



## Duval County Public Schools

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July 15, 2014, Committee Meeting - Board Workshop - Board Audit Committee Meeting

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

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

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. COMMITTEE MEETING - AUGUST 5, 2014, DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the August 5, 2014, Draft Agenda with the Board. Discussion included the following:

- Academic Services - Item 1 - Course Recommendations - Board Member Hall requested a copy of the course description and asked for an explanation of IB Dance.
- Academic Services - Item 2 - AdvancedEd District Accreditation - Board Member Hall asked that the results of our recent SACS Accreditation Visit be posted on our website.
- Academic Services - Item 3 - Achievers for Life Program - The Superintendent shared that the 3rd party evaluation would not be available until December. The contract for the previous year did not require them to provide data on how the program was helping students achieve academic gains. All contracts going forward will contain this language and will link back to our Strategic Plan. Board Member Fischer asked about language in the agenda item on approving amendments without coming back to the Board. Dr. Vitti will add language that says non-substantive amendments can be signed off on by the Superintendent without coming back to the Board. All substantive changes will still require Board approval. Board Member Fischer asked what the total cost to the taxpayer would be for this contract. The Superintendent shared that the cost is \$500,000.00, and comes from Federal dollars. While the Board and Superintendent value all of our partners, all want to see actual data tied to contract renewals going forward. Chairman Couch asked that contracts contain a date for receipt of data. Board Member Hall asked that we are doing to beef up their delivery based on our test scores and school grades.
- Academic Services - Item 4 - Team Up Program - The Superintendent indicated that he did not have data yet for this item also, but realizes it is a good program. Their contract did not contain the requirement for data last year, but like the above item, will have language in this year's contract. Board Member Fischer asked what the total cost to taxpayers would be for this program. The Superintendent referred him to the Financial Impact section of the agenda item. Board Member Fischer asked what would be reliable data for this program. Dr. Vitti shared that it would be items such as learning gains in reading and math, increase in GPA's, and fewer discipline referrals. The Superintendent did express concerns on why we were spending district dollars on some of these types of programs. Board Member Wright shared that this program addressed the whole child and should be approved like the Achievers for Life program. She agreed that we should have data for all partners before moving forward in the future. Board Member Juarez asked for data school by school and by provider. Board Member Hall shared that over the years that Team Up has improved, and that it can no longer be business as usual with our providers. She believes we should have a clarity of mission and be more strategic, and that we should duplicate those programs that are working. All agreed that we need to have a discussion on these types of programs.
- Academic Services - Item 5 - City Year - The Superintendent should have data for this program by the end of the week and will share with the Board. Board Member Fischer asked for a breakdown on total expenditures and all dollars raised for this program.
- Academic Services - Item 6 - Wright to Learn - Chairman Couch finds it troubling that we are having to purchase a program like this for our students. Students in the 5th grade will have less than a year to prepare to take tests on the computer, and some children have never used a computer keyboard. Parents should be

encouraged to start working with their children at home on keyboarding skills. The tests will also be graded by a computer. Board Member Fischer asked what would happen if we said no to implementing tests like this until they could be administered in a fair manner. Chairman Couch shared that high performing districts were allowed to request a waiver for certain items. Board Member Juarez asked that staff look at what other counties are waiving.

- School Choice - Item 8 - Acclaim - Chairman Couch asked if they are using our reading program.
- Human Resource Services - Item 10 - Minimum Qualifications - School Choice - Dr. Vitti is recommending Ms. Pearl Roziers current position as Director of School Choice be upgraded to Assistant Superintendent level. Chairman Couch asked if he would fill the Director's position. Dr. Vitti indicated that he would not, and it would be closed and not funded. Chairman Couch asked that Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, provide language for the policy review process on how to deal with closed and dormant position.
- Human Resource Services - Item 13 - Contract Agreement with JSA - Chairman Couch asked if there are any requirements that employees stay with the District for a certain amount of time when we pay for them to be certified in their chosen fields. There is currently no language in the contracts, but the Superintendent said staff could pursue this in future contract negotiations.
- Board Member Lee arrived at 10:54 a.m.
- General - Item 25 - Employee Health Insurance Benefits - Board Member Fischer asked why there were no changes being proposed. Mr. David Ford, Director of Risk Management, explained that the plan was performing well financially, and there was no projected increase for the coming two years, and that our benefit structure is competitive with surrounding areas for governmental entities.

#### Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

## 2. BOARD WORKSHOP - QEA UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

#### Minutes:

Board Member discussion included the following:

- Board Member Juarez asked about total overall vacancies in the schools and how we are filling those vacancies. She asked why those teachers who had put in for a voluntary transfer were not being allowed to interview and be placed at the same time as those teachers who have been placed on a surplus list, since the net number of openings would be the same. The Superintendent explained that this

was due to collective bargaining agreements on how teachers are placed.

- Board Member Lee asked if it were possible that an ineffective teacher would be placed at a school, to which the Superintendent indicated that this could happen.
- Board Member Hall asked if HR had appropriate staffing to broker all of this work. The Superintendent said he and Ms. Sonita Young, Chief of Human Resource Services, have discussed this in the past.
- Chairman Couch asked if we are looking at data when placing teachers. There are no passing middle schools on the Westside right now, so you would be taking teachers from a D and F school and moving them to another D or F school. Ms. Young indicated that they are providing principals with 3 years of historical data for teachers, and encouraging principals to look at all of the candidates.
- Board Member Wright left the meeting at 11:40 a.m.
- Chairman Couch asked how many new hires had been made at transformation schools. The Superintendent indicated that none had been made so far, but they could have some before school starts.
- Chairman Couch asked if a teacher had put in for a transfer and had been accepted at another school, then the transfer was frozen, and they were replaced at their old school, what happened to that teacher. She has been contacted by a teacher in this situation who was told to clean out her classroom at her previous school. Ms. Young indicated that this should not have happened, and that if she sends her the teachers contact information, she will handle.
- Chairman Couch asked how many TFA teachers had been surplus. The Superintendent will provide that information. He stated that everyone should be placed and that we would probably need new teachers before school started.
- Chairman Couch asked how teachers would receive the bonus money. Dr. Vitti said that they were still working this out, but that the plan was to put the dollars in the District coffers and use it to pay the teachers. Chairman Couch asked who would collect the money if the teacher did not fulfill their obligation. The Superintendent said the District would collect the money.
- Board Member Juarez asked if we were charging an administrative fee to process the grant. She mentioned that JPEF charges one when handling grant dollars. Dr. Vitti indicated we did not plan to at this time. Chairman Couch asked if it needed Board approval. Dr. Vitti said he did not know and did not believe the Board had approved similar dollars for teachers in the past.
- Chairman Couch asked who set the goals for this initiative, as well as the targets and data, indicating that the Board had had very little input. Dr. Vitti said that he and staff continued to work with the QEA Board on this topic. He indicated that the donors would have certain expectations, but that if the School Board wanted different metrics through the Strategic Plan, we would need to discuss. The QEA Board is also asking for 3rd party evaluation of the initiative.
- Chairman Couch asked if the money would be part of FRS. Ms. Young shared that while this was the original desire, IRS language prohibits this from being part of retirement calculations.
- Chairman Couch said that moving forward on grants such as this, that the Board needed to be involved early on for feedback.
- Board Member Juarez asked the Superintendent to look at the payment structure and provide the Board with information. Board Member Lee said he would not be comfortable with any payroll information going outside of our purview. Board

Member Fischer agreed with Board Member Lee. He also agreed that we should be involved up front on issues such as this.

- Board Member Hall requested that a timeline be provided to the Board for this initiative.
- Chairman Couch will had the Strategic Plan update to the first Workshop in August.
- Board Member Hall asked about a marketing plan. The Superintendent shared that one had not been developed, and that the QEA Board was looking to hire an outside agency to take this on.
- Chairman Couch asked if all of this was in a written plan. The Superintendent said it was being drafted now. She asked that the Board be provided with a copy and that it should have Board approval. The Superintendent said that he would also provide both the QEA Board and the School Board with quarterly updates.

The Board broke for lunch at 12:07p.m.

#### Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member

### 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE - BOARD AUDITOR EVALUATION

#### Minutes:

The Board reconvened at 12:33 p.m. Board Chairman Couch, and Members Lee, Hall, and Fischer were present.

Chairman Couch distributed targets for the Board Internal Auditor, Michelle Begley. She explained that Ms. Begley did not have an evaluation on file for the past few years. She prepared one as Chairman for a mid-year evaluation. She also developed a set of targets with Ms. Begley. The Chairman will share these targets with Ms. Young in HR. Ms. Begley mentioned that the problem in the past might have been that the evaluation form is distributed to Division Chiefs, who in turn distribute to other employees. Since she reports to the Board, no one received the form for her. This year, Ms. Young sent a copy to Ms. Begley. Board Member Hall suggested it be added to the Management Oversight calendar. Board Member Lee agreed, suggesting it be added to the Board Audit Oversight portion of the calendar.

Board Member Wright returned to the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

The Chairman will add the mid year and final evaluation to the calendar.

The Board discussed the need to develop an evaluation tool more suited to the Board Internal Auditor duties. After discussion, it was agreed that the current form and targets would be used for this year's final evaluation. The Board will then discuss a the evaluation form and develop targets for the coming year.

Chairman Couch will request that the Superintendent and staff keep Ms. Begley updated on any and all audits for the District. That would include notifying her when the audit begins, when it concludes, and providing her with a copy of the findings/report. After she reviews the findings, if she has any questions, she would request clarification from the Superintendent and staff, and if her concerns are not resolved, she would notify the Board.

Board Member Juarez returned to the meeting at 12:49 p.m.

Board Member Lee suggested there be a repository for all audits.

Chairman Couch asked that Policy 7.60 be part of the Policy Review Committee meeting next week for possible amendments to include some of the items discussed today.

It was agreed that the Chairman would draft an evaluation for Ms. Begley and share with the Board, who will provide input. This will be added to a workshop for finalizing. This will be coordinated with the due date for evaluations to be submitted to HR. The results will then be tabulated and provided to Ms. Begley and HR. The Chairman will share evaluation instruments from other districts with the Board. Ms. Begley will update and share a chart from November 2013, showing staffing in other districts. She will also provide the Board with an updated Audit calendar.

Chairman Couch stated that Ms. Begley had been in this position for 6 years, and has never moved up on the salary schedule. Other Executive Directors who work for the Superintendent have been moved up on the salary schedule, and some new hires have come in on levels higher than Ms. Begley. She is the 2nd lowest paid Executive Director on staff. The Board agreed that this should be discussed at the time of her final evaluation.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
Ms. Michelle Begley, Board Internal Auditor  
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

[4. AUDIT COMMITTEE - REPEAT AUDIT FINDINGS - UPDATE](#)

Minutes:

The Board took a break at 1:26 pm, and reconvened at 1:37 p.m.

Chairman Couch, and Board Members Juarez, Fischer, and Wright, were present.

The Board and Superintendent discussed repeat Audit Findings from the 2012-2013 Audit. Discussion included the following:

- Finding 04 - leave forms - Dr. Vitti indicated we would be implementing some type of sign in system at schools and in the district to show that you are at work.
- Finding 07 - P Cards - The Superintendent shared that they are cutting back on the number of P cards being issued at schools and at the district level. Another area of concern was not terminating cards for employees who have left the district.
- Finding 09 - Schultz Center - Enhanced procedures for monitoring reimbursements to the Schultz Center. Dr. Vitti indicated that the Board was aware of this issue and that staff is working with the Schultz Center to determine if a reimbursement is due the school system. A meeting is scheduled for the end of July.
- Board Member Lee returned to the meeting at 1:40 p.m.
- Finding 09 - Schultz Center - Continued - The Chairman asked Michelle Begley, Board Internal Auditor, to share her involvement with the Board. Ms. Begley indicated that she has dealt with Schultz Center issues since she came on board, and that she had made several recommendations about 5 years ago, and that some had been implemented and some had not been implemented. She shared that this was a complicated contract and not easy to monitor.
- Board Member Hall returned to the meeting at 1:52 p.m.
- Finding 09 - Schultz Center - Continued - Staff shared that they are also working on obtaining invoices and agendas for meetings where the food costs and been questioned.
- Finding 011 - Insurance for Charter Schools - Chairman Couch asked if there were any incentive for Charter schools to comply with this section of the contract. Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, shared that this was a monitoring issue on our part. When staff visits the school, they are to look at, and get a copy of, all insurance compliance documents. When the auditors would check and the documents are not in the district file, and they would call the charter school and obtain a copy, that would show them we did not obtain a copy for our files.
- Finding 012 - Covered Walkways for Portables - Mr. Paul Soares, Chief of Operations, shared that this would always be a finding because we do not have enough money to install covered walkways for all portables. We currently utilize 561 portables. Ideally you would only use a portable for 3 years at a school, however, this is not always the case. Board Member Juarez asked how we prioritized the walkways we are able to install. Mr. Soares said that it would be K-5 and ESE. Chairman Couch asked if Charter Schools had to comply. Mr. Soares indicated that they did not have to comply with SREF. Board Member Wright suggested we add this item to our Legislative platform for the coming year. Board Member Juarez asked that the Board be provided with the priority system and how they are evaluated, along with information on current funding.

- Findings 015, 016, 017, and 018 - IT Issues - Mr. Jim Culbert, Director of Information Technology, addressed these issues. The SAP concern was that when staff moved around the district, their old roles were not removed, but new roles were added. Therefore, some people had access to areas that they no longer required for their current positions. This has been addressed and now roles are tied to position codes. The IT security control issue has been addressed with the adoption of a new policy. The IT security program concern was also addressed by taking a plan to the Board for approval. For the disaster recovery finding, an outside company was hired and a plan is now in place.
- Chairman Couch asked about the following findings:
  - Finding 01 - Employee Compensation - Dr. Vitti indicated we are no longer the fiscal agent for this item. Board Member Wright asked about retro pay for ROTC. Dr. Vitti said it would be taken care of.
  - Finding 010 - Facility Contracted Services - Chairman Couch indicated this had been discussed in the Policy Review Committee meetings. Dr. Vitti said this was probably the EMTEC agreement, and that now all contracts had to go through Karen Chastain and the Superintendent. Board Member Hall asked if there had been training for staff on handling change orders. The Superintendent said that none had been provided specific to P Cards.
  - Finding 013 - Controls for Facilities Construction and Maintenance Activities - Mr. Soares shared that this talked about working with construction management and having a documented approach. Staff found industry benchmarks to compare to and that staff is developing procedures.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
 Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
 Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
 Ms. Michelle Begley, Board Internal Auditor  
 Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services  
 Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
 Mr. Paul Soares, Chief of Operations  
 Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
 Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
 Mr. Jim Culbert, Director of Information Technology  
 Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

[5. AUDIT COMMITTEE - AUDIT LITIGATION UPDATE & HOW TO IMPROVE RISK MANAGEMENT](#)

Minutes:

Mr. David Ford, Director of Risk Management, and Ms. Sonita Young, Chief of Human Resource Services, provided the Board with an update. A copy of the document is attached to the Minutes. Areas covered included the following:

- Risk Management Information System

- AED/CPR
- Comprehensive Safety Program Manual
- Facility and Playground Inspections
- School Safety and Security Assessments/Code Red Inspections
- Training Regarding Ethics and Professionalism
- On-line Job Specific Safety Training Program
- Provide Schools with Historical Losses
- Placing Comprehensive Safety program Manual on SharePoint

Discussion included the following:

- Chairman Couch asked if there were any prevention incentives. Mr. Ford said not at this time, but we can look at this area to see what we are allowed to provide.
- Chairman Couch asked if there was adequate staff to handle all of this. Ms. Young said that was always an issue.
- Chairman Couch asked if we trained staff on safety. Mr. Ford said that the Maintenance Department has done this in the past. The new on line program will be provided to all employees.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
 Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
 Mr. David Ford, Director, Risk Management  
 Ms. Sonita Young, Chief of Human Resource Services  
 Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
 Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
 Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
 Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
 Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

[6. AUDIT COMMITTEE - BUDGET UPDATE](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed a list of proposals for use of additional General Revenue funds. A copy is attached to the Minutes.

- Laptop Carts for 5th - 11th grade classrooms - \$2,000,000 - This would be for enhancements based on need. Board Member Lee requested a list of what is being provided to schools from other funds, as well as for this recommendation. Board Member Wright asked what we were doing in the area of keyboarding skills. Dr. Vitti indicated that he would ask Jim Culbert and Andrew Post to revisit this topic.
- Board Member Juarez asked for an accounting on where the funds on this page came from - both at the school level and the district.
- Chairman Couch reminded the Board that they had balanced the budget using

\$1.9 million in lapsed salaries. She suggested that we take that amount from this pot of money and use it to fund 8th period. Consensus was yes on this item.

- Dr. Vitti recommended that we use \$5,250,000 for a full implementation model for the Lowest 300. This would be at 40 elementary schools. It will have to be negotiated. Board Member Juarez asked if this amount included transportation. Dr. Vitti said it did. He also indicated that there were about 11 elementary schools not on this list that are in jeopardy, and he would like to add them for about \$2,000,000. Board Member Lee agreed. Board Member Lee asked if we were spending a lot of money and wasting an hour. The Superintendent said we had no choice for the 40 schools, as it is required by the State. Chairman Couch asked what would happen if we did not implement the additional hour. Board Member Hall asked who owned the 40 schools. Dr. Vitti indicated that the Regional Superintendents owned them.
- Dr. Vitti said another area was tutoring and recommended \$1,250,000, which would be shared by all of the schools in the district. Board Members would like to see more money spent in this area. The Superintendent will provide the Board with a chart showing how much was going to each school - it is about \$10 a student, and will look at increasing the amount. Board Member Fischer asked if Charter schools would receive some of this money. Dr. Vitti said no.
- Dr. Vitti recommended \$570,000 for Dual Enrollment textbooks for next year, and \$1,710,000 in a Trust for the following 3 years. Chairman Couch asked how many of the books collected from last year were reusable, as the MOU states that we can use the books for 3 years. Mr. Andrew Post, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Assessment, indicated that a lot of the books returned were not usable because they had been written in and were in bad condition. Chairman Couch asked if we had looked at renting books. Mr. Post said not yet. Board Member Wright asked why our students would return the books to FSCJ and not to the school system. Mr. Post will look for the books and provide the Board with an inventory. The consensus was to move forward with this item.
- Dr. Vitti recommended \$1,000,00 for stipends.
- Board Member Fischer suggested we take \$5,000,000 and do an additional 40 schools.
- Board Member Hall said we need to look at middle schools also.
- Chairman Couch asked that we look at the \$1.9 million for high school math books. Dr. Vitti shared that ordering now would mean a late delivery, and that curriculum guides had already been written for the coming year. After discussion, the consensus was to order these in the Spring.
- Board Member Wright asked that we look at Early College transportation.
- Dr. Vitti shared that the prior period funding would be \$4.8 million instead of the projected \$2 million, and recommended we put the \$2.8 million in reserves.
- Board Member Lee left the meeting at 4:29 p.m.
- Board Member Juarez asked about a part time technology person for the schools. Dr. Vitti will look at this, but reminded the Board that these are one time dollars.
- Chairman Couch asked about the additional 11 schools discussed above and suggested we do the blended model instead of the full model. Dr. Vitti will look at this area.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
Mr. Andrew Post, Assistant Superintendent, Accountability and Assessment  
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

## 7. BOARD WORKSHOP - SCHOOL GRADES

Minutes:

The recent school grades were discussed. Comments included:

- Dr. Vitti said that when you look at the elementary area, the biggest impact was writing. This was where we had the most amount of loss. Other areas were mostly flat - gains in some and loss in some.
- Board Member Juarez asked what strategies we are using to support schools that are stagnating or declining. Dr. Vitti said we had already looked at the 36 schools and made principal changes where needed and would be looking at teacher changes next.
- Board Member Juarez suggested we look at building up the community partnerships.
- Chairman Couch asked the Superintendent to provide the Board with a written plan. Board Members can submit suggestions to the Superintendent, such as the above suggestion regarding community partners. The Chairman indicated she had already given the Superintendent her suggestions for a corrective action plan.
- Dr. Vitti asked if the Board would be more comfortable if we went outside for development of an assessment. Chairman Couch said she just wanted to be able to compare one year to the next. Dr. Hall said that this was Dr. Vitti's area of expertise and that he needed to fix it, and that we need the right tools to assess students.
- Board Member Fischer suggested we look at what assessments other large districts in Florida are using to give predictive data along the way.
- Board Member Wright said she was interested in what happened. Dr. Vitti had a year and a half and it should have been a better year. There were no changes last year. She asked how he saw the impact of the changes made mid year. She would also like information on how the TFA members performed, and requested a breakdown for high schools. Ms. Wright also asked for a 3 year comparison for the Chiefs and how they performed as principals. The Superintendent indicated that there may be more changes at the school and District level in terms of personnel in the next few weeks.
- Board Member Juarez asked that he add to the above request an existing breakdown on how the system was organized in 2013-2014 and line it up with how it looks for 2014-2015, and connected to grades.
- Chairman Couch shared that for the Westside and Northside schools, we will have

to offer Opportunity Scholarships for all of the schools. She asked if we had a plan on where to place these students. With the exception of Westside High School, Baldwin Middle-High, and Oceanway Middle, all of the schools will be eligible. Dr. Vitti indicated they were looking at this now.

- Chairman Couch asked what a district managed turnaround school meant. Dr. Vitti explained and said that Northwestern and Hyde Grove may have to participate. He will contact the State about these two schools. He would not recommend changing either principal at this time, however, he may consider a change at Hyde Grove.
- Board Member Wright left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Board Member Juarez asked the Superintendent to share with those present a grant opportunity to work with KIPP. Dr. Vitti said that the State is offering 7 large districts an opportunity to apply for \$10,000 in seed money to work with KIPP. The money would go to write a proposal to apply for a \$2-3 million grant, and for the opportunity for Board members and staff to visit a district managed KIPP school in Houston, Texas. Board Members Juarez and Fischer were in favor of applying. Chairman Couch was ok applying for the \$10,000 in seed money, but felt the entire Board should be part of the decision on applying for the \$2-3 million grant. She does not agree to handing over our schools to a private company to run. Board Member Hall stated that KIPP learned from Rutledge Pearson, and is not comfortable pursuing either grant at this time. Chairman Couch stated that she was aware that KIPP was interested in schools on the Northside of town, and if that was the intent, she is not interested in either grant. She also does not want an MOU entered into without Board knowledge, as it was with QEA. The Chairman asked that the Superintendent send information to the entire Board before going forward.

#### Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent  
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member  
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member  
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

#### Adjournment

#### ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 5:31 p.m.

BSC

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Superintendent

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Chairman