



Broward County Public Schools
Gifted Advisory Council- General Meeting
Apollo Middle School
April 8th, 2024, 7:00pm

Email: BrowardcountyGAC@gmail.com **Website:** <http://giftedadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>
Chair: Karla Figueroa, Vice Chair: Alan Bushkin, Recording Secretary: Jessica Benner,
Corresponding Secretary: Diego Britto, Communications Chari: Vacant, Parliamentarian: Vacant

Meeting Minutes

- A. Call to Order- 7:04 pm
- B. Introductions/ Meeting Etiquette
- C. Approval of March Minutes- *Motion to approve minutes by Ninotchka Russell 2nd by Diego Britto, all in favor motion passed unanimously.*

D. Old Business

- 1. Tabled Motion- *Motion by Yaskara Carrera 2nd by Lyudmyla Poliard Motion states: I move to create a K-12 gifted self-contained school in Broward County Public Schools.*

-Discussion held regarding the motion- that we have a gifted academy ideally k-12, getting rid of 3-5, middle and HS being separate. There are other parts of the state such as Orlando that has this currently in public school setting and it is successful.

Friendly amendment Allan Bushkin 2nd by Ninotchka Russell. *Friendly Amendment States: I move to create multiple k-12 gifted self-contained centers across Broward County Public Schools geographically dispersed to include transportation provided by the district.*

-Yaskara is ok with this amended motion.

-Discussion held regarding proposing the language to have it be a magnet school so we could have more funding. It is believed that a magnet needs to have a more diverse population and gifted is a very limited population so the group feels adding magnet to the motion would cause it to fail.

Restated Motion- I move to create multiple k-12 gifted self-contained centers across Broward County Public Schools geographically dispersed to include transportation provided by the district. Vote taken- 9 yes and 1 no. Motion passes.

-Discussion: if the board is looking to repurpose schools, we may have issues with using an elementary school that does not have a chemistry lab for example or the bathrooms in a HS may not meet the needs of an elementary size child etc.

***We will have to revote on this motion again next meeting to meet our bylaws.*

2. Policy & Bylaws- Karla Figueroa purposes we add a Legislative Representative to the Gifted Advisory Board. This would benefit us to have this rep so we can have our voices heard with the state during legislative sessions.

*-Vote on adding Legislative Rep to the gifted policy and the rep needs to be a part of FLAG (Florida Association for Gifted). All in favor. ** We will need to vote on this again next meeting.*

E. New Business

1. Policy 4000 Student Progression- Presentation by Guy Barmoha
Proposed changes to policy 4000- The student progression policy. Guy went over some of the proposed changes and received feedback from our advisory. Eliminated the tests solely as promotion criteria and including it as a means of evidence for everything else and look holistically at the student.

FL 1008.25 statue The school board shall establish a comprehensive plan for student progression which must provide for a student's progression from one grade to another based on the student's mastery of the standards in specifically English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies standards.

*So we are looking to go to a system that correlates to this state statue and look at student whole grade and not just their scores on a one day test. Proposed language would state: **various indicators including but not limited to multiple measures using appropriate grade level assessments as well as teacher judgment would be considered when making student progression decisions. Factors for teachers to consider when determining if a students has mastered grade level standards: classroom work, such as projects, assignments, journals, teacher made assessments, teacher observations, teacher check lists, conferencing notes, report card grades, tests from Benchmark Advance, tests from Envision, Iready data, social studies standards assessments, science unit assessments and state end of year assessments; FAST PM3 for ELA, FAST writing for grades 4 and 5, FAST PM3 for math, and FCAT science for grade 5.***

2. GAC Board Nominations- 24/25 School Year- Discussion held since we do not have that many members at this meeting if we would like to hold the elections next meeting. Everyone agreed to take nominations tonight and then hold formal elections next meeting.

Taking nominations tonight Chair- Karla Figueroa nominated by Jessica Benner 2nd by Ninotchka Russell, Vice Chair- Allan Bushkin by Ninotchka Russell 2nd Jessica Benner, Corresponding Secretary – Diego Britto nominated by Allan Bushkin 2nd by Yaskara Carrera, Recording Secretary- Yaskara Carrera nominated by Lyudmyla Poliard 2nd by Allan Bushkin.

If there are more nominations next meeting, we will accept them then.

***Vote will be held next meeting.*

3. Function of Advisories and Making Motions- skipped

F. Chair Report

1. District Updates- DAC motions passed:

We move that Broward County Public Schools expand the 4 + 1 survey to include parents and all staff of Broward County Elementary, Middle and High Schools, to include a survey question with the number of students within the household. This went to the School Board and we are waiting for information back on that.

The second motion that was passed at DAC was regarding BRACE advising. Motion stated We move that BCPS explore innovative ways such as grade level assemblies, small groups, use of technology and other means of communication to implement BRACE advising starting in the 6th grade. This went to the School Board and we are waiting on feedback.

From Facilities Task Force, schools with tennis courts are having the municipalities take over the schools tennis courts and turning them into pickle ball courts. The municipalities are taking on the cost and they are maintaining them. The only issue is the safety concern for these courts being open to the public on a school campus. Are there limitations to hours while school is in session?

2. Technology Advisory Rep (meets 2nd Mon of month 2:30pm, virtual)- rep (Allan Bushkin) did not go to meeting, but read they are getting closer to a 1 to 1 ratio with every student having a device and being able to take home devices.

G. Innovative Learning Department Updates- going to the board in May to discuss COGAT testing which cannot take place because of the licensing being expired. We plan to go to the board in May with the contracts of new companies.

H. Q&A-

Q- When can we take this motion to the Board?

A- We can send it after our May meeting and then we can go before the board on May 21st. Allan will go to represent gifted and state the motion before them during this meeting as Karla has a prior engagement. During the May 21 meeting we can go and support the motion or we can submit public comment the day before to support the motion.

Dr. Licata will be at our May meeting so come prepared with any questions or concerns you would like to address with him.

B- Adjourn- motion to adjourn 8:31pm



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