



Duval County Public Schools

May 28, 2014, Board Workshop

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present, with the exception of Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, however, Board Member Juarez participated via telephone. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, was also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 3:06 p.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. BUDGET](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent shared an update with the Board on options discussed at the last Workshop. Documents previously e-mailed to the Board are attached to the Minutes.

Discussion included the following:

- The Superintendent indicated that to address the concerns expressed by the Board at the last budget Workshop, he is proposing the following:
 - Shift funding from Title II to Title I for Math Coaches
 - Move .5 for Test Chairs from General Revenue to Title II to fund at a whole
 - For \$1 million he can restore AP's for a total of \$12 million
- The above will allow a balanced budget.
- After running data, large elementary schools are defined at 750 students and not 900.
- The Superintendent explained the difference between Title I and Title II funding. Title I does not allow funds to be used for Test Chairs unless they are a Title I schools, which is not the case with Title II funds.
- Staff continues to work with DTU on the clerical cuts.
- The Superintendent said that he would start the budget process for 2015-2016 earlier than he did the 2014-2015 budget process, per the previous request of Board Members Hall and Juarez.
- Chairman Couch requested that the Board be provided with an updated one page summary. The previous document was provided at the April Workshop.
- Board Member Hall arrived at 3:20 p.m.
- The proposed clerical reduction remains at half those currently working at the District offices, and one position from each school. The Bookkeeper, Registrar and Principals secretary positions are not part of the cuts. Board Member Wright asked if they had talked to administration at the schools and taken into consideration all of the activities that it takes to run a school - enrollment during the summer; supplies and books coming in; safety; assisting parents and students; etc. Dr. Vitti indicated that cuts would be made under collective bargaining agreement guidelines which is on a seniority basis.
- Board Member Wright asked if there had been any conversations on non-reappointments to date for any employee group. The Superintendent indicated that some District level staff members were told of their non-reappointments, but no clerical staff had been called in to date due to negotiations with DTU. Some of those non-reappointed were invited to go back to the classroom or apply for other positions which may become open.
- Chairman Couch requested an updated Organizational Chart.
- After discussion, the consensus was to direct the Superintendent to move forward with the recommendations contained in the first bullet above.
- Board Member Hall asked about the Specialists positions and if the Superintendent was still keeping all of those positions. He indicated that there were a couple of reductions. He is looking at ways to further utilize these positions for the coming year and will come back to the Board with that information at a future date.
- Chairman Couch asked about a list of contracts provided and if those that had amounts that are above the \$100,000 threshold would be coming to the Board for approval. Dr. Vitti indicated that they would be brought to the Board.
- Board Member Wright asked if the clerical unit was the only one being downsized and, if so, why. The Superintendent indicated that they were the only unit and the reason was that they did not have a direct impact on student learning.

Housekeeping Items:

- The date of June 24th was selected to reschedule the Vicky Olson hearing.
- The July 8th Workshop will be canceled in order for staff to take vacations.
- The Chairman shared that we needed to decide on our representative to the FSBA Board of Directors. Currently Board Member Paula Wright is the vice person for our District. All agreed that Board Member Wright should be our representative for the coming year.
- Board Member Hall asked about the request from the Council of Great City Schools to submit a Resolution regarding the Males of Color Initiative. All agreed that the Superintendent should submit the Resolution on behalf of the District prior to the deadline. The Resolution can then be ratified at our June 9, 2014, Board meeting.

Speakers:

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

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 4:11 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman