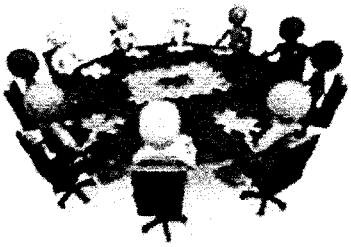
# Plantation Elementary

## Judith Pitter, Principal

# School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting/School Advisory Forum/Teachers Organization Meeting

## Monday, February 23, 2026

7:15-7:45pm



- Welcome-
  Mrs. Harvard welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself as the School Advisory Forum (SAF) representative. She then went on to share business and updates from the most recent Central Area Advisory meeting on February 18, 2026.

- Central Area Advisory Business and Updates

## District Academic Update

Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent of Broward County Public Schools, provided the following update:

- Academic growth from PM1 to PM2 decreased by 1% in English Language Arts (ELA) compared to last year.
- Mathematics performance remained unchanged.

The district continues monitoring academic progress and support strategies.

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## Hiring Freeze & Classroom Coverage

On January 13, 2026, the Superintendent announced that certified instructional staff working at the district level would be reassigned to fill classroom vacancies beginning the following week to ensure students have certified teachers in classrooms.

## Recess & Physical Education Requirements

Under Florida Statute 1003.445:

- Students in grades K–5 must receive:
  - **150 minutes per week of Physical Education (PE)**
  - **20 minutes of daily recess**
- Schools may **not** use participation or non-participation in PE or recess as a form of punishment.
- Recess cannot be used for homework completion or test preparation.

District staff is currently reviewing and drafting updates to the PE policy. This topic may return for discussion at a future School Board meeting.

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## Laptop Distribution for the School Year

Discussion points included:

- Were enough laptops distributed to meet student needs?
- How many students received devices?
- Are there any parent concerns regarding laptop functionality?

## Elementary Testing

There is ongoing discussion about:

- Reducing the amount of testing for elementary students
- Reducing computer-based testing for grades K–2
- Gathering teacher feedback before making recommendations

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# Legislative Update – 2026 Session Focus

The term *legislative* refers to matters related to the creation or amendment of laws.

Ms. Watkins, representing the Central Area Advisory, shared that the 2026 legislative session is focused on:

- School Safety
- Student Support Services
- Academic Programming

## Key Legislative Updates:

- **Senate Bill 7036**
  A comprehensive education bill making changes across Florida's Pre-K through 12 public education system, including governance and accountability measures.
- **HB 561 – Educator Certification**
  Streamlines certification pathways to allow educators to become certified more efficiently.
- **HB 1119 – Materials Harmful to Minors**
  Revises processes for reviewing and removing instructional materials.
- **HB 173 – Parental Rights**
  Expands parental consent requirements. Consent must be provided in writing (email or signed documentation); verbal consent is no longer sufficient.
- **HB 859 – ESE Classroom Cameras**
  Would require audio and video recording equipment in self-contained ESE classrooms. This bill is still under discussion.

Additionally, there is discussion surrounding enhanced safety training for staff, including mass-casualty response training and strategies to support students with special needs who may elope (leave supervised areas).

We will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.

## Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm

☆ **Sign in Sheet for Plantation ES (0941)**

**Date:** 2/23/26 **Time:** 7:15 - 7:50pm

| # | Full Name | SBBC Employee | Parent of Student | Community/Business | Sign Here |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Tamegra Sumpter | | ✓ | | [illegible] |
| 2 | Anicee Brown | | ✓ | | [illegible] |
| 3 | JOHNSON ULYSSE | | ✓ | | [illegible] |
| 4 | MARJORIE ASPHALL | | ✓ | | Marjorie E Asphall |
| 5 | Solange | | ✓ | | Nicolas |
| 6 | Dudly Harvard | | ✓ | | [illegible] |
| 7 | Rosalyn Clarke | ✓ | | | RClarke |
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