

Approved in Open Board Meeting September 17, 2019

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

August 1, 2019
Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
(First Budget Public Hearing)

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, met in special session at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative Center, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Present were: School Board Members Heather Brinkworth, Chair; Donna P. Korn, Vice Chair; Lori Alhadeff (absent); Robin Bartleman; Patricia Good; Laurie Rich Levinson; Ann Murray; Nora Rupert; Dr. Rosalind Osgood; Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools; and Barbara J. Myrick, Esq. (absent)

(The Chief of Staff sat on the dais until the Superintendent arrived. Marylin Batista, Deputy General Counsel, assumed the seat of the General Counsel.)

Call to Order The Chair called the meeting to order and 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. Rupert and carried, the Agenda was approved and declared closed. Mrs. Alhadeff and Mrs. Rich Levinson were absent for the vote. (7-0 vote)

Purpose of Meeting For the School Board of Broward County, Florida to act on the proposed Millage Levy and Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, and any other items the Board deemed necessary.

Introduction by Chair

Welcoming the audience to the first public hearing on the Broward County School District's 2019-2020 budget, the Chair indicated that the purpose of this hearing was to keep the public and Board fully informed as to whether the District was using sound policies and practices that met the needs of students and warranted public confidence in the District's operations. The law requires the public to be given the opportunity to provide input pertaining to the millage rates and budget. The Chair stated this was the first of two public hearings for the millage rates and budget.

Explaining the procedure to be followed for this hearing, the Chair stated that at the end of the presentation speakers would be called to the floor and would be given three minutes to address the Board.

The Chair thanked the audience for their support of Broward County Public Schools and for attending this meeting.

Statement by The Chief of Staff

The Chief of Staff provided opening remarks and stated he was pleased to submit the 2019-2020 District budget for the Board's consideration and tentative adoption.

He commented that the direction from the Board had been very clear to balance the budget, cut costs at the District level, find efficiencies, and find resources to improve compensation for Instructional and Support employees.

He shared the 2019-2020 proposed budget illustrated savings opportunities and funding reductions of over \$25 million. The focus of these savings and reductions would ensure that teachers' compensation, the safety of students and staff, and important programs, such as mental health, were at the forefront as it related to the District's spending priorities.

Due to historically low funding increases from the state legislature, he said the Board unanimously supported asking the community to consider a referendum which would levy a half mill to fund additional compensation for school-related staff; increase school safety staff in both traditional and Charter schools with over 900 FTE; and increase funding for essential programs such as mental health. The community and taxpayers supported the referendum in a very meaningful way and, as a result, this budget reflected additional revenue in the amount of \$96 million to fund these priorities.

The Chief of Staff emphasized school safety was prioritized in the 2019-2020 school year, with allocations in the General Fund for additional security staff and allocations in the Capital Fund for additional hardening of buildings, including camera surveillance systems; thereby, this budget added over 500 additional safety staff to the District's traditional schools.

He stated, with a strategic focus on ensuring high-quality learning experiences for students, schools were making great progress, such as student's academic achievements continued to rise across many areas; the graduation rate was the highest in seven years; and advanced placement pass rates were the highest in a decade. He added that the District had proven its resilience was strong and its commitment to provide students with a world-class education in safe, secure, learning environments was unwavering.

In closing, the Chief of Staff said this was the first of two budget hearings and, as the fiscal year was closed out, the District would continue to look for opportunities to set aside dollars to improve teachers' compensation. He concluded by asking staff to provide a brief presentation of additional budget details and answer any questions from the Board.

Judith Marte, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview through a PowerPoint slide presentation of the 2019-2020 District budget.

Superintendent's Recommendations

1. Resolution Adopting Tentative Millage Rates (Adopted as Amended)

Motion was made by Mrs. Rupert, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to adopt Resolution #20-01, approving the tentative millage rates for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

It was recommended that the School Board adopt Resolution #20-01, approving the tentative millage rates for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Adoption of the millage rates would generate \$1,404,807,229.

Agenda Items 1 and 2 were motioned and discussed concurrently.

The Chair received audience input on these items.

Discussion from the Board included, but was not limited to the number of School Resource Officers (SROs) at schools; how the District and municipalities were paying for them; what the money from the Referendum was going towards; money budgeted for guardians, mental health, nurses/social workers/guidance counselors; Charter schools meeting requirements by law; food services; expenditures under School Safety; more money and support for Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL) and Latinos in Action; and that the surplus should go toward raises and affordable health insurance for employees.

Ms. Marte indicated there was an error in the year in Item 1 that needed to be changed and that the items had to be voted on separately.

Motion to Separate (Carried)

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Ms. Korn and carried, to separate the two items. Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

Motion to Amend (Carried)

Motion was made by Mrs. Bartleman, seconded by Mrs. Rupert and carried, to amend Resolution #20-01, second WHEREAS to read, "... for the fiscal year 2019-2020 in the amounts of...." Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

A vote was taken on the Motion to Amend.

A vote was taken on Item 1 as amended.

A vote was taken on Item 2.

2. Resolution Adopting Tentative Budget (Adopted)

Motion was made by Mrs. Rupert, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to adopt Resolution #20-02, approving the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

Chapters 200 and 1011 of the Florida Statutes require that school districts hold a public hearing to adopt a tentative budget and proposed millage rates not less than 2 days nor more than 5 days after advertising a summary of the tentative budget and the proposed millage rates in the newspaper.

Below is the recapitulation of the 2019-2020 Budget Resolution #20-02:

<u>Fund Title</u>	
General Fund	\$2,611,536,856
Special Revenue - Food Service	166,457,322
Special Revenue	221,534,999
Debt Service	414,806,050
Capital Projects	1,274,930,977
Internal Services	1,199,400
Sub-Total	<u>\$4,690,465,604</u>
Less Transfers Out	(510,325,423)
Total All Funds	<u><u>\$4,180,140,181</u></u>

The total annual budget for all funds was \$4,180,140,181, excluding Transfers Out.

Agenda Items 1 and 2 were motion and discussed concurrently.

The Chair received audience input on these items.

Motion to Separate

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Ms. Korn and carried, to separate the two items. Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

Motion to Amend (Carried)

Motion was made by Mrs. Bartleman, seconded by Mrs. Rupert and carried, to amend Item 1, Resolution #20-01, second WHEREAS to read, "... for the fiscal year 2019-2020 in the amounts of...." Mrs. Alhadeff was absent. (8-0 vote)

A vote was taken on the Motion to Amend.

A vote was taken on Item 1 as amended.

A vote was taken on Item 2.

Adjournment This meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

/dvn