

**The School Board of Broward County, Florida  
Central Region Advisory Council – General Meeting  
Indian Ridge Middle School  
October 19, 2022 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Minutes**

*Chair - Dee Defoe*

*Vice Chair - Pamela Taylor*

*Recording Secretary - Brie-Anne Pendlebury*

*Corresponding Secretary - Dania Previl*

**Call to order: 6:30 p.m.**

- Welcome and Meeting Etiquette (raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged) Please be sure to sign in for your school or as a guest.
- Approve September 15<sup>th</sup> Minutes: Motion to approve Ms. Granoff seconded by Ms. Davis-Patterson.

***New Business/Guest Speakers***

Sharon Forde-Marshall LMHC, Supervisor Family Counseling Program Student Services,  
Sharon.Forde-Marshall@browardschools.com (754) 321.1588

Tonia Summers, Suicide Prevention Specialist,  
Antoinette.Summers@browardschools.com (754) 321-3421

There are currently 58 family therapists within the district that are distributed by zones. They are located at the high schools. This program offers free confidential sessions, up to 12 sessions. Most therapists are trained in trauma therapy and can offer teletherapy and services in multiple languages. There are also evening appointments available. This therapy can be individual, sibling, or for the family. Appointments can be made at 754-321-1590.

The TALK app is right on students' Clever page for students in grades K-12 to request to speak to a mental health professional or report abuse. There have been over 800 mental health requests. There have been over 230 child abuse requests with 50 that were routed to the child abuse hotline.

The School Social Work Program is made up of master's level mental health professionals who are state certified or licensed. They intervene to remove barriers to social, emotional, and academic success. They offer many services including: mental health counseling, crisis support and intervention, truancy, and non-attendance. Some special supports include substance abuse, expulsion, teen parent services, and abeyance case managers. Contact the main line at 754-321-1618.

School Psychologists assess student emotional and behavioral needs, assess diverse learning needs, assist in navigating the special education and 504 services, provide diagnostic screening, offer individual and group counseling, and offer crisis response and support. This office can be reached at 754-321-3440.

School counselors provide individual and group counseling, classroom lessons, implement school-wide and community initiatives, social-emotional learning, and recovery services. They are located at each school. The main line to the department is 754-321-1675.

SEDNET is a multi-agency network for students with emotional/behavioral disorders. They create and facilitate a network of stakeholders who are committed to assisting students with at-risk emotional and/or behavioral disabilities. The main line for SEDNET is 754-321-3421.

Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States (number 9 cause), the second leading cause of death in children ages 10-14 and the third leading cause of death for children ages 15-24. There is one suicide death every 11 minutes. Suicide risk factors include mental health problems, alcohol/substance abuse, family history of suicide, poor academics, family dysfunction, bullying, and self-injury. Warning signs that should be noticed are suicide notes, threats/suicidal statements, end of life planning, changes in physical habits and appearance, sudden personality changes, hopelessness, and loss of interest in pleasurable activities. Protective factors can reduce the risk of suicide: strong family bonds, positive friendships, cultural/religious beliefs, feeling close to at least one adult, school connectedness, healthy problem solving and coping skills, and access to services and resources.

Stress relievers can be journaling drawing setting realistic goals, making and receiving affirmations. It is essential that caregivers also engage in self-care to support their children.

#### Resources:

Mobile Response Team-Henderson Behavioral Health: 954-463-0911

211 Broward: Dial 211

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Dial 988

The Trevor Line: 1-866-4-U-TREVOR or 1-866-488-7386

Crisis Text Line: Text FL to 741741

#### ***Suggestions include:***

Better location and more noticeable App tile on Clever

Study hall direct instruction regarding resources

More signage: There are currently 2 posters in high schools with over 2,000 students

Need Help? With QR codes could be posted in more locations throughout schools, such as in the cafeteria

Parent Links that advertise the Talk App

Student feedback shared that scripted videos are ineffective in providing mental health information and training. They feel that they would be better served by personal face to face trainings that are conversations and include relationship building.

It would be recommended that the district make improvements to the current status district wide, rather than putting the onus on the schools and school staff.

The "Listen, it Only Takes a Moment" program was much better, but the district abandoned it despite positive feedback. Maximizing peer counseling is recommended. Currently, there is not a set curriculum or recommendation for the program.

It also is suggested that the district send out informational Parent Links that share the mental health resources. There is currently no communication from the district regarding the TALK app or the other resources discussed this evening.

## **Updates**

### ***Policy Review Input Needed***

The policies are listed on the website. Dr. Wanza will be posting workshops to discuss.

### ***2023-24 Calendar Options***

There are three calendar options. There was a survey link sent out, however, the calendars were not attached. There seem to be several errors and the calendars do not match the survey provided. We will ask Mr. Chisem to attend the next meeting. These were not looped through the advisories. There are many questions and concerns expressed by parents this evening.

**Policy 1070 which was 1.7 and New/Improved School Websites**

The policy has passed and is available on the Central Region websites. Now the chairs are able to hold the position for up to 4 years with an additional year if no one else wants the position.

Please check the school calendars on your school websites to see if there is information posted. Please provided feedback to let us know.

**Kristine Cartagena, Transportation Sub-committee**

Over 12,000 families have registered and are using the app resulting in a decrease call volume to the call desk. It is currently FTE week for busses as well. It is critical that bus riders ride at least once within the ten-day period. If they do not ride, they will be deactivated. There is a direct school line available to school bus liaisons. It can be obtained by principals from the Region Superintendent.

The department is still actively recruiting drivers. They are also promoting the "See Something, Say Something" within the busses. A decal is being posted in the busses as a pilot to support this initiative. The overall feedback from parents regarding "Here Comes the Bus" has been very positive.

**Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh, Boundary Sub-committee and Facilities, [nlynch-walsh@att.net](mailto:nlynch-walsh@att.net)**

The boundary proposal deadline is the end of October. More updates will be after the close out of the proposal period.

Facilities still have a Facilities Chief vacancy. The job description is being revised to reflect the scope and challenges of the job. The current applicant is not a match for the need of the role. There is a TEAMS task force meeting tomorrow evening.

Please see the Teams link and agenda topics for tomorrow night's Subcommittee meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.:

Facilities Chief Job Description - update from 10/18/22 Special Meeting

10/25/22 Workshop and Special Meeting Topics

Capital Program Reports - July 2022 (Review)

OAC Subcontractors - payment issues

Coral Glades HS Auditorium

Fairway ES Scope Validation Report

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Meeting ID: 267 171 502 410

Passcode: a4qJur

Download Teams | Join on the web

Or call in (audio only)

+1 754-216-1864,,774606707#

**5 min w/questions - Farrah Wilson, Assistant Director, Central Regional Superintendents Office**  
**[farrah.wilson@browardschools.com](mailto:farrah.wilson@browardschools.com) (754) 321 - 3000**

Report cards are no longer printed. They are available via Virtual Counselor.

Motion to extend the meeting 15 minutes: Motion by Dee Defoe, seconded by Kristine Cartagena.

**Sunshine Law and Ethics Training** (10 minutes for returning members; 45 minutes for new members):

<https://www.browardschools.com/Page/41329>

**BCPS Organizational Structure:** <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/49058>

**Here Comes the Bus:** <https://www.browardschools.com/herecomesthebus>

**Open Discussion:**

There was a concern regarding equity within home schools. There are families that are falsifying information to attend certain schools. Before prosecuting parents, some investigation should be done to address the root problem.

There is a question regarding one to one laptops assigned to students. This will be researched.

**Dates to Remember:**

DAC General Meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 6:30 p.m

Location: KCW Boardroom Website: Browarddistrictadvisory.ch2v.com

Central Advisory November 17, 2022, at 9:45 a.m.

Location: Indian Ridge Middle School

**Sign-up to receive emails: [centralareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com](http://centralareaadvisorycouncil.ch2v.com)**

**General email: [CentralAreaAdvisoryCouncil@ch2v.com](mailto:CentralAreaAdvisoryCouncil@ch2v.com)**

**Chair email: [CAAC.Chair@gmail.com](mailto:CAAC.Chair@gmail.com)**

**Adjourn: 8:40 p.m.**