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

**SBAB Administration Building, Conference Room 559**

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

**Minutes**

**January 30, 2017**

**Members Present:** Ms. Lovern Alleyne-Babb, Ms. Winifred Browne, Ms. Jeanne Darc LaHoud, Ms. Winifred Browne, Mr. Alvin Gainey, Ms. Beverly Heller, Ms. Anna Hochkammer, Ms. Tracy Jackson, Ms. Farah Johnson, Dr. Nancy Lawther, Ms. Teresa Martin-Major, Ms. Dannie McMillon, Ms. Isa Nunez, Ms. Cindy Odige, Ms. Rosa M. Olsen-Barbara, Ms. Jacqueline M. Perez-Chair, Ms. Laura Philpot, Ms. Eileen Segal, Ms. Zoriada Serret, Ms. Gloria Simmons, Ms. Lenora Stafford, Mr. Dennis Tejeda

**Members Excused:** Mr. Alan Alvarez, Mr. Gus Barreiro, Ms. Marlene Bastien, Dr. Sherian E. Demetrius, Ms. Tania Mulet, Ms. Sharon Watson, Mr. David Williams Jr.

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

**Guests:** Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Elyse Marrero, Ms. Meriel C. Seymore,

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Jacqueline Perez, Chairperson. Self-introductions were made by attendees.

A vacancy was created because Gina Ha (Catalyst Miami) stepped down as Secretary due to a career move. Dannie McMillon was elected to serve as Secretary for the remainder of the year.

**Reports/Updates**

**North Region Representative –** Mr. Reinaldo Palacios reported that Miami Carol City Senior won the Class 6A State Championship for the 2016 academic year.

Henry H. Filer Middle's Dance Team, The Starlets, participated in the American Dance Alliance (ADA) Competition on December 10, 2016. The Starlets received Superior and Elite placement in three of their performances and was honored with the Best Costume Award for the Hip Hop performance. They attended the State Competition in January 2017 and won second place in Jazz and third place in contemporary gategories.

A. Milam K-8's C.H.A.M.P.S (Children Having a Mentor Promoting Success) are here. It's the school's new organization, which includes fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other adult male role models. The purpose of the group is to promote success academically, behaviorally, emotionally, and socially. Members meet regularly with school staff and volunteers at the school. Mentors must be 21 year of age or older.

**Central Region Representative** – Ms. Deborah Gonzalez reported that directors hosted ABC meetings during January and will also host meetings in early February. The meetings are held to present the boundary changes that are proposed for the Doral area. The City is planning to build one high school and two K-8 Centers by 2019.

**South Region Representative** – Ms. Elizabeth Bombino reported that Miami Palmetto and Frank C. Martin Senior High Schools were honored as National PTA School of Excellence at the January School Board Meeting. Homestead Senior High was recognized at the School Board Meeting for developing a special program for graduating “at risk” students by tracking and proving additional support to them. Southridge Senior High School won State Football Championship in their Division. Ms. Bombino also mentioned that tutoring before and after school and on Saturday is being offered to Region schools, and that state testing begins in twelve weeks.

**Presentations**

**Sunshine Law** – by Mr. Luis Garcia, Deputy School Board Attorney. Attorney Garcia gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Sunshine Law, Public Records Act, Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Procedure. Members requested a copy of the presentation. Attorney Garcia stated that the FCIAC is an advisory committee that is subject to the rules of the Florida Sunshine Law. There was discussion about whether or not the FCIAC is governed by the Sunshine Law. The Law states that all agenda items and/or future agenda items can only be discussed by committee members at a publically noticed meeting. It was also recommended by the attorney that FCIAC guidelines be changed into Bylaws.

**Superintendent’s Report –** Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement provided a legislative update and an update on Homework policy.

**Legislative Update** – After some discussion regarding the 2017 Legislative Status the following motion was made by Dr. Nancy Lawther and second by Ms. Eileen Segal. Motion was carried.

**Motion** – I move that the FCIAC support the Miami-Dade County School Board’s legislative priorities:

1) Increase the base student allocation by 50%,

2) Provide maximum flexibility with the use of funds

3) Conduct an impartial 3rd party study to develop a cost of education index

4) Oppose providing charter schools the local discretionary mileage for capital purposes

5) Address the shortage through recruitment and loan forgiveness

6) Reform the states accountability system by replacing the current VAM model and returning to paper

based testing.

**Homework Policy Update** – Homework policy was discussed at the December School Board Meeting. Currently there will be no modifications to the policy that was updated in 2015. The FCIAC was part of the team that helped formulate an updated homework policy. Successful homework assignments engage students in purposeful, relevant learning that meets their academic needs. School Board policy recommends the following minutes that include assignments for all subject areas and teachers collectively per school day: Grades k-1, 30 minutes; Grades 2 -3, 45 minutes; Grades 4-5, 60 minutes; grades 6 – 8, 75 minutes; Grades 9 – 12, 120 minutes.

Some FCIAC members concerns were about parents who are not familiar with the rules and the amount of homework given in AP classes vs traditional classes.

Parents should talk to their child’s Principal who has discretion on homework time.

**Old Business**

Minutes were approved by Eileen Segal and second by Winnie Brown. Motion was carried.

Dr. Nancy Lawther presented the FCIAC Parent Budget Subcommittee report. A hard copy of the report was handed out to all members.

**Adjournment -** The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 27. FCIAC Committee will be select the 2016-2017 School’s Family of the Year – Regional Winners.

Minutes prepared by Secretary Ms. Dannie McMillon