

Board of Directors Meeting

May 29, 2025
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Franklin Academy Palm Beach Gardens
5651 Hood Road
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

MINUTES

- I. Call Meeting to Order: Dr. Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM
- II. Roll Call

Dr. David Thomas (Board Chair)	Ms. Debbie Orshefsky (Board Member)	Dr. Jacqueline Greenberg (Board Member)
Dr. Michael Watts	Mr. Scott Sznitken	Ms. Wendy Gonzalez
Mrs. Alexandra Fox	Mrs. Alison L'Etoile	Ms. Deborah Torres
Mrs. Diacris Cardoso	Mr. Sergio Delgado	Mrs. Shaina Dillman
Mr. Richard Moreno	Mrs. Michelle Varela	Mrs. Claudia Yurick
Ms. Aleesa Jabar	Mrs. Emilia Vazquez	Ms. Gianelle Amoedo
Trachide Greene (ESOL/RTI Coord.)	Leah Hanza (IB Coordinator)	Brittany Taylor (ESE Coordinator)

- III. Public Speakers: None
- IV. Approval and Ratification of Minutes of March 6, 2025 Board Meeting
(Motion Moved by Dr. Thomas, 2nd by Greenberg, and approved)
- V. Consent Agenda – Resolution
(Motion moved by Dr. Thomas, 2nd by Greenberg, and approved)
 - a. **RESOLVED**, that the five (5) Premium Service Agreements with the School Board of Broward County, Florida for additional services in Broward County, Florida for the 2025-26 school year are hereby ratified and approved:
 - b. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2025-26 Mental Health Assistance Allocations (MHAA) be adopted for all Broward campus;

- c. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2025-26 Starting Salary Pay Scale for 10 and 11-Month employees is approved and ratified;
- d. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all financial budgets for the 2025-26 academic year are hereby ratified and approved for all Franklin Academy charters, including:
 - Franklin Academy - Pembroke Pines (Broward) (5012)
 - Franklin Academy - Cooper City (Broward) (5037)
 - Franklin Academy - Sunrise (Broward) (5010)
 - Franklin Academy - Pembroke Pines K-12 (Broward) (5046)
 - Franklin Academy - Pembroke Pines K-12 (Broward) (5142)
 - Franklin Academy - Boynton Beach (Palm Beach) (4020)
 - Franklin Academy - Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach) (4061);
- e. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the tentative 25-26 Governing Board of Directors meeting dates are ratified and approved;

VI. Presentations

- a. **Dr. Michael Watts, Director of Instructional Technology**
 - i. Academic/Curriculum Overview
 - 1. FAST Testing PM3 school grade projections: Maintaining A or B ratings across campuses. Pembroke Pines projected an increase from a B to an A. Sunrise will maintain its A rating.
 - 2. Broward College Partnership: FY26 Continuing to partner with higher education
 - 3. LIFT: Cohort 1 graduated in April. Cohort 2 interviews have concluded, and new members will begin in the Fall. LIFT members have been promoted within Franklin.
 - 4. IB Leaders FY26: Scott, Post, Barto, and Petrey led under Ms. Hanza.
 - 5. IB Evaluation: Boynton completed its evaluation
 - 6. IB Evaluation: Cooper City is preparing for its 2nd evaluation, which will occur next school year
- b. **Ms. Deborah Torres, Principal/Team (PBG K-8)**
 - i. Staffing/School Update: No vacancies
 - ii. Enrollment Update: 954 enrollment, 479 applications, 250 accepted. projected 1066 for FY26. Enrollment is still open. Maintaining an A rating and events have helped increase enrollment

- iii. School Events: Dissections of brains and hearts, Egg Hunt, Gradventure, Graduations, Beetlejuice Drama Production, accepted as a Heart Safe School, 8th grade Final Walk
 - iv. Upcoming Events:
- c. **Mrs. Alison L'Etoile, Principal/Team (BB K-8)**
 - i. Staffing/School Update: 4 vacancies
 - ii. Enrollment Update: 1213 enrollment, 6 offers out, 296 accepted, 15 withdrawals.
 - iii. School Events: Teacher Night, Culture Fair, IB exhibition, Graduation, Dances, Tutoring in EOCs, Spring Concert, Coffee with Administration, Clap Off for 8th grade
 - iv. Upcoming: KG screenings
- d. **Mrs. Alexandra Fox, Principal/Team (CC K-8)**
 - i. Staffing/School Update: 3 vacancies
 - ii. Enrollment Update: 1321 enrollment, 10 withdrawals, 5 new registrations
 - iii. School Events: Progress Learning Top 20, Strategic Plans to increase ELA scores, 3 Intensive Math courses next year, KG round-up, PTO Falcon Rush 4 Boosterthon raised just under 90K, 2 commissioners visited the campus
 - iv. Upcoming Events: KG Screening - including social skills piece, asking parents to bring VPK paperwork, and knowing birthday (to balance the ages in classes)
- e. **Mrs. Diacris Cardoso, Assistant Principal/Team (PP K-8)**
 - i. Staffing/School Update: 3 transferring to K-12, 7 new hires
 - ii. Enrollment Update: 1373 enrollment, 900 applications, 239 accepted, 448 on the waitlist
 - iii. School Events: Pep rallies for testing season, ceremonies and graduations for the end of year, IB expos, Italy field trip over Spring Break, 6th grader representing Franklin nationally, Career Day with over 40 members
 - iv. Upcoming Events:
- f. **Mr. Sergio Delgado, Principal/Team (PP K-12)**
 - i. Staffing/School Update: 3 open positions, 3 staff members transferred PP K-8

- ii. Enrollment Update: 2142 enrollment, 410 incoming, 620 potential students, 1378 applications, 19 withdrawals
- iii. School Highlights: Increased K-8 by 10% points in the school grade, 96% of the 8th grades grew in math, maintaining B in high school, scholar competed in sports and scored 6th in the nation and 1st in the state, Geometry teacher scored top 5 percentage in usage across the nation in IXL, introducing new electives into middle school to allow student choice in the area of the arts, 12 new AP courses will be offered, partnership with FIU and UF for dual enrollment opportunities, 34% are enrolled in dual enrollment now
- iv. School Events: IB Expo for 5th and 8th, Ron Clark PD offered for teachers, Athletic Banquet, Induction ceremonies (9 honor societies), ESOL team partnered with CC campus - allowing scholars to talk to Broward colleges

g. Mrs. Shaina Dillman, Principal/Team (SUN K-8)

- i. Staffing/School Update: 2 vacancies
- ii. Enrollment Update: 1367 enrollment, 1408 anticipation, 2 withdrawals.
- iii. School Highlights: Academic gains, Increased proficiency in test scores - higher than expected
- iv. School Events: 5th to 6th grade transition parent night, Pep rallies for testing season, Resource Office presented to the 5th graders, MYP teachers created authentic assessments (travel influencer, poetry slam, science villain and heroes), Islands of Adventure with 8th grade, City of Sunrise chess event, Ron Clark PD, Relay for Life, Finding Nemo Jr performance, field trips (Bone Valley and the Keys), Take Our Child to Work Day
- v. Upcoming Events:

h. Mr. Scott Sznitken, Executive Director

- i. Organizational Overview/Update:
 - 1. Retirement: Nancy Sanders and Vivian Bryant
 - 2. New APs: Seletha Keys, Cassandra Carrizo, Jodimae Lyttle, Yamile Francese, Elias Velazquez.
 - 3. Transfer AP: Claudia Yurick to BB
 - 4. Parent Satisfaction Survey: 90% would recommend Franklin, PBG campus had a 96% response rate
 - 5. Enrollment: 5,400 applications, a decrease from last year. Continued focus on connecting with the community

6. IT: Bandwidth Upgrade - Ongoing. Issues with ISP and hardware. Tentative dates in July for the upgrade.
7. Legislative Updates: State Budget- TBD, CS 1514- Anaphylaxis training required yearly as of 7/1, CS 296- Changing school hours, CS 443 Sponsor deadlines aligning, expanding charter enrollment, developing code of conduct, HB 809- School social worker requirements
8. Operations: New process for AHCA fingerprinting, adds a photo ID requirement, OPOGO is a Livescan provider and can provide the fingerprinting (reduced cost for staff)
9. Cellular Booster: Broward installation begins in 2 weeks, beginning at the Cooper City campus
10. Human Resources: Proactive hiring tools with Indeed, LinkedIn now included (4-month pilot)
11. Employee Benefits: Insurance usage was high for Cigna. Change due to increased cost - Cigna 30% increase, Edify 15.5% increase, UHC 4.9% increase. Open enrollment closes 5/30/2025. No change in cost for Staff.
12. Finance:
13. No State Budget: Properly planning FY26, letters of commitment have been provided to staff. Offer Letters will be provided after budget is decided.

i. **Mr. Richard Moreno, Financial Consultant**

i. Financial Review:

1. Presented school budget - will be reviewed in the October meeting
2. Instructional expenses are increasing - due to retaining teachers and competitive pay
3. Tax positions are good, but need to be mindful of campus spending

VII. Resolutions

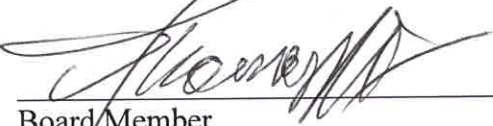
- a. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and instructs Scott Sznitken, Executive Director, to issue a formal letter of non-renewal to Discovery Schools, consistent with applicable policies, procedures, and

contractual obligations; and to take any and all necessary actions to effectuate the Board's intent as stated herein.

Proposed: Include a letter of thanks and recognition for Mr. Roger's service.
(Motion moved by Orshefsky, 2nd by Greenberg, approved)

- VIII. Board Member Items: None
- IX. Items for Next Meeting: None
- X. Next Board Meeting: To be determined later
- XI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM

Ratified and Approved by a 4 to 0
vote of the Board of Directors of Franklin
Academy Foundation, Inc. this 17th day
of SEPTEMBER, 2025.



Board Member