



Duval County Public Schools

April 18, 2013, Board Workshop

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Jacon Fischer
Ms. Cheryl Grymes
Dr. Constance S. Hall
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez
Mr. Ms. Paula D. Wright
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 9:10 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

There were no Governance items for this meeting.

[2. BUDGET](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent made a presentation to the Board regarding the budget for the upcoming year. A copy of the materials is attached to the Minutes. Discussion included the following:

- The budget is being developed in a different manner this year. Staff is starting at the school level and building from there.
- The budget timeline was explained.
- Today's discussion centered on the school budgets. Division budgets will be discussed at the May 9, 2013, budget Workshop.
- The proposed Organizational chart was reviewed. Board members requested a copy of the current Organizational chart, with current salary information.
- Moving away from Clusters and going to a feeder pattern for schools.
- Still reviewing Operations and Technology for possible reductions.
- Staff reductions was reviewed.
- Dedicated Magnets will not be part of the feeder patterns.
- The Chief of Technology position will be downgraded to an Executive Director.
- Staffing changes - some will be demoted, some reassigned, some not reappointed.
- Positions - some will be eliminated, some downgraded.
- Chiefs and Executive Directors who qualify, will be offered a Principal position at the minimum. Those at the District level will have the option to teach.
- Discussed new positions at the District and school level.
- After discussion, it was agreed that the Superintendent would provide the Board with information for the budget meetings 5 business days in advance of each Workshop.
- No cuts will be made at the clerical level.
- Technical Manager positions will be reviewed. Those performing clerical duties will be changed back to the appropriate clerical title. Those performing Technical Manager duties will maintain that title.
- Changes will be made to the 10 and 12 month coaching positions.
- Tab 3 - correct James Weldon Johnson title and add ACT to distinguish which school it is referring to.
- Class size - we are significantly out of compliance and facing a \$7 million penalty. It is possible that through the appeal process, that amount could be lowered to \$1 million or \$500,000.
- Provide Board with information on what it would cost to add security guards at each school.
- Staff allocation was briefly discussed. Principal feedback was provided to the Board.
- ESE reforms was discussed. There is work to do in this area. The move is to mainstream as much as possible, but you have to look at the individual student. This will be part of the reform to the ESE area.
- Provide Board with information on where ESE construction costs are funded from.
- Magnet school funding will be distributed differently this year. All Magnet schools

will share equally in the funding.

- The Superintendent would like to switch the middle and high school schedules.
- Utilization of early release days is being discussed.
- The change to the 7 period skinny schedule saved the District approximately \$12.5 million dollars a couple of years ago, however, the Superintendent does not anticipate any additional cost to adding the 30 minutes back to the middle and high school schedules.
- The Superintendent requested direction on the dollars in the surplus area section of the presentation. He would like to spend those dollars - approximately \$91 million - on one time items, such as infrastructure and technology needs. Some of the dollars are tied to specific purposes - i.e., donations for a particular program. Spending these dollars on anything other than the purpose for which they were donated would require obtaining permission from the person who donated the funds. This would have to come to the Board for approval. Other funds would not require Board approval, however, the Superintendent would let the Board know how the dollars were spent. After discussion, it was the consensus that the Board did not want to spend all of the money at this time.
- Information on expenditures and contract reductions was reviewed with the Board.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent
Ms. Connie Hall, Board Member
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member
Ms. Michelle Begley, Board Auditor
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice-Chairman

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 12:16 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman