



DRAFT
VIRTUAL EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 6:30-8:30 PM

Members	Attendance	July 2020 – May 2021	
		Present	Absent
Dr. Allen Zeman, Chair	P	10	0
Ruchel Coetzee	P	9	1
Lisa May	P	5	5
Amy Ellowitz, Vice Chair	P	10	0
Heather Brinkworth	P	5	0
April Jeff	A	2	8
Dr. Heather Munns	P	8	2
Tina Jaramillo	P	10	0
Colleen Lockwood	P	10	0
Chad Klitzman	P	1	0
Vickie Melus	A	4	6
Christopher Relyea	P	10	0
Lillian Small	P	4	6
Rory Sponsler	P	9	1
Betty Shelley	P	8	2
Dr. Michele Verdi-Knapp	P	10	0
Yolanda B. Francis	P	5	5
Tomislav Lukic	P	10	0
Dr. Jean-Jacques Rajter	A	4	1
Leah Polhemus Hopkins	A	2	1

Staff/Guests

Zoie Saunders, Chief Education Officer, City of Fort Lauderdale
 Crysta Parkinson, Prototype, Inc.

Esthel Brennan, President, Riverside Park Residents Association
 Wayne Whatley, Vice President of the Local Resident's Association Board
 Thomas Harrison, Athletic Director and Teacher at Stranahan
 Danielle Smith, Bennet Elementary Principal
 Chad Jordan, Fort Lauderdale High School 11th grade student.
 Hailey McTee, Senior at College Academy.
 Samantha Moly, Senior at Flanigan High School.
 Shaba Kojo, with non-profit Shoolay

- **Welcome**

This meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

- **Attendance and Roll Call, 20 appointed members; 10 needed for quorum**

As of this date, April 22, 2021, 16 of the 20 appointed members were present, which constituted a quorum.

Communication to the City Commission

Motion by Mr. Sponsler, seconded by Ms. Coetzee, that the City Commission request the School Board of Broward County ensure Stranahan High School gets the actual cafeteria construction it needs for current and future projected capacity and have promised restroom upgrades from 2018. The **motion** carried unanimously. (16-0)

Chair's Minute

Chair Dr. Zeman mentioned a lot of drama going on, which the Chair and Board are going to avoid. In terms of broader issues, the County has announced its Summer Academic Programs and they are working diligently to hire certified teachers and get the curriculum lined up for students to come to the school over the summer for academic remediation. The City Commission allocated \$500,000 to support academic remediation as well. Schools are wrapping up the year and FSA tests are coming, and some have already started. The pandemic numbers are better, and many students are back in school. The County has also announced that the beginning of school is back to face-to-face learning. The Board continues to do more advocacy for the Equity in Education initiative, which will take the bulk of time at this meeting and then they are going to move into Stranahan High School to talk about a critical Bond issue.

Equity in Education

- **Community Input/Feedback on Equity in Education presentation**

Ms. Lockwood advised that students would be presenting a series of recommendations derived from informational interviews with racial equity thought leaders. They have not considered a recommendation for investment in schools. She introduced the students and facilitator as follows:

Chad Jordan, Fort Lauderdale High School 11th grade student.

Hailey McTee, Senior at College Academy.

Samantha Moly, Senior at Flanigan High School.

Yewande Shitta-Bey was not present; honoring her commitment to tutor fellow students.

Shaba Kojo, with non-profit, Shoolay

Ms. Lockwood stated that Bridge 2 Life is a local college access and collective impact group. They are governed by Executive Champion agencies, which include Broward Schools, the Alliance, 211 Broward, Children's Services Counsel, The DeLuca Foundation, Broward College, and Broward Education Foundation. They have extended beyond the border of Broward through Osceola, Palm Beach, and Polk County Schools and in Miami-Dade through the Children's Trust where they work with many companies to deliver career conversations with youth serving partners like the YMCA, MODS, and the City of Fort Lauderdale, among many others. They are focusing in three areas: digital fluency, lots of initiatives and events around college going conversations, and career fluency, and especially in front tier career areas like Crypto Currency careers and becoming a U-Tuber and learning about E-Sports. Their most important emphasis is peer engagement; in student clubs, anywhere peers can come together, connect, and engage, build agency; it is important and relevant, and they provide that in a variety of ways. At the end of the day, it is about increasing equitable outcomes. Their racial equity lens has been a foundational part of their mission from day 1 and that is what they talked about this year. This project started last year with students getting racial equity trained and as of November, they started hosting monthly meetings and called this group the Youth Led Racial Equity and Social Justice Advisory Counsel. The customer of education is the student, so who best to look at education and try to figure it out. In February, a challenge was issued to the students to think about a year end project to look at if you were given a green field and a head baton and how they would fix racism and education, not tactically, but systemically. The students said, "Okay, great, let's talk to people who understand this" and they began a series of interviews in March, nine of which have been completed and there is a draft set of recommendations. The Board is getting a sneak peak of what will be presented at the end of the school year.

Interviews consisted of four basic easy questions and hard answers. The students are scheduled to interview Dr. Osgood and Superintendent Runcie in May and are presenting at Broward School's Equity Conference in June, and in July, to the Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee of the newly named Six Pillars of Broward Prosperity Partnership. They have asked for an interview with Ms. Leonardi, Mr. Sponsler, and Mr. Relyea.

The name of the group decided by the students is REAL; Racial Equity Advisory Leaders and their tag line is "Striving to change the REALity of systemic racism in public education". A short sizzle reel was shared of the interviews. Students take turns hosting interviews and self-introduce by answering one of three questions. Each of the students went over their questions and answers. Social media was mentioned, and it was noted that Gen Z basically runs all platforms.

Ms. Lockwood stated that kids live on Tik Tok and Instagram, so it is a great platform.

The following are students' recommendations:

- Address history, curriculum, and teacher diversity gaps.
- Sustained peer mentoring programs.
- More Math and Science tutors.
- Youth Leadership Roles in Anti-Racist Decision Making
- Appreciate the importance of intersectionality.
- Incentivized higher ed.
- Disaggregated Data Analysis

Ms. Lockwood advised that the interview series would be complete by the end of May and the white paper and deck to present in many different forums is being worked on and will be finalized. It is important that this program get passed on to future students in the fall. Relevance to the Education Advisory Board matters, they value their insight and would like to hear the Board's input on the recommendations so far. She and Ms. Saunders spoke briefly, and she questioned what it would be like to involve the Education Advisory Board in their work.

Chair Dr. Zeman requested the students come back to the next Educational Advisory meeting. The Board is going to add how they can incorporate their perspectives, attitude, and knowledge about what they are trying to do with their Equity in Education initiative. The Board needs to think about what a partnership between REAL and the Education Advisory Board would look like. He thanked Ms. Lockwood for bringing the youth voice forward and for providing the platform and opportunity.

In response to Chair Dr. Zeman, the students said they would come back next month.

Chair Dr. Zeman apologized to the Board and asked if members would preserve feedback obtained from talking to other people, so it could be discussed at the next meeting. He stated that he briefed Commissioners Glassman and Sorenson on their Equity in Education initiative and both gave the green light and said move out, do not study, and launch first day of school next year. They also said to let them know what the event is, plan a real event, and they would notice the meeting and attend. He also spoke to Mayor Trantalis and he asked why the Board was not already doing this; he said stop talking about it and go. There is a clear direction about this being a pressing issue and one that would be appropriate for the City and the Education Advisory Board to work on in support of the City Commission.

- **Summer Enrichment Program**

Chair Dr. Zeman advised that the Commission has allocated a half million dollars towards this program. The money was given for a series of programs to increase academic enrichment this summer.

Ms. Saunders reported that the City Commission unanimously approved the \$500,000 allocation, which comes from the CARES ACT and will be a grant through the Community Development process. Two program models will be implemented. Program A will use funds to academically enrich existing Parks and Recreation Summer Camps, which will serve about 340 students. Funds will also support outfitting Community Centers with Wi-fi to enhance their ability to engage in online content. Additional funds will be used to support a community extension of Broward County Public Schools Summer Academy, which is a free six-week half-day program, Monday through Thursday. The City is looking to partner with service providers to extend the program to have an afternoon and Friday camp experience for those students. They have been working closely with Broward County Public Schools and Children's Services Counsel to identify the need for this program and to develop an approach that will work for the community. With the approved funding and type of collaborative work with the Education Advisory Board, they can truly leverage unique resources and expertise of community partners and stakeholders to address an incredible need; about 30% of students in Fort Lauderdale have been identified as failing, much of which is attributed to remote learning during COVID and many other issues. The third part of this program model is to bring in some College and Career Readiness Workshops. She has been working with Bridge 2 Life and Ms. Lockwood to design a program to have a further supplement for middle and high school students. At this point, they are finalizing their coordination with service providers and by the next meeting there will be an update on their anticipated enrollment in terms of the number of students they will be able to serve as well as the site locations. The goal is that every Fort Lauderdale Elementary School that is hosting summer school will have an afternoon option available. One point they will continue to stay updated on is that there are a lot of unknowns; this is their first time doing this program, so there are many success factors they need to pay attention to, one of which is if parents will feel comfortable sending their kids back to school and what the full capacity will be for service providers to ramp up because it is a quick turnaround time to expand their capacity with the funding available. They are working on other strategies to provide the enrichment needed for students should the full enrollment expected not come into play.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that the Education Advisory Board is fully aware that these are challenges and if the intent of the City Commission is to be realized, some of these programs may roll over from summer to fall. Academic enrichment goes on all the time and getting parents involved in afterschool programs after summer makes sense. He stated he is aware of this and is in full support.

Old Business

- Strategic Initiatives: Updates
 - Bennett Elementary School

Chair Dr. Zeman announced this is Principal Smith's 12th consecutive meeting.

Principal Smith advised they are in an exciting place with Phase 1; she recently finished paperwork with the Project Manager, where they are getting pre-information for construction. Phase 2 should be going to the School Board Workshop during one of the summer meetings. Bennett Elementary School is doing wonderful things; they had 100% participation for testing for grades 3, 4, and 5, and are starting to get Kindergarten registrations. She shouted out to the Fort Lauderdale Zone; they just found out that Mr. Curran from Fort Lauderdale High School was one of the finalists for AP of the Year.

- Joint Use Parks

Chair Dr. Zeman would like to invite someone from Parks and Recreation to talk to the Board about a Program Manager's view of monies set aside for Joint Use Parks. The Board has been very vocal about that and want to hear a Program Manager's perspective on progress being made and what the schedule might look like. They would like to know if any future projects may be completed for which a ribbon cutting could be scheduled in the future. The Board would like a full report on the \$11+ million dedicated to school Joint Use Parks.

- Early Learning Initiative

Chair Dr. Zeman indicated that their Equity in Education initiative is broad, but they have not heard from the Early Learning Coalition or others for a while, so it would make sense to invite a speaker, such as Dr. Lori Canning.

New Business

- Stranahan High School SMART Bond

Chair Dr. Zeman acknowledged Ms. Brinkworth, who is going to provide background on the SMART Bond issue.

Ms. Brinkworth shared her screen and explained that the Stranahan High School cafeteria was built in 1958. What is important for the conversation around the cafeteria and Equity is that 86.2% of students qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch and only Boyd Anderson and Balance Ely have a higher percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch students. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served from this cafeteria. Pictures show how the cafeteria is divided into two separate sections on the north and south sides of the school.

A brief history was provided of the school from 1958 to 2018 and the following dates were highlighted:

- A Castaldi Report was issued in 2005, recommending a new school, which would include a new cafeteria. A Castaldi Report is a report the State issues that allows the School Board to demolish a building. If a building is renovated that has a

Castaldi Report, that ability to demolish the building goes away.

- Through 2005-2008 a new school was planned, and an architect and contractor were hired, but in 2008, the School Board removed the projects due to the recession.
- On February 13, 2018, the School Board was presented with plans for a renovation and addition to the cafeteria and the District Power Point outlined the project, which included the restrooms. There were no restrooms in the cafeteria proper, which was a big concern for the School Board as well as the fact that the capacity could not seat the students inside. There was a tent outside where most students eat.
- On March 6, 2018, the Board approved the project with a budget.
- On July 24, 2018, the Board approved the Professional Services Agreement, which was the design agreement between LIVS Associates, LLC, and the School District to go ahead with the design of the new cafeteria.
- From July 24, 2018 to 2021: In a monthly update two months ago, the Project Manager mentioned the capacity of the cafeteria had been cut. At that point, the Project Manager stated that the School Board decided in February 2020 to amend the Service Agreement and change the capacity. In reviewing documents, there was nothing that said anything about a capacity reduction and when questions were asked during the meeting as to what was changing. Everyone on the call was upset and then a conversation started about the cost analysis of a new building, as originally requested, versus the addition the School Board voted on in 2018. If they have to go back to the drawing board with designs, there is going to be another pause or delay, but the community deserves them taking another look.

Chair Dr. Zeman questioned the loss of funds between 2018 and 2021 and what the current budget is.

Ms. Brinkworth understood that funding has not changed. The Board makes the decision about funds allocated to a project, which cannot be changed except for a School Board vote. The only change she was aware of was that the capacity had been cut, according to the Project Manager. She noted that Ms. Leonardi might have a more updated report on what they are currently thinking of bringing before the Board, because she is not privy to those conversations.

Esthel Brennan, President of Riverside Park Residents Association, advised that she has been attending the facility update meetings since they began in 2018, and from the start, it has been brutal to get accurate information from the construction team. Presentations were often difficult to understand, and Power Points were constantly redone because different projects were inaccurate. The cafeteria issue never came up during meetings and when the community and parents asked why they were not building for the future and why the students were eating under tents with holes, the questions were dismissed. The last in person conversation she had with the construction team was in February 2020. There was not a meeting that went by that she did not question costs for a new built cafeteria. They were invited to a facility meeting in January and as Ms. Brinkworth

mentioned, that is when everything became apparent that when there is silence there is something behind it. They quietly brushed over modifications that were going to be done to the cafeteria, which included going from 790 to under 600 students. To say the community was blindsided is an understatement. After all these years of asking for a new cafeteria, they decided to save a dollar by making other renovations to have a lesser capacity. During some of the meetings there was discussion about cutting costs on frills, which was a point of contention because Stranahan students deserve frills. At the January meeting the community requested monthly updates and new sketches of different options for getting students back to school by making it larger and more accommodating. There were follow up meetings in February and March that ended with multiple outstanding questions and asks from the community and advocacy groups on the call. She expected an invite to the meeting in April, but nothing was received, so she reached out to everyone and Stranahan School stated that they were having their staff meeting and that the constructions meetings were after to make it more predictable for students and parents. She found out through the grapevine that the intention of the construction team was moving forward with a design for the 790 bump-out from the March meeting when all the outstanding questions and asks were unanswered. As far as she knows, their intent is to bring that without the consent of something the community is agreeable on moving forward.

Chair Dr. Zeman questioned the scope change between what was proposed in 2018 and the current scope of the project. They were going to build at capacity in 2018 and set aside funds; they informed the State of the \$6.675 million budget to do those things and executed a contract for a design. He questioned if there was a difference between what they are planning to build now versus what they planned to build in 2018.

Ms. Brinkworth understood different options discussed during the last community meeting that would be brought before the Board. Those new options did not include restrooms inside of the cafeteria addition; currently a standalone building is being renovated for less stalls than what had been told to the Board during the original conversation.

Chair Dr. Zeman asked Ms. Saunders to discuss the change from 2018 to the change they have heard is going to be proposed next.

Ms. Saunders advised that part of the change was relative to the scope as it relates to restrooms, so that has been a big point of focus for the community. At the most recent community meeting, the School Board provided rough estimates of the cost. For the renovation, the estimated cost is \$10.5 million, the estimated cost for a new building in the same location is \$20.5 million, and the estimated cost for a new building in a new location on the campus is \$21.2 million. She understood from many community conversations over the years, the cost continues to go up for this project. She did not know if those estimates have been revised as it goes to the School Board Workshop in May; she did not have that update.

In response to Chair Dr. Zeman, Ms. Saunders confirmed that the \$10.5 million estimate did not include restrooms that were in the 2018 plan; it is a freestanding building.

Ms. Lockwood commented that she was in favor of anything the Board could do for Stranahan High School. Ms. Coetzee concurred and questioned what the Board could do.

Warren Whatley, Vice President of the Local Resident's Association Board, works closely with the school. He is trying to advocate the best way he can and was planning to speak during last School Board meeting, but the spot he had was reallocated because there was a closed-door session. He read his statement as follows:

My name is Warren Whatley. I am a retired professor of economics from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. I was also Dean of Graduate Education at Michigan. I retired to Fort Lauderdale seven years ago and moved to my current residence in Riverside Park five years ago. I love my neighborhood, and upon arrival I mentioned to my friends and colleagues how diverse the community was, by class and race, and speculated that it was because it was situated between two branches of the New River; old Florida, canopy, just off downtown, big houses and little, old, and young, black, brown, and white; rather unique in America. As President of the National Economics Association, I ventured into my local high school, Stranahan High School, to pilot a national program designed to prepare high school students for a career in economics, designed and funded by Cecilia Rouse, the current Chairwoman of President Joe Biden's Council of Economic Advisors. To my surprise, I found Stranahan to be a dilapidated structure, physically isolated from my community, and neglected by the Broward County School Board. I found their greatest resource to be the teachers struggling to teach under adverse circumstances and physical capital. From the many conversations I have had since then, and from my initial research of public documents, I have come to the unfortunate conclusion that this State of Affairs is by design of the Broward County School Board. Since at least 2007, when the school was slated to be rebuilt, through 2014 when it was used as the poster child for a Bond referendum, to today, when the school is struggling to get even a cafeteria adequate to its needs, Stranahan has gotten the short end of the stick. It reminds me of the political economy of school funding in the Jim Crow South, something economists know a lot about, where State, Federal, and local dollars were allotted to Counties according to the total number of students in the County, only to be reallocated to white students by the local School Board. From what I can tell, Broward County continues to operate as if it were Jim Crow. I imagine each of you has a story that justifies the decisions that have created this outcome, but the outcome exists, nonetheless. We call it institutional racism, and it is time it stopped. I am here to urge you to do the right thing and stop destroying my neighborhood and its high school. It should be the center of my community, not the neglected child of this body.

Chair Dr. Zeman thanked Mr. Whatley for his time and articulation and requested he submit his statement to Ms. Saunders so it could be put into the record.

Mr. Sponsler understood from the presentation that at one point \$6.675 million was set aside so Stranahan High School could get a new cafeteria all together. He questioned what year the money was set aside.

Ms. Brinkworth stated money was set aside for the new addition to the cafeteria to include restrooms on March 6, 2018.

Mr. Sponsler commented that in 2021, the cost increased to either \$10.5 million or \$20.5 million if they wanted a new building in the same location.

Ms. Brinkworth advised that was what the Project Manager relayed during the community meeting and those were the numbers Ms. Saunders presented. The new cost of the additional and renovated cafeteria, meaning they would keep part of the existing structure and add to it, but renovate the entire thing, is now at a \$10.5 million cost and the cost to build an entirely new building is upwards of \$20 million. The thing to keep in mind is that the restrooms will not be included as part of the \$10.5 million cost.

Mr. Sponsler commented that the cost is ballooning and questioned if they were looking at going back to the drawing board for a redesign and reapplication to the State with plans.

Ms. Brinkworth stated the plans do not have to go to the State. The State only gets involved in the fact that there was a Castaldi Report, so once any renovations are completed on the building, the School District will no longer have permission from the State to demolish the building. If an addition and renovation are completed, at no time in the foreseeable future will there be a new cafeteria at Stranahan High School.

In response to Ms. Coetzee's question, Chair Dr. Zeman stated there are many opportunities; the Board could inform the Commissioners and ask them to communicate to the Broward County School Board what they would represent as the City's desires and in essence, requirements to the Broward County School Board. There is no new money in the SMART Bond, so to the extent the Board wants to communicate to the Commission to advocate for more money, whether it is for restrooms or the original scope, they would have to find the money elsewhere. Another thing the Board could do is request presentations at this meeting next month from the Program Manager and Director of Construction from the Broward County School Board. He noted that one of the frustrations that has evolved is that the City of Fort Lauderdale relies primarily on Homeowners' Associations to get community feedback and if leaders of Homeowners' Associations are being frozen out of those communications, then the City of Fort Lauderdale has a justifiable complaint about the way the communication is done. The other choice is to do a communication to the Commission and ask them to prioritize or share a concern about the scope or the restrooms.

Ms. Coetzee suggested asking for a different plan from a different firm that might come up with a more economical plan, which could include restrooms and redoing the cafeteria. She questioned if they have to be stuck with one person's plan and vision for the cafeteria.

Chair Dr. Zeman explained there is a process by which any large enterprise like the Broward County School Board go through to identify a requirement to allocate funds, to work with the Principals and Homeowners' Associations, to get a design, attempting to get the design forward, and looking to meet capacities that will be there in the future, but once those plans are done and approved by multiple Boards and the School Board, it is not something that can change at the last minute unless they want to build the cafeteria in 2026, but then there are huge risks in giving up the funds currently allocated. He asked the Board not to consider that option too much even though it is appropriate and reasonable.

Thomas Harrison, Athletic Director and Teacher at Stranahan High School, kickstarted this cafeteria situation years ago because it broke his heart watching students eat under the tent while sweating and dodging raindrops. He shared his screen to show where the students eat. He brought these conditions up at Board meetings and was told that an analysis would be needed to see what other schools needed because they need Equity. The cafeteria holds 200 students inside, which went from 1,000 to about 1,500 in the past three years. If they reach capacity, they want to make sure they are not in this situation again where students are eating outside. His biggest issue is that the City of Fort Lauderdale tax revenue, especially from this neighborhood, is not being allocated back to the school in an equal way; it is being donated to other areas. His personal goal is to make Stranahan High School the center of the community. He is working to make it possible for all Homeowners' Associations and education partners to use their campus rental free. They are working with the City to have their tennis courts, basketball courts, track, and swim programs open to the community. He pointed out the restroom and small freestanding building on the screen. The SMART Bond has done a lot of great things as far as the HVAC system and fire alarms, but the students and community deserve better. He thanked everyone who stepped up to speak.

Ms. Brennan mentioned revenue leaving the neighborhood and stated that 60 new townhomes were recently built across the street from the high school. When they asked for the drawings or concept on two kinds of new build, one with the existing structure and one off-campus, they were provided the three numbers Ms. Saunders read. One of their major asks at the April meeting was to break down those numbers as to how much was for design, etc., because even with renovations, they are going to have to bring in a commissary kitchen to feed the students. Another topic was about the small cafeteria acting as an ongoing kitchen while a new build was put in place. As a community, they wanted the numbers broken down because it was not provided.

Mr. Lukic mentioned the \$10.5 million and the \$20.5 million and questioned if there was a difference in capacity between the two plans.

Ms. Saunders thought part of the question from the community was to get further detail of what spills into the cost estimates. This is a pending question since ballpark figures were shared.

Mr. Sponsler commented that Fort Lauderdale High School students had to experience the same things Stranahan High School students are experiencing while going through renovations. Now that Fort Lauderdale High School has a cafeteria, it does not meet the student population and they are considering going to three lunch shifts. He proposed that the Education Advisory Board urge the School Board to fast track to the best of their ability at building a cafeteria that would accommodate, so the school has what it needs now and in the future since school enrollment is rising and will continue to rise.

Chair Dr. Zeman commented that an alternate suggestion might have been to ask the Commission to work with the School Board and Senior Staff members to cost out what was promised in 2018 and to report back to the City of Fort Lauderdale. His alternate, which is not what he would propose, but something he would like the Board to consider, has some political appeal because Stranahan High School has been promised many things through the years and denied. They are at the point, politically, where it is a strong argument for doing what was promised; the 2018 plan included restrooms inside and a significant capacity. There is some value in asking the Commissioners to hold the Broward County School Board and Senior Staff responsible for delivering what they promised. He would like Mr. Sponsler to think about that and make a motion asking them to build what they promised or think about creating a clear signal they would like the Commission to send to the Broward County School Board.

Mr. Sponsler completely understood and was torn between the idea of getting what was promised and making sure the Board still has money set aside where it was supposed to be. If they are talking about Equity, he believed the Board should push for what Stranahan High School needs, not necessarily what was promised after a reduction in what was promised originally.

Motion by Mr. Sponsler, seconded by Ms. Coetzee, that the City Commission request the School Board of Broward County ensure Stranahan High School gets the actual cafeteria construction it needs for current and future projected capacity and have promised restroom upgrades from 2018. The **motion** carried unanimously. (16-0)

Mr. Relyea questioned how many lunches the school currently has. The necessary capacity has a lot to do with the schedule, so he thought it was relevant when asking for a particular capacity. He wanted to it be clear to everyone because it might move the vote depending upon their understanding.

Chair Dr. Zeman thought Mr. Sponsler worded the motion to give Stranahan's cafeteria the required capacity for the future enrollment. He questioned how many lunches Stranahan High School currently has.

Ms. Brennan stated there are two lunches; the current enrollment is roughly 1,500. From what she understands, enrollment has been increasing 10% year after year.

Chair Dr. Zeman requested Ms. Saunders gather additional information about better estimates of the options and what is included in terms of the capacity of seating and the inclusion of restrooms; if any options were for a new cafeteria, they would like to know that as well. He thanked Ms. Brinkworth for providing information regarding the Castaldi Report.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: March 18, 2021

Chair Dr. Zeman referenced Page 1 and noted that the indication of \$600 million coming from the Federal Government to Broward County Schools should read as, **\$876 million**, as cited on Page 2.

Ms. Jaramillo mentioned the attendance shows her absent one time; however, she was late to one meeting, which was in March.

Mr. Lukic referenced Page 6, top paragraph, seventh line and stated that the sentence ends with culture and it should read as, **academic culture**. The last sentence of that paragraph should also read as, **academic culture**.

Ms. Saunders mentioned Membership and noted that Sarah DelNegri no longer on the Board and her name should be removed. She referenced Page 5, second to the last paragraph and noted that it says FDE and should read as, **FTE dollars**.

Motion by Mr. Lukic, seconded by Ms. Coetzee, to approve the March 18, 2021 minutes as amended. **Motion** passed unanimously. (16-0)

- **Closing**

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

[Minutes transcribed by C. Guifarro, Prototype, Inc.]

EAB

April 22, 2021

6:30p

PRESENTATION OF THE B2L YOUTH-LED
RACIAL EQUITY ADVISORY LEADER INITIATIVE
TO THE

EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

BRIDGE  2 LIFE



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INTRO

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT LEADERS

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

CHAD JORDAN
11TH GRADER, FORT LAUDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL

HAILEY MCTEE
SENIOR, COLLEGE ACADEMY

SAMANTHA MOLY
SENIOR, CHARLES FLANAGAN HIGH SCHOOL

YEWANDE SHITTA-BEY
10TH GRADER, EVERGLADES HIGH SCHOOL

plus!
SHABA
KOJO



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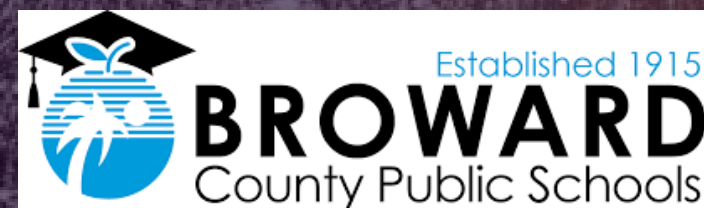
BRIDGE  2 LIFE

How an LCAN Works

we build partnerships, we collaborate

we empower the student voice

we deliver innovative programming to youth



THIS IS WHERE IT BEGINS.





B2L PARTNERS

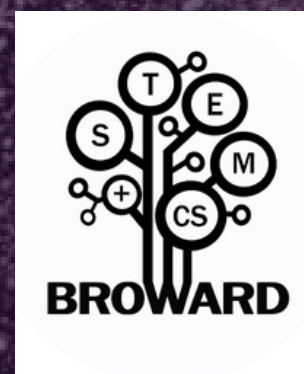


ULTIMATE
GAMER

hulu

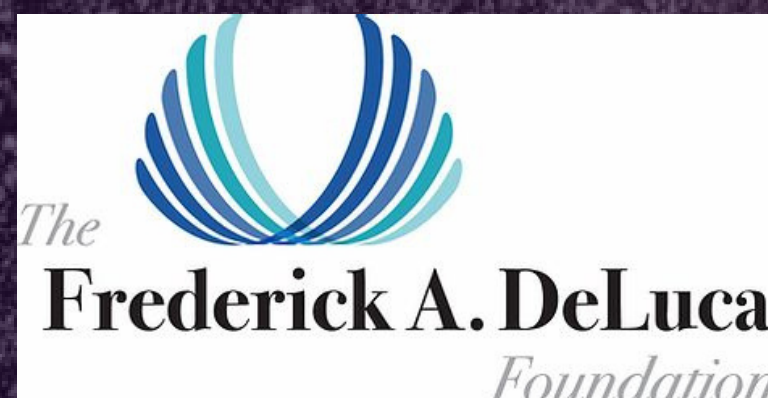


uKG



BROWARD
COLLEGE

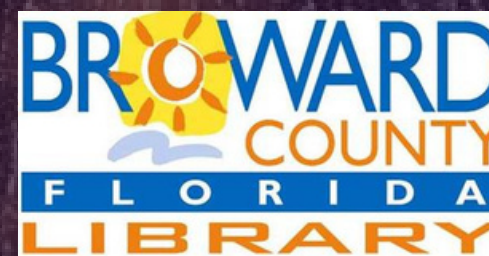
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GET THERE

Florida Workforce
Education Initiative

DataKind



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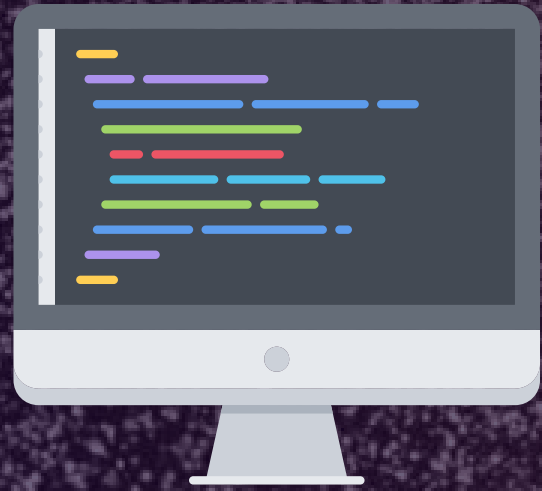
SEI



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B2L Areas of Focus



Focus on STEM

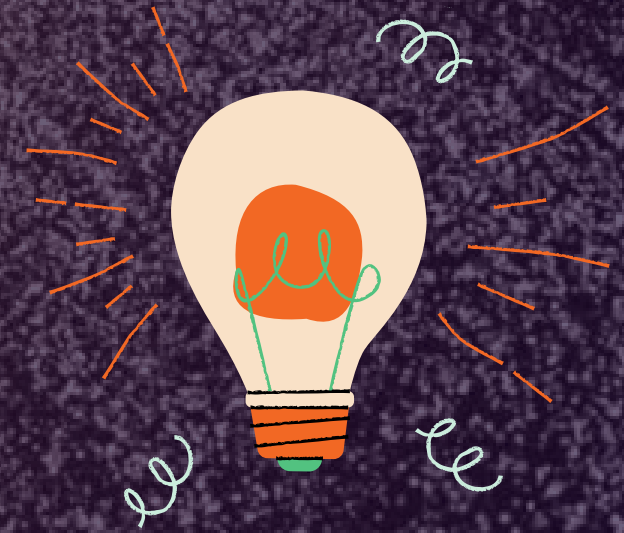
Help students build digital fluency skills (across multiple platforms); all B2L programs have a digital fluency emphasis



Learning Series

Events that drill down and expose students to diverse career paths / resources (i.e. College & Career Fair, Youtuber Conference, Blockchain Conf, etc)

THIS IS WHERE IT BEGINS.

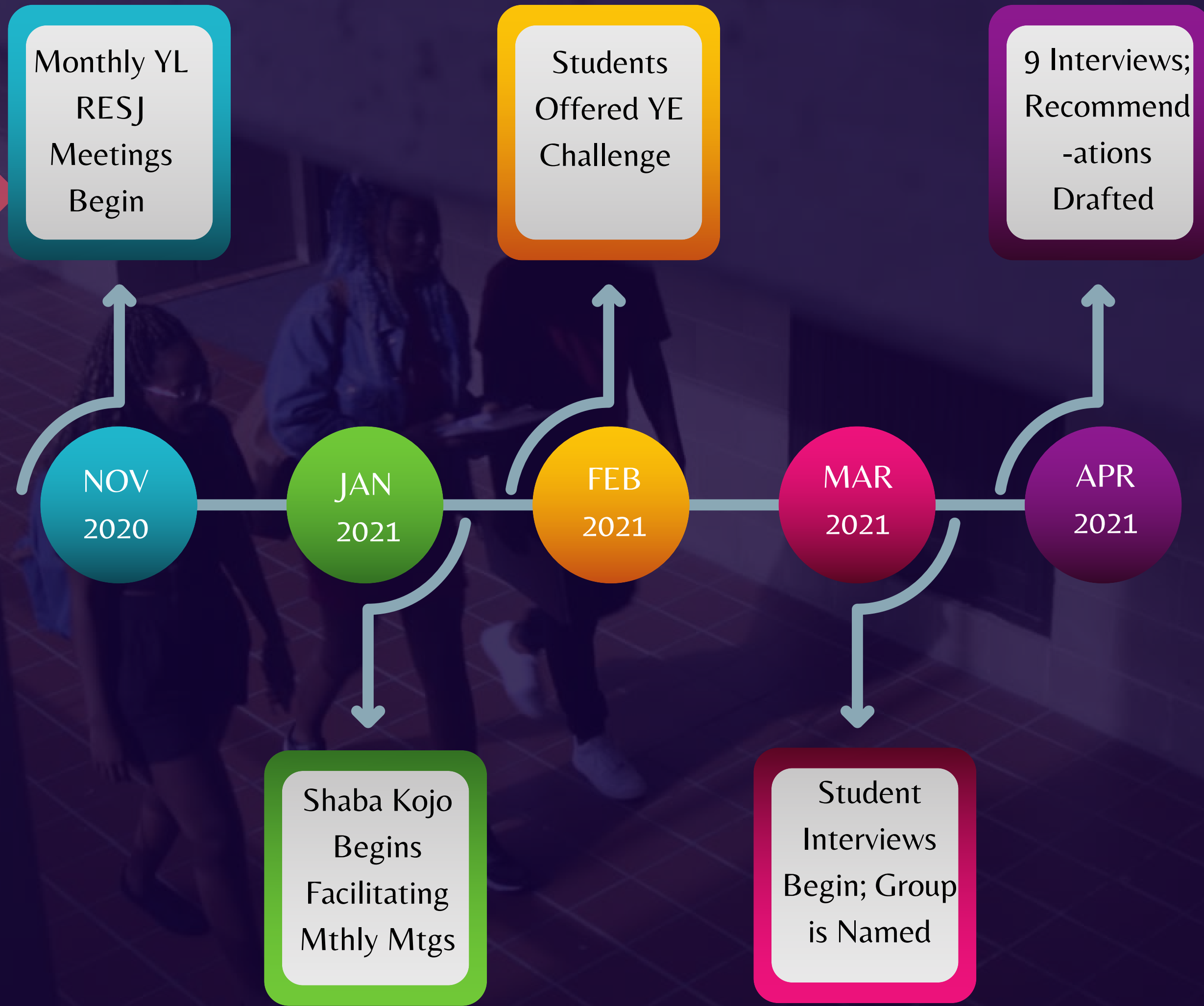


Peer/Equity

Connect and engage students via monthly student-led meetings (i.e. Student Success, Racial Equity, Social Media, etc)

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**YOUTH-LED
B2L RACIAL
EQUITY
AND SOCIAL
JUSTICE**

**TACKLING
RACISM IN
PUBLIC
EDUCATION**



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REAL

YOUTH-LED B2L RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

Students take turns hosting a 4 Question Interview:

- Question 1 - What are your top 3 recommendations for what should or could be done to eliminate racism in public education?
- Question 2 - What are practical ways your recommendations can be implemented?
- Question 3 - What can we (youth) do to help?
- Question 4 - Who else should we speak with?

Students are scheduled to interview Dr. Osgood and Superintendent Runcie in May, to present at the Broward Schools Equity Conference in June, and in July to the Racial Equity and Social Justice committee of Prosperity Partnership.

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WHY REAL?

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

REAL

"If you graduated from high school and you aren't a racist,
you weren't listening." - Jane Elliott

WHAT THIS WORK REQUIRES

Curiosity, listening skills, understanding, acknowledgement of
the lifelong journey, willingness to show up.

"I Am Because We Are" - Ubuntu

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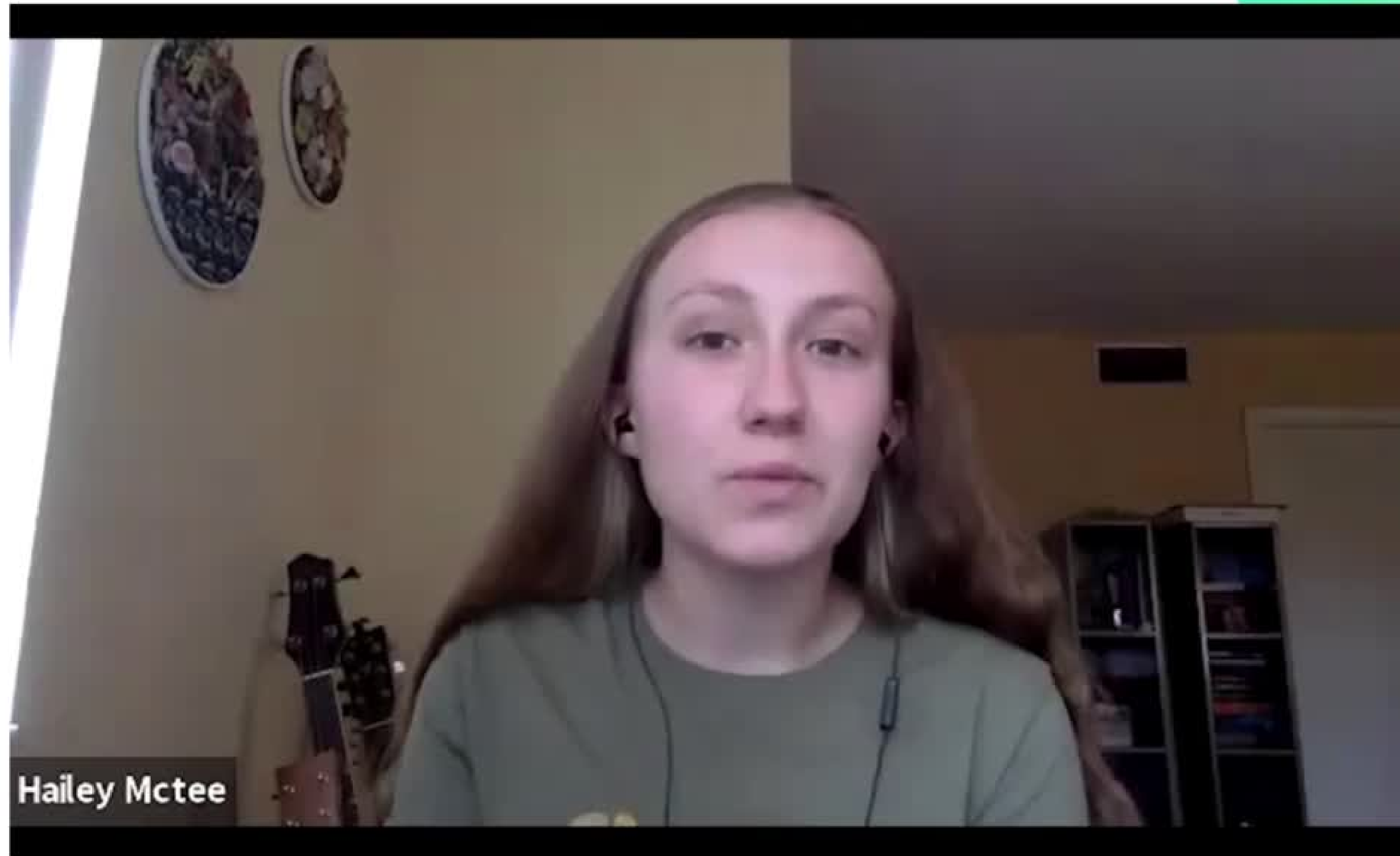


We Are **REAL**

Racial Equity Advisory Leaders

Striving to change the REALity of
systematic racism in public education

'REAL'
SIZZLE
REEL
CREDIT:
CHAD
JORDAN



Hailey Mctee

REAL STUDENT LEADERS

OUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

REAL

TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

CHAD JORDAN

11TH GRADER, FORT LAUDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL

HAILEY MCTEE

SENIOR, COLLEGE ACADEMY

SAMANTHA MOLY

SENIOR, CHARLES FLANAGAN HIGH SCHOOL

YEWANDE SHITTA-BEY

10TH GRADER, EVERGLADE HIGH SCHOOL

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REAL RECOMMENDATIONS

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Recommendation #1:

Address History Curriculum and Teacher Diversity Gaps:

- a. Amend American and World History courses and standards so that they are taught accurately, not from a deficit perspective and fairly represents people of color
- b. Representation matters;
a more diverse teacher population is needed; 75% of teachers are white females; 40.5% of our students are Black, 36.1% are Ethnically Hispanic, 3.9% are Asian

"Students Lead US Push
For Fuller Black
History Education."
(NJ, CT, WA, VA)
ABC News
April 16, 2021

Ebele Azikiwe, 12



REAL RECOMMENDATIONS

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Recommendation #2:

Sustained Peer Mentoring Programs

- All students need to feel welcomed at school. Research-based interventions clearly demonstrate the benefits of peer programs.

Recommendation #3:

More Math and Science Tutors

- Broad and accessible math and science tutors at every school -- to include student peer tutors.



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REAL RECOMMENDATIONS

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Recommendation #4:

Youth in Leadership Roles in Anti-Racist Decision-making

- Quarterly meetings with School Board Chair, Superintendent, School leaders
- Racial equity agenda item at School Board Workshops monthly
- Fund student produced racial equity podcast and social media campaigns

Recommendation #5:

Appreciate the Importance of Intersectionality

- Educate on the multiple lived experiences of racism



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REAL RECOMMENDATIONS

YOUR SPACE,
YOUR VOICE

TACKLING RACISM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Recommendation #6:

Incentivized Higher Ed

- Provide more and more targeted and incentivized communication of higher ed opportunities for students of color

Recommendation #7:

Disaggregated Data Analysis

- Understand correlation of key data points to define mechanisms to address - e.g., examine the potential connection between chronic teacher absenteeism and rate of student suspension



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NEXT STEPS

BY JUNE 30TH

1. Complete informational interview series
2. Finalize white paper of student recommendations
3. Present student recommendations to school and community leaders
4. Pass the baton to students for next fall

REAL

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YOUR SPACE, YOUR VOICE



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EAB

RELEVANCE TO EAB

1. This work matters; we value your insight and would be happy to hear your input on the recommendations so far. We seek systemic change in education; it is not easy work; it will be painful.
2. Youth involvement in EAB's work - What would that look like? Youth 'REAL' Talk on an ongoing basis?

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STRANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

BUSINESS

MEDICAL

ENGINEERING

ARTS



The Stranahan High School Cafeteria was built in 1958.

- **It is 12,540 square feet with a capacity of 281.**
- **The kitchen part of the cafeteria is not air conditioned.**
- **86.2% of the Stranahan Students qualified for Free and Reduced lunch – only Boyd Anderson and Blanche Ely have a higher % of Free and Reduced lunch students.**

1958 – Stranahan Cafeteria built with a capacity of 281.

2003 - Community exposes inequities at Stranahan High School to School Board

2005 – Castaldi Report issued recommending a new school which would include a new cafeteria. Among other findings – the cafeteria would be at 100% obsolescence by 2018.

2005-2008 – New School Planned, Architect and Contractor hired.

2008 – School Board has to remove projects due to recession. New school for Stranahan High is taken off the books.

2012: Annual Report on The CCC Settlement documents shocking conditions at Stranahan High School.

2014: Needs assessment conducted as BCPS plans for bond. Decision made not to add the new schools planned for Stranahan and Northeast back on the books but to address roofing, HVAC, building envelopes, etc. at all schools in the District

Summer 2015: The Community comes to the School Board meeting with graphic photos of conditions at Stranahan. The Sun Sentinel picks up the story and covers horrendous conditions. Stranahan parents, students, teachers and community advocates attend Board meetings and budget meetings. The request for a new cafeteria is brought forward.

September 22, 2015: Stranahan Project Charter Meeting – Meeting minutes document cafeteria issue was raised.

After 2.5 years of discussion, the School Board finally agrees to

A Cafeteria Addition

- **February 13, 2018:** the School Board was presented with the plans for a renovation and addition to the cafeteria. The Districts power point outlines the project which also includes restrooms.
- **March 6, 2018:** the Board approved the project with the following budget:
... an additional financial impact of \$4,475,000. The total budget of the addition and renovations is \$6,675,000. The source of funds are as follows:\$1,200,000 from the Stranahan High School SMART Project, \$1,000,000 from Food Services Fund, \$4,000,000 from FY 16/17 Surplus Funds, \$200,000 from December 2017 savings from re-fundings, and \$275,000 from favorable variance in Charter set aside. This item amends the Adopted District Educational Facilities Plan.
- **July 24, 2018** the Board approved the Professional Services Agreement (Construction Management at Risk Project Delivery) with LIVS Associates, LLC, Stranahan High School for the total amount of \$543,000., New Cafeteria Addition, Renovations, Project No. P.002163, RFQ 18-172C.

Fast Forward to 2021...

In a monthly update the Project manager mentions that the capacity of the cafeteria addition has been cut.

Further discussion and review of pertinent documents exposed this was done without any board approval.

The Community requested a cost analysis of a new building (cafeteria) as originally requested versus the addition the School Board brought forward.