



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

September 7, 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 6:01 p.m.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

FSBA MASTER BOARD - WITHDRAWN

LAKE LUCINA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Michelle Walsh of Lake Lucina Elementary School provided highlights of the school through a PowerPoint presentation.

Board Member Dr. Kelly Coker gave high praise about the school, administrators, and staff and thanked everyone for all they have done.

Communications

FLORIDA COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC EDUCATION REEL AWARD RECIPIENTS

The following teachers are recipients of the REEL Award:

- Asia Hutchings of Rutledge Pearson Elementary School
- Phyleshia Jackson-O'Neal of Jean Ribault High School represented by Principal Dr. Gregory Bostic
- Dr. Kesha Walton of Sandalwood High School

These awards are given by the Florida Council on Economic Education for those who bring economics, personal finance, entrepreneurship, and free enterprise education to our youth. Each recipient received a \$200 Amazon gift card and a Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

The following teacher is the recipient of the Charles Harper Economic Education of the Year:

- Eric Fields of Mandarin High School

This award honors one outstanding K-12 educator who is considered, "an advocate for economic and personal finance education and who seamlessly integrates it into their coursework." Mr. Fields received a \$1000 stipend and a Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

PGA TOUR RECOGNITION - AFRICAN AMERICAN SUMMER WRITING INSTITUTE

The following students participated in the African American Summer Writing Institute:

- Mandarin High School student Meika Fertit
- Raines High School student Lauryn Ray

The students briefly shared their experiences and what they learned while participating in the Institute. They presented Vice President of Community and Inclusion Marsha Oliver of THE PLAYERS Championship/PGA Tour with a framed photo, signed by all the students who participated in the African American Summer Writing Institute, a grey polo shirt students wore during the summer, and a shirt the students designed.

DUVAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TASK FORCE - PRESENTATION OF EXEMPLARY STATUS

The African American History Task Force were represented by the following:

- Former State Senator Tony Hill, Chair of Florida's State African American History Task Force
- Dr. Bernadette Kelly-Brown of Florida A&M University
- Dr. Donna Austin of Croire Consulting
- Dr. Dana Kriznar, Deputy Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools
- Mr. Kenneth Reddick, Executive Director of High School & Alternative Region
- Erin Conklin, Supervisor for Office of Social Studies

- Tilena Robinson-Washington, Specialist of High School & Alternative Region
- Paula Renfro, Chief of Academic Services
- Tracy Oliver, Assistant Principal of Landon Middle School

The student participants from the African American History Summer Writing Institute presented the shirt they designed and a copy of the District's latest African American History Curriculum Guide to the following:

- Former State Senator Tony Hill
- Dr. Bernadette Kelly-Brown
- Dr. Donna Austin

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2021, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the September 7, 2021, agenda as submitted on August 31, 2021 with the following changes:

- Communications - Board Members - FSBA Master Board - Item Withdrawn
- Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial - Annual Financial Report Inclusive of Cost Report - Attachment Added
- Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial - Summary Audit Report - Item Withdrawn
- Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial - 2021-2022 Audit Plan - Internal Auditing - Item Withdrawn

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

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

Chair Andersen requested for Office of General Counsel Rita Mairs to read a letter that had been received from the Commissioner of Education. Chair Andersen then read the response from Superintendent Dr. Greene and herself on behalf of the Board (see attached).

Superintendent's Reports

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Through a PowerPoint presentation (see attached), Dr. Greene reviewed the student enrollment.

Department Reports

There were no reports.

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

There was no report.

Public Comment

Frank DeLong spoke about a retiring colleague not being able to use his leave due to being told he is in a critical needs position. He also spoke about the shortage of employees.

Alonia Wilson spoke against the dress code and the mask mandate.

Corneil Oliver spoke about the closing of Brentwood Elementary School and the possibility of using it as a community center. He also spoke about student education.

Grace DeLaRosa spoke about student education and the dress code.

Katie McNeal spoke against the mask mandate and compared cases of COVID-19 in different school districts.

Brennan Freeland spoke against the dress code.

Ted Macie spoke about student safety.

Ross Gerulis spoke against the mask mandate and against the vaccine.

Kennedy Murphy spoke about having a petition against the dress code.

Gary Desjardins spoke about 504 plans and against the mask mandate.

Paula Gardner had mask, vaccines, and Critical Race Theory (CRT) on her card (had to leave)

The following spoke against the mask mandate:

Alicia Seguin

Marissa Overcash

Ashley Peterson

Kallie Orik

Tia Bess

Melissa Bernhardt

Debbie DiSipio

Scott Mann
Sean Collins
Rebecca Santos
Tom Kiska
Rachel Murdoch

Comments from Parent Organizations

Duval County Council of the Parent Teacher Association (DCCPTA) President Kay Hawkins briefly spoke about the following:

- The reorganizing and re-chartering of PTA and PTSAs in the schools.
- The goal of increasing membership.
- A workshop with Parent Academy on 'The Importance of Volunteering in Our Public Schools'.
- The first workshop for PTA/PTSA which will be virtual.
- A Student Representative was added to BOM this year. He was able to attend the Florida PTA State Convention this year to bring back information to share with students in middle and high schools. He will work alongside the Student Leadership Chair.
- The Reflections program is now underway in the schools. A request for PTA/PTSAs to ask their music and art teachers to help in encouraging students to participate. This year's theme is "I Will Change the World By".
- DCCPTA plans to do all the Board of Managers (BOM) and General Meetings virtually until further notice.

Comments from District Student Government Association

There were no comments.

Comments from Employee Organizations

There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

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

- May 18, 2021 - Policy Handbook Review Committee Meeting
- July 20, 2021 - Committee Meeting
- July 20, 2021 - Board Workshop
- July 20, 2021 - Special Board Meeting - Litigation Shade
- July 21, 2021 - Special Board Meeting - Budget
- July 28, 2021 - Special Board Meeting - Budget

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

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

Consent Agenda

Board Members

Academic Services

1. APPROVAL OF GEAR UP AGREEMENTS
2. APPROVAL OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ALLOCATION PLAN
3. JACKSONVILLE TEACHER RESIDENCY
4. SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICES

School Choice and Pupil Assignments

Human Resource Services - Staffing

5. EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS
6. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS
7. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH ESS SOUTHEAST, LLC FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHING SERVICES
8. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – DIRECTOR, ARTS – ACADEMIC SERVICES

Human Resource Services - Compensation

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

9. MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DUVAL TEACHERS UNITED (DTU), NORTHEAST FLORIDA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' LOCAL 630, LIUNA, AFL-CIO, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL UNION 177 (IBEW), AFSCME FLORIDA COUNCIL 79 AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AFL-CIO (AFSCME) AND JACKSONVILLE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION (JSA).

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

10. ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET RESOLUTIONS 2020-2021

11. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT INCLUSIVE OF COST REPORT
12. SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN 2021/2022 – 2024/2025
13. ~~SUMMARY AUDIT REPORT – INTERNAL AUDITING - WITHDRAWN~~
14. ~~2021-2022 AUDIT PLAN – INTERNAL AUDITING - WITHDRAWN~~

Information Technology

15. DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TECHNOLOGY PLAN 2021-2022
16. DCPS SMART PRINT - COPIERS AND MANAGED PRINT SERVICES

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

17. RESOLUTION REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

The following comments were made regarding this item:

- Board Member Hershey commented about the history of getting the Board off the river.
- All the other Board Members thanked Board Member Hershey for her leadership with regards to trying to get the Board off the river.

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

18. CHANGE ORDER REPORT
19. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS
20. NEW RUTLEDGE H. PEARSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-5) SELECTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FIRM - RFQ NO. 25-21/TW

Board Member Hershey mentioned that she had originally wanted to pull this item for discussion but was able to get her answers in advance from Chief of Operations, Paul Soares. She then requested for Mr. Soares to share the information with everyone else so that they would have a better understanding of how the Award process works. Mr. Soares then explained the process of offering an Award Contract to a vendor.

21. FLORIDA OFFICE OF SAFE SCHOOLS (OSS), DISTRICT BEST PRACTICES ASSESSMENT 2021-2022-DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Operations - Transportation

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

22. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

23. JULY 2021 PURCHASE REPORT

24. RENEWAL - EXCLUSIVE HEALTHIER BEVERAGE CONTRACT RFP NO. 11-18/LM

Chief of Staff

25. AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH THE UCHICAGO IMPACT LLC

General

Emergency Agenda Items

Discussion

Board Members

Academic Services

School Choice and Pupil Assignments

Human Resource Services - Staffing

Human Resource Services - Compensation

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

Information Technology

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

Operations - Transportation

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

Chief of Staff

26. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 6 BOARD POLICIES

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and vote to adopt the recommended revisions to the following policy in School Board Manual Chapter 6:

Policy 6.83, Employee Conduct

Vote Results:

Motion: Darryl Willie

Second: Cindy Pearson

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren Jones

Charlotte Joyce

Elizabeth Andersen

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

None

27. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 8 BOARD POLICIES

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and vote to adopt the recommended revisions of the following policy in School Board Manual Chapter 8:

Policy 8.59, Naming or Renaming Schools

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

General

28. APPROVAL OF FACIAL COVERING SUSPENSION CRITERIA PURSUANT TO AN EMERGENCY RULE OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Discussion involved:

- Concern about students being suspended for not wearing mask.
- Agenda item was about suspending the Emergency Rule and not suspending students. Rita Mairs, Office of General Counsel (OGC), briefly reviewed the criteria for suspending the Emergency Rule.
- When the Board would be addressing the discipline for students not wearing a mask.
- Dr. Greene explained the discipline process as it is stated in the Student Code of Conduct and the criteria for suspending the Emergency Rule.
- Acquiring data on the number of students in a class whose parents completed the opt-out form.
- The conversations Dr. Greene has had with the Department of Health (DOH) pertaining to the level requirements for suspending the Emergency Rule.
- Not having a mechanism for reactivating a mask mandate, but to create something permanent to prevent the Board from having to go back into Emergency Rule making.
- Students not wearing a mask nor completing the opt-out form, may be contributing to inaccurate data.

Motion:

That the School Board of Duval County, Florida accept the attached criteria developed in consultation with the Florida Department of Health-Duval and other local medical officials to automatically suspend the Board's Emergency Rule during the 90-day period the rule is in effect.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren A. Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

Emergency Agenda Items

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:

- September 13, 2021 - Kissimmee, FL - FSBA Platform Development Training - Pearson
- September 16-18, 2021 - Atlanta, GA - NSBA CUBE Conference - Jones
- September 22-24, 2021 - Kissimmee, FL - FSBA Policy Governance & Bargaining - Pearson, Coker, Joyce, Andersen
- October 6-8, 2021 - Ft. Myers, FL - FSBA Board of Directors Leadership Development Training - Andersen, Hershey
- October 20-24, 2021 - Philadelphia, PA - CGCS 65th Annual Fall Conference - Coker, Joyce, Pearson, Jones

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren A. Jones

Second: Kelly Coker

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 TRAVEL

Motion:

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

- September 22-24 - Orlando, FL - FADSS 2021 Fall Leadership Conference

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

For The Record

A. FOR THE RECORD

Board Member Jones:

- Thanked Yellow House - Hope McMath; Tanita Kitchen, and Christopher Clark for painting the mural at Pinedale Elementary School.
- Thanked the Art Center Gallery for sponsoring the painting of a mural at S.P. Livingston done by TAC II Union Studios.

- Thanked Principal Dr. Royce Turner for greeting the students at the door on the first day. He reassures the parents and students that they will have a great year.

Board Member Pearson:

- Visited the 22 schools in her district.
- Volunteered at San Jose Elementary School and Spring Park Elementary School. Thanked school administrators, staff, and faculty for launching the school year.
- Thanked staff from English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for their support.
- Thanked principals and staff for handling things so that school could start under unusual circumstances.

Board Member Hershey:

- Volunteered at Twin Lakes Academy Elementary School at the Family Fair Zone.
- Volunteered at Greenland Pines Elementary School tagging backpacks.
- Volunteered as a substitute at Mandarin Oaks Elementary School.
- Upcoming FarmShare event at Twin Lakes Academy Elementary School. Will provide the date when available.
- Loretto Elementary School is excited about showing the new technology to parents and community.

Board Member Dr. Coker:

- Rethanked Principal Michelle Walsh and Assistant Principal Latrece Brown for showcasing
- Thanked the school principals, teachers, and leaders in District 1.
- Thanked Marty Fiorentino for a donation towards the naming and renaming of schools. All the renaming costs will come from donations and not taxpayers' dollars.
- Thanked Chief of Operations, Paul Soares and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Vicki Schultz for dealing with the shortages at the opening of the school year.

Board Member Joyce had no comments.

Vice-Chairman Willie:

- Thanked District staff and all staff in the schools for trying to make the opening of the school year as normal as possible.
- Thanked the Jaguars and Play60 because Long Branch Elementary School was selected for a hometown grant.
- Thanked the African American History Task Force for their work.
- Acknowledged Andrew Jackson High School student, Talen Birt, who had cancer and was placed in hospice. His last wish was honored when he went to visit his high school. He was cheered on by his fellow students. This was a powerful moment.

Chair Andersen:

- Mentioned that September is National Suicide Month. Thanked the District for their work.
- FarmShare Event at Abess Park Elementary School on September 25, 2021
- Acknowledged Jacksonville Elementary School has been recognized as the Florida Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) model school.

- Thanked everyone and apologized about having a challenging start to the school year.
- Words of Wisdom from Benjamin Franklin - "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte Joyce

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

GC

Superintendent

Chairman