



E-AGENDA MANAGER

Duval County Public Schools

October 20, 2015, Board Committee Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

Public Comment

Items To Be Discussed

[DRAFT AGENDA - NOVEMBER 3, 2015](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the November 3, 2015, Draft Agenda with the Board. Discussion included the following:

- AICE Annual and Examination Fees- This item is the fee

for the Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) program which is linked to the Cambridge testing. Funding comes from the district and the schools. Board Member Constance Hall requested information on the previous outcomes of this item as far back as possible to do a comparison.

Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, indicated the Pre-AICE program has been a challenge at Northwestern Middle School. He will follow-up with Board Member Paula Wright concerning the program, recruiting and professional development for teachers.

- Vystar Academy of Business and Finance Program at First Coast - Vystar is in many of our schools. First Coast High School has a finance program which will be enhanced by VyStar with the creation of a branch at the school. A scholarship is given at each of the sites that currently exist. Board Member Paula Wright requested the number of students that are employed with VyStar part-time or full-time. She would also like to know who the recipients of the scholarships were. Chairman Cheryl Grymes requested the amount of each of the scholarship.
- Advanc-Ed Annual Dues - This is an agreement with Advance Education, Inc., to pay for the accreditation license fees for all district schools. The district will be sending information for a two-year review. The deadline will be in the spring. Board Member Paula Wright asked to see the information before it is submitted to the state. The Superintendent indicated that he will recommend having a workshop to go over all the information.
- Charter Application for BridgePrep Academy, Inc. To Open BridgePrep Academy Duval County- The Superintendent is recommending approval of this item since all of the requirements were met. Board Member Couch asked how the charter schools can reconcile their governance model. The Board only meets once a month. It is not clear that they have a parent liaison.
- Charter Application for ECA – Jacksonville, Inc. To Open Early Career Academy – The Superintendent is recommending this charter school application be denied. There are concerns with the school not having a core reading program and legal questions with a possible partnerships with universities based on the way that it is structured. Vice-Chairman Wright asked what charter schools are offering that traditional schools do not offer. Peal Roziers, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice/ Pupil Assignment Operations indicated that the charter schools do not have to do anything innovative even tho we would like them too.
- Charter Application for Seaside School Consortium, Inc. To Open Seaside Charter School K-8- This application is recommended for denial. The school has had many violations related to the Florida Sunshine Law. Meetings took place in homes which were not accessible to the public and public meetings were not advertised. Vice-Chairman Wright asked the Superintendent if he had reached out

to all of the charter schools that were recommended for denial. The Superintendent stated Charter USA had reached out to him and the other charter schools did not.

- Charter Application for Renaissance Charter School, Inc. To Open a School to be Named Renaissance Charter School at Coastal Duval– The Superintendent indicated that several of the charter schools operated by Charter USA have had problems. Issues have been expressed with parent follow-ups, scheduling, along with an Office of Civil Rights (OCR) complaint concerning an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) student. If the application is approved, they will not open until next year. Our biggest issue with the charter school has been that there is no one here locally to oversee the principals and schools. Renaissance Charter School has also agreed to training for their teachers. The Superintendent is recommending approval of Renaissance Charter School because of the changes. Board Members voiced their concerns with the approval of this charter application since there have been so many issues. Board Member Couch indicated that “laws change because people are bold enough to stand against those laws so we should not be afraid of an appeal.” Board Member Paula Wright asked Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, to share with the Board an up-date concerning the letter from the Ethics Commission.
- Minimum Qualifications – Supervisor, Federal Programs - This item will revise the minimum qualification for the Supervisor of Federal Programs. Board Member Couch indicated that the application should indicate that experience with Federal Programs is preferred.
- Approval Of Changes to the 2015-2016 Instructional Personnel Assessment System - The item is a change in the school-based evaluation system. The templates are due by the end of this month. Sonita Young, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources indicated that she will attach the documents. Board Member Constance Hall requested the instrument for the Instructional Personnel Assessment System.
- Approval of Changes to the 2015-2016 Instructional Personnel Assessment System – This item is a change in the teacher's evaluation system. The laws have changed concerning teacher performance evaluations. The percentage of the performance evaluation has been reduced from fifty percent to one-third.
- QZAB II-Group 4D High Density Wireless at Louis Sheffield Elementary NO. 242/DCPS Project No. QZAB 15-E99960-3242- Board Member Wright requested the schedule of payments for QZAB II. The Superintendent will provide this information.
- Nursing Services – Temporary – This item mainly relates to diabetic students in elementary schools. The statute changed a few years ago which said that students can remain at their current school regardless of services being provided. When we did not have enough nurses we relied on contracted services to fill the gap. Expenses

have exceeded our budgeted amount. We will begin to hire our own nurses to reduce the cost of contracted services. Board Member Couch asked if this will take care of any Audit Findings in the future. Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, indicated that it would take care of any Audit Findings since it would be retroactive.

- Approval of Expenditure of Gas Tax Revenue Funds for Districtwide Road Paving and Repair Projects - Board Member Scott Shine asked about the funds from the Gas Tax. Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Operations, indicated that we receive funds every year that can only be used for road construction for schools.
- Approval of 2015-16 District Marketing Plan - Mark Sherwood, Assistant Superintendent, Chief of Communications, presented the District's Marketing Plan to the Board. The following topics were discussed:
 - Communications currently has two vacant positions: Director of Communications and Supervisor of External Communications and Media Relations.
 - Focus on Public Education Strong.
 - Getting the students story.
 - Consistent message beyond the school day.
 - Improving our measures.
 - Alignment with our peers.
 - Duval County is the only district among the big seven school districts that are still doing a daily newsletter.
 - Who we are reaching.
 - How we are sharing our message.
 - Establishing measurement.
 - Alignment with our peers.
 - All principals will receive a kit to create a marketing message for their school.

Last year, the School Choice Expo had over 17,000 people in attendance. The next School Choice Expo will be in January and additional parking space will be leased.

Board Member Jason Fischer indicated that the district needs to work on the Board Members page.

Board Member Paula Wright requested information relating to minority participation for the printing. She will contact Mark Sherwood with names of minority businesses.

Board Member Becki Couch suggested using Board Members to speak at different school events to get the message out about our schools.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

CSM

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman