

Western High School

School Advisory Council

Minutes for November 18, 2025

Called to Order at 3:02 PM in the Auditorium

Members Present: Alexa Aguila, Syed Arhaam, Zachary Banks, Pete-Gaye Bisset, Romina Castro Montes, Hetzia Gamboa, David Hanley, Erica Hansinger, Nicole Henderson, Barry Jones, Helen Lacayo, Michael Levinson, Brandon Monse, Michelle Padura, Alejandro Quinonez, Bonnie Reisler, Samantha Reisler, Christopher Ryan, Audrey Spicer, Art Waganheim, Nikki T. Watkins, Taylor Watkins, Tamara Wehrell

Non-Members Present: Hailey Steward, Villescaz Gloria, April Johnston, Amy Oppy, Jessie Bastos, Meghan Muro, Sebastian Asuero, Kylie Simonton, April Brown, Zoe Bisset, Laurel Johnson, Chris A. Harry, Risa Steward, Jurnee Harnson, Rosa Page, Raul Bacallao, Giselle Bacallao, Helene Kocis, Roxanne Huggins, Joe Bolter, Wisana Espinoza, Victoria Espinoza, Wendy Bernstein, Ricardo Marino

- I. Reviewed and discussed the October 28, 2025 minutes.
 - A. Art Waganhiemer approved the minutes, Bonnie Reisler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- II. Report on SAC budget information
 - A. Balance: \$14,226
 - B. Contingency Reserve: \$1,000
 - C. Available Balance: \$13,226
 - D. Instructional Materials: \$11,163.05 (In addition to the available balance)
- III. News Report from the Principal
 - A. Upcoming Thanksgiving Break: transition into PM 2 after break (Dec 10)
 - B. Quarter assessments for biology, algebra II, and geometry
 - C. Finalized Midterm Exam Schedule released with Exam Exemptions in the upcoming newsletter, with a deadline
 - D. Basketball season begins this week, on Thursday
 - E. Harvest Drive: 350 families served, it's the largest Harvest Drive across BCPS. The distribution takes place on Friday, still time available for donations.
- IV. SESIR Data
 - A. Same data from the October 28 meeting, quick review.
- V. Adoption: Ballot for New 2026-2027 School Bell Schedule (***Stricken from Agenda***)
 - A. Michelle Padura conducts a presentation on the new School Bell Schedule. Transition to 7-period model is due to student body loss (lost more than 38,000

students over the past decade) and funding loss (employee benefits costs have increased by over \$100 million in the last five years)

- B. Expects to save 30 million dollars annually with this change.
- C. Currently have two optional teaching periods with pay compensation.
- D. Article 15 of Broward – Contract "Superintendent and the Board may add/amend the high school options"
- E. Changes for Instructional Staff: only one extra period available to teach, teachers will teach 6 periods, students will take 7 classes a year
- F. Schedule options:
 - 1. Straight Seven-Period Schedule (same 7 classes a day): students have consistent material exposure, a predictable schedule, and potential student fatigue
 - 2. Rotator Seven-Period Schedule (6 periods a day, with one class rotating daily): reduces learning fatigue, requires careful planning
 - 3. Modified A/B Schedule (options for a mixed straight and block style): allows for extended blocks, complex schedule management
- G. SAC must vote to select a schedule model to bring forward for the Western High faculty to vote on. If the staff denies, then SAC will re-vote for a model to bring forward.
- H. Ms. Padura received word not to move forward with voting. The superintendent has publicly announced the board is reversing the direction for a new seven schedule. Therefore, this item is now stricken from the agenda.

VI. SAC Funding Requests

- A. Carrie Norton (Western Cheer Coach) - \$5,200 for transportation, 1 bus for 4 days for 24 students (WHS Cheer Team) in February, coach charter bus to be provided by Classic Bus Line.
 - 1. School Advisory Council should ensure funds are used fairly.
 - 2. Co-Chair, Ms. Hansinger reviews all of the SAC Funding requirements that was provided to our members.
 - 3. SAC money can be used for materials and programs that support core academic improvement.
 - 4. Restricted Items: salary, personal bonuses, general materials, athletic expenses that are not associated with academic improvement, travel, and lodging.
 - 5. Art Waganheim asked if SAC is anticipating any more funding. No more funding is expected to be received by SAC. Is SAC expecting an end-of-year funding request for AICE and AP tutoring? Yes, SAC is expecting an end-of-year funding request for AICE and AP tutoring.
 - 6. Taylor Watkins asks if SAC can raise funds. SAC is not able to raise funds.
 - 7. Are we to return to expected tutoring expenses: about \$10,000?
 - 8. The number of students impacted is also considered.

9. Coach Carrie spoke to explain the request. Updating affected students to 26 from 24. Looking for any assistance, not necessarily \$5,200. It costs \$1,200 per student to go to nationals, including bus costs.
10. Audrey Spicer was wondering about restricted uses that include travel, lodging, or competition expenses.
11. Michelle Padura explains that the proposal may not meet the criteria because it is a “travel and competition expense.”
12. Vote fails unanimously; application is denied.

VII. SIP Review: Effective Communications — Documentation

- A. All documentation, including our agenda, minutes and sign-in sheets, is maintained on the District’s SIP website for the sake of open transparency.
- B. The website is accessible on the school website for parents, staff, and students to view.
- C. A QR code is also always provided on our SAC Agenda so that members and stakeholders can have easy access to the records.

VIII. Library Collection Report

- A. Mr. Banks presents the library collection report (current state of the library collection)
- B. House Bill 1467 requires a Library collection report. Collection Mandates: balanced collection of 15,000 usable books/online resources.
- C. Book Collection and EBook Numbers
 1. July 2023: 14,229
 2. February 2024: 13,663
 3. November 2024: 15,540
 4. October 2025: 16,150
- D. Balanced Collection with 91% physical & 9% digital, and 52% fiction & 48% nonfiction.
- E. Older than 1990 has been removed from collections.
- F. Last year, 2,000 books were purchased; over 4,000 books from this decade.
- G. The current library budget is ~\$41,529, and almost 89% of the books for the next order are for this current year.
- H. Achieved Golden Library Award 2024-2025 and 2025-2026, one of seven high schools to achieve it this year.
- I. Age of Books Comparison
 1. (2024-2025) Average Age: 2010; Aged Titles: 43%
 2. (2025-2026) Average Age: 2012; Aged Titles: 38%
- J. Goal for slightly more fiction for student preference. The current order contains 41% fiction books.
- K. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Mr. Banks at zachary.banks@browardschools.com

IX. New business before the SAC

- A. Art Waganheim expressed concerns about students who signed in late being marked as tardy instead of absent, and the issue of tardy-related detention. Taylor Watkins explains that there is a glitch in the system, and one needs to call

and follow up until this issue is resolved. Note that this is an issue at other schools.

- B. Bernstein says that tardies should be put in manually and that speak to an administrator for correction.
 - C. Bonnie Reisler asks how students taking AICE and AP will avoid missing tests that overlap.
 - D. Bolter responds that AICE tests will not overlap, only AICE and AP, so AP can be rescheduled.
 - E. David Hanley asks about informational TVs, and Marino spoke with South Plantation Admin about their process.
- X. SAF Portion of Meeting Starts — Next Mtg: 12/15/25* (*out of normal cycle due to the Winter Break) (Meeting Transitioned to SAF at 3:59 PM)
- A. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - 1. Motion by Art Waganheim, seconded by Erica Hansinger, to approve minutes from the October 28 meeting.
 - B. **District Updates**
 - 1. Schedule and timing for SAF and DAC are available to all parents
 - C. **Legislative and Funding Watch**
 - 1. The updated curriculum moved in the state legislature, will be instituted next year
 - D. **New Business**
 - 1. Landyn Spellberg will, in the future, make announcements at the meetings
 - 2. Parent University
 - a) Padura speaks about Parent University on January 15th (evening), advanced epidemics and mental health
 - b) Opportunities for parents to receive information
 - 3. Teacher/School Events
 - a) 5k Walk (21 hours for participating)
 - b) Possible Aden Perry Foundation in-school student activities
 - E. **Adjournment:**
 - 1. Motion by Art Waganheim, seconded by Bonnie Reisler. Meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.