

**21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS BOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 ROOM 559/ZOOM**

The 21st Century Schools Bond Advisory Committee (Committee) met on September 14th, 2021 in the Auditorium. Interim Chair Jack Lowell called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members

Mr. Roberto Martinez, Chair
Mr. T. Willard Fair, Vice Chair
Ms. Carol Graham Wyllie
Ms. Julie Williamson
Mr. Francis Ragoo
Mr. Jack Lowell (Zoom)
Ms. Gepsie Mettellus (Zoom)
Dr. Sean Foreman (Zoom)

Mr. Alfred Billings
Mr. Alan Rubin
Mr. Mario Bailey
Dr. Nancy Lawther
Mr. Anthony Dawsey
Dr. George Koonce
Dr. Jaap Donath

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members

Mr. Raul Perez

Committee Alternates

Mr. Erick Deeb
Mr. Gregory Zawyer

Miami-Dade County Public School Attendees

Ms. Nathaly Simon
Mr. Neil Singh
Mr. Keno Tate
Ms. Katherine Leiva

Ms. Jennifer Andreu
Ms. Jenny Murillo
Ms. Zahirah Calloway
Ms. Cori'Anne White

Other Attendees

Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya
(Zoom)

Recording Secretary

Ms. Denise Castillo

Mr. Roberto Martinez called the meeting to order and welcomed the Committee. Acknowledging there is no quorum, Mr. Martinez asked Mr. Raul Perez to start the meeting.

Mr. Raul Perez opened with a brief review of the agenda for the 21st Century Schools Bond Advisory Committee Meeting. Mr. Martinez asked Mr. Perez if it was possible to name all the attendees that were logged on through zoom. The attendees were verified, and Mr. Perez started by providing an update on the status of GOB projects, years 1 through 5 and accelerated scope projects.

Mr. Perez continued going over the status of the GOB projects including safety upgrades, HVAC, playgrounds, and portable removals. Mr. Perez continued to go over the breakdown of the projects that have been completed and the GOB expenditures. Mr. Ragoo asked Mr. Perez about whiteboards for the schools and Mr. Perez expressed that within the first year there were about 11,000 interactive boards installed.

Mr. Mario Bailey asked Mr. Perez how the pandemic affected cost of goods and the timetable. Mr. Perez explained that on the construction side they were able to continue the work that was being done with the Bond. Mr. Perez explained that they had an advantage because there were schools that were not being used and that gave them more time to work on the construction projects and accelerate several projects. The project timeframes were reduced because the contractors had full access to the school sites. During the shutdown, the construction prices were very reasonable. Fast-forwarding

to now, we are seeing a cost increase in construction. There are issues with fabrication, and we have had projects delayed for a couple of months especially when it comes to HVAC equipment. Mr. Perez explained that they are looking at the Federal Stimulus that was provided due to COVID and that it is approximately about \$200 million that has been identified for facilities but he also added that it can only be used for specific scope. The scope has to do with indoor air quality, including HVAC, building envelope, doors, roofs, and anything else that helps the indoor air quality of schools.

Mr. Perez explained that there was \$100 million in the Bond to do Promethean boards and wi-fi upgrades but that he did not have the specific numbers and stated that it would be best to have the Technology department here for the next meeting to go over that information.

Mr. Perez started going over the quarterly GOB expenditures by cost categories, by vendors, by schools and contracted amounts.

Mr. Perez explained that the Eighth Annual Report that was distributed was only a draft, but that the final report would be given at the December meeting for approval. Mr. Perez stated that for this meeting the Eighth Annual Report was just for acknowledgement showing that the Committee had received it.

Mr. Jack Lowell requested that the draft of the Eighth Annual Report be mailed to all the Committee Members that were not present at the meeting. Mr. Roberto Martinez agreed that a copy of the report be mailed to all the members that were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Perez continued to explain that once the report is approved at the December meeting, it will be transmitted to the Board for their receipt.

Mr. Fair stated that if they look to the future, they will see that there are some issues that need to be addressed. Mr. Fair suggested that the Committee members identify those issues in Tallahassee for the Legislature to address. Mr. Martinez asked Mr. Fair what he would suggest they do. Mr. Fair stated that it should be part of the next annual report to identify legislative issues. Ms. Nancy Lawther stated that there is a need for a State Legislature platform.

Mr. Perez acknowledged to Mr. Martinez that there was now a quorum. There was a motion to vote on the meeting minutes made by Mr. T. Willard Fair and it was 2nd by Mr. Francis Ragoo.

Mr. Martinez introduced Ms. Jennifer Andreu to provide the OEO update. Ms. Andreu from the Office of Economic Opportunity started with the infographic slide and moved onto the GOB Prime Expenditures summary. Ms. Andreu reviewed the certified firms and stated that the prequalified firms have stayed the same as mentioned at the previous meeting. Ms. Andreu also reviewed the contractor pre-qualification dashboard, as well as the compliance update regarding certifications and goals established for firms. Ms. Andreu reviewed slides regarding compliance and upcoming events.

Ms. Andreu gave a disparity study update and stated that revisions to policies 6320.02 and 6320 were presented with the disparity study to the Board on September 9th. OEO will be holding a community Town Hall Meeting on October 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the School Board Auditorium. On October 14th there will be another meeting with the Small Business Enterprise Advisory Committee and on October 20th there will probably be a second initial reading of the policy.


Mr. Dawsey asked Mr. Perez about the process of certifying and recertify the School Board buildings and the schools. Mr. Perez expressed that a Board member brought that topic up at a Board Meeting and the School District is exempt from the certification process, but the State does have standards. There is an assessment that must be done every five years which means that every school is looked at by a team of professionals at least every ten years. The schools also have maintenance staff that are there every day keeping track and, if there is work that needs to be done, they will let their supervisors know. We have two licensed structural engineers on call that go out to look at any condition.

Mr. Perez also expressed that through the GOB program many of the issues that have come up have been addressed. Mr. Perez explained that they have a Building Official that works for them that certifies all the construction. Ms. Lawther asked if there was something that parents, teachers or other staff could do to report any structural concerns that they might see. Mr. Perez stated if that should occur, they should notify the staff who will follow the procedure to get it corrected. They agreed that it would be a good idea to have Maintenance at the next meeting to go over the procedure on how schools notify them of work that needs to be done.

Having exhausted all the agenda topics, the Chair Mr. Robert Martinez, reminded the Committee that the next meeting would be held on December 7, 2021.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:17 p.m.

Approved:



Mr. Roberto Martinez, Chair

Date: Dec 1, 21