



AGENDA
DANIA BEACH CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024 - 4:00 PM

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE WITH REGARD TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING OR HEARING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

LOBBYIST REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. PRIOR TO ENGAGING IN ANY LOBBYING ACTIVITIES, WHETHER OR NOT COMPENSATION IS PAID OR RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THOSE ACTIVITIES, EACH LOBBYIST SHALL FILE WITH THE CITY CLERK AN ANNUAL REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND PAY AN ANNUAL TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) REGISTRATION FEE FOR EACH PRINCIPAL OR EMPLOYER. REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CITY WEBSITE: WWW.DANIABEACHFL.GOV. (ORDINANCE #2012-019; AMENDED BY ORDINANCE #2019-019)

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 100 W. DANIA BEACH BOULEVARD, DANIA BEACH, FL 33004, (954) 924-6800 EXTENSION 3624, AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

IN CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS, WE ASK THAT YOU:

- A. PLEASE TURN CELL PHONES OFF, OR PLACE ON VIBRATE. IF YOU MUST MAKE A CALL, PLEASE STEP OUT INTO THE ATRIUM, IN ORDER NOT TO INTERRUPT THE MEETING.
- B. IF YOU MUST SPEAK TO SOMEONE IN THE AUDIENCE, PLEASE SPEAK SOFTLY OR GO OUT INTO THE ATRIUM, IN ORDER NOT TO INTERRUPT THE MEETING.

**DECORUM POLICY FOR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA:**

INDIVIDUALS WHO WISH TO MAKE ANY "CITIZEN'S COMMENTS" UNDER THAT PORTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION AGENDA, OR WHO OTHERWISE WANT TO ADDRESS THE CITY COMMISSION, MUST FIRST BE REGISTERED WITH THE CITY CLERK (FORMS ARE AVAILABLE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS AND MUST BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK BEFORE THE MEETING). OTHERS WHO WANT TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON ANY MATTERS MUST FIRST BE RECOGNIZED BY THE MAYOR. ALL SUCH PERSONS MUST USE THE PODIUM IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBER. NO MORE THAN ONE PERSON AT A TIME MAY ADDRESS THE COMMISSION FROM THE PODIUM. COMMENTS ARE ONLY TO BE MADE TO THE CITY COMMISSION AND ARE NOT TO BE DIRECTED TO THE AUDIENCE OR CITY STAFF.

NO INDIVIDUAL SHALL MAKE ANY SLANDEROUS OR UNDULY REPETITIVE REMARKS, OR ENGAGE IN ANY OTHER FORM OF BEHAVIOR THAT DISRUPTS OR IMPEDES THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE MEETING, AS DETERMINED BY THE MAYOR. NO INDIVIDUAL MAY SPEAK DIRECTLY TO OR ADDRESS THE MAYOR, CITY COMMISSIONER OR CITY STAFF: COMMENTS ARE TO BE ONLY DIRECTED TO THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE. NO CLAPPING, APPLAUDING, HECKLING OR VERBAL OUTBURSTS IN SUPPORT OF OR OPPOSITION TO A SPEAKER OR HIS OR HER REMARKS SHALL BE PERMITTED. NO SIGNS OR PLACARDS SHALL BE PERMITTED IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBER.

IF ANY PERSON'S CONDUCT AS DETERMINED BY THE MAYOR IS FOUND TO BE DISRUPTIVE OR INTERFERES WITH THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE MEETING, THE PERSON MAY BE ASKED BY THE MAYOR TO LEAVE THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS; IF THE PERSON DOES NOT LEAVE AND THE CONDUCT PERSISTS, THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL BE REQUESTED TO ESCORT THE INDIVIDUAL FROM THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

ALL CELLULAR TELEPHONES ARE TO BE SILENCED DURING THE MEETING. ALL PERSONS EXITING THE COMMISSION CHAMBER SHALL DO SO QUIETLY. (RESOLUTION #2020-032)

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

2. DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED CLOSING OF OLSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2024-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA, ISSUED TO THE BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (BCSD), IN OPPOSITION TO THE BCSD'S PROPOSED CLOSURE OF OLSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND, ALTERNATIVELY, SUPPORTING A BCSD DECISION TO TURN OLSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL INTO A K-8 OR A 6-12 SCHOOL; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

3. ADJOURNMENT



City of Dania Beach City Manager Memorandum

DATE: 5/7/2024

TO: Mayor and Commissioners

FROM: Ana M. Garcia, ICMA-CM, City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution in Opposition of the Proposed Closing of Olsen Middle School

Request:

To approve the resolution in opposition of the proposed closing of Olsen Middle School.

Background:

The City of Dania Beach, Broward's 1st City, is celebrating 120 years of a rich tradition embodied in a pioneering spirit, excellence in municipal services, and passion and pride in our Community! Dania Beach is experiencing a true "renaissance" with unprecedented growth, along with historic investments in infrastructure, parks and public safety! Within a period of six (6) years, we have approved in excess of 10,400 new housing units! Dania Beach is not just a destination, it's the "epicenter" of South Florida! We are a City with a "vision", a very stable administration, we are financially sound, and this April of 2024, Spirit Airlines cut the ribbon on its corporate headquarters at Dania Pointe here in Dania Beach!

We work very closely with our local schools and have established an outstanding relationship with all of them! We are investing approximately \$30 million dollars in total in our local parks all adjacent to our schools. Recently our City Commission unanimously approved a project investing \$5 million dollars on seven (7) acres on the campus of Olsen Middle School to add a multitude of recreational amenities including a track for track and field, multipurpose fields for sports, playgrounds, basketball courts and much more! The City would also be interested in entering into a separate interlocal agreement that would authorize the City to use the Olsen gymnasium, band room, and office spaces and multipurpose rooms, including providing for maintenance of these areas in the City's annual budget.

To our surprise and disappointment, it has come to our attention that "Awesome Olsen" is being considered as a school to be closed. Hence, we have called for a special meeting of our City Commission on Tuesday, May 7th to discuss a plan of action to advocate for Olsen Middle School and for the school to stay open and be given the opportunity to continue to thrive under the leadership of Principal Janet Giancarli and her team! Principal Giancarli has increased enrollment by 99 students in seven (7) months since October, 2023 to present. We have partnered with her on the very successful REACH (Respect, Endurance, Ambition, Community and Honor) program and we, the City of Dania Beach, have seen the great work and certainly the potential at Olsen! While Olsen Middle has increased enrollment from 558 to 657 students combined, Attucks and Pines gained only 34 new students and McNicol had a loss of 6 students.

Our taxpayers pay annually in excess of \$46 million dollars for our three (3) public schools, so to eliminate 1/3 of our schools is simply unacceptable, particularly in light of the aforementioned, our growing population and our monetary investment in Olsen Middle School!

We have many successful Olsen Alumni impacting our community, particularly former Mayor and current Commissioner and local business owner Marco Salvino, as well as former two-time Mayor, current City Commissioner and Broward County and University of Miami Hall of Fame inductee, Tamara James, who along with our entire City Commission and Administration strongly oppose the closing of our beloved "Awesome Olsen"!

Please allow the underlying resolution to serve as the voice for all the current students at Olsen Middle School, our Mayor and City Commission and all the incoming residents that are moving into our City at a record pace, so you may reconsider closing a school that is thriving and on a proven trajectory of growth and excellence!

Recommendation

To approve the resolution in opposition of the proposed closing of Olsen Middle School.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA, ISSUED TO THE BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (BCSD), IN OPPOSITION TO THE BCSD'S PROPOSED CLOSURE OF OLSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND, ALTERNATIVELY, SUPPORTING A BCSD DECISION TO TURN OLSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL INTO A K-8 OR A 6-12 SCHOOL; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Dania Beach, Broward's 1st City is celebrating 120 years of a rich tradition embodied in a pioneering spirit, excellence in municipal services, and passion and pride in our community; and

WHEREAS, Dania Beach is experiencing a true "renaissance" with unprecedented growth, along with historic investments in infrastructure, parks and public safety; and

WHEREAS, within a period of six (6) years the City has approved in excess of 10,400 new housing units, many of which are affordable; and

WHEREAS, Dania Beach is not just a destination, it's the "epicenter" of South Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City works very closely with our local schools and the City has established an outstanding relationship with all of them; and

WHEREAS, the City is investing approximately \$30 million dollars in improvements adjacent to all our schools; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission unanimously approved a project investing \$5 million dollars in seven (7) acres on the Campus of Olsen Middle School to add a multitude of recreational amenities including a track for track and field, multipurpose fields for sports, playgrounds, basketball courts and other amenities to the site; and

WHEREAS, the gross amount of ad valorem taxes levied by the School Board of Broward County in fiscal year 2023-24 equals \$46,793,681, paid wholly by taxpayers and property owners in the City of Dania Beach; and

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2023, the School Board of Broward County (SBBC) and the City entered into a Recreation License Agreement to allow the City to make specific recreational improvements and utilize portions of SBBC owned land (Site No. 47.1 a/k/a Olsen Middle School) for recreational and parking purposes; and

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2024, the City Commission unanimously approved the conceptual design for Olsen Middle School, which included specific amenities and site improvements exceeding \$5 million dollars of total investments for the students at Olsen Middle School; and

WHEREAS, the City would also be interested in entering into a separate interlocal agreement that would authorize the City to use the Olsen gymnasium, band room, and office spaces and multipurpose rooms, including providing for maintenance of these areas in the City's annual budget; and

WHEREAS, newly appointed School Superintendent Howard Hepburn, during a Town Hall meeting at Hollywood Hills High announced on Monday, April 29, 2024, that "Awesome Olsen" is being considered as a school to be closed; and

WHEREAS, in the short time that Principal Giancarli has been at the helm, she has increased enrollment at Olsen Middle by 99 students in seven (7) months since October of 2023 to present; and

WHEREAS, the City has partnered with Olsen on the very successful REACH (Respect, Endurance, Ambition, Community, Honor) program and the City of Dania Beach has seen the great work and potential of Olsen; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Dania beach advocates to support the continued operations for Olsen Middle School to stay open and be given the opportunity to continue to thrive under the leadership of Principal Janet Giancarli and her team; and

WHEREAS, Olsen Middle School administers the following ICAN! Magnet Academy, which provides unique academies to earn high school credit, with project-based learning, and for career and college readiness programs: Academy of Business, Media & Music Conservatory, Education, Hospitality & Tourism, and Robotics and Marine Science; and

WHEREAS, between October 2023 and May 2024, Awesome Olsen has attracted 99 new students, increasing its student enrollment from 558 to 657, and with its academies and its new principal, Olsen will continue to grow; and

WHEREAS, Attucks and Pines gained only 34 new students and McNicol has a loss of 6 students; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of one third of our schools is simply unacceptable, particularly in light of the aforementioned, our growing population and our monetary investment in Olsen Middle School.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DANIA BEACH, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That the above “Whereas” clauses are ratified and confirmed, and they are made a part of and incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. That the City of Dania Beach opposes the Broward County School District (BCSD), determination to close Olsen Middle School and, alternatively, supporting a BCSD decision to turn Olsen Middle School into a greater educational opportunity school to include more grades.

Section 3. That. the City Clerk is directed to distribute copies of this Resolution to the Broward League of Cities and to all municipalities within Broward County.

Section 4. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on _____, 2024.

Motion by _____, second by _____.

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION: Unanimous _____

Yes No

Commissioner Joyce L. Davis _____

Commissioner Tamara James _____

Commissioner Marco Salvino _____

Vice Mayor Lori Lewellen _____

Mayor Archibald J. Ryan IV _____

ATTEST:

ELORA RIERA, MMC

ARCHIBALD J. RYAN IV

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

EVE A. BOUTSIS
CITY ATTORNEY



May 2, 2024

Broward County Public Schools
600 SE Third Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Superintendent Hepburn:

I hope this letter finds you well. As a concerned member of the community, the former Mayor and current Commissioner of Dania Beach, and an alumnus of Olsen Middle School, I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the recent proposal to close Olsen Middle School and the lack of equitable resource allocation within our district.

Having attended Olsen Middle School, I understand the importance of having a local school that not only provides education but also fosters a sense of community. The education I received there was invaluable, and I am saddened by the prospect of future students being deprived of such opportunities.

During the recent community meeting, it became apparent that the proposed closures disproportionately affect economically disadvantaged children, limiting their access to quality education and resources. I am deeply troubled by the suggestion that certain schools will only allow children from specific areas to attend, further exacerbating disparities in access to education.

Furthermore, the lack of mention of providing additional resources to other facilities is concerning. It seems unjust that some areas are recommended to receive private funding while others are left without adequate support from the district.

I strongly believe that our community should not bear the consequences of mismanaged funds and project management. The closure of schools without the implementation of additional programming only sets our children up for further failure.

I urge you to consider investing in Dania Beach and its schools, rather than closing them. For example, the investment of millions of dollars into a school property, like we are doing, could provide beneficial resources such as a track program, which was lacking during my time at Olsen Middle School.

While I understand that enrollment rates may raise concerns, I urge you to consider the trends of 2024 and explore alternative solutions to closure. Publicly announcing the proposed closure of Olsen Middle School without adequate consideration for its impact on the community and enrollment rates only exacerbates the situation.

I appreciate the difficulty of your position and the need to make tough decisions. However, I implore you to reconsider the proposed closure of Olsen Middle School and prioritize the needs of our community.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to further discuss my concerns and explore potential solutions. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jan James", with a stylized, cursive script.

Commissioner James



May 1, 2024

Broward County Public Schools
600 SE Third Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Broward County School Board Members:

As the former Mayor, Vice Mayor and current Commissioner of the great City of Dania Beach, Broward's 1st City and a proud alumnus of Olsen Middle School Class of 1969, I write this letter to all of you so that you may reconsider your proposed closing of "Awesome Olsen"!

I am a lifer here in Dania Beach residing here for 70 years down the street from Olsen Middle School. What you may not know is that our city is growing at a record pace, and we have approved over 10 thousand units in our city! Many students will be coming to Dania Beach and enrolling at Olsen particularly under the proven leadership of Principal Janet Giancarli, and the city's \$5-million-dollar investment in the 7-acre parcel on the Campus of Olsen Middle School. Our city is experiencing a "renaissance", and the anticipated growth will yield hundreds of new students for Olsen. Already you can witness that Olsen's enrollment has increased by more than 100 students since this past October!

I urge you to please reconsider your decision to close Olsen because certainly you did not have all the facts to be able to foresee what we in the City of Dania Beach see today and will continue to see in the future of our growing and thriving City.

With much respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marco Salvino'.

Commissioner Marco Salvino
Olsen Junior High Class of 1969

Olsen Middle School Permanent Capacity is 1125.

2023 – 2024 School	October Benchmark Enrollment	May Current Enrollment	Change	Permanent Capacity
Attucks	692	708	+16	1227
McNicol	617	611	-6	1303
Olsen	558	657	+ 99	1125
Pines	610	628	+ 18	1769

Awesome Olsen Middle School Discipline Data Comparison

Behavior Incidents	# of Incidents 2022 - 2023	# of Incidents 2023 - 2024
Disobedience/Insubordination	107	24
Class Cut (Skipping)	109	21
Tardiness (Habitual)	105	20
Out of Assigned Area	85	17
Disruptive Unruly Behavior	70	17
	Total 476	Total 99