



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

September 12, 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. Dana Kriznar, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Dana Kriznar, Superintendent, and Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. HUMAN CAPITAL UPDATE

Vicki Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, presented a PowerPoint presentation, Duval County Public Schools Human Resources and joined in the discussion on the following:

- Teacher retention.
- Paraprofessional retention.
- Supplement from the 1 mill referendum helps retention and recruitment and request the community is advised and thanked for their support.
- Career teaching academies.
- Headspace Health
- Bring back item request - policy changes at state level impact on numbers.
- Bring back item request - of the day one classroom vacancies of 289, where are we now and where are the vacancies. Will provide these numbers after the budget process.
- Appreciation expressed for personal approach to surplus individuals.

2. REVIEW OF THE INTERNAL BOARD AUDITOR JOB DESCRIPTION AND TIMELINE/LOGISTICS FOR HIRING

Dr. Kriznar and Ms. Schultz joined in the discussion on the following:

- Audit Advisory Committee (AAC) recommendations to move audit positions from Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to Internal Board Auditor (IBA). A request to have a meeting with Monique Thompson to review her research findings and determine what the Board's desires are for this position.

- Disappointment was expressed in the way the position of Ms. Blades was approached and she was made to feel that she was being pushed out.
- Possible interim position.
- Changes in the IBA's duties and responsibilities and state laws.
- Part-time person for this position.
- Exit interview information from Ms. Blades to define the job description and responsibilities as the responsibilities of this position changed drastically once she was in the position.
- This position is evaluated by 7 people (Board Members) who have limited knowledge of her job duties.
- Direct appointment was discussed.
- Use of a consulting company for this position.
- Professional services contract for this position.
- Management of Board Office staff.
- A request for a financial impact comparison of contracting out.
- Sonita Thompson, Chief of Staff will be the interim contact for the AAC. Appreciation was expressed for all her assistance with this committee.

3. OFFICE OF SAFE SCHOOLS ANNUAL UPDATE

Recessed at 10:17 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Kriznar and Gregory Burton, Executive Director, School Police presented a PowerPoint presentation, Duval County School Police 2023-2024

District Best Practices Assessment and joined in the discussion on the following:

- Centegix security system update.
- Parent portal alerts.
- 900 employees trained for part of threat assessment and how they were chosen.
- Board Member notification of alarms.
- Appreciation was expressed for the addition of the Compliance Officer.
- Recent incident at Biltmore.

4. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SAFETY UPDATE

Chief Burton presented a PowerPoint presentation After School Activities Safety Measures. He and Dr. Kriznar joined in the discussion on the following:

- It was advised to speak with Mr. Poole to discuss items of concern to avoid a safety breach.
- Incidents involving firearms at the beginning of the school year sporting events were experienced throughout the country, not just in Duval County.
- Bring back on information of ejections and discipline at the First Coast game was requested.
- A shade meeting will be scheduled to discuss safety issues in further detail.
- Sporting events are safe.

5. GOVERNANCE

- Dr Kriznar advised that the AAC had recommended subcommittees for Transportation and she had contacted a few people regarding serving on it and wanted to advise the Board.
- Chairwoman Dr. Coker shared a letter that was received from the Office of Inspection General (OIG)

dated September 1, 2023. She stated that she had acknowledged that the district is behind on this, but the district is working on it and has advised the OIG.

- Chairwoman Dr. Coker shared a letter from the Office of City Council regarding the appointment of General Counsel. Mr. Poole excused himself during this discussion at 11:53 a.m. It was approved unanimously to recommend Ms. DeFoor. Mr. Poole returned at 12:01 p.m.
- Grasp Academy handout of where students come from was shared.
- Invitation will be forthcoming for Mandarin Medical Arts Program.
- Posting of position for Chief Financial Officer. It was noted that the new Superintendent may wish to appoint a different person and concern for that person if position is filled now. Dr. Kriznar noted that all cabinet positions are annual contracts.
- Dr. Kriznar advised that the Council of Great City Schools will be at the district on October 8th to begin a review.
- New district lines. Mr. Poole advised that we are still awaiting the decision from the judge and once that is received it will be forwarded to the board members.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

CRH

Superintendent

Chairman