

# Tradewinds Elementary School School Advisory Forum

5400 Johnson Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073  
Nancy Fry, Chair  
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## General Meeting Minutes January 8, 2026 – 3:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order at 2:51 by Chair Nancy Fry

Shari Ham moved to approve the November 2025 minutes, seconded by Teresa Petty.  
All voted yes.

### Chair Report

- North Area Advisory Update
  - Districtwide budget freeze
    - Impacts travel for staff and field trips and how staffing vacancies are filled - goal is to not impact students. Also looking to cut 1,000 positions (annual attrition is 650-700, so some of those positions may be closed)
  - Concerns regarding limited planning time for elementary teachers
    - Planning time is by contractual agreement. Existing opportunities: before school, during specials, and through Professional Learning Communities outlined in SIP.
    - Teachers should raise concerns through their BTU steward
  - Student financial obligations not listed in FOCUS
    - Motion passed by NAA that the District ensure any student obligations are reflected in FOCUS and that a process is created to notify parents or guardians
  - Update on district meal charge procedures and student lunch obligations
    - Students will not have trays removed
    - Meal charges are currently being absorbed through principal accounts (resulting in approximately \$300,000 in districtwide debt)
    - Meal charges will transition to student obligations, retroactive to September, once separate accounting systems are aligned
    - Balances should appear once system update is completed (approx. February)
    - Parental notification should see revised communication scripts and improved clarity
    - Student lunch debt balances must be paid off through the cafeteria manager (not district or foundation donations, which are applied to principal accounts)
  - Redefining Schools
    - Forest Glen not currently recommended for closure (commitments made to Coral Springs not to revisit closures this year), but is likely to be considered next cycle
  - Accountability & accelerated funds
    - Chair provided an update on the Motion requesting restoration of ~\$20 million in accelerated funding intended for specific student programs. Despite follow-up communications with district budget staff, no formal response has been received.
    - Concerns were raised that the accelerated funds were placed into general funds and expended, contrary to state guidance allowing rollovers and limiting use to designated

purposes. Members expressed frustration that shortages persist in critical areas such as student meals, school nurses, and instructional materials, with examples cited of families being asked to purchase classroom textbooks

- Confusion caused by recent district memos regarding accountability funds allowable uses, staff bonuses, eligibility of personnel, and required fringe benefit deductions
- Clarification was provided that fringe costs must be deducted from bonus allocations and that schools may submit a fringe reimbursement request form if a portion of funds is used for non-bonus purposes.
- Council members emphasized the importance of improved transparency and communication regarding funding decisions and encouraged school representatives to report unmet student needs directly to district leadership

#### Announcements

- Next meeting Feb. 5th at 3:00 PM in the Media Center

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 by Shari Ham

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