



E-AGENDA MANAGER

# Duval County Public Schools

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May 27, 2015, Board Member Meeting - Budget

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 : Board Members Becki Couch, Constance Hall, Paula Wright and Vice - Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez were present. Michelle Begley, Board Internal Auditor were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[Call Meeting To Order](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 1:25 p.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[Budget](#)

Minutes:

The budget documents that were distributed by the Superintendent for the May 19, 2015, Committee Meeting and Workshop were discussed.

Additional State Revenue - \$31,697,290

Discussion included the potential impact of the upcoming legislative session regarding this amount in the 2015-2016 proposed budget. According to the Superintendent's PowerPoint provided for the May 19, 2015, meeting, the anticipated difference between the Governor and the Legislature was approximately \$5 million. Board members indicated that they would like to see the anticipated decrease in funding reflected in the 2015-2016 proposed budget summary document.

Total Unassigned Fund Balance - \$61,800,000

Ms. Begley indicated that this amount comes from the monthly fund balance report provided to the Board by the Superintendent, as requested by Board Member Couch in a BMR. The \$61,800,000 projected unassigned fund balance has been reported since the December 31, 2014, report and has been unchanged through the April 30, 2015, report. Since the 2014-2015 fiscal year end is close, it would seem reasonable that an amended projected unassigned fund balance would have been calculated by the Budget Office. Typically, the Budget Office would calculate a new projected fund balance in February or March. This has been discussed with the Chief Financial Officer and she has indicated that no change in the projection is anticipated.

Charter and Contract Schools – Net of Categoricals - \$64,357,356

Discussion included the \$7.4 million projected impact of increased charter enrollment. Board members expressed concerns regarding projected impact and indicated that they would like to see the anticipated impact reflected in the document.

School Allocation Plan 2015-2016 - \$575,668,234

Discussion included the increase in the cost of the proposed 2015-2016 school allocation plan over the 2014-2015 plan. Ms. Begley indicated that the increase over the proposed 2014-2015 school allocation plan was approximately \$17,000,000. This information was previously conveyed to the Board by Ms. Begley in an email. The majority of the increase is attributed to an increase in positions and a smaller part of the increase is attributed to a small increase in benefits from 36.8% to 37.1%. The change in benefits was previously presented to the Board by the Superintendent. A complete reconciliation of the cost differences between the two school allocation plans had not been accomplished because the Board did not receive a school allocation plan by school for 2014-2015. Therefore, it is difficult to determine in detail the source of all the differences between the two plans.

Average Salaries in School Allocation Plan

Board members inquired about the average salary amounts in the 2015-2016 school allocation plan since the Superintendent had previously indicated that staff was using the same average salary amount from 2014-2015. Ms. Begley indicated that she had communicated with the CFO regarding the average salary amounts and had received various Budget

Office calculations. She also indicated that she ran salary reports before and after the payout of the Board-approved salary increases. The information on the reports seems to indicate that the average salaries after the payout were consistent with the average salary amounts used in the 2015-2016 school allocation plan. The actual average salaries before the payout were lower than the average salaries used in the 2014-2015 school allocation plan. As the gap between actual average salaries and budgeted average salaries narrow, the amount of lapse salaries at the end of each fiscal year should decrease.

District Level Salary and Benefit (\$64,427,001) and District Level Initiatives (\$161,173,662)

The Board members reviewed the information contained in the detailed budget document provided by the Superintendent. They noted the following:

- The funding for reading coaches had been changed from Supplemental Academic Instruction categorical funding (SAI) to Reading Instruction categorical funding (Reading Instruction) and Title II and funding for test coordinators had been changed from Title II to SAI (amounts for both positions were approximately \$3,000,000).
- Approximately \$1.1 million of summer school funding was changed from SAI to Reading Instruction.
- Funding for EngageNY included \$700,000 out of Instructional Materials categorical funding and \$2.5 million out of Reading Instruction.
- Funding for the Lowest 300 Elementary (\$2,064,797) had been eliminated out of Reading Instruction pending state legislation. This was also indicated in the Superintendent's PowerPoint. Board members expressed concerns regarding the estimated amount for the 2015-2016 budget should the mandate remain and be unfunded again. They also indicated that they would like to see the anticipated impact reflected in the 2015-2016 proposed budget summary document.
- Approximately \$1.2 million of district personnel were shifted from Title I to SAI. Ms. Begley indicated that this reflected the shift in administrative positions as discussed by the Superintendent. Board members also discussed the potential impact of the Project Award Notification on the Title I budget and the General Fund budget.

Board members discussed when the next budget discussion was and what next steps needed to be taken. They indicated it would be beneficial to have a similar discussion like today with the Superintendent and offered to meet with him on Friday afternoon, pending his availability.

Adjournment

[Adjournment](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

MGB

We Agree on this

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Superintendent

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Chairman