

## MINUTES

**District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee  
Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
1450 N.E. 2 Avenue, Room 916  
Miami, FL 33132  
Monday, December 12, 2016**

**Members Present:** Mr. Charles Viscito, Chair, Ms. Jennifer Moon, Vice-chair, Ms. Lilana Barrios, Ms. Belkis Gutierrez, Ms. Beverly Heller, Mr. Wade Jones, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Ms. Laura Philpot, Ms. Karen Rivo, Mr. Elias Seife, Ms. Meriel Seymore,

**Members Excused Absent:** Mr. Eddy Barea, Ms. Anita Berg, Ms. Isabelle Exume, Mr. Joseph Gebara, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Mr. Don Kearns, Ms. Lorraine Real, Mr. Thomas Spaulding.

**Others Present:** Mr. Ron Y. Steiger, Ms. Angela Lozano, Ms. Angela Jones.

**I. Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Charles Viscito, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. He welcomed committee and staff, he asked for introduction and they were made.

**II. Approval of Minutes October 24, 2016:** Mr. Viscito requested a review and motion to accept the minutes for the October 24, 2016 Parent Advisory Subcommittee meeting. Dr. Nancy Lawther motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Meriel Seymore. The motion passed with one opposed, Mr. Elias Seife.

### **III. M-DCPS Legislative Update:**

In the absence of Ms. Iraida Mendez Cartaya, the chair asked for a brief legislative update from Dr. Nancy Lawther. Dr. Nancy Lawther indicated that the 2017-2018 Miami-Dade Delegation in Tallahassee had extraordinarily strong representation amongst the leadership of the Florida House and Senate. In the House, Representative Jeanette Nuñez serves as Speaker Pro Tempore; Representative Jose Oliva, Speaker Designate for 2018-2020, chairs the Rules and Policies Committee; Representative Michael Bileca chairs the Education Committee; Representative Manny Diaz, Jr. Chairs the PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee; and Representative Carlos Trujillo chairs the Appropriations Committee. In the Senate, Senator Anitere Flores is President Pro Tempore, Senator Oscar Braynon is Minority Leader, and Senator Jose Javier Rodriguez is Deputy Democratic Whip.

Dr. Lawther suggested that accordingly, Miami-Dade residents will have a strong voice in Tallahassee. At the same time, she expressed concern that state budget projections indicate declining revenues—even a deficit—after next year, and the legislature may therefore be hard-pressed to increase per-pupil funding. In addition, the House leadership has expressed its interest in reducing local school property tax millage to avoid tax “increases” based on rising property values, while giving no assurances that the lost revenues will be made up in state funds, as happened during last year’s budget process. In addition, House leadership has made its intent clear to pass legislation mandating school districts to share property tax-generated capital revenues with charter schools. Mr. Viscito opened the floor for questions and they were made. He commended Dr. Lawther for presenting on the legislative updates.

### **IV. Development of Unmet Needs List:**

Mr. Viscito explained last year that the committee had two lists, the Innovation and Academic Excellence Wish List and Cost Cutting and Budget Adjustment List. The lists were discussed at length and the committee had some level of difficulty with the prioritizing; the end result after discussion was nothing concrete. At the beginning of this year, it was suggested that we create a high level Wish List. At the October meeting it was suggested that we create a Request List by reviewing the Wish List and

by emailing to Mrs. Marte and Mr. Steiger items from that list that were a priority or to be added/subtracted of items, only a few members emailed them their suggestions. At the November meeting, the vice-chair, Ms. Jennifer Moon suggested that we change the methodology and change the list to a "Unmet Needs List", to focus on the unmet needs within the school district that are tied to the Strategic Plan", the committee consensus was amenable to this suggestion. This will be our starting point for tonight's presentation from Mr. Ron Y. Steiger.

Mr. Steiger then reviewed the "2020 Vision 2015-2020 M-DCPS Strategic Blueprint" from the website. There are three levels, Pillar, Priority and Objectives. The singular goal of the "2020 Vision" is "Student Achievement". The first ultimate Pillar I is "Relevant, Rigorous and Innovative Academics", with three Priorities; 1) Ensure all students graduate college and career ready, 2) Close achievement gap and 3) Provide access to quality instructional programs. The items (first column) that were emailed to Mrs. Marte and Mr. Steiger have been paired with the Strategic Blueprint by the Pillars and Priority (second column) as follows:

| Unmet Needs                                       | Strategic Priority   |
|---|--|
| Review Counselor allocations                      | Pillar I - Priority 1: Ensure all students graduate college and career ready   |
| Extend summer programs/schools                    | Pillar I - Priority 2: Close achievement gap   |
| Expand the 8-period day model                     | Pillar I - Priority 3: Provide equitable access to quality instructional programs  |
| Review school security                            | Pillar II - Priority 2: Strengthen and enhance safety and support networks for all students                                  |
| Review paraprofessional allocations               | Pillar II - Priority 2: Strengthen and enhance safety and support networks for all students                                  |
| Increase teacher salaries                         | Pillar III - Priority 2: Recruit and hire the most qualified people, develop them deliberately and retain them strategically |
| Seek economies in space utilization               | Pillar V - Priority 3: Align community needs with District's Capital Plan  |
| Increase teacher allocations in secondary schools | None associated  |

The floor was opened for discussion, an extensive discussion on the compiled "Unmet Needs" list, was done. Mr. Viscito reiterated this list is a guideline for us going forward, the list is subject to modification. We are updating the methodology of how we request information from the district, in respective to the budget. Mr. Viscito then mentioned adding/subtracting items to the "Unmet Needs" list will be covered at our next meeting. The committee also requested a couple documents to be emailed to the committee members and requested presentations to be made at future meetings. Mr. Viscito thanked Mr. Steiger for meticulously presenting on the topic.

**V. New Business:**

Ms. Angela Jones, Fiscal Specialist, handed out two forms to the committee members the "Code of Ethics" and "The School Board of Miami-Dade County Bylaws and Policies". She advised them that the Code of Ethics form, is signed every year by members who are serving on any M-DCPS committee that are non-employees of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. After reviewing the Code of Ethics form, she asked for members to please sign and return this form by tonight. Ms. Jones thanked the members for their cooperation in the expediting of this matter.

**VI. Consideration of Areas to Review & Request Information**  
**During 2017-18 Budget Cycle:**

Mr. Viscito indicated that a presentation on "Counseling" was to be made at our next meeting. He solicited the committee to submit questions and interests via email to Mr. Steiger by Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, as to provide the presenter on counselling what areas to present.

Mr. Viscito thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.