



MINUTES
AVENTURA CITY OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 3, 2008

Aventura City of Excellence School
3333 NE 188th Street
Aventura, Florida 33180

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were members Julie Greenberg Shapiro, Rica Tickner, Marina Blachman, Blanca Lopez and Jackie Perczek. Also present were City Manager Eric M. Soroka, Principal Julie Alm, Assistant Principal Daniel Verdier. Quorum was determined and the meeting commenced.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Rica Tickner moved to approve the minutes of the September 17 & September 24, 2008 School Advisory Board meetings. Jackie Perczek seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
3. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT** Mr. Soroka reported on the following items:
 - A. The classroom addition project
 - B. Enrollment
4. **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION REPORT:** The School Administration Report is attached.
5. **FUND RAISING REPORTS:** The following reports were discussed at the meeting:
 - Potamkin Honda Car Fundraiser- Blanca Lopez
 - Cookbook Fundraiser- Jackie Perczek
 - Book Fair – Rica Tickner
 - Teacher Appreciation Week - Julie Greenberg Shapiro
6. **OLD BUSINESS:** Julie Greenberg Shapiro discussed the 5th grade trip and the associated costs. After discussion no action was taken.
7. **NEW BUSINESS (Open Forum for Parent's Discussion):** The following issues were discussed:
 - 6th grade homework
 - Field trips
 - School Notes Program

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2009 at 7PM.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved by the Board on _____

November 3, 2008
Administration's Report

Academics:

School Wide Assessments:

- B1 complete reading/math/science
- B2 assessment November 17th , 18th and 19th

Progress Monitoring:

- 2nd quarter AIP meetings underway
- DIBELS assessment complete
- Fountas and Pinnell Grades 1st – 3rd

Instructional Programs 2008-2009:

- Saturday School Started: New materials, record number of participants, over 100
- Guidance program: Anti-bullying
- Middle school students have been campaigning for ACES first Student Government Association Administration. Elections were held today
- 8th grade Career and Entrepreneur Class is working with Junior Achievement volunteers Jeff Levinson and Matt Kuttler.
- 1st grade early intervention reading program has started
- Kindergarten early intervention reading to start next week

Staff Development:

- Data analysis workshops
- Write Source Training
- Algebraic Thinking by Ms. England
- Character Cadre & CEP Quality Awards Standards
- Gizmos
- Differentiating Math instruction
- Developing student relationships
- Six traits of writing in action
- Standardizing scoring rubrics for writing

ACES Accolades

- Accepted 2 Promising Practices awards:
Eco-Literacy hands-on garden and leadership speakers series
- Honored as finalists by the Character Education Partnership for National Schools of Character award

Recent Events

- ACES students had an opportunity to meet two authors Paul Feig and Brigitte Benchymol. Mr. Feig's book focused and building self-

esteem and Ms. Benchymol's book provided a flash back in time to the life of Gandhi.

- International Peace Day was celebrated on September 19, 2008 and the mayor proclaimed the day "Peace Day" in Aventura. Students participated through class activities, bulletin boards, essays, art projects and music.
- Staff Appreciation Pot Luck Luncheon
- Book Fair: report provided by Ms. Tickner
- Red Ribbon Week 10/27-10/31

Field Trips:

- 5th grade students traveled to Dickenson Park where they studied comparative ecosystems, canoed and visited a turtle hospital.
- Kindergarten students viewed "Stone Soup" at a performing arts center.
- 7th grade traveled to Sanibel Island where they studied marine ecology and kayaked through big cypress mangroves.

Athletics

- ACES Eagles competitive Basketball season is underway. The boys and girls team are supported by ACES first cheerleaders and an energetic Eagle Mascot named Ernest. Girls are undefeated and boys are 2 wins 2 losses
- The First Tee National School Program – integrates the game of golf with the values of honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy and judgment.

Charitable Projects:

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month Bake Sale
- Peace Day Gift Box Project Benefits the Needy.
- 5th Grade Team: Shoes for poor children in South America

Upcoming Events:

- Thanksgiving Food Drive 11/7, 11/14, 11/23
- City of Aventura: Founder's Day on 11/9 & Veteran's Day on 11/11
- Parenting Workshop on Responsibility: 11/26
- FCAT Writes Night for 4th and 8th Grade on 11/20
- Career Day Speaker sign up deadline 12/05. Event on 1/22.
- Holiday Toy Drive 12/05, 12/14
- Field Days: 12/15-12/19
- Middle School Leadership Speaker Series: David Samson, President of the Marlins on 12/15 from 7 pm to 8 pm