



Duval County Public Schools

June 21, 2012, Special Board Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING of the Duval County School Board with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Ms. Betty S. Burney, Board Chair, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman and Board members: Ms. Martha Barrett, Ms. Becki Couch, Mr. Tommy Hazouri and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present. Mr. W. C. Gentry participated in a portion of the meeting via teleconference as he was out of the country.

Call Meeting to Order

[1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER - SPECIAL MEETING](#)

Minutes: The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

[2. INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: A "*moment of silence*" was held.

[3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Comments From Audience

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Minutes:

Mr. Doyle Carter said I appreciate all of you and what you do. The Joint Committee meeting last week was awesome and I know we will help each other out. My district sort of wanders in and out of the area on Wilson Boulevard where SOS Academy is and I'm involved with that Sweetwater area through my friend and mentor, Curtis Johnson. He took on a project and it was this community whereby folks were scared due to the drugs, etc. He then brought in businesses in the area who became involved and developed the Sweetwater Athletics Association with a ball field built at the SOS Academy. The community has come together. There are always issues with schools (finances and paperwork, etc.) but this is a community issue and interest. I've attended many of their ceremonies and watched the students and their parents - this school means so much to them. If I can help, I'm here. Thank you.

Mr. Chris Guerrieri said in 2008, there were 33 employees in the county that made over six figures. Of them, only a handful were principals. The recession hit and over the next few years, we cut tens of millions of dollars from the budget. In 2010, there were 47 employees that made over six figures; again, only a handful were principals. I hope you can see the correlation as we're cutting our budgets and hiring more high-priced administrators and I think that number is higher, today. Regarding the changes that are before you, today, there will be over 130 principal changes during the last four years, alone. That means 1 in 6 schools has seen a new principal. I want to urge you to carefully consider all the personnel moves before you and only make moves that improve the district - not ones that create more six figure administrators. I want to mention Lacy Clark, a French teacher at Ed White High School. She was the head basketball coach, trained in IB and was let go after her third year. She was not put on a Success Plan or Improvement Plan and she was given no reason for her dismissal. We can not continue to treat teachers as if they were easily replaced; especially great teachers like Lacy Clark who give their heart and soul to our schools. Please reconsider your policy that allows that to happen. Thank you.

Ms. Thelmevia Cason said I come before you with a concern regarding Dr. James Young's resignation. I'm not sure for what reason he decided to resign, however, as a concerned parent that has a daughter in the Duval County School system and as a resident of the northside, it is very disheartening to see that this Board has allowed a proven educator to leave our system. He has done a tremendous job in leading three failing schools to success. I'm not sure why he resigned but you can not tell me there is nothing this School Board could have done to ensure that he stayed in our system. He's a great asset and you shouldn't let him walk and not consider our children, is a disgrace.

Ms. Burney said it is not the Board's decision on Mr. Young. The principal decisions are made by the Superintendent and staff. It was not the Board's decision to let Mr. Young go.

Ms. Pervalia Gaines-McIntosh said in my observations as a public education advocate for the past ten years, I have found our district embraces a culture of promoting people with no track record or not enough experience. The consequences of this culture over the past five years, Duval County Public Schools have taken a turn for the worse. Florida's "Race to the Top" application identifies Duval as one of the lowest performing school districts in the state. In 2008, there were 20 "D" or "F" schools; today, there are 24. Duval has more schools placed in the Intervene category than any other school district in the state. What I believe is happening in this district is that we're embracing a culture that we're not promoting, hiring or retaining administrators who have a track record of success. Therefore, I implore the Board to take action to remedy this issue. Thank you very much.

Reports

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 21, 2012, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the June 21, 2012, Agenda as submitted on June 19, 2012, with the following changes: - PASS

1.

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Not Present
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

Discussion

Academic Services

1. DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BRIDGE OF
NORTHEAST FLORIDA AND SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE

Attachment: [Memo Schs of the Future with Data 5-10-12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges for Schools for the Future June 2012.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Karen Chastain from the Office of General Counsel, stated that there are a few things the Board needs to do to allow an absent Board member to participate by phone. There is an Attorney General opinion from 2003 that establishes the elements and you meet the first two of the three but you'll need to take a hand vote for the third item. Because the meeting is in a public place and because there is a quorum physically present, you are now in a position to make the determination that Mr. Gentry's physical absence is due to extraordinary circumstances. It can be due to a scheduling conflict and this is a Special meeting and not a Regular meeting. If you so make that determination by your affirmative vote, then Mr. Gentry is able to participate in discussion and voting while he's on the telephone.

Vote: 6-0 PASS

Motion: Tommy Hazouri

Second: Becki Couch

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Becki Couch - Aye

Tommy Hazouri - Aye

Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye

Paula D. Wright - Aye

Speakers:

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Dr. Terri Stahlman, Chief Officer of Technology
Mr. Tim Ballentine, Executive Director, Instructional Research & Accountability
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair
Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve an agreement with the Bridge of Northeast Florida to partner in funding and operating an academic alternative school for 120 high school students housed at the Bridge of Northeast Florida for the 2012-2013 school year, with contracted services to the Bridge not to exceed \$457,702. The objective of the academic alternative school is to serve overage students.

2. That the Duval County School Board approve an agreement with Schools for the Future Foundation to become an affiliate partner site for Schools for the Future located at the Bridge of Northeast Florida for the 2012-2013 school year, at no cost to the district. - PASS

3. That the Duval County School Board Authorize the Board Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the agreement upon approval as to form and approve any amendments required to fully implement this agreement.

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

[2. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Code of Conduct 2012-2013 docx.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Approval of Revisions to the Code of Student Conduct

(NOTE: The public hearing was held on June 11, 2012; the Board is voting on the item only this evening.)

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Ms. Gloria Lockley, Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support

Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Ms. Burney asked the Superintendent if Ms. Johnson would get the information out to the public with regards to the changes that have been made to the Code of Student Conduct so that parents will know what is expected of students when school starts and it won't be a surprise?

The Superintendent responded, "Absolutely."

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board conducts a public hearing on the revisions to the Code of Student Conduct, 2012-2013 outlined in the attached summary.

- PASS

2. That subsequent to the public hearing, the Duval County School Board approve the 2012-2013 Code of Conduct and printing costs not to exceed \$60,000.

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[1. REAPPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS](#)

Attachment: [reappointment fldoe 1213.pdf](#)

Attachment: [reappointment district administrators 1213.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Hazouri offered an amendment to reappoint Chiefs and Executive Directors for six months instead of one year. After length discussion, Mr. Hazouri withdrew his amendment.

Speakers:

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice Chairman

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

The Chair welcomed and recognized elective officials who have joined us: Senator Steve Wise, Councilwoman Kim Daniels, Councilman Reggie Brown and Councilman Doyle Carter - all, welcome to our chamber.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the reappointment of District administrators identified on the attached lists for the period July 01, 2012 through June 30, 2013. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Rebecca Couch

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Nay
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the reappointment of District administrators identified on the attached lists for the period July 01, 2012 through ~~June 30, 2013~~ December 31, 2012 . -

Board Member Hazouri withdrew this amendment.

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Paula Wright

Martha Barrett	-
Betty Burney	-
Rebecca Couch	-
William Gentry	-
Thomas Hazouri	-
Fred Lee	-

Paula Wright

-

[2. REAPPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED ADMINISTRATORS](#)

Attachment: [reappointment_school_based_administrators_1213.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the appointment of School-Based Administrators identified on the attached lists for the period July 01, 2012 through June 30, 2013. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

[3. REAPPOINTMENT OF SOCIAL WORKERS, SPECIALISTS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS](#)

Attachment: [reappointment_sw_spec_psy_1213.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the reappointment of Social Workers, Specialists and Psychologists identified on the attached list for the period July 01, 2012 through June 30, 2013 ~~2012~~. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

4. REAPPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL

Attachment: [reappointmen_teachers_1213.pdf](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the reappointment of School-Based Instructional Personnel identified for the 2012-2013 school year in the present classifications, grades and salary step and contingent upon completion of all requirements for continued certification. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

5. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

Attachment: [HRS Attach 06-21-12 transactions list.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENTS 2012-13.pdf](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Human Resource Services employee transactions on the attachment. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[1. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT \(CHARTER\) - S.O.C.K. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS \(SOS\) ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [2012 Charter School Renewal Staff Report for S.O.S. Academy Middle School.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Councilman Reggie Brown said I'm real pleased as of today on the Council, we have three members from Ribault Senior High School graduates, Classes 1978, 1979 and 1980. So, getting back to what Ribault used to produce, I can tell you that we're here and also Dr. Gaffney. I have a couple of concerns but one is to give my support to the institution - SOS Academy and the work they have done for the community not just during the day but also in the evenings and weekends for families. My concern is their communication with the school district and City Council. SOS Academy sits in district 10 and when I heard there was an issue with the contract, no one had contacted my office as to the district's intent or parks and recs and no effort was made by the General Counsel or school district. A greater concern is raising the standards for students and discipline. I asked General

Counsel what was the city's position as we depend on people to be fair. I have great concerns as to whether this school should be reinstated or extended. I stand on being consistent and fair, across the board. When we take failing students in a traditional school and we group them together, we understand clearly that it's going to take some time and the district has given a lot of support. The school was showing improvement but this was not brought out. I come today to stand in support of SOS and we're setting policy and we should lead by. I ask that when you take this under consideration but please look at the entire community.

The Honorable Kimberly Daniels, City Council At-Large, Group 1, said I'm here on behalf of SOS Academy. I'm also a graduate of Ribault Senior High, 1979, and I feel that was a great loss but I feel something good will come out of it with the principal. I've known Ms. Mills over the years and what touches the community and my family is that I remember when there were no budgets nor money and one big park with children with nothing to do. My children benefitted from that as well as the community. We need more community leaders that care and have a heart. We need to provide the resources and support systems to enhance what we have instead of taking away. My prayer is that SOS Academy will come out of this in a positive way. Ms. Mills and her staff were interrogated and it was heartbreaking. We're here to support SOS Academy.

Senator Steve Wise said before SOS was formed, we met before they "decommissioned" the National Guard facility on that property. We thought at that time how great it would be to have a charter school before charters even started. Ms. Mills and I had that discussion about forming a neighborhood school and she put all of this together - a great job. The football field was put together through donations and it's always packed by many schools using this facility. The legislature is sort of the problem as we have taken discipline away from the parents and teachers. Children, today, have the ability in knowing the Ten Commandments, know right from wrong, and then we arrest them and I've seen data for the state of Florida, for five year olds. That becomes a lifetime sentence and it ruins these children. Please continue to support this school as we're changing the games which irritates me. We can make a difference in these kids lives. There are over 10,000 kids behind razor which which is dreadful. Please keep this great neighborhood school open for this community.

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, said SOS Academy's counsel will present first for 30 minutes following by the district's counsel for 30 minutes; deliberations will ensue thereafter.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair

Mr. Daniel Bean, Attorney, representing SOS Academy

Mr. David Dagata, Office of General Counsel, representing Duval County School Board

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Biehler, Supervisor, School Choice, Charter Schools
Ms. Genay Mills, SOS Academy
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Officer, Academic Programs
Councilman Reggie Brown, City Council
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. Anthony Cobb, Supervisor, Accounting, Business Services
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Tony Bellamy, Cluster III Chief, Turnaround Schools/Principal
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Vice Chairman

The Board voted down the Superintendent's recommendation with a 0-6 vote which failed.

Ms. Chastain said we would need an affirmative vote to renew the contract and typically, a minimum number of years and then the rest of it , we have, as you know, a much more updated form. There will be a few particular issues to be addressed by virtue of the statute and the school's history. So, it will be your updated form modified to fit the specific situation here. I just don't know if I'm bringing back a five year or what I'm bringing back for renewal.

Board Member Wright offered a motion that SOS Academy is renewed with a contract modification to fit the situation understanding that you must comply with House Bill 7127 and all state statutory regulations. So if the renewal is for 5, 4 or 3 years - the minimum number of years. Mr. Hazouri seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0 PASS

Motion: Paula D. Wright
Second: Tommy Hazouri

Martha Barrett - Aye
Betty Burney - Aye
Becki Couch - Aye
W.C. Gentry - Absent
Tommy Hazouri - Aye
Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye
Paula D. Wright - Aye

Ms. Chastain said we bring the contracts back for approval, as well, so I will work as quickly as possible with the school to see if we can have that ready by your next meeting.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board deny the request by S.O.C.K Outstanding Students (SOS) Academy Middle School Charter School to renew its contract with the Duval County School Board. - FAIL

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Betty Burney	- Nay
Martha Barrett	- Nay
Rebecca Couch	- Nay
William Gentry	- Not Present
Thomas Hazouri	- Nay
Fred Lee	- Nay
Paula Wright	- Nay

Motions:

Motion to renew the Charter School Contract with SOS Academy Middle School, with the Contract modified to fit the situation for renewal under HS 717 and all applicable FS. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Not Present
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

[2. AMENDMENT TO CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL FOR ACCELERATED LEARNING- GREATER JACKSONVILLE CAMPUS D/B/A BISCAYNE HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [FHSAL-Greater Jacksonville, Inc. \(Biscayne HS\) Deferral Letter 06.08.12.pdf](#)

Minutes:

NOTE: Board Member W. C. Gentry is no longer present at this meeting.

Board Member Paula D. Wright said we've received emails on the resignation of one particular principal and this Board has not made mention of that fact to clarify that the principal has resigned. I'd like to share some things about Dr. James Young who will be sorely missed from this district and the question is "Why?" Now, Ribault is off the Intervene list for the first time in its history. We received that information from both the district and the state has agreed that Ribault, Forrest and A. Philip Randolph would not be in Intervene status and Dr. Young has done alot of great work at Ribault and it is slated to be a possible "A". If Ribault High School becomes an "A" school, I believe we would be setting a national record than an Intervene school goes from "F" to "C" to "A".

I want to share some things about Dr. Young's record. Dr. Young is the only principal in this district who has turned around both high school (Ribault) and elementary schools. He turned around Pine Estates Elementary from an "F" to a "C" from 1999-2003; he turned around Rufus Payne Elementary from an "F" to a "B" from 2003-2005; he left the district and went to Clay County where he earned four consecutive "A"s in a middle school from 2005-2009; and then at Ribault from 2009-present and went from "F" to "C" and now, at least a "B" and possibly an "A". He has improved almost every category at Ribault High School. On the FCAT side, highest in the school's history, Math Level III and higher 55-62%; Writing Level IV and higher 49-72%; highest in the school's history, as well; the lower Quartile Math Gains 56-62%, highest in the school's history; Math Overall Gains 62-67%; lowe Quartile Reading Gains 34-40%; on the High School Component, he's increased acceleration participation, acceleration performance, Reading Readiness, Math Readiness, graduation rate and at-risk graduation rate.

I don't want us to get into this posture of highlighting one principal but want to make certain that everyone knows that a particular principal resigned because we're receiving emails. We receive emails not on just Dr. Young but on other principals and other staff, as well. So, I am so sad that Dr. Young won't be in this district to continue to lead Ribault or

perhaps other schools with this type of record. So, why would someone with this type of record resign should be the question? Ribault is in my district and more importantly in that district, every one of those principals have been changed - elementary, middle and high school principals. That entire community will be impacted and Ribault High School has put that community, our community in Jacksonville, in a position to restore the excellence that we were accustomed to seeing from that community. We all know that it is very difficult to reach high school students and improve their level of performance so they set the pace. We must galvanize and make certain that we keep the tradition that Dr. Young has brought back and move it forward. Thank you.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve an amendment to the five year contract with Florida High School for Accelerated Learning, Inc., to change the term of the contract to July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018; and,

2. That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairperson and the Superintendent to execute the contract amendment on behalf of the board subject to review and approval as to form by the Office of General Counsel. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Paula Wright

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Not Present
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

For The Record

FOR THE RECORD

Minutes: *No items at this meeting.*

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman