

**Everglades High School
School Advisory Forum (SAF)
Minutes
General Meeting
November 28, 2023, 2023 – 3:00 PM**

Call to Order

Approval of October 2023 Minutes

Guest Speakers -- Xello

Nancy Whittaker PhD, College, Career & Life Readiness Specialist from the School Counseling Department

Xello will be replacing Naviance as the new college and career planning app for all Broward County schools.

Broward County Public Schools is providing Xello for all district students in grades 6-12 to help with college and career planning. This system is designed to inform students, parents, and schools with: Researching careers, colleges, and majors. Finding local and national scholarships and enrichment.

Xello is a Career and College Readiness program. Xello gives students the opportunity to take assessments, complete lessons and activities that match them to career and college opportunities.

The Broward County Public Schools District Advisory Council (DAC) Updates

Debbie Espinoza, a member of DAC, was arrested on 10/17/2023 at the Broward County School Board meeting. She was escorted out of the meeting after a verbal exchange over the sexual education curriculum , with a member of the public. Ms. Espinoza was escorted out the room, in handcuffs, by detective John Mastrianni. It is alleged that detective Mastrianni said Ms. Espinoza “lunged her body” at him. She was charged with Battery on a law enforcement officer, and disruption of school board meeting. The Sex Ed curriculum was eventually adopted by a 5-4 board vote and submitted to the state to approve changes.

Motion 1 DAC-111323-01

DAC move that the Broward County School Board hold public quarterly meetings with two-way dialogue with advisory chairs to discuss systemic issues in the District.

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion 2 DAC-111323-02

DAC move that the School Board of Broward County remove Officer John Mastrianni from all contact with BCPS students, staff, parents and volunteers pending the outcome of a review of his actions surrounding the October 17th arrest of Debbie Espinosa. SBBC should also provide for all SIU officers with immediate effect:

1. Training/retraining in de-escalation techniques
2. Training/retraining in the code of professional conduct
3. Body cameras to be worn and activated in the course of all public facing duties

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion 3 DAC-111323-03

DAC move that the District propose a raise for teachers that is in alignment with cost of living increases and raises in surrounding Districts. We further move that the current offering of 0% be rescinded and the proposal of a 9% raise, inclusive of the 1.7% from the state be implemented.

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion 4 DAC-111323-04

The Broward County Public Schools District Advisory Council, formally request the School Board to appoint an independent outside investigator to thoroughly examine the events surrounding the arrest of Debbie Espinoza on October 17th. This investigation should encompass witness interviews, a comprehensive review of training protocols, existing policies, relevant state statutes, and the execution of these policies to ensure transparency and accountability within Broward County Public Schools. These findings are to be made public.

The motion passes 32 in favor, 1 opposed.

ADJOURN

Minutes submitted by Maxine Linton, SAF Chair