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

**School Board Administration Building, Conference Room #559**

**Minutes**

**March 14, 2016**

**Members Present:** Ms. Winifred Browne, Ms. Jeanne Darc LaHoud, Ms. Beverly Heller, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Ms. Teresa Martin-Major, Ms. Dannie McMillon, Ms. Jacqueline M. Perez – Chair, Ms. Zoraida Serret, Ms. Rosa M. Olsen-Barbara, Ms. Gloria Simmons, Mr. Charles Viscito

**Member Excused*:*** Ms. Lovern Alleyene-Babb, Mr. Gustavo Barreiro, Ms. Catherine Haga-Artounian, Ms. Linda Dwyer, Dr. Sherian E. Demetrius, Ms. Gina Ha, Ms. Beverly Nixon, Ms. Cindy Odige, Mr. Dennis Tejeda, Ms. Eileen Segal, Ms. Lenora Stafford, Mr. David Williams, Jr.

**Also Present**: Dr. Marcus A. Bright, Ms. Yolanda Busquet, Ms. Angela Lozano, Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Ms. Patricia Mills, Mr. Reinaldo Palacios, Ms. Alina F. Plasencia, Ms. Lisa Thurber

**Guest:** Ms. Meriel C. Seymore

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m., by Jacqueline Perez, Chairperson. Self-introductions were made. A quorum was not present. The Agenda was accepted as printed.

**Minutes**

The approval of the 2/29 minutes will be approved at the April 18, 2016, meeting.

**Report: FCIAC Budget Committee**

Mr. Charles Viscito, Chairperson, Budget Subcommittee, gave a report. The Subcommittee met on March 7, 2016. He reported that it will be a challenging year with the 1% increase in funding provided by the State Legislature. Insurance coverage for employees will increase; raises will be discussed again this year. The Committee anticipates no major cuts or adjustments but they are having challenging discussions with the appropriate staff. The next meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2016 @ 5:30 in Conference Room 916.

**Region Reports/Updates**

*North Region*: The North Region is focusing on testing, the end of the grading period and developing the 2016-2017 School Calendar.

*Central Region:* The Central Region is also addressing testing and student transfers. A Town Hall Meeting is planned for the Northwestern Senior High School Feeder Pattern. Parent involvement meetings called “A second Cup of Tea” are being held at selected schools. A Health Fair is being held at Holmes Elementary School.

*South Region*: Most events are on hold because of testing.

A concern was expressed regarding the Regions’ lack of awareness of important happenings within its communities. A workshop for ESE parents whose children are transitioning from middle to high school is being held on April 30, 2016, at Miami Jackson Senior High School. An extensive discussion followed. By consensus, the Office of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) will be invited to present to the FCIAC at its April 16, 2016, meeting. A representative of ESE will be requested for future FCIAC meetings.

**Old Business**

Presentation: *The Office of Equity, Access, and Diversity*

Mr. Arnold Montgomery, Director, Office of Educational Equity, Access, and Diversity showed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the role of this office. According to Mr. Montgomery, The office was re-established, June 11, 2014, to monitor compliance with the State Educational Equity Act. Other responsibilities include analyzing district performance on reaching its goals of diversity, equity and access and rela*ted* community activities*.* Youth Violence is also a concern of this office*. The Share Your Heart* Initiative was discussed as an effective community resource to reduce gang violence.

This office provides staff support to the Diversity, Equity, and Excellence Advisory Committee and works closely with the District’s Civil Rights Office. A report to the School Board for school year 2014-15 is in progress. A copy of the full PowerPoint presentation is available through the Office of Community Engagement.

Mr. Montgomery responded to questions and comments posed by the members.

**Superintendent’s Report**

The final report of the 2016 Legislative Session was given by Mrs. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent, Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration and Community Engagement.

The 2016-2017 K-12 education budget increased statewide by $458 million or 2.33 percent, which covers more than 36,000 new students statewide. This increase is a combination of $72.3 million in local funding and $385.4 million in state funding. The total dollars per unweighted full-time equivalent increased by $71.16, or 1.0 percent, to $7,178.49. As a result of the proposed budget conference report, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) anticipates to see revenues increase by $40.5 million, or 1.59 percent. On a per student basis, the District’s increase is $88.63, or 1.23 percent, which is above the statewide average.

Some highlights related to the budget include:

* Base Student Allocation increased by $6.26 to $4,160.71, which is still lower than the pre-recessionary level of $4,163.47;
* Total potential funding per student increased by $71.16 to $7,178.49;
* RLE was reduced by .290 mills;
* No further equalization of the Discretionary Compression Adjustment;
* Safe Schools remained level-funded at $64.4 million;
* Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) increased by $61 million to $709.9 million, with the additional funding going to school districts that have one or more of the lowest performing elementary schools for an additional hour of instruction at the end of the school day;
* Reading Instruction Allocation remained level-funded at $130 million;
* Instructional Materials increased by $2.9 million to $228.7 million;
* ESE Guaranteed Allocation increased by $96.1 million to $1.055 billion (**board priority**), restoring the funding to the pre-recessionary levels;
* Student Transportation increased by $5.6 million to $435.1 million;
* Teachers Classroom Supply Program remained level-funded at $45.2 million;
* Digital Classrooms Allocation was increased by $20 million to $80 million (with a requirement to use these funds to purchase devices to ensure that one grade level is administered the state assessment at the same time district wide);
* District Lottery/School Recognition remained level-funded at $134.5 million;
* Class Size Reduction Allocation increased by $39.6 million to $3.07 billion;
* Adults with Disability grant for M-DCPS was funded at $1.12 million (**board priority**); and
* $10 per student for school districts that implement a mandatory school uniform policy was passed in a separate bill early on in the legislative process. If you recall, this policy passed last session as well, and yielded $2.1 million for the District.
* Additionally, the 2016-2017 state budget allocates $75 million for schools and $75 million for school districts for capital outlay needs. One of the **Board’s priorities** was to obtain PECO funding for school districts.
* The District’s **top priority** of mitigating the impact of the loss of property tax revenues due to the impact of the Value Adjustment Board (VAB) and tax value appeals was achieved and can be found in the Implementing Bill, HB 5003. The language allows school districts, for 2016-2017, in which their Property Appraiser has not finalized the Final School Taxable Value, to take the millage that would be levied in a future year as Prior Period Funding Adjustment Millage (PPFAM) under current law.

A copy of the Superintendent’s memorandum to the Chair and Members of the School Board of Miami-Dade County dated March 17, 2016, will be attached as a permanent part of the Minutes.

**New Business**

A presentation by the Office of Exceptional Student Education was requested for the April 16, 2016, meeting of the FCIAC.

**Office of Community Engagement**

Ms. Lisa Thurber, District Director, Office of Community Engagement, reminded the members of the Community Partners Recognition Luncheon on March 17, 2016, at Jungle Island and the Schools’ Family of the Year Celebration April 8, 2016, also at Jungle Island.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

**Next Meeting**: Monday, April 18, 2016

Submitted by Gloria P. Simmons, Recording Secretary

Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee