



Duval County Public Schools

January 31, 2011, Board Workshop

Ms. W. C. Gentry, Chairman
Ms. Betty Burney, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Ms. Becki Couch
Ms. Mr. Tommy Hazouri
Mr. Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee
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 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 3:05 p.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. INTERVENE SCHOOLS](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending today's Workshop.

Commissioner of Education Eric Smith joined the Workshop via telephone to discuss the Intervene School issue with the Board. Chairman Gentry thanked him for taking the time to discuss this matter with the Board. The Chairman spoke briefly regarding the impact this is having on the students at these schools and that Duval intended to do what was in the best interest of the students.

Commissioner Smith agreed that the ultimate concern is to speak directly to the issues and the effect and impact on the students being served in the four Intervene Schools. He made the following comments.

- Talked about the student scores in the four schools.
- Make sure what is being done improves student performance.
- Talked about the penalties in the Statutes if we did not comply.
- Talked about State average for reading is 44% and that these four schools were in the teens.
- Differentiated accountability means that all students meet the same criteria.
- These schools have been declining over the past four years.
- Stated that DOE would not close the schools and could not take over the schools.
- Penalties could include reducing lottery appropriations; withholding State and discretionary grant funds; and, declaring district ineligible to apply for competitive grants.
- What Duval has done in the past 2-4 years in these schools has not worked.
- Duval's plan needs to meet one of the three options.
- DOE has a list of EMO's that have a proven track record.
- Dollars have been set aside to help start Charter school programs around the state.
- Mentioned KIPP as a successful Charter school.

Board Members made the following comments.

- Urban schools reading scores are lower than the State average.
- Asked how many schools had exited Intervene status - Commissioner Smith thought there was one last year, but that a majority of the schools showed improvement.
- Will not allow schools to be closed .
- History shows it takes 3-5 years to move a school.
- Turnaround is an option if the schools make gains - Commissioner Smith agreed, however, we still need to submit a plan that fits one of the three options remaining.
- Requested Commissioner Smith provide us with the list of EMO's that have a proven track record, as we have been unable to identify any groups that meet this criteria.
- One of our former F school Principals is providing training to the KIPP staff.
- One EMO mentioned by Commissioner Smith is not successful and one of their schools in New York ended up closing.
- The State Board of Education can impose sanctions and monthly reporting in lieu of monetary penalties.

The Board requested that Commissioner Smith meet with them in person on Friday, February 4, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. The Commissioner has a trip to Jacksonville already scheduled for that date. He agreed to meet with the Board at that time.

Speakers:

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

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 5:54 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman