

VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY
EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA
Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 6:30 pm
9705 E. Hibiscus Street
Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

Minutes

Attendance: Committee Members – Orestes Mayo, Chair; Erica Watts, Greg Zawyer, Tania Marrero

Council Members – Village Employees: Ed Silva, Village Manager; Eugene Flinn, Mayor; Karyn Cunningham, Councilwoman

Members of the Public – Nancy Lawther, Anna Rodriguez

Notes drafted by: Erica Watts

1. Call to Order
 - a. Mr. Mayo called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion by Tania Marrero, Erica Watts seconded, no objections
 - b. ??? 2016 minutes were approved

3. Public Comments
 - a. Nancy Lawther
 - i. ESSA – Every Student Succeeds Act
 1. Took a lot of power away from federal government to impose power..basically up to the states.
 2. Concern – Florida Dept of Education will not want to tweek Florida current accountability assessment scores.
 3. A lof of grassroots movement to take advantage of some of the benefits of ESSA.
 - a. Need not create a state purchased test such as FSA. If state approves, nothing says exams have to be given by computer, or one, can be broken into parts. A number of categories. If school not doing well, suggestion is they not be rated among the schools that are doing well. Floriida took public input during a 3 week period when no one was in town. Had to read 350 pages and make suggestions.
 - b. Private schools not required to take FSA.

- i. Federal law gives states the opportunity to take a state approved but says nothing about requirement to administer exams by computer. The computer aspect is a Florida procedure.
- ii. 95% requirement of testing, in addition there is an alternate exam for students with most challenging intellectual disabilities. Feds have proposed a 1% cap on that. So only 1% can take the alternate exam. But if your district has a higher % of cognitive you can still administer above 1% but the overall state cannot go over 1%. If you listen to the community of parents of students with disabilities they want their children to succeed so the cap is so the children are pushed to at least try to learn.
- iii. Not counting in 1st year, 2nd only learning veins, 3rd year using learning gains.
- iv. If state approves, test can be changed for high school students. If don't pass, can't graduate, Florida can pass this.
- v. The ABCDF grading of schools is a Florida precedent.
- vi. Florida PTA is going to be heavily involved into a look at how ESSA is going to be implemented. They also need to use 1 non academic indicator. Teacher involvement, parental involvement. We are pushing to get involved in any committee that would influence it.
- vii. Just joined Citizens Coalition
- viii. They are concerned if they open any leeway that the testing and accountability
- ix. Last year, they had 10 town hall meetings that not many people attended.
- x. Amendment proposed re charter schools but has no passed. It is a top priority for the speaker. It has passed the house, the senate if the stumbling block. It is a priority of presumptive speaker. Miami Dade is vehemently opposed to sharing capital funds with Charter Schools.

- xi. For the exams – only required are Math/English Language Art grades 3-8 and once in high school. Science – once for each grade stem. Elementary Middle High School. Do not mandate any other kind of exams.
 - xii. Juvenile Justice Reform on PTA Agenda – bill passing House right now sponsored by MDC
 - xiii. Juveniles will be given civil citations instead of criminal.
- b. Table Agenda item 4 to reapply for new date at Southwood Middle.
- c. Town Hall -
 - i. Proposal to move to Town Hall to Thursday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Will ask Southwood Middle.
- d. Erica motion to move the regular EAC meeting to Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
- e. Rusty Orestes passed around draft of survey questions. The intent is to send out survey question link along with notice of meeting.
- f. Erica Watts Motion to allow parent to write in the name of the school so that information can be provided to District to do with as they choose.
 - i. Mr. Sawyer mentioned that the parents fill out a school climate survey.
 - ii. Mr. Sawyer questioned traffic and Mr. Orestes responded that
- g. Mr. Orestes clarified that just the compact schools will be invited.
- h. Committee worked together to craft a motion to add “The protocols to communicate concerns about my child’s education are clear to me”
- i. Mayor Flinn proposed that the Village sponsor a Parent Academy class advising parents what channels of communication they can follow to address concerns about their child’s education.
- j. Agreed Modifications to Survey:
 - i. If a centralized morning bus drop off site were available, it would be something I would use.
 - ii. If a centralized afternoon bus drop off site were available, it would be something I would use.
 - iii. If an App were available allowing parents to communicate and organize carpools amongst themselves, it would be something I would use.
 - iv. If afternoon enrichment classes were available for my children, it would be something I would use.
 - v. If evening enrichment classes were available for my children, it would be something I would use.

- vi. If evening enrichment classes were available for adults, it would be something I would use.
 - k. Anna Rodriguez proposed disclaimer – “This survey is to gage community interest and provide input to the stakeholder community.”
- 4. Reviewed and finalized the survey questions. All approved.
- 5. Future Agenda Items:
 - a. Proposed by Mr. Zawyer: Dade Partners – Request the Dade Partners to provide scholarships.
- 6. October 5th Principal’s Welcome Breakfast:
 - 1. All Administrators of Public and Private Schools.
 - 2. Short Agenda
 - a. Village to discuss resources and partnerships
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.