



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

June 1, 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

Communications

TAMMIE TALLEY - FIAAA OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR AWARD

Tammie Talley, Director of Athletics for Duval County Public Schools, was recognized as the recipient of the Dr. Clarence Noe Outstanding Athletic Administrator Award.

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 1, 2021, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the June 1, 2021 agenda as submitted on May 25, 2021 with the following change:

- **Board Member Travel - Item Amended**
- **Human Resource Services - Labor Relations - Settlement with AFSCME Florida Council 79 - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Joseph Finegan Elementary School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Stonewall Jackson Elementary School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - J.E.B. Stuart Middle School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Jefferson Davis Middle School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Kirby-Smith Middle School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Robert E. Lee High School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Jean Ribault Middle School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Andrew Jackson High School - Item Amended**
- **School Renaming - Jean Ribault High School - Item Amended**

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Warren Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Chairperson's Report

Chairperson's report

Through a PowerPoint presentation (see attached in agenda), Chair Andersen reviewed the timeline of the renaming of schools as it began in the summer of 2020.

Superintendent's Reports

Although there was no PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Greene noted the following:

- The entire District did a stellar job of continuing education despite a very difficult pandemic year.
- Thank you to the team that carried out the school renaming process as well as Supervisor of Elections Mike Hogan and his team who helped through the voting process.
- Nathan B. Forest High School went through the renaming process back in 2014 to become Westside High School. Average graduation rate went from 62% twelve years ago to 90% today.
- The average graduation rate for Robert E. Lee High School twelve years ago was 52% and is 85.6%.
- Improvements in both schools' data are due to people making a difference in the schools, regardless of those names.

Department Reports

There were no department reports.

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

There was no report.

Public Comment

The following speakers were not in favor of changing the names of schools:

- Martha Pumphrey
- Norman Abraham
- Melanie Love
- Melissa Bernhardt
- Debra Harris
- Hugh Blanton
- Pat Geer
- Rob Lawrence
- Denise O'Steen
- Bruce Holley
- Seber Newsome
- Patti Price
- Blake Harper
- Raymond Johnson

The following speakers were in favor of changing the school names:

- Cindy Jorgensen
- Bobbie O'Connor
- Catherine Van Nostrand
- Meredith Johnson
- Lula Williams
- Joy Washington
- Avery Black
- Debbie Tribble

- Joe Ross, Sr.
- Mario Decunto
- Wendy Collins
- Wells Todd
- Dan Merkan
- Christine Hatfield
- Jo Ann Brooks
- Terri Neal
- Thom McGuire
- Lashonda Holloway
- April Slade
- Ellen Glasser
- Cali Tucker
- Jennifer Cowart
- Lisa Lloyd
- Judy Sheklin
- Ben Frazier
- Etta Ettlinger
- Hope McMath
- Joseph Robinson
- Gale Bostic Williams
- Deyona Burton

The following gave an account as to why they feel there has been a false narrative put out in the community about Jean Ribault and that the schools named after him should not be changed:

- Ted Corley
- Lyn Corley

Reginald Blount - opined that if the Board approves some of the school names but not others, it is sending a very mixed and confusing message.

Comments from Parent Organizations

District Advisory Council

Michael Hawk, Chair
District Advisory Council (DAC)

Mr. Hawk reported the following from their most recent meeting on May 24, 2021:

- School Board Chair Andersen was in attendance
- School name change voting process was closed and data was being consolidated

- Details about how to open school in the fall is being determined as it relates to the pandemic
- The State has determined that testing will either help student grades or not affect them; it will not be detrimental to students
- The District's survey asking for pandemic feedback from the community as it relates to school reopening had closed

Mr. Hawk read and submitted the resolution adopted by DAC regarding the school name changes (see attached).

Duval County Council of PTAs

Theresa Rogers, President
Duval County Council of PTAs (DCCPTA)

As my second and final term as the County Council president is coming to a close, and this will be my last time speaking to you while in this role, I wanted to give my sincere thanks to our School Board, Dr. Greene and all of DCPS for their efforts in working to make public schools in Duval County better and better every year. Thank you for your work on behalf of our children. Thank you for eliciting and listening to stakeholder input. Thank you for attending our DCCPTA monthly general meetings, sharing pertinent information and answering questions. And thank you for the many times PTA has been treated as a valued partner.

I would also like to take one last opportunity to speak on PTA's strong support for the renaming of schools with culturally insensitive names.

The results of the voting reflected the desire of our community including the critical voice of our students to take an important step forward and demonstrate that when it comes to their schools, we are willing to put our money where our mouth is.

Voting to rename these schools shows our students how much they matter. Every student deserves to attend a school where they feel safe and can grow and develop into their best self. No student should ever walk into their school and wonder why it's named after a person who fought to preserve slavery. No student should walk into their school and wonder if anyone cares.

I've been happy to speak on and share information regarding the school name changes over the last 10 months because it is a PTA supported position, but I have also been happy as a human being to speak in support of this simply because it is the right thing to do. I hope we change the school names.

Comments from District Student Government Association

There was no report.

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 - Board Workshop**
- **March 23, 2021 - Committee Meeting**
- **March 23, 2021 - Board Workshop**
- **April 16, 2021 - Joint Meeting with City Council and Duval County School Board**
- **April 20, 2021 - Board Workshop**
- **May 4, 2021 - Regular Board Meeting**
- **May 5, 2021 - Board Member Meeting**
- **May 6, 2021 - Master Board Training**
- **May 17, 2021 - Subcommittee Meeting**

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

Second: Warren Jones

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. SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE FOR FSBA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Academic Services

2. DAY CARE SERVICES
3. FRECKLE MATH, FRECKLE ELA, STAR MATH, AND STAR READING FROM RENAISSANCE LEARNING GRADES 3-5
4. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH LEARNING A-Z GRADES K-5
5. APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WRITING MATERIALS FOR GRADE 3 FROM WRITINGCITY
6. APPROVAL OF IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
7. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AGAPE FOR THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL AT EDWARD H. WHITE
8. COGNIA ACCREDITATION ANNUAL DUES
9. APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT -PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - PROJECT MANAGER

School Choice and Pupil Assignments

10. CHARTER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH RIVER CITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS SAN JOSE PREP

11. CHARTER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS DUVAL CHARTER AT BAYMEADOWS HIGH SCHOOL

12. CHARTER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH S.O.C.K. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS ACADEMY, INC. (S.O.S. ACADEMY)

13. CHARTER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH BISCAYNE MYCROSCHOOL, INC., (FORMERLY KNOWN AS FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL FOR ACCELERATED LEARNING - GREATER JACKSONVILLE, INC.), DOING BUSINESS AS BISCAYNE HIGH SCHOOL

14. CHARTER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS DUVAL CHARTER SCHOOL AT WESTSIDE

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

16. SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE KIPP JACKSONVILLE, INC., CHARTER CONTRACT

17. FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE KIPP JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHARTER CONTRACT

Human Resource Services - Staffing

18. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

19. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – SUPERVISOR, LIEUTENANT, SCHOOL POLICE

20. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

21. SETTLEMENT WITH AFSCME FLORIDA COUNCIL 79

22. SETTLEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 630, LIUNA, AFL-CIO

23. SETTLEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL UNION 177

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

24. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – JENNIFER GOODRIDGE

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

25. RESOLUTION TO READOPT 2020-2021 BUDGET

26. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 2021

27. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – APRIL 2021

Information Technology

28. MICROSOFT ENROLLMENT FOR EDUCATION SOLUTIONS (EES) AGREEMENT

29. MICROSOFT ONEVIEW APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

30. EDUCATIONAL PLANT FIVE YEAR SURVEY 2021-2026

31. ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING RELOCATION CONSULTANT

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

32. CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CONTINUING SERVICES: SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD/RFQ NO. 14-21/TW

33. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

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

35. CHANGE ORDER REPORT

36. CUSTODIAL SERVICES - SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

37. LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (OEO) SHELTERED MARKET

38. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

39. APRIL 2021 PURCHASE REPORT

Chief of Staff

40. WAIVER OF 2020-2021 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CODES OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Discussion

Prior to starting into each item pulled for discussion, Chair Andersen allowed each Board Member to make opening comments.

Board Member Jones - the death of George Floyd in May 2020 and Mayor Curry removing a confederate statue from Hemming Park prompted him to request the school name changes later in the summer of 2020. Mr. Jones did not meet with any group prior to making that request. He thanked the Board for their unanimous decision to move forward with the process and thanked Dr. Greene and her staff for the work put into carrying out the process. He also thanked Mr. Hogan, Supervisor of Election, for their assistance in the process. The purpose for engaging that assistance was to prevent the District staff from having their time taken away from educating students. In doing so, there was a widespread misunderstanding that the votes collected would determine the outcome of the name change process. It was simply a mechanism for collecting feedback from the community. When the Board considered the name change for Nathan B. Forrest, all groups opposed the name change except for the students. The Board unanimously voted to change the name. He thanked the many stakeholders in the community.

Board Member Coker - democracy requires compromise and that includes how we honor those in the public arena. The decision to name these schools and maintain the names of schools over the years has caused pain to some segments of our community. The Board has an obligation to correct past actions, especially when they affect our students.

Board Member Hershey - appreciates the time and leadership put into this process by Dr. Greene and her staff; however, she has raised concerns about the process from all constituency groups as well as questions about the funding source and use of taxpayer dollars for the name changes. As a result, she will be voting no consistently to any name changes.

Board Member Joyce - she has said the city needs a revival and still believes that. It was apparent from the beginning that this issue would create controversy. She believes each Board Member has engaged with their constituents throughout the process. She gave examples of things throughout the process that gave her concern and questions transparency. There has been tremendous concern that taxpayer dollars will be used to pay for name changes, and she cannot support that. She will be voting no to the recommended name changes by the Superintendent.

Board Member Pearson - she joined the Board in the middle of the name change process in November and was uncomfortable with the lack of process. She thinks the Board still needs to refine the process if they should ever need to reconsider name changes. Despite her reservations regarding the process, she will support Dr. Greene's recommendations. She appreciates Dr. Greene restricting the funds used to be private donations and

money from the beverage contract, which is also private funds. As someone who has raised money for nonprofits, \$800,000+ is a lot of money to raise. If the community truly wants the name changes, there should be more than enough money from corporations to cover the costs. She expects to see money in place prior to changes beginning and will be watching to see that only private money is used for the changes.

Board Member Willie - "We are about to make history tonight." The Board would decide what type of community Jacksonville will be moving forward and is charged with the responsibility of looking out for the physical safety, mental well-being, and academic progress of our students. We are a better society today than when the schools were named, and he is proud to be a part of this name changing process. He plans to vote yes to changing the names of all six schools recommended by the Superintendent and hopes the Board will have a robust conversation about possibly changing Andrew Jackson High School as well.

Chair Andersen - apologized for the long process and some conversations that were difficult to sit through. Part of the reason for the delay in the process was due to staff taking steps to ensure that students could return to school safely during this pandemic. She feels that the process has been a struggle, but necessary. She considers it an honor to be able to participate in changing the names of schools so the community can move forward.

Chief of Staff

41. SCHOOL RENAMING - JOSEPH FINEGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3247, Joseph Finegan Elementary School to Anchor Academy effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

This school is the only one in Chair Andersen's district that had a name change request. No one in her district has expressed an objection to a name change.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Cindy Pearson

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Discussion:

There was discussion about whether it is necessary to add the language from the Financial Impact section of this item to the recommendation to ensure that tax money would not be used to fund the name changes. Board Member Joyce did not want to withdraw the amendment.

42. SCHOOL RENAMING - STONEWALL JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3234, Stonewall Jackson Elementary School to Hidden Oaks Elementary School effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

Board Member Jones noted that this school is in his district and the community was in support of the name change.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker

Discussion:

Board Member Pearson asked that if this amendment were to pass, would it add any weight to the recommendation. Ms. Mairs does not believe it would but instead, it would make a statement.

43. SCHOOL RENAMING -J.E.B. STUART MIDDLE SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3207, J.E.B. Stuart Middle School to Westside

Middle School effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

Board Member Jones noted that this school is in his district and the community was in support of the name change.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Cindy Pearson

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

44. SCHOOL RENAMING - JEFFERSON DAVIS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3216, Jefferson Davis Middle School to Charger Academy effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren Jones

Second: Kelly Coker

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

Board Member Jones noted that this school is in his district and the community was in support of the name change.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker

45. SCHOOL RENAMING - KIRBY-SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3025, Kirby-Smith Middle School to Springfield Middle School effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Warren Jones

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

Board Member Willie noted that this school is in his district and the community was in support of the name change.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

46. SCHOOL RENAMING - ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent to change the name of School No. 3033, Robert E. Lee High School to Riverside High School effective August 3, 2021.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED - 5-2

Aye:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce

Discussion:

Board Member Jones read an excerpt from a newspaper that was a quote from Dr. Vitti when Nathan B. Forrest had its name changed. Many of the teachers at the time were against the name change until they realized that the money in school budget would not be spent to change the school's name. Also, many students in his district are now attending Robert E. Lee and support the name change.

Board Member Pearson noted that the agenda item provides that the District will work with each school to preserve its memorabilia. She knows that alumni from Nathan B. Forrest was very dismayed to see a lot of its memorabilia go by the wayside when the name was changed. She asked that the District extend the

same effort to Nathan B. Forrest that will be extended to the other schools in preserving its memorabilia. She also would like Facilities to check with alumni at the schools to see if anyone there would like any of the signage that is being removed.

Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, explained that items that can be salvaged are collected and stored at Bulls Bay.

Board Member Joyce went to Robert E. Lee High School on the last day of voting and saw activity that had her questioning transparency in the voting process that was set up for the community. She asked to see the video tapes that, although confidential and not available to the public for security reasons, show what she saw as many occasions where voter ID was not shown. For this reason, she questions the legitimacy of the vote.

Board Member Willie wondered if the discrepancies noted were enough to make a significant impact on the results.

Board Member Joyce noted that the list of voters she received from the District did not reflect that a voter was both a student and community member.

Board Member Jones finds it disturbing that while the community is concerned about how the process for voting was conducted, there wasn't any concern about the process used to establish the name of the school back in 1927 nor was there concern about the process used in naming the other schools.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL IMPACT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board Amend the Recommendation to Include Financial Impact.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Lori Hershey

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker

47. SCHOOL RENAMING -JEAN RIBAUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent for no name change to the name of School No. 3212, Jean Ribault Middle School.

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Warren Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Discussion:

Board Member Willie commended the School Advisory Committee, school staff, and community members of the school for the effort they put into researching information on Jean Ribault before deciding they were not in support of changing the name of the school.

48. SCHOOL RENAMING - ANDREW JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent for no name change to the name of School No. 3035, Andrew Jackson High School.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Charlotte Joyce

PASSED - 4-3

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Charlotte Joyce

Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie

Discussion:

Board Member Willie would like for the Board to have a robust conversation about the possibility of changing the name of Andrew Jackson High School. He feels Andrew Jackson falls in the same category as the confederate soldiers that the other schools were named after and doesn't see a clear cut position from the community to keep the name.

Board Member Jones sees the statistics regarding student voting and will not be voting in favor of keeping the name Andrew Jackson High School.

MOTION TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGE THE NAME OF ANDREW JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL TO GO BACK TO THE COMMUNITY FOR A NAME RECOMMENDATION

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to amend the recommendation to change the name of Andrew Jackson High School to go back to the community for a name recommendation.

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

Second: Warren Jones

FAILED - 3-4

Aye:

Warren Jones
Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie

Nay:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce
Kelly Coker
Cindy Pearson

Discussion:

The original motion made by Board Member Willie was to amend the recommendation to rename Andrew Jackson High School to Eastside High School. Chair Andersen noted that since it is a dedicated magnet school that has special programming, perhaps the Board may prefer to consider a different name that would be more reflective of what it offers students. Board Member Jones reminded

the Board that changing the name Nathan B. Forrest and giving it the new name of Westside High School was not all done at the same meeting. Board Member Willie then decided he wanted to withdraw his original amendment and substitute a different amendment that would change the name of Andrew Jackson High School but return to the community for a name recommendation. Board Member Jones seconded the substitute amendment. Board Member Pearson feels like the community has already spoken on all these name changes and should not have to go back through it again. She is ready to wrap up the process and move on.

49. SCHOOL RENAMING -JEAN RIBAUTL HIGH SCHOOL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board accept the ~~written request~~ recommendation of the Superintendent for no name change to the name of School No. 3096, Jean Ribault High School.

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Cindy Pearson

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

Discussion:

Board Member Willie's comments are the same as his comments for Jean Ribault Middle School and will support the Superintendent's recommendation.

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:

- **That the Duval County School Board approve all sitting members of the Board to travel to**

Tallahassee for Legislative purposes from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Travel is not expected to exceed \$500 per Board Member per trip.

- June 8-11, 2021 - Tampa, FL - FSBA Summer Conference - Willie

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

Second: Warren Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren 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:

- **June 9 - June 11 - Tampa Bay, FL - FSBA/FADSS 2021 Annual Summer Conference**

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

Second: Warren Jones

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

For The Record

Board Member Hershey

- Noted Atlantic Coast commencement last week; Mandarin will be later in the week
- Ribbon cutting at the fieldhouse at Atlantic Coast High School sponsored by Project 17
- Read USA book fair at Greenland Pines - Read and Feed at Mandarin Oaks in June

Board Member Coker made the following statement:

The journey to get to this evening has been quite a moment in our city's history. The dialogue it has prompted has both pushed us in our thinking and reminded us of our city's challenging past. While there are those that believe this conversation has been difficult, I believe it has allowed us to learn from one another and, most importantly, to realize that our city is ready for a new chapter where we work together to address issues that have, in the past, divided us.

As we start this new chapter, I want to ask that everyone who has been involved in the dialogue concerning school name changes take a deep breath and redirect the passion you felt over this debate into making sure that every child in our city receives the high-quality education they deserve. If you held a sign, spoke at a community meeting, sent an email to a board member or our superintendent, attended a rally, or went to a school to vote, please do not pack up your bags and go home. No matter which side of this issue you come from, our school district needs partners who will advocate for the best education possible for our children.

I want to make sure I thank Dr. Greene and each of the principals of the schools involved in this process. I am truly grateful for the leadership each of you provided during this unique time. While there are those who will critique some of your actions, know that it is my belief that your leadership as our superintendent or as a principal was necessary at this time in our school district's history.

While the renaming of our schools has garnered so much of our attention these last few months, as a school district we should not lose sight of all that we have to celebrate. Starting last week and continuing through the start of next week, we will graduate over 7,000 seniors in our district's high schools. Many of these students have been with Duval County Public Schools since kindergarten. While some will stay in Jacksonville, entering our workforce or attending one of our local universities, others are headed off to colleges across our country. We also have graduates who have made the admirable choice to serve in one of the branches of our military. To each of them and their families I wish them the very best. For the many teachers and principals who helped get them to this moment, I congratulate you on yet another year of incredible work serving the children of our city and I am grateful to serve alongside of you.

Board Member Joyce:

- All the men these schools were named after were flawed and sinners, just like everyone else, and in need of a Savior.
- Our city needs healing and a spiritual revival; returning with name changes is not going to give us the healing we need
- Christ can heal broken hearts and hurt feelings; that is her perspective on all this

Board Member Pearson:

- Thank you to the DCPS police for all their long hours of hard work throughout the name change process
- Thank you to Read USA for their book donations - volunteered at Hogan-Spring Glen and Southside Estates
- Commencements within her district have been exciting to see
- Encouraged our summer teaching staff to keep going to help our students who got behind during the pandemic

Board Member Jones

- Thanked the Board Members for their participation in the name change process
- Spoke to the Class of 2034 (pre-K) at Samuel A. Hull during their promotion
- General Electric and Unison partner with Frank H. Peterson to allow our graduates to go straight into the workforce with the skills they learn.
- Attended the All Gateway Conference All Sports Award ceremony
- Attended a "sneak preview" of the new Rutledge Pearson Elementary School
- S.P. Livingston was chosen as the Community First Credit Union Elementary School of the Month
- Jefferson Davis was chosen as the Middle School of the Month
- Congratulations to all our seniors at commencements

Board Member Darryl Willie

- Thank you to fellow Board Members for tackling the task of name changes
- Excited for our seniors graduating at the commencement ceremonies and students at promotion ceremonies
- Congratulations to Tammie Talley for her award that reflects her hard work
- Attended Biscayne Elementary pageant that showcases student talent
- Appreciated the opportunity to get to know Board Members better during professional development

Chair Andersen

- Thanked DAC for hosting her at their meeting and hopes everyone will be back together soon
- Thanked Project 17 for their work at Fletcher High School that keeps our athletes healthy
- Looking forward to the commencement exercises in her district
- Thanked the SAC committees for all the hard work they put into the school name change process
- Thanked the community for participating in the school name change process
- Thanked the professors who came out to help educate everyone on the topics

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 p.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

Discussion:

Before adjourning, Dr. Greene made a correction for the record that the earlier number of students she gave to Board Member Joyce on the topic of voting is not 115 but rather 150.

LBL

Superintendent

Chairman