



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

January 21, 2025, Agenda Committee 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 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. Board Member Bolduc arrived at 9:17 a.m.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Public Comment

There were 8 public speakers and 11 that waived speaking time.

The meeting was recessed at 9:25 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - FEBRUARY 4, 2025

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH READ USA, INC.

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

- New vendor for School Book Fairs which will guarantee a list of books and their alternatives.
- An explanation of what is included in the agreement was provided.
- A bring back for the number of parents who received the survey regarding the book fairs.
- Funding. Previous funding was provided by the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Funds (ESSER) funded all schools, This year's funding is only from Title 1 funds and only for Title 1 schools.
- Appreciation was expressed for the focus on students who need it most.

- A bring back request for non-Title 1 schools' book fair participation and what type of book fair is available.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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

- How the results of the survey will be implemented.
- The results are vital to strategic planning.
- All schools are included in the survey.
- The survey is administered in the spring and results are received during the summer. A request was made for a board retreat to review how to access the survey results. Dr. Bernier stated he would provide a systemic approach to inform the Board either by way of the Board Weekly Update or an additional way for this information as well as the strategic report card.
- A request for a breakdown of those who participated by community, parents, administrators and the number in each category.
- A request for the financial impact regarding this item was made.

CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR CORNERSTONE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Dr. Bernier, Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice and Eugene Hays, Director, School Choice joined in the discussion on the following:

- It was stated that the school meets the definition of high performing. They are resourceful in fundraisers, works with the community regarding traffic concerns, and continues to grow. Currently at approximately 948 students for K-10th grade. They will add 11th grade next year and 12th the following year
- All buildings are inspected and investigated by the Fire Marshall who sets the capacity numbers on each building. This information can be found in the charter application. A bring back request for the actual capacity number for the next 2 years.
- The process of reviewing charter school contracts was explained and how concerns are addressed. Once contracts are approved there is an annual site visit and monthly financials are provided to the district. Prior to the renewal an in-depth visit is made which includes classroom visits, presentation on Title 1, ESOL, etc., that the district has oversight of. It was stated that of these 6 charters \$25 million goes to the charter schools.
- A request to show the dollar amount and the number of students, graduation rate and school grade as a bring back as charter school graduation rates bring the district's graduation rate down.
- A request for a break-down for the cost to educate the students in the district versus in charter. A comparison to district school grades located in the same area as charters with the same information for comparison was also made.

CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR CORNERSTONE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- School grades for this charter are D, C, A. Hopeful that it can be sustained at an A.
- A request to approve for 5 years and if maintained, then approve 15 years. It was advised the request could be made, but the district has no grounds for such a request.

CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR KIPP V.O.I.C.E ACADEMY

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

- School grades.

- Slight decline in enrollment.
- Consequences for charter schools with 3 school grades of D's were explained.
- An explanation of the admin fees the district collects in regard to providing services as stated in Florida State Statute 1002.33(c). A request for what those services costs versus what the district receives. Also, the total fees collected versus cost of services provided.

CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL FOR SAN JOSE PRIMARY

- Struggling School.
- Merge was rejected by the Board which would have hidden the D school grade.
- K-5 grade has 241 students enrolled. If this was a district operated school, it would possibly be placed on the list for consolidation.

CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR SOMERSET ELEMENTARY

CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR SOMERSET MIDDLE

- Same points as above listed charter renewals.

The meeting was recessed at 10:51am.

The meeting reconvened at 11:00am.

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

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

- An explanation of an out-of-field teacher was given.
- Parent notification requirement for out-of-field teacher.
- District offered online tutoring for the exam.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS NOVEMBER 2024

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

- Overview of financial statements.
- Appreciation was expressed for those working on the recent grants received.
- There was a recommendation to tour the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program at Frank H Peterson automotive and aircraft center to see the before and after of the recently received grant and the upgrades that are coming.

HIGH-SPEED BANDWIDTH SD-WAN 5G WIRELESS SERVICES

Dr. Bernier and Jim Culbert, Chief Officer, Technology Services joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation was expressed for the work on this item.
- Future possible costs for this item was explained.

IT HARDWARE RFP (EMTEX INC. d.b.a. BRIDGENEXT)

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

- An overview of the contract and what is provided was explained.
- Importance of summer interns.

- Financial impact was explained.

QUADRANT SECURITY AND INFORMATION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT (SIEM)

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

- Local Jacksonville company providing the services. District has gone from 2 gigs to 100 gigs with the same amount charged for services.
- The district has the largest and fastest network in Northeast Florida.

CHANGE ORDER REPORT

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- A request for a bring back as to why Seabreeze is not listed and what is the status of Jacksonville Beach Elementary School.
- Other direct purchases for New K-5 Prototypes will be better defined and provided to the Board.

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

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Douglas Anderson courtyard improvements. A request information on when the fountain at Douglas Anderson was installed and who owns the maintenance of it.

CONTINUING CONTRACT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONSULTANT SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD - RFQ NO. 06-25/DB

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- A request for an explanation as to why the companies scored so low. The information will be provided to the Board as a bring back.
- A workshop on procurement was offered to the Board and will be added to the list of future workshops.

Comments from Elected Officials

There were no comments from Elected Officials.

Discussion was held by Chief Legal Counsel, Ray Poole regarding the need for a Litigation Shade meeting to follow the Policy Handbook Review Committee Meeting on January 29, 2025, at 11:00am.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 11:48am.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Reginald Blount

PASSED: 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman