

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.**

Members	Attendance	April 2014- APRIL 2015	
		Present	Absent
Edna Elijah, Chair	P	9	1
Austin Scott, Vice, Chair	P	9	0
Gregory T. Boardman	P	8	2
Towana Bonaparte	P	5	2
Dr. Ciara L. Bostick	P	2	0
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	6	4
W. Jason Dunne	P	2	1
Rochelle Horowitz	P	7	3
Deniece Jones	P	8	1
Jennifer L. Kimmey	P	9	1
Dr. Magdalene Lewis	A	1	9
Wayne Neunie	A	2	8
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	6	3
Shelby Smith	P	10	0
S. Carey Villeneuve	P	6	0
M. Elaine Wilson	P	1	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 16
Needed to constitute a quorum: 9**

Staff

Junia Robinson, Staff Liaison

Charles Webster, Broward County Public Schools, (BCPS) Liaison

Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Edna Elijah

II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Edna Elijah

- Chair Elijah introduced new Board member M. Elaine Wilson, Ms. Wilson greeted the Board by sharing that she is a pre-school educator at Victoria Park for over 37 years and has served on this board in the past for 6 years. Ms. Wilson said she looks forward to contributing her knowledge, particularly with preschoolers to the Board.

Determination of quorum

As of this date, February 19, 2015 there are 16 appointed members to the board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

III. Approve minutes (February 19, 2015)

Motion by Ms. Dinnen, seconded by Dr. Persi, that the said minutes for February 19th, 2015 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Guest introductions:

Chair Elijah acknowledged the Guest speakers that will be presenting to the board. Dr. Rosalind Osgood, District 5 School Board member and Ms. Deborah J. Owens, Principal, Stranahan High school.

Dr. Osgood greeted the Board and began her PowerPoint presentation discussion about District 5 schools, particularly Student Success Opportunity Schools (SSOS) (presentation attached).

Chair Elijah thanked Dr. Osgood for taking the time out of her busy schedule to meet with the board to provide an update on the SSOS schools in the City. Chair Elijah encouraged the board to attend the various upcoming meetings on the SSOS schools that will take place very soon. She asked Mr. Webster to continue to give “us” information on the next SSOS meeting dates and location. Chair Elijah introduced the next Guest speaker, Ms. Deborah Owens, Principal, Stranahan High School.

Ms. Owens began talking about Stranahan’s three magnet programs. Engineering magnet program recently began partnership with the Department of transportation (DOT), where the kids are able to do “hands on” projects with them. They are currently working with DOT on the trolley system, (the WAVE). The students will also assist in designing play grounds for the school with funds from the General obligation bond. Ms. Owens said the Engineering students have worked with the City of Fort Lauderdale in the past for the “waterways project”.

The Medical Science magnet program partners with Broward Health services. Ms. Owens says currently, she has 40 seniors who attend school in the morning for reading, writing and math, and then they head to the hospital where they spend 2 weeks in each department.

The 3rd and newest magnet program at Stranahan is called "UTAP" which stands for Urban Teacher Academy Program. Students who have a desire to become teachers learn the simple methods of teaching and assign lesson plans. Ms. Owens says students in this magnet program tutor at Northfolk elementary and New Renaissance Middle school. She said, "Students work their way up to eventually teaching at the school while in the program".

Ms. Owens said Stranahan has a lot of career technical programs and during the past budget cuts, some of these programs were effected.

She said the school has an auto program but they can only place 20 students in the program because of budget. Ms. Owens said "you can bring your vehicle to get an oil check or your breaks done".

Ms. Owens said they also have culinary arts in hospitality program. She said they are currently trying to partner with hotels on the beach to get internships. The school has a coding program which is in the first cycle, called fundamentals of coding. They are going to advance to advance placement coding.

Stranahan also have a dual enrollment program where students can take courses that go towards their college degrees. The school currently has adjunct professors who teach students on campus.

Ms. Owens said the school does not have a home football field, so they are always losing athletes to other schools. They have to use other football fields when they have home games. She said the track is also in "deplorable" condition. Ms. Owens says the campus is very pleasant and sits on 45 acres of beautiful landscaping. She is not sure if the campus needs to be completed demolished but feels there needs to be major renovations.

Ms. Owens says it's difficult to attract top students and keep athletes because of the "melancholy" appearance of the school.

Chair Elijah thanked Ms. Owens for providing updates to the board about Stranahan high school. She welcomed Ms. Owens to come back at any time with additional information.

V. Current business

A. BCPS updates – Charles Webster

Mr. Webster began by saying “I will be really brief”. He shared that Ms. Robinson will give more details but there will be a Town hall meeting here in the City to discuss Harbordale elementary school boundary. He also said “our first boundary meeting will be on the 25th at 5:30pm at Plantation high school”.

B. Board discussions/member updates

Chair Elijah asked the Staff Liaison for an update on the list of members appointed to the Bond oversight committee.

Ms. Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale stated that Marilyn Mammano received a phone call from the Superintendent regarding the oversight committee. She said that the Superintendent has agreed to keep the Council updated on the “make-up” of the oversight committee and that he will have someone from the School Board attend the Council meetings to give updates on this matter.

Ms. Robinson said she spoke to Mr. Charles Webster regarding this issue as well and he will keep the Board updated on the oversight committee.

Mr. Carey Villeneuve gave an update on the Harbordale school boundaries and will ask the Board in new business to consider passing a motion to approve and support the new Harbordale school boundaries.

Dr. Ciara Bostick said she was “floored by Ms. Owens presentation on all the programs Stranahan high school offers, including the engineering school and the partnerships with the Florida Department of Transportation”.

Ms. Jennifer Kimmey said the board had similar experience at Fort Lauderdale High school during the tour. She says she now teaches travel and tourism at the school and once the students complete the program, they get certified as travel and tourism specialist from Cambridge University. Ms. Kimmey says these types of “good news” stories should be in a brochure. She says “if we don’t know about these stories, how do we expect our neighbors to know”. She suggests that someone needs to do something about getting this information out to the community.

Chair Elijah asked Ms. Robinson “how do we go about getting this information out to the public”?

Ms. Robinson replied that the Public Affairs office offered to send “good news” stories to the public through social media, newsletter and the website. She said the board just needs to vote and make a motion about this topic.

C. Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association – Ms. Betty Shelley

Ms. Betty said that the Council is encouraging members and parents to attend the Vice-Mayor’s town hall meeting regarding the Harbordale school boundaries.

VI. Next Meeting and Closing

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2015
City hall, 8th floor conference room