



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

May 27, 2021, Master Board Training

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, was also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:48 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. MASTER BOARD TRAINING

THE GOVERNANCE CORE

Through a PowerPoint presentation, April Griffin, Instructor with the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA), spent the morning discussing Governance with the Board Members and Superintendent (see attached in agenda). After discussing the definition and purpose of Governance, the role of the Board and the role of the Superintendent were discussed. The importance of both entities remaining in their respective roles and not encroaching on the other was emphasized. Through various activities, Board Members learned the importance of the following:

- Leadership from the Middle (LftM)
- Finding common ground with state officials, community groups and district staff
- A well-defined infrastructure
- Governance mindset
- Public behavior being well managed
- Coherence
- Collaboration and trust

- Governance culture
- Protocols and their importance
- The job of Governance and what it involves
- Governance tools and the importance of having a governance mindset to use them
- Board self-evaluations
- Community meetings giving the public direct access to superintendents and/or board members is good practice
- Respect throughout disagreements is important
- Single item agenda of a board member can be an issue; too much emphasis on just one thing

COMMUNICATION AND CULTURE

The following points were made during the PowerPoint presentation (see attached in agenda):

- When making a statement or asking a question, the emphasis on select words, the inflection and/or pitch we put in our voice has a huge bearing on its meaning and how it can be received by the listener.
- Silent messages and body language also send a message
- Listen more--talk less
- The Sunshine Law makes communication among board members very difficult
- Masks and virtual meetings can add to miscommunication
- Ask questions to gain clarity
- Open-ended questions usually yield more information
- Slowing down talk/conversation usually helps reduce stress

Board Members engaged in a water survival exercise that demonstrated the importance of working together as a team. It showed the importance of being able to explain rationale.

- A school district will take its culture cues from the school board.
- Ideas on how to improve culture was discussed

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

LBL

Superintendent

Chairman