

October 11, 2021, Special 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 except Vice-Chairman Darryl Willie who participated via telephone. Ms. Rita Mairs, Office of General Counsel, was also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9.39 a.m.
Board Member Willie was only able to participate by actively listening.

Items to be Discussed

- **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES DRAFT POLICY**
Ms. Mairs shared insight concerning the draft policy and how far it has come as it relates to what has been discussed in the previous meeting. Board Members, Ms. Mairs, and Mr. Brian McDuffie, Executive Director of Policy and Compliance continued a lengthy discussion on the policy changes.
- Discussion took place on the existing Policy 5.64 that includes diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Bloodborne Pathogen diseases. The discussion included the possibility of changing the policy title to reflect the policy scope more accurately and the expansion of some areas in the policy. Several Board Members shared their thoughts on things that could be viewed by the public as not being important and discussed where the proper place in the policy would be to include diseases such as HIV and the effects of taking too long to get a policy in place.
- Board member Joyce has concerns about several things such as emergency meetings, what will happen when the mask come off. She feels the Board is giving all authority to the Superintendent to make decisions for the students which allows him/her to gather a panel of

likeminded professionals to advise on policies without bringing it back to the Board for approval. The discussion continued as Board Member Hershey joined inquiring why the Board does not approve the recommendations of the Superintendent. Discussion continued concerning the effects and dynamics of who would be on the panel of advisors for the Superintendent. Board Member Joyce feels that there should be a panel of people from both sides of the issue.

- Chair Andersen shared insight on the purpose of this policy and the process of this draft. She also shared with the Board there must be some established procedure to revert to for communicable diseases. The discussion continued with Board Member Coker asking what the procedures, protocols, and mitigations are? She reminded the Board that they should not micromanage. Chair Andersen advised the language to be changed in the draft policy to reflect the need for Board approval of the Superintendent's recommendations. Board Member Coker suggested to say approved until changes are made and she cautioned the Board to be aware of those catastrophic situations that could prolong the Superintendent from getting the job done because he/she must wait for a meeting to be noticed. The Board discussed some diseases that may not need a panel of experts so Ms. Sonita Young, Chief of Staff, joined the discussion sharing insight on how it could possibly be done so the advisory team would be called only when needed. Chair Andersen provided clarity on what is currently in the draft policy, and she suggested that the words "Medical Expert" be used in the policy.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Motion:

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Lori Hershey

Aye:

Chair Andersen

Dr. Kelly Coker

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

MA

Superintendent

Chairman