

Lauderdale Lakes Middle School (LLMS)
School Advisory Council (SAC) Minutes - October 01, 2025.

Call to Order:

Chair Sudann Ebanks convened the SAC meeting at 5:10 p.m. on October 1, 2025, in the LLMS Media Center. SAC Secretary, Lydia Williams, recorded the minutes for this session.

In Attendance:

Ms. Linda Lopez (Principal), Mr. Jay Sohn (7th Grade, Assistant Principal), Mr. Carl Richardson (6th Grade, Interim Assistant Principal), Sudann Ebanks (SAC Chair), Lydia Williams (Secretary), Ms. Kerry-Ann Thomas (BTU Steward), Iris Castro (BTU Steward), and Jason Sanz Valido (ESOL Parent Representative).

Report and Introduction:

Sudann Ebanks commenced the meeting by formally introducing herself as the newly appointed Chair of the School Advisory Committee (SAC). She outlined the meeting's objectives and provided a brief overview of her professional background as a Science Teacher. This overview included details of her current responsibilities and prior experience, with particular emphasis on her previous tenure on the SAC committee, during which she served as secretary several years ago. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the current SAC committee Chair and her pleasure in being present at today's meeting.

1. New Business:

- a. **Accountability Funds (Current Balance: \$13,888.78).**
- b. **SAC Bylaws Ramification** – reviewed by Ms. Ebanks to be voted on and approved, which is standard across Broward.
- c. **Viking store fundings requesting \$1,000**
- d. **Agenda: approval and correction of the meeting minutes for the dates of February 26, 2025, April 23, 2025, and September 1, 2025.** It was noted that a quorum was not present to approve the agenda items in the past.
- e. **Minutes Correction and Approval**
- f. **Clarification of the September Nomination of Jason Sanz Valido**
- g. **Florida School Recognition Program –A+ funds-** Incentive for schools to increase their grades by one letter grade. No information yet.
- h. **SAC Committee,** it is a collaboration for the staff, the community, and parents. We cannot fundraise; however, we can accept donations. What committee should we establish in SAC?

Motion:

1. Ms. Alma Rolle accepted the first motion for **the Bylaws**, and Mr. Sohn seconded the approval of the Bylaws.
2. Mr. Sohn accepted the first motion for **the Viking Store**, and Ms. K. Thomas seconded approval.

3. Iris Castro first moved to accept that no changes need to be made for the February 26, 2025, minutes, and Jason Sanz Valido seconded it.
4. Karlene Frazer moved that on September 3, 2025, the minutes changes need to be corrected:
 1. ***The upcoming October events, section 'ii' number '2' "Planet Heritage,"*** should be renamed ***"Hispanic Heritage Month."*** And was seconded by Iris Castro.
 2. Lydia Williams stated that two sections need to be redacted from the principal reports:
 - A. ***School Grade and Students' Expectations' section I -"Work with purpose, inspire growth, and never settle, and that really comes from us leveling up from a fully rated to a four-rated as a fee and continuing that momentum."***
 - B. ***As well as Students, Expectation: section 'v' – "is that students are respectful, responsible, and carry themselves, expectation, and with that our academic holds for our teachers in this."*** The sections were redacted, which was seconded by Kerryann Thomas.
5. Jason Sanz Valido moved to accept that no changes need to be made for April 23, 2025, minutes, and KerryAnn Thomas seconded.
6. Kerry-Ann Thomas: moved for correction on *new business for ESOL parent representative* to add a motion for clarification from the September 01 meeting regarding the nomination of Jason Sanz Valido as the new ESOL Parent Representative for the 2025-2026 school year. And was seconded by Karlene Frazer.
7. Ms. K. Thomas moved to recommend Ms. Jennifer Chambers as the Community Business Representative for SAC, seconded by Lydia Williams.

Motions were passed unanimously for all three minutes: February 26, 2025, April 23, 2025, and September 1, 2025, as well as for the Bylaws, Viking Store, and Community Business Representative.

2. Principal Reports:

- a) **Principal Lopez** introduced one of our business partners, a Citibank representative, who is new to our community. Citibank is located at the corner of 31st Street and Commercial Boulevard, and she would like to take a minute to introduce Mr. Giovanni Arteaga, a community lending officer at the Citibank branch.
 - i) Mr. Arteaga introduced himself and stated that the bank "works with our community to be able to help customers become homeowners, as well as offering a down payment assistance program". He further stated that Broward County also offers an assistance program providing up to \$80,000 toward the down payment for the purchase of a home for first-time homeowners, and the homeowner doesn't need to repay it.
 - ii) In addition, Citibank is offering \$7,500 toward the closing cost. For instance, if you are looking to buy a \$450,000 home, you would get up to \$80,000 from Broward County for the down payment.
 - iii) The closing costs are usually \$12,000; however, Citibank would pay \$7,500, with the remaining \$4,500 paid by the borrower. The program will help prospective homeowners save a lot with

Citibank. Nonetheless, the minimum credit score is 500, and the interest rates are 5.75% for FHA and 6.125% for conventional loans as of today. Please note that this program is intended for low-income individuals; for example, if you earn less than \$70,000 per year, you will qualify. This is based on the income, not the purchase price. He further explained the assistance program and provided more details on becoming a homeowner through Citibank. For more information, don't hesitate to contact Mr. Arteaga.

Principal Reports Continued:

a) We have been building on the momentum since last year and striving to become a **'B'** rated school.

b) Theme of the Year is:

- ✓ -All we do is win.
- ✓ -Work with purpose
- ✓ -Inspire growth
- ✓ -Never settled

c) School Improvement Plan

Principal Lopez presented a comprehensive update on the school's status, including a review of the School Improvement Plan for the current academic year and the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR) process. The school currently has an enrollment of 661 students, an increase from last year, when enrollment was notably low. She stated that the school was projected to enroll approximately 650 students for this academic year. Therefore, exceeding this estimate is favorable, as it alleviates the need for staff reductions. Regrettably, at the conclusion of the last academic year, five staff positions were eliminated.

Our current enrollment is 661 students.

- ✓ 200 = 6th grade
- ✓ 213 = 7th grade
- ✓ 248 = 8th grade

i) School Environment Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR)

Principal Lopez stated that we require the support of everyone to achieve our objectives for the academic year and to reaffirm our four key expectations. **Our 4 'B's':**

- (1) Be Respectful
- (2) Be Responsible
- (3) Be Safe
- (4) Be a Vikings

ii) Principal Lopez stated that *our students hear our 4 'B's' expectations every single day*. She articulated contrasting behaviors exhibited by children at age-appropriate levels of responsibility.

- (1) **Be Respectful:** Our students receive daily reminders about the importance of respect.

- (2) **Be Responsible:** a fundamental principle for fostering responsibility by building responsible children.
 - (3) **Be Safe:** The issue of social media posts warrants thoughtful consideration, as numerous reports document children facing legal consequences for sharing **unsafe posts as a 'joke'** on their platforms. To address this, we endeavor to provide comprehensive education on social media conduct, which is why we have established a partnership with the Broward Sheriff's Office to educate children on responsible online behavior.
 - (4) When students fail to return home and instead find themselves in the back of an SRO's vehicle, they are taken to the Broward Detention Center. Ms. Lopez emphasized that she doesn't want that to happen. She must inform parents and our students of the reality. Once students violate the rules and the situation is beyond our control, we cannot notify the SRO or intervene.
 - (5) Therefore, parents, students, and families need comprehensive education about social media to prevent problematic behavior. Again, she pleaded with both students and families (parents) to caution their children and educate them about being safe, not only in the community. But also on their social media platforms, because it somehow or other comes back to school.
 - (6) **Being a Viking** shows their school's pride. Once we are done with SAC, we will transition over to Kivi. Where our students will "showcase" their talents, they have been working on in their classrooms with their teachers.
- iii) Viking Academic **CODE** Strategies: is what teachers are using school-wide, especially since we are in a 90-minute block.
- ✓ **C** = Check for understanding
 - ✓ **O** = Organized Note Taking
 - ✓ **D** = Differentiated Groups
 - ✓ **E** = Expectation for Learning Bell to Bell
- (1) **Checking for understanding:** Our teachers must ask their students for understanding. This allows the students to check in with their teachers and ensure that they are following along with the lesson. This gives the students an opportunity. *For example*, it is like a field trip: before the students get on and off the bus, each student is accounted for through a head count. Therefore, this is the same concept teachers do in the classroom: checking for understanding from their students of the lesson being taught.
 - (2) **Organized Note Taking:** Middle school students do not like to write. They will text and type, instead of taking notes. Taking notes is a form of record-keeping that provides a reference point for future use. For example, today she went to an algebra support classroom, and the teacher was out, and the students had some work to do. She asked the students where their notes were because they could not do this work without having an example to follow. She had to write the example on the board and have them copy it down to have as a reference. She discusses the importance of note-taking.

(3) Differentiated Groups: since students are working in a 90-minute block. Students must work in small groups; therefore, they should be able to report to their parents that they are working in small groups in their classroom. As a result, this helps to clarify what the teacher is discussing.

(4) Expectation for Learning: for students to know what they are learning about. When the principal walks into a classroom, what the students are learning today is posted on the board. Therefore, students must understand the concepts they are working on in their classroom for the day.

d) School Environmental Safety Incident Report (SESIR):

- i) This is a monthly report received on the school's environmental safety incident reporting, and these are high-level infractions that get recorded to the state.
- ii) **Fighting Serious Muta:** The data exhibited here is for only August 1 to August 31, 2025. Since September has just ended, we don't have that data available yet. In August, three 'fights' were reported on campus. Over the previous two years, we had many more infractions. So, we are moving in a positive direction regarding discipline and behavior.

e) Academic Departments (ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies).

- i) As it relates to academics, students have completed PM1 testing, which is a progress monitoring tool used from the beginning of the school year. This indicates where our students currently stand academically. Nonetheless, a few parents reached out to her with concerns about their child(ren)'s academic level. Perhaps they were level 3, 4, or 5, and maybe at the beginning of the school year, they were at a different level, such as 1 or 2. Parents were concerned because they wanted to know if they needed to provide extra academic support for their child.
- ii) Please note that the students are testing on PM1 on some content they have not yet learned. We are not expecting our students to walk into their classes with a level 3, 4, or 5. Because teachers still have from August through May to teach them the content at their correct level of rigor and difficulty, based on their grade level. Academically, our students have completed PM1 testing, and we anticipate continued growth in PM2 testing results over the next four months.
- iii) **This is a general overview point of comparisons:**
 - (1) Math 8|9% proficiency this year, based on PM1 testing. However, last year we were at 7% with a 2% growth in proficiency this year.
 - (2) Please note that students who are taking Algebra and Geometry do not count towards this data, because they are taking the high school end-of-year course exam. Some of our highly skilled students who are taking math are not reflected in this presentation.
 - (3) ELA 22-24% proficiency this year, based on PM1, and last year we were at 19-21% with an increase; nonetheless, this is just a baseline. Expecting to see growth in PM2.

f) Announcement of the celebration of Our Caliber Awards 2025-2026 Winners:

- i) She is pleased to celebrate the teacher of the year, Ms. Clayton.
- ii) Ms. Latoya Patterson, who is our non-employee of the year, our Cafeteria manager, was not present.

- g) Principal Lopez reminded parents to complete the lunch application for **meal eligibility for their child**, unlike last year, when every student received free lunch; this year, they do not. This year, eligibility determines whether you qualify for a reduction or a free lunch. Therefore, fill out the application form to see if you are eligible. Please note that the district will be sending robocalls to notify you if your child's account balance is becoming negative due to meal charges, starting this week.
- i) **Question from a parent about lunch: How often can one apply?** The parents inquired about paying for lunch if she is no longer working. She encourages the parents to reapply for meal eligibility for their child, and if a financial situation arises, even though there is only one application per year.
- h) She would like to share two additional accomplishments this year:
- i) We have been selected for the ***"No Place for Hate school"***. She thanked Ms. Alex Wunk, who is our awesome school counselor, for submitting documents to prove the success of teachers and students in performing activities on campus. This reflects a positive activity on our campus, where students signed a pledge to demonstrate that they are taking responsibility for their actions on campus.
- ii) Lauderdale Lakes Middle School was awarded Bronze-level FLPBSs for the 2025-2026 school year. This indicates that, in terms of behavior and discipline, we are implementing measures to reduce the number of incidents on campus.
- iii) Principal Lopez reminded and invited everyone back for our next SAC meeting on November 05, 2025.
- iv) She introduced Mr. Jay Sohn, our 7th-grade AP, who is putting our parent-student association together. Mr. Sohn introduced himself and mentioned that he had met with the staff regarding our new Viking Store. For which we can work together to promote and improve courteous student behavior. He mentioned that he had successfully done the same thing at his previous school, Sunrise Middle. He would like to replicate the Viking store in module 1. He will be giving teachers and students Viking bucks to purchase prizes. He said that he has been receiving donations from businesses. No schedule has been established.

(1) The Viking Store Action Plan:

- (a) The Viking Bucks will be distributed to the teacher.
- (b) This store will be in modular 1; however, it is now setting it up quietly, and it is not ready.
- (c) At the current time, he only has \$500 to spend
- (d) The budget is now over \$13,000, and he is requesting \$1,000 from the store budget for the Viking store.
- (e) Ms. Lloyd and Ms. Callwood will be running the store with 5,000 role models and MTL students, and students will assist in the store. Note: He mentioned that he did the same thing when he was at Sunrise Middle.
- (f) A student asked about electronic devices, such as a wireless mouse and computer. However, Mr. Sohn said that a wireless mouse and headset were required. He also mentioned that a survey was conducted by students in advance. Ms. Lopez mentioned that our community liaison has been actively working with local businesses to secure donations. She also mentioned various activities that could be done outside.

i) Accountability Funds (Current Balance: \$13,888.78

- i) reviewed by Ms. Ebanks. She mentioned what the accountability funds can be used for – anything that aligns with our school improvement plan. That is student success and student engagement, which we cannot use the accountability funds, such as food and headphones.
- ii) Ms. Lopez mentioned that we have \$13,88.78 for over a year; therefore, she recommends that we vote on the motion to have Mr. Sohn receive \$1,000 instead of \$500, as we may not have a quorum in January.

2) Title 1 –

- i) Annual Public Meeting. Mr. Richardson, however, Ms. Lopez mentioned that Mr. Richardson had already discussed Title 1 in our last SAC meeting on September 3, 2025, before our previous open house.

3. Old Business. No old business recorded.

4. Next Meeting Confirmation

- November 05, 2025

5. Open Floor

6. Next Meeting Date & Time:

The next meeting will be held on November 5, 2025, at Lauderdale Lakes Middle School, Media Center, at 5:00 p.m.

7. Meeting Adjournment:

Motion: Sudann Ebanks moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. 2nded by KerryAnn Thomas; the motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by:

Sudann Ebanks, SAC Approval Date: