



Parent / Community Involvement Task Force (PCITF)

Meeting Notes

McFatter Technical College / Chef Table Room (602)

April 9, 2018 / 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: Due to the lack of a quorum when the meeting was called to order, a presentation and discussion occurred...not a meeting with official voting.

April 9, 2018

Present: Mary Fertig (Chair), Debbie Aleman, Natalie Beasley, Janet Bravo, Andrea Cavanagh, Melanie Hemphill, Sheri Johnson, Lew Naylor, Laurie Rich Levinson

Guests: Ernesto Carlos De La Hoz (Public Information Office, Superintendent's Screening Committee)

- **Call to Order**

Ms. Fertig called the meeting to order.

- **Welcome and Introductions**

The Task Force welcomed guest speaker Mr. De La Hoz.

- **The Superintendent's Screening Program**

Ms. Fertig summarized previous recommendations re: facilitating the vetting of incoming partners.

Mr. De La Hoz showed a PowerPoint presentation on his program, covering these topics:

- The who, what, and how of the program

- The process of designated District departments approving proposals
- Types of requests received: activities/programs, donations, filming/media, flyers, funding, contests (in-school or out of school), curriculum/publications, before and after school child care, grants, scholarships and post-secondary opportunities, tutoring, speaking, and use of school facility
- On-line application

Mr. Naylor stated the community often has difficulty getting into the schools.

Mr. De La Hoz said the Partners in Education (PIE) program reaches out to understand the school's needs and then make the connection with the potential community partner. Schools are free to make connections with the communities and business partners – they do not need to wait for the Superintendent's Screening Program to approve.

Ms. Fertig inquired: if the Deerfield Beach innovation zone finds a partner (local business), what is the next step in the process? Per Mr. de La Hoz: the school should connect directly with that business.

Mr. De La Hoz also advised that Charles Webster, the District's Coordinator of Governmental Affairs, can help with the connection to municipalities.

Mr. Naylor suggested if a school principal does not want to partner with a particular business, that business may be a match for a different school. Ms. Beasley added the final decision should be with the principal; a forced partnership will not work.

Ms. Fertig indicated principals – due to the large amount of emails they receive – may not see or notice emails from a local business and recommended other ways to connect.

Ms. Rich Levinson stated some non-profit organizations are seeking general approval – not school by school. Mr. De La Hoz replied the appropriate District department should be made aware of such cases and respond within five (5) business days -- to approve or deny the request.

Mr. De La Hoz said the Superintendent's Screening Program developed an on-line application to help expedite the process of vetting schools.

Mr. Naylor requested a list of approved partners. Per Mr. De La Hoz, such a list is being compiled, to be posted on InSITE for teachers and administrators.

Ms. Rich Levinson said if partnerships were vetted under the same umbrella, it would prevent duplicated efforts where the school and District ask the same partner for services.

Ms. Fertig stated the Deerfield zone will approach businesses to partner with this summer.

Ms. Beasley inquired if a resource webpage listing non-profit vendors (shown by Wanda Robinson at a previous meeting) is still available on-line.

Mr. De La Hoz stated organizations sending their staff members into schools to work with children must first complete the volunteer screening process.

Mr. Naylor asked for Mr. De La Hoz's suggestions as the Task Force prepares to seek community partners (including non-profits, municipalities, and businesses) through the innovation zone. The reply: go ahead and start. Ask Charles Webster for help with the municipalities, and inform the PIE program of your goal.

Ms. Beasley requested PIE speak to the Task Force on their merger with the Broward Education Foundation (BEF), and Todd Sussman agreed to reach out to Shea Ciriago, Executive Director of BEF, to invite them to the next Task Force meeting. *Update:* the invitation has been sent. Mr. Sussman will keep the members posted.

Ms. Fertig recommending holding a Business Forum in the fall.

- **Innovation Zone Support Update and Planning**

Ms. Fertig recommended doing a needs assessment for the zones.

Ms. Johnson inquired if principals have stated what their schools' needs are.

Ms. Beasley added we can help schools cultivate relationships with community partners based on their needs.

Mr. Naylor recommended seeking help from the cadre directors. They have an overview of the schools' needs. Ms. Johnson said the principals should be the driving force in this endeavor; they are closer to the families.

Ms. Rich Levinson suggested inviting businesses and non-profits to the same event.

Ms. Fertig stated we should show potential partners how children are benefitting from current community partnerships, and Ms. Rich Levinson will research this.

Three agreed-upon actions:

- Hold a community partner/business and & non-profit forum
- Action: Visit the chamber of commerce (an outing) to discuss initiatives
- Action: Send Task Force members (in pairs) to visit school principals and determine the schools' needs

Mr. Naylor suggested innovation zone principals start a Twitter initiative to push messages out. Ms. Rich Levinson added the most active principal on Twitter can tweet announcements.

Mr. Naylor distributed a draft summary of surveys completed by those who participated in the Secondary Schools Forum (November 1, 2017) and a sample survey form. These surveys were intended to assist in measuring District progress on the PCITF recommendations, brought to the Board in 2012.

- **New Business**

Some members requested holding our regular meetings on the third Monday of each month, as several have previous school-related commitments on the first Monday.

It was requested we move the scheduled May 7 regular meeting to May 21. *Update:* Mr. Sussman reached out to McFatter and secured the location for May 21.

We need to set a new date for the Parent Resource Town Hall (Conference), postponed from March 10, 2018 due to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School incident.

- **Future Meeting Dates**

Monday, May 21, 2018	Regular Task Force Meeting	6:00 p.m.
	McFatter, Chef Table Room 602	

Monday, June 4, 2018	Regular Task Force Meeting	6:00 p.m.
	McFatter, Chef Table Room 602	

- **Adjournment**

Ms. Fertig adjourned the meeting.