

DAVIE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
OCTOBER 21, 2002

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. Board members present were Chair Pj Grant, Joe Brown (arrived at 6:00 p.m.), Patricia Cardella (departed at 6:20 p.m.), Jill Cohen, Alice Harrington and Wendy Weiner. Also present were Councilmembers Susan Starkey and Tom Truex (departed at 6:15 p.m.) and Board Secretary Jenevia Edwards recording the meeting. Vice-Chair Kimberly Sereda, Shannon Arias, Debbie Meyers and John Pickett were absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 19, 2002

Ms. Cohen pointed out that she was not present during the discussion and vote on item 4.1. Ms. Edwards indicated that the correction would be made.

Ms. Harrington made a motion, seconded by Dr. Weiner, to approve the minutes of August 19, 2002, as amended. In a voice vote, with Vice-Chair Sereda, Ms. Arias, Mr. Brown, Ms. Meyers and Mr. Pickett being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

3. PRESENTATION

3.1 Oak Scholar Academy Charter School – Hugo Hormazabal and Tabitha Fazzino

Ms. Fazzino indicated the school's location on a map, provided a conceptual site plan, and stated that the facility would ultimately be built in phases. She indicated that the school would serve kindergarten through eighth grade, enroll 900 students at 100 for each grade, and there would be four classrooms per grade thereby limiting the class size to 25 students. Ms. Fazzino explained that the curriculum would be focused on providing a good liberal arts education intended to prepare students for college and concentrating on blending technology with learning. She indicated how the school's website would be utilized for communication of information among students, parents and teachers.

Mr. Hormazabal proceeded to explain the functions of the site design and addressed traffic operations. The presentation continued with Mr. Hormazabal, Ms. Fazzino and Dr. Kathryn Wilbur answering a myriad of questions and addressing specific interests of the Board. Discussion included the curriculum, instruction time, faculty salary and benefits, budget, assessment testing and student solicitation.

At the Board's request, Mr. Hormazabal provided background information on Oak Scholar, Inc. Dr. Kathryn Wilbur spoke of the school's board of directors and administrative structure. She advised that art, music, foreign languages and the humanities would be offered at the school.

Dr. Weiner inquired on transportation. Dr. Wilbur explained the various options which complied with regulations and indicated that it would be dependent on the student population. Also discussed were the after-school program, tutoring and volunteering. Upon the Board's inquiry, Mr. Hormazabal explained why he had selected Davie for the school site. Dr. Wilbur elaborated on other points which came into consideration for determining the location.

Councilmember Starkey expressed interest in researching previous schools which Mr. Hormazabal had developed in Chili. He accommodated her by providing a list. Discussion continued regarding the development of the site, student safety, and impact on the neighborhood. At the conclusion of the presentation, there was a brief discussion about

contingency arrangements if the construction of the school was not completed by the beginning of the school year.

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The Board discussed the presentation, various issues involving protocol, financing, a track record on the company, and what features made the school distinct. This was followed with a discussion on the status of the proposed "NN" middle school.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.1 Prospect of Charter School Participation with Florida Atlantic University and Florida International University – Dr. Weiner

Dr. Weiner reported that Florida Atlantic University was "hooked up" with Nova and not interested in starting anything elsewhere. She indicated that Florida International University was concentrating on expanding its northern campus rather than becoming involved in a Charter School partnership in Davie.

4.2 Clarify Goals

The Board discussed after-school care programs for middle school students. Chair Grant indicated that she would check with Indian Ridge Middle School on this issue. Ms. Harrington mentioned that the Boys and Girls Clubs and the "Y" offered after-school programs at their facilities. There was a brief discussion about transportation and the possibility that the Town may add a bus route which would include these facilities in its system. Chair Grant stated that this should be researched and reported on at the next meeting.

Chair Grant advised that she had been invited to attend Broward Days in Tallahassee in March 2003, and asked for the Board's opinion. It was the consensus that this was a benefit and that any relative information gleaned from the trip would be shared with the Board.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Update on Broward County School Board Activities

Chair Grant reported that the Broward County School Board was compiling data on its five-year comprehensive master plan. She indicated that there have been and would continue to be community forums by districts and spoke of the one she had attended.

Chair Grant commented that this was the time of year when the School Board started to discuss boundaries and advised that a community forum was scheduled for October 29th to discuss Western High School. She also advised of a community forum to be held October 23rd to discuss "III" which was the future high school intended to relieve Flanagan High School and which would impact Cypress Bay High School.

6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

A brief discussion ensued regarding the arrangements for a Board member to record the next meeting. It was the consensus to follow the procedure determined at the last meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Cohen made a motion, seconded by Dr. Weiner, to adjourn. In a voice vote, with Vice-Chair Sereda, Ms. Arias, Ms. Cardella, Ms. Meyers and Mr. Pickett being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Chair/Board Member