

Whispering Pines School Advisory Forum

11/5/25-Whispering Pines SAF Meeting Minutes

Attendance- Erica Alexander, Jonathan Cooper, Karina Hoogesteyn, Gail Hoffman, Erin Walsh, Kevin Campbell, Melissa Bennett, Johnathan Ammann, Jan Chinnners

A meeting of the Whispering Pines School Advisory Forum was held in the Media Center on November 5, 2025, called to order at 10:41 am by Jan Chinnners.

Old Business

The board reviewed the minutes from October 1st, 2025. Erin Walsh made a motion to approve. Mitchell Screen second motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Introductions
2. Redefining Our Schools Town Hall Meetings were held from September 10-30, 2025 to get community input on 34 schools for the redefining of county schools.

October 7, 2025 School board met and updated a final list of schools to be addressed for rezoning, repurposing, and closures.

Currently the board has updated the closure list to include:

- a. *Blair Middle in Sunrise
 - b. *North Fork Elementary in Fort Lauderdale
 - c. *Plantation Middle with Plantation High becoming a 6-12 grade with a Public Safety Magnet Program
 - d. *Fairway or Sunshine Elementary in Miramar
 - e. *Either Palm Cove or Pines Lake Elementary in Pembroke Pines
 - f. *Glades Middle in Miramar converting to a branch of Sheridan Technical College (Coral Cove which is currently K-8 Magnet would become the home school for Glades Middle students in conjunction with the magnet program)
3. Additional Town Regional Meetings have been scheduled to gather more community input:
 - Oct 27 at Coral Springs High
 - Nov. 6 at Dillard High School
 - Nov. 13 at Miramar High School
 - January 13, 2026 Final school hearings to adopt recommendations
 - January 14, 2026 Parent notification begins for school changes
 4. Review of the topics addressed at the last South Area Advisory Meeting held October 15, 2025 at Pines Collegiate Academy
 - a. Presenter Ms. Ciotti- Director of ESE Specialized Instruction Reviewed areas of curriculum, support and compliance for students in the ESE program, and providing Specialized Instruction as

needed to support students' educational needs. Over 40,000 students countywide have 504 or IEP plans.

While overall student enrollment has been on the decline ESE is on the rise. This signals that more educators are vigilant in observing and recommending individual student learning plans.

b. Presenter Dr. Shapiro- Director of School Counseling

All school staff need to become familiar and invested in individual student mental health. Share thoughts and concerns with administration. Schools have preventive student and family mental services that can be offered. Share and mentor students who you feel might be experiencing mental, physical, and psychological issues. Steer students to program "Help is Here" so they are aware help is available and how to reach out. Discuss options and programs for life skills and college readiness within the high schools. Recovery services are also offered for students experiencing or recovering from trauma, grief, and mental health issues.

c. Policy changes: Phone usage for high school students can be used at lunch only, effective immediately.

d. Facility Rental: language changed so that any school meeting does not need to apply through the county rental guidelines, only receive individual school permission. If a fundraiser then must follow the county rental guidelines.

e. Signage Banners: Must have a uniform look and must state they support the school and not solely advertise business.

f. Charter schools: state law/policy proposed to allow private charter schools (Hope Schools) to occupy unused and underperforming public school facilities and school site benefits (ex: janitorial services, transportation) at NO cost to the charter school. This law/policy would take funding to use for the public school to subsidize the facility for the charter school

Open Agenda

1. Use of AI technology in high school (pros and cons), Blocking of AI chat due to data collecting, Deployment of home computers and monitoring company to report "concerning" issue.
2. **Meeting Adjournment:**

Jonathan Ammann motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am. Seconded by Karina Hoogesteyn. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

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

Em Walsh

Approval Date: 12/3/25