



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

February 18, 2025, Board Workshop

Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce, Chairman
Ms. April A. Carney, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Reginald Blount
Ms. Melody A. Bolduc
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 11:01 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. BUDGET UPDATE

Ronald Fagan, Chief Financial Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation Mid-Year Budget and Finance Update (see attached). He and Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The presentation is an overview of all the major funds and is not a fix for the \$100 million deficiency faced by the district.
- Major funds include General, Special Revenue, Food Service, Debt Service, Capital Projects, Internal Service, and the Total Budget.
- General Funds: where and how they are spent.
- Special Revenue: no ending funds. Funds are spent, money is collected, and the accounts are cleared.
- Food Service: renovations, cafeteria, freezers, free breakfast. The district spends more money than other districts our size due to our contracting the services out. A comparison will be a bring back item.
- Debt Services.
- Capital Outlay.
- Internal Services. 94% is healthcare.
- Financial Trend General Fund. Prior years, current and projections were explained. It was noted that instead of buying buses, the district is allowed to move capital funds to general funds to offset the cost of contracting these services out. The same applies for insurance on properties and minor

maintenance. There is a limit to the amount of these transfers based on a formula provided by the state.

- The decrease in the millage rate was explained.
- The Chief of Enrollment and the additional positions were not included in the projection for 2025-2026. Also, any additional Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) dollars associated with the increase in enrollment were not included.
- Unfunded and underfunded mandated services for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students.
- Governor's Budget.
- Family Empowerment Scholarship projected increases. Currently, we have students in our schools but not receiving funding.
- Federal Funds.
- The need for a fair and level field to track school choice students.
- Appreciation was expressed for the presentation.

2. GOVERNANCE

Dr. Bernier, Paula Renfro, Chief Officer, Academic Services, and Corey Wright, Assistant Superintendent, Accountability & Assessment, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Consolidation and closure of schools and media centers.
- Process time for books to be pulled from the shelf.
- March Governance meeting dates.
- Johns Hopkins University survey.
- Strategic Planning dates.
- Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) Day in the Legislature.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Reginald Blount

PASSED: 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cynthia Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman