



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

February 16, 2021, Committee Meeting

Ms. Elizabeth Andersen, Chairman
Mr. Darryl Willie, Vice-Chairman
Dr. Kelly Coker
Ms. Lori Hershey
Mr. Warren A. 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 9:00 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - MARCH 2, 2021

EDGENUITY CURRICULUM

- Funding of the program is based on completion
- Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) dollars received but it is not the same as if in brick-and-mortar
- Percentage of students who complete the course is unknown until the end of the school year
- Curriculum is mostly for electives and aligns with those electives. Majority of courses have nothing to do with the Benchmark for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) standards, those standards are more for core classes.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF LINDAMOOD BELL SEEING STARS READING INTERVENTION (K-5)

Chief Academic Officer Paula Renfro joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- Program is support for dyslexic students
- Not for any student struggling, student must have been identified as having dyslexia
- Process of selecting the 30 schools participating in program
- Interventions are offered to all schools, but these 30 schools are prioritized because they have a higher targeted population of students with reading challenge

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- This group of schools have additional funding through their grants, and they are either current or former D and F schools
- These schools can utilize this additional funding for professional development

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT WITH EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 12% improvement in proficiency in math for schools utilizing this professional development program
- \$38,500 in athletics for two schools provides on-site coaching and other resources given to the school. The school determines how many visits for on-site coaching

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT (CHARTER) - S.O.C.K. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS (S.O.S.) ACADEMY, INC.

- Clarification that S.O.C.K. is the corporate legal name for S.O.S. and is what is listed on their charter contract

CHARTER APPLICATION FOR RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC., TO OPEN SAN JOSE CYBER ACADEMY

Assistant Superintendent of School Choice Sharwonda Peek joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- San Jose Cyber Academy is a virtual school with no intent to become a brick-and-mortar. That is how the school would have to operate through the duration of their contract.
- Differences between Florida Cyber Academy on Phillips Hwy and Florida Virtual School was also discussed. Florida Cyber Academy is teacher-led with more instruction and a schedule of classes whereas Florida Virtual School is more independent and student-led.
- Eugene Hays, Director of School Choice, advised that in their application it was mentioned of direct instruction to students but the school will be using Edgeunity platform to do their instruction so it will be mostly student led.
- School options for over-aged students in the District
 - Bridge to Success for over-aged students starting in 4th grade through high school
 - Several charter schools for over-aged students
 - Dropout prevention
 - Marine Science Center at the beaches.

EXTREME WIRELESS INSTALLATION

Chief Informational Officer Jim Culbert joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- Multi-year contract to start with high schools then middle then elementary
- Total of 11,000 access points replaced in 6 months
- Next year will move to administrative buildings
- Access points are being replaced because there have been issues at some of the schools with the access points failing.
- Access points reach out to the edge of the property
- Wireless networks used to be turned off at the end of the school day but now remains on until about 10:00-11:00 p.m. to save life cycle of access points
- Replacement cost is paid from e-rate funds from last years and 85% of those funds will go back to

the District to go towards future projects

- The District recently put in an application for grant dollars for community-based access through a collaboration with Miller Electric, Florida Transportation, and Smart Duval

LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH ABILITY HOUSING, INC. FOR LAKE FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 74

Assistant Superintendent of Operations Paul Soares joined the discussion on this item. Topics discussed included:

- Timeline to coincide with the cycle Ability Housing must go through
- If approval is received by the Board on March 2nd, Ability Housing will try to get all documents completed by the March 8th deadline
- Ability Housing will find out in November whether they have been approved for funding, however, they do not expect to get approval with first application due to low success rate
- Ability Housing is applying for funding through an IRS program that supports affordable housing
- Approval is expected in November 2022 after submitting another application in March 2022. Closing paperwork would be expected to be completed the following spring and everything should then be wrapped up by the end of the summer 2023
- Until completed, the District will continue to be the landlord and take care of maintenance. Ability Housing is occupying a small portion for administrative purposes
- Historical context between James Weldon Johnson and Edward Waters College

SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY - LACKAWANNA SCHOOL NO. 10 / OFDC-ITB-013-21 LM: PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT

Mr. Soares answered questions that Board Members had regarding this item. Topics discussed included:

- Sleiman and Arwood (S&A) is a partnership of 2 personnel - Anthony Sleiman and John Arwood - Mr. Soares is not familiar with any prior transactions with this entity
- S&A has put forth a progressive repurposing plan for Lackawanna
- S&A is planning to move in there to make it corporate headquarters, 25% of space will be for entrepreneur incubator
- Plan to demolish existing portables and clean up the campus
- Historical background information of Lackawanna
- District will continue to pay utilities until transaction is closed

Due to technical difficulties, 5 minutes of the discussion for this item were not captured by the recorder.

- Land value at \$500,000
- Requirement for notifying charter schools of surplus property

PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

Mr. Soares answered questions that Board Members had regarding this item. Topics discussed included:

- Prequalifications occur every year
- Majority of firms are locally owned
- Do not have the percentage of how many are minority owned but there is a significant amount. Those numbers will be provided later.
- Vice Chairman Willie advised the public that the District is actively seeking locally owned, minority owned, and women owned contracting firms so make sure you are coming in and having these conversations

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, OTHER THAN SCHOOL BUSES

- Utilization of motor vehicles, in lieu of, school buses
- Minimum students on these routes and traveling long distances
- Service more so for homeless students and ESE students
- Using motor vehicles to transport these students instead of school buses would save the District money
- Non-buses are not vehicles for hire such as Uber and Lyft. The intent is to use commercial providers for a 9-passenger van

Public Comment

Jerry Holt

Mr. Holt is with a group called Americans Rising and expressed his opposition to any changes to the school curriculum that would be aligned to the agenda of the organization Black Lives Matter.

Jenna Bernstein

Ms. Bernstein expressed her opposition to the renaming of the schools.

Seber Newsome III

Mr. Newsome expressed his opposition to the renaming of the schools.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Kelly Coker

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

KPG

Superintendent

Chairman