



Duval County Public Schools

May 3, 2011, Regular Board Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman, Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair and Board Members: Ms. Martha Barrett, Ms. Becki Couch, Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes:

Pastor Jay Stuckey
Macedonia Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

Board Members

[1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 4 - MT. HERMAN EXCEPTIONAL CHILD CENTER](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Mark Cashen, principal, showed a Powerpoint presentation and made the following comments:

Thank you Chairman Gentry, Vice-Chairman Burney, Ms. Wright, and Mr. Pratt-Dannals for having us here this evening...My name is Mark Cashen, and I am the PROUD principal of Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center. As you can see, there are MANY, MANY points of pride that I could discuss about Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center, but tonight I want to focus on our latest and most visible one...the Mt. Herman Sensory Garden and Mobility Park!!!

This project is a direct result of all of the right stars aligning PERFECTLY at exactly the right moment...

Stars like the Mt. Herman Teachers who, for a number of years, have had this vision of an outdoor space for sensory exploration, academic learning, and mobility & movement for all of our students.

Stars like Ken Sutton, Executive Director of ESE/SS, who has ALWAYS supported the work of teachers for the benefit of students; and when the ARRA funds became available, Mr. Sutton redoubled his efforts to make sure that the right money got to the right places...for the right purposes. The garden itself costs nearly \$90K, so a significant portion of the cost of the garden was funded with ARRA funds...and I think that we all should be very proud of that fact.

Stars like the good people in our own Facilities and Maintenance Departments who got behind this project BIG TIME, and seemed really excited to do something so beautiful AND functional for Mt. Herman. Thanks especially to Cheryl Thompson in Facilities and Kevin Morgan in Maintenance.

Stars like DeWitt Gibbs from Bliss Products who immediately "got it" as we were explaining our concept for this space. He and his crew bent over backwards to see that this space met our needs and was also a place of beauty.

Stars like Marsha Oliver, Director for External Funding, who persisted in finding that perfect grant so that our vision could become a reality.

AND, last but NOT least, Stars like the Lowe's Company who, through the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, awarded Mt. Herman a grant in the amount of \$53,787.00 for this SUPER HEROES Project. This Sensory Garden and Mobility Park is a direct result of Lowe's commitment to the communities in which we live, and to their mission to "Let's Build Something Together."

I am proud to introduce to you the "Lowe's face" on this project, Mr. Zach Kelley, District Commercial Account Specialist.

Communications

[1. 2010-2011 NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS](#)

Minutes:

-- Our first presentation of the evening recognizes an outstanding group of leaders who provide Duval County Public Schools' students with high quality educational opportunities.

--This year, 18 Duval County public school teachers earned National Board Certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

--Achieving National Board Certification is the highest symbol of professional teaching excellence.

--Each of these individuals worked hard to achieve this important designation, and we applaud your commitment and achievement!

--We also would like to acknowledge our partner, Duval Teachers United, who assists in every aspect of the National Board Certification process.

----Would Ruby George, vice president of Duval Teachers United, please come to the podium to say a few words?

--As I call out the names of this year's National Board Certified teachers, will each of you please come up to the front to be recognized for your outstanding achievement.

- Julie Bott
- Susannah Chase
- Tanya Drell
- Marnitta George
- Christopher Harvey
- Sarah Kosak
- Sally Locy
- Darlene McCloud
- Christina Mowrey
- William Nettles
- Paula Nixon
- Karen Peterson
- Michele Spohn
- Eileen Swetnam
- Kelly Varano

--Also receiving this recognition are Janette Cifredo, Therese Mills and Debra Roberts, who were unable to be here this evening.

--Congratulations to each of you for successfully completing this rigorous process. As a district, we recognize and appreciate the amount of work you have accomplished.

[2. PARENT INVOLVEMENT RECOGNITION-MANDARIN HIGH AND LORETTO ELEMENTARY](#)

Minutes:

--The second presentation of the evening recognizes two of our schools for being selected as district winners for their parent involvement programs.

-- Parent Involvement Programs are programs that are created at the school level to draw parents into learning activities with their children.

--First I would like to ask Christopher Begley, principal at Loretto Elementary, and Lani (Loni) Derby, assistant principal, to come to the front.

--Loretto Elementary's program was "FCAT Nights with Publix." The mission of the program was to integrate reading and math skills into real life situations.

--Parents and students had to go to Publix to research the answers to reading and math questions, and upon completion of their papers they received a prize – compliments of Publix.

--Congratulations Loretto Elementary on your successful program!

--Before I call up our next honoree, I would like to ask Board member Hazouri to come to the front to present this next school with their certificate.

--Would Cynthia Grissett, assistant principal at Mandarin High School, PTSA Board member Cindy Moultrie and SAC Chair Robert Richter to come to the front?

--Mandarin High's parent involvement program is called Mentoring Mondays. Mentoring Mondays are for students who need additional assistance with reading.

--These students join adult mentors on the third Monday of the month for breakfast and discussion about the FCAT, SAT, ACT and CPT preparation, and about character building.

--Along with the district award, Mandarin High's program has also been selected as one of the state winners. This is an outstanding accomplishment and you should be proud of everyone who participated in the program.

--The ideas for both programs will be included in the state publication SPARKPLUGS, which will be available online through the Department of Education.

--Congratulations to both Loretto Elementary and Mandarin High for creating these instrumental programs.

[3. RIVER CITY SCIENCE ACADEMY RECOGNITION AS SERVICE LEARNING LEADER SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

--For the next presentation of the evening, I would like to recognize River City Science Academy for being selected by Florida Learn & Serve as a Service-Learning Leader School.

--Will principal Dr. Dogan Tozoglu and teacher Leah Rose please come to the front?

--Florida Learn & Serve annually recognizes elementary, middle, and high schools from across Florida for high-quality service-learning.

--Winners receive state-level recognition and are eligible to apply for

supplemental funds from the Florida Department of Education's Florida Learn & Serve program for three years.

--River City Science Academy was one of three schools selected as this year's winners.

--Their service-learning program started four years ago as just a community service club that supported the mission of bringing awareness to students about societal difficulties and obstacles in our community.

--Some projects the students participated in include Shoeboxes of Love, a 5k Run for Haiti and providing services to the Down To Earth Farm.

--Congratulations to River City Science Academy for receiving this recognition.

4. BUSINESS PARTNER RECOGNITION-CITI FOR THEIR WORK WITH SCHOOLS

Minutes:

--The final presentation of the evening recognizes one of our business partners, Citi for their work with Beauclerc Elementary and San Jose Elementary.

--I would like to ask Laura Zablah, senior vice president of Human Resources to please come to the front.

--Citi donated \$10,000 to our ESOL/Dual Language Program. This money will be used to purchase books for kindergarten through second-grade students.

--This generous donation will impact approximately 150 students at Beauclerc Elementary and San Jose Elementary.

--Citi is also providing volunteers to mentor at both of these schools.

--We look forward to our continued partnership with Citi and thank them for their thoughtful donation to these schools and students.

Comments From Audience

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Minutes:

Ms. Colleen Wood , Executive Director of Save Duval Schools, said this has been a touch

legislative session which would be an understatement. I've been watching them for a few years and there was something different. Never before could you predict the vote of every single committee meeting before you even walked in. We've had many volunteers who have tried to reach out and we've launched a campaign called "Reach 10". Reach. 10.org where you had the top ten names of legislators to call to support public schools and one of our supporters did and she received an email back from Senator Haridopolos that said, *"thanks, but you're really not one of my constituents."* You may want to get out your pens because what I'm going to say right now is that Senator Haridopolos is running for Senate and, yes sir, I am one of your constituents if you are running for the U.S. Senate and you can call him at 850/487-5229 and let him know what you think about the value of public education. When the Governor of our state says that funding for education has been held level, that is a lie. We have called it "misleading" and lots of things, but it is a lie and it is not true. The federal stimulus dollars that we no longer have were state dollars up until two years ago. That is a cut to our schools; it is a cut to our children and it is unacceptable. You can call him at 850/488-7146 because it can't be upsetting and unacceptable to a few of us. It has to be to the entire community and we all have to make those calls. When you hear from Speaker Cannon that you will get property tax relief....think about that for a minute...when Amendment One came through and you got that property tax relief, you also received a bill from the City of Jacksonville to make up for what the state no longer funded. You can reach him, too, on our website. A reporter recently said what really needs to happen is that creating a society that puts a priority on education where all parents know and understand how to nurture learning in their children and where all children feel supported in their educational endeavors. It requires a huge attitudinal shift from the parents who don't have books in the house to the tax payers who scoff at the importance of pre-school. I would also argue it requires politicians who care more about the people they represent than the party that funds them. For all of the people here in this room who are here to plead your case before the Board, no that it is our legislature who is forcing them to made decisions that they may feel are not in the best interest of the children, but they have been given no choice. The only ones who have a choice are the voters. Thank you.

Mr. Isaiah Rumlin, president of the Jacksonville Branch of the NAACP, said recently this Board voted 4-3 to authorize Duval County Public Schools to enter into contract and agreement with Duval Partners for Excellent Education, Inc. as an Educational Management Organization (EMO) to operate this school district designated Intervene Schools. As you know, the local branch of the NAACP is opposed to these schools being managed by EMO's or any other entity other than the elected School Board representatives for these schools. While this EMO decision is retained upon the school's FCAT performance this year, there are numerous questions that the NAACP and this community want this Board and the Superintendent to address regarding these schools. These schools did not get into Intervene status over night; therefore, the question as to who should be held accountable must be and should be addressed. The leadership buck in Duval County Public Schools should stop at the Superintendent's and Boards' desks. The NAACP and this community are demanding that this Superintendent and this Board be held accountable for allowing these schools to continually decline. If the Superintendent and the Board can not assure the parents and this community that education excellence is going to occur in these schools, then we need a change in leadership at the highest level and at the Board level. I urge this Board to tie administration compensation and continued employment to student performance at

Intervene schools and all schools that are considered as "challenged" schools in this district. In summary, the Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent, Chief of Secondary Turnaround Clusters, Chief Officers for Academic Services, Chief Human Resources Officers and any other senior staff that has direct responsibilities for the schools should not be retained or compensated unless these schools exit Intervene status. We must hold not only the School Board personnel accountable for student performance, but district staff, too. It is time to hold everyone accountable for school performance and I urge this Board to evaluate your employees, accordingly. In closing, it is imperative that parents and this community be informed as to the management and the instruction of design, curriculum and academic programs, funding and other school components that will be implemented at the Intervene schools. Therefore, I urge this Board, the Superintendent and the EMO to take immediate steps and communicate this information and you can not wait until July to start this process; you must begin now and communicate a timetable to this community as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention, tonight, and I and the NAACP look forward to your response regarding the accountability for all personnel and the communication strategy that you will be implementing to make parents aware of what is going to happen to the Intervene schools in the year 2011-2012. thank you very much.

Ms. Elnora Atkins said I wear many hats and tonight I'm wearing the hat of the Facilitator from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning. I'd like to personally invite each Board member to attend 2011 Duval County Learning Showcase next Wednesday, May 11 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. You have all received invitations and we want you to know that you will be recognized on the program which begins at 5:20 p.m. the Learning Showcase will be held at the University of North Florida and will culminate in a year's work of teachers inquiry. Teachers from 10 Lastinger schools have found time to do inquiry in addition to doing their day-to-day teaching. Last year, we had over 120 topics that were researched and discussed by over 200 teachers. Again, I want to personally invite you to attend the Showcase and you will be recognized at the meeting. Thank you and I'll leave some flyers for you.

Mr. Tad Delegal said I appreciate the opportunity to address the Board tonight on behalf of my client, Noreen Wynne. Ms. Wynne is before the Board on a request for an immediate suspension. There was, apparently, an investigation conducted by DCF and I understand in this case and I think the Board has experienced the problems in the recent past, of teachers being accused of misconduct with regard to children only to have the allegations shown to not be sustained. I think it's a problem in this case, too, because like the other case that you had before you, you have here a situation where the investigation was not conducted by the School Board. It was outsourced to another entity; in this case, DCF. Frankly, we did not even know the allegations against my client until Friday when we finally got a public records request response from DCF. It is my understanding is the School Board has not even received copies of the investigative materials, has not received the facts of this investigation, but merely went upon the findings of DCF and I think that's troubling. I've gone through the findings/factual investigation here and there is a good number of troubling facts and steps that were taken in this investigation and I would ask you to carefully evaluate this case and make a decision to either not sustain the immediate suspension or at least have your own investigator, you have very competent investigators, here, review the facts and evaluate them and determine whether, in fact, immediate suspension is warranted. In this case, what we have is a teacher who is teaching children with disabilities. By all accounts, she

has a highly disruptive student who is attacking other students in the classroom. She takes this student to the back area in the classroom facility (there's a hallway back there near a bathroom). Her account is that she takes the student back to the area, the student then calms and goes to the restroom. He later harms himself; the teacher goes back to check on the welfare of the child and finds that he is bloody. He's not severely injured, but he is bleeding. The only other witness in the classroom who was able to give any testimony was the aide. The aide testified or gave indications to DCF that the teacher actually held the bathroom door and kept the child in there and used it as some form of punishment. The fact is that you had a number of other kids in this classroom; all disabled kids and, frankly, it doesn't make any sense what the aide is testifying to because somebody had to be watching those other kids and you couldn't see the restroom area from where the aide was. There's a lot of complicated facts here. I would urge the Board to take caution in this case and not sustain an immediate suspension. Thank you.

Ms. Rebecca White, Vice President of the American Heart Association here on the First Coast and I have talked with all of my legislators and I have personally had a conversation with Representative Davis regarding the issues with the support of physical education and sports in the schools. On behalf of the American Heart Association, we are here to ask you for your continued support as I have heard clearly from all of you, wanting to keep physical education in schools and supporting sports. We understand that right now you may feel your hands are tied, but inevitably, this decision will have to be made and you will have to make that decision. In the past 30 years, obesity in the United States has tripled. One out of every three children or teenager is overweight or obese and obesity is directly linked to heart disease, cancer, diabetes and many other health problems. Children who are overweight or obese grow up to become obese or overweight adults. In fact, you may have heard this, but if not, this may be the very first generation to not outlive their parents. Florida is the 17th highest for obesity rate at 33% of our children which is almost double the national standard. In 2006, Jacksonville's Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy recommended Duval County Public Schools enforce policies which mandate all physical education that possess professional certification for teaching physical education. Physical education is more than a glorified recess. We ask and we know that study after study shows the direct link between exercise and cognitive thinking. If some of these stats don't alarm you enough, image then in 2006, only 50% of children could even pass the Presidential Fitness Challenge. I understand and I am here to support at the legislative level and I understand that Duval County schools is faced with a difficult decision. I know that you have heard and I know you support and keep physical education and sports, now I ask that you just show us and you keep physical education and sports. Thank you.

Mr. Tom Nasby, on the Board of the American Heart Association and said according to the University of Wisconsin, population Health Report published in March of this year, Duval County ranks 46 out of the 67 counties in our state based on health outcomes. This result is especially deserving given the access of care and quality of care offered in this county is #7 out of 67 counties. Obesity has been directly linked to heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer and other health problems costing the county an additional \$147 billion dollars. The financial cost of obesity to the local community in terms of healthcare costs and other indirect costs, such as time away from work, are significant. Total cost of overweight and obesity were estimated at \$350 million dollars for Duval County. In the next 20 years, more than 40% of the U.S. population is expected to

have some form of cardio vascular disease and this will triple the total medical cost of caring for hypertension, coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke and other forms of cardio vascular disease. The American Heart Association also estimates that the prevalence of cardio vascular disease will increase by approximately 10% over the next 20 years given no change in prevention and treatment of trends. These are all facts that we have to deal with and it all starts at the very beginning of our school-age situation and lives for the rest of our lives. Thank you very much.

Mr. Nelson Cuba, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, and I will be quick. Let me give you real life. I understand and I guess, the Senate and House came to an agreement and the slashing that they are going to do in the budget is going to affect schools and hospitals. That's where the big cuts are going to be so you're going to have some tough decisions to make, but I can tell you as a child growing up in public housing in Miami, Florida, the only time that I spent in physical education or any type of physical activity was when I was in school because when I got home, my Mom got home too late and not allow us to play because of the dangerous environment we lived in. Today, the kids are having to deal with those same issues. The problem is not just going on in the inner city where the parent can't allow the kids to be out and don't want them out when they're not home, it's happening all around the city. So,, the only other physical activity these children would have is when weekends come around and the parents are able to take them to the park and spend time because they don't want them to put themselves into a situation where something happens to them and no adult supervision is there. I know the tough decisions have to be made but remember, the only physical activity many of these kids will have will be the time spent in school. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Valerie Feinberg, said I am a Health Planning Counselor of Northeast Florida and a parent who has two middle school children at Julia Landon Middle School. I just want to tell you what the Health Planning Council is doing for community schools. We're working towards developing healthy communities. We recently facilitated a program at Julia Landon Middle School for safe routes to school. The program was structured around improving infrastructure around the school within two miles of the school. The Department of Transportation has a program to fund sidewalk improvements, crosswalks and other things. What we did is facilitate the program with the students, administration, parents and identified areas in and around the school that were not safe. Landon, being a neighborhood school, many kids walking and biking, is running into many unsafe conditions which they pointed out to us. We made application to the Department of Transportation because there are funds available for improvements and we made that application on behalf of the school and the community. Neighborhood schools are a real important element of community and it's the fabric that ties them together. In providing this opportunity to the school, to have kids walk and ride their bikes, is just why people live in the community and attend the neighborhood school. I just wanted to tell you about the program. This is a pilot program that we did and was applied for Duval County schools; others have done it before but nobody in Duval County has taken advantage of this funding source. In a time when funds are tight, it makes a lot of sense. In addition to this, we're also have a grant to do an education program on walking and biking safely, also piloted for Landon and we can bring to other schools in Duval County. It really revolves around neighborhood schools, communities schools where kids can walk and ride their bikes safely. I just wanted to let you know about the program and I've spoken to several of you about it and it's a great program. It also gives children an opportunity to get some exercise that they might not be getting

during the school hours, as well. Thank you.

Ms. Jazzman Buckman said I am a rising senior at William Raines Senior High School. I would like to know how hard Jacksonville is planning for our lottery dollars use for the Bright Futures Scholarships to remain in existence for high school seniors? Students would have to take out loans if our scholarships are taken away. Many students are depending on scholarships in order to go to college. So, we need our scholarships and if you take out a loan, that's more money they will have to pay back. Then, more students would be in debt. Please, we need our scholarships. Thank you.

Mr. Casey Barnum said I'd like to applaud our students. On January 25, 1965, during a high and most turbulent desegregation period in Jacksonville, Florida, William Raines was modeled by renowned educator Dr. Andrew A. Robinson. Dr. Robinson afforded time and resources, carefully hand picked accomplished teachers to administer his plans of amassing a high school; sought the enrollment of the most important cog in the "Cardinal Red & Gray" machine. Yes, that key remaining aspect was a prestigious student body that annually convenes on Raines' Magnolia Gardens campus. Students, in general, have continually shown to be as "Vital" as roots were to Dr. Robinson's seeded educational dreams. Students have not only been beneficial to Raines' long standing legacy, but have throughout history made positive influences on the decisions surrounding education, civic issues and our heritage, as a whole. And, "STILL" today, students stand as the most resilient and effective sector of our community if not all of society. This statement is bold yet objective for throughout time, there have been many distress situations with not a more respondent group than our students...students you find are always up to task. For instance, in a time when academia diversity was adamantly delayed, it was a student, James Meredith, who forged change on October 1, 1962 after twice being denied enrollment. Mr. Meredith became the first African American student at the University of Mississippi. Mr. Meredith's persistence was highlighted by saying that "...I am familiar with the probable difficulties involved in such a move as I am undertaking and I am fully prepared to pursue it all the way..." Mr. Meredith did just that by staying the course onto successfully changing the minds of Mississippi. In 1963 during civil unrest in nearby St. Augustine, there were sixteen young activists of those mainly Joe Ann Anderson, Audrey Nell Edwards, Willie Carl Singleton and Samuel White who became better known as "The St. Augustine Four". These courageous students led movements that garnished global attention to the extent where their actions spearheaded national compassion that influenced the later passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Also, on August 27, 1960, when an even closer unjust storm brewed here in Jacksonville found in its core, then teenager, Rodney L. Hurst, Sr. Mr. Hurst, at that time, headed a distinguished Youth Council Group and was joined by 34 fellow students who peacefully challenged segregated lunch counters for nearly eight months in Hemming Plaza. These students' bravery helped to make Duval County more of a civil place than it was before their keen actions. Mr. Hurst wrote his intentions as a student leader in the book entitled "*It was Never About a Hot Dog and a Coke*". Then, recently, on Thursday, April 21, 2011, within a Duval County School Board meeting, there existed a developing warming air of doubt, concern and stickiness felt amongst the intervening communities in attendance. On that heated day, parents, clergy, alumni, teachers and advocates of Raines, Ribault, Jackson and North Shore expressed issues before the district seeking a cool relief for the sake of their respective alma mater. Words of construction were given in effort to influence the district's pending plans. There were arousing presentations by each community

stakeholder; yet, the most comforting theme spawned from the student body of William M. Raines High School. Student leaders of Raines spoke beyond their years. Those student continued to lead by nature just as the students long before them. Note, Ms. Ayanna Thomas a.k.a. "Little Burney", Class of 2012, answered the intuitive call to lighten the air on that Thursday by speaking to our issues with the wit of First Lady Michele Obama and exclaiming a plan of action with the exuberance of a newly crowned Miss Raines. Also, Mr. Breion Easton. Class of 2011, as the current Mr. Raines, exuded the brilliance and accomplishments of Imhotep while exhibiting the necessary calmness and decorum of a young visionary with the likes of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our students impressed and refreshed those in attendance on April 21 and have further compelled faculty, alumni and their fellow classmate by organizing a stance of their own in full support of our schools. On Tuesday, April 26, 2011 on the School Board grounds, a proud collection of Raines students led by "The Fantastic Four", (Ms. Ayanna Thomas, Class of 2011, Mr. Darius Masline, Class of 2012, Mr. DevRon Lester, Class of 2012 and Mr. Jerry Brown, Class of 2011) - these four did all students well by respectfully addressing their thoughts before the Superintendent and media. With their ideal actions, our students have affirmed, once more just as past insightful students have, that it is imperative for us to involve in some sort the ideas and leadership qualities of our "oh so essential" students. Let us now support them and our schools by sustaining their model stories. Thank you. Ichiban.

Ms. Ayanna Thomas said when I took a chorus class back at LaVilla, I was taught a little song that helped me remember my posture when singing, *"Feet, feet flat on the floor; back away from the chair, chest up; chin down; always sing with care"* and I have always been taught when presenting myself before anyone, to stand up with my chest held high and my chin level so that way, I'm presenting myself in a peaceful manner. Thank you. First of all, I would like to start with the decision on the EMO. There's been a lot of talk about it but one concern I have was that Duval Partners seem to be the selection choice for who will be taking over our schools should they not make our grade or significant gains. I thought that all those people on that Board have full time jobs, so how would they be able to run the schools at the same time? Another point I'd like to express is that I feel...using the word "fair" would probably make me be labeled as emotional, so I'll just say that it isn't just that the schools...the students attending the four Intervene schools: Raines, Ribault, Jackson and NorthShore K-8, that mostly these schools have Level 1 and 2 students and when you take the top students away from the school, how can you expect the rest to carry itself? That's like having babies carrying a two ton bus which is not possible. Another statement that I'd like to make, is a rhetorical question, on average in local high schools, how many students graduate each year, what is the ratio of graduating schools as opposed to the non-graduating students? Another thing I'd like to say is being a student and attending school, I feel as if that you can't just be a student getting your education....you have to be willing to fight for your school and if you feel that you are not receiving a quality education for all, then I believe it's my duty to express my concern for my school, to express my concern for the students attending those schools, and to express my concern on behalf of those students who may not want to get up here and speak and share their comments. So, when a student or groups of students come out to share support for their school, protest or rally, I believe that it is very unsupportive, unjust and just down right disrespectful for someone to challenge those notions of those students if they think that they are doing something to better their education. Thank you for listening to me and I'm sorry that I went over my three minutes.

Ms. Marilyn Hughes said I was former president of of M. B. Hughes and Associates, Inc. which has projects throughout the state of Florida. First of all, I'd like to commend those teachers and I have to do a little boasting because my successes have been due to wonderful teachers from my high school outside of Murphy, North Carolina. All of you teachers are such a vital of these students and young ladies, I am so proud of you. I promised these students from Ribault, Raines and Jackson that I would be here to support them, tonight. I would like all of you Board members regarding this EMO, please let's fight. We've got a School Board, voters to make decisions on our schools and I have some wonderful friends that have attended these schools who are very successful people. I've had the opportunity to work with some of them and I'd like to reiterate what Mr. Cuba said...let's keep these kids in school and keep physical education and sports, as well. God Bless Dan Mackey who came from Andrew Jackson High and I'm familiar with Ysryl with the Jacksonville Youth Works, Inc. Let's keep these kids on the right side of the fence. These young ladies are not illiterate; they are very intelligent. As long as we can educate our kids, we will keep them out of jail and prison. Again, I'd like to contribue my success to wonderful, loving and caring teachers out of Murphy, North Caroline. I'd, also, like to commend the Mt. Herman Exceptional School because I have a niece who is in Tennessee and I applaud them for what they are doing. Thank you.

Mr. Willie Hall said, respectfully, I will be using most of my three minutes, if not all. I want to say that I am speaking as a private citizen and I'm not representing any organization. These are my own beliefs. I am not in agreement with the decision to hire an EMO to run our Intervene schools. That decision leaves the Board experimenting with our babies and we're tired of the Duval County Public Schools experimenting with African American students. The Board experimented with our students in the 1960's when the white students and faculty at Jean Ribault High School didn't want us there; this Board experimented with our students in the 1970's when you took 75% of our African American teachers and sent them to other schools during integration; this Board experimented with our students in the 1980's with the magnet school programs where you took the elite and the best of our students and sent them to other schools; and you experiemented in the early 1990's when you did the rezoning and you labeled Raines a Technology Magnet Program but didn't put any funding, programs or equipment behind the name, so we want you to STOP experimenting with our students. The EMO that you have selected has no record of turning around an Intervene school. You don't know how much and you have not told us how much the EMO and this plan is going to cost. There have been other reports where other districts have spent millions of dollars. Students have submitted paperwork to you whereby they have done their own research. Ms. Wright, at the last meeting, submitted information where she has called the state asking questions about EMO's. These are things that should be done by our leadership and other Board members; not just a select few and our students. I have asked the aide to pass out to you a flyer about a documentary film that is being produced in support of Raines High School and it details the history of our schools and why these schools are so important. The film is called, "*We Remember Raines*" and there's a link for your review of the documentary. I want you to think about the decision you are making...this blind decision with no supporting data, with no history of improvement. There's a pastor on this group, a Board member being paid by a Board of Director; these people have full time jobs. How are they going to full time manage four schools? How can they do the job that you have been chosen full time to

do? Thank you.

Dr. Eugene Diamond said I am representing the Baptist Ministers Alliance of Duval County and adjacent counties. We're back, again, Mr. Chair, we've heard how much time this is taking in Board meetings to hear everybody, but we won't go away; we'll keep coming and spending time and it will keep running you into the night. We're asking simply for you all to just do what we know can happen. We don't need an outside management company. I am so sorry you all voted on that. Why don't we look at the gains that have been done by the students? I know we're waiting on the test results to come back. I believe the gains will speak for themselves and show that there is improvement happening. Last year, there was enough improvement to give us hope that this thing is turning around and it started. This year, I believe we will see the same thing. So, why now, when we're turning the ship and you don't turn the ship on a dime because we didn't get here over night? It will take us awhile to turn it around, but it's starting to turn and now ought to be the time if the School Board doesn't bail out, but actually join now the community and the parents that are giving support and fight for this thing. We've been waiting on parents getting involved; the community getting behind the schools and now, that it's all starting to happen, to bring in an outside company, you'll lose the support you've been trying to garnish for years. We ask that you now join and let's partner and work together. I'm not asking anyone to step down. I believe we can do it with the folk that we've got, but we need to partner. Give us a chance as that's all we ask. God bless and thank you for your time.

Reverend Ray Coleman said I'm also with the Baptist Ministers Alliance. Last week, we saw the children marching and walking - tip of the iceberg. The ministers and several pastors here today and there will be more coming on board. Think about what you are doing to our schools and our people. We are not any longer going to sit still and just allow it to happen. We're coming together and if you want to wake up the little sleeping giant, continue on the same path and that's what is going to happen.

Ms. Barbara Colaiello said I'm the Education Director of Players by the Sea and I'm also a representative of ACE. I just want to share a really quick story with you. For the past 15 years, I teach drama, art, mentor teachers and I believe in the creative process and how it can change a child's life in an instant. I'm giving you an example. In my theater, we were doing an acting exercise where children have an emotion and dress up as that emotion and then put that in motion in an environment to learn how to personify it and one of the girls dressed up completely in red and obviously, she was anger, and she decided to place herself in Congress. This was a 5th grader and she began to speak very earnestly about how we needed the arts in education. She said you have to be able to sing every day; run, and draw. I was thinking how great this was and she started a theme and then every other child ended up in Congress. The entire class through the activity, they were able to express their frustration of what was happening in the world and that's what is great about art. All of us need to have art as an outlet. When we create, we don't have a fight but have this great painting...we must encourage children to know that the arts is an integral part of our life...it's breathing, eating and creating. It's not always a right answer or a wrong answer; sometimes it's whatever answer you come up with. We need to teach our children how to make decisions and find that process, themselves. They need critical thinking and you do it through the arts. Thank you so much and I know you've always supported arts in the schools and I know your hands are tied. The arts are a necessity and not an "extra". Thank you.

Mr. Blake Menzel said I came before you last month in favor of keeping Priority One. I'm back this month with some friends and neighbors from the Landon Prior Neighborhood Attendance Zone to talk to you about some facts and information that have not been previously part of the discussion. The summary of our facts and arguments have been handed out to you, now. The first thing that I and others will be speaking to you about is the fact that the group that is advocating for a change to Priority One, is upset about the fact that a handful of students in 2010-2011 lottery did not receive their first or second choice in the middle school magnet lottery and so because of that, they have come up with an argument to basically suggests that because the Prior Neighborhood Attendance Zone from Landon takes advantage of Priority One in larger numbers than other schools, that this has somehow created a problem for Program Continuity access to the other middle schools and to Landon. What you'll hear this evening from other speakers, this is simply not the case. The best evidence of this is the most recent 2011-2012 lottery results. What you'll hear is that of those student who had Program Continuity to one of the three college prep magnets, every single one of them kept Program Continuity. In fact, even though they aren't guaranteed it, every single one of the ones that had Program Continuity, got their first choice in magnet schools. So, there is no Program Continuity problem to solve. That really should be the end of the discussion but perhaps, more importantly, to make a change to Priority One, this Board would have to renege on the promise that was made to the Landon Prior Neighborhood Attendance Zone as part of the magnet grant application process that took place in the year 2007. Speakers that follow me will talk about how Landon was a failing school in 2007 with declining enrollment and costing the county hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, just to keep its doors open. So, the School Board came up with the idea of converting Landon into a Leadership Magnet but you couldn't do it without the support of the local community. So, representatives of the School Board came to our community and represented both verbally and in writing as part of the Magnet Grant Application, that if we would get behind the school and support the application, that in return, the students from Landon's Prior Attendance Zone would receive Priority One. We'll show you the document where that was put in writing and so, we're here tonight saying that we did what you asked us to do. We wrote letters of support for Landon and we got behind Landon. We're largely the reason that Landon exists as a magnet, today. What we're asking from you is to live up to your end of the agreement. Keep Priority One in place; not a capped Priority One, real Priority One. Thank you.

Mr. Mark MacLean said I attended Duval County Public Schools in the 1960's and 1970's, graduated from Englewood High School and am a parent of a 6th grade student at Landon. In early April, 2007, as a member of the Hendricks Avenue Elementary SAC, I attended a meeting in which we were told the school system had a problem - it was Landon Middle School. A historic neighborhood yet consistently falling behind in academic performance. A school facility that had undergone a complete renovation in 2002, costing \$14,000,000 and a facility underutilized, a declining student population, and high operating costs. A middle school to which many neighborhood parents were choosing not to send their children to; in essence, a magnificent and expensive facility but a dying neighborhood school. A solution to the problem was presented. A proposal to establish Landon as a dedicated magnet, federal funds would be solicited from a grant program to establish Landon as a magnet school and it was asked and requested of us that evidence neighborhood and community support was part of the

grant application process to obtain these funds. Many asked, "Why should the community support the establishment of Landon as a magnet school?" In the end, the answer the community received was this: *"Students in the neighborhood attendance area for Landon would be given priority in the magnet application process and pursuant to that promise and reflecting the same, the grant application was submitted by Duval County to the federal government for the following language on page 137 of the grant narrative: Student who live in the original attendance areas of Julia Landon Middle School will be given an admission priority.* Moreover, it is expressly stated, again, in the grant application in the Table regarding the selection of Landon magnet students. Obviously, the U.S. Department of Education relied on what you stated in your grant application and we, as a community relied on this and continue to rely on this, as well. In accordance with the federal grant application, using federal funds, Landon Magnet Middle was established as a Priority One Neighborhood Preference School with no limits, no caps and no arbitrary percentages for neighborhood student attendance. I ask that you keep in mind your promise and all who have relied on your promise and keep Priority One for Landon. Thank you for your consideration.

Ms. Lisa Page said I was here last month and I was hoping to go last because I am here with a rebuttal argument to the Priority One argument. I think it is commendable that so many families from Landon are here, but this is not just a Landon issue and that's why it is so important. Yes, Landon's incoming 6th grade class, academically talented, is 50% neighborhood. The percentage of black population, free and reduced lunch population is dramatically decreasing year after year. I don't have that grant application that the gentleman held up, but I bet if I read through it, one of those promises, we as a county made to the federal government when we got it, is that we would uphold diversity and that is not just racial. It is geographic and socio-economic and we do not have that at Landon. I am a proud parent at James Weldon Johnson. James Weldon, thank you so much, is moving to a new facility and it's going to be wonderful, but we are now seeing the same issues with Priority One at the new James Weldon. We currently have under 3% at the current James Weldon building. At the new location for next year, we are up to 15% Priority One neighborhood. If something is not done with Priority One, our children and I know Landon feels that they were promised this, but Duval County, as a whole, was promised a fair magnet system for the entire county and I commend them for the action they've taken with Landon for the last three years, but where were those parents when Landon wasn't a magnet school? When it didn't get all of the federal money and didn't become a magnet school? I would venture to guess not very many of them attended that school. I think that they've done wonderful things, but the community, as a whole, needs to have a fair and equal opportunity to attend those schools. Although they have said it is in writing and that they have put letters of support, I am aware that the staff of the School Board and of the magnet program four years ago, did suggest to the Board that Priority One be moved to a Priority Four. Throughout the magnet book, there is nothing in there that says things can not be changed. We have changed things through out because we need to do what is fair and just for our children and that is if you're shutting down half of the Landon population and neighborhood and Dr. Hague's estimates have been right on. She's estimating that the neighborhood population at James Weldon can go as high as 30% and 70% Landon. If Landon wants it to be their neighborhood school, something just to throw out, maybe we take it out of the magnet program, let them funnel to Wolfson High School and they can go and do the same thing they've done at Landon but to keep the

Stanton/Paxon avenues open, the magnet program should be fair to all and it isn't. So, I thank you for your time and have a good evening.

Ms. Alicia MacLean and I represent the families who worked hard to provide the documentation needed to prove community support during that grant application process. When my husband returned from that SAC meeting at Hendricks where Kris Barnes and Dr. Coker-Daniels presented the need for proof of community support, we immediately went to work and through letter writing campaigns and petition signing events, we soon had the evidence for local support that the School Board needed from us. The final attachment to that grant application is comprised of over 90 letters of support ranging from local businesses, residents and politicians and over 300 signatures for support that we, as a community, generated in order for you to obtain that grant money. Our support was based on the promise which, although already seated, deserves, reiteration, here and that is that students who live in the original attendance areas of Julia Landon Middle School, will be given an admission priority. We were desperate for a quality school to send our children to...Landon was a failing school, so much so, that the School Board had continued to expand its boundaries just to try to fill the school and because of that expansion, the former neighborhood which constitutes Priority One for Landon, is multiple times larger than the former attendance zones for either of the other two middle schools. Therefore, it stands to reason that utilization of the school by the neighborhood families is going to exceed that of the other school by simple mathematics. You have got far more families in the former attendance area simply because of its large geography. To be specific, for the 2010 -2011 lottery, there were 1,112 eligible Priority One students for Landon, but only 305 for James Weldon Johnson and 105 for Darnell Cookman. Additionally, I'd like to dispell the perception that Landon is a San Marco school. If you look at the boundaries of the neighborhood, you will see it reaches from the St. Johns River eastward past Hogan Spring Glen Elementary School, northeast to the Arlington River, and south to Englewood Elementary. You can not eliminate or cap and, therefore, penalize the Landon neighborhood simply because of the vast geography that the school now has to serve. 39% attendance from the former attendance area is a success and is something that should be reproduced and not reduced. Don't forget, even with the neighborhood's large geography, 61% of the students are still coming from elsewhere in the county; not the neighborhood, but the county. You have asked us to support this school and we have done so overwhelmingly. This isn't a bad thing, in fact, it's exactly what you asked us to do. So, don't fix what isn't broken. Our suggestion is to create these same positive anomalies elsewhere in this city, but don't disrupt a good thing by eliminating neighborhood preference and implementing caps. Please keep your promise.

Ms. Victoria Alexander said I have been a supporter of the magnet program for over eleven years. My daughter attended Jacksonville Beach Elementary and Darnell Cookman. My oldest son is a seventh grader at Landon and I have twin boys at Jacksonville Beach Elementary and hope that they will have access to magnet schools. Tax payers pay costs for renovations to Landon so it will become a great magnet program school to benefit all of Jacksonville. Today's support for Landon comes from families all of our city. Landon should remain a choice for every child. Everyone here in this room paid for access to Landon. Please do not close these doors to our children living outside the neighborhood area. Thank you.

Ms. Darline Jones and I represent the families who are involved in the school system in

this local community. Having lived in this area my whole life, I had the fruitful experience of attending Landon Middle School as a child. Years ago, I bought my current home in the San Marco area so my children would have the opportunity to attend the neighborhood schools of Hendricks Avenue Elementary and Landon Middle, of which they did. My hope now is that my grandchild who also lives in this community and is now at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, will have the same experience as my children did. For many years, I have been involved in our community schools system through being a community activist. I am currently on the PTA Board at Hendricks Avenue Elementary and in addition, I am a member of SAC (School Advisory Council). I feel it is paramount that neighborhood preference for enrollment is kept in place as it is in order to maintain this community's continued interests and involvement in maintaining the great performance of our neighborhood schools. When Landon was converted to a magnet school four years ago, we were promised our neighborhood children would have Priority One access to attend. That promise emulated this community's involvement, contributing greatly to the school's success and new families that purchased homes, here, as a result of the neighborhood preference in these schools just as I did. It would do far more harm than good to go back on the Priority One preference promise to put a limited or cap priority in place. Many of our children are able to walk and/or ride bicycles to their school. To limit our children's access to the school we have long supported would be detrimental to their sense of stability and disheartening to the community and increase the difficulty of children getting transportation to school. Such an action would also put additional strain on the budget. Transportation is one of your options for cutbacks due to budget constraints. To limit the neighborhood's access to its school in order to make room for the students to be bused in from other neighborhoods would uproot our children and bus them to a school away from home. This would be costly and add to traffic problems and most assuredly, be more than a little disruptive to our children's needs and promises. Ladies and gentlemen, I would ask that you keep your promise. Keep neighborhood preference Priority One in place for Landon. Thank you.

Mr. Jorge Lopez said I represent the families who took the risk to go to Landon Middle School the first year it became a magnet. I recall four years ago, our family was very excited when we learned of the possibility of Landon Middle becoming a magnet with neighborhood preference. Our oldest son was in fourth grade at Hendricks Avenue. We were very anxious about middle school as we did not see many attractive options and the private schools were outside of our financial reach. Based upon a promise, a group in our community galvanized with great determination to make this a reality. It was our hope and passion that our children could go to a neighborhood where the parents would be involved as they are at Hendricks. Landon magnet became a reality largely because of this community. We were excited but anxious as we would be the first class of what was a failing school. This was our child and we knew that there were risks. Not many were willing to take that risk the first year. We took that risk and the children in that first class took that risk, but we were confident with the promise of neighborhood Priority One given to our community, Landon would be a good choice for us. The first year proved to be quite a challenge. Landon was not yet all that we had hoped and our son was struggling due to shortcomings that we perceived. In the evenings as he prepared for the next day, we would notice that he was obviously distressed and this went on for quite some time. He mentioned frequently what we considered to be persistent issues at Landon that first year. Enough so that we eventually we conceded that if he would finish out the year and matters did not improve, we would find an

alternative. In fact, we pulled him out for 7th grade and he was home schooled. Our dreams remained with neighborhood schools and to a great extent because of this community's dedication, Landon had become the success that we hoped for and our son returned to a very successful 8th grade year at Landon in a much improved environment. Now, the promise made to this community who took the risk is being challenged. We held up our end of the deal. Please keep your promise. Keep neighborhood Priority One in place for Landon. Thank you.

Ms. Michelle Tipton said I am a parent of a fourth grader at Jacksonville Beach Elementary and an eighth grader at Julia Landon. As a parent of children in both of these schools, I would like to respectfully request that each of you Board members this evening vote in support of the Superintendent's request last week to a formal review of the magnet department's Priority One system. We feel that is vitally important for this to be reviewed. Obviously, this evening, there is a lot of people with a lot of strong views and opinions and you have seen and will be seeing more facts and data. I feel that the cart has got behind the horse here and that we need to allow the system and the process happen the way that it should and given the magnet department and Dr. Hague the ability to do her proper review, analysis...she knows the numbers, she's the expert and she and her cohorts are amazingly talented at what they do and know what they do and I would like to formally request that you support the Superintendent's wishes and allow Dr. Hague and her department to do the proper research, put together their numbers and make a formal presentation to the Board so that we can see what the actual numbers are. Her recommendation can be made to the Board and then we can go through all of these parents wish opinions and that type of thing. If we allow this proper process to happen, I think that the truths and future suggestions and ideas will come from a department that is an expert in this area. They know the numbers and to guide you in the proper discretion of how this should be handled in the future. I thank you very much and have a good evening.

Mr. Deryle Calhoun said I'll be addressing the 2011-2012 lottery results. I'm also an alumni of Landon and Hendricks Avenue. Specifically, the focus has been on 25 students who didn't get their first priority, 25 out of 800+ seats and if you've heard of the 80/20 rule, we're spending a lot of time talking about the 25, so we're going to look at these 25, in particular. Landon represents about 1/3 of the total seats available. It's conversion opened the door for a lot of folks, not just the neighborhood and I should have said, I started my presentation on a slide 12 and now I'm on slide 14 on the handout. Slide 14 shows the total increase in seats at Landon afforded and you'll see a bubble in 2009 when Landon was added - 380 seats were added at Landon, an underutilized school which has already been talked about. That bubble will show up on slide 15 as 8th graders in 2011 - the subject of the complaint. You'll notice the blue piece of that bar are the 6th grade seats; they were diminished, again, because of that bubble and as those folks made their way through Landon, in 2012, they have been 105 additional seats added to 6th grade. So, that's the typical 6th grade allotment going forward. The pie chart before you here on the floor is also on page 16 of the presentation. Of the 25, 5 folks withdrew from the district and certainly shouldn't count them; 13 of the 25 ended up receiving their 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice off of a waiting list; 4 did not indicate a 2nd or 3rd choice in their lottery, thereby, reducing their chances greatly. So, of the 25, we're talking about 3 that did not receive program continuity and a funny thing, they chose LaVilla as their first choice which is not even program continuity. So, again, of the 800+ seats in 2011, we're focusing on 25 or 3%. 10 of

the 25 selected LaVilla as their first choice, again, program continuity is immaterial at that point; of those 10, only 5 listed Landon as their second choice. So, looking at Landon a little closer, 11 of the 25 selected Landon as their first choice but did not select a 2nd or 3rd choice, again, significantly reducing their ability to get in program continuity. Of those 11, 2 left the school district and 5 were accepted ultimately at either Landon or James Weldon Johnson. So, again, the bottom line is 3 of the 25 did not receive program continuity. For 2012, 100% of the priority 1-6 were placed and 87% of the 1-7 were accepted. If you look at a few excerpts from the 2012 Magnet Reference Guide, words such as "no guarantee", "program continuity", "is not automatic", "does not guarantee" and things of that nature are used. So, again, in summary, no one failed to receive program continuity in 2012. Landon's reduced 6th grade seats is no longer an issue and their neighborhood preference has not created a problem. I appreciate it and we've done our part. Thank you. (*See Attachment to the Minutes*)

Mr. Dave McDaniel said as a small family, we made financial decisions to stay in this area due to your promise and I hope you will think about that before you begin experimenting, again. Thank you.

Ms. Alexandra Cole and I represent the families who made a choice to move to the neighborhood in order to better give our children an opportunity to enhance their chances of attending Landon due to Priority One status. I have two daughters in Hendricks Avenue Elementary and we have plans to send them to Landon for middle school. My husband and I came here from Chicago, transferred by CSX, and while many acquaintances expressed the virtues of St. Johns and Clay County schools, our real estate agent and some personal research, led us to decide to live in this area. The school choice was the main reason we stayed here. Back then, there were already talks among the neighbors about turning Landon into a highly academic school and the choice of Hendricks Avenue Elementary was not difficult to make. Some of the attributes of attending this neighborhood school might have already been mentioned; however, it is worthwhile to stress the importance of continuity of the children's friendships, the easy access to the school, either by bike or walking as one of the previous speakers said, the sense of history of this area among other benefits. I have become very involved in the school as well as most of the parents in this area. I have volunteered teaching Spanish in my daughters' classes, participated actively in the activities our school offers to the students. I can see my daughters progressing together with their friends that chose to attend Landon. We all have an interest and vision for the future of these students. These Latina, like many others in this area, have embraced the culture of our neighborhood allowing our neighbors, on the same token, to appreciate the differences. This has allowed us to strengthen our relationships and to have an open mind to diversity. We are very pleased that the strengths of this neighborhood justified the choice we made to move here instead of St. Johns or Clay County. We don't want to move to another area just because the public school that we have around the corner would not have any space for our daughters. Please keep your promise, your neighborhood preference Priority One place for Landon and I appreciate your time. Thank you.

Mr. Jack Menzel said I'm here to represent all of the students who took a chance and decided to attend Landon in the first year, became a Gifted and Academically Talented Magnet, hoping to turn it into something great. Many of the people here this evening

supported me, their own students and the school at a time when there wasn't many people planning to get in. I go to class and play sports at Landon with kids of all races and nationalities and I am happy to say it's been a great experience and has prepared me well for my high school experience. I also think it's important that you see how many people are here tonight are supporting our efforts to keep Priority One Neighborhood Preference exactly as it is. So, if you are in the audience and you are here to support keeping Neighborhood Priority One for all schools, will you please stand up? *(About half of the audience stood up.)* Thank you.

Mr. Chris Shakib said I'm here to speak on behalf of Priority One from Landon and all schools in the Duval County school system. By responding to a couple of things that we've heard so far tonight, first, I heard it said that for the incoming class at Landon this fall, it's going to be 50% equal from the former neighborhood attendance area...that's false; it's 39%. The numbers actually went down this year. We would submit that the numbers from last year won't be repeated. Second, there was talk responding to our discussion of what was in the original grant application with the federal government. There was mention that well, there's probably something in there about neighborhood diversity...have it a diverse, cross-section of the community attending our dedicated magnet schools. Well, if you look at the application, there is nothing in the application that talks about neighborhood diversity as something that was being promoted...not at all. The very first and most important thing that's mentioned in the application in regard to Landon, is that people from the neighborhood would have first priority, unlimited. Now, to suggest otherwise that neighborhood diversity is some kind of means to be sought, it really goes counter to what the long term goals of our school system is which we're trying to get more toward neighborhood schools because strong neighborhoods depend on strong neighborhood schools. I also heard discussion about there was talk when this Board first approved Landon as a dedicated magnet, that the neighborhood priority could potentially be as low as four. Whether that was discussed or not is not the issue. That Priority One was codified for the neighborhood in the application ends that discussion. It doesn't matter what off or error suggestions were made before in the application of the federal government; it was Priority One. Finally, I've heard it said well why not just this down the road for further study and further evaluation...what's the harm of that? We just need more information. I would suggest that in this time of unbelievably scarce money and resources, that that is the sort of thing we absolutely don't need to do. We can ill afford to waste time and resources on studying a problem that to begin with doesn't even exist. I submit that Duval County is better served by using that money and those resources to figure out a way to preserve physical education and the arts.

Mr. Dane Dodd said I am the last speaker and I will be brief. In my opinion, good schools require three things: a dedicated principal, willing teachers and the support of parents within the local community. I also believe that there is no better example of this formula at work than Landon and the community you see before you, tonight. I'm a parent, I'm the husband of a teacher from Landon and we represent seven schools at the elementary level that feed into Landon with the former Landon attendance zone. I think you know who those are: Spring Park, Love Grove, Englewood, Holiday Hill, Hendricks, Woodland Acres and Hogan Spring Glen. To wrap it up, the explicit promise made by the School Board and is part of the Landon magnet application process in 2007 to these families in this community, was first priority, without limits and without a cap, and to be fair, placing a cap on the Priority One is no guarantee that you're going to see

improvements with racial diversity and socio-economic diversity. Ladies and gentlemen of the Board, you're dealing with unprecedented budget shortfalls and challenges of Intervene schools that we've heard about here, tonight. Challenges of loss of physical education and sports programs and a number of other difficult decisions. This is not one of them. There is no problem with Landon in its current status and the Priority One access to that school. Please keep Priority One as it is. Thank you.

Mr. Jose Hernandez said I sent you an email and left you messages about the Bank of America Learning Academy. Mr. Pratt-Dannals is going to recommend to close the school based on some assumptions that it will save about \$341,000. As the Board is aware, those savings are based on 170 students which is the current enrollment. The average for the school over the last three years was 190 students. Now, the reason we had a huge drop off was because last year the School Board sent a letter saying they were going to close the school. Right now, with the waiting list, we have for next year and expect an enrollment of 190 students. Those assumptions of closing the school are also based that 100% of those children will go to other Duval County Public Schools. I would not assume that to be correct. You can count my two children out because there's certain difficulties in transportation when two parents who work and the nice option to have a school right near work. Try to imagine especially for single parents who can just take their kids to school and go to work within a mile distance. There are a lot of other options to consider for those parents versus moving them ten miles away to the westside or northside to their public schools. That also includes that the parents don't have options. For example, they are going to open a charter school on Baymeadows Road which is down the street and the parents mentioned to me that they probably would not move them to their local public schools because it's just too difficult transportation wise. Now, this is a great concept. The bank provides the expenses as far as electrical, water, building, security. The parents take their kids to school so there's no transportation costs, but somehow in all of these financial figures, there's like a \$2,000 loss for children. How much of a loss per child in other schools when you have to pay for those expenses? Why is the Board trying to come up with ideas to continue this concept with other companies where many of the expenses that are involved in running a school are paid or supported by another private corporation instead of closing the school, spreading the kids out among other schools? It looks to me like what we're trying to do is reduce the losses on other schools with these children...that just doesn't make sense to me because what you're doing is that you're grabbing these kids onto your budget, there seems to be some overhead included per child...when you calculate the estimate per loss per student, you are looking at the total overhead cost to the School Board, dividing it among all of the students but these students shouldn't come under that. They should be calculated as a much cheaper school to run and, therefore, I feel you should really look at the numbers and the emails I've sent and consider this concept and numbers and see if it all makes sense before you take your vote. Additionally, one more thing, it's on your agenda on page 7, almost the last item. Is there anyway we could move this decision further up on your agenda? There are many parents here that have to go to work and employees who are hear to see what the recommendation and outcome will be. Thank you for your time.

Ms. Okeia Watson said I'm not here representing a specific group or organization, but I am here as what I will call as a researcher. I'm not going to approach the subject of an EMO as much as other people have because many of my comments have been addressed earlier. If the EMO that would be in place for the students at the Intervene

schools did not make a "C" or significant gains, when will we learn what significant gains are? When will the students be able to find out? I hear a lot of Board members and people in the community talk about that the students are to be heard but when some of the students come and speak, they're not really being heard but just listened to. Lastly, Board members, if you don't want to sit and listen to what the community has to say and that's what you're getting paid to do, that you don't run for office during the next term. Thank you.

Mr. Earl Kitchings said I want to address a couple of issues as it relates to your decision to select an EMO. I can understand from a business perspective how you came to that decision, but it is kind of interesting that you can make a decision about business for an organization/panel/non profit entity who has no experience. It's interesting that within a matter of days the Commissioner has approved your EMO decision. My concern is this, who do you really want your EMO to be? If the state is asking that an EMO must show a track record; must show history of running schools, the current EMO that you have selected has none of those. So, what is the true EMO that you are looking to have to run our schools because obviously from a business perception, a business decision...a business that has no track record can not do that type of business. From what is being said tonight, if most of the people who are on your EMO have full time jobs, how can they run another business if they're already working a business? Thank you.

Mr. Stanley Scott said let's get down to business, here. You know, I've been for the last week or two thinking, "why would they make a decision like that?" They call on some people one day and say, "I want you to be an EMO." They said they're going to use them to help them find a way to help the schools and the next week, they wake up and say, "We're going to put them in charge." What's going on here? I'm going to try and be polite, tonight, and I don't want to raise too much sand, but I'm a little disappointed, here. I look at the track record of Duval County Public Schools. Almost every issue coming as far as African Americans are concerned, once the Board went against that, so I have to look at the fact, is it racism? I have to look at it and be honest with you. Is it money? I'm reading with billions of dollars...can't be about the money. \$700,000 so far? Is it personal agenda? I would say "yes" to that. What about the students? But, before I answer, I heard these ministers say to me that they were going to come together and do this and that. I just happened to be in the restroom one day and actually, I came in after they did, and I asked them where they had been? They acted like thugs and got upset about that question. These preachers now and they should be representing the community. I asked them as to when I can meet with you? There are kids out here with no education is just like murder. Yes, what are they going to do? Now, something is wrong with this Board, here. It's not in the best interest of the students and it's been going on along time in Duval County. It's horrendous...why would you make a decision like that? Yes...I'm going to say something here...the Superintendent, it's not his fault as it's been going on a long time. I'm not going to put the total blame on him. I'm going to say it's very small because the School Board members are the ones supposed to be the ones concerned about the students, but for some reason over on the northside, the fact of racism always seems to come. It's on there...it's like salt and you just sprinkle but I will be back.

Ms. Eunice Barnum said since I can't call names, I shall share a picture. Here you are grinning and a big wide grin after the Secretary Arnett Duncan came to visit and you all told him plenty of lies. The first lie you told was that Rutledge Pearson Elementary

School was one of the highest performing elementary schools and that the Secretary of Education, Arnie Duncan, visited a third grade class who were already focused on college. How can that be when the school did not make AYP? AYP simply means that you have enough students proficient in reading and math. Isn't reading and math two of the major subjects required at universities and at any college? The second lie you told is that Rutledge Pearson has been an "A" school for three years. The school has been an "A" for two years. In the 2006-2007 school year, it was deemed an "F" by the former Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Wise. In 2007-2008, the school went up to a "B" and some of the staff and teachers chanted - "B" for Barnum; "B" for Barnum and I said, "Barnum is an A girl." In 2008-09, the school got its first "A" and it received a repeating "A" status last year, 2009-2010. As far as I know, the school grades are not out yet this year for the 2010-2011 school year. So, unless you have a crystal ball, are you planning on telling the same lies, again, and grin and pretend that Rutledge Pearson is an "A" school, again? Since you say it is easier for a school to get an "A" than it is for the education of staff to get the children proficient in reading and math, so that they school can make AYP. So you just grin and skin and move the school up to an "A" while you leave the children behind. I have two children that you are talking about retaining. Each of them had IEPs at one time. Now, when you don't educate them in elementary, it leads to Intervene school in middle and high school. I guess you keep lying and pretending while money is never ending. Thank you, again, but I want you to know we don't need to pay you to fail our children. Failure is free.

Mr. John Turner said as a reminder, under the Florida Constitution the Governor is required by law to balance the budget. Although the final details of the Fiscal Year 2012 budget have not been worked out yet it looks like it will be about \$3.5 billion dollars less than last year. Meaning all 67 School Districts should expect about an 8% budget cut. Now you may feel that this School Board can't survive an 8% budget cut but please keep in mind that the vast majority of families in Florida have already experienced far deeper cuts than that in their household budget yet they manage to survive. They did it by sitting down at the kitchen table and looking at all the bills and expenses and deciding what was essential and what was not. From there they started cutting back on the luxury items until they balanced the budget. But this School Board decided to take a different approach. At the Town Hall meetings instead of opening your books up to the public for review and seeking suggestions on how to balance the budget you decided a different approach. Instead, the Superintendent threaten us with shutting down all High School sports, furloughing teachers without pay and going to a 4 day school week unless the parents badgered Gov. Scott into coughing up extra money just for Jacksonville. He implied that there was no more fat to trim from the budget because he was already been making cuts into the bone over the last few years. The Superintendent suggested the truth of his claim is well documented. For example: The following statement is from the report titled; "dcps Budget Shortfall" which can be found on the home page of the DCPS web-site:
<http://www.duvalschools.org/static/aboutdcps/departments/budget/shortfall.asp>

Quote: Florida is 50th when compared to income in total revenue for public education and we have the lowest administrative costs of any state.

Unquote: However, according to the very same source that the Superintendent claims he is citing from which is the U.S. Census Bureau Report, Florida is 27th in the nation when it comes to dollars spent per student. We are not dead last. I have addressed this fact with the Superintendent before but he refuses to report the numbers accurately.

Instead he chooses Table 12 which is not about dollars spent per student but how wealthy a state is compared to how much they spend on education. The Superintendent is making a specious argument at best. Likewise, his claim that we have the lowest administrative costs in the nation is also just not true. Again in the same report from Table 11. shows that 15 other states have lower administrative costs than Florida. <http://www2.census.gov/govs/school/08f33pub.pdf> I could go on but I am almost out of time so I will make my point. I fear your plan is no really a plan at all but a threat or scare tactic to panic parents into demonizing and demanding more school funding from Gov. Scott. If you go through with your threat, I am afraid it will backfire because it is nothing more than an accounting gimmick that will not materialize the savings you claimed. It will however place an unnecessary hardship onto the students teachers and parents. Because of that I recommend that you hire an independent auditor who will sit down with the Superintendent and go over his so-called 'master' plan, line by line and verify that it will produce the savings he claims and that there is no other way to balance the budget. Thank you for listening.

Comments From Parent Organizations

COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Rachel Raneri, Chair:

Good evening, The District Advisory Council met on April 26th. Due to another obligation, I was not able to attend until the meeting was about to be adjourned. Many thanks to Mary Lobello, vice chair, for taking over.

- The Superintendent brought the DAC up to date on the status of the intervene schools. He also reported on the budget issues and possible scenarios that may play out.
- Doug Ayars brought an update on operations. Boundary reviews for Twin Lakes Elementary, Hogan Springs Glen, Windy Hill, Beauclerc, Greenfield, Mandarin Oaks and Southside Elementary, will begin this month.

The public hearing to close Bank America Learning Academy will be heard tonight.

- Susan Legutko, Executive Director of Title I, discussed possible funding issues for Title I for next year.
- Vicki Drake, District Volunteer Coordinator, gave an overview of her progress to date in her new position.

The next meeting of the DAC will be May 23rd at 6:00pm in the 6th floor conference room. We hope that a board member will be able to attend.

Title I/Parent Advisory Council - Iva Smith, Vice Chair:

To chairman W.C. Gentry, board members, and Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals and Deputy Superintendent Pat Willis, My name is Iva Smith and I am reporting on behalf of the DCPS Title I Parent Advisory Council.

On Thursday, April 21st Parent Advisory Council hosted the viewing of BRING YOUR "A" GAME at Jean Ribault High school which is a twenty minute groundbreaking documentary film focused on the awareness of the dropout crisis. They were about 50 participants; students, parents and some community members.

We want to thank the Parent Involvement staff, PAC members, as well as the following people for participating on the discussion panel, Mr. Ken Jefferson, retired JSO officer, Mr. Trey Csar, President of JPEF, Mrs. Elnora Atkins, Chair for the Education Committee for the Jacksonville branch of the NAACP, Mr. Willie Hall, DCPS Truancy Officer, Mr. Travis Pinckney , 2nd grade teacher at Andrew Robinson, and Mr. James Campbell, Unit Director for YMCA for North Florida. Finally, we want to thank the 2011 Florida Blue Teacher of the Year, Youmone Berrien for presenting the Bring Your "A" Game pledge to the students and a charge to the parents and community members to take an active role in the dropout awareness initiatives.

Later this month, we are preparing to present the film during a father and son event at another high school. Details are forthcoming.

On Monday, April 25, Mrs. Hodges had an opportunity to meet with Michael Boylan, President of WJCT and who is also a member of the parent involvement initiative for "Reclaiming Young black males for Jacksonville's Future". We look forward to collaborating with Mr. Boylan and his team of committee members on future Parent Involvement programs.

Our final Principals and Parents PAC meeting for the school year will be held on next Tuesday, May 10, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, here at the Cline Auditorium. We encourage all Title I parents and principals to attend this meeting. This concludes our report.

Parents remember to Get up, Get out, Get involved with your child's education and be part of the spark! Thank you and have a great evening!

PTA - Melissa Kicklighter, President:

Good evening! My name is Melissa Kicklighter, and I am here representing the Duval County Council of PTAs. I would like to begin my report tonight by saying "thank you" to all of our district teachers for all they do everyday for our children! There is not a day that passes that we should ever take for granted the work that they do for our children – it is priceless!

In addition to our continuous focus on legislative advocacy efforts during the month of April, PTA leaders around the district also worked hard to support their respective schools as they prepared for and conducted FCAT testing. We have held celebrations, calmed nerves, and done whatever we were asked to do to help because that is what we do – we are PTA. Next, we will move into assisting with the High School AP and IB testing period this month.

The month of May is also focused on celebrations and transitions. This Thursday, May 5, we will be recognizing the artistic talents of the many students who participated in the National PTA Reflections program. This program encourages participation in the six art areas of dance/choreography, film/video production, literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. Over three hundred students in Duval County created works of art based on the theme – Together We Can... and the district winners will be honored this week.

After honoring our students, we will enjoy our last PTA member celebration of the year with our PTA Night at the Jacksonville Suns on Tuesday, May 10. Information was sent through school mail to all of the PTA Presidents and Principals. So, we hope to see everyone out there for a fun, family night out!

Our next Teacher Supply Depot Opening will be the Annual "Invitation Only" event, and it will be held on Thursday, May 12 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. In order to receive an invitation, teachers were asked to submit samples of projects they have created using materials from the Teacher Supply Depot. I have had the privilege of seeing many of the projects, and I am truly amazed by the creativity of our teachers. In addition to the giveaway this month, the Teacher Supply Depot is working with First Book to warehouse over 300 pallets or approximately 450,000 books for Title I schools for a special book giveaway between May 31 and June 2. For more information about volunteering to help or how to receive books, please contact Chris Buckley at the Teacher Supply Depot.

The Spring Leadership Training Workshop will be held at the Schultz Center on Thursday, May 19. Topics will include information related to specific leadership position responsibilities and various parent education topics, so there is truly something for everyone. We encourage all new, returning and potential PTA board members to attend, so we can assist them a smooth transition from one school year to another.

Finally, our marquee event of the year is upon us. The Presidents' and Principals' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 24 at the University of North Florida – University Center. At this event, we will honor the dedicated service and tireless commitment of our volunteer PTA leaders to our district schools this year. We will celebrate the achievements of many of our PTAs, award Florida PTA Honorary Life Memberships, and announce the winners of our scholarship program. Prior to the start of the luncheon we will also host a vendor's fair, so that our Presidents and Principals can meet with a variety of local fundraising and program vendors. It will be a busy day, but one that is filled with all the right stuff to end our PTA year and begin on the next!

I hope that all our School Board members can join us for this special occasion, and as always thanks to all of you, the Superintendent, district administrators and staff!

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Ruby George, Executive Vice President of Duval Teachers United:

Since we have already celebrated the achievement of teachers receiving National Board Certification, I want to applaud this district for not cutting the stipend for them, but it is amazing how the state has cut the stipend down to \$1,800 and those that are newly coming in, will get nothing. Yet, they take their time, they take their effort, they take their energy to get this certification. I want to remind you that DTU, with the assistance of then Senator Jim Horne, has passed the legislation that made this possible because teachers wanted to elevate their knowledge of the teaching profession. I wonder what happened to that mind set with these legislators? Oh, well, just thinking out loud.

I further want to thank the Title I office for their assistance in helping us with Take One, the entire school goes for the National Board Certification along with the administrators of that school and we thank them for keeping us in the budget for next year.

I need to, once again, bring to your attention how low the morale of the employees in this district is at this time with all the talk about the cutbacks, we hope you will not put the bulk of this task on the backs of the employees. Our people do not want to, once again, be the scapegoats. We know how that works. For all that ails public schools and all that has happened, that public schools are failing. We know this problem is fixable. Would it be fixed in the next couple of years? Probably not, but it's not insurmountable. Staff at intervene schools are working hard, day and night, night and day, and they do not use excuses for what has not happened because we all know excuses are tools of incompetence that build monuments into nothing and those who specialize in them, seldom do well at anything. They don't use excuses. They roll up their sleeves, get other certifications and do what has to be done.

Now, with the new legislation that has passed, we hope that we will continue to work collaboratively to turn this legislative pigs ear into a silk purse or something similar to a silk purse, but, again, we use all parts of the pig, don't we? We've learned how to do that. So, let's work collaboratively to keep that but we can not go back to the old "*stack them deep and teach them cheap*" - it does not work. It didn't work back then and it's not going to work now. Salaries being tied to student gains...OK, if students do not learn all things on the same day, is it the fault of whom? We didn't all learn how to walk, talk or get potty trained on the same day. So, we're not all going to learn everything on the same day, but we will learn. We have good teachers out there that are proving this. They are proving this at the intervene schools. We will see this and we know this but it takes people with a passion for educating all children and we believe we have that.

Finally, the Climate Surveys are out there and are going to be done electronically and most have been turned in. We would hope that the administrators will take a close look at those surveys especially as you make recommendations and changes as to who will be where. Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your time and you will see me, again.

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Minutes:

Board Chairman W. C. Gentry said we're very apprehensive about what we're going to hear from Tallahassee in the next day or two but we pretty much have the information. Last week, the legislature was in conference. One house was looking at budget cuts around 6% and the other house, at 6.2% and so they came out of the conference having compromised that cutting education, roughly, 8%. As some feared, education went backwards during the conference. Notwithstanding some of the comments from one of the public speakers earlier, we have lost a real dollar amount, a substantial dollar amount, from last year and the year before. Four budget cycles ago, the amount per student was roughly \$7,300 and this budget, it will be roughly at \$6,300. We have all received emails, letters and communication from the community, different groups and every facet and faction of education, every grade level, physical education teachers, English teachers, elementary teachers, art, music...everyone writing and telling us how important their particular is and how we should not make any cuts in those areas and of course, sports...a plea to not cut sports. The Superintendent will speak to this a little bit more in his comments, but we're going to be faced with some very, very difficult decisions. It saddens me that so much energy and, although certainly appropriate, to communicate with the local Board, is focused on this Board and not in Tallahassee where those decisions are really made. I do appreciate and applaud the great work by Save Duval Schools, Colleen Wood, Deborah Gianoulis and by the PTA in organizing and motivating their members to communicate with Tallahassee, but it has been a terribly disturbing year this year in Tallahassee. Talking with people who are staffers over there and people who will give you the straight talk about what's going on, I've heard from people who have been over 30 years and said they've never seen anything like this year in Tallahassee. As Ms. Woods said, she's never gone to Tallahassee when there was never any doubt about any committee hearing. It was the most dictatorial, highly politicized process that I have ever seen in my career and I've been going over there since the early 1970s, topped out and no discussion, debate or any real effort to engage policy consideration. It was vote along the partisan lines or if not, you're marginalized and ignored. I think most people who believe in our political system would be truly shocked if they saw how much of government is carried on in this state right now. Hopefully, and I fear that either because people are just so frustrated that they can't do anything or they're so apathetic, that we have empowered our political leaders to not be responsive. Hopefully, when they come home and people can speak to them, the community will be heard in terms of what it prioritizes, but we're faced with huge challenges. Going forward, we appreciate everyone's input and advice. We have a lot of experience on this Board and we will do our very, very best to make the wisest decisions given a lot of hard choices that we will be faced with.

I do want to say how heartwarming it is to me and to all of us to see these teachers who on their own, have sought and become a National Board Certified teacher...to learn more and be a better teacher. One of the things that bothers me is with all of the letters about things not to cut and things that need to stay, I don't think I received one that said "*don't furlough teachers*". Our teachers have always been underpaid, have had at

least the benefit of some reasonable pension in the past, some reasonable fringe benefits and some level of security - will have none of those things going forward nor will they have even as much compensation as they have had the year before because of the cuts that will be made because of pension and health insurance and other costs. They have been vilified and demonized as a profession and now face these new assessment models that none of us know how they will work or what the consequences will be. I was talking with a professor at the University of North Florida in the College of Education and he wanted to talk about these issues. We're going to face a real difficult time going forward with our young people asking them to go into the profession of teaching. The way it's done in Florida is prescriptive. Our teachers are not being treated with respect and we're certainly not compensating them and they're not being allowed to teach. I fear that we will have a great deal of difficulty and a big backwash over a number of years that's going to take to catch back up, again, given what's going on in this state over the last two years and, hopefully, will not continue to go on. Hiring the best and brightest to teach our kids and retaining our best and brightest teachers is going to become an increasing challenge because of the circumstances and not all of which is about money; a lot is about politics and the fact that some of the teacher unions have historically come down on the wrong side of the political wars in the last couple of years. So, it's unfortunate, but I'm really proud to see teachers, day in and day out, out there working and doing a great job. You can go into any classroom in this school system and you will be amazed and you see these teachers who volunteer their time and step up to the next step. They are always learning and working and although I know that morale has to be shaken at times, when you talk with individual teachers, they're excited and they love what they do. They are truly our greatest asset and I know we all appreciate them. As this Board goes forward and make these hard cuts, I think for all of us, we recognize that so much already has been put on the teachers. We hope we won't have to put more. So, the only good news is that the legislature will *sine die* this week and once they come home, at least as long as they are here, most men's freedom and pocketbooks will be reasonably safe. So, that's the good news.

Mr. Hazouri said just to put an exclamation mark on what you said about teachers, this is Teacher Appreciation Week and to be honest with you, shame on the legislature. It shows how they show their appreciation and if they could demonstrate not so admirably in what we're faced with...with all that you said and all the respect that we try to give Ruby, I guess she's gone, to our teachers and to our staff and the shame of it all is they're coming home in a blaze of glory and the teachers will have to suffer through that blaze and so will all of the School Boards all over the state for the next year and probably, years to come. Hopefully one day, we're going to have find another source of revenue to compliment what we're trying to do because, certainly, the legislature is already said very loudly that they're not going to fund public education to the extent that they have and they're going to start moving toward charter schools and for that, I say, "*shame on them.*"

Mr. Gentry said, "thank you", but we do greatly appreciate our teachers and maybe tomorrow should be "Hug your Teacher Day"...I don't know. You may hug your teacher, tonight.

[2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Just a few words about the budget, as Mr. Gentry said, the worst case scenario has been fulfilled. It does appear that our budget at this point is \$95,000,000 in the hole. Of that, about \$21,000,000 is negotiable and these would be the salary steps and medical benefits, if we counted ordinarily, cost increases in those. We'll have to be negotiating with employee organizations around those issues; so that remains \$74,000,000 and the kinds of things that have been discussed are still very much in play. Now, I repeat, no final decisions have been made. I have made some recommendations and the Board has responded to those, we're still having more workshops on May 10 and May 17, but we will have to make some decisions fairly soon in order to be able to execute some of these draconian cuts which include significant or complete elimination of magnet transportation, some activities in athletics, further reduction of district staff and as mentioned a few meetings ago, that we were studied and found to be the most lean administrative school district of any of the ones that have been studied by this group called ERS, reducing money to schools, thereby, schools will find it harder to budget as we have school-based budgeting as the principal budgets but we'll probably have to reduce that, look at a four-day week, reduce purchasing textbooks, reduction in art, music and physical education, use more Virtual Education, and look at issues of furlough. There are no great decisions in here so it will be a challenge as these are real losses. At the beginning of this, our School Board and I came out warning the community and some asked, "*Why are you doing this when all you have to do is to respond to the Governor's budget?*" Well, it's coming in real close to the Governor's budget and I felt it was appropriate that we got that word out early to our community because we're going to have to make some of these decisions. As Mr. Gentry said, if you count for inflation, five years ago, we would have had about \$8,300 per student and now, we're getting about \$6,300. That's a real reduction and 25% in cost of dollars and contrary to what was said earlier in the same report but different section, if you count all of the revenue from the local, state and federal level, Florida is in 39th place and if you count for income, which is appropriate because some states it costs more to live, we're still in 50th place. What we have been putting into our information is accurate. It's in the Census Bureau and we're in very bad shape and it's disappointing that some of the areas where we have put on the plate that would not have cost us any money, would have given us more flexibility. We were not able to get the kind of support we had hoped for.

Intervene Status - we have submitted the recommendation that was approved by the Board, the Commissioner of Education is supporting that and it goes to the State Board on May 17 and I think it will gain support. That is a positive thing because, otherwise, as of May 2, we would have been facing a million dollars worth of sanctions. We continue to work with Duval Partners in terms of implementing it as it was said earlier eloquently by our students, we anticipate that we are going to make significant progress and not have to worry about this and one of the things that has been discerning through this whole process is having to make this declaration amongst choices that pretty much impossible to fulfill ahead of time before we even see what the results are like and then have an impossible timeline to implement it. We had to move forward and make a choice.

FCAT Writing comes out tomorrow and we're hoping for good gains there and some

recognitions we will have before the Board in the next month or two and I wanted to highlight them - Tim Kinney - one of our teachers has won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science. He's won it in math and he is the third teacher in Duval County who has won this award. Last time when Zack Champagne won it and prior to that, Marita Eng won it, we were one of the few who had two so we may be the only school district that's had three and that is a great tribute. Also, congratulations to Willie Barron from Ribault and Breon Eason from Raines for winning the Gates Millennial Scholarship. Many, many students that Ribault, Raines, Jackson and our other schools are doing extremely well and these were the only two students in Duval County that received this scholarship that takes them not just through undergraduate school, but on through their entire career of college and university, as I understand it, all the way through a doctoral program, should they continue.

I echo Mr. Gentry's appreciation for teachers. I had the opportunity in going to Pinedale Elementary on Monday and teaching a class for about 1 1/2 hours and the students there are smart and want to be engaged. We have great teachers out there committing themselves every day and I just want to say "thank you and we appreciate you!"

Mr. Hazouri said we talked earlier that you sent out a memo this weekend and I know we've had a lot discussed about Priority One; we've had Landon tonight and Jax Beach and Stockton, and it's been going on for several months...you sent a memorandum that you recommended that we conduct a community engagement process to review Priority One, starting this September after the 20 day enrollment count for the 2011-2012 school year and September 19, 2011, when that's complete; then you had other issues you wanted to address recommending using the district's ACE process to engage the community's results with the recommendations that would be available for any policy provisions. The process I thought we were going to discuss this tonight, but you mentioned that you want to do a workshop now and then make a decision in June, I just want to ask you can you give us for the record, what the timeline is going to be? I'm talking to the Superintendent.

Mr. Gentry said, "Your question is what?"

Mr. Hazouri said my question is would you please give us a timeline based on what you said this weekend, said you're going to recommend one but obviously, it's not going to be tonight. Now, you're telling me you want a workshop which I thought we had discarded and move forward. Please tell us what your plans are so that the Board can know when other people write us until this thing is resolved one way or the other.

The Superintendent said if you recall the last time we discussed this in the Board meeting, the decision was that we would look at the data that came in from this magnet lottery to see how that either confirmed or changed...happened in prior years and also to give us more years to anticipate what a trajectory might be in terms of the balance of neighborhood and non-neighborhood continuation of program and to bring that information back to the Board in workshop(s) in May and at that point, discuss whether we would move forward with a community engagement process. That workshop would be on May 10 or 17; I don't recall which one is scheduled but at that point, we'll present the data and you already have a copy of it, but we'll discuss it and give the Board plenty of opportunity to ask questions to staff and see if the majority of the Board wants to move forward with the engagement process. I think there's at least enough information

to have a good discussion about it and have an ACE process, but it's not just about Priority One. There have been questions that have come up over the last six months and we also need a discussion with the Board on some of the specific items that were listed there but there may be others, as well. So, there may be a series of meetings...perhaps one issue around Priority One and Landon and others in terms of city-wide impact and a broader process. It's both a narrow and broad discussion and after the workshop, I'll have guidance from the majority of the Board on how to proceed and we'll go from there. I think the numbers, at least, support looking at the issue, again, and that doesn't preclude whether or not something is going to change; whether or not there's enough support to go out there and do it and I would recommend that we do that but not just about this issue; a larger issue. About the timeline question, I would anticipate that we start early September and complete no later than November so that we could bring it to the Board in December or maybe have the Board vote on it in November because we want to hit the Choice Program...usually we have the Magnets and More which includes all of our choice programs in January, so if we can have that done prior to that so parents know what changes may come about....that would be the recommended timeline right now.

Mr. Hazouri said I just wanted to avoid more and more meetings if they don't know what we're going to be doing and I'm glad to hear that for the record. Thank you.

Mr. Gentry said I think that information is in your memo you sent out.

Ms. Burney said I didn't fully gather what Mr. Pratt-Dannals said the timeline was...I was trying to write it down...

Mr. Gentry said we were shooting for what school year?

Mr. Pratt-Dannals said we will begin the process this coming September and, hopefully, complete it by November such that whatever changes, if any, will be known in advance of the process of selection so the implementation would not be until the following year.

Ms. Burney said I got that part. You were saying something about the workshop....

Mr. Pratt-Dannals said in the workshop, we'll look at the data and see where the Board is in terms of moving forward not only with this issue of Priority One, but also with other issues related to magnet. Some of which I'm going to recommend that we look at and some others that Board members have recommended and at some broader issues and to have a full discussion about that. I do think there's enough in here with the Priority One to look at an ACE process to discuss that further. As you know, there was discussion when we originally did this in terms of what direction to go.

Ms. Burney said just for the record, I agree that there's much discussion after we heard all that we've heard, tonight. It does warrant, I think, our being able to hear from the community because we have several people lined up on several sides of this issue and then we have some individuals who don't even know how to get into the ballpark who after receiving the information from Mr. Doug Ayars, it appears that the vast majority of the community....there is only one community that is truly taking advantage of Priority One; the other part of the community probably has no knowledge of even how to get into that ball field so I would really like to see a community process so that we can start

educating others how to get out there and take advantage of what's there.

Mr. Gentry said let me just make a comment. I think that as far as a timeline goes, we do need to move towards the ACE approach but I think that as we get into this, we're going to find that we have a lot more to discuss than just the Priority One, as you said. Rather than doing this piecemeal, I think it's going to be real important that we spend the time to address all of these issues and they may be done sequentially. I can not imagine that in the month of May, we're going to deal with all of the issues that we need to deal with on magnet schools at the same time that we're dealing with the budget and everything else. So, we'll tee it up but I think we're going to have a lot more on our plate than just the simple issue of Priority One, or not, particularly, if we have to cut magnet busing, which will create potential equity. It's going to be a steamroll affect and we have a lot on our plate and I appreciate your memo. I think it does lay out a conceptual timeline and, hopefully, we'll be able to stick to it.

Reports

[1. OPERATIONS REPORT - MR. DOUG AYARS](#)

Minutes:

The boundary change was mentioned earlier by Ms. Raneri so Monday, May 16, 2011 at Twin Lakes Academy (Elementary School), 6:00 p.m., we're going to have a Southeast Area Elementary School Boundary Kick-Off Meeting for fall review. These meetings are open to the public. It will simply be to get folks together and brief the process and help get teams formulated for the review in the fall. The seven schools are:

Twin Lakes Academy (Elementary)
Hogan Spring-Glen Elementary
Windy Hill Elementary
Beauclerc Elementary
Greenfield Elementary
Southside Estates Elementary
Mandarin Oaks Elementary

[2. ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT - MS. PAT WILLIS](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academics, said that we are having Summer School and it will run from June 20 thru July 29, 2011 - six weeks, all day. We have numerous programs from reading to recovery to our Superintendent's Academy, that we always hold. It will be posted on our website very soon and flyers going home to families, as well as PSAs on television and radio, as well as some billboards from a donation from a foundation.

Turnaround Report - Mr. Tony Bellamy, Cluster Chief:

Tonight, I will give a brief update on our Elementary and Secondary Turnaround Schools.

Our records indicate NO vacancies currently within schools!

1. As our Superintendent previously mentioned...FCAT Writes Results will be available Tomorrow
 - Schools will receive their writing results tomorrow morning. The results will be available for view at 6:00 a.m. We have instructed schools to complete a comprehensive analysis of the results and compare them to their projected targets.
2. Under COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING UPDATE
 - The next Community Assessment Team meeting will be held at Ribault Senior High (Home of the Mighty Trojans) on May 19, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.
3. In the area of STATE INSTRUCTIONAL REVIEW VISITS
 - The State Regional Executive Director, Dr. Gina Eyerman and her team have started their final Instructional Review Visits this week to our School Improvement Schools. A. Phillip Randolph Academy, Jackson High School and North Shore K-8 are the first schools to receive a visit.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes the Turnaround Report for the Month of May.

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE MAY 3, 2011, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the May 3, 2011, Agenda as submitted on April 26, 2011, with the following changes:

1. Board Members Travel - Revised Agenda Item
2. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Item 1 - Suspensions Without Pay - Revised Attachment
3. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 1 - Public Hearing and Vote for Closure of Bank of America Learning Academy No. 266 - PASS

4. Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment - Item 3 - Placeholder: Charter School Contract for Seacoast Academy, Inc. - Item Withdrawn
5. Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance - Item 3 - Gym Lighting Retrofit for Twenty Three Schools/DCSB Project No. M-84430: Construction Contact Award/OFDC-ITB-011-11 - Replacement Agenda Item

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

April 5, 2011 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings
 April 5, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
 April 12, 2011 - Board Workshop

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Minutes for the Meetings listed in the Agenda Item.

- April 5, 2011 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing - PASS
- April 5, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
- April 12, 2011 - Board Workshop

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Paula Wright - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Betty Burney

Second: Rebecca Couch

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Academic Services

[1. OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD TRIP REQUEST - DCPS FRENCH STUDENTS](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM Out of country trip to France Dr Davis.pdf](#)

[2. LICENSING AND MAINTENANCE FOR DESTINY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SOLUTION SOFTWARE](#)

Attachment: [Follett Destiny-Duval County support 11-12.xls.pdf](#)
 Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Follett Destiny Renewal.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Paula D. Wright said I wanted to get a better understanding on which student population would Destiny Resource Management support?

Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academics, said this is actually what we use to manage all of our library and textbooks that we have within our entire district. All of our parents can have access through their home computers or can go to the library and have access, as well as our librarians use the system, teachers, students and parents. They can search, locate and check out library books through it. What it really is, is has taken the old Card Catalog system that we used to have in place in Media Centers, and has made it web-based. It makes it much more efficient for everyone to find materials that they need and be able to manage the materials.

[4. SCHULTZ CENTER AGREEMENT](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Schultz Center Agreement 5 3 11.pdf](#)
 Attachment: [Second Amendment Schultz Center041211.pdf](#)

[5. PURCHASE OF SPEECH/LANGUAGE PROTOCOLS](#)

Attachment: [Fletcher April 11 BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 10-11-10.pdf](#)

[6. REQUEST TO WAIVE FCAT SCIENCE PROMOTION REQUIREMENT](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges FCAT Science 5 3 11.pdf](#)

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [February 2011 Board Statement Worksheet \(2\).pdf](#)

[2. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS](#)

Attachment: [May 2011 Narratives.pdf](#)

Attachment: [May 2011.pdf](#)

[3. INTERNAL ACCOUNTS FUNDS - SCHOOL AUDITS](#)

Attachment: [IntAudAgendaforMay2011.pdf](#)

Operations - Information Technology

[1. RETROFIT FOR TECHNOLOGY AT SOUTHSIDE ESTATES ELEMENTARY NO. 76, CARTER G WOODSON ELEMENTARY NO. 166, OAK HILL ELEMENTARY NO. 210, LONE STAR ELEMENTARY NO. 233, AND FT. CAROLINE ELEMENTARY NO. 235: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [B and C May 2011 Retrofits.pdf](#)

[4. RENEWAL OF THE CSX DATA CENTER SERVICES AGREEMENT](#)

Attachment: [CSX BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 5-3-11.pdf](#)

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[2. CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR WAVERLY ACADEMY, INC.](#)

~~3. PLACEHOLDER: CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR SEACOAST CHARTER ACADEMY, INC.~~

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[1. GRANT A LICENSE AGREEMENT TO RIVER REGION HUMAN SERVICES, INC. TO OCCUPY THE FORMER YMCA BUILDING LOCATED AT JUSTINA ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 215.](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item Grant License Agree to RRHS Inc for YMCA Building at Justina Road ES 215 03 23 11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Paula D. Wright said this is another opportunity and another kudos for Duval County Public Schools and our community partners because this is an excellent opportunity for the River Region to come in and take control of that building near Justina Road Elementary School and to provide support services for the students in that vicinity. I'm thankful to River Region Human Services for partnering with Duval County Public Schools.

2. APPROVAL OF SUMMER CAMP SITE USE AGREEMENTS

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

2. CHANGE ORDER REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2011

Attachment: [May 3 2011 Agenda Item Change Order Report Chart for April 2011 Revised 04 14 11.pdf](#)

3. GYM LIGHTING RETROFIT FOR TWENTY THREE SCHOOLS/DCBS PROJECT NO. M-84430: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD/OFDC-ITB-011-11

Attachment: [M-84430 11 04 26 Bid Tab.pdf](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item M-84430 Gym Light Retrofit at 23 Schools Cons Con Award PLACEMENT 03 29 11.pdf](#)

4. GENERATOR REPLACEMENT AT RUTH N. UPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 19, JUSTINA ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 215, AND ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 240/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83990 DW GENERATOR REPLACEMENT: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD/OFDC-ITB-012-11

Attachment: [M-83990 11 04 21 MBE Letter of Rec for Bid for Nos 19 215 and 240 xls.pdf](#)

Attachment: [M-83990 11 04 19 Bid Tab for School Nos 19 215 and 240.pdf](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item M-83990 Generator Replace at Nos 19 215 240 Cons Con Award PLACEMENT 03 29 11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [M-83990 11 04 21 Bid Letter of Rec from Ohmega Group LLC for School Nos 19 215 and 240.pdf](#)

5. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF FINAL INSPECTIONS, ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item Periodic Report of Subs Comp-Final Insp-Cont Sav on Projects under \\$1M 03 23 11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 Agenda Item Subs Comp Final Comp Chart for April 2011 04 19 11.pdf](#)

6. CONTINUING SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL CONTRACT BASIS; ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS; MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS: SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD/OFDC-RFQ-002-11

Attachment: [Mechanical Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract MBE Letter of Recommendation 04 18 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Civil Engineering Cont Srvcs Cont Ayars Memo 04 12 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item Cont Srvcs Contract for Civil Elec Mech Eng Srvcs PLACEMENT 03 23 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Electrical Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract MBE Letter of Recommendation 04 19 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Mechanical Engineering Cont Srvcs Cont Ayars Memo 04 15 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Civil Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract Prof Srvcs Selection Matrix 04 13 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Mechanical Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract Prof Srvcs Selection Matrix 04 15 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 3 2011 Agenda Item Per Attached List for Cont Srvcs Contract for Civil Electrical and Mechanical 04 15 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Civil and Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract MBE Letter of Recommendation 04 13 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Electrical Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract Prof Srvcs Selection Matrix 04 14 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Electrical Engineering Cont Srvcs Cont Ayars Memo 04 14 11.pdf](#)

[7. CONTINUING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS: SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD/OFDC-RFO-003-11](#)

Attachment: [Prof Srvcs Selection Matrix for Arch and Eng Cont Srvcs Contract 04 12 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Architectural and Engineering Con Srvc Contract Prof Srvcs Selection Matrix 04 12 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Architectural and Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract MBE Letter of Recommendation 04 13 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Ayars Memo re Arch and Eng Cont Srvcs Contract 04 12 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Architectural and Engineering Cont Srvcs Contract Ayars Memo 04 12 11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Architectural and Engineering Services on an Annual Basis - firms.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item Cont Srvcs Contract for Arch and Eng Srvcs PLACEMENT 03 23 11.pdf](#)

[8. MAGNET SCHOOL UPGRADES AT JOHN E. FORD K-8 SCHOOL NO. 154: CONTRACT AWARD FOR DESIGN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91470](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item C-91470 AE Contract Award-Powell John E Ford K8 Addn 4-4-11.pdf](#)

[9. NEW CLASSROOM ADDITION AT ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 33: CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER NO. 3/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91400](#)

Attachment: [May 3 2011 B-C Agenda Item Change Order No 3 for RE Lee HS No 33 C-91400 04 13 11.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

1. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [05may11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [ROSUMFY1Mmay.pdf](#)
Attachment: [RORET FY11 \(2\)May.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 2011.pdf](#)
Attachment: [NEW BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 2011.pdf](#)
Attachment: [06may11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [04may11.pdf](#)
Attachment: [07may11.pdf](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

3. 2011-2014 APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT (SIG) 1003G

Attachment: [2011-2014 Application for Competitive School Improvement Grant \(SIG\) 1003G PINEDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.pdf](#)
Attachment: [2011-2014 Application for Competitive School Improvement Grant \(SIG\) 1003G Ribault Middle School.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges 2011-2014 Application for Competitive School Improvement Grant \(SIG\) 1003G.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academics
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board confirm submission of a competitive Florida Department of Education 2011-2014 School Improvement Grant (SIG) 1003G, proposal in an amount not to exceed \$6,398,778.

2. That the Duval County School Board, upon notification of the award - PASS approve acceptance of these grant funds and their budgeting in the Appropriate Part 1, General Revenue budget resolution, approve expenditures as indicated in the grant proposal, and approve any amendments required to implement proposal in full.

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Betty Burney

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[1. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS](#)

Attachment: [ATTACH_05-03-11_TRANS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman
Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief of Human Resource Services
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academic Services
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member

The Superintendent introduced Ms. Michelle Joseph as the principal for the Schools for the Future and welcomed her to the Duval County Public Schools family. She is from New York and ran a school very similar to the Schools

for the Future.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Human Resource Services employee transactions on the attachment. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

[2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT](#)

Attachment: [Agenda_05-03-11_min_qual.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief of Human Resource Services

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve modifications to the minimum qualifications of the Director, Community and Family Engagement. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Nay

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Nay

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

1. SUSPENSIONS WITHOUT PAY

Attachment: [HRS_attach_05-03-11_susp.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chair

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Ms. Burney moved to amend the item to remove Ms. Noreen Wynne's name from the recommendation and defer it to a time certain, whether a special or regular meeting.

Board Member Paula D. Wright seconded the motion.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief of Human Resource Services

NOTE: Board Member Martha Barrett did not register a vote on this item as she was away from the table.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the attached suspensions without pay. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Betty Burney

Second: Paula Wright

Martha Barrett - Not Present

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

To amend the item on Noreen Wynn - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Betty Burney

Second: Paula Wright

Martha Barrett - Not Present

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Operations - Information Technology

[2. IT WIRELESS NETWORK PROJECT / GROUP 1A AT JACKSON HS NO. 35, BALDWIN MID/SR HS NO. 38, TERRY PARKER HS NO. 86, PAXON MS NO. 92, RIBAUT HS NO. 96, GILBERT MS NO. 146, JOHN E FORD K-8 NO. 154, PETERSON ACADEMY HS NO. 280: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges June11 Wireless Group 1A.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Dr. Terri Stahlman

Motions:

A. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$78,700, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Andrew Jackson HS No. 35 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

B. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, W.W.Gay Fire & Integrated Systems, Inc, in the amount of \$66,667, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Baldwin Mid/Sr HS No. 38 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

C. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$84,450, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Terry Parker HS No. 86 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

D. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$80,200, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Paxon MS No. 92 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

E. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$123,600, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Ribault HS No. 96 and a Budget Amendment

- PASS

Resolution.

F. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$62,800, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Gilbert MS No. 146 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

G. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$49,100, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at John E Ford K-8 No. 154 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

H. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$168,900, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1A at Peterson Academy HS No. 280 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman and Superintendent of Schools to execute the standard form agreement for construction when form approved by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

[3. IT WIRELESS NETWORK PROJECT/ GROUP 1B AT NO. 90, NO. 155, NO. 165, NO. 168, NO. 212, NO. 224, NO. 241, NO. 248, NO. 265, NO. 285: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges June11 Wireless Group 1B.pdf](#)

Motions:

A. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$96,750, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Englewood HS No. 90 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

B. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, W.W. Gay Fire & Integrated Systems, Inc, in the amount of \$57,787, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Northwestern MS No. 155 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

C. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$72,240, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Raines HS No. 165 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

D. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$59,850, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Butler MS No. 168 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

E. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, W.W. Gay Fire & Integrated Systems, Inc, in the amount of \$86,687, accepting the

base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Ribault MS No. 212 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

F. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$74,160, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Wolfson HS No. 224 and a Budget Amendment Resolution. - PASS

G. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$88,928, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Forrest HS No. 241 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

H. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$80,750, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at White HS No. 248 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

I. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, AEC Electrical, in the amount of \$100,500, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at First Coast HS No. 265 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

J. That the Duval County School Board approve a construction contract award to the lowest qualified bidder, Exum Electric, in the amount of \$89,427, accepting the base bid IT Wireless Network Project / Group 1B at Ranadolph Academy HS No. 285 and a Budget Amendment Resolution.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman and the Superintendent of Schools to execute

the standard form agreement for construction when form approved by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[1. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR CLOSURE OF BANK OF AMERICA LEARNING ACADEMY #266](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Closure of Bank of America Learning Academy, #266

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following persons spoke:

Ms. Ashli Neace said I was going to talk from a parent's perspective but as I was sitting here listening to you talking about your budget constraints, I'm just thinking you have a roomful of bankers here; we're all from the Bank of America, and if we know how to do anything, it's about balancing a budget. That's what we do in our job and another culture with Bank of America is do not come to a meeting with a problem if you don't have a solution. So, we have a solution and it is our school. Our school is your solution. We work and we are an "A" school and we partner with our company, our bank, and it's a win for everyone. It's a win for our company. We don't lose our associates because our associates stay with the company because of the great school we offer to our associates. We have a great education for our students. We can save you the money on transportation and facilities because our company is paying that. As parents, we're paying for your

transportation costs. So, why not lead the cause in Florida, as the Duval County district, why not be the one that makes the courage, that takes the stand and leads the cause for all of the districts to say why not go out to all the other large corporations in Jacksonville and the Duval County district, to the Winn Dixies, Baptist Hospitals, EverBanks and to the Jaguars and say, "Why not...this model works!" It works for you as you won't lose your associates. It works for us because we have an "A" rated school. We're number 5 in Duval County. Jacksonville Beach who was here earlier, is number 1. They are a gifted magnet and we're not. We are a regular Duval County school and we're consistently one of your top 5 schools. We win for our teachers. Earlier you said about teachers being dealt with respect. Our teachers have that and we respect our teachers. They come in every day and teach our students because our principal and parents back them. They have control in their classrooms because we, as parents, back them because we are citizens of this community that support our school. So, why not be the School Board of Florida that says "this model works"? I'm coming to you with a solution for your budget crisis. We'll save you on transportation; we'll save you on facilities costs; we will fix your budget problems if you will go out to the community - we'll help you and form a task force with you. Just lead the cause for Florida. That's all I ask.

Mr. Jose Hernandez said I spoke earlier. I just want to quickly mention that once we sit down and Mr. Pratt-Dannals does his presentation and talk a lot about the losses of the school, but back to what Ashli was saying, this school works. Unless you are informed of any particular reason why the bank will not continue to support the school, we have to assume it will continue to support the school. Now, if some information is available that should be made public if this bank is not going to support the school, therefore, it is your responsibility, if you have the information to make it public, and if not, your assumptions and decisions should be made on the assumption that the bank will support the school and we will continue having an "A" school; one of your best elementary schools. Thank you.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Speakers:

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief of Operations

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Mr. Mike Perrone, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member

Board Member Martha Barrett made the following disclosure:

"I must abstain from the vote to be taken for this matter because I am an employee of Bank of America and this agenda item inures to the benefit of my employer. I will file the appropriate form to be placed on record with the minutes of this meeting."

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed closure of the Bank of America Learning Academy #266 after the completion of the 2011-2012 school year.

- FAIL

2. That the Duval County School Board approve the proposed closure of the Bank of America Learning Academy #266 after the completion of the 2011-2012 school year.

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett - Abstain

Betty Burney - Nay

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Nay

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Nay

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[1. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - New May 2011.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals May 2011.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Becki Couch made the following disclosure:

"I have asked that this item be placed on the Discussion List so that I can disclose that this matter could inure to the benefit of my husband if his company enters into a subcontract with any of these prequalified contractors. I will abstain from the vote to be taken for this matter, and I

will file the appropriate form to be placed on record with the minutes of this meeting."

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the attached lists of pre-qualified contractors. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Betty Burney

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Abstain
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for Board members:

June 8-10, 2011 - 2011 FSBA/FADSS Annual Spring Conference - Tampa, FL - Barrett

June 23-25, 2011 - 2011 CUBE Issues Seminar - Memphis, TN - Barrett

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Members

Travel:

- June 8-10, 2011 - 2011 FSBA/FADSS Annual Spring Conference - Tampa, FL - Barrett - PASS
- June 23-25, 2011 - 2011 CUBE Issues Seminar - Memphis, Tenn - Barrett

Vote Results

Motion: Betty Burney

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for the Superintendent:

May 3, 2011 - Leadership Policy Advisory Committee on Assessment and Accountability (LPAC) - Tallahassee *(The Superintendent participated in a conference call instead of traveling to Tallahassee.)*

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Becki Couch said I had an opportunity to visit the Very Special Arts at the Cummer Art Museum and I was very impressed with the amount of volunteers and the wonderful activities provided for our special needs students. It was really great to see so many people participating in helping our students.

I also wanted to say "thank you" to all of the teachers in Duval County. Our teachers deserve to be praised for all of the hard work and dedication they give to the children of our community and, unfortunately, the media and political arena seems to spend more time vilifying our teachers than celebrating all the great successes they've brought about in the lives of so many young people, including myself. So, thank you for all that you do, for your sacrifices and commitment to our children.

Ms. Paula D. Wright said I would, also, like to thank the teachers for all of their hard work during Teacher Appreciation Week and I'd like to thank Matt Saffer for the excellent video that he put together for Mt. Herman ESE Center.

I'd like to remind everybody that the Reading Celebration is coming up, May 14, from 10:00-1:00 at Metropolitan Park.

I'd like to thank two principals - when I looked at the list of National Board Certified Teachers, two schools had two teachers - Southside Middle and the principal is LaTanya McNeal and Greenfield Elementary, principal, Art Lauzon - these two schools have an excellent partnership.

Mr. Tommy Hazouri said to thank all of the teachers for all that they have done and all that they continue to do in the light of what is happening. We love you, we're going to work hard for you and do our best to keep you wanting to be teachers and, hopefully, keep recruiting and retaining the best to Duval County.

Ms. Martha Barrett said I, too, want to thank all of the wonderful teachers out there and their great job they do for our students.

I, too, attended the Cummer's Very Special Arts and I've attended every year since I've been on the Board, and it just continues to get better and better and it's a wonderful experience and they do a great job with those students.

I attended the Butterfly Release Party at Tree Hill on Saturday and they would love to see all of us there.

I had a wonderful visit at Westview K-8. The bank had Global Service Month in April. Some of my fellow team mates and I were out at the Girl Scouts camp and had a wonderful day with Mrs. Yost and Mrs. Braggs and the very special children in K-5, and a great day with them swimming, etc. We do have a little bus problem, sometimes. Thank you.

Mr. Fel Lee said I'd like to echo what my fellow Board members have said about the teachers; a heartfelt thank you for everything that you're doing for our children. I know

it's been a rough time and we still have to work through this budget process. I hope if you're either watching or hearing this, we do need your input.

I attended the Cummer and it was a wonderful event and the first time for me but I will be back and next time, I will bring more people with me.

The Chairman and I were at an event with the Tournament Players Championship and we're very excited that in northeast Florida, they have made a commitment for ten years of about \$50 million dollars and I'd probably would say we need the money sooner than later. I know that's a lot of wrap around services but those groups support us and many of our friends who are working with us, were there. It was a great event. Thank you.

Ms. Betty Burney said I want to echo my grateful sentiments to all of our teachers who do such wonderful work and work so hard. We've had a rough year with the news media and all of those things they hear coming at them.

The Chairman received a letter from former Superintendent Sang. Mr. Sang and I had a wonderful conversation today and I asked him, since he also copied me on the letter, if I could make copies and distribute to fellow Board members and Superintendent. There was one piece he wanted us to see and it was the late former President Ronald Reagan's visit to Jacksonville to speak. Mr. Sang wanted to highlight that. Two of the now failing schools had students there who were the ones asking questions from Andrew Jackson Senior High and Jean Ribault Senior High and he said on, and I quote, "*Ribault's students performance was so outstanding, that it became known around the nation as the Ribault Story*" so I thought that this was good and we will distribute it.

I've read to to students at Highlands Elementary earlier and I asked them to look at the stars and tell me what they saw. One child said when he looked at the stars, he imagined he was a scientist and I also imagined I was an astronaut. So, these are their imaginations after they watched the stars and I thought you, Ms. LeRoy, would get a kick out of it.

Mr. W. C. Gentry said thank you for mentioned that about Superintendent Sang as it was a very kind letter he wrote. I'm corresponding with him and will thank him for that and also the speech from President Reagan; very interesting....25 years ago, 1987.

I just want to say, again, how much we do appreciate our teachers and one of the things that comes out of this...being on the Chamber Board and going to various functions that I've been attending with various business folks, I think there really is an appreciation in the business community of teachers, but, also, an appreciation just for human resources standpoint, how they must be suffering under the challenges that they are now facing. I've heard a number of business people who have come up to me and said they want to figure out things they could do to let teachers know they are appreciated. I'm hopeful as we go forward this next year that maybe we can get some engagement from the business community...there are a lot of little things...a discount here or some benefit to say to teachers that we really do appreciate them and want to do something tangible. I do think this is something we need to pursue and it feels good to me...we need to come up with the ideas. Maybe something good will come out of all of this in addition to the legislature sine die.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

lsd

Superintendent

Chairman