

Cooper City High
Excellence| Tradition | Pride
Sean D. Curran, Principal

School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for A+ School Recognition Funds 12/2/25

In Person Attendance: Y. Aldana, L. Alonso, K. Cooper, S. Curran, W. Denise, A. Don, M. Forero, L. Garfinkel, G. Lerner, E. Lopez, J. Marmolejos, S. McCarthy, R. Mediavilla, M. Otero, S. Rausseo, S. Rodriguez, J. Spigelman, K. Williford, E. Wirge.

I. Welcome / Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance- E. Lopez, SAC Chairperson

- The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance observed.

II. Discussion Parameters – Robert’s Rules of Order- E. Lopez, SAC Chairperson

- Respect others; do not interrupt.
- Speak only when you have the floor.
- Maintain order and professionalism.

III. School Recognition Funds Discussion

- School nurses do not receive a paycheck from Broward County Public Schools, so they are not included in A+ Money.
- Last year’s ballot included an option to split the funds equally among all faculty and staff members.
- I. Polatos suggested that, rather than prorating based on the percentage of the year worked, the requirement should be that an eligible employee must have worked at Cooper City High for at least 80% of the school year.
- W. Denise, an educator, inquired about the number of individuals who should be accounted for if they were not present for the entire duration.
- Administrators stated that it would be fewer than 10 people.
- Some questioned whether teachers who call in sick on test days should receive an equal share of funds.
- L. Garfinkel stated these teachers should be included for equal pay even if they miss testing day.
- K. Cooper added that if the teacher taught students and missed testing day, it should not matter—they should still be included. Espinoza stated that if everyone is satisfied, there is no need to change the ballot.
- L. Garfinkel raised concerns about teachers who are not at CCHS for an extended period.
- Principal Curran explained that calculating payouts involves considering time worked, student attendance days, and planning days.
- Curran explained using student attendance (180 days) as the denominator would equalize employee numbers but requires algebraic calculations.

- Curran asked whether employees on leave or under FMLA should receive the full amount of funds.
- Espinoza explained that paid time off (PTO) differs from other types of leave because teachers are still responsible for preparing lesson plans for substitutes.

IV. A+ Money School Recognition Funds Discussion Continued

- Principal Curran stated that PTO is not a factor in this case.
- F. Calero asked why someone should be penalized by not receiving A+ Funds because they are on medical or maternity leave.
- Principal Curran explained that when a person is on Family Medical Leave, their job remains at CCHS. When a person takes personal leave for an extended period, their job placement depends on where there is an opening.
- Principal Curran emphasized that decisions are based on what the community values.
- L. Garfinkel inquired about the required percentage of faculty and staff needed to approve the A+ vote. It was clarified that 80% of faculty and staff must participate in the vote, and a 66 ²/₃ percent majority of the votes cast are required for approval. This process must be completed by February 1, 2026.
- Long-term substitutes can be included in A+ Recognition Money because they are paid by Broward County Public Schools.
- Principal Curran stated that the Family Medical Leave is different from personal leave and asked whether a term should be set.
- A. Don, a student, suggested that pay should be based on time worked.
- W. Denise noted that last year the vote allowed every employee who worked the entire school year to receive equal amounts.
- B. Bullard stated that people who worked for a short time at CCHS should not be included.
- Principal Curran asked whether to vote yes or no for both FMLA and Personal Leave. If yes, what should the term be? He stressed the need to determine criteria and suggested changing the wording to “employed,” not “sick,” but board-approved FMLA or personal leave.

V. Voting of A+ School Recognition Funds Ballot- E. Lopez, SAC Chairperson

- **Motion #1- Teacher planning days and student calendar days as the denominator.**
- Principal Curran motioned to approve; W. Elianor seconded.
- L. Alonso conducted a roll call using the CCHS SAC sign-in sheet and corresponding numbers.

1. Yanina Aldana Y
2. Lisa Alonso Y

5. Katrina Cooper Y
6. Sean Curran Y
7. Warren Denise N
9. Aidan Don Y
11. Marianna Orozco Y
12. Laurel Garfinkel Y
14. Grace Lerner Y
15. Evelyn Lopez Y
18. Jenier Marmolejos Y
19. Sandy McCarthy Y
21. Romina Mediavilla Y
22. Megan Otero Y
23. Sheri Rausseo Y
26. Jessica Spigelman Y
30. Kenya Williford Y
31. Wirge Elianor Y

- **Motion #1 17 in favor, 1 opposed, motion 1 passed.**
- **Motion #1 Revisited W. Denise motioned to amend Motion #1 and include only student days on the ballot.**
- Principal Curran noted the opportunity to discuss including teacher planning days.
- P. Goedschalk answered L. Garfinkel's question about how many teachers are employed at the school: CCHS has 106 teachers.
- T. Daub stated that basing funds on days worked could favor administration, so it may not be ideal.
- Principal Curran added that different calendars complicate the calculation.
- W. Denise made a motion to amend motion 1 W. Elianor seconded the motion. L. Alonso proceeded with a roll call vote.

1. Yanina Aldana Y
2. Lisa Alonso Y
5. Katrina Cooper Y
6. Sean Curran Y
7. Warren Denise Y
9. Aidan Don Y
11. Marianna Orozco Y
12. Laurel Garfinkel N
14. Grace Lerner Y
15. Evelyn Lopez Y
18. Jenier Marmolejos Y
19. Sandy McCarthy Y
21. Romina Mediavilla N
22. Megan Otero N
23. Sheri Rausseo Y
24. S. Rodriguez N
26. Jessica Spigelman Y
30. Kenya Williford Y
31. Wirge Elianor N

- **Motion #1 Revisited: 17 in favor, four opposed motion 1 passed.**
- **Motion #2 include FMLA (only term) on the ballot.**
- W. Elianor motioned to approve. J. Spigelman seconded the motion. L. Alonso proceeded with a roll call vote:

1. Yanina Aldana Y

2. Lisa Alonso Y
5. Katrina Cooper Y
6. Sean Curran Y
7. Warren Denise Y
9. Aidan Don Y
11. Marianna Orozco Y
12. Laurel Garfinkel Y
14. Grace Lerner Y
15. Evelyn Lopez
18. Jenier Marmolejos Y
19. Sandy McCarthy Y
21. Romina Mediavilla Y
22. Megan Otero Y
23. Sheri Rausseo Y
24. S. Rodriguez Y
26. Jessica Spigelman Y
30. Kenya Williford Y
31. Wirge Elianor Y

- **All in favor; Motion #2 passed unanimously.**
- **Motion #3 Do does not want to include personal leave on the ballot.**
- A guest inquired about the impact of personal leave, medical leave and employee reassignment after extended absences.
- Principal Curran explained the distinction between personal leave and medical leave. He noted that if an employee returns after an absence of 20 days or more, their compensation will be adjusted proportionally based on a predetermined denominator. He also clarified that employees who are out for an extended period may be reassigned to any location within the district upon their return.

- W. Elianor motioned to approve motion #3. K. Cooper seconded the motion. L. Alonso proceeded with a

roll call vote:

1. Yanina Aldana Y
2. Lisa Alonso Y
5. Katrina Cooper Y
6. Sean Curran Y
7. Warren Denise Y
9. Aidan Don Y
11. Marianna Orozco Y
12. Laurel Garfinkel Y
14. Grace Lerner Y
15. Evelyn Lopez
18. Jenier Marmolejos Y
19. Sandy McCarthy Y
21. Romina Mediavilla Y
22. Megan Otero Y
23. Sheri Rausseo Y
24. S. Rodriguez Y
26. Jessica Spigelman Y
30. Kenya Williford Y
31. Wirge Elianor Y

- **All in favor; Motion #3 passed unanimously.**
- **Motion #4 Vote on revised Ballot**

Cooper City High School

Principal Sean Curran

School Recognition Funds (A+ Funds) Ballot 2024-2025 School Year

I agree with distributing 100% of the A+ Recognition monies equally among all full-time staff & faculty members (clerical, custodian, cafeteria, instructional, administration, school counselors, family counselor, ESE counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, cafeteria workers, paraprofessionals, security and armed guardians) who were employed at Cooper City High School (including FMLA). Funds distributed will be proportional to the percentage of time employed at Cooper City High School during the 2024-2025 school year based on student calendar days. Any employee who splits his/her time with Cooper City High School and other locations will receive the percentage proportional to their time at Cooper City High School.

None of the above.

- W. Denise motioned to approve ballot. K. Cooper seconded the motion. L. Alonso proceeded with a roll call vote:

1. Yanina Aldana Y

2. Lisa Alonso Y

5. Katrina Cooper Y

6. Sean Curran Y

7. Warren Denise Y

9. Aidan Don Y

11. Marianna Orozco Y

12. Laurel Garfinkel Y

14. Grace Lerner Y

15. Evelyn Lopez Y

18. Jenier Marmolejos Y

19. Sandy McCarthy Y

21. Romina Mediavilla Y

22. Megan Otero Y

23. Sheri Rausseo Y

24. S. Rodriguez Y

26. Jessica Spigelman Y

30. Kenya Williford Y

31. Wirge Elianor Y

Motion 4: passed unanimously

VI. K. Cooper proposed to adjourn the meeting, W. Denise seconded the motion. All in favor, the meeting concluded at 4:38 pm.