



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

May 4, 2021, Regular Board 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. Rita Mairs, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

The Chair called for a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

JOSEPH STILWELL MILITARY ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP

Ms. Tamara Tuschhoff, Principal
Joseph Stilwell Military Academy of Leadership

Through a video presentation, Principal Tuschhoff highlighted the programs and accomplishments of the cadets and faculty at Joseph Stilwell Military Academy of Leadership. Board Member Joyce thanked Principal Tuschhoff for coming out to showcase the academy.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH 2021 PROCLAMATION

The following proclamation was read in honor of Mental Health Awareness Month 2021:

Mental Health Awareness Month 2021 Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans face challenges in life that can impact their mental health, especially during a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there are practical tools that all people can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, health care provider, organization and citizen share the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention and treatment efforts.

NOW THEREFORE, MAY IT BE RESOLVED that the Duval County School Board now hereby proclaims May 2021 as Mental Health Month in Duval County Public Schools. The School Board also calls upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in Jacksonville, Florida to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

Signed this 4th day of May 2021.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK 2021 PROCLAMATION

The following proclamation was read in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week 2021:

Teacher Appreciation Week 2021 Proclamation

WHEREAS, teachers and paraprofessionals are the foundation of public education, and are an indispensable part of Duval County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, our educators consistently go above and beyond the call of duty in not only providing quality instruction to countless students, but also in serving as unofficial mentors, counselors, and role models;

and

WHEREAS, in spite of the many new procedures and protocols implemented in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic, our educators have maintained an unwavering dedication to the profession and to our students, whether in person or online; and

WHEREAS, our educators are not only impacting students in the classroom, but they're also contributing to the long-term success of our community and future generations.

NOW THEREFORE, MAY IT BE RESOLVED that the Duval County School Board joins the rest of this country in proclaiming Monday, May 3rd through Friday, May 7th, 2021 as Teacher Appreciation Week, and we strongly encourage all members of the community to express their appreciation for teachers and paraprofessionals for their hard work.

Signed this 4th day of May 2021

Communications

THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY HERO AWARD PRESENTATION

Team Duval was awarded the National Hero Award for the 2019-2020 school year by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for the hard work by schools and students to raise funds toward its mission. Through the Hero Squad program, Team Duval reached Hero status to earn the award.

CHARTWELLS K12 SCHOOL DINING SERVICES ANNUAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Food service provider Chartwells presented scholarships to the 18 DCPS seniors listed below:

- o Kayla Barnwell, Robert E. Lee High School
- o Cole Bridges, Fletcher High School
- o Caroline Cosby, Stanton College Prep
- o Amber Ferrell, William M. Raines High School
- o Joshua Gillis, Fletcher High School
- o Ayanna-Rose Gray, Douglas Anderson School of the Arts
- o Elie Haddad, Mandarin High School
- o Tia Hepburn, Sandalwood High School
- o Samiyah Lee, Englewood High School
- o Desmyn McCall, Terry Parker High School
- o Vikas Patel, Stanton College Preparatory School
- o Margaret Radloff, Sandalwood High School
- o Hamia Riveres, Paxon School for Advanced Studies
- o Gelila Sikes, Baldwin Middle-High School
- o Semhare Tekle, Paxon School for Advanced Studies
- o Curtis Thompson, Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology
- o Jordyn Williams, Atlantic Coast High School

o Catherine Williams, Jean Ribault High School

Ms. Osundu was awarded the HBCU Meal Plan Scholarship.

TIA LEATHERS - JACKSONVILLE BUSINESS JOURNAL'S "40 UNDER 40"

Tia Leathers, Executive Director of Family and Community Engagement, was named one of the 2021 40 Under 40 professionals by the Jacksonville Business Journal for her extensive work with community partners. Dr. Greene also presented her with a Coin of Excellence.

LESLIE WHITE - SHELL URBAN SCIENCE EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Leslie White, Secondary Science Specialist in the office of Academic Services, is the recipient of the Shell Urban Science Educator Development Award, one of only 11 in the nation. Ms. White also received the Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

NATALIE BLACKBURN - RECOGNITION OF COURAGEOUS ACTIONS

First Grade Teacher Natalie Blackburn of Sheffield Elementary was recognized for her courageous act of administering the Heimlich maneuver on a student during breakfast at the school. She was also given the Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

ALFRED DUPONT MIDDLE - SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Alfred duPont Middle School was named School of the Year by the Embassy of Spain and its representation in the U.S. for its excellence in bilingual education. The recognition yields professional training, bilingual books and resources, and one week of training at the University of Salamanca in Spain for one staff member.

FLETCHER MIDDLE SCHOOL DEBATE STATE WINNERS

Three students from Fletcher Middle School's Debate Team won placements at the State Championship during the team's inaugural year. The students, their placement, and topics are:

- 8th grader Robert Trinnear, 6th Place, Lincoln-Douglas Debate category
- 7th grader Abigail Erlandson, 3rd Place, Program Oral Interpretation
- 7th grader Caelan Gilbert, 2nd Place, Program Oral Interpretation

All three students also received the Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 4, 2021, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the May 4, 2021 agenda as submitted on April 27, 2021 with the following change:

- **Communications**

Fletcher Middle School Debate State Winners - Item Added

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Warren A. Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Chairperson's Report

Chairperson's report

Elizabeth Andersen, Chair

Duval County School Board

In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, Chair Andersen asked Katrina Taylor, Director of School Behavior Health, to demonstrate one of the types of breathing exercises done in the classroom to help condition and improve students' mental health.

Superintendent's Reports

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent

Duval County Public Schools

Through a PowerPoint presentation (see attached in agenda), Dr. Greene reviewed the latest COVID-19 trends and updates within the District.

Department Reports

Gail Roberts, Executive Director
Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

Through a PowerPoint presentation and in honor of Teacher Appreciation Month, Ms. Roberts explained how the ESE department is structured, some of the programs, and just some of the challenges that many members of the ESE faculty face on a daily basis. The mother of one of the students, Abigail Jones at Neptune Beach Elementary, submitted a video that explained the challenges and triumphs their household has faced with Abigail's special needs.

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

There was no report.

Public Comment

Public comment

The following would like to see prayer put back into schools:

- Trudy Doring
- Denise Connors
- Gussie Killings
- Kennedi Townes
- Clyde Anderson

The following support changing the names of schools:

- Bob Rotter
- Patricia Nunez
- Jay Morgan
- Claudia Liner
- John Warren
- Debbie Tribble
- Ethan Evans
- Melanie Marshall
- Leonard Marshall
- Rolando Graham
- Jane Nostrand
- Sean Eaton
- Ben Frazier
- Wells Todd
- Michael Anderson
- Christine Montufar
- Brad Kuhn

- Darlyn Kuhn
- Jon Raiti
- Bobbie O'Connor
- Wendy Collins
- Sheila Jackson
- Shareece Porter
- Thom McGuire

The following would like to see the District eliminate masks:

- Jean MacDonald
- April Carney
- Laura Hejtmanek

The following are NOT in favor of changing school names:

- Norman Abraham
- Clyde Anderson
- Pat Geer
- Hugh Blanton
- Walker Blanton
- Rob Lawrence
- Seber Newsome III
- Blake Harper

Christine DeLaRosa expressed concern about how the division over school name changes is affecting our children.

Tim Miller read an anonymous email he received from a teacher concerned about teaching conditions among the ESE teachers.

Comments from Parent Organizations

Michael Hawk, Chair
District Advisory Council

Mr. Hawk reported on the following at their last meeting:

- Amount collected from the surtax
- Hardening of schools
- Marketing of schools
- Resolution on the renaming of schools
- His reasoning for giving his opinions at the microphone while in the role of DAC Chair

Theresa Rogers, President

Duval County Council of PTAs

Ms. Rogers reported on the following:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Virtual President and Principal's Event
- Reminder of PTA's support of school name changes

Comments from District Student Government Association

Adam Dimascio, Senior
Fletcher High School
Jacksonville Association of Governing Students (JAGS)

I thank you all for your time and consideration of the issues that remain pertinent to both students and administrators across the Duval County School District. To this end, I would like to extend special thanks to Director Timothy Simmons for inviting me to speak with you today, and to Mr. Byron Copeland and the Honorable Charlotte Joyce for taking the time out of their schedules to engage with my fellow students and I at the last JAGS meeting to discuss issues concerning our District's dress code.

Based upon the tone of the dialogue that evening, I cannot responsibly beat around the bush regarding this issue: the current state of the Duval County Public School dress code promotes subjective enforcement that is inequitable at best and sexist at worst. Of the eight expressed conditions under which an article of clothing can be banned, four of them directly target female students. This is done under the guise of preventing promiscuity in the learning environment or providing some sort of "protection" for female students from the leering eyes of young men that our society swears are inherently sexually predatory. But in the face of this precedent, I ask this question: why is the onus not placed upon our young men to not harass their fellow students for the clothes they wear?

Furthermore, when administrators pull female students out of class for the abhorrent offense of showing half an inch of midriff, chastising them publicly as I have personally witnessed several times, this not only disrupts the productive learning environment, but perpetuates the same ideas of body negativity that have plagued young American women for generations. How can you expect the coming generation of young women to express confidence in themselves when our educational institutions push a narrative that is diametrically opposed to such an idea? The dress code presently references the idea that all clothes worn on school grounds should be done with the intent of self-respect, but when on-site administrators are given the final say as to who gets dress coded and who does not, self-respect seems to be discarded in favor of administrator-respect. Such a precedent cannot continue. When we publicly shame our students for wearing the same outfits that Malia and Michele Obama are applauded for wearing to White House functions, it would appear as if we have lost the plot. Critics of change to the dress code claim that the learning environment can never be purely reflective of modern social trends. I say, why not? Are we not the ones who can make that change? Is that not why we are gathered here this evening? Would a dress code that mandates students to cover "private, specifically genital areas" not meet both the standards of academic acceptability and social acceptability? The idea that a square inch of shoulder skin is irreparably damaging to the learning environment is not only archaic, but psychologically harmful.

I would like to close by posing a question to every board member and policy maker in this room: if it is within your power to make changes today that will create a better tomorrow, why shouldn't you start now? Thank you.

Comments from Employee Organizations

There were no reports.

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board minutes:

- **March 16, 2021 - Special Board Meeting**
- **March 16, 2021 - Auditor Selection Committee Meeting**
- **March 22, 2021 - Subcommittee Meeting**
- **March 23, 2021 - Auditor Selection Committee Meeting**
- **April 6, 2021 - Regular Board Meeting**
- **April 13, 2021 - Auditor Selection Committee Meeting**
- **April 19, 2021 - Subcommittee Meeting**
- **April 20, 2021 - Auditor Selection Committee Meeting**

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Consent Agenda

Board Members

1. DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES FOR 2021-2022
2. INTERNAL BOARD AUDIT: FY 2021 - FY 2022 AUDIT PLAN

Academic Services

3. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH READ USA, INC.
4. AGREEMENT WITH HORIZON INSTITUTE, LLC
5. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY FOR THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL AT EDWARD H. WHITE
6. DATA WAREHOUSE AND ANALYTICS
7. POWERSCHOOL ONLINE ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYSIS SYSTEM FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR
8. EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION STUDENT SERVICES CONTRACTED STAFF

- 9. APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES FOR I-READY READING AND MATHEMATICS BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM (K-2)
- 10. APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WRITING MATERIALS FROM TOP SCORE FOR GRADES 4-10
- 11. FOCUS SCHOOL SOFTWARE
- 12. 2020-2021 STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN WAIVER
- 13. AGREEMENT WITH PSTT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING, INC., D/B/A EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES (EMCS)

School Choice and Pupil Assignments

- 14. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR GLOBAL CHARTER ACADEMY, INC., TO OPEN GLOBAL ARTS ACADEMY
- 15. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR JACKSONVILLE CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC., TO OPEN JACKSONVILLE CLASSICAL ACADEMY EAST

Human Resource Services - Staffing

- 16. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

Human Resource Services - Compensation

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

- 17. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT – FEBRUARY 2021
- 18. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – MARCH 2021

Information Technology

- 19. OXYA – SAP HOSTING SOLUTION
- 20. REMEDY ITSM SYSTEM

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

21. APPROVE GRANT OF TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT AND SALE OF RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY AND JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR WIDENING OF SAN PABLO ROAD

22. SCHULTZ CENTER LEASE AGREEMENT

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

23. CHANGE ORDER REPORT

24. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000.

25. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

26. ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ON A CONTINUING CONTRACT BASIS/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83700/RFQ NO. 18-21/TW

Operations - Transportation

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

27. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

28. MARCH 2021 PURCHASE REPORT

Chief of Staff

General

Emergency Agenda Items

Discussion

There were no items pulled for discussion.

Board Member Travel

BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board confirm the travel listed is for official Board business and that it complies with the rules of the State Board of Education:

- **June 8-11, 2021 - Tampa, FL - FSBA Summer Conference - Jones**

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Superintendent's Travel

SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Superintendent's travel:

- **April 26, 2021 - Ocala, FL - FADSS (Marion County Regional Meeting)**

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Warren A. Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:
None

For The Record

Board Member Jones noted the following:

- Dr. Steven Richardson, Assistant Principal at Westside High School - recognized for his mentorship
- Raines Boys Track team for winning their conference championship
- Extravaganza at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts

Board Member Hershey noted the following:

- Extravaganza at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts
- Chancellor Jacob Olivia's visit to Mandarin High School to announce that Teacher of the Year Jim Schmitt has been selected as a semi-finalist at the state level for Teacher of the Year.

Board Member Pearson noted the following:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Extravaganza at Douglas Anderson School of the Art
- Sandalwood 50th Anniversary
- The Wiz production at Wolfson High School
- Landon Middle School swimmers who qualified for the City Champs
- Her appreciation that extracurricular activities were available to our students during such a difficult year

Board Member Coker noted the following:

- Extravaganza at Douglas Anderson School of the Art
- Leadership Jax celebrating unsung heroes; Jim Culbert, Chief Officer in Technology Services, has been nominated
- GRASP SAC participation
- Terry Parker accreditation meetings
- Celebrations for the Military Child at New Berlin Elementary School
- Tax Watch recognizing Principal Violet Stoval at Fort Caroline Elementary School
- Teacher Appreciation Week

Board Member Joyce noted the following:

- Florida Farm Bureau provided over 800 meals to needy families
- Stilwell Bike Rodeo for disabled students
- Celebration of the Military Child at Venetia Elementary School

- Teacher Appreciation

Vice-Chair Willie noted the following:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Kudos on the half-penny sales tax dashboard
- African American History
- Ribault Royal Pageant

Chair Andersen noted the following:

- Reminder to wear green for Mental Health Awareness month
- Tammie Talley - Most Outstanding Athletic Administrator of the Year in Florida
- Thank you to Chartwells for their student scholarships
- Military Child celebrations
- Asked for respect and civility at the next Board meeting

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Charlotte Joyce

PASSED – 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

LBL

Superintendent

Chairman