



E-AGENDA MANAGER

# Duval County Public Schools

---

March 31, 2016, Board Workshop

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Becki Couch  
Mr. Jason Fischer  
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 9:04 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[LEGISLATIVE UPDATE](#)

Minutes:

Carol Bracy, Vice-President of Ballard Partners, presented a PowerPoint on the 2016 Legislative Highlights. The session ended on March 11, 2016. The governor did his veto actions before he received the budget which is unprecedented for the governor. The PowerPoint is attached to the

minutes. Discussion included the following:

- Education Choice Expansion/Parent Rights.
- High School Athletics/Eligibility Criteria for Extracurricular Activities.
- Charter School Accountability.
- Charter School Funding.
- Public School Facilities Construction.

Board Member Couch inquired as to how school stations are defined for large school districts. Will the change in legislation for facilities construction take into consideration local building codes and specialized classrooms? Would the district be sanctioned if privately raised funds are used for a public school facility?

Vice-Chairman Wright indicated she would like to know if sanctions are predetermined and what they would be. Ms. Bracy will provide a report and flag some of the areas of concern for Board Members.

## GOVERNANCE

Minutes:

### Public Hearings

The consensus of the Board was to schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed boundary changes for April 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Cline Auditorium. The public hearing will include recommendations for S. P. Livingston, West Jax, Susie Tolbert, R. V. Daniels Elementary and the Bridge to Success Middle School at James Weldon Johnson A.C.T. Center.

The Board Workshop and Committee Meeting will be rescheduled for a later time due to the Special Board Meeting on April 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

### Minimum Qualifications - Internal Auditor

Board Member Shine previously requested this agenda item be removed from the agenda until a workshop could be scheduled to discuss this further. After much discussion, the consensus of the Board was to vote on this item at the April 5, 2016, Regular Board Meeting. The Superintendent will provide backup information to Board Member Shine for his information.

### eAgenda System Update

Michelle Begley, Internal Board Auditor, stated we are now under contract and will know in a few days what is needed from the staff to move forward. We hope to have the new system up and working in May 2016.

### Quality Education for All (QEA) minutes

Vice-Chairman Wright stated the minutes from the QEA meeting indicated the Superintendent discussed contracts and processes. The Superintendent stated the QEA provided the funds for Teach For America (TFA) which is why this may have come up at the meeting. Ms. Wright's

concern is that the Superintendent goes too deep and that they are making decisions before items come to the Board as a recommendation. She asked the Superintendent to have a conversation with the Board first.

## BUDGET

Minutes:

Dr. Vitti, provided an update of where we are based on the conclusion of the legislative session. Discussion included the following:

- Updated 2016-2017 Macro Budget Issues.
- Updated Figures Based on Final State Budget.
- High Level District Budget Information and Initiatives.
- New Areas of District-Wide Funding focus.
- Next and Final Budget Steps.

The Superintendent indicated that the lowest 300 will be funded separately. The Superintendent is not recommending funding the extra hour at these schools based on the feedback from teachers and principals. He is recommending the hiring of interventionists. The district currently exceeds the number of minutes required for reading by sixty minutes. Based on data from 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, the extra hour did not make a profound difference.

- Recommendation to fund one reading coach at each school throughout the district, even if the school is high performing.
- The district will negotiate with the union to have teachers come back to school early to work at schools with boundary changes to plan and organize.
- Board Members suggested the following concerning additional funding for the lowest 300:
  - Have schools determine how to use the money to support staff and provide professional development.
  - Have schools submit a plan to their Region Superintendents based on research and targets.
- The district is planning on expanding topics district-wide for professional development.
- On April 19, 2016, a proposed balanced budget will be presented at the Board Workshop on the Capital Plan.
- The Office of General Counsel (OGC) is working on a plan for the Board to have their own attorney. Vice-Chairman Wright and Board Member Grymes with work with OGC and Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, to embed the legal services into the budget by April 19, 2016.

Board Member Couch requested a breakdown of the \$17 million dollar increase between general and categorical funds and how those funds are allocated.

Board Member Hall requested that when the next Student Achievement report is given, it be broken down by subgroup to include the following: Exceptional Educational Students (ESE), English Language Learners (ELL), Social Economic Status (SES) and gender so we can analyze and see performance.

Board Member Jason Fischer arrived at 11:02 a.m.

Chairman Smith Juarez requested information concerning the expansion of nurses and where they will be located. The district is also working to build an LPN program at two or three locations. The Superintendent will share this information in a follow-up conversation.

- The 11th grade students will have the opportunity to opt-out of the ACT and SAT course if their parents do not feel they need to take it because they are taking additional Advanced Placement (AP) classes, additional elective classes, or they are taking ACT/ SAT courses at home or privately.

#### Speakers

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman  
Ms. Paula Wright, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member  
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member  
Dr. Constance Hall, Board Member

### [CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PLAN](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent provided a brief presentation of the PowerPoint concerning Career and Technical Education Plan which was sent to the Board prior to the Board Workshop. The PowerPoint is attached to the minutes. Discussion included the following:

- Areas of strength.
- Areas of weakness.
- Opportunities.
- CTE teachers with industry certification.
- CTE exams passed
- Threats.

Board Member Grymes requested a list of Career Academies with enrollment at each academy.

It was suggested the district create a survey concerning what students plan to do following graduation of those students earning industry certificates.

The Jacksonville Electrical apprenticeship program is working with Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) and Miller Electric who built the facility where graduates attend. At the end of the program, students can earn an average salary of \$50,000. The Jacksonville Electrical apprenticeship program at FSCJ is interested in having a partnership with the district. Currently, students need to have their high school diploma and Algebra 1 to qualify for the program. Kelly Coker-Daniels, Chief Officer, Research and Evaluation, is working with FSCJ to see what programs and partnerships can be created.

Board Member Hall stated she would like to see a timeline for the development of partnership with CTE programs, alignment for the future job market, and projections for career placement.

Vice-Chairman Wright requested long-range planning for Asa Philip Randolph (APR) beyond one year. She also requested that the principals receive a copy of the survey that shows the emerging markets. The information should also be included in future presentations.

It was suggested that we highlight what is happening at CTE schools and their accomplishments utilizing the Jacksonville Association of Governing Students (JAGS).

#### Speakers

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman  
Ms. Paula Wright, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member  
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member  
Dr. Constance Hall, Board Member  
Mr. Scott Shine, Board Member

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Minutes:

The Superintendent presented a brief overview of Community Engagement. A PowerPoint was provide to the Board and is attached to the minutes. Discussion included the following:

- The Parent Academy - we continue to have high numbers of parents attend. We need more parent leaders.
- We have done a better job of expanding Parent Teacher Association's (PTA)
- Discover Duval Schools Data - we shifted from the Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF) owning it to the school district owning it.

- Business Partnerships continue to grow.
- The 5000 Role Models of Excellence - we have had tying ceremonies at seven out of ten schools. There are over 200 mentors that are working with these students as a result we are seeing a reduction in discipline issues.

There are at least 10 mentors at each schools with 360 students that have been identified. Mentors are recruited from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO), government agencies and churches. The biggest support is from the JSO which has committed 60 officers.

It was suggested that we continue to highlight one school from each Board Members district but add internal operations. This will provide the community information to see how their tax dollars are used. We will need to add this to the district calendar for next year so it does not conflict with other activities. A virtual tour of schools and programs was also suggested.

#### Speakers

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman  
 Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member  
 Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member  
 Dr. Constance Hall, Board Member

## SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Minutes:

Michelle Begley, Internal Board Auditor, compiled the 2014-2015 individual Board Members Evaluations. Copies were provided to all Board Members at this time. A statement from the Board will be created around the commendations and recommendations to the Superintendent for the following year. The 2015-2016 data will be available in July. Discussion included the following recommendations and commendations.

- Recommendations
  - Board and Superintendent Relationships - continue to build.
  - Leadership development for administrative staff/succession management.
  - Long-range budget planning.
  - Refinement of student discipline.
  - Continued focus on academic achievement in middle schools, secondary math, and literacy for all grades.
  - Professional development.
- Commendations
  - Expanded and more diverse offerings for students.

- o Leveraging stakeholders.
- o Managed district resources throughout the year efficiently.
- o Increased graduation rates among African American students.
- o Closing the gap between the district and the state.
- o Acceleration programs.
- o Communicating challenges.
- o School Culture.
- o Willingness to meet with community groups.
- o Securing grants and resources.
- o Rebranding of Mattie V. Rutherford Alternative Education Center and Grand Park Education Center.

These recommendations and commendations will be condensed to create the Superintendent Evaluation Statement. A draft of the Superintendent Evaluation Statement will be sent to Board Members for review. Board Members were asked to provide feedback or changes for the Evaluation Tool to Cathy Maycott, Administrative Assistant, within seven days. The Board will revisit this at a future Board Workshop meeting.

Speakers

- Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Chairman
- Ms. Paula Wright, Vice-Chairman
- Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
- Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member
- Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member
- Dr. Constance Hall, Board Member
- Mr. Scott Shine, Board Member

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

CSM

---

Superintendent

---

Chairman