



Deirdre A. Benka-Coker, Principal

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SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

and

SCHOOL ADVISORY FORUM

November 5, 2025

6:00 pm

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:00 PM** by Ms. Patterson.

Ms. Patterson also noted that this meeting combined both **SAC** and **SAF**.

2. October SAC Minutes Review

Ms. Patterson stated that **there was no quorum**, so the October minutes **could not be approved**.

Members were asked to review them individually, and approval will be attempted at the December meeting.

No motion was made due to **a lack of a quorum**.

3. SAC Positions for Vote

a. ESOL Parent

Ms. Patterson noted that the **ESOL Parent Representative** seat remains vacant.

Because the candidate was not present **and** a quorum was not met, no vote could occur.

Ms. Patterson encouraged members to recommend qualified ESOL parents for consideration.

No motion was made.

4. Principal's Report

4.1 PBIS Recognition

- Ms. Benka-Coker confirmed that McNicol achieved the **Silver PBIS Award** based on state rubric criteria.

She noted the school is positioned to continue improving behavior and climate.

4.2 Community Forum & School Redefinition Discussion

- Ms. Benka-Coker provided an extensive update on district-wide school redefinition discussions:
- She, Ms. Spence, and several community members attended the **South Broward Community Forum**, where **34 under-enrolled schools** were discussed for possible boundary changes, program redesign, or repurposing.
- Community activists visited McNicol on **October 3rd** for a full-day tour. Sixteen individuals attended throughout the day.
- Those in attendance included:
- Community activist **Mr. Sparks**
- West Park representative **Ms. Bronson**
- School Board Member
- Faith-based and community leaders
- SAC member **Ms. Spence**, recognized for her strong advocacy on McNicol's behalf.
- Ms. Benka-Coker presented Ms. Spence with a **Community Activist Award of Excellence** for her leadership and support.

4.3 School Board Meeting Outcomes

- After the community's strong presence at the school board meeting, **McNicol was removed from the list of possible redefinition/closure candidates.**
- Two days later, the district received a formal letter regarding charter co-location possibilities.
- Ms. Benka-Coker reviewed the letter with the SAC.
- She emphasized the logistical challenges of co-locating charter programs, including the impracticality of sharing building space, science labs, and stairwell-restricted classrooms.
- Ms. Benka-Coker stated the school is continuing to focus on:
 - Strengthening enrollment
 - Improving instructional quality
 - Increasing community engagement
- She deferred an attendance presentation to the next meeting when more parents are present.

5. SESIR Incidents

Report presented by **Ms. Patterson.**

No new SESIR updates for October.

McNicol increased by only **two** incidents from August to September (3 incidents → 5 incidents).

The district increased from **470 to 870** incidents during the same periods.

Ms. Benka-Coker noted significant positive improvements to the school climate.

6. Budget:

a. District Updates

- i. Accountability Funds: \$13,888.43
- ii. School Recognition Funds: \$1,787

Presented by Ms. Patterson and supplemented by Principal Benka-Coker.

6.1 Accountability & Recognition Funds

Funds remain allocated as originally scheduled.

The district has **not yet released** the disbursements.

6.2 Additional Notes

Ms. Benka-Coker shared that McNicol experienced a **\$4,000 loss** in CAPE carryover funds, with some schools experiencing significantly larger losses.

7. School Improvement Plan (SIP) Plan

a. Science – Mr. Montalto

7.1 Science – Presented by Mr. Montalto

Mr. Montalto provided an in-depth analysis of science performance:

SIP proficiency goal for Science: **40%**.

Quarter 1 Exam Results:

McNicol Average: **71.3%**

Broward County Average: **63.8%**

Strengths:

Strong performance in benchmarks on:

Scientific theories & laws (2.2)

Atoms and atomic structure

Periodic table knowledge

Areas of Need:

Scientific method and experimental design (statewide trend)

Context Shared:

Science is a cumulative 6th–8th grade exam taken in 8th grade.

No learning gains category, unlike ELA and Math.

Both Mr. Montalto and Ms. Patterson explained high school courses and scheduling implications.

Action Steps:

Increased focus on mini-lessons throughout the year.

Continued review of 6th–7th grade content.

Consistent assessments through CFA cycles.

b. Title 1 Addendum – Ms. Franklin

Ms. Franklin reviewed key elements of the Title I Plan:

8.1 Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Data sources: FAST, i-Ready, CFAs.

Included analysis of strengths, gaps, and subgroup performance.

8.2 Teacher Support

District coaches for ELA and Math provide:

Modeling

Mentoring

Classroom observations with feedback

8.3 Extended Learning Opportunities

After-school tutoring will continue (schedule pending).

Focus areas: Math and ELA

Identified academic gaps

8.4 Push-In Services

Reading push-ins

ELL paraprofessional support

Learning strategies classes for targeted students

8.5 Title I Funding

Supports:

Intervention programs

Push-in personnel

Extended learning

Supplemental instructional materials

8.6 Input

Stakeholders (teacher, parent, and community) were provided an opportunity for input on the school improvement plan with the Title I plan (addendum)

No input was provided by the teacher, parent, or community

8. SAF District Updates – Ms. Williams

Ms. Williams was absent.

Principal Benka-Coker provided district-level updates in her earlier report during the meeting.

9. Important Dates

a. November 7: Picture Day

b. November 11: No School - Veterans Day

c. November 24-28: No School

d. November 19: South Area District SAF Meeting (Pines Middle School @ 9 am)

e. December 3: Next SAC meeting

10. Open Agenda

No additional items were brought forth.

11. Adjournment

With no quorum and no further business, Ms. Patterson adjourned the meeting at **approximately 7:00 PM.**