

The School Board of Broward County, Florida
Central Area Advisory Council - General Meeting
Indian Ridge Middle School
April 17, 2025 9:45 - 11:45 am
Draft Minutes

Call to order at 9:52 am

- Welcome and Meeting Etiquette
 - inform Chair prior to recording meeting to allow those that do not want to be recorded to move from the view of the camera
 - questions will be taken at the end of the presentation
 - raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged
- Membership Explanations: DAC representatives must attend monthly DAC meetings to maintain their seat. After 3 absences, the seat is vacated.
- Approve November, December, January, February and March Minutes
 - Quorum not established, moved approval to May meeting. No changes to minutes were noted.
 - Need a reminder for May meeting so we have quorum for Election and Minutes

School Spotlight by I-Zone:

Boyd Anderson - Park Lakes has Parental Involvement Showcase and starting a Plant + Environment program throughout the zone.

Fort Lauderdale - Zone held virtual mental health training for families. Sunrise is anticipating an A rating. Meet the masters, volunteer appreciation, and staff appreciation.

Dillard - William Dandy Middle School - new partnership with Greenspace Marder for Prelaw Program. World Language Comp student success. "Think before you post" Real Men Read initiative. Parkway Middle will perform Sponge Bob the Musical. Broward Estates Elementary Community Partnership Meetings are ongoing.

Nova - Nova HS has 8 students that receive QuestBridge Scholarship. Ready Tech Go - provide technology support resources to families. HS went to We the People Competition, MS upcoming.

Piper - Focused on testing. Each school is celebrating school volunteers who foster academic excellence and love of learning - includes student performances of strong, poems, etc.

Plantation - Prom and Graduation upcoming. Congressional National App Challenge winner. Central Park Special Olympics, Speech and Debate achievement, + Relay for Life. Peters Drama Club has a play on April 30.

South Plantation - SPSHS - 13th international trip to Ireland and England. Meadowbrook - celebrating Autism awareness month. Peters invited Tropical over for DHHP collaboration for 3-4 year olds.

Stranahan - hosting zone meeting on May 13 at 10:00 at Croissant Park. Stranahan Basketball Boys

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State Champs! New River Middle School - Environmental Program presented and received donation for their efforts. North Fork hosting career day today. Riverland hosting FAST information session on April 23.

Western - preparing to test. Track season is in full swing.

New Business/Guest Speakers:

Opal Bennett and Sandra Wilches IEP and 504 Plans

Opal Bennett - Due Process Coordinator for ESE Office

IDEA - Federal law that governs what ESE Office does for students. Provides guidelines for early interventions and services. IDEA covers birth through age 21.

BEESS - State level. The Bureau of Exception Education and Student Services administers programs. Parents have a right to dispute resolution through the state if there is a disagreement with a district ese determination.

FDLRS - 4 functions: Child Find, Parent Services, HR Development and Technology. Funding also supports teacher training to increase skill in the area of exceptional student education.

Process - A team of people makes decisions about the child's needs and ESE service. The child's parents are part of this team. This process is based on the requirements of the individuals with Disability Education Act.

ESE services may include technology devices, therapy, special transportation, or other supports at no charge.

The department provides curriculum support, related services support, professional development, compliance support, parent support, and parent trainings.

Office Phone: (754) 321-3440

Comments:

Concerns

- Benadryl/EpiPen: There are IEP accommodations for children who are old enough to carry their medicine and self-administer.
- Diabetes monitoring - determinations are made individually. Concerns about speed in obtaining the exception and the District being particular about method of monitoring. District concerned about children texting versus monitoring. Parents are concerned about District priorities versus student health for a life-threatening condition.
- Children with mental impairments such as depression, anxiety, etc. 504 is a lower threshold.
- Concerns about timeline. 504 Office is supposed to respond within 30 calendar days of concern identified. And an evaluation must occur within 60 days.

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Section 504 - Sandra Wilches, District 504 Specialist

The Department is governed by Section 504 and ADA

The Office for Civil Rights enforces these laws. Part of the Dept of Education. Receives parent complaints, provides support to the school district, and provides technical assistance to parents and advocates.

-504 evaluation indicated for disability, temporary impairment, health concern, suspect disability due to learning challenges and lack of response to interventions.

-Process - Raise concern from parent/teacher/staff, discussion with parents, consent for 504 evaluation. At the 504 meeting, team may determine that interventions are necessary and/or may require an ESE evaluation. Interventions can occur concurrently with a 504 plan and ESE evaluation.

-Section 504 evaluation is different than ESE evaluation. 504 evaluation is not a full and individual evaluation as required by IDEA.

-Evaluation data examples: medical reports, diagnosis, private evaluation, teacher observations, rating scales, graphed process monitoring data, and school records (attendance, academics, behavior)

-Section 504 Eligibility Criteria - student must have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity. Diagnosis alone is insufficient to establish eligibility.

-Possible 504 Determination:

1. Not 504 Eligible
2. 504 Eligible with a Plan.
3. 504 Eligible with No Plan (no support or accommodations)

Annual Reviews can change determination or details of Plan.

Section 504 Department

(754) 321-3440

Bcps_section504@browardschools.com

The Alphabet Soup - IDEA

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children.

ed.gov/idea



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What do I do if I think a student may need a 504 evaluation?

A parent, teacher, or other staff member may raise a concern about a student's need for help.

The school-based team will meet with the parent to discuss all relevant information about the student.

At the meeting, the team will determine if more information is needed. This could result in a consent for a 504 evaluation.

However, the team could determine that the student needs interventions and/or may require an ESE evaluation.

Interventions can occur concurrently with a Section 504 evaluation and/or an ESE evaluation.



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Section 504 Eligibility Criteria

Section 504 Eligibility is established when the 504 Team utilizes evaluation data to determine that a student has a physical or mental impairment **that substantially limits one or more major life activity.**

Physical Impairment – Medical conditions

Mental Impairments – Psychological/Learning/Behavior

A diagnosis alone is insufficient to establish eligibility under Section 504.



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What is included in a Section 504 Plan?

- The educational impact of the identified disability(ies)
- Accommodations and services necessary to facilitate access to education and any other school activities in the least restrictive environment
- Services and accommodations based on information and data used in the evaluation and eligibility determination process
- How, where, and by whom the services and accommodations will be provided
- Self-management of health conditions in the school setting or school sponsored activities, if applicable



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Updates:

Midge Royer, Ebonni Crispin and Cindy McCord, Nominating Committee

Still asking for nominations. Only three nominations have been received.

Brooke Bordy, Superintendent Task Force

The Task Force has been tumultuous with little accomplished, however there are several upcoming dates to review Policy 1070, collect input from advisory chairs, and make recommendations.

Dee Defoe, CAAC Chair Report

Recognized Dr. Holness as a guest in the audience.

Calendar Committee - working on calendar for the '26-'27 and '27-'28 years. Will be using surveys to garner feedback from community.

Broward Estates Early Learning Center - doors open in August with 15 babies already registered.

Community Center in progress and will have significant resources. May 17th Family Fun, sponsored by CSC.

Policy 1164 - group came to consensus for keeping 1164 to ensure there is meaningful two-way communication with the board and stakeholders.

School Improvement Quarter 4 Training recap: It was a lot of information mostly geared to SAF. It was challenging to attend the day meetings and requested an evening meeting in the future for SAF chairs to be able to attend.

Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh, Audit, Facilities Task Force and District Advisory Reports

DAC - summary of Student-centered framework with standards of services, timely grading, standardized grading weights, etc. Superintendent attended the last meeting and suggested bulk of issues would be followed up on or should be discussed at the school level.

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Facilities - still struggling with massive backlog of work orders. Wanda Paul will attend FTF for the first time on May 1.

Audit - concerns about not reconciling physical inventory

Dr. Toomer, Superintendent Report

Dr. Augustine - focused on testing. Updates regarding SAF budgets and Title I budgets. Graduation season upcoming.

Announcements:

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

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

Volunteer Application

[Get Involved with BCPS / Volunteer Services \(browardschools.com\)](#)

Dates to Remember:

DAC General Meeting on May 14, 2025 at 6:15 pm

Website: Browarddistrictadvisory.ch2v.com

Central Advisory General Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 9:45 am

Location: Indian Ridge Middle School Media Center

Adjourn:

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Steering Meeting

May Meeting proposed agenda

Must approve all minutes that are outstanding

Elections

We will need to decide if we should continue with meetings in the AM/PM.

Send an invitation to the Boys and Girls Club to speak about affordable summer options for the youth and teens.

Awards ceremony

Superintendent Task Force updates

We need to ensure we have quorum. The Executive Board will reach out to SAF chairs to remind them of the upcoming meeting.

We need to post the graduation schedule on the website once it's received from Central office.