

SAF Meeting Minutes 2/28/24

Call to Order 2:55 PM

1) Presentation on Redefining Our Schools

- The presentation given was the same being presented at Community Conversations meetings being held this month. The in person meetings, however, also include breakout sessions where attendees can share with the district reps their ideas and concerns.
- Discussion as to why this is happening Enrollment decreasing, current number 201,273. BCPS has become too big for current enrollment numbers
- 46 total BCPS school that are under enrolled – 6 located here in Pembroke Pines
- Under enrolled schools have fewer electives, limited courses, facility/maintenance issues.
- Budget is greatly impacted by keeping these schools as is.
- Discussion as to how to fix the problem (options being considered) Creating full choice schools (ex. magnet, specialty schools)
- Merge schools (ex. 2 elementary schools into one elementary school, elementary and middle school into a K-8 center, middle and high school into a 6-12 center)
- Changing school boundaries
- Closing schools and repurposing them for community use
- Lease/sell school properties
- Idea is that by making these changes BCPS is reinvesting in its mission, i.e. enhance programs, increase salaries, facility improvements, provide community services
- Board Vote in June 2024, Implementation to happen 2025/2026 school year
- The group broke out into sessions to discuss the information and provide to the speaker their ideas and concerns.

2) Presentation on Dual Language Program

- Currently approx. 4,700 students in the program across BCPS
- Dual language programs in 27 elementary, 9 middle, and 2 high schools
- Multilingual Advisory Committee (MAC) being formed to provide for oversight to the program. Pending school board vote
- Mission of MAC is to enhance and support the educational experience of all students in the Dual Language Program
- Upon graduating the program, students will receive a seal of biliteracy. Last year 2,140 received this honor at high school graduation
- A challenge to having this in all schools is to having teachers certified to teach the curriculum, not enough.

3) New Business

- Minutes for January and February meetings will be approved in March
- They are looking for people to serve on nominating committee for next year's officers May is the last meeting of the year, there next year's board will be voted on
- Concerns addressed by local SAF reps One rep asked why doesn't the district make a typing class for elementary students
- Another asked for SAF elections to take place in April and May instead of beginning of school year
- Meeting on 2/24 @ 8:30am at Orangebrook Elementary and Crystal Lake Elementary
- Meeting on 2/27 @ 6:00pm at Ft. Lauderdale High and offered via TEAMS
- Next meeting on 3/20 we will have Legislative Affairs presentation on laws going into effect this year which specifically affect BCPS school district
- Upcoming BCPS Behavioral Summit regarding code of conduct and discipline matrix, opportunity for parents to provide feedback.
- Title I events upcoming on 3/2 and 3/16 (see flyers)

Meeting Adjourned at 3:25 PM