



## Duval County Public Schools

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January 5, 2010, Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Tommy Hazouri,  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Chairman  
Ms. Martha Barrett  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Betty Burney  
Ms. Vicki Drake  
Mr. W. C. Gentry  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Chairman, Ms. Nancy Broner, Vice Chairman and Board members: Ms. Martha Barrett, Ms. Betty Burney, Ms. Vicki Drake, Mr. W. C. Gentry and Mr. Tommy Hazouri, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes:

Pastor Ted Corley  
Mission First Coast Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

[1. 2009 SEPTEMBER BOOK OF THE MONTH QUILT PROJECT](#)

Minutes:

--For the past seven years, Duval County Public Schools has partnered with the Jacksonville Agricultural Fair for the annual September Book of the Month Quilt Project where students have an opportunity to create a quilt that represents the story line of one of the books they read during the month of September.

--This year, under the direction of their teachers, students in grades Pre-K through fifth submitted 48 quilts that connected to the book "*The Sunsets of Miss Olivia Wiggins*" by Lester Laminack, visually or morally.

--Judging of the quilts takes place during the Jacksonville Fair was done in two categories, a Juried Process and Community Voting.

--As your school's name is called, please come forward to receive your certificate of recognition.

--The following schools received Jurors' Awards:

- \* Merrill Road Elementary
- \* Susie Tolbert Elementary
- \* Whitehouse Elementary
- \* Chaffee Trail Elementary

--The following schools received Community Awards:

- \* Susie Tolbert Elementary
- Merrill Road Elementary
- R.L. Brown Elementary

Pine Forest Elementary, who is also one of our Merit Award Winners

--In addition to the juror and community awards, the following nine elementary schools received Merit Award Ribbons for their distinguished quilt designs and applications. These schools are not present tonight, but I would like to acknowledge them during this presentation:

- \* Abess Park
- Brentwood
- Central Riverside
- Enterprise
- Greenfield
- Hyde Grove
- Mayport
- Neptune Beach
- West Jacksonville

--Congratulations to each of you! The principals, teachers and students from each winning school should be extremely proud.

## [2. EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION EXCEL AWARD](#)

Minutes:

--In November, the Foundation of Excellence in Education presented Karen Gaylor, a sixth-grade teacher at Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts, with their 2009 Excel Award.

--Would Ms. Gaylor and her principal, Mark Ertel, please come forward?

--The 2009 Excel Award was given to 81 Florida educators based on an analysis of student data provided by the Florida Department of Education.

--Students in these teachers' classes learned at least one-and-a-half times the average student in their grade and achievement level in reading or math.

--The Excel Award is part of the "Excellence in Teaching" initiative, launched by the foundation to identify and share the secrets of successful teaching with educators and policymakers around the nation.

--Last month, Ms. Gaylor, along with all of the 2009 Excel Award winners, was recognized during the Foundation for Excellence in Education's "Celebration of Teaching" event.

--Congratulations on a job well done. It is great educators like you who will help Duval County Public Schools become one of the best large urban

school districts in the United States.

### 3. CFE RECOGNITION – JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Minutes:

--Our next presentation recognizes several Jacksonville Sheriff's Office employees who work with students attending S.P. Livingston Elementary School and Eugene Butler Middle School, both located in the city's New Town Success Zone.

--In April, 2007, the City of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Children's Commission established an independent committee to begin looking at replicating the success of the Harlem Children's Zone in New York, here in Jacksonville.

--In February 2008, after extensive research and community asset mapping, the steering committee unanimously selected the New Town neighborhood. Both Butler and S.P. Livingston are located in this neighborhood.

--Officers, as your names are called, please come forward to receive a certificate of appreciation:

Chief Clark  
Lieutenant Collier  
Sergeant Oldham  
Sergeant Barreira  
Officer Thompson  
Officer Tomlin  
Officer Barnes  
Officer Johnson  
Officer Matsick  
Officer McMillan

--The group of officers before us sponsor activities for students attending both schools. These include intramural sports leagues through the City's department of Parks and Recreation which provide structured after-school activities for students; they also provided food baskets to families during the holiday season; and they serve as mentors to some of the students.

--In addition, they voluntarily attend school events and assist in any capacity - be it sweeping floors or setting up tables and chairs - they are intricately involved in the school.

--Thank you to each of you for going above and beyond your Sheriff's Office responsibilities to establish positive relationships with our students and staff.

#### 4. NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Minutes:

--Our final presentation of the night highlights the district's need for mentors.

--January 2010 has been designated National Mentoring Month. This month is designed to focus national attention on the need for mentors.

--According to the latest research, when students have mentors, they have better attendance, a better chance of going on to higher education, and better attitudes toward school.

--Based on this research, when I was first brought on as Superintendent, I made a call to action to have 20,000 mentors for our students by the year 2020.

--While this is an ambitious goal, I am assured that our great community is up to the challenge.

--Here tonight to speak more about mentors and the positive impact that mentors have in raising student achievement is Dewitt Robinson, the district's lead person for mentor management.

#### 5. FRED SCHULTZ RECOGNITION

Minutes:

The Board and Superintendent recognized the outstanding life of Fred Schulz, his wife and children. Mr. Schultz was an educator at heart and will be missed by all citizens in Duval County. Thank you for sharing your husband and father with all of us for so many years.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Assistant Chief David Coffman, JSO, took a brief moment to recognize our officers tonight who have been working in the New Town area. Dr. Hall informed us about the great work going on. I spent an afternoon working with the officers and it was amazing as to what is going on with the community. Thank you!

Mr. Rufus Fletcher said he believes there is already a decision to close Raines and Ribault because of the shootout that happened at Ribault last year at this time during the FCAT testing. It appeared to distract the children from learning and frighten the faculty into submission. There's a \$70 million dollar budget deficit. You need to stop lying to the children as to why their school is being targeted. You don't have the funds to keep these schools open and not enough money to teach resources. How can the kids be expected to raise their grades? It's a travesty and sabotage. We all must come together and give these children a fair education.

Ms. Susan Brodeur said she has two boys at James Weldon Johnson and a 4th grader at John Stockton. She is in favor of James Weldon Johnson moving to the Eugene Butler site this fall, 2010. There is no outside field for outdoor physical education at J.W. Johnson. All outdoor activities must be bused to another area; late buses or no buses and no home games. The soccer team must play all their games at the opponents' schools. There are six sports teams that must play at other facilities. There are thousands of dollars to be saved by moving to Butler this fall and not next year. It makes common sense (and cents) to move in 2010 to Eugene Butler Middle School. Thank you.

Ms. Karen Nuland said she has two children, one at Stanton and one at James Weldon Johnson. As a parent, I am delighted to hear that we're moving to Butler and our school has not been renovated in quite some time. We have no fields for sports or physical education and I wonder if we're meeting all of those standards. I love that our school is centrally located and my children have friends from all over the city and we like being in the New Town neighborhood. We would love to move to Eugene Butler and remain in the same neighborhood. Since meeting with the ACE committee, we feel that Butler would make the best financial sense. James Weldon Johnson was recognized nationally as a 2009 School of Distinction and this award was based on desegregation, innovative instructional strategies, student achievement and parent/community involvement. This award was given to only two schools in Duval County. We're also recognized as a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School for students achieving a very high level. This school is very dear to our hearts and we would love for you to please take care when choosing its relocation. We have a very active PTA and many community volunteers and we would be happy to share all of this at Eugene Butler. Thank you.

Ms. Gretchen Lynch said two of my three children attended James Weldon Johnson and my third child is presently a 6th grader there. First, thank you for your dedication to educating the children in our community. I believe my children are receiving a good education and you have played a part in that education. In December, I attended a Northwestern Quadrant ACE meeting specifically concerning J.W. Johnson moving to

another facility. The move now seems to be in the future. Thank you for recognizing our need for another facility. At the September ACE meeting, the consensus was that J.W. Johnson was the best fit for the choices given to Eugene Butler. When attending the December ACE meeting, I discovered the Butler scenario was no longer an option and the process to have community meetings to move to Paxon would begin in January. This move would displace over 800 students, disassemble Paxon's SED program's facilities, reassemble SED program's facilities at another location and move a rising IB Program recently accredited. Butler is at 30% capacity, is currently outfitted for a middle school and there is room to house the J.W. Johnson students and room for youth from the area to attend just like all schools of choice - Common Sense - Butler is the choice. Please go back to the drawing board and look at the cost of the scenario you have chosen to explore. If the money is not there, then we are back to where we started.

Ms. Nancy Barnard said I have had two children that went to James Weldon Johnson. My family has been involved with J.W. Johnson for over seven years. My son who is now in college received an invaluable education at that school. My second son was there two years ago in which most of the students scored 6 on the Florida Writes. He is now at Paxon School for Advanced Studies and is thriving. I feel both of my children's foundation in education through that school was phenomenal with the teachers and curriculum. I have a 5th grade daughter at Stockton and wish her to attend J.W. Johnson next year, as well. The facility should be relinquished from your pocketbook. I started attending the ACE meetings last spring to discuss the direction about the magnet program and in the fall, I attended ACE meetings regarding the northwest quadrant. The number one priority of the meetings was to move the James Weldon Johnson program to a facility that met its enrollment. The other goal was to fill over 2,000 empty seats in that part of the district. Closing the facility at James Weldon Johnson achieves that goal and what a common-sense approach, but where should the school go? The September meeting was extremely productive with great input from the community and representatives from the Duval County School Board. The consultant, Mr. Richter, carefully facilitated the meeting so the continuation of program was the main goal as well as discussions regarding facility utilization. In December, however, the ACE meeting took a complete change. Evidently, the decision was to move James Weldon Johnson to Paxon Middle. I don't feel that is the common-sense approach as to what should be done with J.W. Johnson. You will probably spend \$790,000 on your consultant and this falls under your Facilities Long Range Master Plan. While your consultant is extremely qualified, his efforts could be spent elsewhere. It is a common-sense move to Butler and his efforts and energy could be moved to other areas in the district.

Ms. Stacy McKendree said I have two children currently Duval County Public Schools. I urge the Board to move J.W. Johnson to Butler and not Paxon Middle. The Board would incur additional costs to have this program accredited all over again. Please act fiscally responsible with the tax payers dollars.

Mr. Nick Courtney said I have the dual privilege of being here as a representative of the Jacksonville Children's Chorus and Arts for a Complete Education Coalition. We seek to provide a high quality musical education for children of diverse backgrounds, fostering team work, self-discipline, accomplishment and pride. We want you to know that the Chorus and ACE are very thankful for your commitment to the elementary arts

education and know that we are fully committed to continuing this artistic education which we believe profoundly enriches the lives of our children. Just as a child with ability in sports needs an outlet through which they can explore that, so does a child with an interest in music needs an outlet through which they can develop their skill. Personally, I believe that an education without exposure to the arts is an incomplete one. The arts have personally affected my life and I feel it is my duty to do what I can to reinvest here in our community. I grew up in a family surrounded by musicians which motivated me to stick with my studies in either instrument or chorus. I can't imagine where I'd be today without those experiences or who I would be today. We'd like to invite you and everyone to our next performance honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, held at the Times-Union Performing Arts Center on January 18, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Thank you.

Ms. Charlie Bourgeois spoke about the new boundaries for the Atlantic Coast High School. One of my concerns is the number of students on the proposal is that you are coming west over the Intercoastal to pick up students to go back to Fletcher High School. My concern is that all along San Pablo, many of those students either go to Mayport Middle or Fletcher Middle and the continuity is what we're concerned about. It's very difficult when the children have to split from those two middle schools to go into Sandalwood where seven middle schools feed. Personally, I know that it's very difficult and my daughter had to go to Sandalwood. We live on the east side of San Pablo, between Beach and Atlantic and there's about a mile stretch from Covington Creek to Beach Boulevard. We're talking about large subdivisions and there are two full buses that pick up for Fletcher Middle and only 25 students ride my daughter's bus to Sandalwood and those are not students that are staying at Sandalwood; they are picking up the buses to go on to Paxon or Stanton. I don't understand why we didn't continue down San Pablo and pick up those students who are not using false addresses. I know there are very few students who are attending Sandalwood from that area. It's very difficult for those students who go over to Sandalwood as they don't know anybody. Even the teachers at orientation were shocked to find they come from Fletcher Middle since so few students come over there. Part of the continuity was discussed at the ACE Committee that I was part of the summer before last and this was all addressed to make Fletcher Middle and Mayport Middle 100% feeders but nothing was ever done.

Ms. Melisa James, Chairperson for Englewood High, School Advisory Council, to request that the vote regarding the boundary change be postponed so that we would have an opportunity to discuss the impact this will have on our school and our students.

Ms. Stacie Dern spoke about the boundaries for AAA High School (Atlantic Coast). We live off of Baymeadows Circle, East and Baymeadows Circle, West and based on the boundary description for the new school, we should actually be part of that because we are a feeder street and we've been left out. We live approximately 3 miles from the new high school and we're 6.5 miles from Englewood High. Why were we left out? There's approximately 100 students in this little grouping that have been left off the boundary and we are all feeder streets on to Southbrook. Thank you.

Mr. Edward Exson said this new year, my sincere wish is to see students bordering on

dropping out and continuing to fail, is that some phenomenal force rescues them. With all the too big to fail mantra, drastic measures were taken to prevent the total collapse of our financial system. While we must be appreciative of President O'Bama's Administration turning around, what could have been immeasurable consequences? However, I must ask the following harsh, pertinent question...is the African American too insignificant or too dumb to succeed in this century? The real answer is some of both. The world knows that many blacks have excelled in all endeavors of mankind. Yet, many are left in a funk only to think with their legs. Some are not to blame for their debilitating handicap of literacy. If they had been born at a different time, they, too, might have excelled, a time when leadership was focused on securing the benefits for all as accorded in the Preamble, in spite of the despicable act of slavery. Leadership of the abolitionist, the martyrs, others not recognized for their efforts to advance our cause to freedom. As of now, the black leadership's agenda is focused, only they and their click, after the benefactor (their masters) wants and needs are satisfied with greed and corruption. The Civil Rights Organization, the sooty blacks that think they have arrived after given jobs, black politicians, which most are pathetic, and the black pastor that reins over the so-called flock, has done the most harm to set back and make insignificant his/her people for light years. I submit to this Board, if the leadership doesn't change the current paradigm, all of the dedication and commitments to the success of every student, will be for naught. I will continue a diatribe...it might catch on. I wish you success in spite of my doom and gloom. Thank you and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Mr. Stanley Scott said Happy New Year to the Chair and representatives of the School Board. I'm back here because I received information I requested on the principals but I did not receive the information on the 6th grade and was disappointed with that as it's been over 30 days and no one has responded to my written request. I wanted to mention about the Mayor's Office running the school system....absolutely no, no, no. I am also taken to the Charter Revision...I'm putting together a proposal to break up the school system into four districts with equal funding to each district. Each district having their own district Superintendent, community School Board and keep the Administration Department here at this building. The Superintendent mentioned New Town. I'm going back to that intellectual stupidity...New Town, they're talking about coming out with a plan - there is no plan for New Town. They're talking about improving a community but there is no plan of action. To me, that's intellectual stupidity. Now, there's some game being played...land and some money involved...the Jacksonville Children's Commission...you talk about happy New Town but there is no plan of action. A fool can figure that's some kind of game. We talk about these African American pastors coming together. Can you believe they came together and they don't have one plan? Now, why is everyone talking about asking the African Americans in this town but there's no plan of action. It doesn't require a genius to come up with a plan. I'd rather have a plan that is dysfunctional than no plan at all. I'm disappointed with that. O'Bama's administration asked that they work with grants through organizations and they told "we're looking". They are trying to find ways to go around that. I'm not a religious person, but I say, "God have mercy on this city". 6th grade - I can not understand why I can't get that information and I'm glad that they school system is being sued. I don't understand why we have some of the best schools in the country and you have all of those schools on the northside falling apart.

Ms. Debbie Elliott said I'm a parent of a student that will possibly be entering

Englewood in the fall of 2010. I wanted to find out if Englewood High is...and I know there are many other schools/choices to go to, but I need to know the information about the boundaries and how that will work. I'm here just for information. Thanks.

Ysryl said Happy New Year to all of you. I'm here to let you know that I'm still in the fight and still recovering from my head injury. I'm working with Jacksonville Youth Works and we're working with many young men and women who have dropped out of school. It's very surprising to find out that some of these students are college material. Many of them are dropping out is because they are not able to cope with peer pressure and obstacles between school and home. I need for you to focus on is a plan as this is most serious. One of these students was kicked out of school and is now in the criminal justice system. We must help and engage in these children's lives to overcome what's going on in their homes.

Ms. Ann Tiefenthaler spoke as a member of the ACE Facilities working Group that worked on the boundaries for the new Atlantic Coast High School. I want to encourage the Board to approve the boundary proposal submitted by our group. It was arrived at by taking into consideration the number of goals including the establishment of a neighborhood school, helping to reduce over-crowding at a number of other high schools and establishing a head count of students at the school that would allow for future growth and additional grades at the school. The group accomplished all of these goals in good faith, coming up with a number of plans and then analyzing the results until we created our final plan that we set out for ourselves.

## Comments From Parent Organizations

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

Minutes:

#### District Advisory Council - Rachel Raneri, Chair

Good evening and happy New Year. The District Advisory Council does not meet in December; however, some of us were able to attend a meeting of the Charter Revision Commission on December 17<sup>th</sup>. As a point of personal privilege, I would like to speak to my concern. The Commission is looking at a recommendation that the Sheriff, Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools and the School Board be appointed by the mayor. I am very concerned that this will take away the right of the people to vote for their representatives. It is very important to me to be able to voice who represents mine and my families' concerns about public education. When my children were in elementary school at Fishweir, whenever there was an election, my children were able to cast a "sample" ballot. They learned the importance of a right to vote. I cannot imagine what it will teach our students about a

democratic government if that right to vote for representation is taken away.

The entire Jacksonville community are the stakeholders of the Duval County School District. These stakeholders should not lose their right to vote on the people who make the policy for our PUBLIC schools.

I would also like to remind all School Advisory Councils that this is the time that all mid-year stakeholder assessments should be taking place. This assessment is to be done between January and March.

The next meeting of the District Advisory Council will be January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the 6<sup>th</sup> floor conference room. I hope that we will have a school board member to join us.

#### PTA - Annette Worthen:

Good evening, I am Annette Worthen, President of the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs.

First, I would like to wish each of you a Happy New Year!

While we do not hold a General Meeting in the month of December, we were still busy assisting local units and representing PTA on several committees both in the school system and in the community of Jacksonville. The next general meeting of the DCCPTA is on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM here in the Cline Auditorium.

The WJCT/VyStar Mr. Rogers sweater drive that our local PTA's participated in was a huge success with ---- pallets of clothing donated. The cold weather clothing was distributed by area social service organizations and was greatly appreciated by the recipients. DCCPTA representatives helped with the distribution at the Sulzbacher Center.

The Teacher Supply Depot opening is this Thursday January 7<sup>th</sup> from 3-6 PM. If you as Board members or community members sitting here or watching on TV know of a business that is remodeling, moving, closing or downsizing and would donate items to the Depot please call Chris at the TSD. The Depot phone number is 381-7480. Chris reports that many new items have been donated and will be available at the opening. The TSD has received 30 pallets of new office supplies as well as an additional 20 pallets of other materials. Also, the TSD and Books a GoGO are working with First Book to host a Northeast Florida distribution of books intended to be given to children who do not have a book of their own. Currently, over 300 pallets of new books have been received at the TSD. All Title 1 schools or agencies working with the less affluent are encouraged to register for this giveaway at [www.firstbook.com](http://www.firstbook.com). This is a lottery distribution so register now and make your request as soon as the window opens. All groups picking up their books here in Duval County will get their books for free. They may also be shipped for 35 cents a book. Look for distribution to take place at the end of the month.

The Florida PTA Rally in Tally is scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:30. It will once again

be held on the steps of the Capitol. More information will be given to the local units later this month and will be posted on both the Florida PTA [www.floridapta.org](http://www.floridapta.org) and DCCPTA [www.dccpta.org](http://www.dccpta.org) websites.

As all of you know the City Charter Revision Commission is meeting weekly and they are tossing around the idea of trying to make the Superintendent and School Board positions Mayoral appointed positions. PTA is opposed to this for several reasons. Mainly, PTA believes in the right to vote, and our position is that parents and guardians are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families. If the school board/superintendent positions become appointed positions, then you have taken away the rights of the parents and guardians to speak on our children's behalf. If the board and superintendent are held accountable to the Mayor/City government that hires them, then where is the accountability to the parents? If we as community members, parents, and guardians lose our voice because our right to vote for the school board members is taken away, then our children lose.

With the current system of an elected board and a hired superintendent, we as parents, guardians and community members have a voice not only through our vote, but through the accountability that the elected board members have to the constituency that hired them by voting them into office. If we as parents, guardians and community members don't feel that the school board members and/or superintendent are doing their job, then there is a process already in place to remove them from that position.

To the Commission members we say; please don't take our right to speak on our children's behalf away from us. Our right to vote for the school board members to represent us is our way of holding our educational leaders accountable. When we went through the accreditation process district wide for the first time a year and a half ago the SACS/CASI Committee members that came from all over the country had nothing but wonderful things to say about the healthy productivity of our board and how wonderful our board and superintendent worked together. Educational leaders from all over the country thought it was important enough to mention in their report that the working relationship our board and superintendent have is productive and that's in part because we as voters used our voices through the ballot and voted those board members into office, we have held them accountable and we know they listen to us because we are the ones that employ them.

The DCCPTA Board of Managers would like to encourage all parents, guardians and community members to attend a Charter Revision Commission meeting and voice their concern about the possibility of losing our voice in electing our School Board members. The Commission meets at 9 AM on Thursdays at City Hall.

## Comments From Employee Organizations

### COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes: *There were no speakers this evening.*

## Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

### 1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Minutes:

Brenda Priestly Jackson, Chairman:

I stand before you as the current chairperson of the Duval County School Board and voice of my six esteemed colleagues, the Honorable Nancy Broner, the Honorable Betty Burney, the Honorable Tommy Hazouri, the Honorable Martha Barrett, the Honorable Victoria Drake and the Honorable W. C. Gentry.

As seven of your elected constitutional officers, we represent single member districts in Duval County that are each unique in their own right but help to make up the rich tapestry of our beloved county. As your elected constitutional officers, we each bring a love for our county, a belief in our limitless potential if we work together, and a genuine knowledge that we are entrusted with the education and development of one of our most precious resources, our county's children.

So, who are we, you may ask and what do we offer our city, our county in our capacity as your elected constitutional officers?

We are the daughter of the founder and publisher of the Beaches Leader newspaper, who along with his wife, settled in our county over 50 years ago after retiring from the Navy. This daughter, along with her husband and siblings, is a graduate of Fletcher High School, where she later taught and where she and her husband sent their own children. This daughter is also a former Olympic torch bearer and a consultant for the Broad Institute, who is responsible for training new school board members around the country.

We are the daughter of small business owners from the eastside of Jacksonville, who settled in this city in the 1930s. This same daughter graduated from William M. Raines High School and continued her education at the University of Miami and Illinois University. This daughter and her husband are the proud parents of two African American sons who graduated from Duval County Public Schools and are now continuing their education at the graduate and undergraduate levels. This daughter,

too, is a consultant for the Broad Institute and responsible for training new school board members around the country.

We are the grandson of Lebanese immigrants who settled in our city over 100 years ago and the son of the owners of Liberty Street Grocery. This very son graduated from Andrew Jackson High School, continued his education at Jacksonville University, where he served as student body president. Based on the diversity and richness of this son's formative years, the son understood early on that it was of vital importance that we engage all citizens in the maintenance of our democracy and to that end, he was elected a member of the State House/Legislature and Mayor of our great city.

We are the daughter of a former Railway Express Agency employee that settled here shortly after his baby girl was born in the 1950s. A devout Catholic, this daughter was taught that a life of value is a life of service to others. After graduating from a local high school, this daughter continued her education on the undergraduate and graduate levels. Having worked with national and state campaigns, this daughter truly found her voice and sharpened her ear to hear the needs of the people under the tutelage of former Mayor Jake Godbold, a most trusted adviser.

We are the wife of an engineer that came to Jacksonville in 1977 with the thought that she would only be here six weeks; however, instead fell in love with the city and San Mateo Elementary School. This wife and mother made a large part of her life's work the active engagement and involvement of parents in our public schools. To that end, this wife and mother has served as PTA president, District School Advisory Council chair and the author of the training manual for our School Advisory Councils.

We are the son that grew up near and graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and knew early on that education was the key. This son would go on to graduate with honors from the University of Florida College of Law and earn the reputation as one of the sharpest legal minds in the State of Florida. This son would become an advocate for the equitable and adequate funding of public schools in our state and would have three beautiful daughters, one of whom would become a public school teacher.

We are the great-granddaughter, who stands before you today some 108 years after her great grandfather would encourage/challenge then Mayor Duncan Fletcher to treat our city's colored citizens with dignity, respect and equitable treatment. This great-granddaughter is a product of our desegregated public schools and a graduate of Jean Ribault High School (when it was a model school), Grambling State University and the University of Florida College of Law. This great-granddaughter, grand daughter, daughter, niece, wife and mother is the legacy of a family that places a premium on education and lives by the motto that with an education, anything is possible and without it, almost nothing is certain.

So, now you know who we are and who you elected.

Conversely, it is no way that anyone but our electorate would bring together such an eclectic, diverse, passionate and committed group of people to be their voice on the Duval County School Board.

When the people exercise their power through the voting booth, we are at our best. It

was with this in mind that the framers of our state's constitution memorialized the importance of public education by stating that: The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education and for the establishment, maintenance and operation of institutions of higher learning and other public education programs that the needs of the people may require.

To ensure the peoples' voice in establishing that the education of children is a fundamental value, our state statute reads, "members of the School Board shall be elected from one of seven School Board districts..." Why is this important and what does it matter? If the education of children is to truly be a fundamental value, these values must be shared by members of our community and they must have a voice in this process. Members of the community express their voice, hence their values, through our elected process. It is further through this process, this elected process, that members of our community make real and tangible for them exactly what our states' constitutional provision regarding the fundamental, paramount and adequacy of education means to them.

These beliefs in the transformative aspects of education in an individual's life and in the quality of life of our city are not some ephemeral concept or merely theoretical exercise. This belief should not and is not something to try, play or experiment with because the cost to our city as a whole and our citizens as individuals, is too high. If the citizen's right to vote for their school board members is denied, their voice is not only marginalized, but actually muted. Then, how will we know what matters most to our community when it comes to education? How will we understand the needs of the single parent who needs help with her child's reading, or the overburdened grandmother that thinks that school has changed so much from when her kids were attending that she doesn't know where to begin with her grandchildren (the very grandchildren that she never imagined she would have to rear), or the father that just wants his son to have it better than he has it, or the employer that says that our students are not coming prepared for the specific demands of local industry, or the student that learns differently and as a consequence, doesn't quite fit in?

I'll tell you how we know. It is because we see them in the grocery store, or at the gas station, at PTA meetings or SAC meetings, in the church or synagogue or mosque, at the park or in the school, at the Jaguar games or at the jail. As elected board members, we live with the people, interact with the people, and are responsive to the people. We are responsive in real time based on real needs that are often diverse and potentially divisive. We deal with issues and live each day with the consequences of our actions, all the while, recognizing the sacred trust that the electorate has placed in each of us.

Should this power, the power that flows from this fundamental value, be in the hands of one person, one mayor? Should the citizenry be denied the right to control approximately \$2 billion dollars of their taxes (the approximate amount of the school district's budget) and that authority be given to the mayor? Or should the citizenry

continue to exercise its voice through its elected school board members and tell us how they want their tax dollars spent and what their priorities or fundamental values in education are?

I answer that question that the power and the vote belongs with and to the people, all of the people here in our county, whether on the northside, southside or westside, at the beaches, Baldwin, whether female or male, whether African American, White, Latino, Asian or multiracial, whether rich, poor or stuck somewhere in between.

Our county's greatest strength is our diversity and the empowering ideas that come when we both celebrate and encourage diversity. There is no better manifestation of the impact of diversity on our democracy than when our citizens use their vote as their voice. Let's not take that away.

## 2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes:

For a number of months now, we've had a committee of administrators, teachers, representatives from Duval Teachers United and others, some of our community partners have been looking at originally the guidelines and now the application for a state level Race To The Top (RTTT) grant. This grant potentially to the state would be anywhere between \$700-\$800 million dollars and the state will have to submit this around January 18 and then provide specific plans by the middle of the summer. Our Board had an opportunity to meet with Commissioner Eric Smith and Chancellor Frances Haithcock last evening to ask some very pertinent and appropriate questions. Also present, were Terrie Brady, representing DTU, and the reason I mention that is on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that we'll have to make a determination by the 12th of this month as to whether or not we sign it, it has three signatures...Board Chairman, Superintendent and the President of Duval Teachers United.

A couple of the questions that were asked the Commissioner in order to clarify whether or not we would move forward, develop a plan and submit it in the middle of the summer. The first and foremost had to do with how much time we're going to have in order to turn around our lower performing schools. As many of you know, we've made dramatic changes in these schools, not only in terms of the principalship, the teachers by looking at the data in terms of which teachers had moved the student achievement significantly and, therefore, would remain recruiting additional teachers, looking at the assistant principals, guidance counselors and the entire staff to make sure we're putting together the strongest team possible. Then, with significant support in coaching and professional development and extra time together that was provided by the school district to the tune of millions and millions of dollars. We think we have a plan in place that is working and our data is indicating that we are making progress. Obviously, we'll need to have that confirmed by the FCAT testing that takes place in February and March and the results in which we'll see in May and June.

We're very concerned there may be an attempt to "pull up by the roots" these efforts and not give them an opportunity to fully take hold and have the progress we intend to have and to do another kind of "fruit basket" turnover of principal and teachers and potentially even going to an outside organization in order to run these schools. Our biggest concern is our high schools. We have a strong record of success with our elementary and middle school in turning them around, but like the rest of the state, our high schools are the biggest challenge because the way high schools are graded in the state of Florida. In fact, if you look at the lowest 5% of the schools in the state of Florida, almost half of them are high schools whereas they only represent about 25% of the schools in the state of Florida. They, also, are the most difficult to turn around because students have been in situations longer, many overage, and so being able to equip them with skills necessary to be able to graduate with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in the work place and in future education endeavors, it's a tremendous effort in order to make up for lost time at the high school level. We ask specifically whether or not we would have 3-4 years, assuming we are making progress, and the big question is "How much progress is enough progress?" If we'd have 3-4 years in order to bring our lower performing high schools up to a "C" level, at least, which is a minimal requirement to get out from underneath the Differentiated Accountability model developed by the state and approved in this past legislature. I think we have some answers to this, however, not quite as specific as the Board might have liked in terms of some guarantees and assurances. The Commissioner did indicate that they would look at each school, on a case-by-case basis, and if significant progress were being made, they would not disrupt that because they know full well the challenge of moving high-need high schools. Again, I think we got some response but, perhaps, not as specific as we needed.

The second question we had that with the application itself, it would require us to use a specific model of transformation within at least half of our 11 schools that were identified as within the lowest 5%. That was a concern in terms of what that meant; how that would look like if we had already done some efforts; how would that dove-tail and how would that be interpreted by the Department of Education in the RTTT grant.

The third question had to do with funding. As we looked at the cost, our best estimate and it is our best estimate at this point, would cost \$70 million dollars a year to implement the RTTT program. We currently are investing about \$46 million dollars in these efforts, so, one of the things the state has wanted districts to look at is how have you realigned your resources to fulfill the kinds of requirements in the RTTT effort? Our district had done a substantial effort in terms of funding the kinds of programs whether it be professional development, performance pay, not only for all teachers but, specifically, for teachers who are taking on the more challenging jobs and on and on and on in terms of the kinds of investments our district has made in order to improve our schools. That leaves approximately \$24 million dollars a year and we anticipate receiving about \$7.5 million dollars a year which would leave us about \$15-\$16 million dollars short per year. We did have some positive conversation with the Commissioner on that and he did indicate that he would not anticipate that any district would submit a plan that costs the district beyond what they are currently investing with the addition of the additional resources that we would get through this grant process. So, that was a very positive thing in terms of our concerns that if we submitted this, we'd have to come out of our Operating budget that would be very short next year. In fact, we'd

have to cut significantly in programs and staff in order to fund this. So, I think we did get a positive affirm of answers and, again, the details when we create that plan to be within the revenue available.

The third area had to do with what happens after four years...after four years of funding, again, ballpark \$7.5 million dollars a per year x 4 which would total \$30 million dollars. What happens when those 4 years are up? The state portion of the money, which is half of it, the state would be required to either cover those costs or no longer have those costs. The 50% that comes to the districts would be up to the districts to find out a way to bridge that gap while continuing some of the efforts. That, obviously, will be a challenge even if the economy is recovering by that time.

Another question had to do an exception that was in the grant that one of our other larger urban districts was able to use 40% instead of 50% of the evaluation of teachers, principals, and principals' supervisors from student learning gains on assessments. So, we asked could we also have a threshold of 40% if we so chose and there seemed to be some openness on that. In addition, there are some questions from DTU and the Board also had question on and at what degree is this MOU binding? We were told verbally, it boils down to in good faith, come up with a plan, if possible, however, there are still some questions from our legal counsel and DTU and we are supposed to be getting something in writing from the Department of Education's counsel about what-to-what degree in the MOU that we might submit would be binding. Other areas that DTU had questions about and also shared by the Board were to what degree if we have counter requirements under current state law and the RTTT grant...which one of them wins? And, the Commissioner also indicated that they would make every effort to work with us in terms of clarifying that and making sure we only had one set of guidance and requirements as those are combined. Another question was if we did not submit the MOU, would we qualify for some other follow-up funding that's going to be available? One of which is called the "I-3" which is an innovation grant where the district submits directly to the federal Department of Education and the other is called "School Improvement" grants which would come about \$500,000 a year to our highest needs schools. It was indicated that we would not be penalized should we not go forward with the MOU with these follow-up fundings. There was a question as to whether or not there has been some discussion within DOE staff as to specific schools within Duval County that there might be a purpose to turn them over in short order to an outside organization, be that a charter or Educational Management Organization and the Commissioner indicated that "no" there was no such plan and those rumors were not correct.

So, that kind of summarizes the kind of questions we had and I think it was an excellent give and take of information. There will be more discussion between now and next Tuesday. We will have a Special Board Meeting at 12:30 p.m. in order to determine whether or not there is support from the Board level, to sign the MOU and also, whether or not by that time, DTU will join us with that or not. Clearly, I think the direction of the Board is that we want this to be a collaborative effort and we'll not go forward without the support of the teacher's union. These are very difficult things to create. Our district is further along than any other district in the state of Florida in compensating teachers based on student performance. Mrs. Brady and I started the first plan over a decade ago in Duval County and at that time, it was really groundbreaking because we didn't have any up front money for teachers to go to our

low performing schools. It was only based on whether or not they helped students learn at very high levels, were they compensated at the end of the year. So, we've had a long history of these and we know the very great possibilities this creates and we also know the challenges it creates. I think we're going into this with our eyes wide open, perhaps, more so than any district in the state in recognizing the opportunities but also asking the very appropriate questions that we want to have answered prior to moving forward. That completes my report, Madam Chairman.

## Reports

### [1. OPERATIONS REPORT - MR. DOUG AYARS](#)

#### Minutes:

This Thursday, January 7, there's a big give-away at the Teachers Supply Depot and everyone has been notified. There's a lot of good and productive material to help the teachers in the classroom. This is a very successful venture with Larry McDonald's team, Chris Buckley and the many volunteers. That will be a big event on Thursday.

This Saturday, January 9, at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds from 11:00-3:00, will be Magnet Mania and that is our annual event. It's not just magnet programs as it includes career academies, acceleration programs and our charter schools. A part of what we do is a mail out every year with every student from kindergarten through 10th grade in Duval County schools, receives an application and a package in the mail. Our website also has plenty of information and in addition to that, we also run advertisements on the radio, billboards and flyers. We really try to saturate the air with those who are interested in school choice.

#### Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Chairman  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

### [2. ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT - MS. PAT WILLIS](#)

#### Minutes:

By Tony Bellamy, Executive Director, High Schools, Cluster 3:

Tonight, I will give the Turnaround School update on behalf of Elementary, Middle and High Schools.

In the area of Instructional Vacancies, we have spoken with principals to identify any vacancies that might have occurred over the break and we are currently working with our Human Resource Department to fill these positions as soon as possible.

As we returned this week, Executive Directors and Chiefs have begun visiting schools, meeting with principals and leadership teams discussing their mid-year benchmark assessment results.

Based on these results, we have asked for schools to strategically and intentionally narrow the focus by developing what is called a 30/20/10 day plan outlining what will happen academically for students, 30 days prior to the state assessment, 20 days and then 10 days. We want to make sure schools keep their focus and their efforts on motivating and encouraging students to do their very BEST.

We have also had an opportunity meet with the State Department of Education Regional Director, Ms. Mousa to discuss that focus, outline our specific strategies to address our targeted students and review state recommended action steps.

As Mrs. Willis previously stated, the Florida Assessment for Instruction in Reading (which is called F.A.I.R.) is currently being administered and the deadline date for completion is January 22, 2010. However, after a preliminary analysis of Math and Science mid-year benchmark results, the following trends have been identified for Elementary, Middle and High Schools:

On the Elementary Level:

The data indicated that out of the 14 Turnaround Elementary schools and 1 charter school that all schools have shown a considerable increase in math and science. Some schools showed between a 10 and 15 percentage point gain from the September assessment to the December assessment. Science continues to be a focus point for elementary as the math scores were somewhat higher. However, no school showed a decline in scores.

On the Middle School Level:

The data indicated that out of the 5 Turnaround Middle schools, 1 K-8 and 1 charter school that all schools showed increases again in the areas of Math and Science. It appears that we will continue working in the area of Science as we prepare for the upcoming state assessment for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. However, no school showed a decline in scores.

Finally on the High School Level:

The data indicated that out of the 9 Turnaround High Schools most 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders showed considerable improvement in scores in the areas of Math and Science. Again, schools will continue to work closely with our Science department in preparing our 11<sup>th</sup> graders for the state assessment. Overall, we are showing improvement and growth and feel that schools are making progress in the right direction.

\*After all schools have compiled their results; copies of these data sets will be placed in the Turnaround School Monthly Report for December and will be submitted to the board for review.

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 5, 2010, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the January 5, 2010, Agenda as submitted on December 21, 2009, with the following changes:

Presentations - Item 5 - Fred Schultz  
Recognition - Added Item Board Members - PASS  
Travel - Revised Agenda Item Superintendent's  
Travel - Revised Agenda Item Human Resource  
Services - Professional Standards - Item 1 -  
Suspensions Without Pay - Withdrawn

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Minutes:

November 23, 2009 - Special Board Meeting  
December 7, 2009 - Regular Board Meeting  
December 8, 2009 - Board Workshop  
December 8, 2009 - Special Meeting - Board Audit Committee

December 8, 2009 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing  
December 16, 2009 - Special Board Meeting  
December 16, 2009 - Duval County School Board Leasing Corporation Meeting

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Minutes for the Meetings listed in the Agenda Item. November 23, 2009 - Special Meeting December 7, 2009 - Regular Board Meeting December 8, 2009 - Board Workshop December 8, 2009 - Special Meeting - Board Audit Committee December 8, 2009 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion December 16, 2009 - Special Meeting December 16, 2009 - Duval County School Board Leasing Corporation Meeting - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:

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

#### Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Nancy Broner

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

## Consent Agenda

### Academic Services

#### 1. PURCHASE OF ACHIEVE 3000 "TEEN BIZ" WEB-BASED LITERACY SOLUTIONS

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Achieve 3000.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Priestly Jackson said Academic Services, Items 1-5 have been pulled for discussion. Mrs. Burney has made a request to address all items at once.

Mrs. Burney said that she recognizes the only thing standing between the Public Hearing is me so I'll make my questions very brief. Ms. LeRoy has been very gracious to pull information regarding purchasing so many new programs for Academic Services:

- (1) Purchase of Achieve 3000 "Teen Biz"
- (2) Purchase of Successmaker from Pearson
- (3) Purchase of Software Licenses for Gizmos
- (4) Purchase Step Up to Writing
- (5) Purchase SAT and ACT Materials and Licenses from Kaplan

I just felt in the public's interest, because we are fiducially responsible, that we need to explain to the public what these items are and briefly, some of the results that you found and why we're using these in Duval County Public

Schools.

Speaker:

Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academic Services

## 2. PURCHASE OF SUCCESSMAKER FROM PEARSON

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges SuccessMaker.pdf](#)

## 3. PURCHASE OF SOFTWARE LICENSES FOR GIZMOS

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Gizmos January 2010.pdf](#)

## 4. PURCHASE STEP UP TO WRITING

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Step Up to Writing.pdf](#)

## 5. PURCHASE SAT AND ACT MATERIALS AND LICENSES FROM KAPLAN

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Kaplan-ACT and SAT.pdf](#)

## 6. PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Mentoring Month.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Item Mentor Month Proclamation.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

### 1. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

Attachment: [HRS Attach 01-05-10 TRANS.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

### 1. DUVAL TEACHERS UNITED SETTLEMENT - TEACHERS

Attachment: [HRS Attach AB 0910 annual.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 01-05-10 Final Teacher TAs.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach TP 0910.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach TA 0910 annual.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach AC 0910 annual.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach TJ 0910 annual.pdf](#)

### 2. DUVAL TEACHERS UNITED SETTLEMENT - PARAPROFESSIONALS

Attachment: [HRS Attach Para 0910.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 01-05-10 Final Para TAs.pdf](#)

[3. DUVAL TEACHERS UNITED SETTLEMENT - UNITED OFFICE PERSONNEL OF DUVAL \(UOPD\)](#)

Attachment: [HRS\\_Attach\\_UA\\_0910.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [HRS\\_Attach\\_01-05-10\\_Final\\_UOPD\\_TAs.pdf](#)

[4. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES](#)

Attachment: [HRS\\_Attach\\_MA\\_0910.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [HRS\\_Attach\\_01-05-10\\_Final\\_Maint\\_TAs.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[1. SUSPENSIONS WITHOUT PAY - WITHDRAWN](#)

Attachment: [HRS\\_Attach\\_01-05-10\\_susp.pdf](#)

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [Master October 2009 Final Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

[2. APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR DISTRICT AND SCHOOL STAFF](#)

Attachment: [Academics January Board out-of-state travel.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [HR January Board out-of-state travel.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [OPS January Board out-of-state travel.pdf](#)

[3. APPROVE EXPENDITURES FOR MOBILE WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES, STIPENDS AND OR SERVICE](#)

Attachment: [aircards for january board .pdf](#)  
Attachment: [cell phones for January board 2.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [pagers for january board.pdf](#)

[4. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS](#)

Attachment: [January 2010 Narrative.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [January Board Budget Resolutions no 3.pdf](#)

Operations - Information Technology

[1. 2010 TECHNOLOGY RETROFITS GROUP A, PHASE III \(CONSTRUCTION\) DOCUMENTS - TP-99850-64,128,162,222](#)

Attachment: [Benefits agenda Jan10 Phase3.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

1. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FROM PARK PROPERTIES, INC. FOR SITE EXPANSION AT ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 33 (PARK PROPERTIES, INC.)

2. AGREEMENT WITH NATURAL RESOURCE INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC. TO PURCHASE OFF-SITE WETLAND MITIGATION LAND CREDITS FOR ATLANTIC COAST HIGH SCHOOL NO. 268 IN ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT DRAINAGE BASIN 6: DCPS PROJECT C-90650, AAA HIGH SCHOOL NO

Attachment: [Jan 10 B-C Agenda Item-C-90650 Atlantic Coast HS Wetlands Mitigation Credit Purchase 12-1-09.pdf](#)

Attachment: [C-90650 AAAHS Site Aerial-Wetland Preservation Areas July 2009.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

1. PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: NEW AND RENEWAL

Attachment: [For Board Approval - New 01-05-10.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES For January 5 2010.pdf](#)

Attachment: [For Board Approval - Renewal 01-05-10.pdf](#)

2. NEW CLASSROOM ADDITION AT ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 33: SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FIRM DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91400

Attachment: [C91400 Agenda Item Selection of CM Documents for Lee HS No 33 and White HS No 248.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Jan 10 B-C Agenda Item C91400 CM Selection for RE Lee HS No 33 11 30 09.pdf](#)

3. NEW CLASSROOM ADDITION AT EDWARD H. WHITE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 248: SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FIRM DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91400

Attachment: [Jan 10 B-C Agenda Item C91400 CM Selection for Ed White HS No 248 11 30 09.pdf](#)

Attachment: [C91400 Agenda Item Selection of CM Documents for Lee HS No 33 and White HS No 248.pdf](#)

4. FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS, FINAL INSPECTIONS AND RETURN OF CONTINGENCY SAVINGS AMOUNTS ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000

Attachment: [Jan 10 Agenda Item Subs Comp Final Comp for December 2009 12 17 09.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Jan 10 B-C Subs Comp Final Comp for December 2010 12 01 09.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

## 1. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [06Jan10.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [04Jan10.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [RORET FY10.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [AGENDA step BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [05Jan10.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [ROJANFY10 SUM DATA.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [07Jan10.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [January 2010.pdf](#)

## 2. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES - GSA 2

Attachment: [TABULATION SHEET GSA 2.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM GSA 2.pdf](#)

## 3. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES - GSA 4

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM GSA 4.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [TABULATION SHEET GSA 4.pdf](#)

## Discussion

### Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

#### 1.PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR BOUNDARY ESTABLISHMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL "AAA" (ATLANTIC COAST HIGH SCHOOL) #268 AND PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR SANDALWOOD HS #237, ENGLEWOOD HS, #90, DUNCAN FLETCHER HS, #223, SAMUEL W. WOLFSON HS #224, AND MANDARIN HS #260

Attachment: [Table no1 for Atlantic Coast Boundary \(2\).pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Atlantic Coast Boundary with numbers v5.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Wolfson boundary with numbers v5.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Atlantic Coast Boundary v5.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Fletcher Boundary with numbers v5 \(2\).pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Sandalwood boundary with numbers v5.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Table no2 for Atlantic Coast Boundary.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Mandarin boundary with numbers v5.pdf](#)  
Attachment: [Englewood Boundary with numbers v5.pdf](#)

#### Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Boundary establishment for High School "AAA" (Atlantic Coast High School, #268 and proposed boundary changes for Sandalwood High School, #237, Englewood High School, #90, Duncan Fletcher High School, #223, Samuel Wolfson High School,

#224, and Mandarin High School, #260

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following spoke:

Mr. Clifford Johnson stated that adopting Option 2 will hurt no one; omit these catchments as no reasons were given. Please consider Option 2.

Mr. Franklin Morgan spoke about Catchment 7 and that the opinion before you is not the best option. Option 2 is the best option to serve the students.

Ms. Randi Beesing followed up on what Mr. Morgan stated. My daughter wants to go to Fletcher High School.

Mr. Danny Becton, a property owner with two daughters ages 8 and 15; also participated in the Working Group process. We did an outstanding job for the best plan. There were no formal records kept but it was a unanimous vote. The recommendation was for Option 2.

Mr. Michael Glinski spoke about the boundaries for Atlantic Coast High School. Option 2 was the recommendation by the Working Group. Please approve Option 2.

Ms. JoAnne Morgan said I have received emails as late as this evening supporting Option 2.

Ms. Lani Freeman said I was fortunate enough to be part of the Working Group for the Boundaries Committee meeting. I have two elementary students and the thought of high school is pretty far off. Some people wanted their children to go to a particular high school but they didn't want to roll up their sleeves and do the work and it was a lot of work, too. We all had to compromise quite a bit to come to these last models that we thought would work for the community. We had to think about feeder schools and we came up with the second option because we felt that the community would talk with us. Plan B or Option 2, neither was primary and secondary. There were good, strong reasons for both plans and they each have their merits. Nothing will make everyone happy but I strongly encourage you to propose to pass and approve the boundaries.

Mr. John Meserve said it is a privilege to address an elected body and I hope is so remains. I'm the district Councilman for 13 and Atlantic Coast High School is in my district and I have an interest in it and it's a wonderful facility. I did not get involved with the Working Group during the discussions about district boundaries but I became involved after the results came out with concerns by constituents saying that we were "in" and then "out". The process you have is excellent. The process involved a lot of public input, a Working Group who gets all of the facts from staff and the Working Group does their deliberations, makes some recommendations which then go to a public hearing and public meeting. It's a good process.

I have received word that there was a consensus amongst the Working Group for one of the two options and whether that went into the public meeting, either that option was reversed or no Working Group input was given. If you're not going to give the vote to the people, the option of knowing what the Working Group has come up with after 3-4 months of deliberations, why do Working Groups? If their work is to be trashed and then the people that show up at one public meeting get to vote and they're the deciding factor until it gets to you, I think that needs to be looked at. Did the Working Group actually come to the conclusions that were portrayed by some tonight and were portrayed to me? I think that's an important questions before you make a decision. It should be easy to resurrect but you had a consultant there, Mr. Tracy Richter and his company...we ought to be able to find out before we take a vote what was the actual recommendation, if there was one...I wasn't there so I don't know...of the Working Group before you make a final decision. It's a very small boundary adjustment and not a big change to the district so I hope you'll consider that in your deliberations and I thank you.

Speakers:

Ms. Nancy Broner, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Mr. Tracy Richter, Consultant, DeJong/Richter, LLC  
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member  
Ms. Vicki Drake, Board Member  
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Brenda A. Priestly Jackson, Board Chairman

Ms. Broner said the three primary factors on making a decision are balancing the enrollment of all high schools affected, honoring, as much as we can, the feeder pattern continuity, and allowing for growth within that corridor or any...the projected demographics. Oceanway, I think it was, we projected to open at whatever number (600) and on day one, we had 1,380 students. So, we know from experience this happens. This is what frightens me. The other factor that I think is going to happen is that this is the first new high school in 20 years, it's in an area where there is a high number of kids who are in private schools; many of whom have already told me, they're coming back and we don't know what these numbers are, so in my opinion, I think we're going to see alot more kids than we're counting for, right now. I believe your projections have shown that. These are important issues. I'll made a decision that I think is right for kids, not just today, but five years from now, as best as I can given the facts that we have in front of us. To disrupt a child's educational process by having to reboundary them after we've reboundaryed them one way has proven to be very harmful to children. So, while one way I could make a decision that would make alot of adults happy, I worry that in maybe 2 years and maybe in year 1, we might have an overcrowded situation, already.

With that in mind, I would like to offer an amendment because I think before us, we need to take the most conservative vote and approach possible, given the facts we know right now and that would be for Option 1 which allows for the most growth. My amendment would be:

*"That we direct the Superintendent to re-examine the Atlantic Coast boundaries each year for the next five (5) years to attract the enrollment and projected demographic changes affecting Atlantic Coast High School, and to annually bring a report and potential recommended boundary changes forward."*

My intent is to see what happens. We've opened a number of schools that were overcrowded on day one and we just can't do that to kids, again. So, I'm going to take the more conservative approach with the hope that this is the safest for children and with that, I offer that amendment.

Mr. Hazouri seconded the amendment.

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Brenda A. Priestly Jackson, Board Chairman

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed boundary establishment for high school "AAA" (Atlantic Coast High School) #268 and proposed boundary changes for Sandalwood High School #237, Englewood High School #90, Duncan Fletcher High School #223, Samuel W. Wolfson High School #224, and Mandarin High School #260. 2. That the Duval County School Board approve the proposed boundary establishment for high school "AAA" (Atlantic Coast High School) #268 and proposed boundary changes for Sandalwood High School #237, Englewood High School #90, Duncan Fletcher High School #223, Samuel W. Wolfson High School #224, and Mandarin High School #260.

- PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake  
 Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Motions:  
 "That we direct the Superintendent to re-examine the Atlantic Coast boundaries each year for the next five (5) years to attract the enrollment and projected demographic changes affecting Atlantic Coast High School, and to annually bring a report and potential recommended boundary changes forward." - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner  
 Second: Thomas Hazouri

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for Board members:

January 30-February 3, 2010 - NSBA Federal Relations Network (FRN)  
Conference - Washington, DC - Barrett, Drake, Hazouri, Priestly Jackson

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve  
the following Board Members Travel: January 30  
- February 3, 2010 - NSBA Federal Relations - PASS  
Network Conference - Washington, DC - Barrett,  
Drake, Hazouri, Priestly Jackson

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

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

January 30-February 3, 2010 - NSBA Federal Relations Network (FRN)

Conference - Washington, DC

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for the Superintendent:  
January 30 - February 3, 2010 - NSBA Federal Relations Network Meeting - Washington, DC - PASS  
February 3-5, 2010 - Schultz Leadership Development Academies Site Visit - Atlanta, GA

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Vicki Drake mentioned that on January 28 the PTA is holding a workshop in this room on the dangers of Energy Drinks and this is something our parents really need to know about. Our kids are buying these drinks mostly at the "Mom and Pop" convenience stores and they aren't aware of what's in these energy drinks - a high amount of caffeine which is dangerous to a teenage body, but many of them contain alcohol. It's hidden in the ingredients about the alcohol and many parents and teachers

are not aware of this.

Ms. Nancy Broner offered sincere condolences to the family of Phillip Jackson, the young man and student at Sandalwood High School who passed away over the holidays while participating in a basketball tournament at Terry Parker High School. I speak on behalf of the Board to express sympathies to the family.

Ms. Betty Burney gave a special "shout out", if you will, to those students who attended the Winter Academy for Writing at Andrew Jackson and William Raines High Schools.

Ms. Martha Barrett said we're looking forward to Magnet Mania on Saturday, January 9th.

Mr. W. C. Gentry noted that since Board Member Jordan is no longer here and we have a new chairperson, the meetings move along much better.

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson said we will have the 2nd Paul Roberson Scholar Athlete Summit to be held in The Schultz Center on February 27, 8:30-2:00. I encourage all Board members to come by as it will be a wonderful day for our young people.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

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Superintendent

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Chairman