



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

September 17, 2024, Agenda 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. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM.

The meeting was recessed at 9:05 AM

The meeting reconvened at 12:55 PM

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - OCTOBER 1, 2024

TURNAROUND OPTION PLANS (TOP) STEP 2

Dr. Christopher Bernier and Scott Schneider, Chief of Schools joined in the discussion on the following:

- The four (4) schools in turnaround status are Annie R. Morgan Elementary School, Mathew Gilbert, Northwestern Legends and Woodland Acres Elementary School.
- A request for a copy of each of the schools' improvement plans for 2022, 2023, and 2024 and the names of community partners, outside support groups and the number of students in the bottom quartile.
- What to expect under the current Superintendent's leadership versus the past leaderships.
- Economic disadvantages at Northwestern and Mathew Gilbert and what additional resources are being provided.
- The name of the outside operator used for Annie R. Morgan last year.
- Attendance and vacancies.
- Outside operators are approved and recommended by the state and the district is limited.

- If no improvements are seen, changes in leadership of these schools could begin as early as January 2025.

APPROVAL OF 2024-2025 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Schneider joined in the discussion on the following:

- The process for schools that do not have an active School Advisory Council (SAC) was explained.
- The need for schools with a “C” grade or better to have a school improvement plan was explained.
- Calculation changes from the state last year.
- Concern was expressed to watch downward trends in all districts as these can affect the district as a whole.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CATALOG

Dr. Bernier and Paula Renfro - Chief Officer, Academic Services joined in the discussion on the following:

- How professional learning is offered and if it is paid or unpaid.

APPROVAL OF AMIRA LEARNING

Dr. Bernier and Ms. Renfro joined in the discussion on the following;

- Appreciation for the program was expressed.
- How schools were selected to participate in the program this year was explained.
- This product is a performance-based product.

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

Dr. Bernier and Vicky Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources joined in the discussion on the following:

- Most out-of-field teachers hired are social studies and business. They are given a token for a free exam and provided tutoring to assist in passing the test. The vendor will also provide a token for an additional exam if needed.
- The list of out-of-field teachers will be added to the item.
- A letter to parents is sent advising them.

SETTLEMENT WITH THE DUVAL TEACHER UNITED (DTU) FOR THE 2024-2025 TEACHER CONTRACT

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

- The process for bereavement for students and the ability to attend the services was explained.
- The sick leave policy has to be for a relative. However, the employee can use personal leave or annual leave.
- Schools work with the employees to allow them to attend, but the entire day is not given. Not all teachers and paraprofessionals are allowed to attend at the same time.

APPROVAL OF NON-BARGAINING UNIT SALARY SCHEDULED FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Performance points for Principals in regard to enrollment.
- A request to look at how to make Executive Directors and Directors more accountable for their

positions.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS - AUGUST 2024

Dr. Bernier and Ronald Fagan, Chief Financial Officer joined in the discussion on the following:

- The 2024 estimated federal revenue was explained.
- The proposed Senate and House budgets were explained and the possibility of cuts in the House budget.
- A bring back request for the \$160,000 transfer from the general fund to food services was requested.

APPROVAL OF PROJECT PRIORITY LIST AND EXPENDITURE OF CAPITAL OUTLAY AND DEBT SERVICES (CO & DW) FUNDS

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- A bring back request for the scope of HVAC work.

DECLARE CARTER G. WOODSON ELEMENTARY NO. 166, LOCATED AT 2334 BUTLER AVENUE, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- A request for once the property is declared as surplus to meet with the community and get input as to what they would like to see the land used for.
- Residential or commercial use would require rezoning.
- Property will be a part of the district's real estate business model, which is no longer expected to be part of donated property.
- The Castaldi report approved the demolition of all buildings.
- Caution was given in regard to properties sold or donated becoming community blight.

EXCLUSIVE HEALTHIER BEVERAGE CONTRACT RFP 13-24/DB

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The guarantee commission rate and why the contract was chosen.
- A request for the numbers from previous contracts was made.

Comments from Elected Officials

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 2:47 PM.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney
Second: Kelly Coker

PASSED: 7-0

Aye:
Darryl Willie
Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Kelly Coker
Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Cindy Pearson

Nay:
None

CRH

Superintendent

Chairman