



E-AGENDA MANAGER

## Duval County Public Schools

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July 19, 2016, Board Workshop and Committee Meeting

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

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

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Public Comment

[PUBLIC COMMENT](#)

Minutes: There were no public comments during this meeting.

Items To Be Discussed

[DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - AUGUST 2, 2016](#)

Attachment: [Literacy Math Science Plan PPT.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Draft Legislation.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the August 2, 2016, Draft agenda with the Board. Discussion included the following:

Renewal of Agreement with Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce

- The Superintendent will increase the 2016-2017 End of Year Scoring Grid to 95% to maintain/improve school attendance, maintain/improve classroom behavior and promotion to the next grade level.
- Mentored Seniors graduation rate will increase to 100%.
- The Superintendent will update the Board with how many teachers participated in the externship and how many completed the survey.
- The Superintendent will increase the postsecondary plan to 100% for seniors.

Continuation Agreement with the Jacksonville Children's Commission for the 2016-2017 Team Up Program

- The Superintendent stated that penalties assessed for less than 90% attendance will depend on the subcontractor and their contract.
- Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, will follow-up with the contractor regarding participation in surveys for principals, students and teachers.
- Board Member Couch would like a follow-up to improve the attendance target at the schools who did not meet the target of 90%.
- The Superintendent will follow-up on the support given to the schools that did not meet their objectives in Objective 1 and Objective 8.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University - Dual Enrollment Fees (2016-2017)

- Board Member Grymes expressed how she loves the program.
- The Superintendent will include in the chart the Performance and Percent Passed in the previous outcomes section of the agenda item.
- Board Member Hall would like strategic abandonment added to the topics for Governance.
- Pitsco labs and First Lego League have been used to help feed middle school students into the high school program. All middle schools do not have a Pitsco lab but will participate in the First Lego League.
- Vice-Chairman Wright initiated a Board Member Request for all middle schools that feed into the program that have a Pitsco lab. The Superintendent stated Ribault, First Coast, Jackson, Raines and Englewood Middle Schools have a Pitsco lab.

#### Dual Enrollment Textbooks Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

- Students are being tracked beyond dual enrollment. There is data for Early College.
- Textbooks are reused as much as possible. There is a textbook refresh every three years.

#### Florida State College Tuition - Dual Enrollment Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

- There is a drop date available for students who are not on track academically to pass the course. Students are encouraged to withdraw at that point.
- The Superintendent will follow-up with reimbursement of tuition if a student withdraws.
- Students are supported throughout the school year with the courses. Nothing is done differently if the student fails the course.

#### Amendment to the Agreement between Duval County Public Schools and Jacksonville University for Speech and Language Services

- Board Member Grymes expressed how this is a great partnership.
- The Superintendent will include the cost for the agreement last year in the agenda item.
- The Superintendent will send a follow-up for students who were behind during the beginning of the school year who were receiving speech services.
- Mason Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, will send a list of the graduates who have been hired by the district to the Board.

#### Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership - Agreement to Use

- The relationship with the Schultz Center is exclusive to the use of the building for professional development.

#### First Amendment to the Charter Contract with School for Accelerated Learning and Technologies, Inc.

- The Superintendent will follow-up with data for the graduation rate and completion credits.

#### Waiver of School Board Policy 6.32 - Teaching Out of Field

- Board approval of the agenda item would result in zero terminations. If the policy is not waived, 100 teachers will be terminated.
- Sonita Young, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, stated an agenda item will be recommended this year to change the policy so there is not a waiver of the policy every year.

#### Lease with Option to Purchase Agreement with Edward Waters College for

the James Weldon Johnson ACT Center No. 54

- Karen Chastain stated the present negotiated contract is a lease with the option to purchase and the lease defines the permitted use of the building and does not allow a charter school. The language carries over if they purchase a restricted covenant in the deed with a reverter clause and, if it is breeched, the property reverts back to the district.
- Vice-Chairman Wright had concerns. She requested the appraisal and only received a one pager and not the full appraisal with details.
- Vice-Chairman Wright had the opportunity to speak with Nat Glover, Edward Waters College President, about having students who receive a Certificate of Completion (COC) receiving support to work on their diplomas. In some districts, the facilities are called reengagement centers. The Superintendent will come up with a plan, work with Nat Glover and problem solve to create a facility within the Edward Waters campus. Vice-Chairman Wright would like the facility to be available during the day and she would like to be a part of the discussion.
- Board Member Grymes would like the COC numbers, including how many were able to pass. The Superintendent can forward last year's numbers. They are currently waiting on ACT/SAT numbers for the current year.
- There is enough students who receive a COC to have a need for a center.
- Karen Chastain stated if Edward Waters College were to sell the property the buyer can only use it for the same purpose. The restrictive covenant would continue with the land.
- Karen Chastain will follow up with their counsel on the value of future transactions if Edward Waters decides to sell the property to a third party.

Contract for Professional Services for Facility Condition Assessment and Planning Services Consultant: OFDC-RFQ-003-16

- The Superintendent stated the first phase of the project will be completed in a year.
- Board Member Shine expressed concerns with the three-year completion by adding two additional one-year periods. He would like to see the timeline compressed.
- The 160 schools do not include charter schools or other district properties.
- The contractor will report to Don Nelson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations.

Approval of the 2016-17 Literacy Plan

The Superintendent gave an overview of the Literacy Plan (see attached). Discussion included the following:

- The partnership with Read for Jacksonville is bringing together all the

partners that are directly and indirectly linked to the literacy effort and making sure we are sharing data and incentives and problem solving to not duplicate what is being done.

- Mason Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, stated Read for Jacksonville will move towards incentives, rewards and filling in gaps for things needed.
- Board Member Hall would like to see a simple, easy-to-read format. The Superintendent stated it has been done before with math and science and can be done with literacy.
- Vice-Chairman Wright would like to see a clear and concise plan to develop, accelerate and prevent. The Superintendent will capture the information on a one pager.
- Professional Development offerings for teachers will be ready by August 8, 2016.
- The standard professional development is done through the academic directors, specialist and master teachers at the school level. Curriculum professional development is done by the provider and they will come in to train as a hybrid. Broad professional development will be done by University partners.
- Vice-Chairman Wright submitted a Board Member Request for the Board to receive the professional development schedule.
- There is standard professional development based on the curriculum but there is also school-based professional development.

#### Approval of the 2016-17 Mathematics Plan

The Superintendent gave an overview of the Mathematics Plan (see attached). Discussion included the following:

- Modules are offered and embedded in professional development for teachers.
- An analysis was done to determine the gap with Algebra and it was determined there was a lack of number senses, understanding numbers with one another.
- Next year, all middle schools will offer Algebra. Students who are at a level 3, 4, or 5 will take Algebra or Biology in 8th grade. There may be some exceptions where students will take US History.
- Board Member Shine expressed concerns about teachers who teach math. There needs to be a focus on recruitment and retention of math teachers. The Superintendent stated the process started last year with an incentive of about \$2,000 district-wide to recruit teachers.

Board Member Shine left at 11:35 a.m.

#### Approval of the 2016-17 Science Plan

The Superintendent gave an overview of the Science Plan (see attached). Discussion included the following:

Board Member Shine returned at 11:40 a.m.

- Board Member Hall voiced concern about teachers being supported and if the district is offering enough support. The Superintendent stated teachers in low performing schools feel the support but teachers in higher performing schools may feel isolated because there are not enough specialists and coaches.
- The Superintendent stated there needs to be more conversation on specialist and coaches. They tend to be pulled from the higher performing classroom teachers and maybe should stay as master teachers in the classroom. He suggested paying them more to keep them connected to the classroom.
- Vice-Chairman Wright asked if the district is building its own professional development department to have a wealth of knowledge readily available to support teachers. The Superintendent stated there is a small team in professional development that focuses on building platforms to BlackBoard, building the menu and reaching out to universities.

#### Approval of Draft Legislation Proposing to Amend S. 1001.365, F.S.

- Board Member Shine gave in overview of the proposed Agenda item (see attached).
- Once the Board affirms through formal action to have a local bill and after finalization, the district would be exempt out of the legislation from the statute.
- The consensus of the Board is to add the agenda item to the August 2, 2016, Regular Board meeting.

Board Member Shine left at 11:58 p.m.

#### Approval of Contract with Ballard Partners, Inc.

- The Superintendent gave an overview with the pros and cons for the contract with Ballard Partners, Inc. (see attached).
- There is an opportunity to reduce the contract amount with Ballard Partners to \$90,000 by eliminating the Federal Outreach. The contract would be limited to the state, governor and local levels for 2016-2017.
- The Superintendent would like to bring a new position to the Board to recruit an internal candidate for 2016-2017. He would recommend doing a hybrid approach for 2016-2017 and revisit the contract with Ballard Partners at the end of the year.
- The Superintendent will send the new internal position to the Board for recommendations so it can be added as an agenda item for the August 2, 2016, Regular Board meeting.
- The Superintendent will look into whether the internal position should report to the Superintendent or the Board office.

#### Approval of the 2016-17 ESE and Gifted Plan

The Superintendent gave an overview of the ESE and Gifted Plan (see

attached). Discussion included the following:

Vice-Chairman Wright left at 12:20 p.m.

- The Superintendent indicated all 2nd graders will be screened for gifted starting this year.
- The Enhancing, Developing, and Generating Excellence program will be implemented at Susie Tolbert and Long Branch elementary schools to help identify students in the urban core as gifted.
- The Superintendent will send the Board the number of gifted students at each school.

Vice-Chairman Wright returned at 12:30 p.m.

- Joseph Stilwell is missing from the list of middle schools.
- Board Member Couch suggested a rotating itinerant teacher to service the students instead of busing students.
- The Superintendent will go back with the concerns of the Board and move towards developing a curriculum and activities and do more of a circuit and provide services at the school and include students that are higher-performing students. He will include it in the final gifted plan.
- Vice-Chairman Wright suggested having at least one teacher certified in gifted at all schools.
- Chairman Smith Juarez expressed concern about having an open conversation about 5 schools who have a self-contained gifted program east of I-295. She would like to see a Westside and a Northside school build a cohort.
- Board Member Grymes suggested adding 6th grade testing for gifted. The Superintendent will look into adding 6th grade.
- The Superintendent will bring back to the Board a cohort number.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

Minutes:

This topic was not discussed.

## BOUNDARY CHANGE PROPOSALS AND TURNAROUND PLANS

Attachment: [Boundary and Turnaround Workshop.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent presented a PowerPoint presentation on Boundary Changes and Turnaround Plans (see attached), discussion included the following:

- The Superintendent will only present the Turnaround Plans to the State concerning Ribault, Matthew Gilbert and Northwestern Middle schools and Hyde Grove and Oak Hill Elementary Schools. Gilbert, Northwestern and Ribault Middle schools would be hybrid. He will explain the implementation of the Early Learning Center for Hyde Grove Elementary. There is little to discuss about Eugene Butler Middle because of it being closed. He will discuss the boundary process for Oak Hill Elementary and it being converted to an Autism Lab School.
- Board Member Couch suggested the quarterly progress reports be public and presented during a formal Board Workshop.
- Vice-Chairman Wright expressed her concerns with the plan for Northwestern Middle School. She would like to see Northwestern Middle be a mirror image of A. Philip Randolph and Raines High School. She believes the honors academy would be a good fit. There is a high number of Certificate of Completions in that quadrant of the city and if we provide opportunities for career and college in that community it will better serve the community.
- Northwestern Middle is not a part of the turnaround proposal.
- The Superintendent stated the focus for Northwestern Middle is to get it to a "C" and raise student achievement. Every resource will be available to move Northwestern to a "C" or higher. Northwestern has been identified as a possible school that would go to the boundary change process based on what has been presented to the Board and the residential area opting out for Charter Schools.
- The Superintendent has no intention on discussing a boundary change for Northwestern Middle at the State Board Meeting.
- Vice-Chairman Wright has concerns that the path has been set forth to do something different with Northwestern Middle. The Superintendent removed the Bridge to Success program without discussing it with her. She wanted to be clear that there are things being done different at Northwestern Middle other than making it a hybrid.
- Chairman Smith Juarez has concerns with the Superintendent responding to a plan that would require a Board vote to implement if the State Board asks about a boundary change for Northwestern Middle.
- Chairman Smith Juarez suggested until the Board has had more discussion with the boundary change proposal and direct the Superintendent to not have community conversation until that time.
- Board Member Hall would like the Superintendent to look into the Emotional Behavioral Disabilities (EBD) wing at Eugene Butler Middle.
- The Superintendent believes it will send the wrong message to parents if the boys are moved to the EBD wing. The Student Advisory Council (SAC) toured the building and believes it to be a good idea.
- Chairman Smith Juarez suggested rebranding the wing.
- The boundary change proposal will be added to the August 9, 2016, Board Workshop.
- For the record, Vice-Chairman Wright may be attending the State Board Meeting.

GOVERNANCE

Minutes:

Board staff is coordinating with the Office of General Counsel (OGC) to have them come share all information on the Legal Services Plan with the Board. Board Member Grymes suggested having Karen Chastain's, Chief of Legal Services, plan available for the meeting.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

NS

We Agree on this

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Superintendent

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Chairman