



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

January 19, 2021, Committee Meeting

Ms. Elizabeth Andersen, Chairman
Mr. Darryl Willie, Vice-Chairman
Dr. Kelly Coker
Ms. Lori Hershey
Mr. Warren Jones
Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce
Ms. Cindy Pearson
Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - JANUARY 11, 2021

COLLEGE BOARD SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS (COLLEGE READINESS AND SUCCESS)

Corey Wright, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Assessment, joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- CARES money covering this cost
- Inclusion of Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) students
- This does not cover charter schools as they receive their own allocation
- Reduction in funding in 2019/2020 due to tests not being offered
- Data collection

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: ADOPTION OF DISTRICT-WIDE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEXTBOOKS

Dr. Greene shared some features of this particular textbook which include:

1. aligned to new standards that will be coming out - Benchmark for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards,

2. print books inside,
3. social studies integration,
4. cultural response type text, and
5. intervention system built in it.

Paula Renfro, Chief Academic Officer, shared with the Board how the public was notified of the changes, A public notice went out on January 4th. The public can review all the material digitally and there is also a hard copy of the material available to look at in the District Building on the 3rd floor in Professional Development.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Vickie Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- The impact to the salary is that social workers would get the salary with the added Master's degree
- This will not affect the salary range itself but where the social workers will fall on the salary range
- The starting salary for school social worker is \$45,891
- Master's degree requirement is statewide
- Salary will be adjusted through an analysis which looks at degrees obtained and years of experience
- Current social workers without Master's degrees are grandfathered in and will not be impacted by new requirement
- Human Resources will investigate a targeted program or incentives for current social workers to obtain their Master's
- Skill sets for Bachelor's level social worker and Master's level social worker are very different
- Social workers currently report to two different departments - one group under Jackie Simmons, Executive Director for Student Discipline and Support Services, and Gail Roberts, Executive Director of Exceptional Education/Student Services

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

Ms. Schultz advised the Board that the report in October 2020 looked better than in prior years. Teachers were given several extensions through December and others were given extensions through the end of the school year. She does not anticipate anything past June 30, 2021.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - NOVEMBER 2020

On page 28 of report, under General Fund, it is indicated that the general fund revenues have increased by \$38.8 million compared to November 2019 mainly due to increase collection of real estate and personal property taxes. Board Member Joyce inquired if because of this significant increase, would that put the District and Duval Teachers United (DTU) in a better position to work with veteran teacher salaries and reach some sort of agreement? Dr. Greene advised that this is still an incomplete picture even though there is more revenue this month than last month, it doesn't mean that trend will be maintained through the end of the year. Additionally, we still have not been told what is happening with survey 3.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN 2020/2021 - 2024/2025 (AMENDED)

Board Member Coker asked questions related to the technology piece. Jim Culbert, Chief Informational Officer, provided the following information:

- 50-60% through the 65,000 machines for deployment to our secondary schools. Expect to be fully

completed by February/March timeframe.

- All the boxes that are traditionally at our secondary schools will be pushed down to elementary schools
- The plan that is by the end of the school year, we would move from the traditional 2:1 at elementary schools to 1.75:1
- Lease for computers is a yearly payment that is covered over 5 years
- Additional funds will still be spent to refresh elementary schools to keep them at the 1.75:1 or above ratio
- Interactive monitors have a life cycle of about 20 years and that is with 8 hours a day usage
- 1,000 units have been upgraded with a better camera and better microphone
- Currently working with Purchasing Department to release an RFP for copying and printing

Chair Andersen requested a breakdown of the sales surtax referendum to show how much of that revenue will go to charter schools. Dr. Greene will get with Michelle Begley, Chief Financial Officer, to inquire how we can show that information.

DECLARE AS SURPLUS LAKE FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 74

Board Member Hershey inquired about the plan for this school and the process. Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, provided the following information:

- The original plan was to demolish this facility and that cost was about \$700,000
- The first step, whether we are going to do demolishing or repurposing, is to declare it unnecessary. Or in this case, unsuitable
- There is an outside facility interested in repurposing this facility for affordable housing which would have a set aside for District staff
- The proceeds from this property sale would be deposited back into Capital Accounts and they can be reused
- Current appraised value of the land is \$980,000

Vice Chair Willie requested information about the process for declaring a property as surplus, i.e. what comes to the Board, how do we address the community. Dr. Greene advised that schools listed in the master facilities plan for demolition would go to the Board declaring it as surplus. The District must file a report with the Department of Education and in turn, they will give approval on what can be demolished. After receiving approval, would still need to go before the Board requesting to demolish that particular facility. If the Board approves, the demolition will then move forward.

Board Member Jones stressed the importance of keeping up with the facilities within your district that are marked for demolition. These properties that were originally planning to go to non-profits become abandoned, boarded up, and overgrown with shrubs. They become eyesores and blight in the community. This especially affects Districts 4 and 5.

PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

There was no discussion on this item.

DISTRICTWIDE ROOF REPLACEMENT AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83800/ITB-017-21/LM

Mr. Soares advised that this is complete repair and replacement. This recovering goes on top of the roof and based on the current condition of the roof, it can be recovered. The expectation is that it will last the full 20 years.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AGENT/OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE SERVICES - AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONSULTANT - RFQ-NO. 11-21/TW

Board Member Pearson initiated the discussion by asking why there is currently not an amount listed and asked when that information will be made available. Mr. Soares responded that there is a dollar amount but this item is very time sensitive. The District needs this contract and the staff they're going to provide to implement the Master Facilities Plan. It has been put on as a placement item while we're still negotiating with the company. The cost is roughly \$2.4 million which is competitive and much less than other districts have paid. Negotiations and contract are expected to be completed prior to finalized agenda being published.

Other topics of discussion included:

- Program management
- Est. \$2.4 million is a one-year cost. Cost of the second year will depend on how many staff members are brought on.
- Phasing out process
- Rates for this service in other districts
- Ability to extricate the District from this contract when ready
- Staffing flexibility in contract

NEW RUTLEDGE H. PEARSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K5) - AWARD OF DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT - PROJECT RFQ-NO. 09-21/TW

Board Member Hershey requested that at future Board Workshop, the Board receives education on the rebuild process. Topics to cover in that workshop could include when is the community engaged, how is the community updated, as a school is rebuilt, will the Superintendent look at programming for that school, etc.

Chair Andersen inquired about when the Board be able to see the design. Dr. Greene advised that as soon as there is a design put together by the architect, we can share at a Board Workshop or at a Board meeting during department updates. Once approved, the timeline will be about 8-9 months for the design.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting.

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren Jones
Charlotte Joyce
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

KPG

Superintendent

Chairman