

MINUTES
Sunshine Meeting
Between Town Council
and
Miami-Dade County School Board Members and Intergovernmental Affairs
December 16, 2025
10:00 AM
Government Center
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 10:03 AM.

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Joshua Dieguez (attended via phone), Councilmember Juan Carlos Fernandez and Councilmember Alex Sanchez.

The following Town staff members were present: Town Manager Mr. Edward Pidermann, Deputy Town Clerk Mr. Alexis P. Martinez, Public Works Director Mr. Omar Santos, Mayor Dieguez' Assistant, Mr. Joshua Villorin, Lieutenant Eddy Ulloa and Sergeant George Soto.

The following guests were present: Principal of Bob Graham Educational Center Ms. Yecenia Lopez, Assistant Principal Mr. Joel S. Castellanos, Administrative Director North Region Office for Miami-Dade Public Schools Mr. Leonard Torres, Administrative Director Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Ms. Ailette Rodriguez-Diaz, Bob Graham Educational Center SRO (School Resource Officer) Mr. Jose Baluja, Miami-Dade County Public School Assistant Superintendent and Miami-Dade County Public Schools District Director Kristin E. Hayes.

2. Public Comments:

These individuals provided public comments: Mr. Erik B. Wiborg (Pinch A Penny), Brian Londono (Raw and Kibble), Katherine Del Pino (Zen Canine Club), Dunct Junnicelh(Chase Bank), David Richards (Consultant for Royal Oaks Plaza), Ricardo Nevarez (Royal Oaks Plaza Representative), Harold W. Foster (Office of Senator of Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rene Garcia District 13 Representative), Aharon Bitton (Massage Envy), Christopher Abi (ElectroProz), Aron Blatt, Aylen Ginoris (Office of Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rene Garcia Representative), Martin R. Cardena (Cancun Grill), Andrew Platt (Ernie's Acai), Lydia Hernandez (Resident of the Town), Irene Guterrez (Resident of the Town), Ana Ortega (Resident of the Town).

The business owners and representatives of the Royal Oaks Plaza addressed their concerns and proposed traffic solutions for Bob Graham Education Center including but not limited to parents or guardians staging in the parking lot for student pick-up, students loitering in the plaza at times being a nuisance and disturbing customers in and out of the businesses, entrances to the plaza being affected by traffic flow causing congestion and decrease in revenue and commission sales, these issues driving customers away to other locations to avoid traffic, nearly 100+ have been observed

after school dismissal hanging out within the plaza, request for traffic lights synchronization to be improved

Residents of Royal Oaks addressed their concerns but not limited to issues gaining access into the Royal Oaks Plaza for essential needs, storm water flooding in the surrounding area of the school that can cause difficulty transporting students in and out during emergencies, decreasing enrollment of students to aid traffic solutions, discussing future initiatives be taken for when the future Graham apartment building and shopping centers are built east of the Palmetto to prepare for traffic increase, request for staggered release times for dismissal at Bob Graham Educational Center and short-term solutions for all parties affected by said traffic issues.

3. Item Discussed:

Councilmember Sanchez opened the meeting and Mayor Dieguez who attended the meeting via phone, addressed the participants in attendance and stated Councilmember Sanchez would lead the rest of the meeting in-person.

Councilmember Sanchez gave post public comments remarks discussing proposed traffic solutions at Bob Graham Educational Center including but not limited to the request for appropriations with Tallahassee to receive funding for the 10-foot perimeter fence and additional lane study for alternative staging at Bob Graham Education Center, voting for staggered release times for dismissal after school and alternate pick-up areas for students.

Bob Graham Education Center Principal, Ms. Yecenia M. Lopez and Assistant Principal Mr. Joel Castellanos provided current updates on traffic at the school and shared progress being by displaying clear lanes post afternoon dismissals and answered questions posed by Councilmembers and public participants. Principal Yecenia Lopez also stated the schedule and number of buses has stayed the same post Covid, they are not responsible for unsupervised students outside the school property, their staging areas have been removed due to the planting of trees and added swales. She also stated increased percentage of after school clubs and sports programs nearing 500+ students and the DASH pass program providing traffic solutions.

Miami-Dade County Public School Superintendent Mr. Tony Ullivari inquired on where the funds for the 10-foot fence and additional lane for staging on Bob Graham Educational Center property would come from. Councilmember Sanchez explained what the process would be going to Tallahassee first by requesting appropriations.

Councilmember Fernandez stated he is for the additional lane project for staging on Bob Graham Educational Center property to clear traffic on 79th Ave and stating their long-standing record as an A+ school, proposed extended staging space of up to 3ft along 79th Ave without having to remove oak trees and asked the school board members how can Town Council assist in getting parents to vote for staggered dismissal times.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Administrative Director Mr. Leonard Torres commented on light synchronization and staggered after school dismissal going up for a vote by the parents.

Town Manager Pidermann provided staging solutions on 159th Terrace and Lieutenant Ulloa shared his concerns for infrastructure to support traffic solutions, suggested earlier after school dismissal, synchronizing traffic lights post Royal Oaks Plaza business closing times, mimicking light synchronization from the morning to afternoon to alleviate outflow traffic on the northbound lanes. Police Department also provided feedback regarding protocol for handing out citations and warnings during school drop-off and dismissal hours.

Councilmember Sanchez provided 2026 projections on feedback from Tallahassee regarding the appropriations request and Mayor Dieguez provided closing remarks.

4. Adjournment:

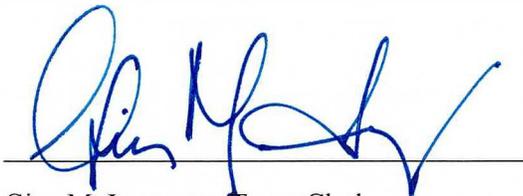
This meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Approved this 16th day December 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joshua Dieguez", written over a horizontal line.

Joshua Dieguez, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gina M. Inguanzo", written over a horizontal line.

Gina M. Inguanzo, Town Clerk