



Broward County Public Schools
Gifted Advisory Council-General Meeting Minutes
Plantation Middle School
February 10, 2025 @ 6:30PM

Email: BrowardcountyGAC@gmail.com

Website: <https://giftedadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com/>

Chair: Karla Figueroa

Vice Chair: Alan Bushkin,

Recording Secretary: Kay Lewis

Corresponding Secretary: Vacant

A. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Karla Figueroa at 6:34 PM

B. Introductions/Meeting Etiquette: The chair reported that based on the Sunshine Laws in person meetings are required to vote on recommendations and minutes, despite the request for meetings via Microsoft Teams.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. December 2024 approved as corrected. Motion made by Nadine Fearon and seconded. The minutes included corrections to the spelling of Zuelle to Zuzel wherever denoted in the document. In addition, correction to the name of the person who made motion for approval of minutes to reflect Fearon rather than Fern.
2. January 2025 minutes were approved as corrected. Motion made by Nadine Fearon and seconded. The minutes included corrections to the spelling of Zuelle to Zuzel wherever denoted in the document.

D. Old Business

1. DAC Calendar motion update
 - The North Advisory DAC (District Advisory Council) passed a motion to have the school calendar be completed 2 yrs in advance rather than 1 yr in advance. The motion was heard at the DAC (District Advisory Council) meeting, and it was recommended to Broward County School board, and it was approved. It is projected to begin for the 2026-2028 school year.
2. District Customer Service Initiative:
 - There are two separate surveys that the Superintendent is requesting be completed by parents/caregivers. The survey can be accessed via QR code at the respective schools or via the website <https://www.browardschools.com/customerservice>. The superintendent is expecting a response by school personnel within 48 hours of a request by a parent/caregiver made to the school, not necessarily a remedy to the issue presented by the parent/caregiver. The survey period is open now for completion.

E. Chair Updates and Announcements

1. College Academy
 - There was a flyer provided at the meeting to those in attendance. Open enrollment is taking place now for those high school students in 11th and 12th grade. This affords those students

accepted to begin college courses and graduate with their associates degree as a high school student. They have an upcoming virtual tour to provide more detailed information about the program. The application is due by the end of the February 2025.

2. Gifted Summer Camps

- BCPS is currently offering one camp at this time versus the three that were offered in previous years. The location of the camps that are currently not being offered are at Plantation High School and Western High School. The only school offering the gifted summer camp is Pompano Beach High School. The application for admission needs to be completed ASAP as admission fills up quickly and are due by March 28, 2025. The summer camp is from July 21 through July 3, 2025 (Monday- Thursday).
- <https://www.browardschools.com/domian/24786#calendar175608/20250115/month> is the website to obtain further information.

3. March Meeting

- The superintendent, Dr. Hepburn will be present at the meeting. Please be prepared to provide Q & A.

4. Nominating Committee

- April 2025 is when elections of the board will take place for the next school year 2025-2026. The positions available include Chair; Vice Chair; Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

F. New Business

1. School Climate & Discipline- presentation by Ms. Kathy Keith from the Equity, Diversity and School Climate department. She can be reached at (754) 321-1616. Her team is made up of 10 to 12 committed members who also have other duties and responsibilities. You can check on all complaints and/or investigations by calling the above number.

- School Climate & Discipline- The code of conduct includes all infractions, consequences and interventions. The code of conduct is structured by grade level K to 2nd grade, 3rd to 5th grade, 6th grade to 8th grade and 9th to 12th grade. Every infraction has an identified consequence and comparable intervention to address the issue that is age and grade appropriate. It's a progressive discipline process.
- Whether or not the infraction takes place onsite or offsite, it can be reported to the school and within 24 hours contact will be made with the interested parties by the school personnel. All parent/caregiver must be contacted related to every infraction involving their student. All infractions are placed on the student record. Those that meet criteria for state reporting are denoted in the SESIR (School Environment Safety Incident Reporting) report as a violation.
- When providing consequences, age and disabilities are taken into consideration. There is an appeal process that can be exercised by the parent/caregiver within 5 days of the decision being rendered. The appeal process is also denoted in the code of conduct.
- The committee does look at patterns of infractions that take place at schools to include if there are teachers or administrators who provide more referrals than others. The committee is open to receiving information to ensure there is fair distribution of consequences associated with the infraction for all students.

2. Anti-Bullying presentation by Ms. Kathy Keith from the Equity, Diversity and School Climate department.

- Bullying – defined as being repeated, purposeful and there is an imbalance of power. The allegations of bullying must be in good faith. The code of conduct includes all infractions, consequences and interventions. The code of conduct is structured by grade level K to 2nd grade, 3rd to 5th grade, 6th grade to 8th grade and 9th to 12th grade. Verified substantiated bullying for those in 3rd to 12th grade results in a removal from the assigned school and placement in one of three schools to receive services for up to 90 days. Those schools are Lanier James Education Center, Pine Ridge Education Center and Cypress Bay High School. They are all identified as school placements that provide AE's (alternative to suspension). There is also a bully designee on every school campus who was trained by the committee.
- Harassment- defined as mistreatment of peers that can be discriminatory in nature.

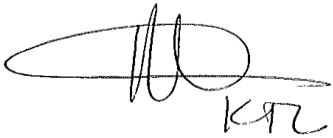
- a. Notification needs to be made to the Assistant Principal or Principal related to bullying or harassment concerns. Please see below mandated policy:
- b. Conversation about the matter- It will be determined by the parent/caregiver if it will be formal or informal. An informal conversation can become formal during the investigation. A formal investigation includes a letter being provided to the accused for a formal invite within 24 hours to address the matter. There are no names of victims enclosed in the letter. Focus is not capable of housing the letter currently and therefore it is provided to the accused parent/caregiver via email. All statements are written and documented related to the investigation. The school must render a decision within 15 days of the investigation. The letter will only render the findings but does not denote the consequences of the infraction.
- c. The parent/caregiver can elect to move the student via the Hope Scholarship which is an option provided in both the formal and informal method. The transfer of school does include transportation.

G. Q & A- None

H. Adjournment: The vice chair, Alan Bushkin adjourned the meeting at 7:29 PM and thanked everyone for attending. Motion made by Kay Lewis. Mr. Bushkin reminded members that the next scheduled meeting is to take place on March 10, 2025, at 6:30 PM.

Approved ___ as written ___ as corrected on March 10, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'K' followed by 'L' and 'W'. Below the signature, the initials 'KYL' are written in a smaller, more legible script.

Kadiya "Kay" Lewis
Gifted Advisory Council Recording Secretary