

**School Advisory Council (SAC) Agenda**

**Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., James S. Rickards Middle School, Cafeteria  
6000 Northeast 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Oakland Park, Florida 33334**

**Emergency Meeting**

- Welcome ..... Ms. De Leon/Mr. Rubinchik
  - Call to order
  - Pledge of Allegiance
- Proposals on how to spend Florida School Recognition Program (A+ Funds)
- Next Meeting Wednesday, December 3, 2025
- Adjournment

**TITLE I PUBLIC EVENT**


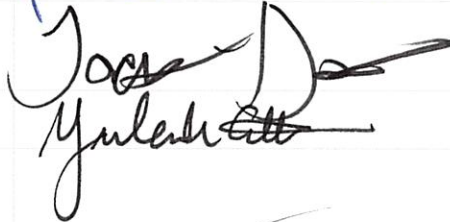
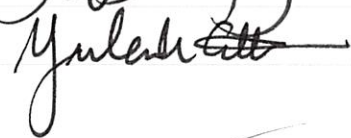



☆ SAC Sign in Sheet for Rickards MS (2121)

Date: 11/19/26

Time: 4:30 p.m.

#	Full Name	SBBC Employee	Parent of Student	Community/Business	Sign Here
1	Betty Telesford ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Zach... Vandoerden ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
3	DR. Mark R. Gay ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
4	Joanna Joassaint ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Kyra Drake ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
6	<del>Robert</del> ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
7	<del>Maria Torres</del>				<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Linda Blome ✓				Pizza Clarke
9	EValentino ✓				EValentino
10	LAUREN UNDERHILL ✓				Lauren Underhill
11	FRANCESKA NUNNE ✓				<i>[Signature]</i>
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☆ SAC Sign in Sheet for Rickards MS (2121)

Date: <u>11/9/26</u>		Time: <u>9:30 P.M.</u>			
#	SAC Member Full Name	Position	SBBC Employee	Parent of Student	Sign Here
1	Boodhram, Kinda	Parent	No	Yes	
2	Carter, Rebecca	ESE Parent of a student at the school	Yes	Yes	
3	DeLeon, Fatima	SAC Co-Chair	Yes	No	
4	Donnelly, Jack	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
5	Ellis, Yulanda	BTU Steward (or designee)	Yes	No	
6	Ferrarini, Sandi	ESOL Parent of a student at the school	No	Yes	
7	Gonzalez, Gloria	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
8	Gurreonero, Erick	Principal	Yes	No	
9	Hernandez, Nina	Non-Instructional Support Employees	Yes	No	
10	Hyppolite, Reneld	SAF Chair (or designee) Parent of a student at the school	No	Yes	
11	Kelly, Jack	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
12	Lopez, Lisa	SAC Secretary	Yes	No	
13	Peters, Daniel	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
14	Rubinichik, Scott	SAC Co-Chair	Yes	No	
15	Singer, Chelsea	SAF Chair (or designee) Parent of a student at the school	No	Yes	
16	Vasquez, Mayrelis	Gifted Parent of a student at the school	No	Yes	

James S. Rickards Middle School

School Advisory Council

Special Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025

-Call to Order

A special meeting of the James S. Rickards Middle School Advisory Council was held in person on November 19, 2025. School Advisory Council Co- Chair, Mr. Rubinchik, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

-Pledge of Allegiance

-School Advisory Council Co-Chair, Mr. Rubinchik opened the floor with a statement as follows: Rickards Middle School has been awarded the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$64,000.00) in Florida School Recognition Program (A+ Funds). Although the School Advisory Council Committee will ultimately decide the proposals to be voted on relative to allocation of the A+ Funds, the purpose of this meeting is to hear suggestions or ideas on how the funds should be allocated from faculty and staff. Anyone who wishes to be heard should raise their hand and wait to be recognized. There will be no arguing with or disrespect toward any speaker. Please keep in mind in making your comments and/or suggestions that the use of the School Recognition Award is limited to any combination of the following as stated in the applicable Florida Statute: nonrecurring bonuses to faculty and staff, nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or materials to assist in maintaining and improving student performance, or temporary personnel for the school to assist in maintaining and improving student performance.

The floor opened for discussion. Ms. Clarke was recognized and stated the following: I am not speaking for myself but for others who have approached me and their suggestions are that the instructional staff receive a greater percentage of the funds with the remainder than divided amongst the staff. Ms. Lopez questioned Ms. Clarke, if you do not want to divide the funds equally then in what percentage, as we are voting on a specific proposal.

Ms. Ellis, those individuals, spoke to me as well and did not provide any specifics.

Ms. Underhill then clarified that a correct proposal must be specific. Many on staff may not be aware of the process as it has been some time since Rickards has received Recognition Funds. Ms. Underhill further asked for clarification regarding who determines the ultimate proposals to be voted on. Mr. Rubinchik explained that the School Advisory Council meets outside this meeting to determine the proposals that will be voted on. Further, Mr. Rubinchik and Ms. Smith-Lopez stated that proposals must be specific and thus if suggesting Tiers and percentages of distribution must be specified.

Mr. Rubinchik then stated the proposals will not be finalized today, but the hope is that the proposals will be finalized by December 1, 2025, so as to be posted for the required three (3) days prior to voting on December 5, 2025.

Ms. Telesford was next to be recognized and she asked, "are these actual proposals that will be voted on?" Mr. Rubinchik explained the process again that these are ideas and that the specific proposals to be voted on would be determined by the School Advisory Council Committee and then posed and emailed to staff and faculty for review prior to voting thereon.

Ms. Smith-Lopez was next to be recognized. Ms. Smith-Lopez suggested that prior to the funds be allocated to faculty and staff, that a specified sum of Three Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$3,800.00) be allocated to the school's Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program. The purpose of the allocation would be to allow PBIS to purchase rewards for the kids. PBIS touches everyone on staff. We all have an opportunity to participate. We are given Rocket bucks to handout to deserving students. In return we do not always then have to purchase gadgets and food items for our students out-of-pocket. This will also help to have additional students at all grade levels to buy in. This is investing in both the future of our students and staff.

Mr. Rubinchik stated that a proposal was received via email from Ms. Prada who could not attend this afternoon due to a professional conflict. Ms.

Prada's idea was to use the funds for each of the permitted purposes as follows: 65% to bonuses for staff and faculty, 25% for educational equipment and materials, and 10% for temporary personnel.

Ms. Underhill stated I think that I have been through this process two or three times previously. I have learned that staff are opposed to allocating funds for any other purpose than bonuses. However, what is unique about the PBIS proposal is that it affects every student and staff member. I suggest that you do not simply dismiss this idea. Ms. Underhill then supported the work that custodians and cafeteria workers do daily in support of our students. Think about how it will feel to those on staff excluded from receiving a pro rata share of the allocated funds. Also think about if everyone on staff was not doing their job, "I do not think that I would have gotten the test scores that I did." Think about the division that it would cause, I want to come to work and be able to do my job in peace.

Dr. Gay I have personally experienced the division that is caused by the funds not being equally allocated. I have worked in an environment where the funds were divided by tiers and it does not promote a healthy, family atmosphere. You do not want a work environment with tension; I do not want to work in an environment with tension. Ms. Ellis then stated that she experienced a similar situation and it was heart breaking to see the disappointment in those on staff that were excluded from the division of the funds. Teachers came together to support those staff members by taking from their own distribution and providing funds to them.

Mr. Vonderlinden will the proposals include specific amounts whether tiered or not. Mr. Rubinchik replied, "yes." You will know exactly what you are voting on.

Ms. Underhill, from what I understand, allocating funds to PBIS will only reduce each eligible member's share by twenty to thirty dollars. Ms. Lopez said everyone believes in PBIS, it is not money in your pocket, so it is not a direct hit and benefits both PBIS and staff.

There being no further comment or discussion Ms. Ellis moved to adjourn the special meeting at 4:55 p.m. and Mr. Donnelly seconded the Motion to

adjourn. Mr. Rubinchik announced that the next scheduled SAC Meeting is Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Lisa Smith-Lopez, School Advisory Council Secretary