



## Duval County Public Schools

---

March 8, 2011, Board Workshop

Ms. W. C. Gentry, Chairman  
Ms. Betty Burney, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Martha Barrett  
Ms. Ms. Becki Couch  
Ms. Mr. Tommy Hazouri  
Mr. Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee  
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. Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

### [CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 10:07 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

### [1. BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The following items were discussed.

- Chairman Gentry shared an article from the paper from 50 years ago which reported that the legislature would establish a study for a possible public junior college. Then Jacksonville University President Franklin Johnson spoke in support of the study and talked about the difficulty with funding for education.
- Board Member Couch shared an update with the Board regarding the most recent Northeast Coalition meeting.
- Board Member Barrett met with the Community and Engagement staff and they are interested in getting with other divisions in the district to see what they can do to help. She also attended a Bank of America Scholars breakfast this morning at UNF. The students stated that they would be interested in tutoring other students.
- Board Member Lee reported that he is working with our legislative consultant to set up meetings for the upcoming trip to Tallahassee for FSBA Days in the Legislature. He is still working on a technology report and will share soon.
- Chairman Gentry shared that we needed a representative for the Council of Great City Schools. After some discussion, it was decided that Board Member Wright would represent the Board with the Council of Great City Schools.
- Board Member Hazouri provided an update on the possible relocation of our administration building. He visited the Florida Rock building, but it is half the size of our current location and parking is not good.
- Chairman Gentry requested an update on the possible swap of property with the JEA.
- Board Member Wright attended the recent United Way - Empowering Effective Teachers forum. She also attended the Northeast Florida Coalition meeting.
- Board Vice-Chairman Burney indicated that she and Board Secretary Bonnie Susan Cole were working on dates for future retreats and school visits. We will start with schools in Districts 3, 5, and 7, this time, as we have visited schools in the other Districts last year. After we visit high schools, we will visit middle schools in the next round of school visits.
- Board Member Wright would like to see a final report after all of the reading consultants have visited our District.
- The Chairman shared that Senator Wise was interested in providing funding for a pilot program called Failure Free Reading for Duval. It is an intensive reading program.
- The Superintendent shared the following items with the Board:
  - The Community Foundation survey results will be coming out today.
  - Distributed updated talking points.

## 2. BUDGET/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Minutes:

Staff reviewed the budget reduction scenarios with the Board. A copy of the document is attached to the Minutes. Topics covered included the following.

- Provide Board with breakdown on white fleet.
- Look at what it takes to education the whole child - need vs. want.

- Look at academic impact of 4-day school weeks.
- Provide Board with information on transporting students.
- Look to see where we are duplicating services.
- Determine what our core values and program should be and build a budget around those items.

Board Vice-Chairman Burney shared some suggestions for the budget. They included the following:

- Look at magnet, turnaround, alternative, ESE, Pre-K, Operations, Administration, and support services, and determine what it takes to educate a child in each of those areas.
- Cut reading programs that do not have a proven track record and keep those that do.
- Must have art, music, physical education, and sports.
- Need college educated instructional staff.
- Look at consultants and what we outsource, and what it would take to get us back to where we should be. We have too many consultants.
- Review magnet transportation.
- Look at what it takes to educate a child for a day or year.

The Board will address the different scenarios at the next Board Workshop. The Chairman asked that Board members provide the Superintendent with any additional comments, questions, or concerns, by noon on Friday so that he may prepare for the Workshop.

Speakers:

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

3. INTERVENE SCHOOLS

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the changes to the documents which will be sent to the Commissioner of Education for the DOE Board to review for the four Intervene Schools. Areas discussed included the following.

- Explanation of the blended model.

- Parental involvement is important for this to work.
- Communications efforts were reviewed.
- Bring all district staff up to date on work being done in the Intervene schools.
- Received individual school updates from the Cluster Chiefs.

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman  
 Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent  
 Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
 Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member  
 Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice-Chairman  
 Ms. Jackie Byrd, Cluster Chief  
 Mr. Tony Bellamy, Cluster Chief  
 Ms. Pat Willis, Deputy Superintendent  
 Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member  
 Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
 Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

4. FILLING VACANT POSITIONS

Minutes:

The Board and staff discussed filling vacant positions. The Superintendent explained the process. A Department makes a recommendation to their Division head; the Division head looks at the Strategic Plan and decides whether to take the position to the Cabinet; Cabinet discusses what the impact of the position would be on the system and decides whether or not to fill the position. Discussion included the following points.

- Some part time positions are turning into full time positions.
- Need to make positions available to all employees who are qualified and not select a person without the opportunity to screen for the position.
- The interview process vs. direct appointments process was discussed.
- We use Veteran's preference.
- No hiring freeze at this time.
- Need to stop hiring consultants instead of employees.

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman  
 Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent  
 Mr. Walter Carr, Director, HRS  
 Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member  
 Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
 Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member  
 Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice-Chairman  
 Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 4:03 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman