



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

October 11, 2021, Special 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. Ariel Cook, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 11, 2021, AGENDA

Chair Andersen read the following statement:

"As members of the public are aware, there was an agenda item to be discussed among the Board Members following public comment today. However, at the Workshop held this afternoon at 1:00 pm., the Board was advised by our attorneys with the Office of General Council, that it is problematic to have discussions regarding the items on the agenda. As there are currently three pending lawsuits involving the Duval County School Board. Comments being made by Board Members in public could affect these lawsuits, the Office of General Counsel advised that it is prudent for the Board Members to first discuss the impact that such comments could have on the impact of the litigation. Therefore, the Board decided to adjourn the Workshop. This afternoon, due to that advice, we will take public comment only and not have any further discussion on the agenda items originally published."

Topics to be Discussed

1. SUSPENSION CRITERIA OF FACIAL COVERING EMERGENCY RULE

No discussion.

2. DRESS CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO FACIAL COVERINGS

No discussion.

Public Comment

Dr. Jeffrey Goldhagen explained the metrics presented by the Center for Disease Control (CDC); the surges of COVID-19; the mask-mandate and other mitigating factors.

Dr. Carmen Martinez spoke against the mask-mandate and vaccines.

Becky Moore spoke against mask-mandate; against the communicable disease Board Policy; and against vaccines.

Melissa Bernhardt spoke about the Board Members' fear regarding COVID-19; Code-of-Conduct; Chair selecting doctors who spoke on behalf of the mask-mandate.

Debbie DiSipio spoke about the Parents' Bill of Rights; crime; low performance; and against the mask-mandate.

Chris Hand spoke in favor of the mask-mandate, thanked the Board Members for using their homerule authority.

Leah Kennelly thanked the Board Members for the mask-mandate.

Katie Hathaway thanked Dr. Greene and Board Members for the mask-mandate.

Martha Gainer thanked Dr. Greene and Board Members for the mask-mandate.

Matt Hartley thanked the Board members for the mask-mandate.

Ed Williams spoke against the mask mandate.

Cindy Youngs spoke against the mask mandate.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Kelly Coker

Second: None

PASSED 5-7

Aye:

Elizabeth Andersen
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Warren A. Jones
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Lori Hershey
Charlotte Joyce

GC

Superintendent

Chairman