



Duval County Public Schools

May 16, 2013, Committee Meeting

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Jacon Fischer
Ms. Cheryl Grymes
Dr. Constance S. Hall
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez
Mr. Ms. Paula D. Wright
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Committee Meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The following items were discussed:

- Legal Counsel Role Clarification:
 - Chairman Lee shared that he had received a memorandum from General Counsel on this question, and that if a Board member gets to the point that they want to speak with someone other than Karen Chastain on an issue, they can go to General Counsel at the City of Jacksonville to ask your question. That alternative is still there.
 - Board Member Wright appreciated the feedback and clarification for the public. The Superintendent reports to the Board and Legal Counsel reports to the Board and it is important that an attorney/client conversation not be repeated. Ms. Chastain reiterated that her first duty is to the organization under ethics. General Counsel reports equally to the Board and Superintendent. If there is a conflict, then General Counsel would have had to go to outside counsel for assistance.
 - Board Member Fischer asked if it was possible to have Ms. Chastain's position moved to the Board. Ms. Chastain indicated that it was possible, but not easy because of the Charter and Consolidation.
 - Vice-Chairman Couch shared information on evaluation of Legal Counsel - in some districts it is joint with the Board and Superintendent. Chairman Lee indicated that we would research this question. Board Member Fischer liked the idea of a joint evaluation.
- Workshops - Chairman Lee asked the provide to provide a list of topics for future workshop discussions. He will ask Bonnie to send the list to the Board to prioritize so that we can begin to schedule the meetings.
 - Constituent Services - Paula Wright, Jason Fischer
 - Technology - Becki Couch
 - Agenda item format - Ashley Smith Juarez
 - ESE - IDE - Ashley Smith Juarez
 - Overage - Ashley Smith Juarez
 - Governance - Roles & Responsibilities - Cheryl Grymes
 - Data - type and consistency - Paula Wright
 - Strategic Plan & Goals - outcomes for 20132014 - Nikolai Vitti
 - Oversight Calendar - Becki Couch
 - Student Code of Conduct - Fel Lee
 - Media Training - Communications with public - speakers bureau - Jason Fischer
 - Community Engagement - Connie Hall
 - Training Calendar - Fel Lee
 - Communications protocols - Cheryl Grymes
- Backup Workshop Date - The Board agreed to make the 4th Tuesday of each month a backup

[2. JUNE 10, 2013. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW](#)

Minutes:

The June 10, 2013, Draft Agenda was reviewed. Discussion included the following:

- Academics Item 1 - Gaggle - this item will be pulled from the Agenda - scaling back due to the reduction in the one on one devices
- Academics Item 2 - FIN - Chairman Lee asked that more clarity be included in agenda items by including fiscal impact - i.e. - is it already part of the budget - are dollars being shifted from one place to another
- Academics Item 4 - Student Progression Plan - Board would like to Workshop prior to meeting
- Academics Item 5 - Over-Age Students - Superintendent will provide list of in-kind contributions; Board Member Hall requested the number of students that fall into this category, along with a projection of the number of students going to the satellite sites; Board Member Wright requested information on students - how many overage by years and by grade
- Academics Item 7 - PACE - provide Board with copy of agreement; provide Board with data on how students perform when they return to the school system
- Academics Item 8 SCCM - Board Member Hall would like to workshop technology and infrastructure - we need to look at how everything comes together

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman
 Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent
 Ms. Becki Couch, Board Vice-Chairman
 Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member
 Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member
 Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
 Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET RESPONSE

Minutes:

The Superintendent provided the Board with handouts on the budget questions submitted by Board Members. Discussion included the following:

- Categoricals are included in this version of the budget.
- Scaling back Reading and Math Coaches and the one-on-one devices.
- Dual Enrollment impact - if we continue the program as it is now, the cost will increase \$545,000. Staff is trying to preserve the program for the students already enrolled, and move as many classes as possible to the school level. We will limit the number of classes on college campuses.
- Virtual School - moving from Florida Virtual to Duval Virtual. All high school students will have to take one virtual class. Staff is working to create a hybrid version that can be taken in class.
- Charters - if all stay at capacity, we will face a reduction in funding of \$57 million - \$52 million if pass through dollars and \$6 million in categorical.
- Despite severity of some of the losses, the Superintendent believes that in the

curriculum and instruction area we will be ok and can do a lot of things on assessment, curriculum guides, intervention, Saturday school, and night intervention. Scaling back on the one-on-one devices and additions to school allocations, as well as refining coach positions to the C, D, and F, schools, will allow us to stick to our mission.

- Timeline - date for approval of the budget is July 30th.
- Staff to provide the Board with a breakdown on how we pay Charter schools.
- Board Member Wright brought up the article in the Times-Union that said the Board was confused about the budget. She pointed out that the Board was not confused, but was asking questions, and we need to be careful on the message we are sending. The Chairman agreed.
- Staff will add an explanation to the Monthly Financial Statement regarding Charter School allocations by adding a line item.
- Charter Schools - The contracts will be available for review a week prior to the June 10, 2013, Board Meeting.
- Head Start - 2,000 slots have been given to the Urban League and Episcopal. The Superintendent would like to compete for some of the slots. Episcopal would like to partner with the school system. Board Member Wright asked if he would also reach out to the Urban League for partnership options. The Superintendent will work with her on reaching out to the Urban League.

Speakers:

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Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Committee Meeting at 11:44 a.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman