



Duval County Public Schools

October 1, 2013, Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chairman
Mr. Jason Fischer
Ms. Cheryl Grymes
Dr. Connie Hall
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, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman and the following Board members: Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair, Mr. Jason Fischer, Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Dr. Constance S. Hall, Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: Mr. Murthy Kota gave a Hindu prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Presentations

Board Members

1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 1 - WOODLAND ACRES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Minutes:

Principal Timothy Feagins gave a report as well as a PowerPoint presentation. Woodland Acres Elementary was founded in 1956 and has maintained a proud tradition of educating the children in the Arlington community of Jacksonville. As the demographics of the community we serve has changed, so, too, has the school and the programs we offer. Currently, Woodland Acres serves a diverse student population of approximately seven hundred students.

Woodland Acres Elementary has recently become a School of the Medical Arts serving as a feeder school to Darnell-Cookman Middle and High School of the Medical Arts. The Medical Arts program will operate based on Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and Common Core State Standards in conjunction with the National Center for Disease Control and Prevention characteristics of an effective health education program. We currently have over one hundred students taking advantage of the magnet program in addition to our neighborhood children.

WAE is located south of Arlington Expressway, west of Southside Boulevard and North of Atlantic Boulevard. As a Title I school, one of our greatest challenges is increasing the achievement level of our economically disadvantaged population with 88% receiving free or reduced lunch and a student mobility of 44%. Our vision at Woodland Acres Elementary School of the Medical Arts is to provide a safe and civil environment with an emphasis on rigorous standards based curriculum, integrated with grade specific medical themes, laying a foundation for students to pursue academic excellence. *(Please see attachment for additional information on Woodland Acres Elementary.)*

Communications

1. NATIONAL PATROL AWARD - TIMOTHY SINCLAIR

Minutes:

- In 2002, AAA introduced the National Patroller of the Year Award to recognize the patrollers who best exemplify leadership qualities and perform their duties effectively and responsibly, without incident. The National Patrollers of the Year are selected from a field of Patrollers nationwide. Nominees also must submit an essay expressing their feelings regarding their patrol experience.

- Timothy Sinclair was chosen as the AAA Patroller of the Year while at R.L. Brown because he embodied the characteristics of a star safety patrol: leadership, honesty, and responsibility. He also wrote an essay titled "Mapping the Way to a Successful Future" in which he discussed the importance of being accountable.

- Timothy has several other achievements that deserve to be highlighted. He:

- o had perfect attendance from kindergarten through 5th grade,
- o maintained a straight-A average throughout elementary school,
- o made all 5's on the FCAT, and
- o was the fifth grade class president

- As a part of his winnings, Timothy participated in a video conference taping, a magazine interview and a TV commercial advertisement. He also received an all-expenses-paid trip for four to Universal Studios in Orlando for three days and two nights and \$500. Timothy donated the \$500 to St. Stephen AME Church in memory of his grandmother, Louis Elizabeth Sheffield.

- Please join me in recognizing this outstanding young man.

[2. CHAMPION FOR GOOD - PACE EDUCATOR - SCHANNA SPEIGHT-JOHNSON](#)

Minutes:

As a part of the "Give It Up for Good Campaign," an initiative that urges people to share the good in their community, Allstate identifies individuals across the nation who uplift and enrich their community as a Champion for Good.

- Schanna Speight Johnson was surprised with this title while teaching her social studies class at the PACE Center for Girls.

- She is committed to enhancing the lives of the girls not only in the classroom, but through outside mentoring with the "Why Not Me Campaign," a non-profit organization that helps children and teens reach their potential by fostering self-esteem, personal growth and dedication to

their dreams.

- As part of the honor, Schanna and her family attended the Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion in Orlando where she was also recognized.
- Please help me in honoring her tonight.

[3. NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR AWARDS - HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS](#)

Minutes:

The National Merit Scholar designation is one of the most difficult awards to receive.

- Each year, it's estimated that 1.5 million students nationwide take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test test in hopes of becoming a National Merit Scholar semifinalist. Of those students, only approximately 16,000 of are chosen continue in the competition.
- Each semifinalist is among the highest scoring test takers in his state. We are so proud to have 22 of these bright young men and women represent 4 schools in Duval County.
- I am thrilled to be able to recognize them tonight and I look forward to honoring them all as National Merit Scholarship recipients in three years.

From Mandarin High School: Shelia Babadi and Timothy Howald

From Atlantic Coast High School: Joshua Jenkins, Shreya Mohan, and Leena Sanka

From Stanton College Prep.: Adrian Adams, Taylor Bliss, Maghana Jami, Armin Lukic, Inam Sakinah, Ryan Shih, Maristela Soberano, Matthew Ubl, and Jared Van Den Heuvel

From Paxon School for Advanced Studies: Blaise Nugent

[4. PROCLAMATION - DISABILITY HISTORY AND AWARENESS WEEK - ESE DEPARTMENT](#)

Minutes: *Please see attachment.*

[5. PROCLAMATION - BULLYING AWARENESS MONTH - STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT](#)

Minutes: *Please see attachment.*

Comments From Audience

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Minutes:

Ms. Joan Cooper said I graduated from Nathan B. Forrest High School in 1970. I live in the school district and actually live only two miles from the school. I want to tell you, tonight, that I oppose changing the name of the school. The group behind the campaign, in which this comes up about every five years, has vowed to eliminate Southern history because we should be embarrassed and ashamed. In my family's 200 year history in the South and military service, I am neither. This group would have you think that the South that had slaves leaving out that New York was the last state to abolish slavery. This group has given you pieces of the story about General Forrest. I'm not going to give you a history lesson, tonight, and I'm not Paul Harvey but I will tell you a bit "about the rest of the story". They bring up the KKK which I believe is to incite civil unrest but the hate group, KKK, that was started around 1915, took the name of the group that General Forrest was associated with back in the 1860's. The original KKK had a very different purpose and different methods of operation than the group that is known, to date and they were disbanded long before this current group and they're not telling you that. They bring up an atrocity that happened at Fort Pillow. What they don't tell you is the whole story that happened there and why. They conveniently leave out the details of why the Union Army with their African soldiers out front. They also want you to conveniently forget that the Union troops committed atrocities, as well. I don't know of a single war or any conflict, anywhere, that has not had some atrocity. I would suggest to you that you visit the Museum of Southern History right here in Jacksonville and do your own research. We have a lot of Southern History to be proud of. You have to look at the actions that occurred after the war to determine the character of a person. General Forrest did more after the war for the cause of freed slaves than anyone from the North. Abraham Lincoln, who was President, wanted to send all of the Africans back to Africa. He's not the Savior that they thought he was. I caution you that if you change one name, you will have to change them all and that's a lot of schools in Duval County. There are skeletons in everyone's closet. It's going to cost a lot of money to do that and we need the money for our children. You see the school grades, now, and it's just very disturbing. A. Philip Randolph, who we have a school and a road named after, was a Civil Rights leader just as General Forrest was but Mr. Randolph was also a communist and that goes against everything this country was founded on. Thank you.

Mr. James M. Taylor said I am a Forrest alumni of 1978. I oppose the name change, also. As you know, there's a lot of history in that school. You have to realize there's five other history, Civil War schools in Jacksonville - Andrew Jackson, Robert E. Lee, Jeb Stuart and Stonewall Jackson. If you change Forrest, you might as well change the rest of them because this is history. My brother and sister all went to Forrest and I'm

only ten miles away from the school I went to. I'm still in the same neighborhood. Like I said, I oppose it.

Ms. Barbara L. Ratliff said I graduated from Forrest High School and I'd like to say for the record that I'm opposed to any name change for Forrest High School or any of the other schools. I feel that the funds that are available to Duval County Public Schools are much better spent on educational issues and purposes. Thank you.

Dr. Billy Mims, Assistant Professor at Edward Waters College and I am here because I have some special guests. I'd like for my students to stand up and they are education majors in elementary and they are pre-interns at this time. As pre-interns, all they do is observe so that is what they are doing here, this evening. I told them how well I felt this Board meeting operates so that attributes to all of you and your supporting staff. I just wanted them to observe and see how your meetings run and operates so that they get an idea. I didn't want them to wait until they were a teacher for 10-12 years before going to a Board meeting. Thank you so very much.

Ms. May Ibasco said I'm a counselor at Stanton College Prep and I'm also the co-chair of the College Fair Committee here in Jacksonville. I just wanted to share with the Board the activities that are leading up to the College Fair, this year which will be on October 12, 2013 to be held at the Prime Osborn Convention Center from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. This is the second annual that we're launching the Jacksonville Goes to College Week. It's basically week long activities that encourages all of our schools to become college ready and promote the College Fair. It starts Friday, October 4 and ends Saturday, October 12. The activities include Jacksonville Goes to College Week, are the following: an essay writing contest sponsored by the City of Jacksonville; Mid-something on Monday; Show and Tell on Tuesday; Letter Writing on Wednesday; Guest Speakers on Thursday; Rub Your College Day on Friday and it ends on Saturday which is the College Fair. Jacksonville Goes to College Week is also being advertised daily through the morning reports, information sent to our high school counselors and for principal briefings. The mayor's office has also been instrumental in getting the word out to the community groups, local and faith based communities. On behalf of the co-chair, Bernadette Hardemon and Jacksonville College Fair Committee, we would like to garner your support in promoting the College Fair and Jacksonville Goes to College Week. Thank you for your time.

Ysryl from Jacksonville Youth Works, said I want to welcome you all to your positions as Board members. I've been involved with the system for quite some time but I've been out of the system for about the last 6-7 years due to an accident I was involved in but I'm back, again, and very active in the community and working with the school system. My main focus is on the young men who drop out of high school or school and are having problems with. From my past, I've found that most of these young men are coming from broken families, no love, no support, no father in their lives and all types of issues they are faced with and those are the reasons their behavior is what it is. So, at Jacksonville Youth Works, I'm very hands-on and no one gets kicked out of the program because I'm the product of that same environment. My behavior was the same or worse and it was all about not having the proper support, love, directions, no setting the stage or goals to accomplish. We realize that not everyone is going to go to college and when we focus on the reality of a carpenter, plumber, machinist or crane operator, the income is just as great some teachers, doctors or lawyers. We must focus

on these young people and other ways to educate them and engage them to making the right decisions. We want them to have a desire to be in school. When I was a young person, I didn't have interest in school but I loved doing diesel mechanic work and heavy equipment but when we went to the Technical Center in Hastings, they had these trades which kept me interested in staying in school. I feel it is very important to focus on the needs of these young people to help them overcome the adversities they are dealing with each and every day. I am looking forward to working with all of you. Thank you.

Mr. Byron Morrison said I'm a second year third grade teacher at Sallye B. Mathis Elementary School and a proud alum of Florida A&M University. I'm also a proud member of Teacher for America Jacksonville. Since I've been teaching in Jacksonville, I noticed that there is a lack of support of education, specifically by society and younger adults. To combat that, we've developed a lot of different initiatives. I've never, personally, encountered anyone that has a "success story" that's accredited a test like the FCAT or SAT, but instead, the teachers that helped them pass those tests to get them where they are, presently. So, just understanding that, the future of our world and our city is sitting in someone's classroom right now. To combat that, we have developed an initiative on social media called "Teach So Hard Movement" which basically highlights all the positives that are going on in the classroom from teachers in an attempt to reach out to the younger age group to bring more younger individuals into the profession of teaching because clearly what they see in the news and media is not encouraging them to get into this great work. We have developed an online store that has different types of paraphernalia apparel - phone cases, t-shirts, sweatshirts and all of the proceeds that we've collected so far, has been sent out to purchase supplies and resources for teachers, not only in the city, but across the country as far as Detroit and as close as north Jacksonville. If anyone wishes to support this effort, please visit www.cafepress.com/teachsohard Thank you very much and have a great evening.

Mr. Edward Exson, Sr. said I've been criticized by black people for a long time. I don't only criticize black people but I criticize all people. It is not my intent to belittle or insult black people for many have made too great a contribution to the world for me to belie. I don't perpetuate wrongdoing, by no means. Thank you. School Choice is said to be the nation's biggest experiment and you don't have to guess, the experiment is on black children. Far too many of these charter schools are no more than warehouses that are a pipe line for many of those students to the jailhouse. Moreover, there are some schools labeled "private schools". One in New Orleans is named "Upperroom Bible Church Academy" and had only 21% students that passed the state exams last year. Our procreation, past and present, with so little education leads us to welfare and numerous other dysfunctions that continue to enslave us. There will never be another Civil War to free us (blacks) from our self-inflicted enslavement. Being unable, not interested in, or financially illiterate from participating in capitalism, our economic system where wealth is made and maintained. As Wall Street bull runs delivering wealth, we like the bull that runs in Spain delivering blood and pain. For the most part, we continue to add to the GDP only through our consumption, unlike building, creating and developing. Yet, we brag about how educated we are with MBAs and PhDs. So, what do you do with them? It could be miseducated as Carter G. Woodson said. We allow inept leaders and preachers appointed by the powerful too mighty to deceive us by hook or crook through faith-based, nonprofits, other fraudulent entities and schemes that purport to be a magnificent program for the

people. However, it benefits only the inner circle. Forbes recent 400 wealthiest people in the country - 61 billionaires that were too poor to make the list with only one black that made the list. Additionally, not a single one attributed faith-base in acquiring their wealth. If we only started rebuilding our communities, imagine how many young men that could be employed, lives changed and respect gained. That, itself will help end racism. Thank you.

Mr. Leighton Roye said I'm a 2011 Teach for America Core Member and I chose to stay past the two year commitment and I still teach 5th grade at Sallye B. Mathis Elementary School. Since I've been teaching here since 2011, I've noticed that there is a lack of African American male teachers in the classroom. So, for the past two years, I've tried to do something about it. I helped to organize a Black Male Weekend from the University of Florida and University of North Florida to come to Jacksonville and observe black male teachers in the classroom. On Saturday, we went to the Urban Education Symposium. I'm in the processing of doing it this year, as well, and I hope I'll see alot of support. Thank you and have a nice evening.

Ms. Jasmin Esparaza said I'm an English ESOL teacher at Lee High School and 2012 Teach for America Core Member. Jacksonville is becoming more and more attractive to people migrating to the United States and DCPS is beginning to see a growing ESOL population. These students are now attending schools all across the district and no longer only attending ESOL centers. There are many students who can't speak English and are drowning because teachers do not know how to help them. With the lack of resources, teachers are forced to focus mainly on the English speakers while ESOL students get left behind. In order to succeed, they must be given accommodations that extend beyond the use of a dictionary and extended time. We have began working with Christine Dahnke, an awesome woman and ESOL director and others to host the workshop for our fellow Teach for America Core Members to raise awareness of the struggles ESOL students face along with ways that they can better assist them. However, this should extend beyond Teach for America and be something necessary for all. After we host this workshop, we would like to set up a meeting with you, Dr. Vitti and Board members to find out ways to better serve our ESOL students. Are ESOL students are eager to learn and we need to provide them with extra tools. Thank you.

Ms. Shevonica M. Howell said I just wanted to clarify that the lengthy letter that I have for each of you regarding the 2013-2014 changes that are related to our students having a fair chance of educational success. I have spoken with Ms. Iranetta Wright and I feel so much better now that she's spoken with me. I'm here from Martin L. King Elementary School. Our principal is Ms. Brown and I love her to death, I love what they're doing over there and the teachers are outstanding. Ms. Wright said she will get back with me regarding the questions that I have. Thank you all so much.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Sabrina Zinamon, Vice Chair:

The District Advisory Council had a meeting on Monday, September 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cline Auditorium. Ms. Wendy LeHockey, Chief of Staff, was present and Board Member Jason Fischer, as well. They both shared some information concerning the budget and answered some questions. Some of our schools have major concerns about class size and if more teachers would be hired. Ms. LeHockey informed us that the Superintendent's staff and Board members will hire or transfer highly qualified teachers.

Since a number of Area Advisory Councils were not present because some were in the process of electing new officers, we will have additional information to share at next month's meeting.

Our next DAC meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 613 of the administration building. Thank you.

PTA - Ms. Gretchen Lynch, President:

Saturday over 125 PTA leaders met at Lee High School for our Fall Leadership Training. We will offer two more President and Treasurer Training October 21 and 24; so that all current presidents and treasurers can complete their required training.

PTA Mentors are available to assist schools with strengthening their parent involvement through PTA by visiting our website dccpta.org. Our council is currently reminding local units to file their appropriate IRS 990 forms.

This week packets are being delivered to all of our high schools with nomination forms for our 4th Superintendent's Leadership Academy. Each high school is able to nominate 3 students and each High School PTSA may nominate 2 to participate in this national recognized program. Students will participate in 4 Saturday sessions and a field experience day in Tallahassee to learn about how to be an advocate.

With November being PTA Health Life Styles Month, registration has opened for our first Health Steps with PTA event at Tree Hill on Sunday, November 3 from 2-4pm. PTA families can enjoy health snacks a mini health fair and a 1 mile fun walk through Tree Hill.

First, we appreciate School Board member Wright sharing a few words with our parents last month. This month our General Meeting will be Tuesday, October 15 at the Teacher Depot. Speakers will include school board chair Fel Lee and the Mayor's Education Commissisoner, Dr. AnnMarie Kent-Willette.

No Title I, Parent Advisory Council Report this month.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes: *No Employee Report for this month.*

Chairman's Report

[CHAIRMAN'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Chairman Lee said I just want the audience and the folks joining us through television to know that your Board continues to work hard at our own development so we will continue improving as a whole. We will be doing some development and training working with the Center for Reform School Systems and Dr. Hall is helping us with this the end of October.

There's been many emails, media coverage and phone calls to the organization and Board members about renaming Nathan B. Forrest High School. I want to make sure that you clearly know how the Board feels and how we're handling this. The Duval County School Board develops and enacts policies that guide our work to meet the needs of students, educators and community members throughout the city. The selection and renaming of schools are no exception as we follow an established policy that requires us to consider alternative names when brought forth by the school community. To date, this Board has not received any requests for a school name change, yet, remains committed to adhering to all policies and procedures to guide and support our work. The Board and Superintendent reached consensus last week that the Board member in District 5 will engage N.B. Forrest High School's community and will report back to the Board after thirty (30) days. I hope this clears up the direction the Board is going. Obviously, you're always welcome to email and phone us but we wanted to make sure you knew the deliberate actions we're taking.

Superintendent's Report

[SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Vitti said I want to thank the Board members for visiting schools with me. I truly

appreciated that opportunity. We've seen some good things happening in our schools but it's also an opportunity to talk about strategies, what's working and what's not; what we need to do differently and I think it's a great message we're sending to schools that were engaged, involved and we're seeing the core of the work that is happening at our schools and in the classrooms. I look forward to continuing those visits throughout the year. I think it truly informs our decisions and we're able to engage with the people that are on the ground and making the greatest amount of difference which are teachers, principals, clericals and paraprofessionals. I hope we can continue doing that.

Although I'm not going to have an elaborate presentation on this, if we look at last year's scholarship funds as compared to this year, we've increased the number of scholarships at our senior level by 24 percentage points. What that means is not only through full Bright scholarships but many of the scholarships that are available to students, we have dramatically improved that up to an increase of \$13 million dollars if you look at all of our high schools. That is something that we're going to continue to aggressively pursue. Our guidance counselors are being fed more and more grant opportunities. We are working closely with our seniors and juniors with aligning opportunities with students and scholarship opportunities. Our graduation coaches at our lower performing high schools are doing that at a greater rate and I expect as the years go, that scholarship money will increase and we create a bit of competition among our high schools regarding college scholarships. It's all aligned in making sure that our children are college ready and work ready. As we become more focused with college readiness, I think you will see those scholarship opportunities increase especially through ACT and SAT work that we're starting with our 11th graders.

With that said, I'm going to talk, tonight, about Head Start and our proposed Head Start locations. We had a great workshop on what schools should be identified for Head Start implementation and we talked about either a blended model where we would incorporate Head Start programs in our existing elementary or create more hub locations. The consensus was to try to implement a blended model because of all the opportunities that are created for our children in our communities. As many of you know, the Head Start grant did open for competition in Jacksonville and Duval County Public Schools has agreed to partner with Episcopal who has been running the Head Start programs in Jacksonville very successfully over the years. We have agreed to partner with them and the application is due in mid-October. We believe by joining forces, we will create a long term, sustainable approach to not only improving the student achievement in our schools but eliminating the achievement gap. The achievement gap does not exist at birth. It creates as the years go and it is based on social economic factors, environmental factors but, statistically, it has been proven that with the right type of intervention, the right type of support, focus on literacy, background knowledge, cultural experiences that there is no such thing as an achievement gap but we must maximize the interventions we have in front of us. This is why the Head Start opportunity is so exciting. We've identified schools throughout the county with the concentration in our urban core - that's where the majority of our students who qualify for Head Start reside and that's where a number of our schools are under utilized. This is a strategy to maximize our resources in the name of our facilities. You can see that the schools that are identified have lower utilization rates so we are going to maximize our real estate by implementing Head Start programs.

Head Start programs are diverse in that they start at the infant/toddler level then the 3

year olds and then 4 year olds. Episcopal will manage the Infant/Toddler - 3 year old Program and the district will directly manage our 4 Year Old Program. Many of you know that we've expanded the 4 Year Old Programs throughout the county as a way to promote early learning and to make sure our children are ready by kindergarten. This also provides for a seamless opportunity throughout the grade levels. If we do this right, it will allow for the Infant/Toddler teachers to work with the 3 year old teachers then 4 year old teachers. Then in kindergarten, we can have situations where our 3, 4 & 5 year old teachers are working with the infant/toddler teachers so that we're learning developmentally what our children need as far as interventions and support. This will mean that our parents are better connected to our home schools. Instead of attending a Head Start program on the other side of the county and then enrolling at the kindergarten level at an elementary school, they would enroll at the school as infants and that would be a 6-8 year process for that parent and child. Imagine the strong relationships that can develop between a parent and the group of teachers in the greater community.

We also believe that if we're going to talk about long term sustainable reform and talking about children being ready for college readiness, the conversation can't start in third grade when children take the FCAT and often that is what is happening. So, by promoting early learning at the 4 year old program with our own programs but partnering with Episcopal, we believe that our children who enter this program, if we are successful (and we will be successful in the grant), that our children will certainly be ready and this type of approach and this model will be replicated, hopefully, with the right type of financial support at the federal level and maybe at the state level to have this kind of program implementation across our county so that if we see that children who start with us at the infant/toddler level, are reading at grade level in third grade and on, then why not expand that type of program and that type of funding so that we're not talking about an achievement gap moving forward.

I'm very excited about this and I feel this defines the work and sustainability especially relevant when we have a Board item today that talks about priority schools and low performing schools. We can not talk about turn around as a one year solution. Turn around has to be sustainable and sustainability starts with Early Childhood programming and getting it right early on, not later, third grade and on. That concludes my presentation.

Reports

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2013, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the October 1, 2013, Agenda as

submitted on September 24, 2013, with the following changes:

1. Presentations - Communications -
Item 1 - National Patrol Award -
Timothy Langston - Item Added
2. Presentations - Communications -
Item 2 - Champion for Good - PACE
Educator - Shanna Speight-Johnson -
Item Added
3. Presentations - Communications -
Item 3 - National Merit Scholar
Awards - High School Seniors - Item
Added
4. Presentations - Communications - - PASS
Item 4 - Proclamation - Disability
History and Awareness Week - ESE
Department - Item Added
5. Presentations - Communications -
Item 5 - Proclamation - Bullying
Awareness Month - Student Services
Department - Item Added
6. Human Resource Services - Staffing -
Item 12 - Human Resource Services
Transactions - Revised Attachment
7. Emergency Agenda Item - Item 31 -
Settlement Agreement - Rhona
Silver - Item Added
8. Board Members Travel - Revised
Agenda Item

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Paula Wright

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

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

August 27, 2013 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings
September 16, 2013 - Special Board Meeting - Budget

Motions:

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

- August 27, 2013 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings - PASS
- September 3, 2013 - Regular Board Meeting
- September 16, 2013 - Special Board Meeting - Budget

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Ashley Juarez

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- 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: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Jason Fischer

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Consent Agenda

Academic Services

[1. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INITIAL OPTION SELECTION FOR PRIORITY AND FOCUS DIFFERENTIATED ACCOUNTABILITY SCHOOLS FOR THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Connie Hall said I pulled this item because many of the schools are located in District 5 and I know as Board members, we're all concerned about all of our schools, any way. As we look at priority and focused schools, in these categories, we're meeting the requirements from the Department of Education and certainly the DOE is good at labeling our schools. I want to reinforce to those schools in that community that we're proud of the work that is going on because we understand that it is challenging work from day to day, in all of our schools. Therefore, as we

apply this item to our schools, it certainly isn't a definition of what goes on in those schools as it relates to teaching and learning.

I'd like for the Superintendent to define for us so that the public will truly understand priority and focus - what it actually means.

Priority status is that it comes to the differentiated accountability statute that the legislature passed and then the Florida Department of Education implements. Priority is given to those schools that received an "F" grade. The way the process works is that right now in Duval County Public Schools, we have ten priority with one being a charter and based on state statute, these schools have one year to improve their letter grade. If they improve at the minimal of a "D", then, we continue to do the work that we're doing with these schools. If they do not receive a "D" and remain an "F", then we would have to pick one of the options on the agenda item in 2014-2015. That would be either convert the school to a district Turnaround School, close the school and reassign students, convert the school to a charter school or contract with an outside entity to run the school or select a hybrid of one of those four options. I believe that we have been proactive in these schools. Of the ten schools, we have made principal changes in six and the four we did not make a principal change, we felt the leadership there last year either needed more time and was demonstrating the right type of approach or with the right type of support would move the school. We're providing extra resources and monitoring at those schools and we don't believe that we'll have to implement one of these options at the end of this school year. This is required by the state if these schools do not improve to at least a "D". If they improve to a "C", based on the school's letter grade, then they exit the priority status.

The other schools on the agenda are considered "Focused DDD Schools" - schools that have been a "D" school for at least three consecutive years and if they remain a "D" again, then we must implement the district option that the state defines as changing the principal and changing 50% of the faculty in the core. That is what the state clearly defines. If improvement is made and we can justify why that leader and the group of teachers are moving in the right direction, then we could certainly negotiate that with the DOE the following year. What we're looking at now and not the future and we're providing the right type of resources, interventions and support that these schools improve this year.

Dr. Hall asked what kind of intervention in support are those schools getting that's not generic or across the board?

The Superintendent said many of these schools have an additional 60 minutes for reading at the elementary level. These schools each have an instructional review as a self study with the principal and his/her leadership team are conducting an analysis in reading, math and science and determines what is working based on their data, what isn't and what they are going to do about it linked to their School Improvement Plan. Our district team visits the school, walks the school with the leadership team to

analyze as to what is happening, a plan is clearly developed in reading, math, science and writing and that plan is shared, as far as an implementation strategy between the school and the district and that is a focus on improving instruction in intervention. Many of the schools will have a full-time interventionist which is a teacher on special assignment that works with students in smaller groups that are below grade level. There will be Saturday Academy at these schools with 3 hours for supporting reading, math and science every Saturday after winter break. These schools each have a reading and math coach to provide additional support to the teachers; that is some of the additional support. There is also a specialist which is a teacher on special assignment that works through common planning with the coach and teachers, at minimal, two days a week and sometimes three days a week in reading, math or science depending on the school data.

Dr. Hall asked have we completed an instructional review at all of these schools?

Dr. Vitti said not all of these schools, yet; some but not all. These school are the focus and they have the first round of the instructional review. We're also trying to move the instructional review feedback to after the instructional review instead of just focusing the feedback with the leadership team is having the entire faculty hear the conversation. We're trying to incorporate that and we can't make it mandatory but we're working with the fact so they can hear and that becomes a problem solving process. What we're trying to change is that this is not "*I got you*"; this isn't a compliance review; instead, this is problem solving between the district and the school about what do we do together to improve teaching and learning so students learn at a higher level? I think that has happened in pockets at some schools at certain times but this is about the new way of work and direct support that we're providing particularly to these schools.

Dr. Hall asked do we have assessment results back?

Dr. Vitti said we have baseline results at this point. That doesn't quite tell you the level of instruction in teaching and learning because it's based on what children new going into the school year. That is basically done and after nine weeks, we will have our first interim assessment results back which will be about 2-3 weeks from now and we'll be able to compare the baseline to that first quarter of teaching.

Dr. Hall requested that we find time in a workshop with the focus of these schools; especially when we get the interim results back so that we can actually see progress and fidelity of implementation because we don't want these schools to fall into that category. I have to add, also, that sitting on the Board versus spending years in schools that often times there's a disconnect. We want to make sure that we have a connection that what the district is describing is actually what is happening on the ground with our schools, with our students; so that it is reaching our students. If we schedule a workshop not in the conference room, but onsite so that we can

actually see the products of the labor of what is going on in schools. I can not reinforce enough the importance of fidelity of implementation. That it is all connecting and it's getting to the students.

Chairman Lee said thank you and your request is noted and we'll make sure to tee it up. We have a few weeks and in the past, the Board has done tried to mix it up throughout our district. So, I think that's a great suggestion and don't see many limitations to that. We'll have to make sure we have staff on hand and if the public wants to come during school hours, they'll have access and a secure facility.

Dr. Hall said it's also important to know that it's not to show the glamour; it's to show the reality so if there are things we need to fix, then we have time to fix it and gather the support that is needed to move forward.

Ms. Wright said I want to say to everyone that we're a Board that has committed to making certain that we not only support our Superintendent but we support the teachers, our students and community. I'm certain my colleagues received many calls from particularly teachers, principals and administrators who were concerned. As the Superintendent so eloquently shared with us, these are the options that we are faced if schools do not increase in terms of academic performance. The options are given by the state. One of the things we are sure of is that we have committed teachers, administrators, Superintendent and Board to make certain that all of the resources are there. The only thing we're asking is that if our teachers, students and community stakeholders continue to support us and support the students, then we are certain that we will be able to move forward in a positive way. So, it is not something...many people were confused thinking that this was a plan that the Superintendent and/or Board developed in terms of the options closing the school, a management team to come and carry over; it's not something coming from this Board or our Superintendent. These are options that every district in the state of Florida..we will all have to make a decision based upon the same options and we're certain as you continue to do the great work you're doing as you have done in the past. We've had priority schools before and we've been able to rally our troops, provide the support, show them love, continue the commitment and we have risen above and we will continue to rise above.

Dr. Vitti said the other thing I think is important and we have been having this conversation with the community is how school grades are functioning and how they are generated. I think it's interesting to know that many of these schools have actually seen improvement in reading and math over the years and the factor that determines school grades and changes school grades more than anything else is writing. Now, with that said, these schools must improve and they will improve but the change in writing had a disastrous affect on school grades especially with schools that were already fragile. We're going to work smarter and harder and these schools will improve despite those changes and, hopefully, the state will not make any changes going into this year and we'll be looking at an "apples-to-apples"

comparison from the year before and with that comparison, these schools will show improvement.

[2. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START GRANT APPLICATION](#)

Attachment: [DCPS-Episcopal Childrens Services MOA vfinal.pdf](#)

[5. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR DUVAL CHARTER AT ARLINGTON](#)

Attachment: [DCSA SIP Template.pdf](#)

[6. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR TIGER ACADEMY](#)

Attachment: [Tiger Academy SIP 1314.pdf](#)

[7. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR GLOBAL OUTREACH ACADEMY](#)

Attachment: [Global Outreach School Improvement Plan 2013-2014 \(3\).pdf](#)

Minutes: Vice Chair Beck Couch said I put this item on Consent with Comments because after reviewing the School Improvement Plan that was submitted, there was one section included on how to engage parents. The school said that they were going to add a parent contract for 20 hours of volunteer work. While I don't necessarily disagree with that or have a problem, I wanted to ask staff, Dr. Vitti and Ms. Chastain if they would ensure that the parent contract piece is consistent with their Student Code of Conduct. If in their contract with us they say that they are following the district's Student Code of Conduct, then they would not be able to expel based off a parent contract or penalize the student based on the parent's inability to do the 20 hours of volunteer service. I don't want this language to supersede the contract that the district has with the charter school and that's the only reason why I pulled this item...to monitor and make sure that doesn't happen.

[9. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. TO OPEN RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL AT DUVAL B](#)

Attachment: [Renaissance Charter School 2013-2014 Evaluation Instrument \(Combined\) B 9 24 13.pdf](#)

[10. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. TO OPEN RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL AT DUVAL C](#)

Attachment: [Renaissance Charter School 2013-2014 Evaluation Instrument \(Combined\) C 9 24 13.pdf](#)

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[11. FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE KIPP VOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL](#)

[CONTRACT \(AMENDING THE CONTRACT REGARDING THE K-4 STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE FAIR ASSESSMENT\)](#)

Attachment: [first_amendvfinal.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[12. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES TRANSACTIONS](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_10-01-13_TRANS.pdf](#)

[13. APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS](#)

[15. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, ACCOUNTING](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_10-01-13_Min_Quals_Supervisor_Accounting.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

[16. CONTRACT AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE JACKSONVILLE CONSOLIDATED LODGE 5-30, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, FOP.](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_10-01-13_FOP_Contract_2013-2016_Part_2.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_10-01-13_FOP_Contract_2013-2016_Part_1.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[17. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - ANN SHIELDS](#)

[18. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND REASSIGNMENT - ANTHONY NELSON](#)

[19. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - JOSEPH PRINCE](#)

Information Technology

[20. DATA WAREHOUSE PHASE II](#)

Attachment: [Data Warehouse Phase 2 Attachment Involve MSA DCPS1 V4 1.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[21. ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS - CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND BALANCE AUTHORIZATION](#)

Attachment: [COFB Energy Conservation Projects-Schools Listing for Oct 2013 agenda 8-22-13.pdf](#)

[23. LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE HEAD START USE OF CLASSROOMS AT](#)

NORMANDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 204

Attachment: [DCSB-CDI Headstart License Agreement-Normandy ES Final 9-12-13 \(2\).pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

24. BUILDING ADDITION AT DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS NO. 107: SELECTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FIRM/AJAX BUILDING CORPORATION/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91590/OFDC-RFQ-005-13

25. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals 10-2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - New 10-2013.pdf](#)

26. ROOF REPLACEMENT AT KIRBY-SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 25/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83800 STAGE IV: CHANGE ORDER NO. ONE APPROVAL TO CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, INC.

27. DISTRICTWIDE ENERGY/LIGHTING RETROFITS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS GR 3 PH 2-3; GR 4 PH 3-1; GR 6 PH 4-4/DCSB PROJ NO. M-83750/C-91580; CHANGE ORDER APPROVALS TO CONTRACTS WITH A.E.C. ELEC. CONT., INC., KKOT ASSOC., LLC, AND T & M ELEC OF CLAY CO., INC

28. LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND JENSEN CIVIL CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE USE OF TWO OPEN BAY STORAGE AREAS AT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11231 PHILIPS INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY NO. 147

Attachment: [DCSB Jensen License Agreement Open Storage 8-27-13 v2.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

30. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [04SEPT13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Retirement Order Highlight outline October 2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [07Sept13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [06Sept13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Copy of ROSUMSOCTFY14.pdf](#)

Attachment: [05Sept13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Copy of OCT RETIREMENT.pdf](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

3. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR SCHOOL OF SUCCESS (S.O.S.) ACADEMY

Attachment: [SOS SIP 1314.pdf](#)

Attachment: [SOS - b SIP Worksheet - Part II A-J.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman

Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member

Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services

Mr. Fred Heid, Chief Academic Officer

Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member

Mr. Wayne Peterson, Principal, School of Success (SOS) Academy

Ms. Couch offered a motion to amend the approval to have it as conditional approval subject to the charter school submitting to the district the missing information to complete Section 4 of the School Improvement Plan no later than this Friday, October, 4, 2013.

Board Member Grymes seconded the amendment.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the 2013-2014 School Improvement Plan for S.O.S Academy. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Paula Wright

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Jason Fischer - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Connie Hall - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

Vice-Chairman Couch moved to amend the approval to have it as conditional approval, subject to the Charter School submitting to the District the missing information to complete Section 4 of the School Improvement Plan, no later than this Friday, October 4, 2013. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Cheryl Grymes

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

[4. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR WAYMAN ACADEMY OF THE ARTS](#)

Attachment: [Wayman SIP 13-14.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair

Ms. Simaran Bakshi, Principal, Wayman Academy of the Arts

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Couch offered a motion to amend the approval to have it as a conditional approval subject to the charter school submitting to the district the missing information to complete Section 7 of the School Improvement Plan no later than this Friday, October 4, 2013.

Board Member Grymes seconded the amendment.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the 2013-2014 School Improvement Plan for Wayman Academy of the Arts. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Connie Hall

Second: Paula Wright

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

Motions:

Vice-Chairman Couch moved to amend the approval to have it as a conditional approval, subject to the Charter School submitting to the District the missing information to complete Section 7 of the School Improvement Plan, no later than this Friday, October 4, 2013. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

8. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. TO OPEN RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL AT DUVAL A

Attachment: [Renaissance Charter School 2013-2014 Evaluation Instrument \(Combined\) A 9 24 13.pdf](#)

Minutes: Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair
Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Chairman
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Constance S. Hall, Board Member
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve the application submitted by Renaissance Charter School, Inc. to open Renaissance Charter School at Duval A, a charter School serving grades K-8, in the 2014-2015 school year.

- PASS

2. That the Duval County School Board approve the recommendation of the Charter School Review Committee to negotiate a five year contract with the school.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[14. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - DIRECTOR FOR MASTER TEACHER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 10-01-13_Min_Quals_Director_Teacher_Fellowship.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Vice Chair
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Daniela Simic, Chief of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Board Member

Ms. Wright offered an amendment that the requirement would read "A minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional experience in the field of education with a minimum of three (3) years of teaching experience."

Vice Chair Couch seconded the amendment.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the attached Minimum Qualifications for the Director for Master Teacher Fellowship Program. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Connie Hall

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

That the Minimum Qualifications be amended to read minimum of 5 years of relevant experience in the field of education with education certification.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Rebecca Couch

Motions:

Board Member Wright moved to amend the Minimum Qualifications by stating that the requirement would read a minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional experience in the field of education, with a minimum of three (3) years of teaching experience. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Rebecca Couch

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

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[22. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: ADOPT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM 2013/2014 - 2018/2019](#)

Attachment: [Work Plan District Report 9-13-13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Adopt the School District Facilities Five-Year Work Program
2013/2014 - 2018/2019

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.

Speakers:

Ms.. Becki Couch, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Soares, Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Chairman of the Board
Mr. Jason Fischer, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the School District Facilities Five-Year Work Program as required by Section 1013.35, Florida State Statutes. The Duval County Public School District is required to take Public Comments prior to approval of this item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Jason Fischer	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Connie Hall	- Aye

Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[29. FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF BOARD POLICY CHAPTER 8, POLICY 8.49 - SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAM](#)

Attachment: [2012 Florida Statutes 570.982.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Policy 8.49 Proposed Revisions 10-1-13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Revision of Board Policy Chapter 8, Policy 8.49 - Summer Nutrition Program

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 to revise Board Policy Chapter 8, Policy 8.49 - Summer Nutrition Program.

That the Duval County School Board approve the following proposed change:

8.49 - Summer Nutrition Program

I. The District ~~shall develop a plan to~~ will sponsor a summer nutrition program each year. One (1) site shall be within five (5) miles of an elementary school at which fifty percent (50%) of the students qualify for free or reduced price school meals and shall operate for thirty-five (35) consecutive days. The remaining sites shall be within ten (10) miles of each elementary school at which fifty

percent (50%) of the students qualify for free or reduced price school meals. The Superintendent may collaborate with governmental agencies and not-for-profit entities in implementing this plan. - PASS

II. The School Board may seek an exemption from sponsoring a summer nutrition program as provided by law. No annual School Board action is required unless Annually the School Board shall reconsider the decision desires to be exempt from providing a summer nutrition program. A District School Board seeking such exemption must include the issue on an agenda at a regular or special District School Board Meeting that is publicly noticed, provide residents an opportunity to participate in the discussion, and vote on whether to be exempt from this section. The School Board shall notify the Commisioner of Education within ten (10) days of the decision to continue the exemption.

Vote Results

Motion: Connie Hall

Second: Rebecca Couch

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

Emergency Agenda Items

[31. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT - RHONA SILVER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the following item as an emergency because failure to do so would have a significant adverse affect on the welfare of the students in Duval County:

Settlement Agreement - Rhona Silver

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the payment of \$312,500 for attorney's fees, plus \$3,432 for mediation - PASS costs as a full and complete settlement of all claims by Rhona Silver.

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Paula Wright

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

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

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

September 18-21, 2013 - Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference - Washington, DC - Ms. Wright

October 16-18, 2013 - National Summit on Education Reform 2013 - Boston, MA - Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Wright - (All Expenses Paid)

October 23-24, 2013 - FSBA Legislative Committee - Orlando, FL - Couch

December 3-6, 2013 - 68th Annual Joint Conference - Tampa, FL - Couch, Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Lee and Wright

Motions:

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

- September 18-21, 2013 -
Congressional Black Caucus
Legislative Conference - Washington,
DC - Wright
- October 16-18, 2013 - National
Summit on Education Reform 2013 -
Boston, MA - (Note: All expenses - PASS
paid) - Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Wright
- October 23-24, 2013 - FSBA
Legislative Committee - Orlando, FL -
Couch
- December 3-6, 2013 - 68th FSBA
Annual Joint Conference - Tampa, FL
- Couch, Fischer, Grymes, Hall, Lee,
Wright

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Rebecca Couch

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

Superintendent's Travel

SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL

Minutes: *No travel for the Superintendent this month.*

For The Record

FOR THE RECORD

Minutes:

Mr. Jason Fischer said it was good to hear from some of our teachers, this evening. Some TFA came in tonight and it's always good to hear about the great work that they are doing and the ones that stayed.

I wanted to let my fellow Board members know about a very successful Chinese program that has started back up at Mandarin Oaks Elementary School. Many parents turned out and I feel it will be a great success.

I will be having a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, October 3 at 6:00 pm at Mandarin High School to discuss the budget which is the primary topic of discussion. I look forward to seeing the public there.

Dr. Constance Hall said I'd like to commend Edward Waters College. Last week they launched the MISTER Program and we certainly wish them success and MISTER stands for "Men Instructing Students Toward Effective Roles" program. In the intent of MISTER which is connected with the Calming MISTER Program out of Clemson University, is to attract more African American males to go to college, they pay their tuition, provide support and teach. The program is designed to attract African American males to complete college, earn a degree in elementary education and teach in an elementary school to serve as role models to a lot of our African American students. Many of our students who sometimes can go through their entire school years and not have contact with a male teacher let alone an African American male teacher. So, we certainly want to wish them success and hope that we, as a district provides the support necessary so their students will be successful and they end up in our classrooms making a significant difference with our students.

Often times we receive newsletters and magazines from our colleges, universities, organizations and we just stack them up. This summer I received a summer publication from Florida A&M University. I was so impressed with that publication that centered around STEM. It emphasized so much of what the students are doing in the area of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It's a small university when you compare it to universities and their research centers and they have over 60 patents and 50% of those patents are now on the verge of being on the market. As I thumbed

through the journal, a student that I recognized my first recognition on the Board was a former student of Duval County Public Schools, Tony Hansbury who graduated from Darnell Cookman. I flipped through the pages and who is in the centerfold? Tony Hansbury, again. Because of the great strides that he made in that area and the discovery that he did while he was at Darnell Cookman and that discovery started out as a science project. I think he's an ideal example of the greatness that comes out of Duval County Public Schools. I think he's an example of the greatness that exists in Duval County Public Schools with our students. He's also an example of good teaching that has taken place in many of a schools as they prepare students to go out into the world whether it's college or entering the work force. As we look at Tony and many of our other students who have moved forward and have been very successful, we can become very grounded because we know that this school year there's a newness within the school year and we're struggling to get through that newness. If we keep our "eye on the prize", then the prize is the students that we serve each and every day and we persevere and we do what is best for student then those struggles will certainly be well worthwhile when we can sit back and look at the many Tony Hansburys that are sitting in classrooms and will graduate from our public schools each and every day. Sometimes we're so wrapped up on the challenges we face each day that we forge that we have many more positives going on in our schools and we need to stop and celebrate and share with each other which energizes us to move forward.

So, as the Board member from District 5, I'm certainly proud of what is going on. We have alot of work to do and that is certainly not to excuse or ignore the work that has taken place and the improvements that has to take place but Duval County Public Schools is a great district, moving forward and together, we can improve together and work through the angst that we're experiencing at this point in time. I wish each and every staff member and employee, to just suck it up and let's just move forward and do what we need to do for children. Thank you.

Ms. Becki Couch said "thank you" to a person who is no longer with us but we found out late that he was going to retire and that is Doug Ayars. He has done such great service to this district and he's implemented so many things that have saved this district millions of dollars and he will be greatly missed. Knowing Mr. Ayars, he is probably watching this meeting because he is so dedicated. I wanted to mention him because we didn't have that opportunity this evening with his resignation and his moving on to his next position in the private sector. I just wanted to let him know that we truly appreciate all of his years of service to this district and he will be greatly missed.

I wanted to mention that I, too, am having a Town Hall meeting with Dr. Vitti at Chaffee Trail Elementary School on Thursday, October 10 from 6:30-8:00 pm. We are inviting a small section of my district of elementary schools. The schools that will receive phone calls and information will be Chaffee Trails, Crystal Springs Elementary, Mamie Agnes Jones, Whitehouse and Normandy Village Elementary. We will be discussing school grades for those schools and how those grades were impacted with changes and to discuss Common Core and the standards that are being implemented in elementary schools. I am encouraging all parents and students to attend this meeting.

I went to Washington, DC last week to lobby on behalf of public education for the state of Florida with some of my fellow Board members from across the state. I wanted to say "thank you" to Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio and their staff. We were able

to talk with their staff about sequestration, funding for Title I and IDEA. I wanted to acknowledge them and thank their staff for meeting with us.

Ms. Paula D. Wright said Dr. Hall talked about a lot of positive things that are going on in Duval County Public Schools and I'm going to share some outstanding activities that are going on with our schools and our students, as well. I had an opportunity to go to Joseph Stilwell Middle School, a school that I attended in junior high school, with Dr. Vitti and it was for the purpose of an activity called "Discover Duval". It is a collaboration that Mayor Alvin Brown whom we'd like to thank that is connected to DuPont. What they did at Stilwell is that they brought the 5th graders from Whitehouse Elementary and paired them with the 8th graders from Joseph Stilwell and they created and designed a car mobile. It was very exciting so I'd like to thank our Mayor, the Education Commissioner, Dr. Annmarie Kent-Willette and a young engineer that looked like a student. The students loved it and it was an opportunity to focus on Science, technology and engineering, but it also was an opportunity to enhance the feeder pattern by helping the students at Whitehouse to understand that their feeder pattern is Stillwell and to give them opportunities to come to the school, walk the halls, talk with the teachers, etc. I was so pleased to be there because our Vice Chair was in Washington, DC lobbying on behalf of Florida, so I was more than happy to attend. We had a great time with the kids.

Dr. Vitti and I then went over to Ribault High School and had a good discussion about what we saw and what we wanted to see. That is the value of collaborating and taking the opportunity to go on site visits with the Superintendent so we're both seeing the same things and it gives the best opportunity to clear up any misconceptions. It helps me, as a Board member and it helps the Superintendent to understand concerns I may be receiving from the community and it helps the principal to understand. It was a great opportunity to look, see, debrief with all of the parties so that we can move forward in a positive way. That was a great day and the Superintendent even allowed me to drive him and I was honored.

We also went to James Weldon Johnson and met with some community members where we discussed some issues. If we're having some concerns raised by the community, we bring the people together with the Superintendent so that he has an opportunity to explain, to suggest and to move forward.

I'd like to highlight that Edward Waters College is doing many great things under the leadership of President Nat Glover. About four weeks ago, they had a Community of Hope event where they brought all segments of the community and discussed how they could improve and the focus was on zip code 32209; it was great. Then, we had the MISTER celebration and I'd like to restate because we've done it before, that at the JWJ Act Center, Edward Waters College has the entire first floor where they are using it for classes for the education students and in turn, those students will assist the 90+ overaged students - Bridge to Success students at the JWJ Act Center by becoming mentors. These are the same students that can identify with our young students who have had some of the same challenges, social issues, environmental ills, so that they can model to our students - *"Yes, I have had the exact same challenges but I overcame it and I'm a college student now...can you?"* That's the importance of pulling the community together because education is a family affair.

I had an opportunity to do a Crime Prevention Walk with Sheriff Rutherford on the eastside part of the district along with Councilman Johnny Gaffney, the PAL personnel and they had a young man named Frank D. Murphy, a retired NFL player and he has an organization called "Athletes With a Purpose" and we walked that eastside community, door to door, listened to the concerns of the citizens, we addressed those that we could, took notes and helped Mr. Murphy to push PAL. He had his ring on his finger and the kids saw it and it gave us an opportunity as a community to share - City Council and School Board and PAL - to come together as a team and that is what it is all about. It is utilizing the roles we have and connecting all of the resources we can for the benefit of the community.

Today, was truly a highlight...there's a teacher at Andrew Jackson High School and his name is Willie DeWitt Robinson. This Saturday, he undertook the challenge by himself to shoot hoops (basketball) for 10 hours so that he could raise money to provide computers for the students at Andrew Jackson High School. He tweeted it and an attorney by the name of John Phillips saw the tweet, actually shared his support, and a couple named Mr. J. & Diane Higby, a part of a real estate company, they saw this on Channel 4 Saturday evening and they went yesterday and purchased every computer that was needed, a white board and some other items that Mr. Robinson was trying to raise \$10,000 for - to provide for his students. The Superintendent emailed last night that this is happening at 9:30 this morning at Andrew Jackson - this is what it is all about! I was so proud today to be a part of the Jacksonville community because we had a couple who saw a need, had never laid eyes on a student, didn't know anybody at Andrew Jackson but they understood the necessity of being a part of the community and coming forward with the economic piece that was needed to provide that support. The kids didn't know anything about the group of us coming so I'd like to thank Michelle Floyd-Hatcher - she supported Mr. Robinson prior to this and certainly thank Mr. Robinson who had the faith because he was committed and concerned and dedicated to his students. Everything was in the house, today. The Higby's purchased everything yesterday. Education is a family affair. Dr. Vitti, I want to thank you and thank everyone involved, the Higby's and Mr. Phillips for all of the support and effort to a body of students they never heard of before - but they felt a need to do their part. This is such a positive story and so many great things ongoing in Duval County Public Schools and I'm so proud to be a Board member. When one school is helped, we're all helped. I'm thankful for Mr. Robinson's commitment, dedication and desire to help students do better and improve. Thank you.

Ms.. Ashley Smith Juarez said that testament to Mr. Robinson is what I wanted to speak about this evening which is our great teachers and leaders. That is one of our focused points in the Strategic Plan and I wanted to talk about all of the tremendous people who are at our school sites working with students on a daily basis. I've been out doing alot of school visits. Principals and teachers have been gracious to have me.

On Saturday, I had the opportunity to attend part of the Teach Conference. It was the second annual conference and as a School Board member and a Board member at WJCT, I was very excited to see the over 900 educators who came from all around the community but certainly a good number of them from Duval County to act as professionals and do some development, to hear from leaders in the education field. Barnett Berry and Ron Clark were there, but to also hear from some of their peers who

had designs, breakout sessions, best practices and things to exchange and learn from one another on an ongoing basis. The energy was incredible. Community First Credit Union was a tremendous support for that and it was an event that really made you excited about these people who are in our classrooms every day who took time out on a Saturday to be with each other and learn from each other. I certainly want to thank our community partners for helping to put that on.

I mentioned I have been out doing a lot of school visits and a lot of listening to our principals and teachers about what is ongoing in schools; and listening to our students, as well. I always enjoy talking with them. At Hogan Spring Glen Elementary School, I was able to pop into a classroom where students were ferociously reading their new novels that had come in. They were reading about "*Ivan, the Gorilla*". Literally, I had to tap them on the shoulder and get their attention to have them talk to me and get their heads out of their books because they were so excited about the story. Their teacher had brought in some documentary materials to pair with the novel to talk about practically the experience of gorillas in the wild, how they exist now, as well as in captivity. It was a tremendous lesson and the students were engaged and each of them had a different piece of the novel that they were interested in and a different relationship to the novel where they could see themselves in Ivan. That was a really great experience and a fun time.

DuPont Middle School has really been using their common planning time around gradual release to have their teachers focus on showing their students and then allowing their students to experiment, themselves, and then allowing them to work in groups to really ingrain the knowledge and I'm really excited about a lot of the things that are going on in classrooms with our students because of those highly professional, highly enthusiastic teachers that show up on a daily basis for our students.

I'm really excited to know the scholarship dollars were up 24% this year and I think that that signifies that this district is not just committed to ensuring that our students are ready for college and the world of work and life, but that we also know that there are important pieces to making college a reality for the college-ready student. That includes some diligent work with our guidance counselors, the graduation coaches that are now in place working with students and making sure that they just don't have the knowledge and academic aptitude but they also have the resources that are necessary. I'm very excited about that and the continued growth and persistence for all of our students, finding a passion and being able to link onto it and really see it through and their experience in Duval County Public Schools and where they choose to go beyond.

It was very joyful and excited to see some dear friends of mine - their nephew, Mike Hawkins, was on the shuttle that went to the Space Station last week. I mention that because it was a vision he set for himself when he was in high school and now in his 40's, he was able to realize that dream. It was something that his teachers encouraged in him and didn't just say, "*Sure you can be an astronaut*", but really helped chart up a path. He went into the military and eventually was able to achieve that goal and I think he is an excellent example as we have many examples from our own district of what is possible when strong relationships are built between our educators and our students. I want to say "thank you" to them and appreciate them sharing and having us listen as to how we can make it even better in the future.

Ms. Cheryl Grymes said you all have been busy. First, I'd like to say that today is October 1 and the "No Texting" law goes into effect which is why maybe we should be driving Dr. Vitti around rather than driving by himself with his phone in his lap texting and getting directions at the same time. We just want to keep you safe.

I want to reiterate my praise for Woodland Acres Elementary School and their presentation. I visited the school and saw how the teachers were working with the students and it was just so cool. I appreciate Mr. Feagins, Ms. Fullwood from the school Dan Daniel and Dr. Snu and Christine Stevenson for all of their work in making it happen.

I also attended visits with Dr. Vitti at New Berlin Elementary, San Mateo Elementary and Sheffield Elementary Schools. It is always so exciting going to elementary schools to see what is going on. The students appeared very engaged and excited about school.

I want to thank Dr. Kimberly Davis and Brandon Mack in the Community Engagement Office in what they've done with so many partners. I think many of you have met Youth Pastor Anthony O'Neal at Bethel. He is really fired up and wants to help with students. He'd like to invite other youth pastors on a Saturday to partner with our district. I must applaud Christopher Jackson whom Ms. Iranetta Wright trained very well, as he did a great job talking about how important partnerships are but at the same time, how difficult it is for a principal when there are so many people trying to get to you. His point is allowing you to tell us what you need so the partnerships will be good for both parties. Sometimes help is not always helpful. We want you to know we do appreciate all of the partnerships but at the same time, we want to make sure they are aligned with the work we're doing and continue to be supportive.

I visited Don Brewer Elementary School and the principal, Jennifer Collins, brought Annetta Kornblum back to Don Brewer. She opened Don Brewer and she's retiring. They had their launch for the reading program and the kids dressed up in appropriate outfits. They hung a time capsule way back when the school first opened, so Ms. Kornblum opened up the capsule and there were some very interesting things inside. They are going to add things to it and they dedicated the Media Center to Ms. Kornblum.

Talking about partnerships and Saturdays and things ongoing for our schools, Fidelity Investments has been an outstanding partner and had a three year partnership with DuPont. They have just forged a partnership with Terry Parker High School. They group together the community partners, the staff, kids, etc. on a Saturday and talk about their needs and what they can do for the students/school. Their big need was to transform the outside of the school grounds. They had 100 volunteers from Fidelity, 100 faculty, students and parents and the principal. It was amazing what they accomplished working all together in one day! I appreciate each and every one of them! They painted murals, built furniture, a courtyard for the students - it was phenomenal.

Mr. Fel Lee said "thank you" to the Superintendent for your time spending with your staff and teams in the schools and the many school visitations with Board members. I want to thank you for the "Round Tables - Every Voice" which are very important and I wish you much success as we continue those.

Thank you to each teacher, principal, district staff, Superintendent and each Board member for your dedication to our kids.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman