October 15, 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. Mr. Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff, was present for Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, who was not present due to school-related engagements in Tallahassee. Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, was also present.

Call Meeting to Order

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

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - NOVEMBER 4, 2024

APPROVAL OF THE 2024-2025 AGREEMENT WITH IMAGINE LEARNING, INC.

Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff and Paula Renfro, Chief Officer, Academic Services joined in the discussion on the following:

- Bring back of the 3,000 participating in the program by district.
- The product provides 15 different languages.
- A request for a description of the fund source and for this to be consistent throughout the agenda.

RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA, INC.

Mr. Ramirez and Ms. Renfro joined in the discussion on the following:

- The financial impact was explained.
- 3 and 4-year-olds are not eligible for funding through the state.

APPROVAL OF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR BIZI, INC. 2024-2025

Mr. Ramirez, and Dr. Anna Dewese, Executive Director, Student Discipline & Support Services joined in the discussion on the following:

- Financial impact and costs were explained.

- Data sharing and the benefits for students.
- The token program was explained.
- Login rates for elementary, middle and high schools will be brought back.
- The benefits of a foundation for this program were explained.
- The importance of verifying funding for this item was explained.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

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

- Appreciation was expressed for the creative ways to fill these positions.
- A request for a 1 pager to list all the benefits available.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JULY/AUGUST 2024

Mr. Ramirez and Ronald Fagan, Chief Financial Officer joined in the discussion on the following:

- General funds and expenditures were explained.
- Internal Service Funds item D deficiency was explained.
- It was stated that an analysis of where the district is and where we should be would be helpful for new board members.

PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER $1,000,000

Mr. Ramirez and Erika Harding, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Operations joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation was expressed for the trend moving in a positive direction in the negotiation of contracts.
- Aggressive conversations with contractors.

PERIODIC REPORT OF PHASE III DRAWING COMPLETIONS FOR MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER $1,000,000

Mr. Ramirez and Ms. Harding joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation was expressed for the efforts involved in the negotiation process.
- The location of the Hendricks Avenue Arts Cafetorium video wall and who requested its placement.
- Clarification on the funding for this item.

PHASE III CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS APPROVAL - 1 MILL FUNDING PLAN ARTS & ATHLETICS REFERENDUM - TURF FIELD PROJECT AT ATLANTIC COAST HIGH SCHOOL NO. 268 - DCPS PROJECT NO. A-10958

Mr. Ramirez and Mr. Wright joined in the discussion on the following:

- A request for an update on the turf field projects for new board members was made.

EXCLUSIVE HEALTHIER BEVERAGE CONTRACT RFP 13-24/DB

Mr. Ramirez joined in the discussion on the following:

- Why this item was pulled from last month's agenda was explained.

CONSOLIDATION OF ANNIE R. MORGAN ELEMENTARY AND BILTMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Ramirez, and Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice joined in the discussion on the following:

- A bring back on how the district is communicating with the community. Great information is given to the Board, but it is not getting out to the community.
- Concerns were expressed in regard to transportation, as not all families have available transportation. It was stated that not one student from Annie R. Morgan utilizes transportation.
- A bring back for what initiatives are being made to increase school utilization with the consolidation, as some schools are still under-utilized.
- It was stated that this is the first step and there will be more to come as the goal cannot be completed in one step. Will need to review years 2, 3, 4, 5, etc.
- A warning in regard to creating 100% magnet schools and the impact on the community.
- It was advised that not all parents have the time to navigate the magnet program process.
- A request for a workshop to look at the magnet piece and transforming neighborhood priority and utilization.
- What improvements will be made to the consolidated schools was requested.
- A bring back request to specifically focus on Wolfson and Darnell percentages of students on priority 1.
- It was stated that policy should not hinder the work of the school choice office, but assist it.

CONSOLIDATION OF KINGS TRAIL ELEMENTARY AND BEAUCLERC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Ramirez joined in the discussion on the following;

- Importance of watching and planning for the growth in this area.
- Caution was given for closing this school as 2 of the schools together will equal a 96% utilization rate.
- These schools are walking schools and many students don't have transportation available.
- Bus stops versus hubs were explained.
- Caution was once again given in not giving property away.
- A request about how the district plans to boost student enrollment.
- A reminder that the goal of consolidation is to close the school and get rid of the property.

CONSOLIDATION OF DON BREWER ELEMENTARY AND MERRILL ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Ramirez and Mr. Wright joined in the discussion on the following:

- Concerns were expressed about future years' plans and making sure the community is informed of the process.
- Concerns were expressed about the verbiage of this item and how it is portrayed to the community.
- Traffic issues/studies.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the changes at Eugene Butler.
- Annual reviews of these items are very important.
- Appreciation expressed to Dr. Bernier for his diligence and support of this process.
- It was stated that the 5-year capital plan must be voted on annually according to Florida State Statutes.

CONSOLIDATION OF GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER ELEMENTARY AND RUFUS E. PAYNE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Ramirez joined in the discussion on the following:

- The decision for these two schools' consolidation was explained.

CONSOLIDATION OF BRIDGE TO SUCCESS ACADEMY MIDDLE AND BRIDGE TO SUCCESS ACADEMY HIGH AT WEST JACKSONVILLE INTO EUGENE BUTLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Ramirez and Mr. Wright joined in the discussion on the following:

- The decision to move the programs to Eugene Butler was explained.
- The leadership structure at Eugene Butler was explained.
- The timing of the process was explained.
- Boundary changes.
- Appreciation for all the work done by staff in regard to these consolidations was expressed.

Comments from Elected Officials

There were no public comments from elected official.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:
That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 12:01p.m.

Vote Results:
Motion: Cindy Pearson
Second: Charlotte D. Joyce

PASSED: 7 - 0
Aye:
Darryl Willie
Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Kelly Coker
Lori Hershey
Warren D. Jones
Cindy Pearson

Nay:
None

CRH

Superintendent

Chairman