**Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC)**

**SBAB Administration Building Conference Room 559**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 19, 2018**

**Members Present:** Ms. Winifred Browne, Ms. Beverly Heller, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Ms. Teresa Martin-Major, Ms. Izegbe Onyango, Ms. Jacqueline M. Perez, Chair, Ms. Laura Philpot, Ms. Gloria Simmons, Ms. Lenora Stafford, Ms. Vivienne Vicera, Ms. Sharon Watson

**Alternates:** Ms. Mindy Grimes-Festge, Dr. Lisa Robertson, Ms. Zoraida Serret, Ms. Meriel Seymore

**Members Excused:** Ms. Eileen Segal

**Members Absent:** Ms. Lovern Alleyne-Babb, Ms. Maria Gabriela Ballesteros, Mr. Gus Barreiro, Ms. Marlene Bastien, Ms. Zoraida Blanco, Ms. Jeanne Darc LaHoud, Dr. Sherian E. Demetrius, Ms. Linda Dwyer, Ms. Anita Fullmer, Mr. Alvin Gainey, Ms. Cindy Harrah, Ms. Tracy Jackson, Ms. Valerie Lomax, Ms. Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Ms. Cindy Odige, Ms. Rosa M. Olsen-Barbara, Ms. Alina Plasencia, Ms. Marliene Simon

**Also Present:** Ms. Vanessa Cambridge-Grice, Ms. Deborah Gonzalez, Mr. Reinaldo Palacios, Ms. Lisa Thurber, Ms. Sara Walkup

**Guests:** Mr. Frank Zenere

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Ms. Jacqueline Perez, Chairperson. Self-introductions were made by attendees.

Quorum was not established.

Minutes were read.

**Region Reports/Updates**:

**North Region:** Presented by Mr. Reinaldo Palacios.

**Hialeah Gardens Middle School**

HGMS, “Future Business Leaders of America” (FBLA) Club earned 27 awards out of a possible 47 in the district competition held on January 24, 2018. HGMS Jaguar Dancers brought home another National title for the 3rd consecutive year after competing March 2 – 4, 2018 at the National Dance Alliance (NDA) competition which was held in Orlando, FL. They are also the “Junior Grand National Champions” for achieving the overall highest score.

Hialeah Senior High School Seniors Michael H. and Jose S. earned perfect scores on the “Advanced Placement Research Exam.” According to the College Board, they are 2 out of 176 students world-wide to earn a perfect score on this exam.

New student registration(s) are open for the 2018-19 school year.

Parents/legal guardians should contact the registrar at their home school for information. The home school is the school that services the parents/legal guardians place of residence.

Student transfers for the 2018-19 school year will commence on Monday, April 16, 2018. (Parent Choice Student Transfer FM-3281, Control Open Enrollment FM-3281, Control Open Enrollment FM-7646, McKay Scholarship transfers (SPED students))

**Central Region:** Presented by Ms. Deborah Gonzalez.

Central Region Schools continue efforts to improve the safety of our student’s modification of Safety Plans that became effective March 5, 2018.

KIND Snacks and MAST Academy: KIND Snacks reached out and is sponsoring breakfast for teachers and staff and providing KIND Snacks for parents and students. Students will receive cards so they can write something kind about another person and present it to them. This will generate smiles around the school. Student transfers for 2018 – 2019 school year will commence on Monday, April 16, 2018. This includes Parent Choice Student Transfers, Control Open Enrollment, McKay Scholarship transfers and Charter School transfers.

**South Region**: Presented by Ms. Vanessa Cambridge Grice.

G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School FBLA teams were District Winners. Twenty (20) students will compete at the State level in March.

Braddock Culinary won “Best of Show in 2018 Taste of Excellence Competition in the Dessert Category for Tiramisu shots.

M-DCPS had twenty-three (23) National Magnet schools receive Excellent Merit Awards and thirty-one (31) receive Distinction Merit Awards. Eleven (11) and fourteen (14), respectively were South Region Schools.

South Region Excellence Merit Award Schools – Air Base K-8, Arvida Middle, Center for International Education: A Cambridge Associate School, Coral Reef Senior High, Dr. Henry E. Perrine Academy of the Arts, Herbert A. Ammons Middle, Howard D. McMillan Middle, Lamar Louise Curry Middle, MAST @ Homestead, Redland Middle, and W.R. Thomas Middle.

South Region Distinction Merit Award Schools: Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts, 6 – 12 Biotech @ Richmond Heights, Coconut Palms K-8, Frank C. Martin K-8, G. Holmes Braddock Senior, John H. Ferguson Senior, Jorge Mas Canosa Middle, Miami Arts Studio/Zelda Glazer 6-12, Richmond Heights Middle, Riviera Middle, Robert Morgan Educational Center, Southwood Middle, TERRA Environmental Research Institute.

There was some discussion about a previous motion that addressed how positive news about our students can be shared on a District wide level rather than being shared by individual schools. Ms. Lisa Thurber will research and bring motion to next meeting to see if the language needs to be revamped.

**Presentations**:

Content and effectiveness of bullying programs throughout the District – presented by Mr. Frank J. Zenere, School Psychologist

Mr. Zenere explained the Bullying Prevention Curriculum that is designed for PreK – 12th grade. He also stated that he does not have information at this time how HB 7055 (students who are bullied) will impact the school District.

Some responses to attendees’ concerns:

Approximately 150 calls received yearly from parents.

Racial slur complaints should be addressed quickly; can also go through the Office of Civil Rights.

Even though there are character development lessons to address behavior problems, be mindful that some behavior comes from the home.

Some questions from attendees:

Are there plans to bring back Trust Counselors because more responsibilities are being given to School Counselors?

What is being done to ensure that students who are assigned to Success Centers return with improved behaviors?

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Title I DAC**: Presented by Ms. Dannie McMillon and Ms. Lenore Stafford.

March 8 – Title I DAC second General Meeting – Joseph Gebara has been elected to serve as the Title I 2018 – 2020 DAC (District Advisory Chair).

Reminder – check your calendar for Workshops and activities that are held at the Neighborhood Resource Center.

**Superintendents Panel for Students with Disabilitie**s: No report.

**MDCC PTA –** No report

**FCIAC Parent Budget Subcommittee**: Presented by Dr. Nancy Lawther.

Next Budget Subcommittee meeting – April 9.

**Citizens Coalition – Presented by Dr. Nancy Lawther**

**HB 7055 -** some concerns – Hope Scholarship is included in bill. Simply means that voucher can be issued for bullied student to attend a public or private school even though any public school is available if parent wants to move child.

**SB 7026** – some concerns - $500 bonus for training teachers with guns. Some insurance companies will not cover teachers with guns. Every school must have a school level task force.

**Superintendent’s Report**: Presented by Ms. Lisa Thurber, District Director

A handout was distributed that explained MDCPS Budget Impact. Three categoricals’ that are mandated:

Safe Schools - $10M

Mental Health - $8M

Teacher Supp - $1M

**New Business**

There was some discussion about the absence of members as well as their Alternate. This has resulted in not having a quorum to conduct the business of the organization today and at previous meetings. Some members have not contacted anyone regarding their absences. A list will be provided at the next meeting of absent and excused members.

**Announcements:**

Mindy Gould – Saturday, March 24 – there will be three local March for Our Lives Events - Miami Beach, Miami Lakes & Doral areas.

**Next meeting is April 23, 2018**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Dannie McMillon

FCIAC Secretary