

**Official Minutes of
MARION COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

March 12, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) met in a workshop session at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion (SELP) located at 2232 NE Jacksonville Road in Ocala, Florida.

INTRODUCTION OF WORKSHOP BY CHAIRMAN LORI CONRAD

Chairman Conrad advised that the joint workshop is scheduled this morning between Marion County Public Schools, Municipalities and Marion County Board of County Commissioners.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY REVEREND ERIC CUMMINGS,
MARION COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

The meeting opened with invocation by Reverend Eric Cummings and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following members were present: Chairman Kathy Bryant, District 2; Vice-Chairman Commissioner Carl Zalak, III, District 4; Commissioner Craig Curry, District 1; Commissioner Matthew McClain, District 3; and Commissioner Michelle Stone, District 5. Also present were Chief Assistant County Attorney Dana Olesky; County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes; Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Angel Roussel; ACA Tracy Straub; and ACA Amanda Tart.

The following members of the MCSB were present: Chairman Lori Conrad, District 2; Vice-Chairman Eric Cummings, District 3; Board Member Allison Campbell, District 1; Board Member Nancy Thrower, District 4; and Board Member Sarah James, District 5. Also present were Superintendent of Marion County Public Schools Dr. Diane Gullett and School Board Attorney Jeremy Powers.

Also present were Commissioner Robert Smith, Seat 4, City of Belleview; Mayor Walter Green, City of Dunnellon; Councilmember Valerie Hanchar, Seat 5, City of Dunnellon; Mayor Ben Marciano, City of Ocala; Council President Kristen Dreyer, District 4, City of Ocala; Councilmember Barry Mansfield, District 1, City of Ocala; and Councilmember James Hilty, District 5, City of Ocala. It was noted that there was no representation from the Town of McIntosh or the Town of Reddick.

The Deputy Clerk was in receipt of a 60 page Agenda packet to follow along with the PowerPoint presentations.

MINUTES

1. March 27, 2024 - Minutes from the Joint Planning Workshop Agenda
MCSB Chairman Lori Conrad advised that the Minutes from the March 27, 2024 Joint Planning Workshop were previously approved by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners. She questioned whether anyone in attendance has questions or

March 12, 2025

concerns to bring forward relating to the Minutes. It was noted for the record that there were no questions or concerns raised.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATION

1. Welcome and Opening Comments, Chair Lori Conrad, Marion County School Board

Chairman Conrad welcomed everyone to the Joint Workshop. She expressed appreciation for the opportunity to gather in collaboration. Chairman Conrad stated the MCSB, and the BCC continue to come together in the spirit of cooperation to address community issues that ensure Marion County Public Schools (MCPS) are adequate and meet the need of the growing student population. She advised that the path forward may involve differing perspectives; however, this task requires remaining focused on the shared goal, the success of Marion County, its students and its citizens.

Chairman Bryant expressed appreciation to the MCSB members, the Superintendent, and the other municipalities that are present today. She stated taking care of the County's students is an upmost concern. Chairman Bryant noted that Commissioner Stone is the BCC member that has been a part of the Technical Working Group (TWG) and turned the floor over to her for comments.

Commissioner Stone expressed appreciation for the opportunity to continue to work together. She stated it is great to have an Interlocal Agreement (ILA). Commissioner Stone stated the Boards and municipalities last met in March, 2024, and the ILA was signed in March, 2023, which speaks volumes of the commitment from everyone in the room to honor what the parties said they would do including getting together and sharing information that would be most pertinent to moving Marion County forward in the most proper way. She advised that the TWG has met 3 times since September of 2024 (September 13 and November 6, 2024, and January 24, 2025). Commissioner Stone stated the TWG Subcommittee that continues to really do so much of the work are the individuals on each Board, noting they have been meeting practically monthly. She opined that the effort has been cooperative, and the parties are consistently working well exchanging the information that needs to be changed.

2. Update, Dr. Diane Gullett, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, Marion County Public Schools

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Diane Gullett, Ed.D., MCPS, stated she is responsible for hosting the TWG on behalf of MCPS, noting she has seen progress in the way the committee is working together. She commended the members for their hard work. Dr. Gullett commented on the great outcomes the TWG has delivered, which benefits students and the community. She advised that this is likely her last joint workshop, noting she is resigning at the end of the school year.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Theresa Boston-Ellis, MCPS, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate and do what is best for the students of Marion County. She stated School Impact Fee collections were effective July 1, 2024 with distributions occurring on a quarterly basis. Ms. Boston-Ellis advised that so far MCPS has received \$73,219.00 from the City of Ocala; as of February 7, 2025, and from the BCC, MCPS received one installment on October 21, 2024 in the amount of \$502,240.00; and then on January 10, 2025, \$1,795,129.00 for a total of \$2,370,588.00. She stated the Impact Fees will be used to offset the debt incurred in Capital expenditures for the Certificate of Participation in the building of Elementary W and Elementary X, High School CCC, the

Osceola School gym, Liberty Middle School wing, and the new Middle School DD. Ms. Boston-Ellis advised that the Sales Tax estimated collection over 10 years will be \$335,000,000.00, which is an estimate of roughly \$33,500,000.00 annually. She stated MCPS has not received any new collection to date and looks forward to receiving the quarterly installment in a couple weeks. Ms. Boston-Ellis commented on staff presentations to the Board relating to the use of Sales Tax, which is fluid and continues to change daily, noting she spoke to Chairman Conrad on Monday when they looked at the list that was presented in December. She advised that this list has since changed and the funds will be for classroom wings, replacement schools, a new K-8, and enhancements to some of the older schools in terms of windows and doors.

3. Overview, Chair Tracy Straub, Technical Working Group, Assistant County Administrator, Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Chairman Conrad expressed appreciation towards Tracy Straub for her work and preparation relating to today's meeting.

ACA/TWG Chairman Tracy Straub stated the ILA for Public School Facility Planning was updated and resigned by the all of the agencies in March, 2023, noting from there it has specific items outlined in it that the agencies will continue to do and work on routinely. She advised that Florida Statute (FS), Chapters 163 and 1013 require counties, municipalities and school districts to coordinate and share information regarding community growth and development, which are being adhered to by the parties resulting in semi-annual TWG meetings and this Joint Planning Workshop at least on an annual basis. Ms. Straub stated the reason the parties come together is to ensure everybody is aware of the growth and development that is occurring in Marion County, how it affects the school system, and how the agencies and municipalities are responding to that growth. She commented on the cooperation and coordination that took place relating to the 3 schools that are underway.

4. "Tentative Education Facilities Plan Update" Project Update, Vice Chair Stephen Ayres, Technical Working Group, Director of Student Assignment and Records, Marion County Public Schools

Director of Student Assignment and Records, MCPS/TWG Vice Chairman Stephen Ayres, advised that the TWG Subcommittee has been meeting regularly. He stated the Subcommittee is working to develop an effective process to accurately present an Educational Facilities Plan. Mr. Ayres advised that the TWG Subcommittee consists of all agencies. He stated they collaboratively developed the presentation The presentation will inform the parties of the progress made and set the stage for continued development of the baseline, consistent, and vetted development data that will establish the foundation for the future educational capacity needs of MCPS.

Director of Planning Kathie Ebaugh, JBPro, NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, provided an overview relating to her qualifications. She stated today she will share the first step towards a stronger baseline of data that will move the County forward and provide the tools needed to properly plan for MCPS and provide an excellent education for students. Ms. Ebaugh advised that she looks forward to feedback and input relating to the process being undertaken. She expressed appreciation for the support her team has received from colleagues across the County.

Project Manager Nick Hill, JBPro, NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, advised of 3 Items on his agenda this morning: project status, looking forward/next steps, and confirmation and

March 12, 2025

discussion. He stated the purpose is to collaborate with local governments to perform a database school capacity growth assessment and plan. Mr. Hill commented on the need to understand the capacity needs of the district moving forward and ensuring improvement of school planning processes. He stated through this process; he hopes to understand annual school priorities. Mr. Hill advised that the school district is fortunate to have jurisdictions working with the consultant in a very collaborative manner, noting JBPro is working with each of the jurisdictions in Marion County. He stated JBPro has been working with several committees (Public School Planning Officials (PSPO), TWG, TWG Subcommittee, and the Public School Advisory Council). Mr. Hill advised that none of this is possible without the ILA. He commented on 2 items they hope to resolve through this process that would set the County up for future success: 1.) data (standardization of development data); and 2.) ILA (opportunities to clarify the process of the ILA and further refine the roles and responsibilities of each agency).

Ms. Ebaugh stated the first thing her organization started to work on back in October was collecting data from all the local jurisdictions, noting they began to compile the data into a system to understand how many developable units are in Marion County and how growth associated with those units coming online will impact school capacity. She advised that some jurisdictions were classifying data differently. Ms. Ebaugh stated when looking within data sets, in order to be able to provide and project out how the growth of those development units would come online over the next 5, 10, 15 and 20 years, it was realized that there was not a good understanding of an absorption rate, there were not consistent phasing plans, and the more the data was reviewed with the TWG Subcommittee the more questions they asked. She advised that the more questions they asked, the more it was realized that they understood what they needed to know, but they also understood that they did not know the answers today and would not know the answers for this meeting. Ms. Ebaugh stated the organization pivoted away from sharing the Educational Facility Plan and moved towards establishing, learning and sharing their process to better understand the data, how it reflects the growth of Marion County, and therefore understand how the County's growth would impact the ability for the MCPS to provide for the needs of future students. She provided a timeline relating to the work plan for the data. Ms. Ebaugh commented on the lack of understanding relating to how the layers of data communicate with each other, noting now they are going through the process of verifying this data with each jurisdiction and asking them to confirm that the data they are looking for and at is consistent to ensure the number of platted, buildable lots in Marion County is known. She advised that the request includes existing units and recently approved new developments relating to whether they are single family, multi-family or mobile homes, as well as any phasing plans from developers with estimates of the number of units they project will be built in a given year. Ms. Ebaugh commented on the units in the County, noting there is not a phasing plan in place for and questioned how to ascertain an absorption rate to determine how many units the County can expect will be built on an annual basis. She stated the process that began in January includes consolidation of development data, refining the data, and verifying and normalizing the jurisdiction data. Ms. Ebaugh advised that as they review the individual components with each jurisdiction, the organization will then be able to establish a baseline of data. She stated they will work with Benesch, noting they are experts at understanding absorption rates. Ms. Ebaugh advised that the absorption rate will tell how many units the County can expect to be built in a given year. She stated once that data is available JBPro will be able to project out for the 5, 10, and 20 year periods how much growth and development

will occur in the County. Ms. Ebaugh advised that they will be able to apply that to the student generation rate so they can project the number of students to expect. She commented on the State Legislature, noting there is more choice in the State and County than ever before and understanding how those choices will impact the school district will be reviewed through this process to ensure every student has access to the best education possible. Ms. Ebaugh referred to a slide seen on the overhead screens, which depicts an overview of the work plan in a Gantt chart form. She stated the goal is to bring this back to the BCC, MSCB and municipalities in the September/October time frame with a full report and understanding of how growth and development is impacting Marion County today and in the long-term. Ms. Ebaugh commented on the difficulty associated with this process, noting the detailed, in-depth nature. She advised that the TWG Subcommittee is confident this effort is valuable long-term not just for MCPS but for all jurisdictions, which will allow for better planning relating to infrastructure.

Ms. Ebaugh commented on data relating to the current student enrollment and capacity. She stated the dots on the maps (shown on the overhead screens), are the development data as it is shown today, noting they are getting an understanding of where the majority of growth and development is happening. Ms. Ebaugh advised that in general, the areas with the most growth and development in the County correspond with where there is the least amount of capacity. She stated the red areas on the map depict the areas with less capacity, while those in green have lots of capacity. Ms. Ebaugh commented on the dots on the map, noting the larger the dot, the greater the number of units being built in that area/development. She advised that this year the elementary enrollment is 20,577, which is a district-wide capacity of 90%. Ms. Ebaugh stated in school planning 90% to 95% is full capacity; however, in order to get permission from the State to build a new school, the County has to be over capacity (105% to 110% capacity). She advised that middle school enrollment is 10,452 with an overall capacity of 91%. Ms. Ebaugh stated the high school enrollment this year is 13,249 with a capacity of 101%. She stated when looking at the overall capacities between 90% and 101%, depending on grade and school level, it means there is school capacity as a whole in the district. Ms. Ebaugh addressed the possible need for adjustments at the local level. She commented on the absorption rate data and the ability to determine the 5, 10, and 20 year projections, noting specific recommendations for growth and capacity can be brought forward once the data is provided. Ms. Ebaugh advised that there will be a better understanding relating to how school choice is impacting the County's schools.

Planner Eryn Mertens, JBPro, commented on her review of the ILA, noting some areas that were identified warrant further discussion and clarity for the purposes of educational facility planning. She stated the items were brought to the TWG in January, noting JBPro is present to discuss the ILA and seek direction relating to specific areas of focus. Ms. Mertens advised that the next steps include providing amendments for detailed discussion at the September meeting. She stated JBPro has begun to identify issues and discuss them with the TWG. Ms. Mertens provided a timeline of the work plan relating to the ILA. She commented on items to address including a confirmation of an annual schedule. Ms. Mertens advised that earlier iterations of the document included that and offered clarity relating to who is responsible for what and when. She opined that this iteration of the amendment could use some clarity, noting it is proposed to bring that component back to the agreement. Ms. Mertens stated there are 2 components to the annual schedule; the meetings component (PSPO, TWG, and TWG Subcommittee), as well as a data and information sharing component to the ILA that outlines roles and

March 12, 2025

responsibilities and an annual vs. an ongoing conversation between the jurisdictions.

Ms. Mertens commented on a slide that outlines a suggested structure for an amended ILA including: 1) table of contents; 2) roles and responsibilities; and 3) Procedure (A. joint meetings, B. information sharing coordination (a. formatting of data and b. uniformity of data tracked), C. student enrollment and population projections, and D. school location and site selection). She addressed the addition of an appendix containing: A. annual schedule; B. student generation multiplier; C. sample agendas; and D. glossary.

Mr. Hill commented on the range of topics covered, noting the PSPO is requesting feedback relating to opportunities for improvement in the ILA such as the annual schedule, proposed work plans for future adjustments in the development data and the ILA, as well as any items to address as part of this process that would help improve school facility planning within the District. He stated there will be a request to reconvene the TWG in August, prior to the next PSPO meeting in September to provide the TWG an opportunity to review, discuss and help refine the Educational Facilities Report before it is brought back.

Commissioner Stone advised that it would be appropriate to allow the TWG Subcommittee to go back and work to provide clarity to some of the areas that have been identified and bring an amendment back to the TWG to comb through prior to providing it to each individual Board.

Commissioner Zalak stated he is happy to meet again in September; however, he hopes the data will be a whole lot better. He expressed concern relating to the lack of information provided today.

Ms. Conrad opined that is the overall feeling, noting the MCSB thought there would be more data coming forward. She commented on challenges relating to aligning the data.

In response to Ms. Conrad, Growth Management Director Jeff Shrum, City of Ocala, advised that staff had the same concern relating to the release of data that was not uniform. He commented on the desire to establish a good working baseline. Mr. Shrum expressed appreciation for the time the TWG Subcommittee put in, noting they plan to put in as much time as needed to get to the point of having good data for the next meeting. He stated moving forward this process should be much easier, noting the group plans to meet regularly to review the absorption rate and provide good data.

Chairman Bryant commented on a chart that staff presented to her yesterday, which has been provided to the consultants.

Council Member Barry Mansfield, City of Ocala, questioned how the assumptions are made relating to growth and development and how the related data is derived. Mr. Shrum advised that the group is tracking 55-plus units, mobile homes and even collecting data based on the number of bedrooms in an effort to get consistent information from all jurisdictions. He commented on the importance of identifying where growth is happening now, noting they are using daily permitting data from the County and municipalities. Mr. Shrum stated it is important to track that data on a regular basis to identify trends. He advised that moving forward he anticipates the group will revisit the data quarterly to true it up.

In response to Mr. Mansfield, Mr. Shrum stated the information will always be a little in arrears due to the lag in the planning process, to getting a permit and a structure built on a property, that property being occupied and there being an impact on a school. He commented on developments that may not build out all the units that are platted, noting the need to track it as it is built. Mr. Shrum reiterated that the projections will be updated at least on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Bouyounes requested confirmation from this Board relating to whether they wish to meet again in September. Ms. Ebaugh stated September/October is the right timeframe and would set the baseline for next year. She stated they are looking to do this on a regular basis, noting they want to start right for the next school year. Ms. Ebaugh advised that the data used as a baseline for every annual review is the 40-day count from the school district. She commented on the desire to align the 40-day count (enrollment data) with the development data that is happening from the local jurisdictions, which would be reviewed during that same September/October timeframe.

In response to Dr. Sarah James, MSCB, Ms. Ebaugh stated the consultant prefers a September meeting, noting they would rather look backwards, then use next year as a baseline for the 40-day count. She clarified that this year's report will contain all the data that has been collected through the 2024/25 school year and next year would be the beginning of next year's cycle. Ms. Ebaugh advised that the consultant would be looking at next year's cycle with the 40-day count and the development data that happened from this calendar year.

Dr. James questioned why the 120 day count would not be used, noting it is the most accurate student enrollment number. Ms. Ebaugh stated the Best Management Practice (BMP) for school districts is to always use the 40-day count as their snapshot in time, noting she is aware that school enrollment changes on a daily basis. She advised that the 40-day count is the count that is reported to the State for enrollment and is also the count used for funding purposes. Ms. Ebaugh stated the 40-day count stays static and is always the number the school district is being paid based upon. She advised that if she looked at the 40-day count one year and then compared the growth projections the next year to February counts or another month's count, then the number is consistently changing. Ms. Ebaugh clarified that if she always uses the 40-day count, every year she can compare the numbers from one year to another and know that she is consistently looking at the same set of data in the same period. She stated the current ILA calls for the development data to be provided to the school district in the spring, but the enrollment numbers being used are from the fall and are not consistent with each other.

In response to Dr. James, Mr. Ayres advised that the changes in enrollment relating to the 40-day count from the 2023/24 school year to the 2025/26 increased by roughly 1,000 students.

Dr. James expressed concern in regard to scheduling a meeting in September and using last year's data, noting the parties will be a year behind. She questioned why the parties cannot meet in late October, utilize the 40-day count, and have up to date information to allow forward planning as to how to address it collectively as an organization.

Mr. Ayres stated when the State sends capacity enrollment reports from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), they are all based on that 40 day count, because the full time equivalency funding happens 3 times a year, but during the school year, it's twice. It occurs in October and in February, so with school planning, the 40 day count is the number that is used.

Dr. James advised that she does not disagree with using the 40-day count; however, she disagrees with the timeframe for the meeting. She stated she wants to use the timeliest data for the meeting.

Dr. Allison Campbell, MCSB, commented on the amount of data collection and analysis; as it relates to the timeframe for the next meeting. She advised that the reason there is not accurate data right now is because the planning data from the Counties and municipalities does not align. Dr. Campbell stated MCPS can plan to the best of its

March 12, 2025

abilities based on where they know students are right now, but they are unaware of what is being approved without sitting in on the City Planning and Zoning Commission once a month.

Commissioner Stone clarified that the data has been shared, but the entities track things differently. She advised that she does not want the public to believe the County and municipalities were not tracking and providing the data. She noted that the data is tracked appropriately.

Chairman Bryant opined that Dr. Campbell's comments were completely off track from the discussion, noting the parties are trying to determine when to meet again. She stated it was noted at the beginning of the meeting that all the data was not complete; however, the important thing to establish is when to meet again. Chairman Bryant advised that the real question is should the report be given before the 40-day count or after. She opined that the MCSB should decide what information is best for them and provide the most up to date data for its future planning purposes.

School Board Chairman Conrad stated she has only heard wonderful things about the work going on between the TWG and the TWG Subcommittee relating to the efforts to analyze the data. She advised that she has not heard any negative discussion from any entity other than it is tedious work that is taking longer than anticipated. Chairman Conrad expressed gratitude for the work performed to date.

Chairman Bryant stated the date does not have to be determined today, noting the parties understand they will reconvene in the fall for the updated presentation.

Ms. Ebaugh stated the data set being used right now is based off development data from the fall of 2024, and the enrollment data from the fall of 2024. She advised that the data the consultant has now is the benchmark data. Ms. Ebaugh stated moving forward, the fall data (development and school data) will be the benchmark that the report is based upon. She advised that if there were a meeting in October with the new enrollment data, in order to update the report it would be necessary to update the development and enrollment data and have time to analyze how those 2 new pieces of data, which we don't have today, would be added to the information. Ms. Ebaugh commented on concerns relating to the timeframe and reporting on data that is a year old, She stated a compromise could be continuing as things are today, using the development and enrollment data from fall 2024 and at the meeting, if waiting until after October, the consultant could update and provide a section relating to current student enrollment. Ms. Ebaugh clarified that the updated enrollment data would not be part of the study data, it would just be a benchmark so the entities would know what the enrollment data shows.

In response to Commissioner Curry, Ms. Ebaugh advised that the data is looked at in buckets, noting there is a bucket of data that is received from the Property Appraisers Office (PAO) that provides the number of units that are currently built in the County. She stated the consultant also looks at Certificate of Occupancy (CO) data from each jurisdiction, which helps to fill the gap in the PAO lag. Ms. Ebaugh advised that the next bucket of data relates to understanding long-term capacity, which is looking at Future Land Use (FLU) categories and how much potential development exists within them. She stated the next bucket of data contains buildable, platted lots including, antiquated subdivisions, vested lots, approved development orders and other platted lots that only need to go to permitting prior to being constructed. Ms. Ebaugh advised that the next bucket relates to permitted data, which shows how many units are being permitted and are currently under construction usually for a 2 to 3 year period. She stated finally they look at the certificate of occupancy data to understand how many of those permits have

been constructed and which ones should be removed. Ms. Ebaugh advised that she looks at each bucket in their entirety, independently, but also looks at them to correspond and communicate with each other. She commented on the challenges associated with bringing data from multiple jurisdictions into those buckets, when they may all count that data in different ways. Ms. Ebaugh stated because student generations are different for single family, multi-family and mobile homes, they are divided into those different types of units and the buckets are reviewed 3 times. She advised that this process is not easy; however, in the end it creates an information source that can be utilized moving forward provided it is updated as described by Mr. Shrum. Ms. Ebaugh commented on the cooperation from the jurisdictions, noting now they know what the challenges are and understand what questions need to be answered, now they just need time to finish the study to provide really good data.

In response to Commissioner Stone, Dr. Campbell questioned if the TWG thinks the proposed timeline is appropriate to look over amendments to the ILA and reconvene this group to have a conversation.

Ms. Ebaugh stated while the data revisions are being conducted, the consultant will also be re-vetting the changes to the ILA with each jurisdiction, noting those 2 things are happening concurrently.

Mr. Ayres advised that there may be a need for 2 meetings of the TWG: one to receive data from the TWG Subcommittee and discuss the information and a second meeting to come back and finalize. He stated this may need to occur prior to the fall PSPO meeting. Chairman Bryant advised that the entities should perform the necessary work and when an appropriate date is known, it can be scheduled for the parties can reconvene.

Mr. Ayres commented on the huge amount of cooperation from the County and municipalities, noting the TWG Subcommittee is getting not only the baseline data, but also the ongoing data. He stated he is receiving emails relating to new developments.

Commissioner Stone advised that there are different units that are approved based on zoning whether it is urban or rural and it will never be precise; however, the data will be provided to the best of the County's ability to assist with planning.

Mayor Walter Green, City of Dunnellon, stated citizens there want to hear more about the 5,10,15 and 20 year projections. He opined that the public is more interested in the information to base projections on, rather than when meetings are held. He commented on the explosive growth in the southwest portion of the County. Mayor Green expressed appreciation for the work being performed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Conrad opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, School Board Chairman Conrad advised that public comment is now closed.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Mansfield expressed appreciation for the TWG for their hard work.

Commissioner Stone advised that this has been a very cooperative opportunity and wants to ensure this meeting does not make it seem as if it has not. She commented on the time and effort involved, noting she looks forward to what will be brought back in the fall.

Commissioner Curry expressed appreciation towards MCPS Superintendent Dr. Diane Gullett for the personal working relationship they have had for years.

Chairman Bryant expressed appreciation towards Commissioner Stone for her work on

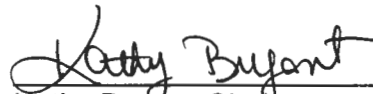
March 12, 2025

the TWG.

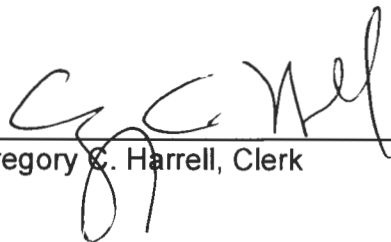
School Board member Nancy Thrower concurred, noting serving on the TWG is not for the faint of heart. She stated in her experience of being on the TWG from the beginning with Commissioner Stone has been a refreshing and new direction for all parties. Ms. Thrower advised that the group has evolved and commented on the critical nature of rapid sharing of information. She stated things are happening fast and commented on having the opportunity to have access to each other's information in ways that all agree are as accurate as possible, so the parties can continue to plan for one of the greatest places in the world to live, work and play.

School Board Chairman Conrad expressed appreciation towards the BCC and County staff, the TWG and the Subcommittee, noting she looks forward to meeting again in the fall.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting thereupon adjourned at 11:35 a.m.


Kathy Bryant, Chairman

Attest:


Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk