

**DAVIE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
JUNE 25, 2001**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. Board members present were Jill Cohen, Cynthia Elliott, Pj Grant, Grettel Guerra, Alice Harrington, Debbie Meyers and John Pickett. Also present were Vice-Mayor Paul, Councilmember Truex and Board Secretary Janet Gale recording the meeting. Kimberly Sereda and Wendy Weiner were absent.

2. SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Board members introduced themselves, provided general background information, and spoke of their involvement with the school system.

3. SELECTION OF CHAIR

The consensus of the Board was to select a temporary chair as all members were not present. Mr. Pickett volunteered to act as the temporary chair. There were no objections.

4. SELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

For the same reason as noted above, it was the consensus of the Board to select a temporary vice-chair. Ms. Meyers volunteered to act as temporary vice-chair. There were no objections.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 Selection of Regular Meeting Schedule

The Board expressed a preference to meet on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. A second choice was the first Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Gale indicated that she would check on the availability of staff and locations.

5.2 Purpose

Chair Pickett read Resolution R-2001-62, which established this Board and a list of issues with which he felt the Board may wish to become involved. Vice-Chair Meyers clarified that this Board was to be strictly advisory in nature. Ms. Cohen stated that she recalled that the Town Council had been interested in Charter schools at the time it was proposing to form this Board, and that it should be one of the priorities of the Board. Chair Pickett referred to the Charter schools in Pembroke Pines and indicated that he understood the city had been doing a good job.

Chair Pickett encouraged the Board to consider a course of direction as an advisory board. Ms. Guerra suggested conducting a needs assessment in order to establish goals for this Board. She expressed that smaller class size was the predominant issue of teachers, especially with FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test) demands.

Chair Pickett stated that Weston was strongly considering an elementary Charter school in the Emerald Estates area which was scheduled to be voted on July 2, 2001. He added that the addition of this Charter school would impact the overcrowding at Hawkes Bluff Elementary School.

Vice-Mayor Paul advised that School Board Member Carol Andrews had already conducted a needs assessment for the Davie schools in her district and recalled that one of Ms. Andrews' priorities was to hire full-time school nurses. Vice-Mayor Paul stated that a copy of the needs assessment could be obtained from Ms. Andrews' office and this Board could use it as a guideline. She further advised that Ms. Andrews had a resource group in place with many community partners and was pairing these resources with the specific needs of the schools in her district.

**DAVIE SCHOOL
ADVISORY BOARD
JUNE 25, 2001**

Vice-Mayor Paul stated that the notion for this Board was initiated when there was controversy over boundaries, especially concerning Davie students who had to attend South Plantation High School. She added that the Town was asked to get involved to show support for the community. Vice-Mayor Paul indicated that she had asked the Town to become involved in the "Mentorship Program" by allowing employees to participate during school hours.

Vice-Mayor Paul advised that although Chair Pickett's list might seem extensive, it was very possible for this Board to address each item on it at various levels. She also discussed the potential for Charter schools and Magnet programs in Davie schools and provided the history of her involvement with such programs.

Chair Pickett felt this Board should prioritize the issues, design a plan of action, address the issues and advise the Council as to their findings. He also felt that this Board should concern itself with public input rather than demographics.

Chair Pickett referred to "feeder" patterns in the Davie and Weston areas which would be affected by additional housing developments, and expressed concern over how these patterns would change. Chair Pickett specifically referred to the new elementary school that would be built on the "Centrex" property and was not sure how it would affect Hawkes Bluff Elementary as 655 homes were going to be built in this development.

Ms. Grant stated that the "HHH" school in Weston would open in 2002 and the "III" school in Miramar would open in 2003. She indicated that the Indian Ridge Middle School community was still working with the School Board of Broward County regarding the feeder pattern to South Plantation High School. Also, Ms. Grant stated that a School Board member had stated that once the "III" school was opened, Hawkes Bluff Elementary would be moved back into the Flanagan Innovation Zone because Flanagan High School overcrowding would be relieved by the new school.

Chair Pickett stated that the priority of this Board would be the consideration of how the Town's schools and citizens would be impacted by the five-year plan. He indicated that most of the conflict would be amongst Weston residents as the new school would still not provide sufficient accommodations. Ms. Grant added that although the problem was mainly in the Weston community, Davie residents would still be negatively effected.

Ms. Grant explained both the old and the new boundary procedures and stated that the Broward County School Board staff would make proposals to the School Board rather than applying the Innovation Zones method.

Chair Pickett recommended writing a mission statement and suggested using language from the resolution which created the Board. Richard Weiner suggested that a list of priorities would be more suitable. Ms. Cohen agreed and also concurred with Vice-Mayor Paul's suggestion to look at information which had already been collected through needs assessments. She indicated that the Board needed to devise a manner in which it could solicit information from the citizens of the Town as to what they perceived were the good and bad points in the system.

Ms. Grant recommended notifying parents of this Board's existence and purpose by incorporating flyers in the students' first day packets. Other methods of notification that were discussed were to advertise in the *Davie Update*, addressing PTA's, School Advisory Councils, and School Advisory Forums. After a lengthy discussion regarding the distribution of the flyers, Mr. Weiner recommended that the distribution be done through Council to the school principals. There was further discussion on how the community would be able to

**DAVIE SCHOOL
ADVISORY BOARD
JUNE 25, 2001**

contact this Board with questions, opinions and concerns.

Ms. Grant advised that there was a School Board workshop scheduled for June 25th at the K.C. Wright building. She stated that "School Board Member Redistricting" was on the agenda and that the new middle school at Imagination Farms would also be discussed; however, the public could not speak during a workshop meeting. Ms. Grant indicated that NN Middle School was funded, the site had been chosen and the tentative opening was scheduled for the 2004-2005 school year. She explained that NN Middle School would relieve Indian Ridge Middle School, Pioneer Middle School and Falcon Cove Middle School. Ms. Grant urged members of this Board to contact School Board members and express the need for this NN Middle School as some of the aforementioned schools were critically overcrowded.

Chair Pickett asked that Ms. Grant take notes of the School Board's workshop and share the information at the next meeting. He gave a brief overview of the issues, priorities and goals, and items to be included on the next agenda were discussed. Members volunteered to take responsibility for specifics discussed earlier including gathering information and the needs assessment.

6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Mr. Weiner suggested addressing Charter schools as they were an issue in years past and needed to be strongly considered. Ms. Meyers stated that she would provide a list of Charter schools in Broward County at the next meeting. Ms. Cohen spoke of some of the problems that occurred in the past at Charter schools including teachers' dissatisfaction with scheduling, the lack of discipline for students, lack of special programs, teachers salaries, and class size. She clarified that these issues occurred two years ago and might have changed.

Chair Pickett stated that he would also be interested in researching corporate involvement in education especially with capital improvements.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Chair/Board Member