

DAVIE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
FEBRUARY 24, 2003

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. Board members present were Chair Pj Grant, Vice-Chair Kimberly Sereda, Jill Cohen, Alice Harrington and Debbie Meyers. Also present were Broward County Schools Liaison Fran Klauber and Janet Gale recording the meeting. Shannon Arias, Joe Brown and Patricia Cardella were absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 16, 2002

Ms. Harrington made a motion, seconded by Ms. Meyers, to approve the minutes of December 16, 2002. In a voice vote, with Ms. Arias, Mr. Brown and Ms. Cardella being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Participation of Middle School Students in After-School Care Programs

Chair Grant recalled that it was the Board's intention to have the principal of the Indian Ridge Middle School gauge whether or not there was interest in this program in order for the Town to become involved. She advised that the principal had left and the School Board was in the process of selecting a new principal. Chair Grant recommended that this issue be deferred until such time as a new principal was appointed.

Ms. Cohen spoke of Assistant Town Administrator Ken Cohen's efforts to contact Sunshine After Care in order to find out what numbers were needed to implement the programs and be cost effective. It was the consensus of the Board to discuss the After-School Care Program at its next meeting when a new principal would have been appointed to the Indian Ridge Middle School.

3.2 Annual Report to Town Council

The final report was distributed for the Board's perusal and comments.

There was a brief discussion regarding the proposed Charter School located on Pine Island Road and Orange Drive and what its impact may be on the public schools in the area. Also discussed was the increased residential development which was expected to impact the Fox Trail Elementary School. The problems at Country Isles Elementary were mentioned and briefly discussed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Update on Broward County School Board Activities

Ms. Klauber advised that the current activity of the County was the boundary process. She advised that the public meeting concerning this issue would be held on February 26th in Plantation. Ms. Klauber mentioned that other issues were the class size amendment being addressed in Tallahassee, universal pre-K and the FCAT testing.

Vice-Chair Sereda brought up the policy regarding promotion retention and advised that the third-grade students were to be evaluated rather than fourth grade. This issue was discussed.

Chair Grant advised that although the Town Council had approved the use of “drug-sniffing dogs” in schools, the principal of Western High School advised her that the School Board had not approved their being used this year.

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Vice-Chair Sereda circulated literature regarding the “earned income tax credit.” She explained that in Broward County, there was over \$99 million dollars not claimed in one year. Vice-Chair Sereda updated the Board on the efforts being made to help parents file their income tax returns including this feature. The Board discussed efforts to inform and encourage parents to take advantage of this tax credit.

Vice-Chair Sereda pointed out that the next meeting date fell on the first day after Spring Break and she suggested that it be rescheduled. A brief discussion ensued.

Vice-Chair Sereda made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrington, to reschedule the next meeting to April 28, 2003. In a voice vote, with Ms. Arias, Mr. Brown and Ms. Cardella being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

5. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Ms. Meyers asked if there was anything new about the proposed “NN” middle school as her neighbors were not happy with the location. Chair Grant advised that the situation remained unchanged at this point. A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Klauber spoke of the Children’s Services Council and Children’s Services Board and explained that their intentions were to “find and fill the gaps in services” where there were needs not provided by other organizations. There was a lively discussion on the services provided by these organizations and how the United Way was also looking to become involved in assisting where needed.

Vice-Chair Sereda advised that Councilmember Starkey was trying to establish a bi-monthly breakfast meeting with all of the Town’s public school principals in order to have them identify what their schools’ needs were. She believed that this would be a worthwhile meeting for the Children’s Services Council, Children’s Services Board and United Way representatives to attend. Ms. Klauber agreed that this would be a good setting and would keep each other apprised of when and where it would take place. Ms. Harrington indicated that she would inform the representatives from the United Way of Councilmember Starkey’s intentions. Ms. Klauber provided historical information regarding the Children Services funding.

6. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Chair/Board Member