



Duval County Public Schools

March 31, 2015, Committee Meeting - Policy Handbook Review

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD : Vice - Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez and Board Members Becki Couch, Paula Wright, Constance Hall and Scott Shine were present. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, was also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[Call Meeting To Order](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[CHAPTER 2 - SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services reviewed her recommendations with the committee:

- 2.26 - Board Meeting Protocol And Format

- o The Annual Organizational Meeting - Definitions (b)- Strike "the third Tuesday after the first Monday in November" and reference Florida Statute 1001.371 which says any time in the month November in a non - election year.
- o Special Meeting (d)- Add a quasi - judicial hearing definition.
- o Agenda Workshop section (I). Strike "meeting is open to the public and conducted pursuant to Chapter 286, Florida Statutes."
- o Time And Place Of Meetings (d) - Add "any meeting of the School Board which consists of two or more Board Members is open to the public".
- o Annual Organizational Meeting- Reference Florida Statute.
- o Order Of Business - Add Chairman's Report, Superintendent's Report, and District Student Government Report. Move agenda approval to the correct order.
- o Board Member Protocol - Add a new sub - section in paragraph (5) (a) to include having a Board Member participate by phone.

Board Member Becki Couch asked Karen Chastain to look into adding information to policy that lets Board Members know to not consider comments from the public after a judge magistrate has made a decision on an issue. Karen Chastain will look into this further and bring it back to the Board.

Board Member Paula Wright expressed her concerns over so much movement during the Regular Board Meeting. Board Members, Superintendent and staff are getting up and down too much during the meetings.

Board Member Couch discussed adding a time limit for each Board Member to speak at meetings. Karen Chastain will look into the issue of time limits further.

Board Members discussed enforcement of clapping and holding up signs at the meetings.

Karen Chastain suggested the following - Audience Protocol - The policy currently reads "The audience is expected not to cheer, clap or audibly comment during the business portion of the meeting". Add "(which commences after presentations and recognition of awards)."

Board Member Scott Shine feels we need to have a time frame for all groups to speak not just the public. There was no consensus on this item.

Speaker Protocol (c) ii - Karen Chastain proposed keeping the 20 minutes before the meeting to accept speaker cards and add 5 minutes after the meeting begins.

Speaker Protocol (c) i - Karen Chastain proposed adding public comment at workshops. She will draft the policy and bring it back.

Board Member Couch asked that the policy for public comment include a time limit at workshops. Karen Chastain will bring this back to the committee.

Future meeting dates will be sent out to the committee.

CHAPTER 5 - STUDENTS

Minutes:

Dr. Dana Kriznar, Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Planning, along with staff reviewed Board Policy. Discussion included the following:

- 5.28 - Zero Tolerance - Dr. Kriznar reviewed suggestions from the last meeting.
 - Consider adding a section for expulsion when a student has intent to sell or distribute illegal drugs. Having "may expel" in place of "shall". Also align with the statute.
 - Cyber bullying or threats using electronic media.
 - Exceptional Education Students regarding manifestation hearings to be cited in statute. Add this at the end of the history State Board of Education Rule 6A - 6.03312.

Mike Mcauley, Executive Director, Student Discipline and Support Services addressed these three areas. In Broward County, the students attend an alternative program for a year. He will investigate the cost, results and how many students attend. He will bring the information to the next workshop.

Board Member Paula Wright would like to see a survey to include parents whose students have attended Grand Park or Mattie V. Rutherford and the students who attended.

Karen Chastain will look at the Zero Tolerance policy again. She feels we can do more through the Student Code of Conduct process.

Vice - Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez suggested we have a workshop on the Student Code of Conduct and Zero Tolerance. She feels we need to have a workshop before we can move forward.

Mike Mcauley will let the Board know when the Student Code of Conduct review group will be meeting. He is planning these meetings very soon.

Board Members Paula Wright and Becki Couch asked that we include teachers, administrators, parents, stakeholders, student government, and the Superintendent Leadership Academy for the review of the Student Code of Conduct.

Vice - Chairman Smith Juarez suggested that the Parent Teacher Association nominate people for the Student Code of Conduct Review.

Board Member Constance Hall said the Office of Civil Rights offers great resources also.

- 5.44 - School Attendance Boundaries - Dr. Kriznar was asked to recommend a change to the timeline by the Superintendent. The current timeline is disruptive due to testing. The Superintendent recommends moving the current date of November 1 to December or January.

Board Member Becki Couch recommended the date be changed to after the Magnet application deadline the year before the change. Parents want to know where their student is going to attend school as early as possible.

Karen Chastain stated by a Board vote of five or more the Board can waive any policy.

Board Member Couch suggested the committee reference Board Policy 8.50 Facilities Planning to Board Policy 5.44.

[CHAPTER 9](#)

Minutes:

Tia Leathers, Director, Parental and Community Involvement, reviewed Board Policy with the staff. Discussion included the following:

- 9.64 - School Mentors
 - School Mentors are placed by agencies unless they are employees of the school district.
 - Outside agencies provide the fingerprinting and training.
 - The district does not manage the mentoring program.
 - Students who receive a mentor through Take Stock in Children cannot get their college scholarship without a mentor.
 - The district office does not keep a list of mentors provided by outside agencies.

Board Member Becki Couch asked what the district pays for. This may be something we can have Michelle Begley, Board Internal Auditor, look into.

Karen Chastain said it depends on the contract. This has been a focus of the Auditor General as to how we know the services have been provided. Brian McDuffie, Executive Director, Policy and Compliance, and Karen Chastain are working on embedding this information into the contract. Karen Chastain said through the contract process we can refine the focus.

This policy is ready for Board vote.

CSM

Adjournment

[Adjournment](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

CSM

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman