Meeting Minutes

Duval County Public Schools

May 16, 2023, Board Workshop

Dr. Kelly Coker, Chairman
Ms. Cindy Pearson, Vice-Chairman
Ms. April A. Carney
Ms. Lori Hershey
Mr. Warren A. Jones
Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce
Mr. Darryl Willie
Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. 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 10:43 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. FACILITY STAFFING SHORTAGES / LICENSED TRADES

Dr. Greene, Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Operations and Vicky Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources presented the PowerPoint presentation Facilities Licensed Trades and joined in discussion on the following:

- Backlogs of work due to staffing shortages.
- Amendment actions are needed immediately.
- Possibility of Academies for these positions and age restrictions.
- The number of contracted companies who have union employees will be brought back.
- Estimation on markup materials.
- Flexibility with in-house and contracted staff.

2. MASTER FACILITY PLAN UPDATE - R.L. BROWN AND R.V. DANIELS

Dr. Greene and Mr. Soares presented the PowerPoint presentation Richard L. Brown and R.V. Daniels Consolidation Proposal and joined in the discussion on the following:

- Future plans for property of R.V. Daniels.
- Communication with the community.
- Finding the root cause of the decline in enrollment was requested.
- Curb appeal.
- Bring back the number of neighboring students attending was requested.

3. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION AND TIMELINE

Chairman Dr. Coker stated that Dr. Greene will go into surplus on June 5, 2023 and the district will need a Superintendent for the June 6, 2023, Regular Board Meeting. The item was set up for discussion only and not for action in this meeting, but can potentially call a special meeting next Tuesday, May 23, 2023, to take action on this item. It was suggested to choose someone for this position for a short period of time, while the Board takes consideration of the direction and gathers thoughts on how to proceed forward. Mr. Poole also joined in the discussion on the following:

- Clarification of Dr. Greene's ability to delegate while in surplus.
- Board Member Joyce recommended someone from outside the district to fill this position.
- Board Member Hershey recommended immediately having someone from inside the district and named Dr. Dana Kriznar with the stipulation for this position be for a length of up to six months. Two aspects: an immediate need and a future need. The six-month position would give the Board time to consider what qualifications and direction they want for the long-term position.
- Chairman Dr. Coker agreed with Board Member Hershey that the district has an immediate need and feels that Dr. Dana Kriznar can perform the needed duties with the opening of the new school year, and bridge the district at this time.
- Board Member Carney recommended bringing a retired superintendent in to help deal with the issues and systemic failures and feels that would help make the future position more attractive.
- Board Member Jones clarified that the position will not be interim, this person will be the superintendent. He recommended someone in house who is familiar with the district to provide continuity for a smooth transition.
- Board Member Willie stated he felt that it would be hard to bring someone from the outside in and get them up to speed for the ending of this school year and the beginning of the next school year and to give the Board space to not rush this process. He also cautioned about putting the responsibility of making changes on someone who will only be in that position short-term.
- Chairman Dr. Coker stated she has researched and found consulting firms available to assist with hiring both interim and long-term superintendents. She stated she has spoken with retired superintendents who have stated they would only be willing to step in on a temporary, short-term basis.
- A request was made to bring someone in during a workshop to assist with advising the board on the next step. Clarification on reorganization was also requested at that meeting.
- Mr. Poole stated he has reached out to individuals regarding the selection of this position. There are two others that he does not have contact information for and that he is trying to locate it.

4. GOVERNANCE

- Letter to Douglas Anderson Institution. A copy will be sent to Board Members.
- The moving of District office. A request for a presentation at June workshop to update.
- Apology given for timing of budget meetings during July. Timing is mandated by state law.
- A request to add Policy 2.26 to the Policy Meeting next week.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

CRH

Superintendent

Chairman