



# Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

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**August 9, 2022, Board Workshop**

Mr. Darryl Willie, Chairman  
Dr. Kelly Coker, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Elizabeth Andersen  
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 Board Member Elizabeth Andersen. Board Member Elizabeth Andersen participated via interactive video and/or telephone systems. Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent, and Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

## **Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

### **1. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEMBER VIA INTERACTIVE VIDEO/TELEPHONE SYSTEMS**

#### **Motion:**

**That the Duval County School Board approve the participation of Board Member Elizabeth Andersen via interactive video and/or telephone systems.**

#### **Vote Results:**

**Motion:** Warren A. Jones

**Second:** Lori Hershey

**PASSED 4-0**

#### **Aye:**

Lori Hershey  
Warren A. Jones  
Charlotte D. Joyce  
Kelly Coker

#### **Nay:**

None

## **Items to be Discussed**

## 1. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools, Ms. Paula Renfro, Chief Officer, Academic Services, Mr. Scott Schneider, Chief Officer, Chief of Schools, Mr. Corey Wright, Assistant Superintendent, Accountability and Assessment, Ms. Victoria Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Mr. Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Chief of Operations, Ms. Sonita Young, Chief of Staff, and Mr. Jim Culbert, Chief Officer, Technology Services, presented a PowerPoint Presentation (see attached) discussing Achieve '26, Strategic Priorities. Discussion included the following:

- No schools with an external operating status.

*Board Member Cindy Pearson arrived at 9:09 a.m.*

- Virtual Planning Professional Development to impact the continued growth.
- The use of Curriculum Guides.
- The District has a system for collecting data concerning high quality partnerships to support the measures for strategic planning.
- Data is gathered by the type of partnership.
- Instability of partners in schools due to Covid-19.
- Successfully met all of the progress measures for family and community partnership opportunities, based upon the 1/3 of the student enrollment goal.
- Huge concerns for culture and climate due to student dropouts as many students are going for General Education Development (GED) instead of a high school diploma.
- Strategic focus on supporting schools with grade level reading.
- Providing after-school support to schools through Kids Hope Alliance (KHA).
- High performing schools have struggling readers that need support as well.
- Parental encouragement to use Hazel Health to reduce chronic absenteeism.
- The design process for creating a seal for the Duval Ready Diploma.
- Identifying pilot students for the Duval Ready Diploma Program.
- For the 2022-2023 school year, all 8th graders will participate in the Junior Achievement Inspire career exploration curriculum and will have the option in 9th grade to discontinue if they desire.

*Chairman Darryl Willie arrived at 9:12 a.m.*

- Goals met to move all schools to either an A, B, or C grade.
- Components attributed to meeting the goals for the school grades.
- Development of the badging process in connection to the Student Focus account.
- Partnership with Florida Ready to Work.
- Capstone Experience Options.
- Decrease in the number of resignations due to the support and salary increases.
- Working with business partners to develop ideas to assist with offering incentives to potential new hires as the District is unable at this time to offer relocation incentives but some states are able.
- The Master Facility Plan and Fiscal Transparency.
- Safety and Security is in Phase 1.
- Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) is committed to funding teaching positions for the 2 programs, Water Technology and Electrical.

- Middle School Master Schedule Reviews.
- Ensuring that all students have reliable internet access.
- Inquiring of newly enrolled students if they have reliable internet access and a computer at home.
- Incorporation of high school interns as full-time employees in the Technology department.

#### **Board Members Questions or Comments:**

- The 30 million dollar over 3-year grant will assist the designated schools with the campaign for grade level reading and possibly other schools that have not been identified at this time.
- Being mindful of all schools, whether moderate or high performing, to ensure that no school grades decline while monitoring the schools with lower grades.
- The Keystone Project funds are used to assist with after-school tutoring.
- Duval County School District is above the national literacy average for urban areas.
- Some Duval County Public Schools are used for shelter purposes, so adjustments have been made in the Wi-Fi access to assist with internet access.
- High level overview for reading proficiency.
- Required retention due to level 1 reading scores.
- Incorporation of a pre-apprenticeship program at the high school level.
- Challenges to pre-apprenticeship programs and current pathways.
- During the 18-19 school year, the persistently low performing list consisted of thirty-five schools, now the district only has nine schools on that list.
- Chairman Wille thanked Mr. Corey Wright for the information provided to the Board.
- Explanation of conditional offers for potential new hires.
- The availability of the partnership report.
- Recognition of partners during the November regular board meeting.
- List of partners and what schools they assist.
- Dollar amount for the total in-kind donations.
- \$1.5 million cost savings from schools not having an external operator, which is about \$30,000 per school.
- The new literacy curriculum, Benchmark Advance.
- Instructional personnel attendance during summer training increased.
- Graduation rate impacts from students dropping out to go directly into the workforce.
- The Graduation Rate Initiatives Team (GRIT) methods to promote student encouragement to complete their high school education.
- District assistance through GRIT, offered to students, to help them get a high school diploma and still work.
- Methods to get students reengaged back into school.
- Employer relationships and incentive conversations.
- Distinguishing and being specific about methods to increase knowledge within the business community concerning the district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.
- Duval Ready Diploma Designation Rubric.
- Suggestions to have a prepared presentation to take to the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) to share what the district has to offer in the various areas.
- Capstone Project Rubric.
- The school selection process for the JEA program.
- No need for apprenticeship insurance because the programs are being conducted on the school's campus.
- Contractor reimbursement for workman's compensation is being worked on.

- Explanation of the laptop ratio for all grade levels.

A video was shared from Mr. Jim Culbert with the Board concerning technology innovation.

Board Member Andersen thanked everyone for allowing her to join the meeting virtually and she shared parent leader opportunities in association with the child health grant.

Chairman Willie thanked Dr. Greene and the staff for their work.

## 2. ADMIN RELOCATION

Mr. Terrance Wright, Director, Purchasing Administration, shared a PowerPoint Presentation (see attached) with the Board entitled "Acquisition of New Administrative Building and Disposition of Surplus Property School Board ITN Briefing ITN NO. 099-22/TW". Ms. Lawsikia Hodges, Deputy General Counsel, Board Certified City, County and Local Government Lawyer, assisted Mr. Wright with answering questions from the presentation. Discussion included the following:

- Anyone that submits a proposal can submit a protest but there is a 72 hour limit.
- Any questions about the proposals should be directed to Mr. Wright.
- The Jacksonville Transportation Authority proposer for the Prudential Drive property disposition is a government entity.
- The Related Development, LLC and the PSF 1 Jax Metro, LLC proposers for the Prudential Drive property disposition are commercial.
- Procurement and interpretation as well as adhering to the solicitation process.
- There is one recommendation for multiple components, but the School Board can determine if they will accept it or not.
- Offers can be withdrawn.
- Members of the negotiating team were identified by Mr. Wright to the Board.
- The consulting team provides advice to the negotiating team.
- The negotiating team is subject to Sunshine Laws.
- The negotiating time frame has not been established. However, on August 16 the Board will vote on the short list to have the proposers move to the negotiation phase.
- The Southside Industrial Development Group's protest for the Philips Highway property disposition is public record.

*The meeting recessed at 11:33 a.m.*

*The meeting resumed at 11:48 a.m.*

## 3. MFP - CHAFFEE 6-8

Mr. Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and Mr. Byron Page, Executive Director, Design and Construction Services, shared a PowerPoint Presentation (see attached), entitled "Chaffee Trail 6-8, School Board Brief". Discussion included the following:

- Identification of the environment as inflationary, stable or deflationary.
- Westside Pride Unit.
- Expansion of boundaries.
- Possible Academic and Community Excellence (ACE) scenarios.
- Middle School Principal Engagement.

- Educators have multiple opportunities to give input.
- Ample parking and expansion opportunities for parking if necessary.
- Redistricting concerns from the Baldwin community.
- The need for a new school due to consolidation.
- Things that can be done to handle boundary changes, but the district's goal is to touch the least number of boundaries as possible.
- The ACE process is so important when it comes to boundary changes.
- The number of schools that would feed into Chaffee Trail after the consolidation.
- Board Member Joyce made a request for the Board to be informed of the projected growth of the Baldwin Community.
- Board Member Jones said there is a need for a timeline on the new homes being built in Baldwin as inflation can affect new home purchases therefore affecting the projected growth.
- Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker inquired about the discussion on the population study, so Dr. Greene gave a history going back 4 years.
- Enrollment study every 5 years.
- Jacobs Report presented to the Board.
- New schools were needed at the time, but the district had too many schools that were deemed ineffective.
- The pandemic affected student enrollment, resulting in a dramatic drop which resulted in the Master Facility Plan being adjusted.
- Board Member Joyce shared her concern, letting everyone know that she would like to revisit the enrollment projections as she feels the Master Facility Plan may have to change. She also shared appreciation with the Board for their willingness to discuss the matter.
- \$80-90 million would be needed for a new high school.
- The Chaffee Trail project is already in motion and preparation for the ACE meetings has already taken place.
- Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker shared her concerns about a 6-8 school coming and the district being able to afford a \$90 million high school.
- Making everything more accommodating for the community.
- The status of Westside High as it relates to the Master Facility Plan.
- Per Board Policy, a school cannot be named after a person.
- Boundary map access.

#### 4. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION PROCESS

Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker shared feedback on the Superintendent Evaluation Tool process and reminded the Board Members that the tool had already been workshopped and voted on. Mr. Corey Wright assisted by explaining the 3 different components, such as the strategic plan goals, the strategic plan guiding principles, and the employment contract performance percentages included in the PowerPoint Presentation (see attached). Discussion included the following:

- Recognition of Mr. Wright and his team for the work done.
- Verbal feedback can still be placed in the document.
- Things to look for after the completion of the appeal process.
- Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker shared appreciation for Mr. Wright and Ms. Young for their diligence in working with the Board.
- Chairman Willie thanked Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker for her leadership in working on the evaluation tool and for Board Member Joyce's assistance.

- Board Member Andersen shared appreciation for the Board Members who worked on the evaluation tool.

## 5. GOVERNANCE

Board Member Jones shared the news with the Board about the sudden passing away of Ms. Debra Norman who worked for the district for so many years.

Board Member Pearson shared with the Board Members that all submissions to FSBA for the platform are due by September 16, 2022. She requested that all submissions to be considered for the FSBA Platform from Duval, please be emailed to Ms. Young by September 6, 2022.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Coker inquired about the possibility of getting a presentation about CTE. She also requested to get a 1 page document that includes statistics and grad rates to share during various meetings that she attends, for the purpose of highlighting things within the District.

Ms. Sonita Young, shared updates with the Board on the Civil Service position.

Chairman Willie gave an update on the Value Adjustment Board position and he reminded everyone to be mindful of the early voting timeline.

## Adjournment

### 1. ADJOURNMENT

#### **Motion:**

**That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 1:23 p.m.**

#### **Vote Results:**

**Motion:** Cindy Pearson

**Second:** Warren A. Jones

**PASSED - 7-0**

#### **Aye:**

Cindy Pearson

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte D. Joyce

Kelly Coker

Darryl Willie

Elizabeth Andersen

#### **Nay:**

None

MA

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Superintendent

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Chairman