

ESE Advisory Council – General Meeting, December 17, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 6:29pm

Roll Call:

Elected executive board present:

- Jacqui Luscombe (Chair)
- Ana Caroujo (Vice-Chair)
- Jenn Valliere, at large board member
- Sabrina Flores (Recording Secretary)
- Bach Todaro (Corresponding Secretary)

Not present:

- Christina Gaskill, at large board member

School Board appointees present:

- Melissa Ramos (for Rebecca Thompson, District 2)
- Jenn Valliere (for Debra Hixon, Seat 9, at large)
- Danilo Gutierrez (for Sarah Leonardi, District 3)
- Sara Tribaudino (for Lori Alhadeff, District 4)
- Seth Hyman (for Adam Cervera, District 6)
- Michelle West (for Nora Rupert, District 7)
- Anabelle Rivera (for Dr. Allen Zeman, Seat 8, at large)

Not present:

- Maria Torrealba (for Maura McCarthy Bulman, District 1)
- Sheilynn Carrasco (for Dr. Jeff Holness, District 5)
- Sara Tribaudino (for Lori Alhadeff, District 4)

1. Chair's Report

- a. Final decision by school board will be made in January for the "Redefining our Schools" plan
- b. School Board General Counsel – candidates are currently being reviewed for position

2. Special Olympics and Unified Champion Schools: Changing lives and unifying students, using sports as a catalyst for inclusion – Jennifer Valliere, Senior Manager, Sports Training & Competition, Special Olympics Florida (Broward)

- a. Free for athletes and families, and open to athletes with all ability levels

- b. Special Olympics opportunities continue to expand across the district, with increased school participation and collaboration between ESE staff, general education staff, and community partners.
- c. Emphasis was placed on the value of Special Olympics programming in:
 - i. Promoting inclusion and peer engagement between students with and without disabilities
 - ii. Supporting social-emotional development and student confidence
- d. There is a designated staff person assigned to Special Olympics in every participating school. Parents are encouraged to contact that individual for further details. Otherwise, Ms. Valliere can also connect you to local community Special Olympics groups (not affiliated with school).
- e. Positive testimonials were provided by two current individuals who are part of Special Olympics.
- f. Support Special Olympics by purchasing coupon book from Publix

3. Overview of ESE Advisory and current issues

- a. Jacqui shared that ESE Advisory's responsibility includes assisting in developing, identifying, assessing, the educational needs, issues, and priorities for students with exceptionalities.
- b. Customer Service concern was brought up. One issue concerned a child that eloped from a school and walked down the street. Another issue concerned a child that came home with injuries, and the issue needs further investigation.
- c. Appropriate written process and timeline were requested by ESE Advisory.
- d. Parent spoke regarding incident with her child. Child came home and explicitly explained that she had gotten hurt by a teacher.
- e. Protocol for elopement plan was not appropriately followed in second incident. No incident report was provided to parents.
- f. Sabrina Sheib, Director, ESE Curriculum, briefly discussed point of contact and proper protocol, but could not provide where this information can be accessed by parents in a public/accessible forum.
- g. It should be noted that parents can request public record requests of any teacher of BCPS staff at any time by submitting formal requests.
- h. Attendees mentioned concerns regarding hiring freeze, and the feasibility of that especially as we think about substitute teacher coverage.

Close