



Duval County Public Schools

September 24, 2013, Board Workshop

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, was also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 8:35 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The following items were discussed.

- The December 3, 2013, Regular Board Meeting was moved to December 9, 2013,

due to the FSBA Fall Conference.

- The December 5, 2013, Committee Meeting was moved to December 10, 2013, also due to the FSBA Fall Conference
- All of the Board members attending the FSBA will take the required Ethics training. If a member does not attend, they will make arrangements to take the training prior to the deadline.
- There will be a collective bargaining Shade meeting on October 1, 2013, at 3:30 p.m.
- Forrest High School Name Issue:
 - The Superintendent asked about the Forrest HS issue and the need to move forward as a leadership team. He asked how we will approach the issue.
 - Chairman Lee said we would address during Governance.
 - Board Member Wright suggested that all members refrain from making comments until we agree as a team on what action to take.
 - Board Member Fischer asked about the timing of the discussion, as he had intended to ask people what they thought at his two upcoming community meetings.
 - Board Member Grymes indicated that she felt it was inappropriate for a Board member to solicit opinions on an item the Board had not discussed.
 - Board Member Wright pointed out that the school was in Board Member Hall's district, and she should be allowed to take the lead on the issue.
 - The Chairman asked that Board members, and the Superintendent, refrain from making public comments on this matter until they had a chance to meet and discuss as a team.
 - The Board will meet on September 27, 2013, from 2:00 p.m., to 4:00 p.m., to discuss this topic.

Speakers:

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

2. WAY OF WORK

Minutes:

The Superintendent made a presentation to the Board. A copy is attached to the Minutes. Discussion included the following.

- Board Member Hall asked the Superintendent to explain the differences in the roles of Fred Heid and Daniella Simic. The Superintendent shared that Ms.

Simic's role was to drive what happens in schools and monitor staff, while Mr. Heid was more involved with the Division Chiefs and the business and operations side - Charter Schools, textbooks, etc.

- Several Board members asked about the lack of textbooks. The Superintendent indicated that the delay was mostly at the K-2 level. Board Member Hall asked who was responsible, and Dr. Vitti indicated that it was Andrew Post. He made a commitment to the Board that there would be a better process in place for next year. The Chairman asked that the Superintendent provide them with a list of outstanding textbooks - broken down by school. He would also like for the Superintendent to come back to the Board and talk about policy in terms of contracts with vendors and guaranteed turnarounds with ramifications.
- Board Member Wright said that it would be helpful to have had the Principal assignments for this review. She asked how he had made the assignments. He stated that it was a combination of things. Some were Tier 1 to Tier 3 and some Tier 3 to Tier 1. It depended on the school and the situation. He used historical data, considered burn out, etc., and did not want to make assumptions about principals with out background information. The Superintendent will provide a breakdown of the Principals and where they came from.
- Regional Chiefs are held accountable in the same way the Board holds the Superintendent accountable.
- Chairman Lee asked how we will know coaches are modeling. The Superintendent shared that they will maintain a log. Time is set aside during the day for them to work on the log. He will provide a copy of the log.
- There is an evening school at every middle and high school. Interventionalists are available mainly for Title I schools, with one serving up to three schools.
- The Superintendent stated that there had been too many tests at the beginning of the year. He has taken three off at the Kindergarten level and two at the 1st grade level.
- Board Member Juarez asked about the differences on assessments - CGA's, IOWA, and DAR, and Baseline.
- Board Member Wright made a Board Member Request regarding the first grading period and what changes and adjustments that had to be made because of the lack of books. She asked how will we adjust for teachers and students in terms of grades.

Speakers:

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

[3. LEGISLATIVE AGENDA](#)

Minutes:

This topic was not discussed due to time constraints.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman