

MINUTES

**Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities
Family and Community Involvement Budget Advisory Subcommittee
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 916 & Zoom Meeting
Miami, FL 33132
Monday, October 4, 2021**

Members Present: Mr. Eddy Barea, Chair, Mr. Scot Evans, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Ms. Beverly Heller, Ms. Mina Hosseini, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Mr. James Lopez, Ms. Maria Norton, Ms. Laura Philpot, Dr. Lisa Robertson, Mr. Elias Seife, Ms. Zoraida Serret, Ms. Meriel C. Seymore, Ms. Nadeige Theresias-Joisil.

Members Excused Absent: None.

Others Present: Ms. Zahirah Calloway, Yanet Cruz, Ms. Martha M. Diaz, Ms. Milagros Hernandez, Ms. Rosemine, Lederl, Ms. Kadian McLarty, Ms. Janielle Murphy, Mr. Ron Steiger, Ms. Sara Walkup, Mr. Antonio White.

I. Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order. A quorum was established. Those present introduced themselves. Committee members and staff were welcomed.

Motion was made by Mr. Barea and seconded by Ms. Seymore to accept Ms. Janielle Murphy as a new member of the Family and Community Involvement Budget Advisory Subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barea proposed a motion to amend the bylaws stating that any person who wants to become a voting member must be present to be considered for a voting membership. This change should be reflected in the bylaws. Proposal to amend the bylaws was seconded by Ms. Isabelle Exume. Proposal will be taken to the Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC) for approval.

II. Elections: Mr. Steiger opened the floor for nominations of Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Nancy Lawther was elected Chair and Ms. Mina Hosseini was elected as Vice Chair.

III. Approval of Minutes for June 14, 2021: Dr. Lawther asked for the approval of the minutes for the June 14, 2021, Parent Advisory Subcommittee. The minutes were approved with a correction.

IV. Presentation on the Sunshine Law: Dr. Lawther opened the floor to Ms. Sara Walkup. Director of Community Outreach. Ms. Walkup explained to the members how meetings are normally run. She stated that a quorum of seven present members is necessary before opening the zoom meeting to start official business. In terms of missing meetings, in the by-laws if a member has three unexcused absences, the organization will be asked to make a new appointment to the subcommittee. Members of the subcommittee may serve unlimited years, however, a member may only serve two years as chair. The subcommittee will have no fewer than 9 members and no more than 20 members. Ms. Walkup is going to send an electronic copy of the bylaws to the members. She continued explaining about the Sunshine Law and Robert's Rules of Order. She explained the Code of Ethics Form and asked members to sign the Code of Ethics form.

The committee discussed, provided comments, expressed concerns and questions and concerns were addressed by Ms. Sara Walkup.

V. Legislative Update: Dr. Lawther presented the legislative update. She mentioned that at this time they are early in the session and very little has become definite with regard to budgetary impacts. There are important policy bills that are being considered that may affect the budget for example: partisan election of School Board members is one of those bills, a constitutional amendment to elect rather than appoint the Commissioner of Education. Several bills in respect to students with special needs. A bill that could potentially affect revenues is the change of the drop out age for students from 16 to 18. Also, the State Board of Education is meeting this Thursday, to discuss the non-compliance of 12 Districts within the State including Miami-Dade for non-compliance with the governor's executive order related to masks. There may be budget consequences coming from this meeting.

VI. Financial Outlook for 2021-22 Dr. Lawther opened the floor to Mr. Ron Steiger, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Steiger began by telling the members that the State Board of Education Legislative Budget Request was for \$0. They don't want any extra money coming to the School System. They think the School Systems are overfunded at this moment because of all the Federal money they are receiving. He mentioned that all the funds received are for non-recurring expenses, due to this all the money received will run out at the latest in 2024. He explained that they must fund for health Insurance, salary, energy, and computers increases, all these increases are happening because they are facing an inflationary market right now. They are not able to pay for any of those additional operating costs from Federal Stimulus money because that money is nonrecurring.

For FY-2021-22 we are balanced and we have money. For the rest of this year the conversation will center around the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. The District's investments will be funded with ESSER funds. He reminded the committee of all the presentations which have been provided explaining the District's plan on the use of ESSER Funds. Mr. Steiger explained how they used the ESSER I fund to balance FY 2021-22. The second pot of dollars they received was ESSER II, or 2nd Act called Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), the amount received was about \$350 million. It came in different pots, and one of them was the advance lump sum which based on the State's instructions had to be spent by September 1, 2021, and we did spend it. They put money aside for academics, technology, and non-enrolled students, this one even if they don't spend it, they will be able to roll it forward. He told the members that they took that money as well as ESSER III which is part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), and they put it all together in one pot, that was nearly \$800 million. They came up with a plan and they took it to the Board and the community, and everybody agreed, and they started to spend on it. We have funded over \$100 million of the money. Our district is the only district with this plan. He mentioned that ESSER II passed the Federal Government in December 2020, and they submitted the application, but the state has not approved it yet. ESSER III was passed into law in March, the state has not yet released the application form. He is basing their allocation on what the Federal Government has told them. What they are doing is spending from the General fund with the assumption that they will get reimbursed by the ESSER funds.

The committee discussed, provided comments, expressed concerns and questions and concerns were addressed by Mr. Ron Steiger.

VII. Calendar for FY 2021-22 The committee approved Monday, November 1, 2021 and December 13, 2021, as the next meeting dates.

VIII. New Business: No new business.

IX. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.