



Website



Facebook!



District Advisory Council
The School Board of Broward County



Questions

General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 4th, 2026, 6:15 pm - 8:45 pm
KCW Boardroom
600 SE 3rd Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Chair – Cynthia Dominique Vice Chair – Dee Defoe Recording Secretary – Michael Pezzicola
Corresponding Secretary – Antoinette Bailey Communications Chair – Brooke Bordy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:26 p.m.** by Chair Cynthia Dominique.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led immediately following the call to order.

Housekeeping & Governance Reminders

Chair Dominique welcomed members and reminded all attendees:

- Attendance is required to remain in good standing
- Members must sign in upon arrival
- Use placards to be recognized for speaking
- Comments should be respectful, concise, and non-redundant
- Governance is guided by Policy 1070, Policy 1.2, DAC Bylaws, Florida Sunshine Law, and Robert’s Rules of Order

Remaining meeting dates were noted: April 8, May 13, and June 10.

Approval of Minutes

February 18, 2026 DAC Meeting Minutes

Initial discussion noted a lack of quorum; however, quorum was later established.

Motion to approve: Linda F.

Seconded by: Mario M.

Motion carried

Board / Committee Business

Nominations Committee Formation

- Chair introduced the need for succession planning and forming a Nominations Committee
 - Volunteers were requested; committee must have an odd number of members
 - **Dee Defoe** agreed to serve as **Chair Pro Tem**
 - Members interested in serving were instructed to contact Ms. Defoe
-

District Updates

Schools Transformation Office (STO) Update – Dr. Veda Hudge

Key updates included:

- **Reading Initiative (Feb 26):**
 - Over 40,000 books distributed to students
 - Acknowledgement of DAC participation
 - **Academic Progress:**
 - Schools preparing targeted interventions based on student needs
 - Continued focus on maintaining momentum following PM2 results
 - **Community Resource – “Jay’s Closet”:**
 - Provides free essentials including clothing, food, diapers, and baby supplies
 - Available by appointment through Broward Early Learning & Resource Center
 - Members requested additional details and distribution information
 - **“Real Men Read” Event (April 10):**
 - Literacy initiative with community readers
 - Follow-up requested regarding participating schools and selection process
-

Presentations & Discussion

Attendance & Calendar Joint Presentation

Presenters:

- Chrissa Erickson, District Attendance Coordinator
 - Marissa (Student Services Leadership)
 - David Azzarito, Calendar Committee
-

Attendance Overview

- Introduction of district campaign: “**Every Day Counts**”
- Clarification of key metrics:
 - **Average Daily Attendance (ADA)**
 - **Chronic Absenteeism** (missing 10% or more of school days, regardless of reason)

Key Data Points:

- District ADA (K–12): ~92.56%
- Significant attendance declines observed:
 - Early release days (~80%)
 - Pre-holiday days (~79–85%)
 - Weather events (~82%)

Insights:

- Even 90% attendance equates to ~18 missed days
 - Attendance challenges are most pronounced at the high school level (notably seniors)
-

Discussion Highlights – Attendance

Members raised concerns and observations:

- Inconsistencies in attendance policies and enforcement across schools
 - Concerns regarding:
 - Early release days reducing instructional value
 - Conflicting school-level practices (e.g., study hall attendance, sign-out rules)
 - Encouragement in some schools for students to leave early or not attend on certain days
 - Clarification on automated absence notifications:
 - Letters triggered by unexcused absences (5, 10, 15 days)
 - Noted issues with data accuracy and timing of updates
 - Attendance dashboard:
 - Public-facing dashboard in development (not yet live)
 - Will include daily, 5-day, and year-to-date data
-

Policy & Culture Concerns

- Debate over **early release days** and their impact on learning and attendance
 - Discussion of “**10-10-10 rule**” (school-level initiative, not district policy)
 - Concerns about inconsistent expectations across schools
-

Perfect Attendance Recognition Discussion

Extensive discussion included:

Concerns Raised:

- Incentivizing students to attend school while sick
- Equity concerns for students missing school due to legitimate reasons
- Emotional impact (e.g., students missing significant life events to maintain perfect attendance)

Counterpoints:

- Recognition is meaningful for some students and families
- May be one of few awards certain students receive

Consensus Direction:

- Further discussion needed
 - Interest in expanding recognition to include **improved or strong attendance**, not just perfect attendance
-

District Response / Action Steps

- Ongoing monthly support sessions with schools
 - Targeted intervention with schools showing highest need
 - Increased parent and community engagement efforts
 - Cross-department collaboration (MTSS, PBIS, Counseling)
-

Calendar Committee Update – David Azzarito

Key points:

- District calendar planning driven by:
 - State requirements (instructional hours)
 - Board direction (semester completion before winter break)
 - Holidays and observances
- Current structure:
 - Earlier August start dates
 - Full Thanksgiving week off
 - Semester completion timing considerations
- Two calendar options will be presented annually for feedback and Board approval

Ongoing Discussion Topics:

- Whether to maintain full Thanksgiving week
 - Timing of semester end relative to winter break
 - Impact of calendar structure on attendance
-

Open Discussion

Additional topics included:

- School-level culture impacting attendance
 - Need for consistent messaging from principals
 - Communication gaps with families
 - Alignment between district policy and school practices
-

Meeting Extension

At **8:45 p.m.**, a motion was made and approved to **extend the meeting by 15 minutes** to allow for continued discussion.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by: Cynthia

Seconded by: Muriel

The meeting adjourned at **9:04 p.m.**

Meeting Reminders

- Next DAC General Meeting: April 8, 2026
 - Additional subcommittee meetings as scheduled
-

Notes

- Minutes incorporate agenda, transcript, and handwritten notes
- Some items summarized for clarity and consistency
- Follow-up items remain outstanding for future meetings

I.

Meeting Documents and Resources:

Student Progression Policy 4000:

https://schoolinfo.browardschools.com/bcpsweb/displaypdf.html?filename=POLICY_4000.pdf

Policy 1070 Redline as of 12/16/2025

https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/3777542/1070_Redline.pdf

School Advisory Forum Policy 6030 (Formerly Policy 1.3)

https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/3455755/Policy_6030_Redline.pdf

Area Advisory Policies 1.21 now Policy 1260

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1p6srzrQiLuJcBVKjVtgEYbVzosX2Yhmb/edit?usp=drive_link&rtopof=true&sd=true

DAC Policy 1.2 now Policy 1200

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UOEciIZNxTMUrcGb9munJbvRqsRWyCKY/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=110069112413619406240&rtpof=true&sd=true

SAC Funds, Carryover, and A+ Funds Information:

<https://browarddistrictadvisory.ch2v.com/>