

**MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION BOARD**  
**CITY OF DELRAY BEACH**

**DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA**

**R E G U L A R   M E E T I N G**

MEETING DATE:                      October 7, 2019  
TYPE OF MEETING:                Regular Meeting  
LOCATION:                              First Floor Conference Room, City Hall  
TIME:                                  5:30 P.M.

I.    **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

II.   **ROLE CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT:                Raiko Knight, Ross O'Connor, Eric Camacho, Cheryl Haywood, Sarah Hough, Penny Butler-Schillinger, Alison Kaufman, Caryn Sipersten Klein, Vivian Koppelman,

MEMBERS ABSENT:                 Barbara Stark, Cathy Reynolds

III.   **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

A.    Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2019 were before the Board for consideration. Mr. Camacho made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting which were seconded by Mrs. Hough and passed unanimously by the Board.

IV.   **PRESENTATIONS:**

A.    **Kindness Matters 365:** Laura Reiss introduced herself as the founder of Kindness Matters 365. She started this initiative in 2008 at a local elementary school. The program has grown to support 100 afterschool clubs in 12 states. Kindness Matters 365 educates children as to the importance of being kind to themselves and to others, and contributing to society so that they may make a positive impact in their communities and the world. In this Kindness program, children are given the opportunity to experience acts of charity and kindness by participating in afterschool clubs, charitable organizations, and community events, all of which promote kindness. They teach gratitude, compassion and kindness as part of their social and emotional learning tools. They have a program at Banyan Creek and Space of Mind.

B.    **The School District of Palm Beach County:** Erica Whitfield, School Board member introduced herself, and stated that she was here tonight representing the Early Learning Coalition as she sits on their Board. One of the biggest issues for the School District is that the students don't come prepared to Kindergarten. She stated that Kindergarten readiness scores are low: SD Spady at 57%, Village Academy is 33% Orchard view is 38%, and Pine Grove at 21%. It is hard to get kids on grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade when they start out

with such low scores. Our scores however are higher than Lake Worth which are in the teens. Dr. Robinson has been working with the early childhood program in Rivera Beach and has seen great results. The Early Learning Coalition wrote a grant this year and has been awarded enough money to implement a similar program in three cities which includes Delray Beach, Lake Worth and the Glades.

She asked if the Education Board would be willing to support the initiative. She would like to host the meeting in the next month at a school. After a short discussion, it was determined the best date to host the meeting would be on November 4, 2019 after the Education Board meeting. Sarah Hough offered to host the meeting at Banyan Creek Elementary school. The Education Board would be conducted at 5:30 p.m. and the community meeting at 6:30 p.m. The Board agreed.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- A. **Education Newsletter:** Ms. Kauffman discussed her idea of producing an education newsletter so that the public would know what was going on in our school system. She felt that the schools could provide the information and that it would be published once a month. A Google Doc could be set up to collect the information. She would like to share the wins the schools are making with the community. Ms. Meeks felt once a month may be too labor intensive and suggested that there be a quarterly newsletter or one in the spring, fall, and summer. The newsletter would be more about what the City and Education Board is doing for education. After a short discussion it was determined that Mrs. Meeks and Ms. Kauffman would work off-line and bring back a framework for the Board to further discuss.
- B. **Delray Reads Day:** Delray Reads Day in good shape. Delray Morning Live will act as the MC and the Chef from Rose's Daughter Restaurant will be the Keynote speaker. The books are on order as well as the food and coffee. It was noted that we still need volunteer readers. The event will be hosted on November 7, 2019 at Plumosa School of the Arts and the doors will be open at 7:30 a.m.

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- A. **Campaign for Grade Level Reading:** One of the Board's goals this year was to work on Kindergarten Readiness Scores and looking at interventions on a communitywide basis. Having the Early Learning Coalition host a focus group fits into the Board's goal. The Board is looking forward to hearing from the providers and what their needs are so that the Board can also help with interventions.

**VII. COMMENTS BY STAFF:**

Mrs. Meeks asked if the Board would participate in the "On the Table" event on November 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be hosted at the Chamber of Commerce at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast served and the topic will be on education. This conversation will be a "closed conversation".

**VIII. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:**

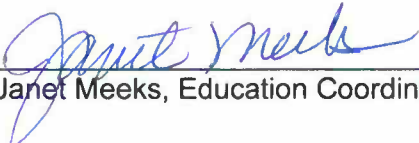
**SAC Comments:**

- Mrs. Hough stated that Banyan Creek Elementary School approved their by-laws and noted that they were looking at 5<sup>th</sup> grade scores and Roots and Wings provided a \$10,000 check for tutorials
- Mrs. Koppleman noted that Orchard View was trying to raise their school grade from a B to an A this year and will be printing T-Shirts. They also received a \$10,000 grant from Roots and Wings, and approved their By-laws.
- Mrs. Knight noted that SD Spady reviewed their SIP and By-Laws and were working with the children with the lowest 25 percent to make sure that they can move their school grade from a C to a B.

**IX. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC: NONE**

- X. ADJOURN:** There being no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 6:57.

The undersigned is the Secretary of the Education Board, and the information provided herein constitutes the Minutes of the Meeting of said body, for the October 7, 2019 meeting, which was formally adopted and approved by the Board on November 4, 2019.

  
Janet Meeks, Education Coordinator