

CITIZENS' COALITION FOR MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Minutes of September 11, 2023 – In-Person and Zoom Meeting

The September 11, 2023, meeting of the Citizens' Coalition for Miami-Dade Public Schools (M-DCPS) was called to order at noon by Mr. Enrique Escallon.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

In-Person Participants

Mr. Enrique Escallon (Chair)
Ms. Beverly Heller (Vice Chair)
Ms. Aillette Rodriguez-Diaz
Mr. Jose Morales
Ms. Larisa Svechin
Mr. Antonio White

Zoom Participants

Mr. Fabian Basabe
Mr. Adrian Gonzalez
Ms. Patricia Alvarez
Ms. Nelly Ernest
Ms. Stephanie Carroll
Mr. Mike Malvey
Mr. Shlomo Danzinger

MINUTES

Mr. Escallon informed the committee that the minutes for the May 15, 2023, have been approved.

MEMBERSHIP/TREASURER'S REPORT

- Ms. Meriel C. Seymore, Treasurer, was not present but Mr. Enrique Escallon, Chair, shared that there have not been any changes to the finances and to the membership.

COALITION MEMBER RECRUITMENT

- Ms. Heller questioned if the membership pricing had changed.
- Mr. Escallon responds to Ms. Heller informing her of no changes.
- Ms. Svechin mentions the change in the bylaws to the membership pricing to make it more accessible for multiple members to join, making it twenty dollars for two people to join.

BRIEF COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Escallon informs the committee that the FCIAC has not yet met so there is no update at the moment.
- Ms. Heller provides an update to the committee on the PTSA and their Leadership conference they had a few days prior to this meeting.
- Ms. Heller advertised the PTSA's Calendar for the other members.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Aillette Rodriguez-Diaz informed the committee of the Departments community engagement alignment and provided legislative updates.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

- Ms. Rodriguez provides a detailed overview of the Miami Dade County Public Schools 2024 State Legislative Program.
- Ms. Rodriguez opens the discussion to questions from the other members of the Committee.
- Ms. Heller asked what her and the other members of the committee could do to help.
- Ms. Rodriguez mentions to Ms. Heller that she will get together with Ms. Tabitha Fazzino to come up with ways for the Committee to become more involved.
- Ms. Rodriguez instructs the committee on how to access both the State and Federal 2024 Legislative Program through the Intergovernmental Affairs website.
- Ms. Rodriguez provides a detailed overview of the Miami Dade County Public Schools 2024 Federal Legislative Program.
- Mr. White asks the question what is the difference between an immigrant and a refugee?
- Mr. Escallon mentioned an example of an immigrant high school student.
- Ms. Rodriguez informs Mr. White she will get further information and provide a response in the next meeting.
- Mr. White also asked if all of the federal funding is provided to the State and then to the districts or are there some of the funds given to the districts directly.
- Mr. Escallon questioned why in the Federal Legislative Program is Cybersecurity and Technology separate in the priorities.
- Ms. Svechin also suggests the committee to create their own list of priorities and suggested sending a member to Tallahassee since it has not be done in recent years.

FLOOR WAS OPEN FOR QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

UPCOMING MEETING

- The next Citizens' Coalition meeting will be held on Monday, October 16, 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED

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- Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.