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

## Robert W. Runcie Superintendent of Schools

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### School Board Workshop January 24, 2017

#### **Second School Board Workshop on School Boundaries**

Staff came before the Board to discuss the 2017-2018 School Boundary Process. The discussion began by reviewing the Community Boundary Proposals. Staff stated with the Community Proposal C7, which represented Stoneman Douglas and Coral Glades High Schools. The recommendation was to move 188 students that were assigned to Stoneman Douglas and assign them to Coral Glades to alleviate some over-enrollment at Stoneman Douglas. The School Boundary Committee believed this was an appropriate recommendation.

The next proposal discussed was Community Proposal C11, which would move a section of students from the City of North Lauderdale into the boundaries of Silver Lakes Middle. Staff shared the proposal would eliminate boundaries that run through communities and would allow more students to walk to school. This proposal would also align with the municipal boundary. The School Boundary Committee agreed on moving forward with this proposal to be brought to the Board. There was extensive discussion regarding the boundary change and how it would affect the students when it was time for them to enter high school.

Community Proposal C1 and Community Proposal 12 for Millennium Middle to become a 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Collegiate Academy was discussed concurrently. The two (2) proposals were almost identical; the only difference would be the priority areas. Community Proposal C1 gave students living in the City of Tamarac priority seats to Millennium Middle, whereas Community Proposal C12 would eliminate the City of Tamarac priority and aligned with Millennium middle boundary.

A concern was expressed from several Board Members regarding the grades and collegiate program being added to Millennium Middle that the Board had not been made aware of prior to the Board Workshop. One of the major concerns conveyed by the Board was how this change would affect the enrollment at high schools in the neighboring communities and throughout the District. Staff explained there were currently over 400 reassigned students attending Millennium Middle. Another concern was the fact that the school was going to have a priority selection process when that was not the process used at similar grade level schools in the County.

Staff shared that this was the time to bring ideas to the Board and they would then meet with the Superintendent and create the Superintendent recommendations. Staff reiterated this was a proposal to expand the 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to a 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade school and it was a redesign of a school, not a boundary change. Staff stated when running parallel processes in the

future they would need to clearly define what was a boundary change and what was a school design change before bringing the Boundary Proposals to the Board.

There was in-depth discussion on the proposals recommended by the School Boundary Committee regarding the City of Parkland elementary schools. Staff shared the results of the votes for each elementary school proposal brought forward for the schools affected, which were Heron Heights, Park Trails, and Riverglades Elementary. Community Proposal C8 as amended was the proposal with the most votes from the Committee. This proposal would put a section of students that were within walking distance to Park Trails and Heron Heights on a bus to Riverglades Elementary.

The next steps included the Superintendent's final recommendations on School Boundaries to be submitted by the end of January. The First School Boundary Public Hearing would be held on March 1, 2017 and the Second School Boundary Public Hearing would be held on March 22, 2017.

Some concerns of Board Members were: 1) proposal C11 would separate students from their cohorts for high school; and 2) staff not providing prior notice to the Board Members informing them of the 6<sup>th</sup> through 12th program at Millenium Middle School.

#### **Bond Oversight Committee Quarterly Update**

Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) member Laura Reese, from the Florida Government Finance Officers Association, shared feedback from the Committee regarding the staff presentations at the November meeting. The first presentation discussed was the technology program for traditional schools and Charter Schools. The BOC was pleased with the savings made by the Technology department relating to the Information Technology (IT) program, however, the BOC had concerns about utilizing the savings to reduce the student ratio further if there was no funding mechanism for the future.

The next presentation reviewed was the music program and art equipment purchasing updates. Ms. Reese stated the Music and Art department used a similar purchasing process as the Technology department. This process allowed principals to go into an automated system to select the equipment that was best suited for their schools. The consensus from the BOC was that music and art program had improved since the last report, but the concern was the need for replacement funds to be included in the process for future repairs.

Ms. Reese reviewed the updates for the Facilities and Construction department. Internal process improvements had occurred since the last update meeting and the Committee was pleased overall.

Ms. Reese stated that they had created a sub-committee to review the Facilities and Construction reports because different Board Members and Tax Watch members requested different information and the committee wanted to provide staff with a clear view on the data that was provided.

The BOC was satisfied overall and transparency had improved they also felt staff was doing an excellent job of being transparent with stakeholders.

#### <u>Instructional Materials Policies 6.5, 6307, and 6308</u>

Staff shared that all the Board Member recommendations previously made at the prior Board Workshop were incorporated into the three (3) policies.

Materials for the January 24, 2017 workshop presentations are available on eAgenda at <a href="https://webappe.browardschools.com/eagenda/">https://webappe.browardschools.com/eagenda/</a>

You may also go to www.BECON.TV to view the entire discussion.

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