

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 23, 2018
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, met in special session at 9:45 a.m. in the Board Room of the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative Center, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Present were: School Board Members Nora Rupert, Chair; Heather Brinkworth, Vice Chair; Robin Bartleman; Abby M. Freedman; Patricia Good; Donna P. Korn; Laurie Rich Levinson; Ann Murray; Dr. Rosalind Osgood (absent); Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools; and Barbara J. Myrick, Esq.

Call to Order The Call to Order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Close Agenda Upon motion by Ms. Korn, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, the Agenda was approved and declared closed. Mrs. Bartleman, Mrs. Rich Levinson, and Dr. Osgood were absent for the vote. (6-0 vote)

Purpose of Meeting For The School Board of Broward County, Florida to discuss and approve Florida Safe Schools Assessment (FSSAT) 2018-2019, and any other items the Board deemed necessary.

1. Florida Safe Schools Assessment (FSSAT) 2018-2019 (Approved)

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Ms. Korn and carried, to approve Broward's completed FSSAT for 2018-2019. Dr. Osgood was absent for the vote. (8-0 vote)

Mrs. Rupert referred to page 5 and inquired when the new Chief Safety and Security Officer would be onboard with the District.

Mr. Runcie replied they were working on the job description, which would be coming to the Board in November, and then they would need to recruit someone, which would depend on who responded and their qualifications, so he was unable to give a specific timeline.

Mrs. Rupert referred to page 6 and asked how far the District was into implementation of the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework.

Leo Nesmith, Director, Administrative Services, responded that the Chief Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness position had to be hired first and then make decisions of the formulation of the division in conjunction with what was outlined and recommended by Safe Havens.

Mrs. Rupert stated most of the ones in process had everything to do with onboarding the lead of the department.

Mr. Runcie added in addition to her point, with a significant amount of work that was done of the two (2) needs assessment by Safe Havens, in addition to this component, foundational pieces would help in developing and implementing that framework.

Mrs. Rupert inquired if the \$2 million was for the framework.

Dr. Nesmith replied the Board approved \$3.2 million with approximately \$2 million that would be sourced in the mid-fiscal year, but at the 2019-2020 school year it would be roughly \$3.2 million for the division as projected today.

Mrs. Rupert stated all "In Progress" categories were supposed to have the "Fiscal Impact and Timeline" included and she wanted to recognize the Facilities department, as well as the Food & Nutrition department, for having both included in every aspect of this report that referred to their division, which she appreciated very much. She said many of the others only had "In Progress" with no "Fiscal Impact and Timeline" included. Referring to 4.a. on page 17, Mrs. Rupert asked if the mental health staffing was attributable to the recommended ratio for school and student.

Mr. Runcie responded that it was a combination of continued prioritization and training of staff; adding additional staff that the Board approved; and 8% of the Referendum was to hire additional workers in that particular capacity. He said through a series of those efforts, they were significantly reducing ratios by increasing the number of staff and how they were deployed to the schools. He indicated they were trying to do better by adding additional resources through the funding that was allocated to the District from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Safety Act in the portion of mental health.

Mrs. Rupert referred to page 20 under b., in regards to roles and responsibilities, and she believed there needed to be a larger focus and a more intentional plan for schools and staff concerning transitioning students to different schools in and out of services, and present and past behavioral issues. On page 23, e. in regards to the Gang Task Force, she asked if there was a more recent recommendation since 2012.

Robert Hutchinson, Chief, Special Investigative Unit (SIU), replied he was not aware of one more recent.

Mr. Runcie added that the state was in the process of updating the survey instrument.

Mrs. Rupert referred to page 27, d., and asked if this response was done post-MSD.

Dr. Nesmith answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Runcie said a portion had already been worked on with schools throughout the school years prior to MSD. They have worked to enhance and approve every aspect being done and provided guidance/protocol to schools for quite some time.

Tracy Clark, Chief Public Information Officer, added that they had guidelines in place and would work with the schools, the School Performance & Accountability office, SIU, and fellow Public Information Offices (PIOs) from local enforcement if/when an incident should occur. She indicated that they have always worked with local enforcement and schools on staging areas, but the tragedy at MSD was very different from other incidents that were responded to and would form the guidelines and protocols to be used moving forward. She said a written plan was in place.

Valerie Wanza, Chief School Performance & Accountability Officer, concurred and stated the schools' protocols and procedures were reviewed annually and updated as needed. Although some incidents called for different strategies, they were able to begin with a core and focus.

Mrs. Rupert referred to page 49, g., that mentioned placement of a student when a teacher held consent, and the answer was no. She wanted to know when the Board would receive the quarterly reports from principals.

Mr. Runcie replied he would work with staff to provide the quarterly report.

Mrs. Rupert commented on page 51, 2., and said the transitioning information needed to be seamless and on page 57, g., she asked that recommendations be included in the Suspension Brief so schools could continually improve their school climate. On page 69, e., she stated it was important to have a detailed plan for students that were dropping back into school when this is sent to the state. Referring to page 70, she indicated "Strategies and Actions to be Taken" was filled out but it did not include an action or plan. She asked if the District was currently utilizing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles now with the Safety, Music & Art, Athletics, Renovation, & Technology (SMART) progress besides Maintenance and Physical Plant Operations (PPO).

Sam Bays, Director, Physical Plant Operations, replied yes, it was written in the design criteria.

Mrs. Rupert asked to have an update as to how that worked.

Ms. Korn referred to page 32, 8.a., and asked which law enforcement were the plans shared with in regards to the school floor plans. She was concerned with other cities having access to a data base that did not need it.

MaryAnn May, Chief Fire Official, responded that her office would send the plans for each of the schools to each police chief and fire chief for the entire county in a PDF format.

Ms. Murray stated she understood that parents were requesting the same information. In addition, some schools provide schematics of the classrooms so students know how to get around the buildings.

Ms. Myrick replied that the District was required by law to provide that information to law enforcement agencies but it was exempt from public disclosure and a notice is attached when it is sent out to the law enforcement agencies. She said schools should not be providing that information.

Mrs. Bartleman commented that this was very comprehensive and hoped there was a checks and balance in place, especially at the school-based level. She was also concerned that students had indicated that guards were not always paying attention. She also thanked the schools nurses that were left out of a previous mental health presentation.

Mrs. Brinkworth requested anywhere where the documents mention there were trainings occurring, that they be updated regularly to include the most current information and that scenarios were updated as well. She also said that it was important for everyone involved to read the documents to know the job responsibilities.

Adjournment This meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m. through a motion by Ms. Korn, seconded by Mrs. Bartleman.

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