



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

September 18, 2024, Policy Handbook Review Committee Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present except Board Member Dr. Lori Hershey. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also not present. Board Member Jones arrived at 9:10 a.m.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. BOARD POLICY 6.84 - FRATERNIZATION WITH STUDENTS

Cami Sams, Executive Director, Policy and Compliance, and Vicki Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources provided an explanation about the changes to the policy.

Discussion involved:

- What tools would be provided for staff if they are not permitted to text students?
- Staff need reliable tools to be able to communicate.
- Staff should not be texting students at all.
- Have IT come up with a way to use TEAMS on the phone.
- Thrillshare is the new product.
- Private communication is only permitted through district approved application.
- Staff can still call students.
- Record retention for communication.
- Students follow staff on social media. Need to confirm with legal counsel regarding the policy. (Bring back.)
- Progressive discipline.
- Use an App to communicate with students and use Thrillshare to communicate with parents.
- Engaging in communication with students is strongly discouraged.
- IT should have a policy in their Authorization Usage Policy (AUP). Need to cross-reference.

- Have test groups for one month using Thrillshare and another app, and then get feedback. (Bring back.)
- The way of work is what staff is not supposed to be doing.
- “Know the Line” was rolled out in August. Parent Academy and using Professional Standards training to inform all employees.
- When using a personal device, you must use a district approved app.
- Should staff be able to tutor on campus and be paid for their services? Have legal counsel to weigh in on the subject. (Bring back.)

2. BOARD POLICY 8.21 - THREAT MANAGEMENT TEAMS

Ms. Sams provided a brief explanation regarding changes to the policy and then turned it over to Tracy Sampson, School Police Supervisor. Officer Sampson is also a part of the Threat Management Team. She explained that the policy is a Florida statute.

Discussion involved:

- District Threat Management Team and the School Threat Management Team.
- Every school must have a team.
- The school team meets every month.
- If a student has concerning behaviors, the team moves out of threat assessment into threat management. The goal of the team is prevention.
- Change “counseling” to “mental health counseling”.
- The School Threat Management Team does not handle fights. That comes under discipline.
- Threat Management information on students is in FOCUS. Consider placing a copy of the information in the Expulsion binder.
- A flag in FOCUS so that a principal is aware that a student has a Student Support Plan through the Threat Management Team.
- A student's plan is monitored every 30 days.
- When a student transfers from county-to-county, and a records request is made, they have 5 days to send them.
- If a student has a school-based threat management plan, would it be legislatively helpful to request for records to be sent within 24 to 48 hours? The legislation went from 3 days to 5 days.
- By 2025, the legislation has charged the Office of Safe Schools with the responsibility of creating a portal that will sit statewide, and every time a school opens a threat management record, that electronic record is going to feed straight into that database.
- Make sure staff knows about the portal in January and uses it.
- The training process for someone joining the Threat Management Team.
- FOCUS being integrated with the portal.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board adjourn the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Charlotte D. Joyce

PASSED - 6 - 0

Aye:

April A. Carney

Kelly Coker

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte D. Joyce

Cindy Pearson

Darryl Willie

Nay:

None

GC

Superintendent

Chairman