



School Advisory Forum (SAF) Meeting

AGENDA and MINUTES

Cross Creek School- Media Center
 1010 NW 31st Ave, Pompano Beach, FL 33069
 May 27, 2026 – 3:45 PM

Agenda Items	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please make sure you have signed in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order by Ms. Samuels at 3:45 PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Introduction of members and new participants • Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes 	<p>.Attendance: Danielle Austin, Michael Brennan, Kristopher Butler, Cleovonne Davis, Jannel Morris, Sarah Samuels, Colleen Stearn, Jahquiez Taylor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting Members Present: 8 • Voting Members Absent: 6 • Quorum Present: YES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new participants present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April Meeting Minutes from the Joint SAC/SAF Meeting will be reviewed and voted on during the SAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Area Advisory Council Report: Ms. Samuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on the <u>Referendum</u> was made by School Board Member Dr. Allen Zeman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressed the group to provide an overview of the upcoming referendum expected on the November ballot, focusing on funding priorities, district finances, and strategies to improve student outcomes.



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- Dr. Zeman explained that the referendum represents approximately \$1.23 billion (17% of the district’s budget) and is one of the few flexible funding sources.
- He emphasized the Board’s responsibility to ensure these funds are used as promised—primarily for teacher pay, mental health, safety, and school-based staffing.
- He noted the scale of the district (about 30,000 employees and 239 campuses) and the need to make strategic decisions with limited resources, particularly to retain students and rebuild trust with families.
- A central focus is “winning the hearts and minds” of students and parents.
- **School Utilization and Programs** - Addressing concerns about school closures, Dr. Zeman stated the priority is strong student experiences, not maintaining under-enrolled buildings.
 - Schools with low enrollment often cannot offer full academic and extracurricular programs, while fully utilized schools can.
 - Consolidation may be necessary, though the district is also exploring program enhancements to attract students.
- **Student Retention** - He acknowledged that students are leaving for charter and private options, a trend seen nationwide.



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- The district’s approach is to improve offerings and compete by strengthening the quality of traditional public schools.
- **Referendum Funds and Input:** Dr. Zeman stated that community input—through meetings, surveys, and advisory groups—does influence decisions.
- Referendum funds are audited and must be used as designated, with a focus on supporting schools directly.
- **Accountability and Communication** - Concerns about transparency and communication were acknowledged.
- Dr. Zeman agreed improvements are needed and noted that some district practices, including surveys, have not met expectations.
- He emphasized the importance of raising standards while recognizing the strong work happening in schools daily.
- **Staffing Priorities** - In response to concerns about staffing cuts, Dr. Zeman stated he does not support reductions that impact student services and stressed the importance of prioritizing school-based positions.
- **Human Resources** presentation by Dr. Ernie Lozano –
 - Discussion began by acknowledging the difficulty of recent staffing decisions. Dr. Lozano emphasized that while the reductions are significant, there are misconceptions about district staff and their roles.
 - He clarified that many district-level employees directly support schools and students, even if they are not always



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visible on campuses. The reductions were largely focused on vacant positions or distributed strategically across departments:

- Transportation: 103 positions cut (mostly vacant), with over 1,000 staff still supporting student transportation daily.
- Safety & Security: 7 positions cut (all vacant), with approximately 900 staff remaining, most serving on school campuses.
- Maintenance: Over 600 employees remain dedicated to facilities and school work orders.
- Clerical & Administrative: Reductions resulted in fewer staff supporting multiple departments.
- Leadership Levels: The highest percentage of cuts (16%) occurred at director-level and above, aligning with directives to prioritize reductions at the top.
- He stressed that many district-based roles—such as social workers, psychologists, and instructional support staff—are essential to student services, with over 800 still supporting schools.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the scale of the district, he noted Broward County Public Schools employs approximately 30,000 individuals. While cuts are impactful, the district plans to restructure and realign remaining staff to maintain service levels. • He also emphasized that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No teachers are expected to be left without employment, with placements anticipated by the end of the school year. 2. Feedback from staff and the community will guide adjustments moving forward. 3. A detailed breakdown of changes will be presented at the upcoming public workshop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No old business
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new business was presented
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting will be in August 2026- Date/Time to be announced.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Adjournment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adjourn: Mr. Taylor • Motion seconded: Mr. Brennan • Outcome: Meeting adjourned by Ms. Samuels at 4:00 PM