



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

November 19, 2024, Special Board Meeting - Annual Organizational Meeting

Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce, Chairman
Ms. April A. Carney, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Melody A. Bolduc
Mr. Reginald Blount
Ms. Cynthia Pearson
Mr. Anthony Ricardo
Mr. Darryl Willie
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 5:06 p.m.

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

1. MOTION TO MOVE THE PUBLIC COMMENTS TO AFTER THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Motion: To move the public comments to after the swearing in ceremony.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cynthia Pearson

Second: Charlotte D. Joyce

PASSED – 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Reginald Blount
Melody A. Bolduc
Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo
Darryl Willie

Nay:
None

Approval of Agenda

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the November 19, 2024, Special Board Meeting - Annual Organizational Meeting agenda as submitted on November 6, 2024, with the following changes:

- Election of the Vice-Chairman - Item Amended
- Establish Time, Place and Date of Regular Meetings - Item Amended
- Board Member Travel - Item Amended
- December 2024 Regular Board Meeting Date - Item Added
- December 2025 Regular Board Meeting Date - Item Added

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Charlotte D. Joyce

No Discussion

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Reginald Blount
Melody A. Bolduc
Cynthia Pearson
Anthony Ricardo
Darryl Willie

Nay:
None

Public Comment

Public Comment was moved to after the Swearing In Ceremony. There were 19 members of the public that signed up to speak. Each of them were given 3 minutes each.

Board Members

1. SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Mr. Tony Ricardo was sworn in by Judicial Circuit Court Judge, The Honorable James Nealis.

Ms. Cindy Pearson was sworn in earlier by Notary Monica Adams and had a ceremonial swearing in by her husband, Mr. Scott Pearson.

Mr. Reginald Blount was sworn in by Duval County Judge, The Honorable Mose. L. Floyd.

Ms. Melody A. Bolduc was sworn in earlier by Notary Monica Adams and had a ceremonial swearing in by her husband, Mr. Cameron Bolduc.

2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce was nominated as Chairman of the Board for 2024-2025 by Board Member Melody A. Bolduc.

No other nominations.

Motion:

That Charlotte D. Joyce be elected as Chairman of the Board for 2024-2025.

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: None

PASSED - 6-1

Aye:

Melody A. Bolduc
Anthony Ricardo
Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Reginald Blount
Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Darryl Willie

Dr. Bernier congratulated Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce as the new Board Chairman.

3. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

Ms. April A. Carney was nominated as Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2024-2025 by Board Member Melody A. Bolduc.

No other nominations.

Motion:

That April A. Carney be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2024-2025.

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: None

PASSED - 6-1

Aye:

Melody A. Bolduc

Anthony Ricardo

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Cindy Pearson

Nay:

Darryl Willie

Dr. Bernier congratulated both Ms. April A. Carney as the new Vice-Chairman and Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce as the new Board Chairman.

4. OATH OF OFFICE

The Oath of Office for School Board Chairman Charlotte D. Joyce was administered by the Honorable Lance M. Day, Chief Judge of the 4th Judicial Circuit for the State of Florida.

The Oath of Office for School Board Vice-Chairman April A. Carney was administered by Attorney Johnathan A. Scott.

The newly voted in Chairman Charlotte D. Joyce took over the meeting.

Before moving on to Public Comment, Chairman Joyce shared with everyone that it was an honor to be Board Chairman and thanked everyone for their support and vote of confidence. She also thanked all the elected officials and judges for attending the meeting.

5. ESTABLISH TIME, PLACE AND DATE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board establish the time, place, and date of Regular Board Meetings in accordance with Board Policy 2.23, Organization and Officers of the Board.

That the Duval County School Board conduct their Regular Board Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month except for the following meetings:

- **Monday, December 2, 2024, Regular Board Meeting**
- **Monday, December 1, 2025, Regular Board Meeting**

The Regular Board Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m., and will be held in the first Floor Board Room of the Administration Building, 1701 Prudential Drive.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Cynthia Pearson

No Discussion.

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl Willie

Nay:

None

Topics to be Discussed

1. BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board confirm the travel listed is for official Board business and that it complies with the rules of the State Board of Education:

- **December 3 2-6, 2024 - Tampa, Fl. - FSBA/FADSS 79th Annual Joint Conference - Blount, Bolduc, and Ricardo**

Vote Results:

Motion: Cynthia Pearson

Second: Melody A. Bolduc

No Discussion.

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl Willie

Nay:
None

2. DECEMBER 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the meeting schedule change of the December 2, 2024, Regular Board meeting to December 9, 2024.

Vote Results:

Motion: Anthony Ricardo

Second: Cynthia Pearson

No Discussion.

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl Willie

Nay:
None

3. DECEMBER 2025 REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board schedule the December 2025, Regular Board Meeting for December 1, 2025.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Darryl Willie

Discussion:

Board Member Pearson inquired about the reason for this item on the agenda. The reasoning shared was to establish a 13-month meeting calendar versus a 12-month meeting calendar.

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson
Anthony Ricardo
Darryl Willie

Nay:
None

For the Record

A Chairman's plaque was presented to Board Member Darryl Willie in appreciation for his dedication and leadership as Board Chairman for 2023-2024.

Board Member Pearson shared the following:

- Appreciation for everyone.
- The Board has a lot of work to do.

Board Member Willie shared the following:

- Appreciation for all the Board members and let everyone know that the Board may not agree on everything, but he has great respect for all the Board members.
- The work of the Board together would produce elevation.
- The Board members reflect every voter and not just the ones that voted specifically for them.

Board Member Blount shared the following:

- Appreciation for everyone's support.
- The Board will work together in a common bond.

Board Member Bolduc shared the following:

- Her excitement to work with all the challenges, the Superintendent and his team.
- She had an amazing time meeting with the cabinet members.

Board Member Ricardo shared the following:

- Thanked his Lord and Savior for the opportunity to serve on the Board and to serve the community.
- He thanked his family and supporters for being there.
- He is looking forward to working towards excellence for the children of the district.

Vice-Chairman Carney shared the following:

- Thanked everyone to include her husband, daughter and friends for coming to support.
- It is an honor to serve as the Vice-Chairman of the Board.
- Her hope is that the District will become an "A" district.
- Appreciation for the district partners and everyone's consistent support of the children.
- She is excited to do right by the students.

Chairman Joyce shared the following:

- She thanked Judge Lance Day for swearing her in.
- She has a desire to lead the district with grace, and make good decisions for the children.
- Members of the Board may not always agree but there are no hard feelings.
- Importance of robust conversations.
- Doing what is in the best interest of students.
- Excited to work with the Vice-Chairman and hopes she enjoys calling the public for public comments.

- Congratulations was shared for Board Member Pearson and her reelection and for all of the newly elected Board Members.
- The Board is here to serve Duval County Public Schools parents and students.
- Board Focus: student achievement, student safety and fiscal responsibility.
- Appreciation was shared for former Board Member and former 2018-2019 Board Chairman, Dr. Lori Hershey for her faith and support.
- Appreciation was also shared for her husband and her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Cynthia Pearson

PASSED - 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl Willie

Nay:

None

MA

Superintendent

Chairman