



E-AGENDA MANAGER

Duval County Public Schools

May 6, 2014, Regular Board Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services, Ms. Becki Couch, Chairman, Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Vice Chair and Board members: Mr. Jason Fischer, Dr. Constance Hall, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present. Board Member Ashley Smith Juarez was absent.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The students from the Chimney Lakes Elementary School's Chorus, under the direction of Swantje Biernacki, performed before the meeting began. Thank you for providing our entertainment this evening. You did a great job!

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: Reverend David L. Austell
Holy Trinity Anglican Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

Board Members

[1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 6 - WESTVIEW K-8](#)

Minutes:

Westview K-8's principal, Ms. Beverly Walker, said it's my pleasure to be here with you this evening to give you a little overview of some special things that we are doing at Westview K-8. With me, I have both of my Assistant Principals, Ms. Teresa Brown and Ms. Dianne Rahn. Truly, everything we do, we do as a team effort and it does take our team to make Westview as successful as it is. One of the things we wanted to do with you is to share a PowerPoint. Many of you may have not visited way out to the westside so we wanted to tell you about us. Within our walls, we have some very unique things going on which I want to share with you in the school,

Our vision is to build life long learners who are also globally conscientious - have an impact on our environment. The school was built as a green school.

See Attachment.

Communications

[1. AVID NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL DESIGNATION: SANDALWOOD HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

2. Sandalwood: National AVID Demonstration Site

- The next presentation is to a local high school with a nationally-recognized college readiness culture. Introducing Sandalwood High School, a national demonstration school for the AVID program.

- AVID, which stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a college readiness system designed to increase school-wide learning and performance for students in elementary through high school.
- AVID identifies schools that demonstrate the very best strategies and methodologies in both the elective and school-wide college readiness practices. Representatives from schools across the country travel to these designated model sites to observe and learn from the best.
- We are so proud that Sandalwood is among a group of only 142 schools throughout the nation, and just 9 in Florida, to be named a demonstration school.
- Join us in recognizing AVID Demonstration site, Sandalwood High School. Here for recognition are Victoria Schultz, Principal; Nancy Cohan, Assistant Principal and AVID Administrator; Bernadette Hardeman, High School Acceleration Programs Coordinator; and Wendy Dunlap, Director of High School Acceleration Programs.

[2. NATIONAL SPRINTING CHAMPION: KENDAL WILLIAMS](#)

Minutes:

3. Kendal Williams: National Sprinter:

- Our next recognition is for excellence in and out of the classroom. Student-athlete Kendal Williams is a senior at Stanton College Preparatory School.
- Outside of the classroom, where he maintains a 3.2 GPA, Kendal has excelled in Track and Field, earning several local, state and national titles including Gateway Conference Champion in the 100 and 200 meter dash for 2 and 3 years in a row, respectively, and 3 state titles in the 200 meter.
- He is an ESPN notable, recognized as one of ESPN's Faces in the Crowd. In addition, he has earned several awards including Fastest on the First Coast presented by First Coast News, Action News' Top Male High School Athlete, Outstanding Male High School Track and Field Athlete from JTC Running, Florida Times-Union Track Athlete of the Year, and Gatorade Track and Field Athlete of the Year nominee.
- Kendal's successes have earned him scholarship offers from more than 25 division 1 schools. In February, he signed to run track for Florida State University.
- Tonight, we recognize Kendal for the newest award being added to his long list of accomplishments. Kendal is the number one high school sprinter in the nation according to Track and Field News. Join us in congratulating Stanton

High School senior and the nation's top sprinter, Kendal Williams.

3. RECOGNITION OF CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MONTH

Minutes:

1. Customer Service Representative of the Month

- Customer service is one of the keys to establishing quality learning environments and a culture of excellence in schools and district offices.
- This year, the district demonstrated its commitment to encouraging superior customer service with the installation of a survey kiosk in the lobby of the district's central office building. By accessing it, visitors are provided an opportunity to share and rate their experiences.
- This month, launches our employee recognition program where we honor employees during our Board meetings who have demonstrated excellence in customer service.
- This month's award goes to an employee whose infectious smile, enthusiasm, and attitude greet district office visitors each day. James Jacobs has made a strong impact, as evidenced by the outpouring of comments and praise supporting his nomination. James received nearly half of all of nominations submitted by district employees.
- In addition to the love he has for his job and the people he serves, James loves Al's Pizza. Sharing in his honor tonight is Al Mansur, owner of Al's Pizza. Please welcome Al and, of course, join us in congratulating our April Customer Service Representative of the Month, James Jacobs.

4. UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

Minutes:

4. The United Negro College Fund:

- Our next presentation highlights a partnership between DCPS shares with the United Negro College Fund to support the scholarship needs of college-bound students.
- The Duval County Public Schools' Scholarship Fund is a workplace campaign established in 2011 that allows employees to donate to UNCF. All donations go into a restrictive scholarship fund to support Duval County's students.

- Here to make the presentation are Sherry Paramore UNCF Area Development Director and Joe McGhee, UNCF Leadership Council member.

5. GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS

Minutes:

5. Gates Millennium Scholars:

- The next presentation is to four outstanding students whose hard work and determination have earned them the highly-coveted Gates Millennium Scholarship.
- Established in 1999 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support minority achievements, the Gates Millennium Scholars program provides full scholarships to exceptional minority students, affording them a unique opportunity to pursue an undergraduate degree in any discipline of their choice
- Among the requirements for eligibility, African American, American Indian, Asian Pacific, and Hispanic American students must have attained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.3 on an unweighted 4.0 scale or have earned a GED, and demonstrate leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities.
- From the tens-of-thousands of applicants, only 1,000 are selected. We are so proud to have four Duval County students chosen to receive a 2014 scholarship.
- Meet the Duval County Public Schools' Class of 2014 Gates Millennium Scholars. Chanice Howard, Robert E. Lee High School; Delana (Dee-layna) Green, Raines High School; Anna Huang, Sandalwood High School and Alex Morrell, Wolfson High School, who is unable to attend. Joining them is Larry Roziers, Executive Director of Special Programs.

6. TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Minutes:

6. Teacher of the Year: Joey Frencl:

- This evening's final presentation comes at a very special time – Teacher Appreciation Week. During this national observance, we are delighted to introduce to the community Joseph Frencl, Duval County's 2014 Teacher of the Year.

- Mr. Frencl is a self-proclaimed "math nerd" at Atlantic Coast High School. He believes that "people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," which is why he takes a special interest in each student he teaches. Mr. Frencl knows that math can be scary and he works to make it relevant and sometimes even fun. He and his students sing the quadratic formula song, chant the pattern for factoring the sum and difference of two cubes, tell corny math jokes and get "pied" in the face in annual celebration of Pi Day.
- Most notably, for the past 15 consecutive years, 90 percent of Mr. Frencl's AP Calculus students have passed the AP exam and 34 percent have achieved the highest possible score. Three separate times, 100 percent of the students in his class passed the AP exam. Mr. Frencl acknowledges that it is not his achievement as a teacher, but a shared success with his students.
- Tonight we recognize a passionate, devoted, and extraordinary educator who serves as a sterling example and representative for the more than 8,000 teachers throughout Duval County Public Schools.
- Welcome Joseph Frencl, Atlantic Coast High School math nerd and 2014 Teacher of the Year.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Joey Frencl said I'm a math teacher at Atlantic Coast High School and am currently the Duval County Teacher of the Year. I'm here, tonight, to honor teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. I would like to say "thank you" to all of our teachers for your hard work and dedication to your students and school. Teachers spend countless hours preparing and assisting students and they often spend their own money purchasing supplies and awarding incentives for their students, as well. I want to say "thank you" for working extra hours before and after school and even on Saturdays to help students be successful. Teaching is incredibly hard work but it is work that is so incredibly rewarding. It is rewarding that when a struggling student starts seeing success; when a student gets accepted at a prestigious university; when you receive emails from students from 10+ years ago saying how much of an impact you made on their lives. We just finished FCAT and are now in state EOC (End of Course) mode and Advanced Placement mode. The AP Calculus exam is tomorrow so please remember us tomorrow morning. However, teachers teach so much more than standards and benchmarks. We teach students responsibility, honesty, the value of hard work, compassion and, hopefully, we teach them that school is great and fun. However, all of these things cannot be measured by a test. People are trying to make teaching into some sort of science. I disagree as teaching never has been and never will be a science. Teaching is an art. You know great teaching when you see it and when you experience it and when you, as a visitor, don't want to leave that class because you are

so engrossed in the lesson. Teachers are under attack on many fronts but we will not allow negative attitudes, negative policies or attacks on teachers deter us from our mission of excellence and student achievement. I appreciate all of the support from our School Board, our Superintendent, our union officials, leaders and district officials. Many teachers are here, tonight, to support their colleagues as the Board considers budget proposals. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to show your support for your colleagues. I am proud to represent Duval Teachers and I wish all of you a great Teacher Appreciation Week and a fantastic end to the school year. Thank you and have a great night.

Ms. Susan Santos said I am a teacher at Jefferson Davis Middle School, a media specialist, one of few, and I have 19 years with the county. I have three separate issues that I'm concerned with and they all deal with student achievement. First, I thought we were going to have fewer Tabs and I hear teachers talking about the CGA. Put the Curriculum Guide & Assessments, next year, to be scheduled so that students will have completed the curriculum before the test. There are several instances in which the CGA was given two weeks before all the standards were covered. An elementary school teacher's math class was in tears because they did not know the material they were being tested on because they have not covered it, yet. The test being given by the district's schedule rather than by the Pacing Guide. Can the answers to the Science CGA have the correct answers? We have some issues with them and I hope they can be worked out. Discipline? More security officials will help but what is truly needed is for the district to enforce the Code of Conduct. The In School Suspension Program, as currently run, is ineffective in most schools as students don't mind going there. Because the SROs are not allowed to arrest students on campus when caught with drugs or weapons, other students know that nothing much will happen to them and they are bold and misbehave. Good parenting requires a consequence for poor behavior and choices. Since we do not allow our students to suffer the consequences of their behavior choices, they continue to make poor ones and how they act on campus and in their academic achievement. This needs to change. Finally, my most important reason or coming here is that Media Educators Duval In Action (MEDIA) to, again, plead with the School Board and Dr. Vitti to fully fund library/media services in Duval County. Is the public aware that the libraries at these high schools lack a certified library/media specialist and are basically closed to students: N.B. Forrest, Robert E. Lee, William Raines, Jean Ribault, Atlantic Coast, Englewood, First Coast, Fletcher and six other high schools. Libraries are closed at 18 middle schools including Baldwin, Darnell Cookman, Ft. Caroline, Landon, LaVilla, Mayport, Stilwell and JEB Stuart. This information was gathered by my calling each school in November and asking who was staffing the library/media center. In light of the Common Core Standards soon to be in place and in light of our Mission to make every student college ready by graduation, this is a shameful situation. Please staff our school libraries with a certified media specialist. Thank you.

Mr. Willie Hall said the last time I spoke before you was around this time, last year, and it was during the principal changes in which I had some concerns. My concern is never to the person or individual that is in the seat but to what is best for students. Fast forward to today and I'd like to read a statement that has been prepared by a support organization at Raines High School. It is a Letter of Support to the Superintendent, copying the Board members, from Raines PTA President, Raines Athletic Boosters, President and Raines Band Booster, President, dated May 6, 2014, supporting Principal Vincent Hall as: *"It has been brought to our attention hat a petition and letter that*

supports the removal of Mr. Vincent Hall, as principal, of William Raines High School that has been circulating our local community. As presidents of three (3) very active support organizations who work closely with Mr. Hall, we wanted to go on record and officially state that we are in full support of Mr. Hall remaining as the principal of William M. Raines High School. Since Mr. Hall's return to Raines in the summer of 2013, he has worked diligently to "Regenerate the Viking P.R.I.D.E.". Mr. Hall has been committed to: (1) Students' academic need being met through data analysis and standards-based instruction; (2) The educational environment being safe and secure and supporting student achievement; (3) Each student being a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual strengths; and (4) All stakeholders sharing a common vision of student achievement. As stakeholders, parents and alumni, we visit the campus weekly (most times several times a week) and believe that the overall leadership of Mr. Hall has been very progressive and conducive to a structure learning environment. However, change is taking place. Change that is productive and necessary toward the upward move of Raines! We will continue to work with Mr. Hall and Dr. Vitti and look forward to the continued growth and development of our beloved William M. Raines High School. Furthermore, we do not, in any way, support the removal of principal Vincent Hall. Respectfully submitted, Kassie Whitfield, President, PTSA, Cynthia M. Ragans, President, Raines Athletic Boosters, Inc., and Willie B. Hall, President, Raines Band Boosters, Inc."

Mr. Chris Guerrieri said I'd like to talk about charter schools. My pleas last month went so well, I thought I'd come back and throw some more out there. Here, this evening, you're going to extend three and approve four charter schools. First, the Tiger Academy, one of the most connected charter schools with Board members Mia Jones, Nat Glover and John Delaney but that doesn't stop it from receiving a "D" grade for the past two years. I don't understand why if it's a "D" or an "F" this year, it will be allowed to continue for three more years. Why isn't it being shut down if they earn a "D" or an "F"? Isn't the five years it has had long enough to show it's not getting the job done? I hope they're not being allowed to continue because the chair of the Tiger Academy has given at least \$1,000 to several School Board members. I also hope that if they choose to vote, they will recuse themselves because that would give the appearance of impropriety. Then you have the Global Outreach Academy which is a little less connected and its grades are a little better. They received a "C" and "D" for the last two years but to expand for three more years if it gets a "D" or "F"; how about you make a rule that says if you get a "D", you get a one-year contract and if you get a couple of "D's" or worse, you'll be closed down? If a teacher had a "Needs Improvement", would you give them a five-year contract? Of course wouldn't but that's what you're doing here. Then there's the SOS Academy which had a run of four (4) straight "D's" and last year's "F". Their track record should not be a model for the Global Outreach and Tiger Academies. It should join Jacksonville's ten other charter schools that have opened and proved they could not do the job and closed. Neither only are you planning to extend three struggling charter schools, but you're planning to give approval to four charter schools; two virtual ones and two brick and mortar ones. How does going from zero to four make any sense? How about one contract and see how they do and if they are successful, then allow them to expand? Furthermore, don't you think Mr. Cleve Warren needs a break? He's on the Board for the Tiger Academy, as well. One charter schools should prove to do well before allowing to open four more. I'm not even asking for sustained success which should be the requirement for extension. You say you want to bring students back from the charter schools, yet, you seem to be approving a lot of

charter schools and allowing a lot of failing and struggling charter schools to continue. *Section 102.33(a) Sunshine Statutes requires districts to make academic achievement for all students which is an important factor in determining whether to renew or terminate the charter.* I'm asking you to please don't continue to outsource our children's future.

Mr. Edward Exson said I've stated before what an affliction it is to be under-educated or worse, uneducated. Anyone suffering from either and satisfied has a stupidity that can't be fixed. The powers to be came to realize the importance of educating all children that wanted it, so America could compete and lead in the world. I've watched superintendents for over 60 years and that man right there - Dr. Nikolai Vitti - in my opinion, is the most progressive and inclusive as we have ever had. The black youth of the 60's who gave some push to get us where we are along with the black leaders of that era, have turned it around and now we are going backwards in spite of the opportunities that exist; however, rapidly waning. It is not a crime for boys and men wearing their shorts showing. I hate it! What I hate worse is the so-called black leaders, preachers and black politicians deceiving our people and that deception is running rampant. They still want to feel as though they are as tall as the Empire State Building while their deeds are lower than a snake. When I requested a charter school application for Valor Academy, I knew in five minutes in reading the finances that they submitted, they were/are a fraud. They are simply fronting for a large white company. The destruction of black civilization has been going on for thousands of years. It is part of our DNA and it will last to perpetuity. I thank you.

Ms. Teresa Cluff said I want to talk about money, tonight. We have schools without proper media centers and we're going to disburse \$242,000 to change the name of a school. I'm sorry, that is sad and anyone of you who can sit down and talk to me and convince me that that is educationally related, please, I will email you and we'll set a date for dinner. I think it's very sad and I don't know what else to say. That campaign was run on the basis that donations would pay for that name change; it would not come out of educational money. Well, I don't play the name game. District funds, educational funds; it's all taxpayer money and taxpayers are paying for something they did not vote for nor choose. As a matter of fact, the vote was in favor of keeping the name but it was changed and that's fine. Maybe it can be undone and maybe it can't be but every one of you sitting up there that voted to change the name and I'm sure you voted in one of your meetings; not a public meeting, that the \$242,000 would be used to pay for the name change; however that is handled. No, I'm sorry and that breaks my heart. As a Duval County taxpayer, I resent there being shortages over here that deal directly with education - media centers - and the money is being spent over here to change the sign and name due to political correctness on something that happened 150 years ago. I'd like to ask each and every one of you to rethink the decision you made because our students are going to pay. If you can put \$242,000 over here for a name change, then you can put \$242,000 over here that will really benefit the education for our students which is what taxpayers in Duval County are paying for their children and grandchildren. Thank you.

Ms. Wilma Castaneda said I've been in the school board building since 2009 receiving the District Employee of the Year and a finalist for the State of Florida. I've been at Abess Park Elementary School for 17 years as an office assistant between the Media Center and the main office. I challenge the School Board members and Dr. Vitti to please come and spend a day in the life of an office assistant. First of all, I begin my

day doing the news network because we have part-time media, so it's now falling on my shoulders and the paraprofessional. We answer over 200-300 phone calls per day except on Early Release day which go over 300 calls. We check in tardies, check out early students, and we must check IDs because it is district policy. We attend to sick children. I wish Shands were not as busy as we are; an average of 30-40 children per day in the clinic. We maintain accurate logs, take temperatures, give us, make phone calls to parents. In some case, we give rescue inhalers to asthmatic students, give an EpiPen or call 911; attend broken arms or leg; give daily medications to approximately 20 students. We sign for and receive mail, sort mail, prepare certificates, we register and withdraw students, write the news letters; send out phone blasts, take care of the principal's mail and anything else assigned to us because the principal and assistant principal are too busy with other matters; teachers are busy attending their classrooms. We make copies, I interpret Spanish for non-English speaking parents and then I report to the Media Center. There, I check in materials, check out materials, cover lunch duty, cover hallway duty during testing; help prepare testing materials, textbook inventory, technology inventory, equipment inventory and I can not receive a stipend because I am not a certified teacher but yet I fix 90% of the computers at the school. I cover the front office if anyone is absent, other clinic duties and the list goes on. School is home and we need to make the students feel at home. Please come and see what we do every single day. Thank you.

Mr. Carlton Williams, Sr., said my son attends William M. Raines High School and was involved in the incident that happened in March of this year with the students who trespassed on the Raines' campus. Mr. Hall, the principal, told me, the media and his superiors, that my son was the aggressor. I found out that he's been showing everyone the wrong student on the surveillance video. At my request, the School Resource Officer Sergeant viewed the video and came to a very different conclusion. Dr. Vitti, you said in the last meeting that you look at the facts. Well, I have some facts for you: (1) Mr. Hall's account of the events contradicts what the Sergeant saw on the video and wouldn't put it in his report; (2) As of March 31st of this year, my son had zero referrals in his file after I contested Mr. Hall's decision to suspend my son for ten (10) days and refer him to Grand Park Alternative Center for 45 days; all of a sudden, there is four (4) referrals in his file, two of which was supposed to be from October and September of last year but they were entered in April, 2014. Yesterday, I went to the school to obtain copies of those referrals; two of them were for tardies and on my son's report card, he has a total of five (5) tardies for the entire school year. Instead, you said you wrote him up twice for being tardy. I was there yesterday at the school from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm trying to get the copies and no one could find the referrals. At one point, I was told that my son's file was missing. To me, this sounds like retaliation and this is against the Code of Ethics. Mr. Hall called the college who just offered my son a scholarship to tell them about the situation before I knew what the resolution would be. I found out on Monday that he had called them the previous Thursday. Mr. Davis assured me that he talked to the coach and said my son's scholarship was fine. I called the coach and he said he never spoke with Mr. Davis. That call cost my son his scholarship. I've been lied to and deceived by the administration. It seems as if there is a "cover each other's back" type attitude concerning this situation. I asked Mr. Hall, *"What if these students had guns or weapons?"* and his response was, *"I guess you would have been suing us."* This is totally unacceptable and outright offensive. On the 14th of April, I submitted my evidence which, at the least, proves unethical practices and falsifying documents to Mr. Heid and I was told there would be a complete and

thorough investigation and that I would receive an update in the days to come. Mr. Heid called me today; no update or anything like that. As of right now, I filed a formal complaint with Ms. Josephine Jackson and Ms. Marian Lander.

Mr. Jermaine Stuart said on behalf of the community surrounding William M. Raines High School, I present to you a petition for the calling of reassignment of principal, Vincent Hall and Assistant Principal, Portia Jones. We have collected signatures from 932 people who are asking you to reassign a new principal and assistant principal to William M. Raines High School. Within the coming days, we will file several formal complaints with the district. At that time, we will request the district to conduct a thorough investigation and share its findings with the School Board and public within thirty (30) days. Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter by the students of William M. Raines High School. Thank you.

Ms. Frances Heckermann said I work with the high school Math department. Last November, we started the process of adopting new instructional materials for mathematics and this adoption included all levels of mathematics from elementary thru high school. Five years ago when we went through the same book adoption, it was decided then that at the high school level only Algebra II, Geometry and Algebra I would receive new materials. When we started this in November, we were truly very excited. For ten years, we've been using the same preCalculus books, Calculus and Statistics books. In ten years, course descriptions changed, new technology has evolved but Duval County was still using the same materials. Needless to say, this book adoption was a bright spot for all of us and we were truly looking forward to showing that progression that we were feeling. Our state has adopted new standards for next year and we were getting new books aligned to those standards that would support the new progress in mathematics all around the country. The future was looking good and we were ready to embrace it all. The teams moved ahead. We evaluated the resources, chose the textbooks we thought would best fit our needs. Curriculum writing teams were chosen, we started writing the curriculum's to fit the new standards to be aligned with the new materials and in the middle of it all, the plan was changed. Once again, we were told upper level mathematics was not going to get the new materials and new textbooks. For some reason, the instructional materials money and funding got all interchanged with all the other funding going on and mathematics got the short end of the stick. Now, the rumor is that only Algebra I and Geometry will get new books at the high school level. I implore you to reconsider this decision. All of our students deserve up to date materials. High school mathematics does not stop after Geometry. Parents need to know that our district wants to support all of our students. New families moving in want to know that our district keeps up with the trends with the rest of the state and the country. In a few weeks, graduations will begin. Each graduate walking across that stage will have advanced beyond Algebra I and Geometry and each is deserving of the very best that this district can offer them. I hope that as you shake each one of their hands that you look into their eyes, and more importantly, as you think about the future that is going to come, that you can truly say we offered the best for every school, every classroom, every student, every day.

Comments From Parent Organizations

COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Ms. Juanita Franklin-Banton, Chair:

There is a great deal of concern from stakeholders regarding possible cuts.

Will the proposed changes affect the transformation of any schools?

If changes are made, how are teachers in the intermediate grades expected to roll out the Florida State Common Core Standards?

We recently had several Town Hall meetings about transformation and were told that teachers would be notified about transformational principal changes in order for teachers to make decisions. To date, there have been no updates for teachers and everyone seems to be in limbo. Please help!

PTA - Ms. Gretchen Lynch, President:

DCCPTA will be recognizing all our district, state Reflection winners this Friday evening at Atlantic Coast High School's Auditorium.

DCCPTA is offering two opportunities for PTA leadership training next week. Tuesday, May 13 we will be offering an evening training at Highlands Regional Library and Friday, May 16 we will be offering a daytime training. Please visit our dccpta.org to register.

Tuesday, May 20 we will be celebrating the work of the entire local unit PTAs in our community with our Presidents' and Principals' Luncheon. PTAs will be recognized for their outstanding programming, lifetime PTA awards and PTAs of the Year. Five outstanding seniors: Megan Abrass, Fletcher, Alexis Brown (Stanton) Zachary Morris (Atlantic Coast), Morgan Riley (Mandarin) and Haley Snyder (Fletcher) will be awarded \$500 scholarships.

Also on May 20 prior to the luncheon from 9:00 – 11:30, we will be hosting a Vendors Fair with access to vendors that provide ways for PTA to raise funds to support their PTA program from next year. This Vendors Fair is free and open to youth organizations, booster clubs, athletic groups and PTAs looking for new fundraising ideas.

As PTAs prepare for the close of their fiscal year on June 30, PTA leaders need to make sure all of their monthly school reports due to their bookkeeper are up to date, an end of the year audit committee is selected and at the completion of their financial review audit forms are submitted to the bookkeeper. After this process the PTA needs to then file their appropriate 990 form with the IRS.

ESE Advisory Committee - Ms. Juliann Gaus-Graeser, Chair:

Kirby Smith Middle School's swim team won. I'm here representing Exceptional Student Education Advisory Committee. This will be my last time reporting out to the School Board this year. Our meetings are held every other month and our last meeting will be Tuesday, May 27 from 9:30-11:30 am in Conference Room 307, in this building. We will have elections for officers next year and we will be voting on the agenda of the Focus for the group next year. We invite all and thank the Board and Superintendent for always inviting and welcoming us and working together to do what is best for all exceptional students in our school district. Have a good evening.

Comments From Employee Organizations

COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes:

Ms. Terrie Brady, Duval Teachers Union, president, thanked all employees who were here as members of Duval Teachers United, and those who are not, because they are concerned about the issues. They are here because we try to have one united voice.

I stand before you this evening to speak with one united voice as it relates to the proposed budget cuts. We want to make sure the facts are given. In preparing for tonight, it reminded me why I ran for president of DTU. It was to unify the voices of the majority of our employees as valued human capital and to always with every bit of my energy to fight for better working conditions and benefits so that the men and women could have peace of mind, somewhat, as educators, so they could teach and support our district from the district office to out into the classrooms. Last Sunday's article in the Florida Times-Union was a shock to me when they read the proposed budget shifts and cuts. Last year's shifts, new staff allocations, new programs, realignments caused such unrest in our district and distrust. It took us all year to get over it and the employees all got through it and continued to teach, cut checks, filled orders, tutored students, answered phones and any other tasks necessary to move our district forward and now we're getting to end the year, and here we go, again. School budgets are not set, yet, proposals of class sizes are to be increased, positions are either being shifted or abolished and may be RIF (Reduction In Force). I never thought that this would be happening in our district. Our employees truly deserve better.

First, the human capital side. Human capital is invested with training which leads to productivity. The Legislative session ended last Friday which is the lowest since 2008 and included the largest number of unfunded mandates. Our property values have not captured the loss; non-contributory health insurance; a decline of enrollment due to charter schools and home schooling.. This is no different with the Cecil Field Naval base closed and when Mayport lost a carrier. The largest percentage of any business' budget is the employees' salaries and benefits. So, we in the Duval County School system, are no different than any other large business. We're actually the largest in the county. We need to go deep into the budget and analyze the other expenditures. I ask that each of you do that at your next budget meeting on May 13.

Let's start with the proposals: academic coaches and testing coordinators. Last year, these positions were needed and would assist the excellence of instruction and performance of our students. Due to the restructuring of and the re-expectation of our coaches, it has been very successful across the board in all of our schools. Testing coordinators have not had a break from testing all year. The testing prompts, instructions, security, in-service training, scrutiny and high stake pressure being placed on everyone reaffirms their need and their value in each of our schools. If the testing coordinators do not do this job, then who? An Assistant Principal who already has multiple responsibilities outside the role of an AP? Or, a classroom teacher? The individuals holding these positions may be bumped to return to the classroom if you are a testing coordinator or if you are an academic coach. This might mean less new hires but they will still have jobs because they'll be able to bump.

UOPD (United Office Personnel of Duval) - these positions encompass security guards, office assistants, clerks, CRT operators, bookkeepers, support technicians, interpreters, dispatches, account technicians, payroll technicians, data entries and our secretaries. Out of this group, the proposal is to reduce a security guard in large elementary schools. How was this arrived? The lack of inconsistencies and incident reports - I'd like to see those. Who will stand duty? Teachers during their planning periods? Paras? No, because we cut most of them two years ago. Administrators? Most of them are already standing duty every day, morning, afternoon and cafeteria duty. This does not create a safe environment in any of our locations and they have no where to go. Most senior security guards can bump or it becomes a RIF or lay off. Office Assistants - they would have no where to go but lay off or RIF. Who will assist in the front office, greet the parents and community? Most schools are already at bare bones. It is all about customer service. District Building Clerical - bumping will occur but who will do the work? Most are doing double the amount of work established 3-5 years ago. We have numerous complaints about employees not getting answers or requests not filled in a timely fashion because the work load is greater than the people available to process the request. These people are on the front lines to the community, employees and parents. It truly is about customer service. They answer curriculum questions, placement, assist with ESE concerns, transportation, discipline inquiries and much more because that's what they do to move our district forward here in this building.

You know the value and importance of these positions. Board members, you currently have two of these clerical people assisting you every single day and the Administration also has two that lend support and make it work just like all the others in this building. The clerical employees have received outstanding evaluations in this building. They have been loyal to this district and have doubled up on the job requirements because they care about the district. This is their career and not just a job. They have dedicated themselves to this district. Why just this unit? When you deliberate this budget next week, please make it personal. It's about people and working together at all levels to make this district as great as the potential is.

I have some options and we're not oblivious to what the legislature has created for all of you to deal with and then you, the Board and Superintendent, have the tough decisions about how to balance. Let's do an Early Retirement Opt Out like we did several years ago; a Phase Out with shifting employees to school sites from the building with the exact same jobs and salary because of attrition and retirement. When I added this up, it

appears to be approximately 20 additional positions from the 60 here that could be shifted. Lastly, a Phase Out through normal attrition over a two-year period. I know building a budget with less is tough but let's not further destroy the morale and devalue the work of the members in this unit. We know new positions are being created in this district either through grants or other funding sources. These people are sitting on pins and needles waiting to see if they have jobs next year. Most of these people in this unit are single head of households and they are a part of this community of learning for the Duval County School Board. Even though the law gives you the right to reduce any of these units, does it the right not to value the work of our UOPD unit members?

DTU always stands ready to work together to find the answers, seven days a week. We will work with you on the growing challenges and demands being placed on each of you and especially on you, Mr. Superintendent, because your job is not easy. Respect and dignity go a long way to productivity as long as it is sincere and heartfelt. Thank you very much and we stand as one unified voice, here and out in the hallway and from those who could not come, tonight, because everyone passionately believes in the Duval County school system and the greatness we can achieve when and if we work together through dignity and respect. Thank you very much for your time.

Chairman's Report

[CHAIRMAN'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

The month of April was very busy for the board. We finished up our ninth Community Budget Meetings at First Coast High School. During each meeting we took speakers cards and priority cards from the audience. Our Administrative Assistant has taken the feedback and categorized it for the board by topic. This information was discussed during a workshop and it will help guide the board when making decisions for the 2014-2014 budget. On April 8 the Superintendent provided his first proposed budget for the 2014-2015 school year. The board has had a chance to review the proposed budget and now we will continue to work through the process of using stakeholder feedback and assessing the needs of the schools in order to provide a high quality education through a balanced budget. Our next budget meeting is May 13 in room 613 at 9:00 AM.

This year marks a significant milestone in the history of Duval County Public Schools. We are 150 years old. To celebrate the progress the district has made, we are hosting an exciting and fun-filled birthday celebration on Saturday, May 31st at the Jaguars' Cabanas and Fan Entertainment Zone. We begin the day "going the distance" for public education with our inaugural SPIRIT 5k and kids' one-mile Reading is Fun Run. Jacksonville citizens are encouraged to show their school spirit by joining students, athletes, board members and parents for activities that promote our commitment to wellness and literacy. While the kids' run is free and open to students who share a love of reading, the SPIRIT 5k is \$20 with all proceeds benefitting our Read it Forward Jax program. When you sign up you will receive this lovely shirt (hold up shirt).

Nearly 50 community organizations and corporate partners, led by SPIRIT captains CSX in partnership with City Year, Times-Union, and Publix will lead a post-race PEP Rally vendor fair and Expo complete with free food, activities, and give-aways. Student readers will be recognized for their reading achievements; teachers will enjoy VIP treatment in their own special area, celebrity readers will share their favorite stories; and elected officials will meet and greet citizens. The day will end with a birthday party for DJ, who turns 14 on May 31st. Pre-kindergarten students throughout Duval County public schools will enjoy cupcakes, games, and fun with Duval's top dog! It's an event that is sure to be a fun-filled day for families. Saturday, May 31st. Learn more at www.peprallyjax.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

Superintendent's Report

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes:

Dr. Nikolai Vitti said I want to use the PowerPoint as a quick summary of the Accreditation Feedback at this point. Overall the Accreditation process was a success. We had approximately 20-30 individuals from outside the district come to evaluate us in five major standards. Overall, the visit went very well. There are areas we need to improve on and that is part of the Continuous Improvement Process. It was the first time we had an outside group that was objective to evaluate where we were as a district after many changes that have taken place over the past 18 months.

Strengths that were acknowledged were:

- * Many Short Term Accomplishments
- * "Systems: Thinking
- * Professional Development, Job-Embedded PD, Coaching Model, Academies
- * Tiered Process for Everything

Areas of Improvement:

- * Time to stabilize reform
- * Commitment to long-term reform
- * Understanding and buy in of implementation of curriculum and way of work
- * Every student needs an adult mentor

We'll provide a more thorough report in the months to come. We did pass Accreditation, amended for many areas and in areas we know we need to do some work on moving forward.

Reports

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE MAY 6, 2014, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the May 6, 2014, Agenda as submitted on April 29, 2014, with the following changes:

1. Presentations - Communications - Item 4 - United Negro College Fund - Item Added
2. Presentations - Communications - Item 5 - Gates Millennium Scholars - Item Added
3. Presentations - Communications - Item 6 - Teacher of the Year - Item Added - PASS
4. Human Resource Services - Staffing - Item 22 - Human Resource Services Transactions - Revised Attachment
5. Human Resource Services - Professional Standards Item 23 - Suspension Without Pay - Latanya Peterson - Item Withdrawn
6. Board Members Travel - Revised Agenda Item
7. Superintendent's Travel - Revised Agenda Item

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- 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 1, 2014 - Regular Board Meeting
- April 1, 2014 - Leasing Corporation Meeting
- April 8, 2014 - Board Member Meeting
- April 8, 2014 - Board Workshop
- April 9, 2014 - Duval County School Board & JPEF Meeting
- April 15, 2014 - Committee Meeting & Board Workshop
- April 17, 2014 - Chairman & Vice Chair Meeting
- April 23, 2014 - Special - Student Expulsion Hearings
- April 24, 2014 - Board Development Meeting
- April 25, 2014 - Board Workshop

Motions:

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

- April 1, 2014 - Regular Board Meeting
- April 1, 2014 - Duval County School Board Leasing Corporation Meeting
- April 8, 2014 - Board Member Meeting
- April 8, 2014 - Board Workshop
- April 9, 2014 - Duval County School Board - JPEF Joint Meeting - PASS
- April 15, 2014 - Committee Meeting & Board Workshop
- April 17, 2014 - Chairman - Vice-Chairman Meeting
- April 23, 2014 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings

- April 24, 2014 - Board Development Meeting
- April 25, 2014 - Board Workshop

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:

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

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Fred Lee

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Consent Agenda

Board Members

1. [DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES FOR 2014-2015](#)

Attachment: [ANNUAL-DUES-AND-FEES-2014-2015.pdf](#)

Academic Services

2. [COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL TO THE DISTRICT COURSE FILE](#)

Attachment: [May 2014 Course Title File Additions Chart\(4-17-14\).pdf](#)

3. [INTERNET CONTENT FILTERING AND REPORTING SYSTEM PURCHASE](#)

Attachment: [CK-SSLC-Agreement DCPSv4.pdf](#)

5. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE AMERICAN READING COMPANY BOOKS FOR GRADES K-2 READING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [American Reading Company Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

6. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOLASTIC NOVELS FOR GRADES 2-5 READING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Scholastic 2nd grade Novels Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Scholastic Novels 3rd-5th Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

7. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE EARLEY LEARNING SYSTEMS NOVELS FOR GRADES 6-12 READING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Earley Learning Systems 9-12 grade Novels Quote and Sole Source Letter 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Earley Learning Systems 6-8 grade Novels Quote & Sole Source Letter 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [RFQ - EARLEY LEARNING-2.pdf](#)

8. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE INSPIRE LITERACY \(ILIT\) FOR GRADES 9-10 READING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [iLit Contract Amendment 2014-2015.doc.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Successmaker Amendent for iLit Contract 2014-2015.pdf](#)

9. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE ACHIEVE3000 FOR GRADES 3-12 READING, MATH, SCIENCE, AND SOCIAL STUDIES FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Achieve3000 Contract 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Achieve3000 Addendum 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Achieve 3000 Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

10. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE GIZMOS FOR GRADES 3-12 SCIENCE FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Gizmo Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

11. [ADOPTION OF DISTRICT-WIDE PEARSON CORE CURRICULUM FOR GRADES 6-12 MATHEMATICS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Pearson Secondary Math Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

12. [CONTRACT FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE USE OF SECONDARY PEARSON MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [Pearson Professional Development Secondary Math Addendum 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Pearson Professional Development Secondary Math Contract 2014-2015.pdf](#)

13. [PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE IREADY FOR GRADES K-5 READING AND MATHEMATICS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Attachment: [iReady Contract and Sole Source 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Curriculum Associates \(iReady\) Addendum 2014-2015.pdf](#)

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

Attachment: [Destiny Quote 2014-2015.pdf](#)

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

18. [CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VALOR ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP-HIGH SCHOOL.](#)

Attachment: [Valor Highvfinal.pdf](#)

19. [CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VALOR ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP-MIDDLE SCHOOL.](#)

Attachment: [Valor Middlevfinal.pdf](#)

20. [CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO OPEN VIRTUE ARTS & SCIENCES ACADEMY - MIDDLE SCHOOL.](#)

Attachment: [Virtue Middlevfinal.pdf](#)

21. [CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT FOR PROPECTUS LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC. TO](#)

OPEN VIRTUE ARTS & SCIENCES ACADEMY - HIGH SCHOOL.

Attachment: [Virtue Highvfinal.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

22. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES TRANSACTIONS

Attachment: [HRS ATTACH 05-06-14 TRANS.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

23. ~~SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY -- LATANYA PETERSON -- WITHDRAWN~~

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

24. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Attachment: [February 2014 Monthly Financial Statement Narrative.pdf](#)

Attachment: [February 2014 Cash and Investment Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [February 2014 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

25. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS March 26, 2014

Attachment: [May 2014 Budget Resolutions.pdf](#)

26. LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY FIRST CREDIT UNION OF FLORIDA FOR AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE SERVICES AT THE SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1701 PRUDENTIAL DRIVE

Attachment: [ATM License Agreementv3.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

27. ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS - CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND BALANCE AUTHORIZATION

Attachment: [May 2014 Agenda-COFB Energy & Water Conservation Projects List.pdf](#)

28. DISPOSAL OF THE FORMER FOREST PARK SCHOOL NO. 104 SITE BY DONATION TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

Attachment: [Forest Park No 104 Quit Claim Deed to COJ 4-7-14.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

29. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS, FINAL INSPECTIONS AND ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNTS ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000

Attachment: [May 2014 Agenda Item CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on on Proj Chart for Apr 2014.pdf](#)

30. [CHANGE ORDER REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2014](#)

Attachment: [May 2014 Agenda Change Order Report Chart for April 2014.pdf](#)

31. [CONTINUING SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING \(OFDC-RFO-001-14\); CIVIL ENGINEERING; ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING; AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING \(OFDC-RFO-002-14\): SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [May 2014 AE CE EE ME Annual Contract Form.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 2014 AE, CE, EE, ME Attached List of Firms.pdf](#)

32. [DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY RETROFITS/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GR 5 PH 3-3/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91580/M-83750 OFDC-ITB-003-14: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [C-91580 Contract for DWERLR Gr 5 Ph 3-3.pdf](#)

33. [DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY RETROFITS/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GR 5 PH 4-1/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91580/M-83750 OFDC-ITB-004-14: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [C-91580 Contract for DWERLR Gr 5 Ph 4-1.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

35. [SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [Copy of ROSUMMAYFY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [04MAY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [ROSUMMAYFY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Copy of MAY RETIREMENT.pdf](#)
Attachment: [07MAY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [06MAY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [05MAY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [04MAY14.pdf](#)
Attachment: [MAY RETIREMENT.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Retirement Order Highlight outline Corrected MAY 2014.pdf](#)

General

36. [2013-2014 Driver Education Safety Trust Fund Agreement](#)

Attachment: [PSG Standards 2013-2014-City Grant.pdf](#)
Attachment: [DCPS-Driver Ed Contract FY14vfinal.pdf](#)

Attachment: [DCPS Exhibit Arev.pdf](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

4. [PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF BOARD POLICY 6.37 TOBACCO-FREE WORKPLACE](#)

Attachment: [Tobacco-free Environment Policy 3 26 14-Final Markup Version.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Revision of Board Policy 6.37 Tobacco Free Workplace

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the revision of Board Policy 6.37, Tobacco-Free Environment - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

15. [APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT \(CHARTER\) -](#)

[TIGER ACADEMY](#)

Attachment: [Tiger Renewal Standards Summaries COMBINED 1-12.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speakers:

- Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member
- Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools
- Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
- Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services
- Ms. Becki Couch, Board Chairman
- Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member

Motions:

- 1.) That the Duval County School Board approve the Charter School request to renew its contract with the Duval County School Board; and,
- 2.) That the Duval County School Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to negotiate a renewal with the School. - PASS
- 3.) That the term of the renewal contract be dependent on the 2013-2014 school grade as follows: (a) five years if the School receives a school grade of "C" or higher, or (b) three years if the School receives a grade of "F" or "D."

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Jason Fischer

- Rebecca Couch - Aye
- Jason Fischer - Aye
- Cheryl Grymes - Aye
- Connie Hall - Aye
- Fred Lee - Aye
- Paula Wright - Aye

16. [APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT \(CHARTER\) - GLOBAL OUTREACH CHARTER ACADEMY](#)

Attachment: [GOCA Renewal Standard Summaries 1-12 COMBINED.pdf](#)

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the Charter School request to renew its contract with the Duval County School Board, and,
2. That the Duval County School Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to negotiate a renewal contract with the School; and - PASS
3. That the term of the renewal contract be dependent on the 2013-2014 school grade as follows: (a) five years if the School receives a school grade of "C" or higher, or (b) three years if the School receives a school grade if "F" or "D."

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

17. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT (CHARTER) - S.O.C.K. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS (SOS) ACADEMY, INC.

Attachment: [SOS Charter School Renewal Staff Report FINAL Version 3.26.14.pdf](#)

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the request by S.O.C.K. Outstanding Students (SOS) Academy, Inc., to renew its charter contract for grades 6 through 8.
2. That the Duval County School Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to negotiate a one- - PASS

year renewal contract with the School, which renewal is contingent on the 2013-2014 school grade being a "C" or higher.

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

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

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals 05-2014.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Board Chairman Couch said, "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 list(s) of prequalified contractors. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Cheryl Grymes	
Rebecca Couch	- Abstain
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- 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 20-22, 2014 - CRSS 2014 National Institute for School Boards - Chicago, IL - Couch, Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Juarez and Wright

July 24-27, 2014 - Council of Great City Schools - Los Angeles, CA - Wright

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Members Travel:

- June 20-22, 2014 - CRSS 2014 National Institute for School Boards - Chicago, IL - Couch, Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Juarez, Wright - PASS
- July 24-27, 2014 - Council of Great City Schools - Los Angeles, CA - Wright

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- 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 14-16, 2014 - Florida Council of 100 Spring General Membership Meeting - Orlando, FL

June 11-13, 2014 - FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference - Tampa, FL

Motions:

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

- May 14-16, 2014 - Florida Council of 100 Spring General Membership Meeting - Orlando, FL - PASS
- June 11-13, 2014 - FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference - Tampa, FL

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Paula Wright

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Constance Hall said I'd like to remind our stakeholders about our next Eugene Butler Community Meeting on our single-gender concept, it's very exciting to be very well received by the community. So, there will be another opportunity to share that information with the community on May 12 at Eugene Butler Middle School at 6:00 p.m.

Also, there will be a Town Hall meeting at Raines High School next Wednesday, May 14 at 6:00 pm and we're inviting all community stakeholders to attend. It's going to be an exciting and informational session entitled, "*Safety Awareness: Prevention of Crime and Violence in the School and Community*". The purpose is to enlighten the community and what the community can do to promote school safety. It will be presented by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

May 17 will mark the 60th anniversary of the monumental Supreme Court case of *Brown vs. the Board of Education* which declared the status quo of "separate but equal" to be unconstitutional. Although this meant public schools were now required to be integrated, the battleground of equality in education was just beginning. On this anniversary of *Brown vs. the Board of Education*, it is important to know how significant the Supreme Court's decision was and the limits of what desegregation has achieved. The promise of *Brown* is not yet fulfilled. School Boards, such as ours, can best honor the legacy of *Brown* by embracing the authority to promote diverse public schools in a Constitutionally sound manner. That manner includes updated policies, protocols and management planning which we are proud to say, we are engaging in, as a Board, as an ongoing process.

Teacher Appreciation Week - I'd like to thank all of our teachers for their hard work that they do each and every day. As we sit in our chairs, as Board members, district office and community supporters, our teachers greet our 100,000+ students each and every day and work diligently to provide educational opportunities for those students when they show up at the door steps. Thank you, teachers, for what you do. Thank you,

teachers, that carry the name "teacher". Thank you to all staff members who are teachers that are school-based that provide support, assistance, love and caring to all of our students in Duval County Public Schools. Thank you for what you do.

Mr. Fel Lee said I want to congratulate Fletcher High School's Wind Ensemble. 33 members received two Superiors and one Excellent and an overall Superior rating by the Florida Band Masters Association State Concert Music Performance Assessment. These ratings are earned by a very small percentage of bands across the state, annually. The last time Fletcher's band achieved this level was in 1998. Congratulations to them!

Congratulations to all the Gladys Prior Award winners and there were two in District II: Eric Jackson at Atlantic Beach Elementary School and Roberta Knieberg at Fletcher Middle School. I believe they received a \$15,000 check, each. Ms. Grymes thought it was \$17,500, each.

On Thursday, the Fletcher Mock Trial Team will compete in the National Mock Trial competition. They are state champions and I wish them the best.

Thank you to Ms. Knopps and Ms. Thompson's classes for allowing me to participate as a guest reader in their "Dudes Do Read Day" and I did have my dude shirt on.

Mr. Jason Fischer said I want to wish our students good luck on their End of Course exams and other assessments that are still coming out. I know they've worked hard all year long and this is the culmination of it all.

Congratulations to Joseph Frencl from Atlantic Coast High School on being our Teacher of the Year. It's an appropriate week for us to be able to honor him, as well, during Teacher Appreciation Week.

I'd like to focus my comments on the budget and I'd like to thank the Superintendent and his staff for presenting a balanced budget and it's a budget that puts students first. Last year we did a lot of good things and we dramatically moved the way the district focused on from the priorities on being more adult centered to more student centered. I believe we continue to move the needle towards making it more student centered. I think many of the proposals make sense and they are aligned to the Strategic Plan. This budget builds on success of last year's budget, as I mentioned. We're seeing academic achievement in our city because there have been changes at the top, Superintendent and Board level, through the budget and Regional Chiefs. As we've done things differently, we're seeing those changes which means better academic achievement for our students.

Let's not slow down with the reform and let's keep moving. Success is never final and reform is never finished. This is a process that will go on and continue. We will continue making tough decisions. Let's keep moving and reshaping our work forces as we're here to educate children. Every child should be inspired and prepared for success for college or a career in life. Mr. Superintendent, I applaud you for some of the decisions that you made in our budget. It's clear that we need to do things differently. I encourage you to continue pushing hard for reform as our children need it. Thank you.

Ms. Paula Wright said thanked the Chimney Lakes Elementary School's chorus for their

performance of "Home". The part that says, "We're not alone" really struck me. tonight, as we look in the journey and not just education, but life and if we can remember that, then we're not alone and we're all in this, together. Maybe, we can pull together more, work more collaboratively and cooperatively, but not just for our schools but our city.

I'd like to remind everyone to come out and join us as we celebrate 150 years as being a public educational institution on May 31.

Tonight, we've heard a lot of comments from various parts of our community, teachers, students and community stakeholders, and I want you to know that your comments and concerns expressed have not fallen on deaf ears. I would like to remind everyone that the budget, as it is right now, is a *proposed* budget and many of the concerns that we've expressed have been discussed at our previous committee meetings and will definitely be addressed at our Budget meeting on May 13 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited as our meetings are not closed and open to the public.

I'd like to thank Ms. Reese at St. Clair Evans Elementary School and Paul Tutweiler at the Northwest Development Corporation. We're developing a partnership and looking at how to expand and utilize the playground at the school and provide additional/new playground equipment for the school as well as the community.

I'd like to invite the public to a Community Walk for Awareness and Crime Prevention on Saturday, May 17 and we're focusing on Andrew Robinson Elementary School. We'll have community leaders, City Council representatives, students and participants from Andrew Jackson High School and we're going to go door-to-door along with the Sheriff's department as we look on how we can make the community aware of crime prevention as we do this walk. We're also having a meeting on Thursday, May 15, the PTSA and School Advisory Council (SAC) at Andrew Robinson Elementary to share some concerns with parents, students and community residents at 5:30 p.m..

I'd like to thank our teachers for your acceptance of children every day that they come into your building, every school and every class and for your commitment to educating each child, holistically; for your willingness to educate; for sharing your love and for being willing and putting yourselves out every day to be teachers. Thank you for being a teacher and all that you do to uplift our schools and community every day. I hope this Appreciation Week is a "bang" for you!

Ms. Cheryl Grymes said I'd like to thank the Arlington Chamber Council who supports Lone Star Elementary, Arlington Heights Elementary, Terry Parker High and Merrill Road Elementary schools. One of their favorite programs is when they invite the principals and Teachers of the Year; it was great being there and listening to the different stories. I believe one Teacher of the Year from Arlington Heights is a male teacher, about 6'3" and a kindergarten teacher which was great to hear from him. I thank them for giving support to these schools all year long and all they do each day.

Congratulations to our Career Academy students who participated in One Spark. The students were from Mandarin, Ed White, Raines, Ribault and First Coast High Schools who had their Food Truck Project. I'd like to thank Andrew Post, Marleny Mesa and Tina Worth from the Chamber. There were 600 projects and they were one of the top 150 projects. It was a great experience for all and I'm very proud of these students and

it's a great partnership.

I went to Fort Caroline Elementary School for their 50th anniversary celebration. It was such an uplifting day with past and current teachers attending and all the principals, as well. Their founding principal was Ms. Ennis Woodley who was my principal at Hendricks Avenue when I was a student. One story was when Connie Skinner, a gifted teacher, spoke about burying a time capsule approximately 25 years ago. At the end, we can't find the time capsule; we've dug up the entire campus and still can't find it.

We will continue having the 5th grade and 8th grade ceremonies, as in the past. The 5th grade will take place on May 28 and the 8th grade will be on May 27. Information will go out to the parents.

Ms. Becki Couch said I attended Ed Spark which was sponsored by the Schultz Center for Teaching and Learning through One Spark. Several of our schools, teachers and students participated in the event. Some of the schools that participated were John E. Ford and Mamie Agnes Jones Elementary. Several groups partnered together on an idea like the McKenzie Noelle Wilson Foundation and Chets Creek Elementary School. Their goal was to reach our underserved students. We created the MARC, a community-based after school center. We are ready to expand our experiences! We even had a few students, in partnership with Tina Wirth at the Chamber, who submitted the Venture Food Truck project that is the culminating project for several of our career academies. I am looking forward to seeing how many projects are submitted next year. The talent that was showcased by our district was amazing.

Thank you to the Superintendent and staff in leading through the Accreditation process. You did a great job and I'm very proud of our distinction.

Thank you to our teachers. Every day our teachers impact our students and one of my teachers, Mr. Jack Matthews, an art teacher, greatly inspired me. Quote: *"I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit."* - John Steinbeck

Thank you for all you do and to our staff, as well!

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman