

City of Delray Beach

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Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

4:00 PM

Workshop Meeting at 4:00 PM

Delray Beach City Hall or Watch on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc2j0JhnR8Hx0Hj13RhCJag/s>
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City Commission

Mayor Thomas F. Carney, Jr.

Vice Mayor Juli Casale

Deputy Vice Mayor Rob Long

Commissioner Tom Markert

Commissioner Angela Burns

Pursuant to Section 3.12 of the Charter of the City of Delray Beach, the Mayor has instructed me to announce a Workshop Meeting of the City Commission to be held for the following purposes:

WS.1. CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR DELRAY BEACH

Sponsors: City Manager Department

Attachments: [Agenda Cover Report](#)
[Delray Beach OOS Programs](#)
[VPK-Provider-Readiness-Rates](#)
[Delray Beach School Data SY24](#)
[Delray Schools Business Partners FY25](#)
[Education & External Opportunities Manager](#)
[Children Services Council Delray Beach Data breakdown 2023](#)

The October 8, 2024, Workshop Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Interim City Clerk, Alexis Givings, called the role, and the following were present:

Present: 5 - Mayor Thomas F. Carney, Jr., Vice Mayor Juli Casale, Deputy Vice Mayor Rob Long, Commissioner Tom Markert, and Commissioner Angela Burns

Others present were:

Terrence Moore - City Manager
Lynn Gelin - City Attorney

Janai Bowens, Education and External Opportunities Manager, delivered a presentation on the City's proposed education goals for program years 2024-2025. She stated that the City's school grades had improved since 2023 due to the City's Kindergarten Reading Readiness Program and the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Reading Readiness Program, which provided children entering school with a strong foundation. Another contributing factor to the rising grade levels was mainly due to improvements in teacher development and training programs, which are included in the 5-year education strategic plan.

Ms. Bowens discussed the technical programs/workforce courses offered by secondary schools that prepare students with the skills to enter the workforce after high school graduation.

She emphasized the importance of the City working in partnership with the Palm Beach School Board and County School Board in accordance with the City's Education Master Plan. This collaboration would align with the district's 5-year Strategic Plan, enabling the creation of an action plan

focused on the schools' priority areas.

Mayor Carney opened the floor to anyone who wished to speak on this subject.

Jim Chard, 401 SE 4 Avenue, Delray Beach

Expressed his concern that the City should collaborate with the County to communicate their educational needs to ensure that students are prepared with skills for success. He suggested working with non-profit organizations to help achieve excellence from our students.

Cynthia Ridley, 210 NW 2 Avenue, Delray Beach

Would like to see the numerous local Childcare Centers in the city reached.

Seeing no one else present, Mayor Carney closed public comments.

Jeff Oris, Assistant City Manager, suggested the City help spread the word about the scholarships available for the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program.

Ms. Bowens acknowledged the need for additional workshops to identify areas where Delray's schools lacked.

A discussion ensued amongst the Commission on how to adequately address the barriers facing specific schools. They recognized Delray Beach faces distinctive challenges because English isn't spoken in many homes. They also identified the need for a Master Plan to establish goals and for a Community Center that could provide educational resources.

Vice Mayor Casale volunteered to serve as the City's Education Board representative and work with the Public Library on a summer reading program.

Deputy Vice Mayor Long mentioned the need to maintain a building at the Full Service Center for medical purposes.

Mayor Carney stated he had given a copy of the comprehensive plan for economic prosperity and education, created in 2019, for the Commission to review.

Mr. Moore acknowledged that specific directions on engaging with the Palm Beach County School Board District and others would be discussed at the October 15, 2024, meeting. A formal first ordinance reading would be scheduled for November 2024.

The Commission thanked Ms. Bowen and Mr. Oris for their efforts.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Carney adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

The City shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity conducted by the City. Please contact the Human Resources Department at (561) 243-7125 at least 24 hours prior to the program or activity for the City to reasonably accommodate your request. Adaptive listening devices are available for meetings in the Commission Chambers.