

**Lee County School Board Student Advisory Committee  
November 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

<b>School</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present Excused Absent N/A – Non Applicable</b>
Bonita Springs High	Walters, Bradley	Absent
Bonita Springs High (alternate)	Stewart Sedona - Alt.	Present
Bonita Springs Middle	Patel, Anjali	Present
Bonita Springs Middle (alternate)	Konicek, Quin - Alt.	Absent
Caloosa Middle	Fearn, Delaineey	Present
Caloosa Middle (alternate)	Gossett, Brooklyn - Alt.	Absent
Cape Coral High	Dougherty, Conor	Absent
Cape Coral High (alternate)	Ortiz, Elisabet - Alt.	Present
Challenger Middle	Brincat, Avery	Present
Challenger Middle (alternate)	Devine, Desirae – Alt.	Present
Cypress Lake High	Ramos, Esabella	Present
Cypress Lake High (alternate)	Hilliard, Toby - Alt.	Present
Cypress Lake Middle	Gibbs, Adriana	Present
Cypress Lake Middle (alternate)	Hoffman, Eden - Alt.	Present
Diplomat Middle	Bernau, Allison	Present
Diplomat Middle (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Dunbar High	Harris, Brianna	Excused
Dunbar High (alternate)	Gonzalez, Laura – Alt.	Present
East Lee County High	Perez, Brandon	Absent
East Lee County High (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Estero High	Behr, Mary	Present
Estero High (alternate)	Cicero, Carlo - Alt.	Present
Fort Myers High	Hall, Reece	Present
Fort Myers High (alternate)	Cavin, Emory - Alt.	Present
Fort Myers Middle	Cass, Juliet	Present
Fort Myers Middle (alternate)	Banks, Amari – Alt.	Absent
Gulf Middle	Hertz, Tobin	Present

Gulf Middle (alternate)	Chang, Hailey – Alt.	Present
Harns Marsh Middle	Robles, Mario	Present
Harns Marsh Middle (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Ida S. Baker High	Rodriguez, Jesus	Present
Ida S. Baker High (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Island Coast High	Evey, Mackenzie	Present
Island Coast High (alternate)	Dovale, Jordan - Alt.	Absent
LAMP – High School Level	Coker, Stefani	Absent
LAMP – High School Level (alternate)	Pena, Britney – Alt.	Present
Lee Virtual Program - High School Level	Ward, Gavin	Present
Lee Virtual Program - High School Level (alternate)	Carlson, Anya – Alt.	Present
Lee Virtual Program - Middle School Level	Balado, David	Excused
Lee Virtual Program - Middle School Level (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Lehigh Acres Middle	Jean-Marie, Chelsea	Absent
Lehigh Acres Middle (alternate)	Elvine, Tramaine	Absent
Lehigh Senior High	Rengifo, Skarlet	Present
Lehigh Senior High (alternate)	Lynom, Anisa - Alt.	Present
Lexington Middle	Acosta, Isabella	Present
Lexington Middle (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Mariner High	Edney, Rylee	Present
Mariner High (alternate)	Baker, Ramonna - Alt.	Absent
Mariner Middle	Henson, Aiden	Present
Mariner Middle (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts	Scribner-Buhl, Camrynn	Absent
North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts (alt.)	Alternate - None	N/A
North Fort Myers High	Bernau, Alecia	Present
North Fort Myers High (alternate)	Avilez, Norah - Alt.	Absent
Oak Hammock Middle	Hooks, Stephanie	Present
Oak Hammock Middle (alternate)	Davis, Katlyn – Alt.	Absent
Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle	Mendez, Luis	Present

Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle (alternate)	Johnson, Imoni - Alt.	Present
Riverdale High	Fhon, Lia	Absent
Riverdale High (alternate)	Barfield, T.J. - Alt.	Absent
South Fort Myers High	Holderfield, Will	Present
South Fort Myers High (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
The Alva School	Ryan, Grace	Present
The Alva School (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
The Sanibel School	Underwood, Nicholas	Absent
The Sanibel School (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
Three Oaks Middle	Kurcker, Cody	Present
Three Oaks Middle (alternate)	Hepner, Autumn - Alt.	Absent
Trafalgar Middle	Ribeiro, Lyla	Absent
Trafalgar Middle (alternate)	Mickey, Skylar – Alt.	Absent
Varsity Lakes Middle	Thompkins, Kiara	Present
Varsity Lakes Middle (alternate)	Navarro, Chela - Alt.	Present
Veterans Park Academy for the Arts	Sanchez, Karla	Present
Veterans Park Academy for the Arts (alternate)	Alternate - None	N/A
<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>		
District 1 - Board Member	Fischer, Mary	Present
District 2 - Board Member	Giovannelli, Melisa	Present
District 3 - Board Member	Patricca, Chris N.	Present
District 4 - Board Member	Teuber, Steven K.	Excused
District 5 - Vice Chairman	LaRiviere, Pamela H.	Present
District 6 - Board Member	Kuckel, Jane E.	Excused
District 7 - Chairman	O'Daniel-Morgan, Cathleen	Excused
<b>STAFF MEMBERS</b>		
Facilitator - Assistant Director, Student Services	Brooks, Lori	Present

### **Welcome and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Ms. Fischer. The Student Representatives introduced themselves.

### **Approval of Minutes (10-8-18 Mtg.)**

Carlo Cicero, Estero High School, made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2018 School Board Student Advisory Committee Meeting. Seconded by Delaney Fearn, Caloosa Middle School. Motion carried.

### **Sales Tax Presentation**

Mr. Paul Cohen, Chair of the Finance Committee, introduced the importance and critical nature of the sales tax. In the event that the sales tax falls through, the committee is reviewing other options for supporting our schools. He stated that he wants to hear from the School Board Student Advisory Committee regarding the sales tax and the District's needs. Students are welcome to participate in the Finance Advisory Committee meetings.

Mr. Scott Hertz, Chairman of the District Advisory Committee, stated this is not a referendum on how the District has managed money in the past; rather, it is how we are going to fund the future. If the vote does not pass, the District will be required to borrow money.

Mrs. Chris Patricca, School Board Member, presented on the sales tax initiative. The presentation included a history of the School District, recent accomplishments, and need for funding; the difference between capital (buildings, safety and security, technology, etc.) and operating (salaries, etc.) funds; capital funding sources: PECO, property taxes, state funds, impact fees; not enough funding to support growth. The District pays approximately \$180,000 in debt service per day (principal and interest). We lack the funding to be on a routine preventative maintenance schedule.

Maintenance needs: 800 buildings; 13M square feet; 3,217 acres; 885 servers; 95 networked sites; 118,000 computers. Capital Fund Gap: \$478 million. Consequences: Portable classrooms, overcrowding, and large class sizes; borrowing more money and increasing debt; falling behind.

Sales tax does not fall solely on property owners. Between 25 and 35% paid by tourists.

Property tax = \$39 million per year

Sales tax = \$59 million per year

Sales tax initiative expires in 10 years and would be up for renewal by voters—puts power in the hands of the voters. Independent oversight committee to oversee the sales tax dollars and reporting back to taxpayers.

Lee County is the only growing county in the State of Florida that has NO additional source of revenue.

The District is cutting costs, over \$3 million in recurring savings annually. Financial audits have been posted on the District website, as well as, budgets, since 2003. The District is also generating revenue, more than \$600,000, through innovative rentals, naming initiatives, selling advertising on our website, etc. While a worthy endeavor, this is the equivalent of the District trying to bake-sale its way out of millions in debt.

## **Election of Officers**

### Nominations:

#### **Chairman:**

Alecia Bernau – NFMHS

Nominated by Elizabet Ortiz; Seconded by Will Holderfield - 13 votes

**Reece Hall\*\***- FMHS

Nominated by Emory Cavin; Second by Delainey Fearn - 14 votes

Motion to close nominations for Chairman - Carlo Cicero; seconded by Delainey Fearn

#### **Vice Chair:**

**Elizabeth Ortiz\*\*** – CCHS

Nominated by Alecia Bernau; Second - Will Holderfield

Motion to close nominations for Vice Chairman - Delainey Fearn, seconded by Reece Hall

#### **Secretary:**

**Stephanie Hooks\*\***- Oak Hammock MS

Nominated by self; seconded by Isabella Acosta

#### **Parliamentarian:**

**Will Holderfield\*\***- SFMHS

Nominated by Alecia Bernau; Seconded by Jesus Rodriguez

Motion to close nominations for Parliamentarian - Karla Sanchez; seconded by Cody Kureker

Reece Hall took over as Chairman and facilitated Individual School Reports.

## **Selection of Student Representative for Board Meeting**

For the 12/11/18 School Board Meeting - Delaney Fearn, Caloosa Middle; Backup - Aiden Henson, Mariner Middle.

## **Individual School Reports**

- Emory Cavin, FMHS, complimented two of his teachers for working to support 1/2¢ sales tax effort.
- Delainey Fearn, CMS, stated the water tastes bad in the water fountains at her school. Ms. Fischer recommended that she may want to let the principal know. Volleyball tryouts have ended and 15 of 73 made the team. First game on Wednesday. NJIS fundraiser, “Candy with a Message.”
- Gavin Ward shared the benefits of Lee Virtual School, including survey results about LVS (235 responses to survey).

- Jesus Rodriguez, IBHS, shared “wall of smiles” project at his school as part of the kindness project. Sensitivity training this week - someone from the District conducted this training. Track team won districts!
- Grace Ryan, The Alva School, shared the Veterans Program they are doing this week. They have an agriculture program and just built a barn.
- Anjali Patel, Bonita Springs Middle, NJHS is working on several community service projects for those in need, including Giving Tree and Thanksgiving meals for needy families.
- Elizabet Ortiz, CCHS, Make a Wish Foundation Believe Program. Honor Society students are helping with this service project.
- Will Holderfield, SFMHS, shared that the Superintendent and CFO visited the school and Will was able to take Dr. Adkins on a tour of the building. A NASCAR driver visited and SFMHS is building a solar-powered racecar. Will received a scholarship today!
- Emory Cavin, FMHS, and Intern for District Communications, offered to make videos of positive events and school activities; please email him with news. [emorygavin@gmail.com](mailto:emorygavin@gmail.com)
- Tobin Hertz, GMS, Community Garden is growing strong and will provide food to the school. Supported by many businesses.
- Isabella Acosta, LMS, shared several service projects in progress at the school, including Toys for Tots.

### **Future Agendas**

The committee ran out of time to discuss future agendas. The Chair requested that members email Mrs. Johnson the top three items on the list the representative would like placed on a future agenda.

### **Good of the Order**

Mrs. LaRiviere suggested as point of order that a standing agenda item be a report out from the student representative that served at the previous School Board meeting(s) between each committee meeting.

Carlo Cicero suggested that school reports be placed directly in front of “good of the order.”

Two students have volunteered with Mr. Cohen to attend Financial Advisory Committee:

- Will Holderfield, SFMHS
- Carlo Cicero, Estero HS

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Carlo Cicero, Estero High School; seconded by Tobin Hertz, GMS; and carried to adjourn the November 5, 2018 School Board Student Advisory Committee Meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Brooks, Recording Secretary