.

Answer from Ms. Marte: An additional \$6 million is being allocated for virtual education.

Answer from Ms. Fornell: An extra-period supplement does not allow for additional classes for a student within a school day. All secondary school days consist of six classes. The extra-period only affects the teacher teaching an additional class. With virtual classes you can take them beyond the school day therefore allowing a student to gain additional class credits.

Mr. Barea thanked Ms. Marte for the presentation on the "FY 2013—2014 Budget Balancing". Now that we have heard the presentation and discussion has been done, how do we as a committee stand on this issue, please advise. As a result a motion was made as follow:

A motion by Ms. Karen Rivo and seconded by Ms. Isabelle Exume "To accept the FY 2013-2014 Budget Balancing recommendations to balance the budget presented by staff". The motion passed unanimously by committee.

Ms. Marte then said that our next meeting will be a joint meeting with the principals this coming Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m., in this conference room 916. We look forward to everyone being here and having a successful joint meeting of compiling our recommendations for the closing of the year. Ms. Marte told the committee due to a prior engagement that she would have to leave a little early and Mr. Steiger will preside for the remainder of the meeting.

**IV. Virtual Learning:** Ms. Fornell greeted the committee and introduced Dr. Blanch and Dr. Diaz they who presented the technicalities on virtual education. At a prior meeting while presenting on Virtual Education, there was a question asked about the concerns that had risen with Florida Virtual School and how it is going to affect our high schools and class size. Our budget for virtual education is around \$5.7 million. Staff has been working diligently looking at various scenarios as to continue providing the same quality of education in virtual education and assist in the minimization of the cost to the district as well. Schools in the district have utilized the services that Florida Virtual School provides. Virtual learning as you all already know is a requirement for graduation. The services that the schools are asking for is a variety of virtual courses accessible for the students to take. Now Dr. Diaz will come and start the presentation.

Dr. Diaz stated we are in the process of providing solutions in virtual education that are cost efficient to the school district. We are looking at the option of the courses being offered in-house with our teachers and with our content. We are reviewing three options for virtual education to be presented to the district. The reasons that we are looking at other options, is because our current provider, Florida Virtual School cost is over the district budget allocation. We are researching other options and will present to the Superintendent the most practical options for our students. The services that Florida Virtual School provided in the past has been very creditable, but now they are not cost efficient; therefore causing us to look at other alternatives.

Dr. Diaz mentioned all of you are already aware that virtual education is a mandate implemented by the State of Florida. Additionally we are assisting our students to get ready for college, because many

of the universities/colleges predominately offer their courses virtually; therefore by teaching them they are better prepared to further their education at a higher level more effectively.

Question from Ms. Rivo: One of the options we saw for one of the virtual schools the cost is \$6.7 million thus exceeding our budget by \$1 million". "Do we see any negotiating with this particular virtual school?"

Answer from Dr. Diaz: We have been negotiating with them and they did reduce their cost once, we are still in the process of negotiating with them to reduce their cost even more. They are aware that they are over our budget and they know that they are higher than the other two competitors.

Answer from Dr. Blanch: Also note that this particular provider we are speaking about is not in it for any kind of profit. They have shown and provided outstanding services to the school district in providing hundreds of creditable virtual courses for our students.

Questions from Ms. Baker Hoover: "Do we have any kind of customer service for the students with the virtual schools and if yes, what is the result?"

Answer from Dr. Diaz: We have very good customer service with the Florida Virtual School and their service has been excellent.

Question from Mr. Viscito: "So with this being said will it affect this school year?"

Answer from Dr. Diaz: Yes, the legislation made changes in the last hours in virtual education; as a result it will affect this year.

Statement and Question from Mr. Viscito: "With regards of the replacement or surplus of facilitators, I am concerned that students that have already signed up for certain virtual classes, especially for AP and Honors classes, may now not be available. I have concerns with us making these substantial changes, in the last two years Florida Virtual School has provided excellent service, especially after we worked out the glitches when they first started with us. Now because of their cost being over budget we may not have them anymore. My question is in regard to "Do the facilitators have to be certified in this field?"

Answer from Mr. Steiger: This is at the discretion of the school whether they have certified or trained teachers.

Statement from Mr. Barea: "After listening to some of the committee members, their support appears to be with the current provider, Florida Virtual School."

Statement from Mr. Viscito: "Especially since we are almost approaching the month of July and the August roll-out for the opening of school is near".

Ms. Fornell - We hear you and understand your concerns.

Question from Mr. Barea: "What is the budget again for virtual education this year?"

Answer from Mr. Steiger: The budget is \$5.7 million, so therefore Florida Virtual has to get their cost lower.

Answer from Dr. Diaz: As we mentioned earlier, we are continuing our negotiations with them.

Response from Ms. Fornell: Also want to let you all know, that if a student is not doing well in a virtual class, that student is pulled out by a principal or counselor and placed in a regular class with a teacher.

Response from Dr. Diaz: Research has shown that students who take two or more classes virtually have done very well. Also an extensive research was done five years ago that showed that Florida Virtual School has provided quality education, even back when the cost was lower.

Mr. Barea then said now that the presentation has been completed and questions have been answered. This committee is in support of a virtual provider that will provide the best quality and efficient service to our students. As a result a motion was made as follows:

A motion by Mr. Charles Viscito and seconded by Ms. Karen Rivo "This committee suggests to the Superintendent that we would prefer to stay with Florida Virtual School for the next school year. Based on the issues, even if it is a little more money, until the investigation proceeds a little further". The motion passed, two opposed Ms. Kelli Cohen and Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla.

**V. Dual Enrollment:** Ms. Fornell explained that dual enrollment was changed as well and this also was unexpected. The reason why dual enrollment has been changed is because several universities/colleges collectively requested the state for additional funding, to deal with the increase of students in dual enrollment. So what the legislation is doing is passing the cost of dual enrollment onto the backs of the school districts. With this being said Dr. de Armas who oversees dual enrollment is going to walk you through this and the statute requirements.

Dr. de Armas gave salutations to the committee and then explained that dual enrollment primarily was held on college campuses, with the exception of some M-DCPS schools such as DASH, New World School of the Arts and Schools of Advance Studies that offer the courses on their location. For the most part, students took dual enrollment classes during the summer and/or after school. Dual enrollment is student requested. The student speaks to the counselor who provides the individual courses and the student selects the desired courses they want to take. The District paid for the textbook fee and the tuition was waived. The textbooks cost at a high school campus is more cost efficient than those purchased at the colleges. Also, the FTE stayed at the school district.

Dr. de Armas said now the accountability has changed. We have more high schools offering courses on their campuses and students were taking the courses there. There was an agreement that was made with Florida International University (FIU), once a teacher met all the criteria to teach a college course, they became credited agents. The credited agent could teach the dual enrollment course, then we paid their salary and all was functioning well.

The handout you all received is the Statutory Requirement that is embedded in SB 1514. SB 1514 now says that any student that participates in a dual enrollment class on a college campus, the school district must pay the actual cost of the tuition fees for that part of the day out of their FEFP funding. We now have to also pay the professor's salary along with the textbooks cost. Again the cost of textbooks purchased from a college as you all know is high. We were in a good place when the courses were taught by our credited agents, held on our campuses, and the textbooks were purchased through us, due to the fact that some of the textbooks could be recycled. Dr. de Armas stated that with the change in the Statutory Requirement has put school districts in a bind and especially with the M-DCPS schools that offer the dual enrolment courses on their campus. Now that you all have heard the issue, we can take questions.

Question from Mr. Barea: "Is there a danger that we could lose schools?"

Answer from Ms. Fornell: The conversion at hand is the consideration of changing the delivery models. We could have the same programs, where the students' classes are taught by our credited agents and on our campuses. With our agreement with two colleges FIU is the most reasonable one in working with the school district with us providing the dual enrollment on our school campuses, which is more cost efficient, but Miami-Dade Community College (MDCC) is not so accommodating.

Questions from Mr. Viscito: Do you think we are going to see a change this school year, or do you think a solution is going to be mitigated or do you see the models being changed at certain schools?

Answer from Ms. Fornell: We are having conversion with staff at this moment on the dual enrollment direction. I know that FIU has been a great partner and they want to continue with the format at hand.

Answer from Mr. Steiger: New World School is a unique situation; we are already paying over \$800,000 to MDCC. For Schools of Advanced Studies we pay roughly over \$3 million. We might have to reclassify what that amount pays for. The district is looking at changing classes taken at MDCC to FIU, this will be a cost saving. We are looking at for the summer courses payment of roughly \$3 million.

Question from Ms. Wollmann: "So there may be a readjustment to the budget that we just went over if the \$3 million kicks in?"

Answer from Mr. Steiger: We will have to revisit, after further reviewing the matter.

The chair Mr. Barea thanked Mr. Fornell, Dr. Blanch, Dr. Diaz, and Dr. de Armas for coming and diligently presenting. As a committee we understand and have a passion for this topic. We care about our students and want only the best of education for them.

**VI. Class Size Compliance:** Mr. Steiger asked the committee what specifically they wanted discussed on this topic. Mr. Barea and Mr. Viscito explained what the committee wants to cover is the language interpretation that the district is taking with the legislation updates on class size with the provision of the schools of choice; magnets and K-8 centers. Will there be any penalty if they do not have to adhere to the class size compliance. This was our understanding a couple meetings ago and the operational aspect of how we are going to implement this.

Mr. Steiger responded that this matter is still being discussed by staff. That it will mostly affect high schools. We have instructed the principals to create multiple schedules, because we do not know what direction the state will take with compliance. One option that we have been considering is to go "very aggressive". This means that every school of choice, magnet, and K-8 center is exempt at the class level, only by school wide. Then if the state does not accept this and then a penalty is implemented, then we can react at that point. We can agree that this is not a position that we would want to be put in. We really have to get clearer guidance before we make any decision on which way to go. We are working with the state.

Mr. Steiger stated we have asked other counties what position that they are taking. For we do not want to take this position alone; we want to be part of a group on this matter. As for Broward and Palm Beach they are going to take the "very aggressive" approach. Staff is currently reviewing the facts and discussing with the state to be able to derive at an option to be presented to the Superintendent on this. Mr. Steiger then asked for questions.

Statement and Question from Mr. Viscito: "As a parent my understanding is that K-8's are normally schools of choice at the middle grade levels, but not at the elementary level". "The message that is being conveyed to the principals about the class size compliance for schools of choice and so on is one of unification in the classrooms?"

Responded from Mr. Steiger: K-8 Centers are funded already accordingly K-3 grades 1:18 and 4-8 grades 1:21. We are addressing the class size compliance with the principals. We are balancing the budget based on class size as we meet it now. The ratios are remaining the same.

Statement from Mr. Barea: "This is a passionate topic for this committee; I feel that we should table this discussion and discuss at our joint meeting next week with the principals to get their input. I also would like to express to the committee that School Operations is policing this and their monitoring of the matter will tremendously impact the outcome. I will address this with Ms. Marte to have it on the agenda for next week". After this a motion was presented as follows:

A motion by Ms. Jennifer Wollmann and seconded by Mr. Thomas Spaulding "I move to table the Class Size Compliance discussion for the Joint Principals and Parent meeting". The motion passed unanimously by committee.

**VII. Next Meeting Topics:** Mr. Barea stated with the given motions that have been put into place and after hearing the topics tonight, let us get ready for our joint meeting with the principals. Ms. Baker Hoover brought again the matter on the School Security and Safety, in which our chair had a valid concept. As a result a motion was presented as follows:

A motion was made by Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover and seconded by Ms. Jennifer Wollmann "Parents support the School Police department plan to convert the current allocation of hourly security monitors to a cost neutral number of School Resource Officers while simultaneously redistributing the full-time security monitor allocation on a formulaic basis." The motion passed unanimously by committee.

After the motion Mr. Barea then motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was accepted by committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Subcommittee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

**MEETING AGENDA**

June 17, 2013  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**SBAB - Room 916**

I. Welcome and Introductions	Mr. Eddy Barea	5:00 p.m.
II. Presentation of Balanced Budget	Ms. Judith Marte	5:10 p.m.
III. Votes	Ms. Judith Marte	5:30 p.m.
IV. Adjournment Principals	Mr. Eddy Barea	6:00 p.m.
V. Discuss Meeting Dates	Ms. Judith Marte	6:05 p.m.
VI. Adjournment Parents	Mr. Eddy Barea	6:25 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

July 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. (First Public Hearing)

# MINUTES

District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 916  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, June 17, 2013

**Members Present:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Kelli Cohen, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Ms. Sandy Baker Hoover, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Rose Painson, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Thomas Spaulding, Mr. Charles Viscito, Ms. Jennifer Wollmann.

**Members Excused Absent:** Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Michelle Johnson, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Darla March and Ms. Alice Mensch Raval.

**Members Absent:** Mr. Pablo Orta.

**Principals Presents:** Mr. Jose Fernandez, Ms. Alicia Hidalgo, Dr. Carmen Jones-Carey, Ms. Melissa Mesa, Mr. Genaro Navarro, Ms. Josephine Otero, Dr. Maria Rodriguez, Ms. Silvia Tarafa and Mr. Rouben Yaghdjian

**Others Present:** Dr. Richard H. Hinds, Ms. Judith Marte, Student Mr. Jouan Joseph, Ms. Carolina Naveiras, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome, Introductions:** Mr. Eddy Barea, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He gave a heartfelt welcome to the Principals, committee, staff and guests.

**II. Summary of the Parent's Advisory for FY 2013-14:** Ms. Marte said before we move into our agenda I am going to detail the summary of the parent's committee for FY 2013-14:

- Committee met a total of 7 times this school year commencing on September 10, 2012.
- Committee began its work with a review of all the items being considered last year that were not acted upon.
- Commencing with the first meeting an update on legislative issues was presented by Dr. Richard Hinds or Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya.
- Committee requested and was given presentations on:
  - Revenue Generation presented by Dr. Hinds
  - School Safety presented by Major Horgan
  - Digital Convergence presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
  - ESE presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
  - Virtual Learning presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
  - Dual Enrollment presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
  - Charter Schools and Magnet Programs presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
  - Elementary World Language Program presented by Ms. Fornell and staff
- Committee reviewed the School Allocation Plan, the Budget and work of the Principals and Cabinet Budget Committees during meetings throughout the year.
- As the year progressed, items were discussed and debated and the committee worked its way to a final recommendation to be shared with the principals as our consensus recommendation.
- Areas when follow up is request (not necessarily budget):
  - Class Size Compliance
  - Virtual Learning
  - Dual Enrollment
  - School Calendar

**III. Presentation of Balanced Budget:** Ms. Marte recapped what was explained at last week meeting on the budget coming from Tallahassee and the Federal government for FY 2013-2014. The floor was then opened for questions.

Question from Mr. Viscito: "Did the district budget for the anticipation for any penalties on the class size compliance, if not met?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: We did not budget for any penalties, because the district anticipates meeting class size for FY 2013-14.

Answer from Dr. Hinds: The penalty for the current year was \$1.7 million out of the operating of \$2.6 billion.

Question from Ms. Baker Hoover: "In regards to the expanding the use of technology throughout the district, have we budgeted for the technicians too?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: In the upcoming board meeting there is an agenda item that will be addressing this matter. We have negotiated through the work of Dr. Hinds and Ms. Rojas on a major investment in technology with the Bank of America. They will be providing equipment and wireless connections that will be contracted for one year with them; hence they will be responsible for maintaining and repairing any kind of upkeep. For our equipment will be maintained by our technicians.

Question from Mr. Barea: "One aspect of this meeting tonight is based on budgeting for class size?" So based on this, has our budget been adjusted to meet class size?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: Staff has been instructed to budget with class size being met.

Statement from Ms. Cohen: "In regards to the class size compliance for equal equity amongst schools that tie in with the school of choice, we would like to hear from a principal how they have been instructed to handle this."

Answer from Ms. Hidalgo: Basically we look at our FTE and what is actually generated based on our student enrollment. We are constantly checking our enrollment until the opening of schools to adjust our schedule accordingly in the core classes.

Answer from Ms. Marte: The principals are still being advised on this matter, it is being discussed with staff and the state.

Question from Mr. Barea: "You mentioned that you adjust the schedules for core classes, does that mean go outside the class size?"

Answer from the Principals: "We do meet class size within the core classes".

Answer from Ms. Hidalgo: The core classes are English, Math, Science and Social Studies classes.

Question from Mr. Barea: "Where do you make the adjustment in classes?"

Answer from the Principals: "Adjustments are taken in consideration in the elective classes".

Question from Mr. Viscito: "Going back to my question from the last meeting, I would like to ask the secondary principals if they have similar concerns on the changes to virtual learning in regards to the staffing of the facilitators."

Response from Principal Ms. Hidalgo: The district has been very supportive on that the matter and whatever is decided will be for the best interest of our students. We are confident that virtual learning will be successful in the upcoming year.

Mr. Barea then asked both committees, after listening to the presentation and much deliberation was done, to make ready to take a vote. The committees agreed to make ready to make a vote.

**IV. The Vote:** Ms. Marte asked now that both committees have heard the presentation and been advised by the chair, how do you all stand on the issue? A member from the parent committee made a motion and it seconded by a principal as follows:

A motion was made by Ms. Jacqueline Perez and seconded by Ms. Silvia Tarafa "To accept the FY 2013-2014 Budget Balancing recommendations to balance the budget presented by staff". The motion passed unanimously by both the parent and principal committees.

Mr. Barea thanked the committees for their unanimous support on the balanced budget. Both Ms. Marte and Mr. Barea thanked the principal for coming and thanked them for their devoted services to the school district, to please keep up the good work. Mr. Barea mentioned that this parent committee only wants the best education for our students and we stand united behind our school district to give our total support. As the principals and some staff exited the parents and staff gave them a standing ovation.

**V. Discussion on Next Year Meeting Dates:** Mr. Barea opened the floor for suggestions on the meeting dates for next year. Ms. Perez and Mr. Spaulding both said that the second Monday of each month was good. Mr. Barea then asked the committee was this also good for them? They committee agreed, as a result a motion was made as follows:

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas Spaulding and seconded by Ms. Isabelle Exume "To keep the parent advisory meetings as previously scheduled on the second Monday of the month." The motion passed unanimously by the committee.

Ms. Marte asked the committee for our first meeting **for FY 2013-14**, will it commence in September or October? The committee agreed to have the first meeting in September, to get started on the issues. Ms. Marte noted to the committee that **our first meeting will be September 9, 2013**. As for the time will it remain the same at 5:30 p.m.? The committee agreed that the time remain the same. Ms. Marte stated as agreed by committee, that the meetings will remain on the second Monday of the month **at 5:30 p.m.**

**VI. Discussion on Next Year Topics:** The continual discussion on opening the membership for new parents to join was presented. Ms. Rivo said in regards to adding new parents to the committee, a little reminder that we are a subcommittee to the Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC) and they will need to be part of the process. She further said that we should consider being a stand-alone entity. Ms. Exume agreed new members will bring in new ideas. That there has been talk about having another Certified Parent Advocate (CPA) workshop and this will aid in finding new members. Ms. Marte said we will have another CPA training that is being scheduled for next year and will probably be on a Saturday as to draw in more participation. Ms. Perez mentioned I attend the FCIAC meetings, it was mentioned at one point this committee becoming a stand-alone committee, but there has not been any further discussion about this. She also mentioned that this committee does get things done. Mr. Barea agreed that we do get things done; we are an invigorating committee, as for us being a stand-a-long or a subcommittee can be discussed further with the FCIAC for next year.

Ms. Marte stated that for FY 2013-14, we will revisit several topics as to have resolution on them for the dual enrollment, virtual education, class size and the calendar. We have heard your concerns and we want you all to be able to be an effective voice in your schools and throughout your community. Ms. Wollmann asked after we get the following topics resolved and the economy starts to improve, what will be the role of this committee? We are a dedicated committee and commitment to the education of our children, where will we stand? Ms. Marte responded we hope that as the economy improves and the legislation presents new monies, you all as a committee will work presenting recommendations on how to allocate those additional dollars. Mr. Barea thanked Ms. Marte for her tremendous services to this committee and to the school district. We have accomplished much, because of your guidance and will ever be appreciative to you. Mr. Barea recognized the student Mr. Jouan Joseph presented, who wanted to address staff and the committee.

Questions from Student Mr. Jouan Joseph: Mr. Joseph a student at Gertrude K. Edelman/Sabal Palm Elementary asked in regards to the gifted why was the reading program not being offered for the next year at his school?" "My second question is can a student take dual World Language classes in a school year; for example Creole and Spanish?"

Answer from Ms. Marte: Thank you very much for your questions, we will get you the answers to your questions from the appropriated staff as soon as possible.

Ms. Marte and Mr. Barea thanked Mr. Joseph for coming and asking his questions, it was wonderful having him. Mr. Barea encouraged Mr. Joseph to continue his success as a student in the Miami-Dade County Public School system. Now as we get ready to adjourn Mr. Barea asked the parent committee and staff to stand and give themselves a round of applause for all their devoted services, insightful views and their commitment to the school district.

Mr. Barea motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was accepted by committee.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.