

July 20, 2021, Board Workshop

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 except Vice Chair Willie. 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 10:40 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

2. PSAT/COLLEGE BOARD SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Assessment Corey Wright gave a PowerPoint presentation (see attached in agenda) on PSAT/College Board Suite of Assessments. Discussion took place following the presentation. Director of High School Programs Wendolyn Dunlap and Chief of Schools Wayne Green joined the discussion on this item.

- School counselors are advised at their monthly meetings on what to do with students' test scores. The additional layer to that would be the added specialist to go in and set up individualized sessions to review individual school data with counselors, admin, and teachers; whomever the school feels would be the most appropriate.
 - These services will be provided at middle and high schools.
 - The specialist would be that added layer to sit down with the school counselor and the team the principal chooses so that more people can be informed on how to effectively utilize the scores in the schools.
- Students' test scores may show achieving on a level I but still qualifying for Duke Tip for a variety of reasons; may be having a bad day on test day, may not have taken the test seriously, etc.
 - Achievement level is only based on FSA (Florida Standards Assessment) scores and how the

student performed on the PSAT (Pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test).

- All 8th grade students should be taking the PSAT because PERT (Postsecondary Education Readiness Tool) is gone. If a student does not pass Algebra I, students will need that PSAT score.

1. 2021-2022 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT REVISIONS

Executive Director of Student Discipline and Support Services Jackie Simmons gave a PowerPoint presentation (see attached in agenda) on the "2021-2022 Student Code of Conduct Revisions." Discussion took place during and after the presentation.

Board Member Coker left the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

- Stop gaps have been implemented in the District in the last few years. Stop gaps are dependent on the type of code that is put into SESIR (School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting).
 - All codes do not require police notification or behavioral threat assessment. Codes that do require, have been flagged.
 - Deans are trained monthly on these types of scenarios to ensure correct codes are used.
- Department works in tandem with the school police department. If it has been determined that the student has broken a law, the incident is turned over to law enforcement officials and they will determine if it meets the criteria for a civil citation versus arrest.
 - If a school determines an incident to be a Baker Act crisis, the Crisis Response Team responds, however, school law enforcement could Baker Act, as well.
- All schools are required to have a student code of conduct presentation to students in the beginning of the school year.
 - Additionally, a copy of the student code of conduct is made available to all families.
- Deans, principals, and assistant principals would be the ones to put the information into SESIR.
 - Law enforcement does have access to SESIR but are not able to input information.
- Board Member Hershey brought up that Duval County was hit hard by the grand jury investigation for under reporting and inquired what systems and practices have been put in place to ensure the District is not under reporting.
 - As a result of the grand jury investigation, the stop gaps have been put in place so the District now has a mechanism assuring that what should go into SESIR reporting system goes into SESIR reporting system.
 - Dr. Greene added that processes have changed since she became Superintendent. The problem wasn't reporting in SESIR, the problem was, couldn't show where law enforcement had been contacted.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and re-convened at 12:44 p.m.

- Board Members discussed the face mask policy.
 - Dr. Greene reminded Board Members that last year in the Student Code of Conduct, masks were mandatory.
 - Board Members Hershey, Joyce, and Pearson stated they supported face masks being optional. Board Member Jones supports face masks being optional as the policy provides a caveat that if recommendations from the Department of Education, Department of Health or City of Jacksonville change or be revised, policy can be updated or revised.

- If parents want to make sure their child always wears a mask, they can write a note to their teacher.
- Chair Andersen also supports the optional mask policy.
- The District will be working with teachers regarding having a copy of their seating charts for contact tracing. The dashboard will be back online once the school year begins.
- In response to the suggestion, Dr. Greene highly discouraged separating mask wearers to non-mask wearers as this can be seen as a form of segregation. Also, one day a student may decide to wear a mask and the next day, they may not.
- Desk shields will be made available at elementary schools.
- Ms. Mairs provided information on the Supreme Court case, otherwise known as cheerleader case.
 - Important to be vigilant and pay attention to what is being posted on social media to protect students from Parkland (Stoneman Douglas High School) type incidents.
 - Where does the first amendment keep us from having the ability to keep students safe.
 - This statute deals with statements that indicates there is going to be a mass shooting or act of terrorism. And according to the United States Supreme Court, the individual in this case, did not rise to that level.
- Dress code
 - Dress code violations are coded as a general dress code violation. To see the infraction and to determine if there is a trend among what's being reported, each referral would need to be pulled and reviewed.
 - Part of the process for ensuring the District's dress code violations are not bias towards a particular group, violations are looked at more closely on a school level and then compared on a District level.
 - Language in the policy is very vague and could be interpreted subjectively, i.e., exposed body part could include skin or knee with ripped jeans, etc.
 - Additionally, appearance that shall not disrupt the classroom. How would you define what is disruptive? That could also be subjective.
 - Ms. Mairs can research further for less ambiguous language that could give teachers more guidance.
 - Dress code policy also mentions gang paraphernalia. District also relies on law enforcement officers to continue to educate and work with the District about making gang notifications in the Code of Conduct.
 - Chair Andersen requested aggregated data of race and gender combined.
- For each one of the class II violations, there is a point matrix. If a student gets to a certain number of points, the school can refer that student to an alternative center/school.
- If a student is an ESE (Exceptional Student Education) student or exhibiting ESE traits or behaviors, the maximum that they can be suspended for violations is 10 days.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN

Board Members did not discuss the Strategic Plan.

4. GOVERNANCE

Governance was not taken up.

Board Members in attendance made the decision to move the Strategic Plan presentation and Governance to the July 28, 2021, Board Workshop. The relocation of administrative offices will be on the agenda for the August 9, 2021, Board Workshop to ensure all Board Members will be present and able to be a part of the conversation.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

KPG

Superintendent

Chairman