



Duval County Public Schools

January 17, 2012, Board Workshop

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Ms. Becki Couch
Mr. W. C. Gentry
Ms. Mr. Tommy Hazouri
Mr. Ms. Paula D. Wright
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 10:00 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The following topics were discussed:

Superintendent:

- The State Board will meet on January 24, 2012, to review the grading system. They think it is too easy. This has the potential to impact school grades and bring them down.
- The Superintendent will provide the Board with information on the budget recommendations for Athletics and ROTC for the next Workshop. Board Members asked for a list of those who donated to Athletics and ROTC this past year.
- A recommendation will be coming to the Board regarding resignations.
- Addressed the FAIR test and cut scores of the 54% word recognition for advancement to the next grade level. There will be a re-communication to Principals and teachers on how this is to be implemented.
- Provided Board with information on folding the Strategic Plan into the Superintendent's Evaluation. Board members will review and provide feedback for the February Workshop discussion.
- The Superintendent provided an update on the City Year project. He has met with Michael Ward and there is private funding available. Looking at how it works with CIS, TFA, and a new program, College Summit. Also talking to UF for partnerships with challenged schools. The Chairman asked that we look at other universities - Bethune, Morehouse, etc. We would start with 2 schools, then 5, 7, and 10 schools. Would cost school system \$100,000 per school. Funding is one third AmeriCorp, one third private funding; one third school system funding.

Board Members:

- Board Member Wright addressed concerns with Schools of the Future and the issues involving the Principal and the school. The Principal is being replaced and received a written reprimand. Some areas of concern included that the Principal was not trained to evaluate the teachers, tablets were missing, all of the SIM cards were missing, the FAIR test and retest have not been administered, teachers were using Read 180 when it was not part of their curriculum, etc. She asked why the Board had not been informed along the way regarding these issues, indicating that she found out when visiting the school recently. The Superintendent indicated that staff (Terri Stahlman and Dana Kriznar) had been monitoring and that he felt that staff and the Bridge had done their part to monitor and assist the school. After discussion, it was decided that Board Auditor Michelle Begley would audit this school and report back to the Board. It was also decided that the Superintendent would ask all parties involved - school system, Bridge, the National SFTF staff - Ephram Weinstein, community partners - to meet with the Board and let them know the issues, and decide what will happen next. The Superintendent will also provide a report to the Board on the issues raised during the discussion.
- Board Member Gentry asked that Intervene schools be added to a future Workshop agenda.
- Board Member Hazouri requested that they be provided information on the budget in advance of next week's Workshop - i.e., athletics, program cuts, etc.
- Board Member Hazouri also asked that we look at the Charter school drain, especially at the elementary level. He hears from parents that a large part of the

issue is their concerns over the middle schools.

- Board Member Couch asked about Charter school audits and when we would step in. Assistant Deputy General Council Karen Chastain indicated that the appropriate time to address those concerns would be during contract renewal.
- A brief update on Legislation will be held during the governance portion of the January 24, 2012, Workshop.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

2. HIGH SCHOOL GRADE CRITERIA AND PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT

Minutes:

Staff provided the Board with a brief explanation of the Jackson High School and Peterson High School comparisons. The following points were made:

- Board Member Barrett said it would be beneficial to know what the Principal at Peterson did to improve the school.
- Board Member Couch asked why has there been no Math Coach all school year. The Superintendent indicated they were looking for the right person, and the AP was performing these duties at the present time.
- Chairman Burney read portions of both comparison documents and indicated that it was obvious why Jackson had the results they received, and that the same formula that Peterson used be implemented at Jackson so that the students can move. Writing is coming up and we need to address it now.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Tim Ballentine, Director, Research and Evaluation
Ms. Pat Willis, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Caroline Girardeau, Director, Academics

3. FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT - CHERRY, BEKAERT, AND HOLLAND

Minutes:

Mr. Jim Burdick, Audit Partner with Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, reviewed the results of the 2011 Financial Statements Audit. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Minutes.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Perrone, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Jim Burdick, Audit Partner, Cherry, Bekaert & Holland
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

4. STAFFING AND NEW TEACHERS IN CHALLENGED SCHOOLS

Minutes:

Ms. Sonita Young, Director of Policy and Compliance, gave a brief overview of the Strategic Staffing proposal, timeline, and budget. Discussion included the following:

- Board Member Hazouri asked about staffing, and in particular, the math coach position previously discussed at Jackson High School. Staff indicated that the math coach was promoted to Assistant Principal and the person they were going to hire accepted a position in another county. They are continuing to work on staffing this position.
- Vice-Chairman Lee asked about a proposed Policy Board Member Wright has suggested to address staffing concerns. It will be discussed at a future time.
- Staff indicated that they would not leave schools without any experienced teachers while making sure that the priority schools were staffed with highly qualified teachers.
- Board Member Barrett asked about mentors. Staff will approach businesses and individuals for work in this area.
- Board Member Couch asked how they would determine the teachers receiving bonuses. This suggestion is still in the planning stage, so there are no guidelines at this time.
- Board Member Wright suggested we look at retired teachers and principals to come in and provide mentoring.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Ms. Sonita Young, Director, Policy and Compliance
Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief Human Resource Services Officer
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

[5. DISCIPLINE POLICY AND TRAINING](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Dana Kriznar gave a brief overview of the information provided to the Board. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Minutes. Discussion included the following:

- Board Member Barrett asked for an update on ATOSS and the Jacksonville Journey. Gloria Lockley responded that an RFP is going out and we will respond. Funding this time would be for 3 years.
- Board Member Hazouri asked about instructions given to Principals on reporting data. Dr. Kriznar indicated that staff was provided instructions on reporting all incidents in the appropriate manner.
- Vice-Chairman Lee talked about community perception on discipline in our schools and the need to address the real discipline issues and communicate with the public what is and is not going on in the schools.
- Board Member Wright asked for information on Inclusion students and their impact on student discipline data.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Dr. Dana Kriznar, Director, Alternative Education
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

[6. TEACHER COMPLIANCE WITH DISTRICT & STATE REQUIREMENTS](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent provided the Board with an update regarding teacher compliance with District and State requirements. This is one of the first three month goals which the Board set at their January Board Development meeting.

Staff has met with DTU representatives and school system staff. They are trying to find a way to consolidate some of the required paperwork and reports which teachers have to prepare. They are compiling a list and will meet to decide which ones can be combined and/or eliminated, as well as the reasons for the various reports. There will be focus groups and staff will continue to meet. An update will be provided to the Board in February 2012, and a recommendation will be made to the Board in late March 2012.

Board Member Couch requested that the Board be provided with a list of committee meeting dates.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Terrie Brady, President, Duval Teachers United
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Housekeeping Issues:

Chairman Burney requested that the following topics be discussed at the January 24, 2012, Workshop.

- Requested that the Superintendent address grade recovery during Governance
- School Report Cards discussion
- Provide Board with information for FSBA Days in the Legislature trip

Board Member Hazouri requested that the Board receive an update from Educational Directions, LLC, at a future meeting.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 4:02 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman