

September 13, 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. 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 9:16 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES DRAFT POLICY

- Emergency Rule
 - How do we get out of the emergency rule?
- Ms. Mairs passed out information from other counties that are dealing with the mask mandate to share with the Board.
 - Mask policies from other counties such as Orange and Broward counties are being shared with the board for review.
- Vice-Chairman Willie asked the Chair to give clarity as to why the Board Members are meeting to discuss the face covering and disease policies.
 - Policies were reviewed to see what works for Duval County Public Schools.
 - This meeting is the pre-work and will be instrumental in completing a draft for the policy.
- Mr. Brian McDuffie, Executive Director of Policy and Compliance, provided information on face coverings and disease policies from Leon, Miami-Dade, and Seminole counties.
 - Mr. Brian McDuffie explained the current DCPS policy 5.64 deals with HIV and managing a child that is dealing with HIV which is the focal point of the policy.
 - Ms. Elizabeth Trisotto, Director of Nursing, confirmed this and explained further.
 - Chair Andersen questioned if the face covering should be put into the current policy or

should it be put with something else.

- Mr. McDuffie says it can be done however the title of the policy would need to change. He also shared his review of other districts and how they did as it relates to the policy and procedures. He also shared information on the administrative procedures as it relates to the Superintendent.
 - Chair Andersen suggest that we have a description for the control process.
 - Ms. Mairs acknowledged the existence of a policy dealing with facial coverings under any communicable disease issue and not linked directly to Covid-19.
 - Board Member Coker shared information on mitigation concerning this issue.
 - The Board discussed items in other county policies that they could incorporate in the Duval County Public School's policy.
- Vice-Chairman asked what is our mask policy?
 - Chair Andersen stated that masks are required to enter the School Board building and the district is following the CDC guidelines.
 - Mr. Brian McDuffie explained the general communicable disease policy and the casual contact policy.
 - Vice-Chairman desired to know the difference between the 2 policies, so the discussion continued with Mr. McDuffie giving further information.
- The discussion continued among Board Members about the procedures.
 - Chair Andersen states that the administrative procedures should be developed and then make sure they are on the website.
- Ms. Mairs questioned about the discussion that should take place for revisions such as what is taking place now with the communicable disease policy.
 - Board Member Coker states for middle and high schools' policies are very different.
 - Chair Andersen discussed an advisory team and who would be on it.
It was suggested to have principals from each of the schools on the advisory team to discuss.
 - The Board discussed the Hillsborough emergency rule to bring awareness to what other districts are doing.
 - Ms. Trisotto stated specifics on how the board should approach this depending on certain mitigating strategies.
 - Ms. Mairs revisited a prior discussion concerning the procedures that a parent should follow when a student has been exposed.
 - Ms. Mairs asked how is it handled when the student was exposed to Covid-19 from another place besides school? Is this handled the same?
 - Ms. Mairs stated there needs to be Board emphasis on the steps to be taken when a child has been exposed to Covid -19 in other places and she wants to know how that works in relation to the Health Department.
 - Discussion continued about the quarantine and isolation processes being the same.
 - If student was exposed over a weekend or if they have been in close contact with someone that test positive, then that information is turned over to the department of health.
 - There are protocols and procedures set in the school for close contact and for those that have tested positive for Covid-19.
- Chair Andersen discussed how to make this an appropriate global policy while working on a more permanent solution/approach to guidance on Covid protocols.

- Ms. Mairs discussed what mitigation issues could exist, so being specific in the revisions would be helpful.
- Board Member Coker shared her thoughts on the requirements and criteria needed when completing the revisions.
 - She suggested that an advisory team should have a medical panel to assist and should include administrative procedures.
 - Each team should be developed based upon whether the school is elementary or secondary.
 - The team will advise on control and administrative procedures, enforcement and scope, mitigation measures and confidentiality, and delegation of authority.
- Ms. Mairs explained there are 3 different policies for Palm Beach to include one each for the students, staff, and visitors.
- Board Member Coker discussed the delegation of authority with the Board.
- The Board wants to complete a draft before the October 22, 2021, meeting so that it can be reviewed.
 - Ms. Mairs reminded the Board Members of the 28-day timeframe they are facing to avoid going back into an emergency ruling. She encouraged the Board to have the meeting notice completed as soon as possible.
 - The Board agreed to have another meeting on October 19, 2021.
- Chair Andersen requested that a copy of the draft be given to Ms. Trisotto, the Director of Nursing services for review.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Darryl Willie

Aye:

Kelly Coker

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Darryl Willie

Elizabeth Andersen

Nay:

None

MA

Superintendent

Chairman