



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

December 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting - REVISED

Prior to the meeting, the Bartram Springs Treble Makers directed by Music Teacher, Rachel Spears, put on a wonderful performance.

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 D. 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 6:03 p.m.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

Invocation:

- Evodie Kubuya - Senior of Terry Parker High School

Thought for the Day:

- Chelsea Mosley - Senior of Baldwin Middle-Senior High School
- Elijah Stewart - Senior of Darnell-Cookman School of Medical Arts

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

NORMANDY VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Principal Jessica Sales provided information about Normandy Village Elementary School. She also shared a video with additional information.

Chairman Joyce commended Principal Sales for the work that has been done, and all that is taking place at the school.

Communications

PARTNER RECOGNITION: MARCQUARIE GROUP

- The Macquarie Group has invested tens of thousands into our students.
- They have sponsored the district's 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project with a \$75,000 one-year grant.
- The Macquarie Group is a global financial services organization, and its People's Choice grant is provided to organizations that are advancing racial equity in our communities.
- The 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project aims to intervene in the lives of minority male youth, many who are classified as disadvantaged, to provide them with positive role model and experiences that will empower them to make good choices and achieve their goals.
- Representatives from the Macquarie Group: Willa Kendrick and Pritha Mittal.
- Surveillance manager, Inyam Griggs.
- 5000 Role Models Supervisor, Ernest Almond, Events Coordinator, Willie Hall, and Director of Afterschool Programs, Darrin Williams.

5000 E MODELS OF EXCELLENCE AT THE SAMHSA YOUTH SUMMIT

- These students recently represented Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, and the state of Florida at the national Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Youth Summit.
- This summit took place in September in Rockville, Maryland and focused on improving services and activities related to youth behavioral health, including substance use and mental health, all of which aligns with the project's mission to empower young individuals to make positive choices and achieve success.
- The four students representing the district were:
 - Emmanuel Abay of Darnell Cookman Middle-High
 - Markus Blakely of First Coast High
 - Willie Hardee of First Coast High
 - Kingston Chisolm of Sandalwood High
- Providing support during the recognition, the students were joined by their principals, leadership from the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, and Afterschool Programs.
- Kingston Chisolm spoke briefly about his experience on this trip.

COMMUNITY PARTNER: ADRIEL ROCHA, A HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SPONSOR

Adriel Rocha with the Jacksonville Jaguars was to be recognized, but due to scheduling conflicts, he will be recognized at a later date.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH ESSAY WINNERS

- The winners of the district's 2024 Hispanic Heritage Month essay contest were as follows:
 - Yeshaliz Veguilla of West Riverside Elementary School, wrote her essay on local radio host and community leader Yanira "Yaya" Cardona.
 - Yaya is a local Latina advocate who educates Latinos in Jacksonville about things going on in the community, pushes cultural learning, and currently sits on Mayor Deegan's committee as the City of Jacksonville Hispanic Outreach Coordinator.
 - Fabian Fernandez of Westview K8, wrote his essay on Patricia Buitron, known as "the voice of the Hispanics."
 - Ms. Buitron is a TV personality and public figure speaking as the voice of the Hispanic Community on NotiJax, is active in her community, and is a dedicated mother to her daughters.
 - Anna Jones of Wolfson School for Advanced Studies, wrote her essay on Paola Parra Harris.
 - She is the founder of Parra Harris Law Firm, a legal firm focusing on family law.
 - She is a Cuban-born, Miami-raised Latina who has been practicing law since 1998...and also helped establish and serve as the founding president of the Hispanic Bar Association of Northeast Florida.
- Joining the students in their recognition are their principals – Talya Taylor of West Riverside, Jamie Griffin of Westview K-8, and Christopher Begley with Wolfson, along with Ingrid Carias, District Director of ESOL.

UNIDOS JAX HONOREE, PRINCIPAL JASMIN GOMEZ

- Hispanic Heritage Month honoree, Jasmin Esparza Gomez is the principal of San Jose Elementary, a dual language magnet school serving a student population in which 60% are English Language Learners (ELL) who speak over 20 languages.
- Principal Gomez was recently recognized at the Unidos Jax dinner held during Hispanic Heritage Month.
- She has consistently worked towards creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students.
- Her journey in education began as a Teach for America corps member, where she developed a deep understanding of the challenges faced by students from low-income backgrounds.
- This experience fueled her commitment to making a difference in the lives of underserved youth, leading her to pursue further education and professional growth.
- She obtained her master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University and is currently working on her doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania.
- Throughout her career, Gomez has established herself as a role model and advocate for student success.
- Her passion for teaching and improving student outcomes continues to drive her towards creating a brighter future for all students.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FINALISTS AND WINNER

- Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist, Kimberly Copeland of Duval Detention Center (DDC).
 - As the Assistant Principal of DDC, Copeland sees firsthand the unique experience of the young people who arrive at the center after being arrested as a juvenile offender.
 - She says her key role is to "restore hope and build trust with each student, inspiring them to leave the facility stronger than when they arrived."

- DDC Principal Edward Robinson says, “[she] is not just an administrator, she guides, motivates, encourages, and counsels all of the students.”
- Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist, Vincent Hall II of Springfield Middle School.
 - He is dedicated to building relationships with stakeholders and strives to be a role model for the African American male population of the school, which comprises 45% of the student body.
 - Principal Deshune Bush says, “Mr. Hall’s greatest strength is his ability to build meaningful and supportive relationships with teachers.”
- Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist, Jason McDaniel from Venetia Elementary School.
 - Mr. McDaniel aspires to train students to become leaders and go forward on a stellar educational path throughout their academic careers.
 - In fact, he says his role at Veneita is the position of a motivator and a ray of positivity.
 - He focuses on overall wellness and takes time to truly speak with teachers and find out how they are feeling, doing, and what they are thinking.
 - Principal Monique Worthen says he, “consistently models professionalism, integrity, and a growth mindset. He is deeply committed to the success of all students.”
- Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist, Tammy Taylor from Brookview Elementary School.
 - With school enrollment declining just prior to COVID, Ms. Taylor saw an opportunity to make a transformative shift through performance data accessibility, culture transparency, and accountability.
 - Due to her initiative, the school is seeing enrollment stabilization and academic growth among students.
 - Principal Tracey Kendrick shares that, “She is a true advocate for our students, going above and beyond to make sure each child has the resources and support they need to succeed both academically and personally.”
- 2024 Assistant Principal of the Year, Mr. Daniel Sapp of Ramona Boulevard Elementary School.
 - Mr. Sapp saw a need for improvement when Ramona was faced with a proposal for State takeover due to the school’s grade.
 - He knew raising the school grade would require much more than data analysis....it would require addressing the whole child and showing intentional compassion for every teacher and student learner.
 - In the end, the school grade increased from a D to a B.
 - Principal DeVonne Lampkin says, “Mr. Sapp has made a profound impact on our school community through his unwavering commitment to student success and his ability to foster a positive and inclusive environment.”

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FINALISTS AND WINNER

- Principal of the Year Finalist, Jennifer Crady of Southside Middle School.
 - Being in a school home to students who speak over 30 languages and come from various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, understands how important acceptance is.
 - Principal Crady has spearheaded a number of initiatives and programs to bridge gaps and promote agency and belonging, this includes creating a Knights’ Oath and designing guidelines for success with the school’s mascot.
 - Teacher Scott Wise says, “Principal Crady has turned her heart for student growth into a culture and way of life that is uniquely Southside.”
- Principal of the Year Finalist, Dr. DeVonne Lampkin from Ramona Boulevard Elementary School.
 - Dr. Lampkin has worked to build a strong community spirit at Ramona, and coined the “Woot, Woot Cart” for teachers and monthly student awards.
 - In a strategy to improve the school’s grade, she and her staff placed a special focus on

- students who were two years behind, while addressing their social and emotional needs.
 - Deidra Johnson, Executive Director for the Office of Innovation & School Improvement calls her “an intuitive leader and master principal who bridges the gap between guiding children and leading her teachers with grace, dignity, and compassion.”
- Principal of the Year Finalist, Ashton Price from Parkwood Elementary School.
 - Mr. Price’s mantra is “leading and instructing with care.”
 - He focuses on educating teachers on how to uniquely cater to the needs of the current school makeup...and prides himself on ensuring students have optimal safe, and secure learning environments where they can thrive.
 - Larry Roziers, President of the Mitch22 Foundation, Inc. says “Mr. Price has such a wealth of knowledge on how to problem solve with families, especially those families from underserved and underrepresented communities.”
- Principal of the Year Finalist, Michelle C. Walsh from Lake Lucina Elementary School.
 - She is guided by the motto “People over Products,” emphasizing the importance of nurturing a supportive environment for educators and deepening the connection between families and the school.
 - Ms. Walsh helped transform Lake Lucina from a struggling Turn Around Region school into a vibrant community hub for education.
 - Elementary Region Superintendent Dr. Marianne Simon says, “Ms. Walsh brings an unparalleled energy to her role that invigorates both staff and students alike.”
- 2024 Principal of the Year, Vincent Hall, Principal of William M. Raines High School.
 - Before Mr. Hall’s appointment in 2013, Raines was on the brink of state closure as the school consistently vacillated from D to F grades. After his appointment, he took on the charge to restore Viking pride.
 - He met with community leaders and faith-based partners and came up with a plan to galvanize support and rebuild the school community.
 - This included mitigating external barriers to student learning by acquiring resources such as clothing items, daily afternoon snack packs, and weekend food boxes from the school’s new clothing closet and food pantry.
 - He raised the school grade to a B this last year and the graduation rate has increased from 72% to over 90%.
 - He continues to believe that it doesn’t matter what neighborhood the students are from, it’s the school they attend – Raines: “The High School Harvard”.
 - High School Region Superintendent Timothy Simmons says “Mr. Vincent Hall is a resolute, impactful, and visionary educator. His intuition coupled with experience and commitment to students is unrivaled.”

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 9, 2024, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the December 9, 2024, agenda as submitted on December 2, 2024, with the following changes:

BOARD MEMBERS:

- **LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM - ATTACHMENT ADDED**

ACADEMIC SERVICES:

- **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH JACKSONVILLE SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAM (JSMP) - ITEM REMOVED**

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **PARTNER RECOGNITION - ITEM AMENDED**

CHIEF OF STAFF - DISCUSSION:

- **PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 4 BOARD POLICIES - ITEM REMOVED**
- **PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 6 BOARD POLICIES - ITEM REMOVED**

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Darryl D. Willie

PASSED - 7- 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

Chairperson's Report

Chairman's Report

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Chairman Joyce shared the following:

- Career Technical Education(CTE) - High School CTE Showcase
- Swearing In
- FSBA/FADSS 79th Annual Joint Conference
- Superintendent's Town Hall
- Upcoming Dates & Items of Interest

Superintendent's Reports

Superintendent's Report

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Superintendent Dr. Bernier reviewed the following:

- November Events
- 1st Annual Career Academy Showcase - Everbank Stadium
- 2025 Teacher of the Year Semi-finalist - EDDY Awards
- Veterans Day Celebration
- '*Hadestown*' at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts
- Bethune Cookman - Visit Mitch Foundation
- 5000 Role Models - Career and College Prep
- Downtown Rotary
- Superintendent's Town Hall

Department Reports

No reports.

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

No report.

Comments from Elected Officials

No comments.

Public Comment

11 people from the public signed up to speak during public comment. They were given 3 minutes each to speak.

4 people from the public waived their time to speak during public comment.

Comments from Parent Organizations

No comments.

Comments from District Student Government Association

No comments.

Comments from Employee Organizations

The following representatives spoke:

- Tammie Brooks-Evans, DTU President
- Frank Delong - IBEW

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board minutes:

- **November 4, 2024, Regular Board Meeting**
- **November 13, 2024, Policy Handbook Review Committee Meeting**
- **November 19, 2024, Special Board Meeting - Annual Organizational Meeting**
- **November 19, 2024, Special Board Meeting - Leasing Corporation**
- **November 20, 2024, Agenda Committee Meeting**
- **November 20, 2024, Board Workshop**

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: Darryl D. Willie

PASSED – 7 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Darryl D. Willie

PASSED - 7 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:
None

Consent Agenda

Board Members

1. LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Board Member Pearson shared the following:

- Items that the district is supporting on the legislative agenda.
- Encouraged people to contact her if they are interested in working with her on the items.

Superintendent, Dr. Bernier introduced the following new employees:

- Melvin Dodson, Chief Internal Board Auditor
- Joette Williams, Supervisor Federal Programs
- Sandra Webb, Technical Manager - District Nursing

Academic Services

2. APPROVAL OF SY2024-SY2025, YEAR 8 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (NEW PERSPECTIVES THERAPEUTIC SERVICES) - GRANT A (CLASS OF 2023)

3. AGREEMENT WITH SMG, A DIVISION OF ASM GLOBAL PARENT, FOR THE JACKSONVILLE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS FOR 2025 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

4. AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA ARENA FOR 2025 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

5. AGREEMENT WITH SMG FOR VYSTAR VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA FOR 2025 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

6. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH JACKSONVILLE SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAM (JSMP)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

7. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

8. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, STUDENT SUPPORTS

9. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – CHIEF OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT

10. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – CHIEF (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT) OF COMMUNICATIONS

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

11. AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL FOR GROUP HEALTH PLAN CONSULTANT SERVICES

12. EXCESS MEDICAL LOSS INSURANCE, ITB-005-25/LM

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

13. APPROVAL OF THE FLORIDA OFFICE OF EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY UPDATE

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

14. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS- OCTOBER 2024

15. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2024

Information Technology

16. ULTRA GRANT-EVALUATION AND CONSULTANT CONTRACTS

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

17. REAL ESTATE SERVICES FOR ACQUIRING, SELLING, AND/OR EXCHANGING SITES FOR FUTURE SCHOOLS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

18. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

19. CHANGE ORDER REPORT

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

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

22. THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK SERVICES

CONTRACT FOR THE NEW JEAN RIBAUTL HIGH SCHOOL #96 - RFQ NO. 04-23/TW - PROJECT NO. P-91780

23. ROOF REPLACEMENT AT FLETCHER MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 63/DCSB PROJECT NO. M-83660/ITB-002-25/LM

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

24. ADULT MEAL PRICE INCREASE FOR DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

25. FOOD SERVICE - RELATED EQUIPMENT & INSTALLATION

26. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

27. OCTOBER 2024 PURCHASE REPORT

Chief of Staff

28. REQUEST TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SCHOOL NO. 224 TO SAMUEL WOLFSON SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

Discussion

Chief of Staff

~~29. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 4 BOARD POLICIES~~

~~30. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 6 BOARD POLICIES~~

General

Emergency Agenda Items

Board Member Travel

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:

- **January 22-24, 2025 - Orlando, FL - School Boards for Academic Excellence (SBAE) Education Policy and Training Summit - Bolduc, Blount and Ricardo.**

Vote Results:**Motion:** April A. Carney**Second:** Melody A. Bolduc

Discussion involved:

- Concerns were expressed with regards to School Boards for Academic Excellence (SBAE) conference.
- Board Members can hear from a diverse perspectives.
- Concerns were expressed about there not being enough diverse points at the Florida School Board Association (FSBA).
- Board Members should have a well-rounded perspective from all sides.
- Costs of the conference for SBAE and what is offered versus the costs of the conference for FSBA and what is offered.
- Concern about the majority of the Board attending the SBAE conference while the district is having financial problems.
- Hearing back about what was discussed at the SBAE conference.
- Create a board policy that requires Board Members to report back information that was discussed at a conference.
- The various organizations that the Board has been a member of and the conferences they have attended.
- The District is competing with charter schools. Find out how they are recruiting and retaining students.

PASSED - 4 - 3**Aye:**

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Melody A. Bolduc

Anthony Ricardo

Nay:

Reginald Blount

Cynthia Pearson

Darryl D. Willie

Superintendent's Travel

No travel.

For The Record

Board Member Pearson shared the following:

- The sessions from the FSBA Conference.
- School visits in District 3.
- Encouraged people to go visit 'C' Schools.
- Shared Douglas Anderson School of the Arts (DASOTA) has areas of concern, and corrective action

needs to take place.

- Acknowledged Superintendent, Dr. Bernier for implementing 'Know the Line', the electronic mechanism for students and others to report directly to the district.
- Shared a few of the accomplishments from Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.
- February 1st, the Extravaganza for DASOTA.

Board Member Blount shared the following:

- Informal school visits in District 5.

Board Member Bolduc shared the following:

- Shout out for school visits in District 7.
- Shout out to Coach Brian Rado, for the Mandarin jersey that was gifted to her.
- Attended the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Program put together by Chief Short, Chief of Police.
- District Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting

Board Member Ricardo shared the following:

- School visits in District 1.
- DASOTA - Arts Show.
- Shout out to Principal Jasmin Gomez and the Real Men Read event at San Jose Elementary School.
- FSBA conference.
- Wished all a Merry Christmas.

Board Member Willie shared the following:

- Highlighted the CTE Program.
- Recognized all Principals and Assistant Principals.
- Shared appreciation for the schools that opened up for school showcases.
- Thanked Dr. Bernier for the town hall meetings and shared his excitement for them.
- New boundary changes and ensuring that the community is aware.
- Shout out to Principal Gomez at San Jose for the Real Men Read.
- Raines Vikings and their resilience. Amazing young men on the team.

Vice-Chairman Carney shared the following:

- FSBA conference.
- Highlighted parent organizations in District 2.
- Wished everyone a wonderful holiday break.

Chairman Joyce shared the following:

- Thanked all of her colleagues for supporting her as Chairman.
- Creation of a policy to provide updates when returning from conferences and professional development.
- Desires to make wise decisions and to know the options available.
- Wished everyone to enjoy the holiday, love on their family, enjoy friends and have a Merry Christmas.
- Encouraged people to listen in or participate in the upcoming Board Workshop - Agenda meeting.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Darryl D. Willie

PASSED - 7 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

GC

Superintendent

Chairman