

**Office of Community Partnerships, Education & Business Access
 Family and Community Involvement Advisory Committee (FCIAC)
 PTHSBAB Conference Room 559
 October 20, 2025
 Minutes**

Meeting ID: 817 3255 4079
 Passcode: FCIAC2526
MEETING

Monday, October 20, 2025
 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Attendance:

In person:	In-Person Non-Voting Members	Virtual:
Laura Creenshaw-Philpot	Lisa Thurber	Tony Ullivari
Enrique Escallon	Ines Meras	Aillette Rodriguez Diaz
Maria Paula De Carolis	Linda Amica Roberts	Aundrey Adams
Wendy Fernandez	Meriel Seymore	Marylin Anderson
Deborah Gonzalez		Dannielle Boyer
Beverly Heller		Claudia Valeria Desarmes
Mina Hosseini		Alain Flores
Barbara Martin-Galego		Michael Horne
Reinaldo Palacios		Wesley Owings
Carolyn Nelson-Goedert		
Maria Ratti Jakoniuk		
Mirena Suarez		
Derryl Evereh		
Sharon Watson		
Renee Williams		

Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 9.30 am by Chairperson Carolyn Nelson-Goedert.
- Meeting was paused for ten minutes to provide time to reach quorum.
- Meeting resumed at 9.42 am,
- Without objection, the agenda was amended to allow the Legislative updates to be presented first.

Legislative Updates, provided by Aillette Rodriguez and Tony Ullivari.

Transparency and Communication:

- The district is not yet aware of which schools will be targeted for charter co-location. Matter Academy has submitted a request, but no specific sites have been identified.
- Members offered the following suggestions/requests:
 - Sharing the targeted school list
 - Improved district outreach to parents
 - One-page information sheet in three languages to mobilize the community
 - Share updates via parent group chats and other district committees, including ABC **District**

Position on Co-Location Legislation:

- Tony Ullivari responded that the district would support a repeal of the co-location legislation, though it is unlikely, as the legislation recently passed and substantial funding has already been invested through the “Schools of Hope” initiative. The district is analyzing a cost-sharing model to mitigate financial burdens.

Capacity and Enrollment Concerns:

- Mr. Ullivari confirmed that co-location rules do not address growth in student enrollment, — a school can be co-located whether at 40% or 90% capacity.
- Concern that charter schools may target students - for recruiting.

Rulemaking and Space Allocation:

- The district previously requested that Adult Education and Pre-K programs be included in occupancy data but was denied. The state determined that only K–12 FISH capacity generating FTE seats will be counted.
- As a result, Adult Education and Pre-K programs could be displaced.
- Schools of Hope may co-locate across grade levels, meaning, for example, an elementary school could share a campus with a high school.

Legislative and Budget:

- Mr. Ullivari stated expanding Pre-K, providing a nurse in every school, and after-school programs have not yet been filed but remain under discussion with legislators.
- Mr. Ullivari reported that IDEA funding remains at roughly 40% and is not expected to change in the current proposed budget.

Next Steps:

- Schools of Hope could begin co-location in the 2026–27 school year, based on the latest (February 2024) FTE occupancy reports.
- Request to share updates with other district committees, including ABC

Region updates and announcements

- Central Region Representative- Deborah Gonzalez
 - Highlighted Coral Gables Sr. High School, Southside Preparatory Academy, Design and Architecture High School (DASH)
 - Choice Expo and Showcase is coming up on December 13, MDCC West Campus. 3800 NW 115 Ave. Doral FL. From 9:00 to 3:00 pm
 - Choice Applications for the next school year are open, through the portal.
 - Choice transfers are open for this school year.
- South Region Representative - Wendy Fernandez
 - Choice Expo and Showcase is coming up on November 15, MDCC Kendall Campus. 11011 SW 104 St. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
 - Choice Applications for the next school year are open, through the portal.
 - Choice transfers are open for this school year.
 - Venetian Parc Academy ribbon cutting took place offering open seats for students Prek-2 grade.
- North Region Representative - Reinaldo Palacios
 - Highlighted Bob Graham Education Center to celebrate being an A rated for the past 20 years of educational excellence.
 - Choice Expo and Showcase is coming up on January 10, 2026 MDCC North Campus. 11380 NW 27 Ave. From 9:00 to 3:00 pm
 - Choice Applications for the next school year are open, through the portal.
 - Choice transfers are open for this school year.
 - Parents Advocates are available from 10 am to 3.30 pm.

Approval of Minutes

- September 18, 2025, Minutes
 - Corrections were provided in writing. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Old Business

- Mr. Steiger and Dr. Cabrera are scheduled to attend the November meeting.
- The priorities for the January, February and March meetings were revisited and established.

Standing Committee Reports:

- DAC (District Advisory Council) Title I Administration, Derryl Evereh
 - Title I DAC General Meetings: The first General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School. Several presentations will be offered to include early childhood education and budget.
 - Title I DAC Executive Meetings: The first Title I DAC Executive Meeting took place on October 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Perla Tabares School Board Administration Building, Conference Room 559 and the new Title I DAC Executive Board was installed.
 - Publications: Copies of the DAC Talk News for Parents will be shared on the next meeting.
 - The new name is Title I Family Connection Bulletin will also be shared next meeting.
 - Three Events on How to promote math in Pre-K students are taking place during the month of October.
- Head Start Program -Barbara Martin Galego
 - Head Start is actively enrolling and receiving applications and identifying families that need their services.

- Superintendent’s Panel for Exceptional Student Education - Beverly Heller
 - Please consider joining a subcommittee where issues are discussed at a detailed level. ○ A subcommittee was established to focus on legislation October 29, 326 at 10.30 am
- Educational, Opportunity and Access Committee (previously DEEAC) - Beverly Heller
 - The Committee is struggling to have a quorum.
- Citizen’s Coalition - Beverly Heller
 - Meets right after FCIAC at 12 noon.
 - Aillette Rodriguez from Intergovernmental Affairs provides legislative updates in detail and the group works towards supporting and promoting items.
- PS 305 - Mina Hosseini
 - PS 305 is planning to host a session “Train the trainer” to train people from other organizations on what is happening with the Schools of Hope”. Please reach out if you are interested or know somebody that is. Please contact 305-209-0458 via text or email mhosseini@ps305.org
- Parent Subcommittee on District and School Budget Priorities- Beverly Heller
 - Ron Steiger and Tony Ullivari provide valuable and in-depth information, please consider attending.
- Community Access, Lisa Thurber
 - “Principal TODAY” is taking place the last week in October (27 thru 31), where community and business leaders spend a day as a principal to support Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) and build partnerships.
 - Expanding All Pro Dad Chapter, for a target of 100 this year.
 - Fathers in Education was purposely moved to September, earlier in the school year, and phenomenal feedback has been received.

New Business:

- Bylaws will be undertaken at the November meeting.
- The next meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 9:30 am.

Announcements:

- Laura Creenshaw-Philpot, a Miami-Dade County Public School parent, resident, and employee of the Miami Seaquarium expressed gratitude for the support received from Miami-Dade County over the years and highlighted the closure of the Miami Seaquarium.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned by Ms. Carolyn Nelson-Goedert at 11.31 am.