

ORDINANCE X, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA, REPEALING CHAPTER 2, (ADMINISTRATION), ARTICLE IV, “BOARDS AND COMMITTEES”, DIVISION 2, SECTION 2-63 TO 2-66, WHICH REGULATED THE TOWN’S “EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD”, AND ADOPTING A NEW ORDINANCE RECONSTITUTING THE BOARD AND RESTATING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD WILL OPERATE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 1993, the Town of Lake Park adopted Resolution 3, 1993, creating an “Education Committee”; and

WHEREAS, that Committee was formed primarily to assist the Town in fulfilling its obligations and commitments to the Palm Beach County School Board as defined in an interlocal agreement dated December 18, 1991, which was passed for the purposes of maintaining racial balance with the primary and secondary school-age population of the Town; and

WHEREAS, that committee has served the Town since 1993 in various capacities: and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the Town adopted Resolution 9, 2001, renaming the Committee the “Education Advisory Board” and reconstituting the Board and restating the terms and conditions under which the Education Advisory Board operates; and

WHEREAS, that Board has served the Town since 2001 in various capacities; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, that Commissioner Judith Thomas presented the need for an “Education Advisory Board”: and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lake Park Commission has determined that there is a need to repeal and reconstitute the Education Advisory Board and restate the terms and conditions under which the Board will operate; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lake Park has determined that it is in the public interest, welfare, and necessity to repeal and reconstitute the Education Advisory Board in order that the Board might operate more effectively and efficiently.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1

CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 2, IS HEREBY AMENDED, AND SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

**DIVISION 2. EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD,
Sec. 2-63. Declaration of Legislative Intent. Purpose**

It is the intent of this division to promote the awareness and participation of the citizens of Lake Park in the education of the children of Lake Park. Further, it is the intent of the Commission to encourage the cooperation of the citizens of Lake Park through their volunteer efforts within the school and the community, with the public, private, and charter schools in Lake Park and those where Lake Park resident students are zoned to attend, to enhance the efforts of the schools in educating our children.

Sec, 2-64. Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the Education Advisory Board shall be as follows:

- (1) To gather input from parents, students, and the community to clearly understand their educational expectations and concerns so that the Board may actively address these issues.
- (2) To attend at least three (3) school events or School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings at an assigned school annually and provide a summary report at the Education Advisory Board meeting.
- (3) To provide the Town Commission with an annual “State of Education” report.
- (4) To provide a quarterly report to the Town Commission containing any recommendations, observations, concerns, or other information the Education Advisory Board deems to be in the best interest of the public for the Town Commission to receive regarding education and education facilities.
- (5) To contact local businesses, faith-based and non-profit organizations, and community groups within the township for professional skills, materials, financial, or educational support for schools. Any such solicitation shall first be approved by the Town Commission.
- (6) To coordinate the activities of the Town with the activities of the schools, colleges, and universities in order to enhance educational opportunities for the residents of the Town.
- (7) To coordinate with the Town’s Library and Special Events Departments for pre- and post-school activities.
- (8) To assist the Town and the schools within the Town in recruiting secondary students and retired educators to volunteer to assist students with reading, math, and other skills.
- (9) To support the initiatives of the local schools as they relate to educational activities and programs.
- (10) To bridge the gaps between what is accessible at the schools and what students have access to at home, and create an equitable field for learning.
- (11) To offer an open platform at the Education Advisory Board meeting for community organizations to share education initiatives.
- (12) Such other duties as may be assigned by the Town Commission.

Sec. 2-65. Qualifications and terms of office of the Board.

- (A) The Town Commission shall appoint an uneven number, but no more than five (5) members, and up to two (2) alternate members to the Education Advisory Board. The members shall meet at least one of the following criteria by being either:
- (1) Board members shall be Town residents.
 - (2) Board members shall have a background in education and/or experience in the field of education; or be a member of a parent-teacher organization, parent teacher association, school advisory council, or any other similar organization with the Palm Beach School District, public, private, or charter school within the Town's zoned attendance area; or be a parent/legal guardian of a child currently enrolled in a Town public, private, or charter school, or school where the resident student is zoned to attend
 - (3) The Town Commission may appoint up to three (3) students of indefinite terms as "student members" of the Board. At least one (1) of the Student Board Members shall be an upper elementary or middle-school student, and at least one (1) of the Student Board Members shall be a high school student. The Upper Elementary or Middle School Students appointed pursuant to this section shall not be counted as board members for the purpose of meeting quorum requirements and shall not be entitled to make motions or cast votes; however, appointed students may participate in the discussion of matters being considered by the Board and may bring suggestions for action to the Board. When an appointee ceases to be a student, their membership on the Board shall terminate automatically. The High School Students appointed shall be counted as board members for the purpose of meeting quorum requirements and shall be entitled to make motions or cast votes.
 - (4) One (1) Commissioner shall serve as liaison but shall have no voting power. The Library Director will serve as the Board coordinator but shall have no voting power. The liaison and coordinator are not members of the Board and shall not be counted in determining if a quorum is present.
- (B) In order that the terms of office of all members will not expire at the same time, the initial appointments to the Education Advisory Board shall be as follows;
- (1) Three (3) members shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year.
 - (2) Two (2) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years.
- (C) Thereafter, all appointments shall be made for a term of two (2) years. Any member may be reappointed upon approval of the commission. An appointment to fill any vacancy on the Education Advisory Board shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term of office.
- (D) Except as provided herein, members shall serve in accordance with the Lake Park Code, Section 2-56 and 2-57.

Section 2-66. Election of board officers, Quorum, and Compliance with "Sunshine Law".

- (A) The Board shall elect, at a regular meeting to be conducted in January of every year, from its membership, a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. The chairperson and the vice-chairperson shall serve as regular members of a School Advisory Council (SAC) at one of the schools servicing Lake Park students. This includes but is not limited to Lake Park Elementary, Palm Beach Christian Academy, H.L. Watkins Middle School, Coastal Middle and High School, Suncoast High School, and Palm Beach Gardens High School.

- (B) A quorum of the board shall be deemed present if a majority of the membership of the board is present. The affirmative vote of a majority of members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required for the board to take formal action. If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the designated start time of the meeting, the meeting will be rescheduled.
- (C) Members of the Education Advisory Board shall comply with the provisions of chapters 286 and 119, Florida Statutes.

SECTION 2

That should any section of the provision of this Ordinance or any portion thereof, any sentence, paragraph, or word be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder hereof as a whole or part thereof other than the part to be declared invalid.

SECTION 3

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Lake Park, Florida. The Sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such, and the work "Ordinance" may be changed to "Section", "Article", or other appropriate word.

SECTION 4

All ordinances of the Town of Lake Park, Florida, in conflict with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.