

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: June 7, 2021
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 5:32 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Penny Butler-Schillinger, Kae Jonsons, Ross O'Connor, Cathy Reynolds, Donna Van Horn, Angel Nevin, Linda Purdo, Debbie Tanner, Kristen Cairns

MEMBERS ABSENT Caryn Siperstein-Klein, Barbara Stark

GUEST: Nadia Stewart, Irene Wernick, Ken Tolchick

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of May 3, 2021 were before the Board for consideration. Mrs. Tanner made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting with the correction in spelling of Angel's name. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cairns. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. PRESENTATION:

- A. **Bright Futures Funding:** Mr. O'Connor stated that the Board focuses mostly on early education and he thought the Board should also provide support to high school students and invited Mr. Ken Tolchik to talk about Bright Future Scholarships and financial aid for college. Mr. Tolchik stated that the Bright Futures Scholarship program was facing a reduction in funding that would affect students financial aid for college, however SB 86 did not pass this legislative session but should be aware that it might come back next year. Mr. Green spoke at some length about personal finances and how that affects the amount of financial aid a student will receive through FASA. He suggested that parents start early to financially plan for their child's college education.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Attendance:** The PIO is working on the Facebook post and video a message from the Mayor that will be sent out end of July.
- B. **Kindergarten Readiness:** Mrs. Van Horn provided a brief overview of the program she researched for the Board. The School District is providing a free reading program for pre-school students called Smarty Ants. It appears that it has some great content, however our

community is not very familiar with the program. In fact, Ms. Reynolds, Principal at Orchard View was not aware of this resource. The Board briefly discussed how it could be better promoted.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Orientation:** Mrs. Meeks provided a copy of the Board Manual to each of the members and a copy of the Code of Ordinances for the Education Board. The most important part of the Board Manual is to understand Sunshine Laws. Ms. Warren suggested that she provide a review of the Sunshine Laws in the fall.

The Board spent a few minutes to discuss their Duties and responsibilities as the Education Board.

1. Attend monthly School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings at an assigned school and provide a summary report at the Education Board meeting;
 2. Review and advocate for education related Goals and Policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan and provide advice and guidance for implementation as needed;
 3. Support and advocate for the Campaign for Grade Level Reading Initiative to help increase third grade reading proficiency both at the City level and within the community;
 4. Present a "State of Education" report to the City Commission annually. The report shall include but not be limited to such items as: School Board policies affecting Delray Beach Schools, updates on the Education Master Plan, progress on the Campaign for Grade Level Reading, partnership programs with non-profits and/or our schools, and any additional information concerning Education programs of interest to the City Commission.
 5. Offer an open platform at the Education Board meeting for community organizations to share education initiatives.
- B. Board Strategic Plan:** The Board reviewed a calendar and discussed topics of interest for the balance of the year. The Board liked having a presentation to start the meeting. It was stated the meetings for July and September would be held on the 2nd Monday of the month due to the Holidays and that the Board may wish to consider cancelling the August meeting as it is requested that they all attend the Back to School Breakfast with the Chamber of Commerce on August 5th. One of the duties of the Board is to sit on a School Advisory Council (SAC) and the following assignments were made:
- **Atlantic High School:** Ms. Butler-Schillinger
 - **Banyan Creek:** Linda Purdo
 - **Carver Middle School:** Mrs. Van Horn
 - **Orchard View:** Ms. Nevin
 - **Pine Grove:** Mrs. Cairns
 - **Plumosa School of Arts:** Mrs. Reynolds

- **SD Spady:** Ms. Tanner
- **Village Academy:** Mrs. Jonsons

VII. COMMENTS BY STAFF: NONE

VIII. COMMENTS BY BOARD:

- Ms. Reynolds reported that the school District will be using a new reading program called Benchmark. It has phonics and writing. I Ready will be used to test levels of reading comprehension.

IX. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC:


- Mrs. Wernick stated that she reviewed Smarty Ants and liked the program. She also suggested the use of AmeriCorps Volunteers
- Ms. Stewart was appreciative of the information on FASA and stated that the students are Carver have struggled with Social Emotional issues.

X. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

(Board Name) Education Board
(Month, Day, Year) Meeting Minutes June, 7, 2021

The undersigned is the Secretary of the (Board Name) and the information provided herein is the minutes of the meeting of said (Board Name) on (Month, Day, Year) which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on (Month, Day, Year.)

ATTEST:



CHAIR



ADVISORY BOARD LIAISON

NOTE TO READER: If the minutes you have received are not completed as indicated above, this means they are not the official minutes of the (Board Name). They will become official minutes only after review and approval, which may involve some amendments, additions, or deletions.