



Duval County Public Schools

July 23, 2012, Board Workshop

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present, with the exception of Chairman Betty Burney, who was out of town. Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Vice-Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 9:07 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The following topics were discussed:

- The Superintendent updated the Board regarding FCAT grade changes. There were 20 of our schools who had a grade increase. The changes were due to weighted learning gains for Level 1 and 2 students. Board Member Couch suggested that staff review what KIPP did to have such a large increase in their math scores.
- The Superintendent shared that he was invited to participate in an FCAT Writing Reactor Panel in Tallahassee. The Panel meets later today and tomorrow.
- The Superintendent discussed a recent development with the Jacksonville Journey. There is a move to have the District pay for part of TEAM Up and ATOSS. Staff is preparing data on how much the system has contributed to these programs in the past and present. Board Member Gentry asked that the data include what the Journey has contributed in the past and present also. The information will be shared with the Board for further discussion.
- Board Member Gentry shared that before he ran for the School Board, he was the Education Committee Chairman for the Jacksonville Journey. His slot on the Journey was not because he was on the School Board. The School Board did not have a representative on the Journey. He has served in this capacity for the past 5 years. The Mayor is now considering the position a "School Board" representative position, and has requested through the Chairman that Vice-Chairman Fred "Fel" Lee fill the slot. The City Council has already confirmed his appointment. Vice-Chairman Lee will share copies of the e-mails received to date regarding this matter. He was unaware that Board Member Gentry was not in the loop on this change until last week. Board Member Wright questioned the process of the Mayor, or any outside entity, deciding who should represent the Board for any organization. That is the responsibility of the Chairman and the Board. This will be discussed further when the Chairman is present to participate.
- The Superintendent shared the recent changes to security for our administration building.
- The Superintendent said that since he has not heard anything different from the Board, that he assumes there is support for the Legislative agenda for the coming year. Larry Fairman will begin pulling groups together to support our 4 priority items. FADSS also has technology as one of their items for the coming year. They also have Charter schools and End of Course assessments on their list, which we do not have on ours.
- The Superintendent indicated that staff has been in talks with the Office of General Counsel regarding hiring our own in-house attorney. We would not break ties with General Counsel, and would still use them for various cases. The in-house attorney would be able to devote their full time to school system issues, contracts, etc. Board Member Gentry will sit in on the discussions with General Counsel. The Superintendent will update the Board on this project at a future meeting.
- Board Member Hazouri shared that he had met some time back with Mr. Jerry Mallot of the Chamber and Mr. Don Shea of the City regarding the relocation of our administration building. He expressed disappointment in the fact that he has followed up a couple of times on this meeting and has received no response from the Chamber or the City.
- Board Member Hazouri asked for an update on the Kahn educational program.
- Due to scheduling issues, the date of the meeting with the search firm to review

all of the Superintendent applications was rescheduled to August 16, 2012, at 10:00 am. The date of the interviews was also rescheduled to August 28, 2012, and will begin at 10:00 am. The Board will discuss the format for Superintendent interviews at a future meeting.

- Board Member Wright requested a list of all pending litigation.
- Board Member Wright requested additional information on staff salary data provided to the Board last week. She would like a side-by-side comparison of their previous salary and their current salary. She is concerned about equity and fairness. The Superintendent will address the concerns.
- Board Member Couch indicated that we needed to have a discussion regarding Capital dollars being diverted to Charter schools as part of our legislative agenda. She also shared that there is a push to allow parents to choose to send their child to any District, school, and even select the teacher at the school, no matter where they live in the state.
- Board Member Couch brought up the FSBA Resolution regarding school choice. It was decided to add this as a placement item for the August 7, 2012, Board meeting. Additional discussion by the Board will occur prior to the meeting.
- Board Member Couch asked that the Superintendent inquire if Commissioner Robinson would come back to Jacksonville to speak with educators and parents on a day that is not a holiday and with more than one day notice. She would also like to see this forum held at a school and not at City Hall.
- Board Member Barrett thinks it is very important for the Board to get in front of the Capital dollars issue. She has heard this expressed as a concern many times over the past several weeks.

Speakers:

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

[2. STRATEGIC PLAN 2012-2013 TARGETS](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer, introduced Mr. Tom O'Dea, consultant, who led the Board through a presentation on the Strategic Plan 2012-2013 targets. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Minutes. Points made include the following:

- Board Member Wright asked why our Research and Evaluation staff was not preparing this information instead of a consultant. The Superintendent shared that we did not have enough staff, and that using a consultant allowed us access to the latest technology. Board members would like to be able to access as much

of this information as possible in real time data. The consultant does receive information for the report from our Research and Evaluation staff. The Superintendent will provide the Board with information on what it would cost to hire staff to prepare this report, compared to using a consultant. In addition, please provide the source for the cost comparisons.

- Board Member Wright would like to see us have a technology plan for all schools. The plan should not only include technology for all schools, but instruction on how staff can use the technology provided.
- Board Member Couch suggested the Board be trained and given access to Pearson software that would allow them to see individual school data, as well as data for their Districts and the District as a whole.
- Board Member Gentry suggested that the targets might be too aggressive. The Superintendent also thinks they are too aggressive, however, they do fit in with the commitment by DOE to the Federal Government regarding progress. Suggestions included the possibility of having aggressive goals and realistic goals, as well as goals and targets that vary depending on the area - i.e., math, reading, etc.
- It was decided to discuss this further when the Chairman was able to participate.
- Board Member Wright indicated that she was not able to vote at this time. The report was only distributed to the Board at the Workshop, and there was not time to review. She asked that the Board receive documents ahead of time in order to review and prepare questions. In addition, this report mainly addresses other counties, and not our schools.
- This topic will be added to the July 31, 2012, Board Workshop list.
- Chief Academic Officer Kathy LeRoy believes that we can make a huge difference in reading. She also believes that we can make significant gains in math, however, the higher the grade level, the more difficult it becomes.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Tom O'Dea, Consultant
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer

[3. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - INTERVENTION TEACHERS](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent explained the purpose of these minimum qualifications for reading and math intervention teachers at the elementary and secondary level. Ms. Kathy

LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer, Ms. Jackie Byrd, Chief of Schools, and Ms. Sonita Young, Human Resource Services Officer, explained the items and responded to questions from the Board. Discussion included the following:

- This will not impact the schools Title I dollars. It will come from Title I funds held back by the District.
- Every Title I school will be able to utilize the teachers.
- Logs will be kept and there will be monitoring to make sure teachers will be working in the classrooms and with students every day.
- Provide Board with detailed information on funding - what we spend in the past; what we are spending now; where the dollars are coming from; total costs involved.
- Provide the Board with a breakdown of how we spent the \$15 million, and who is responsible.
- Discussed the use of SAI funds for non-Title I schools for this purpose, using a consistent formula.
- Teacher selection for these positions was discussed. Principals will identify applicants. The Cluster staff and HRS staff will have to sign off on all of those selected.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer
Ms. Jackie Byrd, Chief of Schools
Ms. Sonita Young, Chief Human Resource Services Officer
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

[4. AUGUST 7, 2012, DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW](#)

Minutes:

Staff reviewed the August 7, 2012, Draft Agenda with the Board. Discussion included the following:

- Academics Item 1 - AVID - Board Member Couch asked if staff had been in contact with the Chartrand Foundation. They had indicated a desire to help fund other middle schools, in addition to Landmark Middle School. Staff will follow up with the Chartrand Foundation.
- Academics Item 5 - Educational Directions - add Ready for Tomorrow to the list for Ed White High School. It was inadvertently left off of the list.

The Board was unable to complete the agenda review due to time constraints and the Regular Board meeting start time of 4:00 p.m. Board members were asked to provide the Superintendent with any questions they have on the remaining agenda items.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Ms. Sonita Young, Chief Human Resource Services Officer
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The Vice-Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 3:54 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman