School Advisory Forum (SAF)

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 4, 2026 • **Time:** 4:22 PM – 4:45 PM
Location: Sea Castle Elementary School Media Center
Chair: Shanta Brown

Quorum: Met

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1. Call to Order

Chair **Shanta Brown** called the School Advisory Forum (SAF) meeting to order at **4:22 PM**.

Quorum was confirmed.

2. Welcome

Mrs. Brown welcomed SAF members, school administration, parents, and community participants. Members were encouraged to remain engaged in district and school matters and to share relevant SAF information with their respective school communities.

3. Housekeeping & Announcements

Members were reminded that **sign-in is required** and were asked to ensure they signed in for attendance and meeting records.

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4. Linewize Parent – Powered by Qustodio

An overview of Linewize Parent, powered by Qustodio, was provided. The digital safety platform allows parents to monitor their child's online activity and screen time.

Features highlighted included monitoring online activity during and outside school hours, establishing device and application time limits, blocking websites and applications, pausing internet access outside school hours, and receiving daily or weekly activity reports. The platform provides insights for a student's BCPS-issued device and one personal device per child.

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5. Open Discussion & District Updates

Student Screen Time & Technology Access

Updates were shared regarding the School Board's decision to limit screen time for pre-kindergarten through first-grade students to activities necessary for state-mandated testing and accommodations for students with special needs.

Members were informed that parents currently cannot opt in to additional screen time during the school day and that access to i-Ready is discontinued daily at 3:30 PM.

A suggestion was presented to consider individualized student time limits rather than a universal cutoff, allowing greater flexibility while maintaining the district's screen-time reduction goals.

Redefining Our Schools

BCPS continues to address declining enrollment, with 10 schools under consideration for closure or repurposing.

Additional school redefinition options are being developed, and community discussions remain ongoing. The School Board was scheduled to conduct its final planning workshop on November 4, with a final vote anticipated on December 15, 2026. Approved changes would take effect during the 2027–2028 school year.

Next Generation Referendum

An update was provided regarding voter approval of the Secure the Next Generation Referendum renewal. The existing one-mill property tax is expected to generate approximately $358 million annually to support teacher compensation, school safety, and student mental health services.

Amendment 3 – Potential Impact on Student Programs

Information was shared regarding potential funding reductions affecting Children's Services Councils and youth programs. The presentation highlighted projected funding losses for the Children's Services Council of Broward County of approximately $17 million in the first year and $47.8 million by 2029.

National PTA School of Excellence

Families were encouraged to participate in the National PTA School of Excellence Family Survey to provide feedback on school programs, family engagement, and opportunities for improvement. The survey deadline is December 12, 2026.

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6. Upcoming Events & Announcements

The following upcoming events and opportunities were highlighted:

- November 9 – January 15, 2027: BCPS School Choice application window for Magnet, Nova, and reassignment opportunities.
- November 12: Sea Castle Curriculum Night, 5:30–7:00 PM, Cafeteria.
- November 14: BCPS Federal Programs Dad's Challenge, 10:00 AM–2:00 PM, William Dandy Middle School.
- November 15: 6th Annual Family Fun Day, 1:00–4:00 PM, Reverend Samuel Delevoe Park.
- November 19: Best in Pines Showcase for fourth- and fifth-grade families, 6:00–7:00 PM, Pines Collegiate Academy 6–12.
- December 1: BCPS Showcase, 5:00–8:00 PM, Amerant Bank Arena.

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7. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at **4:45 PM**.