



Duval County Public Schools

November 26, 2013, Board Workshop

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present, with the exception of Mr. Jason Fischer. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 8:34 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

Items discussed included the following:

- Chairman Couch asked the Board members about scheduling routine Workshops for the coming year. After discussion, it was decided that Workshops would be scheduled for the 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of each month, starting in February 2014. The time will be 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. The agenda review will be placed on the Workshop held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Governance will be added to the Workshop held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
- The December schedule was discussed. The Regular Board meeting will be held on December 9th and a Committee meeting on December 10th for the January agenda review.
- The schedule for the Forrest High School naming issue was discussed. The Superintendent will provide Board members with a short summary after each community outreach meeting. No survey results will be provided until the end of the process. A Special Meeting was scheduled for December 16th at 5:00 p.m., to receive the survey results and the Superintendent's recommendation regarding the name of the school. Board Member Lee would like to see a modification to our current policy on how many times a year we can consider name change requests, due to the costs involved. The Superintendent suggested that it could be tied to the annual ACE process with boundaries.
- Chairman Couch will meet with the Superintendent on the Oversight Calendar and topics will be added to Workshops.
- The January schedule was discussed. The Regular Meeting will be held on January 7, 2014. The dates of January 14th for Governance, Financial Update, and Student Achievement; and January 22nd for the February agenda review and the Oversight Calendar; were scheduled.
- The date of January 8, 2014, starting at 9:00 am, was selected for the next Board Development meeting.
- Board Member Wright expressed concerns over informational requests she had made regarding the Bridge and the challenged schools. She attended a meeting last night where community members had the information she had requested, however, she had yet to receive. It was agreed that the Superintendent would provide the information on these programs and schools to the Board on a quarterly basis, starting with the January Workshop on student achievement. He will provide the IOWA and CGA baseline data, along with information on how the vendors are working with the schools; their roles; how they are being monitored; and, how they are performing.
- Board Member Lee shared that since he had been on the Board, he had been searching for a way to have some type of drill down of our budget on the website. He has researched other districts, talked to staff, and, talked to JPEF. He found one city site in Cook County, which is in Chicago, that had something useful. JPEF did some research on this site and has provided him with a summary, which he will share with the Board. He asked if this topic could be added to a future Workshop, so that the Board could discuss if they wanted to pursue adding something similar to our website.
- Board Member Hall would like to see the Board set priorities as a team. She mentioned the topics of suspensions and getting resources from non-profits to the students who need them.
- Superintendent Vitti shared that he had been contacted by PARC to participate in a test pilot for their assessments. So far 15 states are participating. Hillsborough in Florida has agreed to be one of the pilot sites. He would not be comfortable

having all schools pilot the test, but suggested 13 schools, with a variety of elementary, middle, and high, and high performing, mid-performing, and low performing schools. He will send information to the Board on what would be involved. Board members will send their questions to the Superintendent, and copy all members on their questions.

- The Superintendent shared information with the Board on our efforts to meet class size. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Minutes. Board members would like to see this as part of the budget conversation for the coming year.
- Chairman Couch asked the Superintendent when we would start the budget process. Board members would like to start earlier than the March start time for this year's discussions, with the goal of finishing before school is out for the year.

Speakers:

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

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 11:58 a.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman