

**City of Hollywood
Education Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2021
Via WebEx**

In Attendance: Chair Dan Derrico, Jacqueline Grant, Joel Levine, Vice Chair Cheree Liebowitz, Graham Rubin, Ellen Suppa, and Kathy Thomas

Absent: Donna Greene, Kypps Poliard, Gabrielle Short

Staff: Peggy Eads, Administrative Assistant 1

Non-Members: Carol Fischer

1. Call to Order

Dan noted the presence of a quorum at 6:08 p.m. and roll was taken.

2. Review of minutes from February 22, 2021 meeting

Cheree **motioned** to approve the February minutes. Graham seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. Acknowledgement of BCPS personnel in attendance

None in attendance.

4. New Business

- **Discussion of 2021 Goals and Objectives**

The committee discussed which members would be taking on specific objectives. Below is a recap of their decisions:

Goal 1: Support and promote student literacy and opportunities for student growth.

- Objective 1a – Support implementation of the Broward Reads campaign in Hollywood schools.
- Objective 1b – Continue EAC Recycle Books program to provide used children’s books in Hollywood schools. (**Ellen, Kathy, Joel, Donna, Cheree**)
- Objective 1c – Serve and encourage the recruitment of community members as tutors and mentors in Hollywood schools. (**Ellen, Kathy, Joel**)
- Objective 1d – Continue to advance the city’s financial support of the Reading Pals program to additional schools in Hollywood.

Goal 2: Support and promote the safe return of students and faculty to Broward County Public Schools during the pandemic.

- Objective 2a – Continue to attend various meetings conducted by the school board of Broward County regarding this issue. (**Cheree**)
- Objective 2b – Liaison with the Hollywood schools to serve as a resource and try to address their needs and concerns. (**Dan**)

Goal 3: Continue to support and promote the funding for accreditation of Early Childhood Centers in Hollywood.

- Objective 3a – Collaborate with BCPS staff and designees of the Early Learning Coalition and designated Broward Commissioners and/or City Commissioners. (**Donna**)
- Objective 3b – Continue to attend various meetings (local and state) conducted by the school board of Broward County and the Early Learning Coalition, regarding this issue.
- Objective 3c - Advocate for community support for certified and appropriately funded Early Childhood programs in the Hollywood area by encouraging members to talk to school board members, city commissioners, parent organizations and civic associations. (**Donna**)

Goal 4: Advocate for additional funding, grants, and donations for Hollywood schools.

- Objective 4a – Support the City’s relationship with the Broward Education Foundation to provide city-funded grants to teachers in Hollywood schools by evaluating grant proposals in conjunction with

the City's Achieving Excellence in Education Grant Program. (**Joel and Ellen**)

- Objective 4b – Seek out additional funding and donation opportunities for Hollywood schools, especially with local businesses and civic associations.

Goal 5: Inform and involve Hollywood families and help to attract new families to Hollywood by promoting Hollywood schools. (Website Subcommittee will work on all objectives – Joel, Ellen, Dan)

- Objective 5a – Recommend additional enhancements to the City's website to promote Hollywood schools.
- Objective 5b – Advocate for the creation and distribution of informational material to market the programs, and the achievements and awards of Hollywood schools, and of their students, faculty, and staff.
- Objective 5c – Collaborate with the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce's Education committee projects to promote Hollywood schools.
- Objective 5d – Promote committee and school related events via the City's public relations and marketing programs, including online distribution.

Goal 6: Support and promote Hollywood schools that want to make commitments to replicate innovative educational programs and activities, such as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), Coding, Career Exploration, Critical Thinking/Problem Solving, Active and Self-Directed Learning, Social and Emotional learning, and other programs that are based on successful research and may be supported by grants. Such programs have demonstrated student success in Broward County, in Florida, and nationally. (Website Subcommittee will work on all objectives – Joel, Ellen, Dan)

- Objective 6a – Provide links on the City of Hollywood website to successful preK-12 educational programs and activities in Broward County schools, including grants won by Broward teachers.
- Objective 6b – Provide principals with possible sources of funding to implement such programs or activities in their schools. (see Goal 4)

Goal 7: Make recommendations to the Hollywood Commission on ways to advocate with the Broward County School Board on ways to improve Hollywood public schools. These may include the following.

- Objective 7a – Improving the physical appearance of the schools.
- Objective 7b – Implementing new and innovative academic programs.
- Objective 7c – Obtaining more business and community support in funding, supplies and equipment, specialized staff, tutoring, mentoring, and other resources.
- Objective 7d – Providing additional positive public relations support.
- Objective 7e – Providing additional funding for teacher innovative activities and grants.

Regarding Goal 6, Joel suggested getting in touch with Broward's Grants Department and Dan volunteered to do so.

Dan asked if the letter advocating for teacher and school staff to be vaccinated had been forwarded to the Commissioners. Peggy said that since Broward County had made the decision to allow all teachers and staff to be vaccinated, the letter had not been sent. Dan reiterated the Committee's advocacy for all teachers, administrators and staff be allowed to receive the vaccine.

Dan made a **motion** to establish a subcommittee to meet to work on goals 4 through 7. Members will be Dan, Ellen and Joel. Graham seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Joel asked about Broward Education Foundation (BEF) Disseminator Grants and Adaptor grants, and how the Committee could get involved with reviewing them. Peggy offered to contact Coco Burns with BEF and find out if the Disseminator and Adaptor grants are applicable to the EAC.

5. Old Business

None.

6. Member Comments

Jacqueline asked Peggy to send her the email link to re-apply to the Committee. Peggy replied that she didn't think Jacqueline's term was ending and that she would let Jacqueline know.

Grahm asked if teachers are trained in the various communication platforms such as Zoom, WebEx and Teams. Cheree answered that most schools have a person charged with learning about the platforms and providing school personnel with the information to use them.

8. Staff Report

Peggy referred to a listing of schools that Anthony had obtained. The listing needed to be reviewed for accuracy before being used on the school map web page. Dan suggested contacting Broward County Schools to get the updated information. Jacqueline offered to verify the information on the list.

9. Adjournment

Kathy made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting and Jacqueline seconded it. It was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

The next scheduled committee meeting is on Monday April 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via WebEx.