**FAMILY AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FCIAC)**

**MEETING**

**SBAB Administration Building, Conference Room 559**

**1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, FL 33132**

**Minutes of the February 27, 2017 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Mr. Gus Barreiro, Ms. Winifred Browne, Ms. Linda Dwyer, Ms. Beverly Heller, Ms. Farah Johnson, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Ms. Teresa Martin-Major, Ms. Izegbe Onyango, Ms. Jacqueline M. Perez-Chair, Ms. Laura Philpot, Ms. Eileen Segal, Ms. Gloria Simmons, Ms. Lenora Stafford, Ms. Sharon Watson, Mr. David Williams

**Members Excused:** Ms. Lovern Alleyne-Babb, Mr. Alan Alvarez, Ms. Jeanne Darc LaHoud, Dr. Sherian E. Demetrius, Ms. Anna Hochkammer, Ms. Tracy Jackson, Ms. Dannie McMillon, Ms. Cindy Odige, Ms. Rosa M. Olsen-Barbara, Ms. Zoriada Serret, Mr. Dennis Tejeda

**Also Present:** Ms. Deborah Gonzalez, Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Mr. Reinaldo Palacios, Ms. Alina Plasencia, Ms. Elizabeth Quinonez-Bombino

**Guests:** Ms. Suhaill Calvo, Dr. Steffond L. Cone, Mr. Michael J. Fox, Ms. Cynthia Gracia, Dr. Lisa Robertson

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m., by Jacqueline Perez, Chairperson. Self-introductions were made by the attendees.

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the January 30, 2017, meeting were approved with corrections.

**Reports/Updates**

**North Region:** Mr. Reinaldo Palacios reported the movie” Moonlight” featuring students from Norland Middle School won an Oscar for “Best Picture”. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Awards were presented to schools in the North Regions.

**Central Region:** Ms. Deborah Gonzalez gave an overview of the “Museum in a Box” that will be housed at Nora B. smith elementary for the next three months, beginning February 23, 2017. She will email additional information to staff regarding the Museum. The ABC (Attendance Boundary Committee) is addressing the naming of two new K-8 Centers in the Doral area.

**South:** Ms. Elizabeth Quinones-Bombino informed the Committee that Mr. Xavier Perez, Principal, South Dade Senior High School is walking again after his injury.Terra Senior High School students were finalist in a recent Robotics competition. Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in Writing are in progress.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement, provided a legislative update. Ms. Mendez-Cartaya stated the Governor’s Budget provides for more funding for K-12 schools. A top priority for Miami- Dade County Public schools is the restoration of the DCD (district cost differential), which takes into account the higher costs of living in certain Florida counties. Creative ways to address the shortage of teachers are also being considered. Senate Bill 376 regarding sharing millage with charter schools, will be detrimental to traditional public schools.

**Old Business**

**Presentation: Transfer of Student Athletes by Sport and Drug Testing.** Dr. Steffond L. Cone, Assistant Superintendent, School Operations, explained the process for transferring students. According to him, there is no specific policy for “athletic transfers”. School Board Policy 5131 gives guidance on Student Transfers. Dr. Cone reviewed the exceptions. Recruitment by school-site coaches is prohibited and if one is found guilty, his/her Teaching Certificate can be revoked. The District does not have a drug-testing policy for athletes.

**Presentation: Health Care Options for Student Injuries:** Mr. Michael J. Fox, Risk and Benefits Officer, Office of Risk and Benefit Management, gave a comprehensive overview of the health coverage, health partners, and other services that are available to students during athletic activities, after-school care, and District-approved events. The District supplements the cost of the insurance to lower the cost for families.

He gave additional information regarding coverage for sports activities and a detailed description of the concussion protocol used by the District. Mr. Fox informed the Committee that his contact number is 305-995-7155. A handout was provided showing the coverage provided by Mutual of Omaha on the District’s behalf.

**Presentation: Class Size in Non-Core Classes (HS):**  Ms. Cynthia Gracia, Administrative Director, School Operations, gave a PowerPoint presentation to address class size for “core “and “non-core” classes. She also explained the penalties assigned for not following the rules imposed by the State of Florida. A handout, showing the *Florida Statutes Affecting Class Size* and a copy of Senate Bill 808 were given to the attendees. A copy of the PowerPoint will be forwarded to the Committee via email by staff. Dr. Nancy Lawther, also provided a copy of the Florida PTA’s position statement regarding class size.

**Report: FCIAC District and School Budget Priorities Parent Subcommittee:**  Dr. Lawther provided a written report.

**Announcements**

The deadline for M-DCPS’ School’s Family of the Year-Regional Nominations, was extended to March 2, 2017.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** March 20, 2017