



Duval County Public Schools

December 4, 2012, Regular Board Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman, Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair and the following Board members: Mr. Jason Fischer, Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Dr. Constance S. Hall, Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: Pastor Ted Corley gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Presentations

Board Members

1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 5 - FORREST HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes: Dr. Alvin Brennan, principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation (*see attachment*) on Nathan B. Forrest High School.

Communications

1. LEONARD MILLER PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP AWARD 2012

Minutes:

-- I would like to invite Cheryl Quarles-Gaston, principal of Carter G. Woodson Elementary School, to join us up front.

--Cheryl has been named one of three winners of the 2012 Leonard Miller Principal Leadership Award. She will receive a \$10,000 grand prize.

--Cheryl received this award based on her ability to raise student achievement, empower staff, and build partnerships that support school improvement goals. The award is an annual recognition that shines a spotlight on extraordinary principal leadership such as that of Principal Quarles-Gaston.

--Cheryl was recognized at the 10th anniversary celebration of the award at the University of Miami-Newman Alumni Center. During the ceremony, she spoke about how the Council for Educational Change has impacted her leadership skills and her students at Carter G. Woodson Elementary School, the School of the Medical Arts.

--Congratulations Principal Quarles-Gaston! Because of true leaders like you, we are able to open the doors to endless opportunities for our students.

2. 2012-2013 OUTSTANDING SCHOOL VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Minutes:

--Our next presentation of the night highlights four very special school volunteers.

--Each year, the Florida Department of Education honors three individuals with the Outstanding School Volunteer Award. This award recognizes volunteers who have shown outstanding dedication and commitment to quality education. Because of our high volume of applicants, we have decided to choose an additional volunteer to be recognized at the district level.

--This award, administered by the district's Community and Family Engagement Office, is given in three categories: youth, adult, and senior.

--Would Martha Coro, our youth winner, Wolfson's Principal David Garner, and Lone Star Elementary's Principal Anastasia Washington, please join us up front?

--Martha, an 11th-grade student at Wolfson High School, has volunteered more than 800 hours at Wolfson and Lone Star Elementary over the last 18 months.

--On average, she spends approximately 10 hours a week lending a hand to the schools' students, faculty, and staff. In addition to her responsibilities as an IB student, Martha is a volunteer leader, mentor for countless Lone Star Elementary youth, and recruiter for the IB program at Wolfson. She participates in parent information sessions, Magnet Mania, and even mentored ninth- and 10th-grade students during the weeklong Summer Bridge Program.

--Martha has proven that she is a great leader and role model to students and staff at Lone Star and Wolfson. Congratulations Martha on receiving this award!

--Would our adult winner, Malissa Caraway, and Finegan Elementary Principal Alan Due, please join us up front?

--Over the past year and a half, Malissa has volunteered more than 1,700 hours of service at Finegan Elementary School.

--Malissa has been an invaluable asset to Finegan Elementary over the past two and a half years. She spends roughly 30 hours per week on campus.

--Malissa is constantly seeking ways to improve things for the school and is a big advocate for ensuring that student voices are heard. She was instrumental in piloting and implementing two events that have become part of the school's culture: YES, or "You Earned it Shop" and the Finegan Navigator.

--The YES Shop reinforces positive student behavior and citizenship, while

the Finegan Navigator, the school newspaper, allows students to voice their concerns to administrators.

--As the School Advisory Council Chair and PTA Volunteer Coordinator, Malissa continues to be the gift that keeps on giving. Congratulations Malissa!

--Would our runner-up adult winner, Doug Stovall, and Mandarin High School Principal Donna Richardson, please join us up front?

--Over the past 18 months, Doug has given over 700 hours of his time to the students and staff of Mandarin High School. He has been volunteering for 15 years, spending around 20 hours a week at the school.

--In addition to being the president of the PTSA for the last four years, Doug has become the handyman on campus. He takes part in event and fundraising coordination, campus beautification, and meal preparation for staff. His most recent project is the Starry Nights event scheduled for spring 2013.

--Doug is a devoted, tireless worker, true leader and unifying force at Mandarin High School. Congratulations and thank you for your service to our district!

--I'd now like to invite our senior winner, Ms. Ingrid Lee, and LaVilla Principal Janelle Wagoner to please come forward.

--Over the past 18 months, Ingrid has provided LaVilla School of the Arts with more than 1,500 hours of volunteerism. She averages 30 volunteer hours per week at the school.

--Not only does Ingrid care for her grandson, Neal, a student at LaVilla, but she also works at the school as reliably as any full-time employee. Ingrid steps up to offer assistance in any capacity needed. Among her many tasks, Ingrid mails audition letters, assists in the media center, and answers phone calls.

--As a retired nurse, Ingrid is also able to answer questions about minor student health issues. Ms. Lee is more than a volunteer; she has become a member of the LaVilla family.

--Congratulations to Ms. Ingrid Lee on receiving this award.

--Volunteers play a very important part in the world of education. I would like to take this time to congratulate each of you on receiving this distinguished award and say thank you for committing to make Duval County Public Schools a world-class system.

[3. SUNSHINE STATE SCHOLARS](#)

Minutes:

--For our next presentation, I'd like to invite the following students and their principals to the front to be recognized as the 2013 Sunshine State Scholars:

- Katherine Gaines with Principal Debra Lynch from Atlantic Coast High School;
- Katrinarae Bueser with Principal Jackie Cornelius from Douglas Anderson School of the Arts; and
- De'Ja Long, our Sunshine State Alternate, with Principal Corey Wright from Englewood High School

--The Sunshine State Scholars Program was initiated in 1997 as a mathematics and science competition.

--In February, Katherine, Katrinarae and De'Ja will stand alongside a group of only 60 other Sunshine State Scholars in a two-day program at the Doubletree Hotel at Universal Orlando.

--These students will be recognized as top scholars in the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

--Congratulations to all of you on being selected as 2013 District Scholars and best wishes as you advance in your educational careers!

[4. BUSINESS PARTNER RECOGNITION - AXA](#)

Minutes:

--Our final presentation of the evening recognizes one of our outstanding business partners, AXA Advisors. AXA Advisors has been establishing business partnerships with Duval County Public Schools since 2008.

--I'd like to invite the following people to join us up front:

- Kenneth Sedlock, AXA's Executive Vice President;
- Jeffrey Willard, AXA's Vice President;
- Cheryl Riddick, DCPS' Director of Community and Family Engagement;
- Donna Richardson, Mandarin High School Principal; and
- Cynthia Grissett, Mandarin's Assistant Principal and volunteer liaison

--I'm proud to announce that AXA Advisors has extended their partnership with a corporate donation of \$5,000 to Mandarin High School.

--Partnership and volunteer activities with Dr. Richardson at Mandarin High School include a campus beautification project, welcome committees to help

direct students and parents on the first day of school, guest speakers, and various other activities that support the school and students.

--AXA's history of support for Duval County Public Schools includes a partnership with Ribault High School where they provided financial support, dispatched a team of employees to affix parking space numbers in the student parking lot, and visited the school to offer investment advice to faculty.

--Thank you AXA Advisors, for invaluable support and generous contributions. We look forward to a long-term, mutually beneficial partnership.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Five (5) "*I'm A Star*" students spoke:

Ms. Katy Outler said I attend Atlantic Coast High School. We're "stars" that are smart, talented and resilient students. I'd like to call your attention to the Duval County Youth Risk Behavior Service. Data from the most recent Youth Risk Behavior Service survey for Duval County indicated nearly 41% of middle school students and 30% of high school students had sufficient physical activity for five or more days. Additionally, only 13% of middle school students and 19% of high school students ate fruits and vegetables more than five times per day and as a result, we as a member of "I'm A Star" would like to present a solution to the problem. Our second annual "Let's Move Jacksonville" event will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2012 and it will be even bigger and better than last year. We are giving 150% to this project because good health is priceless. Last year, we had people from ages 1-87 and we encouraged them to pick up a ball and jump rope, dance and eat healthy. This year we will have a Wellness van for health screenings and we will give away lots of fruits and vegetables. I hope you all will be in attendance. Thank you for your attention.

Mr. Joel Oliver said I am a freshman at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. I join you, tonight, as a representative of the "I'm A Star" foundation. The dictionary defines the word "star" as a configuration of astrology that influences ones destiny or fortune. We, too, are destined for greatness as smart, talented and resilient students. Since our foundation's launch last year, many people have encouraged and supported our pursuit of academic excellence and leadership. This year is no exception as we seek to build on our skills and talents. On Saturday, December 15, we extend a special invitation for each of you to join us for "Let's Move Jacksonville" at the campus of Edward Waters College. Students and families from schools throughout your districts will participate. Please make this choice to share your time and fitness moves with us next Saturday, December 15 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. I also have some fliers to pass out to you. Thank you.

Ms. Starmeca Gowdy said I attend Sandalwood High School and I am a member of the "I'm A Star" foundation which stands for "Smart, Talented and Resilient Students". The help sessions that we will be having at "Let's Move Jacksonville" will be empowerment sessions for us, students, parents and educators. Most people don't know that body image plays a big role in how a student responds in school. The sessions will be taught by professionals and the sessions will be elementary (ages 1-12), teen (ages 13-18), parents and educators. To Dr. Vitti - there is a special session for educators and we would like you and your staff members to attend. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Jarrett Walker said and I attend Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and I'm a part of the "I'm A Star" program. I am here to present something on behalf of the "I'm A Star Program" to show Jacksonville and to stand up for Jacksonville so students will develop better eating habits. I'd like to extend an invitation to you to join us on Saturday, December 15 and come out and stand with the kids; show them what you can do. It would be great if you could do that, it would be leading by example and the students will see that. It's been nice talking with you. Let's move Jacksonville!

Mr. William Moore, III said I attend Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and I'm a part of the "I'm A Star" foundation where stars shine bright and stand out. We are smart, talented and resilient students. One of the most critical statistics is that this generation may not outlive their parents which is heartbreaking. Two years ago, the Duval County Health Department partnered with the "I'm A Star" foundation and in that same manner, we need your help. So, on December 15, 2012, come out to "Let's Move Jacksonville", get lean and fit for the holidays and shake off those Thanksgiving pounds. To the listening audience, you, too, are definitely invited so all come out between 10:00 am through 3:00 pm at the Edward Waters College gym on the corner of Kings Road and Fairfax. Free activities, free food, drumline, dance team, Zumba, healthy eating tips, exercise tips, empowerment sessions for students, parents and educators. For more information, please call 904/924-0756. Thank you.

Chairman Lee asked the students to tell Mrs. Burney "hello" from all of us.

Ms. Lisa Arndt said I'm with Innovations Educational Services and over the summer, we submitted a charter application to create a school for middle school students who have been less than successful in a traditional environment. In particular, those middle school students who have been retained multiple times and who may be in danger of aging out of the school system prior to graduating high school. They put a program together where they could actually move on to high school and become productive citizens. We believe that at the time we submitted the application, our application was put together by a large group of educators, felt it met with the standards that the state puts out, but we've been somewhat confused by the evaluation process. I attended the last School Board meeting and requested that our time be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to the Discussion Agenda in order to give us the opportunity to address some of those concerns. In particular, we've received three different evaluations of our same application on three different dates. Two of which are for schools that were not the application we submitted. They were, in fact, two evaluations for an application for an elementary school that our group submitted to another county. In light of this, we ask to have the opportunity to address, at least, some of the concerns. We ask that our item be moved from the Consent Agenda to the

Discussion Agenda in order to give us that opportunity. Thank you.

Mr. John E. Anderson said I'm here, tonight, representing the Board of Directors at the Jacksonville Public Education Fund. All of us at that fund are genuinely excited about the opportunity we see now opening up for students here in our city. I'm also very encouraged to report to you regarding our "One by One" community grassroots project that after some 169 individual conversations this fall that occurred around this county, we're making plans now to convene on 100 delegates from all over the city, on Saturday, January 5, 2013, all day. These delegates which will include some from the Duval County Public Schools staff, will create a community agreement based from the data from all of these conversations. Some of you may have participated in some of these conversations which we do appreciate. These delegates will then join together to review the conversations and draft a statement of priorities for our public schools. We hope and we're excited to work with you to incorporate priorities into the district's Strategic Plan and we want to join with you and rally this community behind that. We genuinely appreciate the service you provide and we're all encouraged for the students and children of this county. Thank you very much..

Mr. Nathaniel Farley, Jr. said "good evening" to everyone including his former student, Paula Wright. I retired from the school system after 32 years; I opened two high schools in this city - Ed White High School where Ms. Wright attended and First Coast High School. On behalf of my pastor, Dr. Judd Guns, we want to support Stephen Biko. We want to support what Dr. Myers has to offer. He has the building which is my old high school, Stanton, and I was an assistant principal at Stanton College Prep and retired in 2001. I met Dr. Myers as a wrestling coach at Mandarin so I've seen him grow over the years to become a very dedicated and passionate man of children. Dr. Myers had a vision to take this old building and change it to an educational program that I think only two other schools are doing - the schedule he has in mind for this program. Dr. Myers has been a part of this county and he knows what this program needs and he's willing to do it. He has put forth some of his own money in order for this program to take place. He believes that education is the most important thing for our children. "We are the light and sword of the world" which scripture has always told us. I totally support Dr. Myers in this effort and he has a number of folks backing him and we hope and pray it will be successful if you will accept what he has to offer. Thank you so much.

Mr. Carl Anthony McLendon, II said I have a concern about today's benchmark referencing the FCAT difficulty levels. I believe that the basing of the difficulty levels of the benchmark of the FCAT on a student's grade is very discriminating and lowers a student's self esteem. Some may show that African American kids don't score as well as white or Asian kids. This isn't true. I have taken the FCAT three times and received a "5" at least once every time I took it. I'm attending James Weldon Johnson, a Blue Ribbon School and I'm also in the Gifted Program. I hope you take my concerns to mind. Thank you.

Mr. James Moser said I've been known to say what's on my mind for many, many years here in this city and I'm not going to stop, yet. There was a young man who spoke at the Town Hall meeting last night and he lost his teaching job because he was a new teacher and it was before the 97 day count. I do not believe we should have one person, the principal, in the person's career based on that person's subjective opinion.

I believe we should have a committee that will make the decision based on concrete fact; not a subjective opinion and this has been going on for many years in Duval County. I believe in school reform. I believe school reform starts at the top and goes all the way down to the bottom. I believe we have nepotism. I believe we have cronyism and I believe we have all the other "isms" to promote people who are lacking in skills, knowledge and the ability to work with other people. I believe we have retaliation that is rampant throughout this district as I've seen it, firsthand. I've seen principals come after teachers for no reason except because that dislike that teacher and that needs to stop. I believe we should have all of our administrators...and I believe in telling the truth. I believe if we are truthful, we can make changes in the school system. All of our administrators should reapply for their positions and I want to see the best administrators in those positions. I don't want to see people in positions that are lacking these skills just because they know someone else who can get them into that position. I think we have a great School Board. I think we have a great Superintendent and I think we're a good school system. I want to see GREAT and the only way to see great, is to take chances. Thank you for your time.

Dr. Gregory O. Myers said I would like to take this time to ask you for your approval of the vote for Stephen Biko High School. The vote would warrant several things that Stephen Biko High School is doing. It is a commercial product that is enhancing career paths in students and is assured that they have a post-secondary education to life. That is so important. Several weeks ago I received a phone call from Florida Senator Tony Hill regarding a program from Clemson, South Carolina about our school becoming a pilot. Do you realize we have over 400 young males that are incarcerated for life in the state of Florida less than 17 years of age? This is a crime. Many people say it is not an epidemic but I say it is an epidemic. In joining hands with Senator Hill and Nat Glover, I feel as though I'm instrumental to be a part of this program. The second thing we look at is the facility. The facility this school will occupy is the Old Stanton High School. A dream that I started a year ago to pursue this building. This building means the world to me and to the community because it impacts your budget and it makes you look great as a Board. Remember, you cried "deficit" year after year but imagine the impact and walk this community. I've spoken with several individuals that say they will bring business back to the downtown sector to revitalize and make things happen which will impact our economy and bring money back to this school system which we so much need. The third and final thing is that we had our first graduate that came from a public high school and she could not pass the FCAT or the state ACT but she accelerated and scored 5 points above and passed the ACT and received her high school diploma with a commercial product curriculum apex. Now, at 52 years of age to see a father with tears in his eyes because of the success of his daughter is something. I've given my blood, sweat and tears for this project and I'm a product of this city. I went through the public school system and came out of Stanton High School with a football scholarship and went on to college. When they say only 2% of African American males come back and give back to their society, I'm one of the 2%. Please give me your vote; that's all I'm asking for. Thank you and God bless.

Mr. Joe Whitaker welcomed the Superintendent to Jacksonville. By day, I'm an economic development professional. My role is to help create jobs (tax base) for the City of Jacksonville. I do that by working with existing businesses that are here and providing them with tools and opportunities to grow and expand. I also work with businesses that are seeking to come to Jacksonville. Our educational system is a

key toward our continued growth and development as a city as we continue to bring banks and other companies to our community. That's what I do by day. I am the product of a single parent household. I grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. I lived in public housing projects and my mother stressed one thing - that was education. My two sisters and I have a minimum of bachelor degrees. I have two sons that were raised in this community and they're both graduates of Wolfson High School. One of them has a MBA and the other one has a technology degree. The schools are not for everyone as kids have different learning skills. I had an opportunity about ten years ago to meet Dr. Gregory Myers and his desire was to put a commercial facility in his old neighborhood to give his mother an opportunity to go back to work. They opened up a hair salon and a store. He's a person who believes in what he does and he does it. I agreed to join the Stephen Biko Board for several reasons - (1) I like the population he likes to work with; those are the kids that have difficulties and Greg is a good role model. He wants to take that passion and put it into a high school that he wants to develop. (2) The opportunity to be able to assist in the redevelopment of Old Stanton High School. We can put kids back in that facility and provide an education which is a central location. (3) There's another vision that Dr. Myers hasn't spoken about is to take the kids parents and provide some educational opportunities for them to grow and develop. I recognize that applications are reviewed and there are discrepancies but all we ask is the opportunity to negotiate a contract and operate a charter school that I think will benefit Duval County. Thank you.

Mr. Edward Exson said Diversity - Affirmative Action equal opportunity in higher education is on the cusp of being ended if Grutter is overturned. Fisher V. University in Texas is seeking that Grutter be overturned for being denied admission in 2008. Some experts say that Abigail Fisher didn't have standing yet, the Supreme Court elected to hear the case. Justice Thomas used affirmative action. Now, on a high court, he votes to deny all students of color the same equal opportunity. Diversified - In most successful investors, big or small, try to have a balanced diversified portfolio, according to their goals. Some contrariness don't stick to that rule. Some are rewarded well and some are not. Diversification - In black communities, it is an absolute must and truth be told! Quoting Carl Jung - *"There is no birth of consciousness without pain."* No community can control its destiny without controlling the economy with. First, I agree that many blacks are doing phenomenal things in accomplishing great things, having dreamt big dreams, achieving those dreams, performing exemplary in many categories. Notwithstanding in our communities can we crave and have a monopoly on all the things that causes us great detriment as we go backwards. In the harshest criticism that I expound on, I'm not excluded or excused. In the first years of my marriage, I was a drunkard and an alcoholic. I am so grateful and thankful to my wife, Rosa, for sticking by my side. With the help of my wife, AA and a quote by William Burke, *"A fool sees not the same tree as a wise man sees."* As we wallow and choke in the slop trough in the abyss since Dr. King, it is not an absurdity to reconcile that our black leaders led us there, for greed and self aggrandizement. The "Dark Ghetto" by Dr. Kenneth B. Clark, the Moynihan Report and Politics of Controversy by Daniel Patrick Moynihan (then Assistant to Secretary of Labor), both books drew controversy, black leaders raised hell, in denial, yet should have both strategies. The only commerce that we own in our communities is churches and some of them are being foreclosed on. Mostly, the loans that banks make for blacks are churches. We are used by everybody but our businesses for profits. Once Mar. A. Philip Randolph made the remark - *"Black people buy everything they want and beg for everything they need."* With such an

outlook, it's understandable that the aggregate of our pathologies, the now black leaders, will take centuries or light years before we can be rescued from the abyss. the clue to watch is when we stop littering our neighborhoods, (we start thinking) until then is to test for the best and cull the rest. Those culled are for the industrial prison complex. One could have an eight hour work day with no breaks to address all of our pathologies. It would be unwise for others to say in public what I attempted to convey in my comments for very obvious reasons. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Sabrina Zinamon, Vice Chairman:

The District Advisory Council met Monday, November 19, 2012 @ 6 pm (our regular meeting time is every fourth Monday of each month unless there is out or it is a holiday season).

-Guests for the meeting were:

Honorable Becki Couch - School Board Member

Gloria Lockley – Academic Services

Dr. Lillie Granger – School Improvement, Executive Director

Cheryl Riddick – Community & Family Engagement, Director

-Honorable Becki Couch:

The board decided to call the development meetings committee meetings. During these meetings the board will be discussing the different items that will be voted on in the next board meeting.

Workshops will be used to inform the board on topics that will need to be discussed and/or voted upon. Workshops will be at the board's discretion.

DAC can inform the board of concerns from the SAC meetings, and they can call a workshop to discuss.

Honorable Becki Couch offered to bring us legislative news and to keep us updated so that the DAC can take the information back to their SAC to keep everyone updated.

-Gloria Lockley:

Academic Services goal is to look for programs that will ensure academic success particularly for students that do not qualify for special education services, but still need support.

-Dr. Lillie Granger:

Review information concerning the midyear stakeholders meeting to take place in January, narrative due to the state by Feb. 8, there is a 30 day notification period, send dates for meetings to the SI office and they will post. Schools need to submit their SAC and AAC meeting agendas, minutes, and sign in sheets so they are accessible to parents.

Two initiatives coming- a team from the SI office will be deployed to work with the SAC and AAC for assistance if needed.

-Cheryl Riddick:

Awards for volunteers has been encouraged for outstanding volunteers, thus far, this year 81 schools submitted 143 applications compared last year 41 schools submitted 64 applications

C&F Engagement are looking for different ways to keep school safe, and need volunteers to be cleared and make sure they sign in.

Area concerns are:

Area 8 – Mandarin- testing is a concern since it is computer based they only have 40 computers out of 108 work because there is an issue with wifi.

Members were asked by Chair to review the bylaws to discuss at the next meeting because they have not been updated since 2008. We will also enforce using Robert Rules of Order.

Next meeting - Monday, January 28 @ 6pm

PTA - Gretchen Lynch, President:

Duval County Council of PTAs is still receiving Superintendent's Leadership Academy Nominations from all of our area high schools. Each high school nominates one freshman, sophomore and junior to participate. Students will meet on 4 Saturdays in January, February and March to learn advocacy skills. After sessions on leadership styles, business etiquette, civics and meeting with a decision maker; student will take a field trip to Tallahassee and experience our state legislature in action and meet with members of the Duval Delegation.

We are encouraging all our members to attend one of the Town Hall meetings with the superintendent and their respective board member.

We just concluded our Reflections Program which encouraged students to express the theme "Magic of a Moment" in visual arts, literature, poetry, dance, photography and music composition. Selected student entries will advance on to the state and national program.

School board members Hall, Grymes, Fischer and Smith-Juarez over the next 4 years; DCCPTA looks forward to working alongside you on behalf of all students in our community.

Our next General Meeting will be Tuesday, January 15 in the Cline Auditorium of the

school board building. All are welcome.

Title I, Parent Advisory Council - Kim Rivers, Chairman:

To the Chairman, Board members and Superintendent Vitti, this report comes to you on behalf of the Duval County Public Schools Title I Parent Advisory Council.

Allow me to begin with a warm welcome to our new board members. PAC is looking forward to meeting with each of you individually so that we may share our vision for Title I parents and enlist your assistance with our chosen endeavors. We would also like to extend an enthusiastic welcome to our new superintendent, Dr. Nikolai Vitti. Thursday, PAC is hosting a "Coffee Table Discussion" featuring Dr. Vitti. We are excited to hear details about his "100 Day Plan" and learn what is a "Demand Parent" and what PAC can do to assist in the development of more "Demand Parents." PAC encourages all of you to utilize your passion for education as fuel in your quest to make Duval County Public Schools the best urban school district in this country. Thanks for your commitment and service to our children.

Best selling author David M. Burns said, "Aim for success, not perfection. Never give up your right to be wrong, because then you will lose the ability to learn new things and move forward with your life. Remember that fear always lurks behind perfectionism. Thank you.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes: Mr. Elton Brown said I'm president of Local 2941 AFSCME, representing Food Service and Custodians. I'm before you this evening to express concerns regarding GCA and their contract with Duval County Public Schools. GCA has repeatedly disregarded the contract with Duval County Public Schools by not supplying schools with the necessary tools. Without the proper tools, it is impossible to clean the facilities. While I stand before you representing Food Service and Custodians, I'm also representing the students of Duval County Public Schools to ensure that their environment for academic studies is conducive to a healthy learning. GCA has ignored all of the standards of the RFP to establish and maintain a clean and safe environment, develop a comprehensive quality assurance program, establish and conduct operational staff motivational programs, ensure proper staff development and safety procedures to assure appropriate levels and quality service and retention of qualified employees and substitutes for absences, establish and conduct policy pertaining harassment and sexual harassment and discrimination and to provide within their budget and, 3% allowance for annual wage increase. GCA has established a pattern of neglect for the contract, employees and the students of Duval County. GCA has just recently gone through an acquisition with Blackstone purchasing the company. Blackstone's history is focusing on profit for their investors. We're concerned that the tax payers money is being misspent and would like to know if the Board would reconsider its position and not renew GCA's

contract. Thank you so much and have a great evening.

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Minutes:

The Chairman said this Board and Superintendent team is a little over three weeks old and as such, I will tell you that this team has been working very hard to form that team. We've already had one Development meeting and it encompassed Board operational protocols, Board member requests, school visits, Constituents Services, media relations, committee meetings and workshops. Additionally, this past week, both new and old Board members attended the Florida School Board Association's annual meeting in Tampa. We all received some new knowledge and some refreshers on some really key things that are important for the operation of this Board. Some items such as the Sunshine Laws and Open Record Laws. We had a great opportunity to hear some of the current legislation and how it is impacting your school system and the students in Jacksonville along with potential legislation which will have similar or more impact on Duval County Public Schools. We also had an opportunity, as Board members, to get some knowledge on Common Core Standards and many other educational topics.

The last thing I'd like to mention is your Board is very committed to the team approach. We know it will take some time and we're working hard at that. Tomorrow morning, we will have our second Board Development meeting and realize, we're only three weeks old. We'll discuss governance, the role of the Board and Superintendent oversight - how we will hold him accountable, as well as roles and duties of our Board Auditor. I'm looking forward to our working together and I appreciate each Board member for your commitment to the Development meetings. I want the television audience and the present audience to know that you have a very dedicated Board who is working extremely hard for the students in Jacksonville and for our community.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes: Dr. Vitti said that on Friday, the graduation rates were released and I wanted to take this opportunity with my report to just talk very broadly about the graduation rates and where they stand (ours) compared with the entire state and the largest six districts in the state with Duval being number sixth largest. *(Please see the attachment on Graduation Rate Comparison.)*

Reports

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2012, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the December 4, 2012, Agenda as submitted on November 27, 2012, with the following changes:

1. Human Resource Services - Staffing - Item 1 - Human Resource Services Employee Transactions - Revised Attachment
2. Human Resource Services - Compensation - Item 2 - Salary Schedules for School Board Members - Withdrawn
3. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 1 - Charter Application for Acclaim Academy of Florida, Inc., to open Acclaim Academy Charter School - Duval Center- Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
4. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 2- Charter Application for Acclaim Academy of Florida, Inc., to open Acclaim Academy Charter School - Duval North - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
5. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 3 - Charter Application for River City Education Organization, Inc. to Open Jacksonville High School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
6. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 4 - Charter Application for River City Education organization, Inc., to Open Jacksonville Middle Academy - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
7. Operations - School Choice and Pupil

- Assignment - Item 5 - Charter Application for Seaside Community Schools, Inc. to Open Seaside Community School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
8. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 6 - Charter Application for Northeast Florida Virtual Charter School Board, Inc., to open Florida Virtual Academy at Duval County, A Charter School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment - PASS
9. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 7 - Charter Application for Innovations Educational Services, Inc., to Open Innovations Middle Charter School- Revised Agenda Item
10. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 8 - Charter Application for Scholar Preparatory Academy, Inc., to Open Scholar Preparatory Academy - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
11. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 9 - Charter Application for Stephen Biko Private/Charter High School, Inc., to Open Stephen Biko High School - Revised Agenda Item
12. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 10 - Charter Application for Profectus Learning Systems, Inc., to open Valor Academy of Leadership - Elementary - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
13. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 11 - Charter Application for Profectus Learning Systems, Inc., to open Valor Academy of Leadership - Middle - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
14. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 12 - Charter Application for Profectus Learning Systems, Inc., to open Valor Academy of Leadership - High School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment

15. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 13 - Charter Application for Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science, Inc., to open Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science Charter School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment
16. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 14 - Charter Application for Renaissance Charter School, Inc., to open Renaissance Charter School at West Duval Charter School - Revised Agenda Item; Revised Attachment

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

The Duval County School Board approved the following minutes:

February 20, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
March 8,, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
March 28, 2012 - Board Workshop
April 5, 2012 - Board Workshop

May 2, 2012 - Board Workshop
 May 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
 June 8, 2012 - Board Workshop
 August 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
 August 28, 2012 - Board Workshop - Superintendent Interviews
 August 28, 2012 - Special Board Meeting
 September 10, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
 September 11, 2012 - Board Workshop
 September 18, 2012 - Board Workshop
 October 9, 2012 - Board Workshop
 October 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
 October 30, 2012 - Grievance Committee Hearing
 November 5, 2012 - Regular Board Meeting
 November 5, 2012 - Leasing Corporation Meeting
 November 8, 2012 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings
 November 13, 2012 - Board/Superintendent Breakfast Meeting
 November 14, 2012 - Organizational Meeting
 November 14, 2012 - Leasing Corporation Organizational Meeting

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Minutes for the Meetings listed in the Agenda Item.

- February 20, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
- March 8, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
- March 28, 2012 - Board Workshop
- April 5, 2012 - Board Workshop
- May 2, 2012 - Board Workshop
- May 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
- June 8, 2012 - Board Workshop
- August 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
- August 28, 2012 - Board Workshop - Superintendent Interviews
- August 28, 2012 - Special Board Meeting
- September 10, 2012 - Board Development Meeting
- September 11, 2012 - Board Workshop - PASS
- September 18, 2012 - Board Workshop
- October 9, 2012 - Board Workshop
- October 16, 2012 - Board Workshop
- October 30, 2012 - Grievance

Committee Meeting

- November 5, 2012 - Regular Board Meeting
- November 5, 2012 - Leasing Corporation Meeting
- November 8, 2012 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsions
- November 13, 2012 - Board Breakfast Meeting
- November 14, 2012 - Organizational Meeting
- November 14, 2012 - Leasing Corporation Organizational Meeting

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Board Members

[1. RATIFICATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING ACTIONS](#)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[1. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_TRANS.pdf](#)

[2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUPERVISOR, PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_Min_Quals_Supv_Professional_Standards.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Compensation

[1. APPROVAL OF SALARY SCHEDULES \(PART-TIME HOURLY\)](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_CE_2012-2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_PN_2012-2013.pdf](#)

~~[2. APPROVAL OF SALARY SCHEDULES FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS](#)~~ ~~WITHDRAWN~~

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_SB_2012-2013.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

[1. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JACKSONVILLE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION, INC.](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_12-04-12_JSA_FS_2011-2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 12-04-12 JSA.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach 12-04-12 JSA SA 2012-2013.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach 12-04-12 JSA SA 2011-2012.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach 12-04-12 JSA FS 2012-2013.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[1. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION - DANIELLE REED](#)

[2. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - DENISE AHEARN](#)

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [September 2012 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Sept 2012 Cash and Invest.pdf](#)
Attachment: [September 2012 Monthly Financial Statement Narrative.pdf](#)

[3. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS 2011-2012 FINAL](#)

Attachment: [Final 2011-2012 Budget Amendments.pdf](#)

Operations - Information Technology

[1. CERTIFY ACQUISITION AND IMPLEMENTATION](#)

Attachment: [Certify Benefits and Challenges Document 12-4-12.pdf](#)

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[1. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR ACCLAIM ACADEMY OF FLORIDA, INC. TO OPEN ACCLAIM ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL- DUVAL CENTER](#)

Attachment: [ACCLAIM-Center exec final12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Couch said the following comments apply to all items I pulled for "Consent with Comments" which are under Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 12:

I want to say "thank you" to staff for working through this process and adding some language that makes me feel more comfortable as a Board member voting on these applications. There are a few things that I still have a concern with and the language is very broad and general in the agenda items. I want to make sure we have this for the record. In several of the applications, I noticed that when the parents submit applications for their students to the charter schools which is part of the process, listed in that application, they ask for specific IEP's. For example the language might

say, "Provide the IEP and what level of service the students needs for ESE". My concern is that when a child is applying for the school, especially if there is a lottery process, you wouldn't want to have that in the application. That is something that should come after the student has been accepted into the school. That is how we do it as a district. They would receive the transcripts from the district for the student. I request that during the contract phase, we look at that and have more general language so it wouldn't be interpreted as discrimination if a child did not get into the charter school. It should say something more general like, "Does your child have an ESE 504 Plan?" That is perfectly acceptable but to be very specific, it can possibly be misconstrued by people that are applying for the charter school. I think all of the other things were addressed in the additional added language to the applications and/or the agenda items. I appreciate the willingness to work with me in addressing these concerns. I hear that Duval County is or is not charter friendly and that is irrelevant to me. I want to be "children" friendly and do what's best for all children no matter what background they have or what disability they may have. We must service all children.

Speakers:

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member
Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Officer of Operations

[2. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR ACCLAIM ACADEMY OF FLORIDA, INC. TO OPEN ACCLAIM ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL - DUVAL NORTH](#)

Attachment: [Acclaim-North Exec final12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

[3. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC. TO OPEN JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [Jacksonville High Executive Summary Final12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

[4. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION INC. TO OPEN JACKSONVILLE MIDDLE ACADEMY](#)

Attachment: [Jacksonville Middle Executive Summary Final12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

[5. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR SEASIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INC. TO OPEN SEASIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [Seaside Executive Summary Final12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

[7. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR INNOVATIONS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. TO OPEN INNOVATIONS MIDDLE CHARTER SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [INNOVATIONS exec. summary final.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Innovations Detailed Evaluation Instrument Revised 11-27-12.pdf](#)

8. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR SCHOLAR PREPARATORY ACADEMY INC. TO OPEN SCHOLAR PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Attachment: [Scholar Prep Exec summ revised 12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

9. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR STEPHEN BIKO PRIVATE/CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, INC. TO OPEN STEPHEN BIKO HIGH SCHOOL

Attachment: [Stephen Biko Executive Summary rev Sally November 16 final.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Stephen Biko Detailed Evaluation Instrument.pdf](#)

10. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VALOR ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP - ELEMENTARY

Attachment: [Valor Elementary exec summ 12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

11. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VALOR ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP - MIDDLE

Attachment: [Valor Middle exec summ final 12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

12. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VALOR ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP - HIGH SCHOOL

Attachment: [Valor HS Exec Sum final 12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

1. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals 12-2012.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Board Approval - New 12-2012.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges form for Prequals 12 4 12.pdf](#)

2. DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY RETROFITS/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GROUP 3-PHASE 2-2 SCHOOL NOS. 206, 93, 95, 97, 116, 150, 72, 80, 74, 106/OFDC-ITB-002-13/DCPS PROJECT M-83750, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [M-83750 12 10 30 Light Ener Retro Gr 3 Ph 2-2 - BID TAB.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Dec 4 2012 B-C Agenda Item DW Energy Light Retrofit for Gr 3 Ph 2-2 Cons Cont Award 11 06 12.pdf](#)

3. DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY RETROFITS/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOL

GROUP 3 - PHASE 2-3 SCHOOL NOS. 128, 158, 159, 227, 229, 82, 124, 148/OFDC-ITB-003-13/DCPS PROJECT M-83750, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [Dec 4 2012 B-C Agenda Item DW Energy Light Retrofit for Gr 3 Ph 2-3 Cons Cont Award 11 06 12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [M-83750 12 10 30 Light Ener Retro Gr 3 Ph 2-3 - BID TAB.pdf](#)

4. DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY RETROFITS/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GROUP 3- PHASE 2-4 SCHOOL NOS. 228, 163, 166, 233/OFDC-ITB-004-13/DCPS PROJECT M-83750, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [M-83750 12 10 30 Light Ener Retro Gr 3 Ph 2-4 - BID TAB.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Dec 4 2012 B-C Agenda Item DW Energy Light Retrofit for Gr 3 Ph 2-4 Cons Cont Award 11 06 12.pdf](#)

5. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS, FINAL INSPECTIONS, ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT AND NET SUM OF ALL CHANGE ORDERS ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000

Attachment: [Dec 4 2012 B-C Agenda Item CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on Projects under \\$1M Report 11 05 12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Dec 4 2012 Agenda Item CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on on Proj Chart for Nov 2012 11 26 12.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

1. CUSTODIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT RFP NO. 01-08/LG, CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Attachment: [B-C for Custodial December 5, 2012 Meeting.pdf](#)

Attachment: [GCA contract bonus payments third amendmentv2.pdf](#)

2. FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION, RFP NO. 3-09/LG, CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Attachment: [Second Addendum to Contract - Bonus Paymentsv2.pdf](#)

Attachment: [B-C for Food Service 5, 2012 Meeting.pdf](#)

3. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM Dec 4 2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [RORET RETIREMENT DECFY12-13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Retirement Order Highlight outlinE December 2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [04DEC FY 2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [06Dec FY 2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [ROSUM DEC FY12-13.pdf](#)

4. PER CAPITA AND EXAMINATION FEES

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES- 12-4-2012 Board IB PerCapita](#)

[and Examination Fees.pdf](#)

5. AICE PER CAPITA AND EXAMINATION FEES

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES- 12-4-2012 Board AICE PerCapita and Examination Fees.pdf](#)

Discussion

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

2. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS OCTOBER 31, 2012

Attachment: [October 2012.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Juarez said I have asked that this item be placed on the discussion list so that I can disclose that this matter would inure to the special private gain or loss of my employer, which is a 501(c)3 foundation.

I will abstain from the vote to be taken for this matter, and I will file the appropriate form to be placed on record with the minutes of this meeting.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board adopt the following Budget Resolutions.

General Fund - Budget Resolution no. 2

Food Service Fund - Budget Resolution no. 2

Special Revenue - Other Fund - Budget Resolution no. 2

Special Revenue - Race to the Top ARRA Stimulus fund - Budget Resolution no. 1 - PASS

Special Revenue - Targeted ARRA Stimulus Fund - Budget Resolution no. 2

Capital Projects Fund - Budget Resolution no. 2

Internal Services Fund - Budget
Resolution no. 2

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Abstain
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[6. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD, INC. TO OPEN FLORIDA VIRTUAL ACADEMY AT DUVAL COUNTY, A CHARTER SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [FL Virtual 12-1-12 Summary rev Sallyksd.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speaker:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chair

Board Member Fischer said, "On page 6 of the attachment, I have some concerns and it starts about the second or third sentence in where it goes into some of the investigations that are going on with K-12. The FDOE investigation is certainly fair game and relevant. I did look into the certification of teachers and found an investigation in Volusia where they found that all of the teachers were properly certified but I'm not sure that the Georgia DOE's negative language in there is necessary or relevant so I would move to strike that portion out where it starts *"and Georgia DOE citing all the way to the end of that sentence"* because I don't see that it is necessary or relevant.

Board Member Grymes asked for clarification.

Ms. Chastain said I believe the amendment is to amend that attachment to the agenda item, the script, in that paragraph on page 6, it's found in the

strike through and underline language, I think Mr. Fischer is asking that the sentence end "*as to the alleged lack of Florida teachers certification teaching Florida students in Class Size violations.*" And that the remainder of that underlined section, which basically pertains to the media report of the Georgia DOE investigation, that that be stricken.

Speakers:

Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member

Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services

Ms. Grymes seconded the amendment.

Superintendent Vitti said the language was included in the item. Obviously, there has been some allegations regarding this charter school entity in Georgia and in Florida and there are pending investigation regarding this and this doesn't preclude us from approving the application on its current basis as far as the application is concerned. We included the language in order to be transparent with the fact that there is a pending investigation in both states and if something did occur that would be problematic within Florida, then obviously, that could mean disapproval of the ability of that charter school to function in Florida. So, it was an act of transparency. Obviously, the public is aware of this and the Board needed to see that in writing in the item so that everyone is on the same page regarding the status of this charter school entity in Florida and Georgia. That's why it was included.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman

Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member

Vote on the Amendment Failed 1-6 (Fischer)

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the application submitted by Northeast Florida Virtual Charter School Board, Inc. to open Florida Virtual Academy at Duval County, a charter school, in the 2013-2014 school year. - PASS
2. That the Duval County School

Board authorize the chairperson and the superintendent to negotiate a five year contract with the school.

Vote Results

Motion: Jason Fischer

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

Amend attachment in paragraph on page 6 - sentence end as toteachers, and strike the underlined language in the sentence relating to pending litigation in Georgia.	- FAIL
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Vote Results

Motion: Jason Fischer

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Nay
Connie Hall	- Nay
Ashley Juarez	- Nay
Fred Lee	- Nay
Paula Wright	- Nay

[13. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR LUCIOUS AND EMMA NIXON ACADEMY OF](#)

TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, INC. TO OPEN LUCIOUS AND EMMA NIXON ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE CHARTER SCHOOL

Attachment: [Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science EXEC SUMM 12-1-12sallyksd.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speaker:
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board rescind the October 2, 2012 Board action denying the application submitted by Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science, Inc. to open Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science.
2. That the Duval County School Board approve the application submitted by Lucious and Emma Nixon Academy of Technology and Science, a charter school, in the 2013-2014 school year. - PASS
3. That the Duval County School Board approve the recommendation of the Charter School Review Committee to negotiate a five year contract with the school.

Vote Results

Motion: Connie Hall

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

14. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL INC. TO OPEN RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL AT WEST DUVAL CHARTER SCHOOL

Attachment: [renaissance west executive summary12-1-12ksd.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speaker:
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice Chair

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board rescind the October 2, 2012 Board action denying the application submitted by Renaissance Charter School, Inc. to open Renaissance Charter School at West Duval, a charter school, in the 2013-2014 school year.
2. That the Duval County School Board approve the recommendation of the Charter School Review Committee to negotiate a five year contract with the school. - PASS
3. That the Duval County School Board approve the recommendation of the Charter School Review Committee to negotiate a five year contract with the school.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes: *No Board members' travel for this meeting.*

Superintendent's Travel

SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL

Minutes: *No travel for the Superintendent for this meeting.*

For The Record

FOR THE RECORD

Minutes:

Ms. Cheryl Grymes said I would like to highlight and a little of this is personal, but Dr. Vitti mentioned the fact that mentoring, expanding and increasing the amount of mentors that we have in our schools and certainly, we have some wonderful mentoring organizations out there and, of course, I'm partial to Big Brothers Big Sisters, and I am excited about the six partnerships that we are launching on Friday (and I appreciate those who can be there)...It's "Beyond the School Walls" partnership and it's a workplace mentoring partnership that brings the kids to the workplace from mentoring. Obviously, it increases our graduation rate and it's not only for the kids to achieve academically, but to be exposed to the workplace and to understand what skills they need to move into a career. For some students, this exposes them to opportunities so we're very excited about the six partnerships we have. This one is with the Hyatt and Wolfson and I appreciate those of you who are coming out and I appreciate the fact that Dr. Vitti is very committed to mentoring because it truly does work and it makes a difference in the lives of our children. Thank you.

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez said I wanted to congratulate the students of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts who recently put on "*Beauty and the Beast*" as their musical production. I was able to attend and it was incredibly impressive not just the cast that was involved, but the production, technical, lighting, set design - everyone involved in that production, I congratulate! I want to highlight "Beyond School Walls" partnership with Wolfson and to applaud that program for its engagement, not just in mentoring, but in workforce development and exposing students to various workplaces throughout the school district. Mentoring is certainly important and there are many great organizations that partner with us. I'd like to thank the district staff for their warm welcome, especially Bonnie and Linda in our office, who have been incredibly gracious with their time with those of us that are new and are learning everything. Thank you to the staff and the Superintendent.

Ms. Paula D. Wright said I want to take this opportunity to thank Ken Sutton who accompanied me to Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center. I'd like to showcase some

of the talent and activities that those students are producing. This is their 2013-2014 calendar and they have created a host of beautiful holiday cards. We speak so much about student achievement and FCAT and then when you go to Mt. Herman and you see those 150 students who are mentally, emotionally and physically handicapped, yet they are able to launch above where they are and to pull together and collaborate and create masterpieces like this. It invigorates that desire and ignites that passion within you as to why we're here as Board members. Also, they are in partnership with Alden Road Exceptional Student Center and it's a great partnership and collaboration in terms of internally how forceful, powerful and productive we can be when we all work together. I'm just ecstatic about the graduation rates. I can't thank the principals, students, staff at Ribault, Raines, Jackson, and A. Philip Randolph for the tremendous work that they have done, and particularly for Ribault who increased their graduation rate by 22%; A. P. Randolph by 17%; Raines by 14% and Jackson by 10% - this is a testament of not just the talent, the commitment by the staff, community, parents in those buildings, but also we must step back and give credit to our prior Board. It was a prior Board of which none of us remembers that decided that we were going to step forward and lead Florida in increasing our graduation requirements for our students. As a result, we're sharing in the success and standing on the shoulders of some Board members who had a vision and commitment to take the hard hit and create this foundation for which we can now launch forward. So, my hat goes off to that prior Board. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Ed Pratt-Dannals, our former Superintendent, Kathy LeRoy, Tony Bellamy and our entire Cluster staff because you all monitored, you cared, you shared and you made certain all the things that should be happening were happening. If you look at these graduation rates and look at the blue line which represents Duval County, when we started in 2008, we were at 53%; now we've increased by 14%. Everyone should be proud of the type of gains we've made. This is how we work together! May this holiday season bring you wealth, health and happiness for each of you!

Dr. Connie Hall said I share in Paula's enthusiasm, as well. It certainly takes staff members working together and all of our community partners, too. What you'll learn about me is that I love to celebrate and, yes, we celebrate and pat each other on the back but we get up in the morning and we work even harder because we still have pockets of challenges and let's celebrate the success and the movement that we have. I think what we see now is that the stars are aligned and we're ready to really lunge forward and do greater things for all students. I'd like to share with you, last week I received a communication from a former student of Duval County Public Schools and this student is an example of many students that we have in the district - Tony Hansbury who is a freshman at Florida A&M University majoring in biochemistry. Some of you may recall that Tony attended Darnell Cookman when he was 14 years old and he worked with administrators at Shands Hospital where he invented a suture that caused females having surgery to have a shorter hospital stay and to heal faster - 14 years old in Duval County Public Schools and I think that is an inspiration for our students that your growth and achievement is just beyond the stars...you can do and be whatever you want to be. It takes hard work and in the comment that he made he said he was also in the Senate at the University and that he must balance his extracurricular activities and study hard which is very challenging. This is a message to all of our students and I know that across this district, that our pockets of success will become a district where success is across the board in each and every community and each and every neighborhood and that is what our work is all about and I look forward to it as

we continue to work for all students in Duval County. Here's wishing to all our faculties and staff a very safe winter break and make sure you read something and enjoy your time off.

Mr. Jason Fischer said I just wanted to say briefly what an honor to be a Jacksonville native; a product of our public schools and to be sitting here on this Board. One of my elementary principals is in our audience - Dr. Stahlman. I think we're at a great time in Jacksonville. I look forward to future meetings with my fellow Board members. I think we're here to do great things. I wrote a recent article in the Mandarin Newsline and I talked about the great things that I feel we'll do with Dr. Vitti and the leadership of the Chairman. I didn't blame anything on the past...the slate is clean...new Board. I think we'll do really good things and I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

Ms. Becki Couch said I want to say "thank you" to Judd Strickland and Pearl Roziers for taking me to some of my elementary schools in my district. It was great to see all of the students hard at work. They showed me all the data they had in the "War Room" and how they are strategically targeting students. It was a great experience. Thank you to Crystal Springs Elementary School as I had the opportunity to visit them on Veteran's Day where they had a ceremony and invited veterans to participate in festivities. The Ed White band performed and majorettes. I was really moved when I looked out at the field and saw all the children waving their American flags. I also visited Alden Road and participated in their Veteran's Day luncheon. What is so great is that these are children who sometimes people limit what they think they can accomplish but not in Duval County Public Schools. These children are creating holiday cards through computers and they're selling them. Each class has a business and they have a farmer's market where they grow and sell products. They also have a consignment shop and they are all learning to be self sufficient. Thank you to Barbara Green who is a teacher there and invited me as it was, truly, a great experience and a reminder that Duval County Public Schools educate all children in providing them the best quality education we can.

Mr. Fel Lee said I want to mimic many of the comments that fellow Board member Wright said about the graduation rates. We're very appreciative of the leadership and staff time, faculties, everything all of you are doing each and every day. It continues to pay off and we're grateful. I'd like to send a warm holiday greeting to each and every one of you, to the staff and faculties, and may you have time to spend with your families during this season.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman