

**CORAL GABLES SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016 – 8:30 A.M.
CITY HALL
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

MEMBERS	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. 24	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	APPOINTED BY
Ruth Martinez				P	-	E	E	P	P	P			Mayor Cason
													Vice Mayor Quesada
Aileen Ortega				P	-	A	P	P	P	P			Commissioner Keon
Samuel Joseph				P	-	P	P	P	P	P			Commissioner Lago
David Bianchi				P	-	P	P	P	P	A			Commissioner Slesnick
Nan Markowitz				P	-	P	P	E	P	P			City Manager Swanson-Rivenbar
Dana Peterson										P			Commission-as-a-whole

A = Absent
E = Excused Absence
P = Present
- = No meeting

STAFF:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

GUESTS: Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Dr. Jaques Bentolila

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Naomi Levi, Government Affairs Manager

The following represents a summary of the items discussed during the Committee meeting.

- MEETING AGENDA -

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:33am.

II. ROLL CALL

All members were present except David Bianchi, who had an unexcused absence. A quorum was present. Sam announced Andria Hanley's resignation from the Committee and introduced the Committee's newest member, Ms. Dana Peterson, the Commission-As-a-Whole appointment.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Sam moved to approve the minutes from December 18, 2015 and Ruth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. MDCPS Compact Recommendations & Approval

- The Chair asked members to perform a final review of the Education Compact and weigh in with their recommendations before the next SCRC meeting.
- Board members will forward their comments to Naomi via email.

B. MDCPS/Public School Issues: Homework

- The Chair asked the Committee to pass a resolution regarding MDCPS' homework policy; the resolution would articulate the inconsistency between the District's homework policy and the amount of time children are actually spending on homework.
- Iraida informed the group that the District's homework policy is based on research, which she would like to share at the next SCRC meeting. She also reminded members of teacher's academic freedom.
- Nan expressed her dissatisfaction with passing a resolution that, in her opinion, would be of no consequence.
- The Committee agreed to table the discussion until it had a chance to review the District's research findings.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. CG Commission SCRC Business Report

- Naomi provided the board with a synopsis of the SCRC's presentation to the City Commission.
- All School Improvement projects were commended and approved, and the Mayor asked the Committee to look into how it could serve and improve school libraries.
- Commissioner Keon was assigned as the commission liaison to the SCRC.

B. MDCPS Staff Report

- The Chair asked the Committee to submit their questions to Naomi for the next MDCPS staff report, scheduled to take place next meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 am.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be on February 19, 2016