

Whispering Pines School Advisory Forum

4/1/26-Whispering Pines SAF Meeting Minutes

Attendance- Jonathan Cooper, Karina Hoogesteyn, Erin Walsh, Jan Chinnners, Chandra Lee Wilson, Howard Jones, Mitchell Screen, Jonathan Ammann, Hunter Chinnners, Kevin Campbell, Erica Alexander, David Garcia.

A meeting of the Whispering Pines School Advisory Forum was held in the Media Center on April 1, 2026, called to order at 10:57 am by Jan Chinnners.

Old Business

The board reviewed the minutes from March 4, 2026. Erin Walsh made a motion to approve. Mitchell Screen second motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Introductions
2. SAF Update from District Meeting held March 4, 2026
 - a) Presentation and discussion on Regional Office Support.

There are 4 hubs within the county to support area schools and parents: north, central, south, and STO (for low achieving schools county wide). Each of these hubs are your next step in any school related matters that cannot be resolved at the individual school. Parents and/or school staff can reach out to a central office to receive support, guidance, and direction with further actions. With Broward County being the 6th largest school system in the nation, this is one way to provide a more personal interaction with families and provide better customer service. The lead director at each hub constantly is in the schools to address current and future issues to help provide a hands-on approach and support for staff and families.

- b) Presentation from Federal Programs Department/Title 1.

Besides state and county funding, many of our schools are funded by federal grants and programs. Currently, there are 5 federal programs that are funded by our taxes with 169 schools, both public and charter, and 93 private schools within our county. Grades kindergarten through 8 are eligible, as well as 6-12 grade combo schools, to receive federal assistance if any of the students meet the criteria. The program does not single out a student or family once eligible but rather the entire school is eligible. The main purpose is to ensure that all students have the same educational resources and advantages to reach their potential. Title 1 is a support system to help students and families. Finding that often life outside of school is difficult in many ways, the programs offer events to engage families and connect them to school resources that many are unaware of.

- c) Open discussion.

- March 24th a workshop was held related to redefining schools and usage options. Discussion to begin on planning for next year and schools that might be repurposed.
- Testing discussions are underway to reduce that amount of student testing within the year to increase student learning. This would not affect the mandatory state testing.

- Hiring freeze is in effect however, limited staffing based on need is still available. In addition, there is a freeze on out of county travel and excess expenses by staff of all levels. This does not include student/school activities.

Open Agenda

None

Meeting Adjournment:

Jan Chinner motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 am. Seconded by Mitchell Screen. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Erin M Walsh, M.S., CCC-SLP

Approval Date: