

CITY OF WESTLAKE



MINUTES

Education Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, November 06, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Westlake City Hall, located at 4001 Seminole Pratt Whitney Road, Westlake, Florida, 33470.

Live Broadcasting: <https://cityofwestlake.my.webex.com>

Meeting ID: 2634 151 7955 | Password: hello

Or

United States Toll: 1-650-479-3208

Board Members:

Dr. Anita Kaplan, Chair

Lisa Barron, Vice Chair

Krystal Lexima, Board Member

Jennifer Christian-Upia, Board Member

Dr. Christopher A. Tompkins Sr, Board Member

City Staff:

Greg Langowski, Councilmember Liaison

Zoie P. Burgess, CMC, Acting City Manager

Odet Izquierdo, Acting City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Anita Kaplan called the Westlake Education Advisory Board meeting of Thursday, November 6, 2025, to order at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present and constituting a quorum:

Board Member Christian-Upia
Board Member Dr. Christopher A. Tompkins Sr.
Board Member Lexima
Vice Chair Barron
Chair Dr. Kaplan

Also present:

Greg Langowski, Vice Mayor
Odet Izquierdo, Acting City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Kaplan led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board discussed amending the agenda to include an item regarding a guest, Chad Lovitt from Roger Dean Stadium.

Motion by board member Tompkins to approve the amended agenda of November 6, 2025, seconded by board member Lexima.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Board Member Lexima	YES
Board Member Tompkins	YES
Vice Chair Barron	YES
Chair Kaplan	YES
Board Member Christian-Upia	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes_Education Advisory Board Meeting - 09.11.2025 – DRAFT

Board Chair Kaplan identified the approval of minutes and called for a motion to approve.

Motion by Vice Chair Barron to approve the minutes of September 11, 2025, seconded by board member Tompkins.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Board Member Christian-Upia	YES
Board Member Lexima	YES
Board Member Tompkins	YES
Vice Chair Barron	YES
Chair Kaplan	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Welcome new Regular Board Member - Dr Christopher Tompkins

Chair Kaplan acknowledged that Dr. Tompkins had moved from an alternate member to a regular member of the board.

B. Resignation of Colleen Forlizzi

Chair Kaplan noted that Colleen Forlizzi had resigned due to having too many commitments and being away frequently, though she had expressed that she enjoyed being on the board.

C. Council Meeting Outcomes / Actions

The Board discussed the previous night's council meeting where a presentation about the new Westlake school was made. Board members who attended shared their insights:

- The planned school will serve Westlake students, with the remaining spots filled by surrounding communities.
- Students who are already in 5th grade at Golden Grove will be allowed to finish their year there.
- There was significant discussion about traffic management concerns, including drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- The plan includes an intermodal path with golf cart parking, bicycle parking, and a student drop-off area separate from the bus loop.
- The groundbreaking for the school is scheduled for March 2026, with construction expected to take a year, aiming for completion by June to allow 2-3 months for preparation before opening August 2027.

Board members observed that the school district representatives were complimentary of the Educational Advisory Board during the council meeting.

D. Trade Show Potential/ideas

The Board discussed the possibility of organizing a trade show or career fair event to inform students about trade education opportunities. Key suggestions included:

- Connecting with guidance counselors at Seminole Ridge High School to see if they already host similar events
- Potentially coordinating with The Lodge events coordinator, to hold an event at the Adventure Park lodge
- Board member Tompkins offered to reach out to the high school to learn about their existing trade programs.
- The Board considered a focus on middle school students transitioning to high school, to inform them about trade opportunities.

E. Saddleview School Visit

The Board discussed arranging a visit to Saddleview School. There was discussion about whether Board members could all visit together or would need to visit in smaller groups due to Sunshine Law considerations.

It was agreed that staff would check with the attorney for clarification on this matter and collect potential dates and times for the visit, preferably when students are present to see the school in operation.

F. Comcast at Westlake

Chair Kaplan mentioned a previous idea about approaching Comcast, which is expanding service to Westlake communities, to potentially fund a school scoreboard. After discussing with Vice Mayor Langowski, they determined the city should not be directly involved in this type of request to avoid showing preference for specific vendors. It was suggested that school officials should make such requests directly to Comcast or other potential sponsors.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Jabrewski's Funding to Identified Schools

Chair Kaplan reported that the recent fundraiser at Jabrewski's generated approximately \$80 to 90 in proceeds based on \$800 in sales. The Board discussed how these funds would be used. The Board voted to direct the proceeds to Golden Grove Elementary School.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/REPORTS/UPDATES

The Board discussed plans for their next meeting, which was scheduled for January 8, 2026. They also added to their agenda for the next meeting a follow-up on the Roger Dean Stadium event planning, tentatively looking at dates in April or May 2026, with April 18, 2026, being considered.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This section of the agenda allows for comments from the public to address the Board. Each speaker will be given a total of three (3) minutes to comment. Please address Board from podium, and prior to addressing the Board, state your name and address for the record.

Public Comment - Janet Meyer from 5926 Jasmine Lane - Ms. Meyer, commented that she has two children at Seminole Ridge High School and did not receive information about the fundraiser from the school. She suggested that in the future, the Board should contact principal secretaries to help distribute information. She also noted that many Westlake students attend Osceola Creek Middle School and emphasized the importance of not forgetting that school in future initiatives.

Public Comment - Alicia Torres - 5447 Whippoorwill Circle – Ms. Torres asked for clarification about the timeline for planning the Roger Dean Stadium event and suggested considering a career night format for the trade show idea.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kaplan adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.



Odet Izquierdo, Acting City Clerk

Anita Kaplan, Board Chair