



# Duval County Public Schools

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February 2, 2016, Regular Board Meeting

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Becki Couch  
Mr. Jason Fischer  
Ms. Cheryl Grymes  
Dr. Constance S. Hall  
Mr. Scott Shine  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent

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

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

[INVOCATION OR THOUGHT OF THE DAY](#)

Minutes: The invocation was given by Pastor Brian Campbell of Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

[PINE FOREST ELEMENTARY](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Stephanie Jackson, Principal  
Pine Forest School of the Arts

Ms. Jackson introduced staff who accompanied her to the meeting and showed a PowerPoint presentation that showcased the different art programs offered at Pine Forest. The presentation concluded with a performance on the violin by 5th grader James Mosely. Chairman Smith Juarez expressed her appreciation to those representing Pine Forest for taking the time to come out to showcase the school. She noted the amount of discipline, rigor, and dedication required to demonstrate these talents.

Communications

[RECOGNITION - EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD](#)

Minutes:

Andrea Schletter is a Summer Specialist in Academic Services. She was nominated by someone whom she recently assisted by providing dedicated, quick, friendly, and accurate help. Despite being sick, she provided vital information within two days to the nominator. She constantly goes above and beyond with assisting schools, operations, and parents in regards to this summer's upcoming academy. Ms. Schletter is very friendly and knowledgeable in working with parents, ensuring they have the correct information to continue to support their child's educational needs. She regularly works with community stakeholders to verify that all parties involved in the Summer Learning Program have ample supplies, resources, opportunities, and input.

RECOGNITION - DUVAL COUNTY COUNCIL OF PTAS SUPERINTENDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Minutes:

Our next presentation honors students who are members of the Duval County Council PTA Superintendent's Leadership Academy. Students in grades 9 through 11 are nominated through high school principals and the PTSA Board. Students receive training to help them advocate for themselves, their education, their classmates, and their school. Several members of the Academy visited Tallahassee. Students participated in a number of activities, including visiting with Duval Delegates, and having lunch with State Representative Mia Jones.

Please help us recognize the following students:

- o Scott Below
- o Annalisa Bonner
- o Creanna Brady
- o Chayla Brannon
- o Joshua Brown
- o Madeline Bryant
- o Kaitlyn Cerrone
- o James Delegal
- o David De Los Santos
- o Evan Dobransky
- o Ian Fennimore
- o Kylie Foster
- o Taryn Freshwater
- o Atul Ganju
- o Nicole Gipalo
- o Evan Goodrich
- o George Guevara-Garcia
- o Duncan Jackson
- o Rashay Jenkins Jr.
- o Chris Kang
- o Kyle Kauffman
- o Jerenia Lemus
- o Whitney Lewis
- o Tenille Long
- o Marcello Lucas
- o Christina Martin
- o Caneim Maxwell
- o Mackenzie Morrie
- o Roman Morris
- o Lennon Myers
- o Hattie Newton
- o Sedric Norris
- o Alaria Oliver

- o Lacey Radloff
- o Robert Radloff
- o Natavia Reddick
- o Tyler Redieck
- o Carolina Rogers
- o Olivia Ross
- o Courtney Sanders
- o Cara Simpson
- o Sylver White
- o Bryce Williams
- o Christopher Wynn

#### RECOGNITION - HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

Minutes:

The next presentation recognizes 23 teachers identified by the Florida Department of Education as having four years of highly effective Value Added Model, or "VAM" data. We have a number of those teachers with us. We wish to first honor those who earned four years of highly effective Reading VAM Scores. They are Catherine Allison-Fenner, Selina Armstrong, Jennifer Chapman, Priscilla Hardage, who also had four years of highly effective Math VAM scores, Pamela Peters, Kamini Devi Ramirez, Margaret C. Rogero-Hastings, Kimberley Marie Rowan Jesse Shugart, and Marika Williams.

Now we honor those who had four years of highly effective Math VAM Scores. They are Brandy Leigh Davis, Pamela Fuller, Nichole Rebecca Horton, Cassandra Dale Kyne, Dianetra Ruth Lott, Titoya Murphy, Natalie A. Shapiro, and Alison Shockey.

Finally we recognize the following teachers who had four years of highly effective Algebra VAM Scores. They are Cindy Berahzer and Julie-Anne DeAngelico.

Not able to attend this evening's presentation are Joy Marie Martin and Virginia Lee Henderson. They both had four years of highly effective Reading VAM data. Finally Jose De Leon-Alejandro had four years of highly effective Algebra VAM data.

#### RECOGNITION - STATEWIDE FINANCIAL LITERACY COMPETITION

Minutes:

Our next presentation recognizes two students from Mandarin High School. They are Alessandra Poma and Jamie Zimlich who placed third in the “Florida’s Learn to Save Challenge” – a financial literacy competition.

Mr. Patrick Juliano, a Regional Manager from the Florida Department of Financial Services, explained how the contest was designed and the importance of teaching our young people how to save.

#### [RECOGNITION - AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CPR KIT DONATION](#)

Minutes:

For our final presentation, we’d like to recognize an important partnership in honor of Heart Health Month. While the American Heart Association has partnered with Duval County Public Schools for some time, a new aspect of this relationship began in 2013 with the donation of 16 state-of-the-art CPR kits in order to promote the Hands Only CPR program. At the time, the district was the first in the nation to receive these kits. The American Heart Association has since worked to identify multiple grantors to provide our school district with additional kits.

Tonight, American Heart Association-First Coast Market Vice President Kristin Kyle, and American Heart Association-First Coast Market Board Member, and Associate Dean/Professor at UNF, Dr. Cathy Christie present 22 more CPR kits to Duval County Public Schools, bringing the total number of CPR kits in our schools to 60. Thanks to this donation, all secondary schools will now be equipped with a CPR kit, providing a variety of training opportunities within their school communities. Kits will also continue to be shared among the district’s elementary schools. This partnership has indeed helped Duval County Public Schools prepare the next generation of lifesavers.

Approval of Agenda

#### [APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2016, AGENDA](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board Approve the February 2, 2016, Agenda as submitted on January

26, 2016, with the following - PASS changes:

1. Approval of Minutes added

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Paula Wright

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Chairperson's Report

[CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman, Duval County School Board

Last month, I explained the proposal, community engagement and recommendation process for the boundary changes. Five of those recommendations are on the agenda this evening. I won't reiterate all of the policies and processes that have been involved except to say that this process began back in July. The Board has met in workshops and many have attended working groups and other community meetings and all have had conversations with constituents. We deeply value the public engagement in these issues and have weighed the opportunities thoughtfully. Tonight there are five separate agenda items that will have separate votes. Additional recommendations will be brought to the Board at a workshop in February. Following the workshop the same policies will be followed for any new recommendations offered by the Superintendent.

I do want to spend some time talking about the School Board's current policy and practice regarding school uniforms. Board Members have recently received emails and other constituent concerns regarding a

proposal that has been presented to the public by the Superintendent and I want to bring some clarity to some of the rumors.

Currently School Board policy allows magnet and choice schools to require adherence to a uniform or prescribed dress if so designated by the school. Procedure also allows school-based decisions on the implementation of uniforms, school by school.

Last summer, the Superintendent first approached the Board about a possible change in the current dress code policy. The Board, at that time, asked to see more information and reactions from students, parents, school staff and the public. District staff over several months posted a survey, engaged community members and researched a plan. Directed by the Superintendent, district staff has engaged PTA's and SAC's to glean feedback from schools. All of this information gathering was for the purpose of just that, gathering information. The Board has not workshopped the Superintendent's proposal and there is no formal recommendation before the Board.

In March, the Board will hear from the Superintendent regarding his proposal, the feedback received and will discuss the information. After that time, the Superintendent may choose to bring a formal recommendation to the Board. The earliest the Board could vote on this proposal, unless a special meeting is called, would be the regular April Board meeting.

Last, I want to recognize the effort of Board Members to proactively engage constituents. Many members have recently hosted meetings to engage constituents and this is something the Board has discussed doing more of throughout the spring.

## Superintendent's Report

### [SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, Duval County Public Schools

Dr. Vitti explained through a PowerPoint presentation the changes that have occurred within the district over the past several years that have created the need for boundary and programmatic changes with some of the schools within the district. He explained the rationale behind the proposed changes (see attached).

## Department Reports

### [DEPARTMENT REPORTS](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, Duval County Public Schools

Ms. Chastain provided historical background on the department and explained the types of legal services the department does for the district. She also reviewed the strengths and weaknesses as well as opportunities and goals the department faces (see attached).

## Public Comment

### [PUBLIC COMMENT](#)

Minutes:

Anbu Ponniah, Parent/Volunteer/Robotics Coach

Mr. Ponniah explained how his students went from private school to the public school system and how his involvement with the robotics program has shown him how far the public school system has come in the area of math and science.

Grace Yu, Parent/Volunteer

Ms. Yu has children they put into private school for the first five years after moving here because of many people's perception that public education is substandard. When things did not go as planned in their private school, she researched their options and decided to put their children at Hendricks Avenue Elementary and has been very pleased with the change. She doesn't understand why people don't view the public school system as a viable option to them.

Members from the public expressed their lack of support of a uniform policy citing the following reasons:

- a violation of freedom of expression
- a violation of student individuality



- a dress code is already in place
- a financial burden would be created
- no proof of improved behavior
- missing children would be more difficult to find
- an increase in referrals

Speakers:

Alysha Ammerman, 7th grader, Fletcher Middle School  
 Eryka Inger, 7th grader, Fletcher Middle School  
 John Citrone, Parent  
 Fiona Citrone, 3rd grader, Fishweir Elementary  
 Alison Thompson Messick  
 Kolby Kelly, 7th grader, Fletcher Middle School

Rachel Cocciolo, Scenic Jacksonville

Ms. Cocciolo explained that Scenic Jacksonville is partnering with Greenscape to present a tree-planting challenge called Jax Digs Trees. She listed many ways the challenge can benefit the city, students and education as a whole.

Bill Brinton, Scenic Jacksonville

Mr. Brinton pointed out that there are two tree protection trust funds that have money in them but are not being used. They have to be planted on public property and he, along with others on the Board of Scenic Jacksonville, would like to see those trees get planted at every level of the public school system.

Members from the public expressed their support for the proposed boundary changes at Wolfson High School in hopes of restoring the favorable reputation it once had.

Speakers:

Sheri Cheshire, Parent  
 Alan Ridge, Parent  
 Cindy Pearson, Parent and Wolfson Alumnus  
 Judith Pratt, Grandmother

Dr. Paul Argott, University of North Florida

Dr. Argott spoke in support of the proposed autism center. The center will give students with a severe form of autism who have difficulty functioning in traditional classrooms an opportunity to receive more intense training for their special need. The center will also allow university students to partner with the district in working with autistic students.

Mr. Bradford Hall

Mr. Hall commented on the commitment he saw in administrators and teachers while on the tours for the Duval Transformation Office (DTO) school tours. He is noting clean environments in the schools and an effort underway to move the schools into wireless technology. He thanked Board Members Couch, Hall, and Wright for hosting community meetings. Mr. Hall expressed his concern over the D and F school grades that are creeping into areas of the district where historically, there have been none.

Chris Guerrieri, Advocate

Mr. Guerrieri noted that many families have made a choice to stay in their neighborhood schools in spite of many families leaving to exercise other options. However, in the course of bringing those families back, Mr. Guerrieri feels the district is sacrificing the families that are still there. He sees the changes proposed by the boundary changes as gimmicks the district throws out to the Board and public in hopes that something may work. He would prefer, instead, that the district work on improving discipline within the schools to help foster the type of atmosphere needed to learn.

Katelynn Thigpenn, Student, Ed White High School

Miss Thigpenn explained to the Board the organization she is in called Project Unify which brings regular and special education students together. Through the Commander Café, the organization teaches students with special needs life and job skills. Their mission is very effective and she asks that the Board not fade out special education in the course of revising the programs at Ed White High School.

Jim Thigpenn, Terry Parker Alumnus

Mr. Thigpenn expressed his disapproval of the direction education has taken in Duval County over the last three years and the effort underway to change the curriculum at Ed White High School. The high turnover in administrators over the last three years has been disastrous. The

constant change at the school is taking its toll on morale among teachers, administrators, and students. Discipline is no longer enforced. The magnet schools are robbing neighborhood schools of diversity. Local employers near neighborhood schools aren't giving the schools the support like they used to since their children no longer attend school there.

Ola Williams, Pastor, Christian Fellowship Ministries

Pastor Williams, one of the members of the working group for Long Branch Elementary, acknowledged that the working group voted in favor of the proposed change for the school; however, she was disappointed that she and a few others in the group did not receive an email about the upcoming vote. The changes have not been very well publicized and many in the community feel the move is much like taxation without representation; she opposes the change. She has pastored in that community for over 30 years. The past nine years have been very chaotic for the school with substandard curriculum, supplies and maintenance issues with the facility. The community loves the school and feels the district owes it to the parents to at least meet with them and explain the changes.

Shelia Andrews, Advocate

Ms. Andrews noted to the Board and Superintendent that when information is withheld from parents, it fosters distrust among the community and parents are not motivated to send their children to public school. She made a verbal request for the improvement plan from the State for 48 of the schools that was drafted during the time Dr. Vitti served in that office. She also wants the district's response to the plan. She doesn't see evidence of any improvement.

Melissa Lenertz, Parent

Ms. Lenertz stated her position of being in opposition to the proposed autism center at Oakhill. She feels its creation would represent a step backward after many years of the autistic community working hard to enable autistic children to be integrated into traditional classrooms. She notes that the reason many parents are pulling their students out of the public school system is because teachers are over loaded with work that prevents them from meeting the requirements of the Individual Education Plans (IEP). She is a special needs teacher who formerly worked for Duval County Public Schools and has an autistic son. He is no longer in the public school system because it failed him.

Trey Csar, President, Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF)

Mr. Csar informed the Board that after the JPEF Board reviewed the proposed changes presented by Dr. Vitti in detail, they support the proposed changes that have been recommended.

John Nooney, Advocate

Mr. Nooney encouraged the Board to consider the School Board property as an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) handicapped watercraft launch as it discusses boundary changes.

Eunice Barnum, Advocate

Ms. Barnum is asking what the true reason is for the declining schools. She also wants to know what proof is offered to guarantee improving schools. She suggests that the district does shifts in schools that are overcrowded. She also feels if the district does uniforms for the students, they should also do them for the employees.

Lucille Rafidi, Advocate

Ms. Rafidi is a former substitute teacher and was impressed with the dedication she saw in the teachers during that time. She expressed her concern that searches and medical records being requested from the children may be in violation to Amendment 4. She also suggested that a contract review be done on vendors. An example is when buses arrive late to the schools; it creates a disruption in the learning environment.

## Comments From Parent Organizations

### [COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

Sabrina Zinamon, Chairman, District Advisory Council (DAC)

The District Advisory Council meeting was held Monday, January 25, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. Thank you to Ms. Wendy LeHockey for representing our Superintendent and to the Honorable Cheryl Grymes for representing the Board. These ladies did an outstanding job answering all our questions.

A question arose about the testing day once the students return from Spring Break. Some of the School Advisory Council members were concerned about the students being acclimated back to the school's routine. Ms. LeHockey addressed the concern by stating the testing will begin on Wednesday when we return and not on the Tuesday that was already scheduled. Monday is a weather day, so the ending date is still the same. They did not get an extension there.

The Honorable Cheryl Grymes, District 1, reported on the boundary changes on the agenda for the February Board meeting. They are Wolfson High School, Fort Caroline Middle School, Hyde Park Elementary, Hyde Grove Elementary, Oak Hill Elementary and programmatic changes to Ed White High School.

Louisa Alderson, Director of Marketing-Chartwells, reported on a new coffee shop at Mandarin High School called the Horse Power Café and is the first one in a high school here in Duval County.

Brandon Mack, Supervisor of Family & Community Engagement, reported on the upcoming Discover Duval Tour on Thursday, February 4, at Highlands Middle and the Chat with the Supe on Friday, February 5, at Celebration Church.

We need to promote The Parent Academy and the catalogs because they offer free classes for parents and their children around the district.

The next District Advisory Council meeting will be Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. held on the 6th floor of the School Board building. The School Health Advisory Council will be presenting.

There was no report from Duval County Council of PTAs

Comments from District Student Government Association

[COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION](#)

Minutes: No report.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes: No report.

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the minutes for the meetings listed in the agenda item:

- October 6, 2015 - Board Member Meeting
- October 6, 2015 - Regular Board Meeting
- October 8, 2015 - Board Member Meeting - PASS
- October 9, 2015 - Board Member Meeting
- October 13, 2015 - Board Workshop
- October 14, 2015 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Cheryl Grymes

- |               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Rebecca Couch | - Aye |
| Jason Fischer | - Aye |
| Cheryl Grymes | - Aye |
| Connie Hall   | - Aye |
| Ashley Juarez | - Aye |
| Scott Shine   | - 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: Paula Wright

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Scott Shine - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

## Consent Agenda

### Academic Services

#### 1. [MICROSOFT CORPORATION - ONEVIEW MAINTENANCE AND ONGOING DEVELOPMENT](#)

Attachment: [Microsoft One View Documents - February 2 2016.pdf](#)

### Human Resource Services - Staffing

#### 8. [HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTION](#)

Attachment: [Agenda\\_02-02-16\\_TRANS.pdf](#)

#### 9. [APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS](#)

### Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

10. [MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [November 2015 Monthly Financial Report.pdf](#)

11. [ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS DECEMBER 31, 2015](#)

Attachment: [Feb 2016 Resolution.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

12. [PREQUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Feb. 2 2016 Prequalifications - Renewals.pdf](#)

13. [PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \\$1,000,000](#)

Attachment: [Feb. 2 CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on Proj.pdf](#)

14. [SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATE OF FINAL INSPECTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER \\$1,000,000; NEW CAFETERIA/CLASSROOM BUILDING ADDITION AT DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS NO. 107/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91590](#)

15. [SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATE OF FINAL INSPECTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER \\$1,000,000; DCPS-INFRASTRUCTURE-HD WIRELESS CONSTRUCTION AT S.P. LIVINGSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 149/DCSB PROJECT NO. QZAB15-E99960-3149](#)

16. [PHASE III DOCUMENTS APPROVAL - FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM AND EGRESS UPGRADES FOR MATTIE RUTHERFORD ALT ED SCHOOL NO. 6:/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83680](#)

17. [QZAB II GROUP 6-A HIGH DENSITY WIRELESS AT RUTH UPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 19/DCPS PROJECT NO. QZAB15-E99960-3019: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [QZAB15-E99960-3019 HDW Contract for Ruth Upson ES No 19.pdf](#)

18. [QZAB II GROUP 6-A HIGH DENSITY WIRELESS AT FIRST COAST HIGH SCHOOL NO. 265/DCPS PROJECT NO. QZAB15-E99960-3265: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [QZAB15-E99960-3265 HDW Contract for First Coast HS No 265.pdf](#)

19. [TPHD-99850 GROUP 6-A HIGH DENSITY WIRELESS AT ATLANTIC COAST HIGH](#)



SCHOOL NO. 268/DCPS PROJECT NO. CAPITAL-TPHD-99850-3268: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [TPHD-99850-3268 HDW Contract for Atlantic Coast HS No 268.pdf](#)

20. INTERCOM SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AT JEAN RIBAUTL HIGH SCHOOL NO. 96/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83970/OFDC-ITB-003-16: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [M-83970 Contract for Intercom Sys Rep at Ribault HS No 96.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

21. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [ROSUM FEB FY16.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [06FEB16.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [04FEB16.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [FEBFY16 RETIREMENT.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [05FEB16.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [07FEB16.pdf](#)

General

22. LEGAL SERVICES PLAN

Attachment: [Legal Services Plan agenda.pdf](#)

Discussion

Board Members

EXTENSION OF BOARD MEETING

Minutes:

Motions:

Pursuant to Board Policy 2.26, that the Duval County School Board extend the February 2, 2016, Regular Board meeting past 11:00 p.m. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Jason Fischer	
Second: Cheryl Grymes	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Academic Services

2. [APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS PLAN](#)

Attachment: [Copy of IM Plan revised January 13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Fischer noted for the record his intention to vote no on the item. Board Member Couch clarified that his objection is the K-5 material. Board Member Wright verified with Dr. Vitti that the attachment did not include the ELA for middle school materials.

During the For The Record portion of the meeting when she had the floor, Board Member Hall made a motion for the Board to reconsider this item. Because she originally voted in favor of this agenda item and it passed, Board Member Hall voted on the prevailing side. Therefore, she was able to make the motion to reconsider the item. She indicated that she looked more closely at the attachment to the agenda item and saw something new. Thus, the reason for her motion to reconsider.

Motions:	
That the Duval County School Board adopt the revision to the Instructional Materials Plan for 2015 through 2017.	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Cheryl Grymes	

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Nay
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Nay

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board move to reconsider Agenda Item #2 Approval of Revisions to the Duval County Public Schools Instructional Materials Plan	- PASS
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Vote Results

Motion: Connie Hall

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Nay
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board adopt the revision to the Instructional Materials Plan for 2015 through 2017 - Second Vote	- FAIL
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Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Nay
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Nay
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Nay

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

4. [PROPOSED PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES FOR EDWARD WHITE HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Couch asked Dr. Vitti to summarize the programmatic changes proposed for Ed White High School. Dr. Vitti explained that after originally recommending an arts magnet for Stilwell Middle School, the working group rejected that idea and instead showed enthusiastic support for the military academy that began there the previous year. That enthusiasm is slated to spill over into Ed White High School and become the programmatic change there. All programs currently at Ed White will remain for the time being with ESE and The Bridge To Success programs possibly being phased out in the future depending on parent/community feedback. Board Member Couch thanked the working groups for their hard work and clarified some details in the proposal including the fact that the changes are programmatic and NOT physical boundary lines.

Vice-Chairman Wright asked Dr. Vitti to explain the rationale behind the opt in portion of the recommendation which requires neighborhood students to agree to the magnet requirements (such as wearing uniforms) in order to go there. Dr. Vitti explained the magnet is structured with opt in so as to draw more of the neighborhood students into the school. Estimated transportation cost is \$800,000.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the working group's recommendation to convert Ed White to a whole school Military Magnet Leadership Academy with an opt in option and no boundary changes for Edward White High School #248 starting with incoming 9th graders in 2016-2017. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

General

[3. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR SAMUEL W. WOLFSON HIGH SCHOOL #224, TERRY PARKER HIGH SCHOOL #86 AND ATLANTIC COAST HIGH SCHOOL #268](#)

Attachment: [Boundary Change Wolfson.pdf](#)

Minutes:

There were no public comments.

Dr. Vitti explained to Board Member Hall that all current programs at Wolfson would remain at the school. Board Member Hall expressed concern that placing a new program at the school would give some students the perception they are no longer "wanted" there. Dr. Vitti assured her the changes made are done with inclusiveness in mind for all students. For example, there would be no requirements for a minimum GPA which would disqualify some students currently there. Board Member Hall wants to prevent students from feeling they are being "counseled out" of the school and make sure students have resources available to them to ensure their success at Wolfson

after changes are made. Estimated cost for the change is \$140,000. The goal of the change is to recapture neighborhood students who have left for other schools.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the proposed boundary changes for Samuel W. Wolfson High School #224, Terry Parker High School #86 and Atlantic Coast High School #268 starting with incoming 9th graders in 2016-2017. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Scott Shine

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Scott Shine - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

5. [PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR HYDE GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #214 AND HYDE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #77](#)

Attachment: [Boundary Change Hyde Grove and Hyde Park.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Public Hearing:

Ms. Sheila Andrews noted that when universal changes occurred, it was the young African American students who took the hardest hit through busing. She also corrected the perception that Terry Parker is underutilized. She is concerned that if children are discouraged from going to school, there will be more dropouts on the streets.

Alison Thompson Messick asked how the addition of 6th grade

into Hyde Park will affect surrounding middle schools. Chairman Smith Juarez explained that the Board does not respond during public hearings but that the questions would probably come up during discussion.

Discussion:

Dr. Vitti explained that enrollment into 6th grade at Hyde Park is optional for parents.

Board Member Couch said these changes took them by surprise and is concerned to see very few parents at the working group, indicating a disconnect with parents at those schools in spite of the Superintendent graciously providing a bus to the parents to resolve transportation problems they may have. She would like to see the district go the extra mile to walk the neighborhoods to engage parents more before implementing the changes. She sees this problem as being a symptom to a larger problem of never having a discussion, as a Board, of our turnaround schools and the process for them. The State report shows 25 of Duval schools are in turn around; 11 are not in the DTO region.

Board Member Couch offered an amendment that would delay the changes until school year 2017-2018. There was discussion as to the pros and cons of postponing the proposed changes and looking at simply deferring the item for a month.

Board Member Wright read information from the Board of Education that indicates there would still be time for the district to turn performance around before any closure action begins from the State. She also informed everyone that Jax Journey has agreed to invest money in that area which could help with improving school performance in that area. There was discussion as to what would work and what would not to increase performance at both schools.

Chairman Smith Juarez expressed concern about waiting a year, not knowing how the delay would help. Board Member Hall felt it would give the district time to work with teachers and administrators in professional development as well as making the effort to engage the parents more. Board Member Couch doesn't feel she can answer the question about how a one-year delay would help since there has never been a Board conversation about what's been done up to this point for the schools. While she understands Dr. Vitti would like for the Board Members to have faith in him, she has to have solid answers for her constituents when they ask why they do what they do and that answer doesn't suffice for them.

After a call the question by Board Member Shine failed (requiring 2/3 vote to pass), he offered a point of order noting that some speakers have taken the floor more than twice citing Robert's

Rules of Order. Board Members at that point were allowed to have the floor twice for 10 minutes each time.

Vice-Chairman Wright noted that the changes at Wolfson High School will begin with the 9th graders and phased in over time. The amendment on the floor offers a similar advantage for Hyde Grove and Hyde Park in regards to the timeline.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the proposed boundary changes for the Kindergarten through second grade students that are currently zoned for Hyde Park Elementary School #77 to Hyde Grove Elementary School #214 and the third through sixth grade students currently zoned for Hyde Grove Elementary School #214 to Hyde Park Elementary School #77. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Nay

Motions:

Call the question - FAIL

Vote Results



Motion: Scott Shine	
Second: Cheryl Grymes	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Nay
Ashley Juarez	- Nay
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Nay

Motions:

Motion to amend the Original Recommendation

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the proposed boundary changes for the Kindergarten through second grade students that are currently zoned for Hyde Park Elementary School #77 to Hyde Grove Elementary School #214 and the third through sixth grade students currently zoned for Hyde Grove Elementary School #214 to Hyde Park Elementary School #77, to be implemented in the school year 2017-2018. - FAIL

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Nay
Cheryl Grymes	- Nay
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Nay
Scott Shine	- Nay

6. [PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: CONSOLIDATION OF OAK HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #210 INTO GREGORY DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #243; JACKSONVILLE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #229; and CEDAR HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #97](#)

Attachment: [Boundary Change Oak Hill.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Public Comment:

Mr. Bradford Hall doesn't support any of the changes in light of the fact that the community did not know about them. There have been multiple requests from the community for the state of the schools with no answers. Past Boards have used the Time-Union editorial page to inform the community of problems and made appeals to the community for help, but not this current Board.

Ms. Melissa Lenertz expressed her opposition to the autism center. She feels the autistic children would benefit more from being exposed to other children with skills they need. Setting up centers that cater to specific needs will segregate children with special needs from the general population and set them back.

Ms. Eunice Barnum reminded the Board that the law requires schools to have SAC committees, so how could the two schools in the previously heard case not have parental involvement?

Dr. Wanda Hedrick noted there has been a lot of work over the years to get children with special needs incorporated into the traditional classroom. Setting up a center that would separate them back out of the mainstream student population would be a severe setback.

Mr. Timothy Sloan wondered how each of the Board Members manages to not know which schools are failing. Some schools have a track record of failing for 16 years. That's a sign of failed leadership.

Discussion:

Dr. Vitti assured the Board and the public that attendance at the autism center is purely voluntary. He also explained some of the details involved in the recommendation of combining Oakhill and Gregory Drive Elementary. There would be an estimated \$800,000 in transportation costs and \$575,000 to retrofit the classrooms. Board Member Fischer wanted to verify with Dr.

Vitti that services for autistic children outside of Oakhill would not diminish as a result of the change. Dr. Vitti assured him they would not, explaining it was a matter of capacity and not of resources.

Vice-Chairman Wright voiced her concern about the district being put into a potential lawsuit over equity for all. Dr. Vitti feels the student's IEP will dictate where the child is placed and the autism center simply increases the options.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the proposed consolidation of Oak Hill Elementary School #210 into Gregory Drive Elementary School #243; Jacksonville Heights Elementary School #229; and Cedar Hills Elementary School #97. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

[7. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: CONSOLIDATION OF FORT CAROLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL #235 INTO ARLINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL #213; and LANDMARK MIDDLE SCHOOL #256](#)

Attachment: [Boundary Change Fort Caroline.pdf](#)

Minutes:

No public comment.

Board Member Couch questions the timing of expenditure from

our capital funds in light of the backlog we have for maintenance. Dr. Vitti discussed different methods that could be used to cover the costs. Restrictions on how magnet grant money could be spent was discussed. Board Member Couch noted the frustration she feels when the Board is given bits and pieces of change plans, then asked to approve the overall comprehensive plan at a Board meeting. She would like to see the Board have a discussion on long range plans and priorities with all concerns on the table.

Vice-Chairman Wright asked if we have received the grant money and Dr. Vitti indicated we have not. She expressed concern over committing to costly changes not knowing for sure the district would receive the magnet grant and knowing there are 15 more change recommendations coming. Everything has the appearance of being piece meal. She doesn't want to spend monies today, then come up short later on funds for other needs that should have a higher priority. She would like to look at all the changes in a more comprehensive way.

Board Member Grymes commented that Dr. Vitti feels sure the district will receive the grant. Something needs to be done at Fort Caroline Middle and Arlington hasn't had a lot of attention. She doesn't think Douglas Anderson School of the Arts can be compared to a middle school and has faith in Dr. Vitti's plan.

After discussing funding and how monies would be spent, Chairman Smith Juarez asked if we could look at the item being contingent upon receiving the grant. Dr. Vitti explained that reviewers want to see a commitment from the Board to transform the school.

Vice-Chairman Wright pointed out that although we are not tied to any particular funding source, the item will obligate them to spend a minimum of \$5 million. Board Member Fischer echoed the Vice-Chairman's concern about the Board's obligation to the expenditure and made sure everyone understands that he would not support a tax increase to cover it. Board Member Couch asked if other programs are listed as part of the grant and Dr. Vitti indicated they are. The total amount of the grant in question is actually \$7-8 million, not \$5 million.

Chairman Smith Juarez asked Ms. Chastain if the agenda item ties the Board to a funding source or amount. Ms. Chastain answered that since it is not an appropriation, it does not tie to Board to any specific source or amount. Vice-Chairman Wright expressed reservations about Ms. Chastain's response. She feels the public needs to be clear prior to the vote that the Board will be obligated to spend that money without the appropriation being determined yet.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the proposed consolidation of Fort Caroline Middle School #235 into Arlington Middle School #213; and Landmark Middle School #256. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Nay

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Nay

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Scott Shine - Aye

Paula Wright - Nay

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Member Travel.

- January 22-24, 2016, El Paso, TX - Council of Great City Schools - Wright - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Nay
Paula Wright	- Aye

## Superintendent's Travel

### [SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes: Board Member Fischer asked about the funding for this particular trip. Dr. Vitti stated the cost will not be paid by the Board.

#### Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for the Superintendent.

- March 15, 2106, Tallahassee, FL - Florida State Board of Education Case - PASS

#### Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Connie Hall

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Shine

No comment.

Board Member Hall

Board Member Hall asked that item number 2 be reconsidered. After the vote, she reminded everyone of the Listening Tour scheduled for February 11 at 6:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church downtown.

Board Member Shine left at 12:07 a.m.

Board Member Couch

Board Member Couch also encouraged the public to attend the scheduled Listening Tours. She thanked DCCPTA for making the effort to take our students to Tallahassee to see the legislative process in action. She expressed appreciation to students that had the courage to approach the microphone and address the Board with their concerns.

Board Member Fischer

No Comment.

Vice-Chairman Paula Wright

Vice-Chairman Wright reminded everyone that she and Board Member Couch would be in meetings with lawmakers this week. She reminded everyone of the upcoming events of Highlands Middle School Discover Duval Tour, an online African American history course, and the Listening

Tour. She noted to everyone that Gregory Drive Elementary School did not have a PTA. As a result of the last Listening Tour, the school now has a PTA, so the tour was time and effort well spent.

Board Member Grymes

Board Member Grymes thanked the Fort Caroline working group for their efforts and the Jacksonville Public Education Fund for their One By One event and the work they put into the annual Teacher of the Year process. She noted the excitement over rockets during the Discover Duval Tour at Merrill Road Elementary and appreciates the effort staff puts into organizing those tours.

Chairman Smith Juarez

Chairman Smith Juarez congratulated the all female team from James Weldon Johnson for winning the first Lego League championship.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 a.m.

LBL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman