Meeting Minutes

Duval County Public Schools

August 19, 2025, Agenda Committee Meeting

Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce, Chairman
Ms. April A. Carney, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Reginald Blount
Ms. Melody A. Bolduc
Ms. Cindy 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 Ms. Taylor Phillips, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M.

The meeting was recessed at 9:02 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 9:04 A.M.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

TURNAROUND OPTION PLANS (TOPS) STEP 2: SMART POPE LIVINGSTON ELEMENTARY

Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, joined in the discussion on the following:
- An explanation of the plan was given.
- Recruitment actions for qualified teachers at this site were explained.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS WITH MGT CONSULTING, INC., AND TURNAROUND SOLUTIONS, INC.

Dr. Bernier and Scott Schneider, Chief of Schools, joined in the discussion on the following:
- How schools are chosen to receive this support was explained.
- A request for the metrics of success from the program was made.
- The difference in the amount of each program was explained.

APPROVAL OF SY2025-SY2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS) - GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

APPROVAL OF SY2025-SY2026, YEAR 5 GEAT UP AGREEMENTS (FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE) - GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

APPROVAL OF SY2025-SY2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (I'M A STAR FOUNDATION) - GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

APPROVAL OF SY2025-SY2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA) - GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

APPROVAL OF SY2025-SY2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (XCALIBUR, INC) - GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

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

- How the grants were obtained and what they cover was explained.
- The colleges involved in these grants are Florida State College Jacksonville and University of North Florida.
- How the schools are chosen for participation in the programs was explained.
- The students in these grants are 7th grade through first year of college.
- Appreciation to Betty Burney and this program was expressed.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH BIZI, INC. 2025-2026 - AMENDMENT

Dr. Bernier and Dr. Dewese joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of the cost variance of schools was explained.
- A request for the previous outcomes was made.
- Schools were encouraged to sign up as additional school participation will require the contract to come back before the board for changes.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, FTE SUPPORT

Dr. Bernier, Corey Wright, Chief Officer, Accountability & Assessment, and Jackie Watkins, Chief Officer, Human Resources joined in the discussion on the following:

- The responsibilities and benefits of this position were explained.
- How the position would be advertised was explained.
- The continued need for this position is due to students moving around in the district.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION - DIRECTOR, MAJOR FACILITIES PROJECTS

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

- Appreciation of the career paths for internal personnel with specific skill sets and work experience without degrees for promotions.
- Appreciation was also expressed for bringing the Jacobs positions in-house.
- The position will be created from a combination of unfilled positions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - DIRECTOR, FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT

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

- Clarification of the director's position, not executive director, was made, and the salary range was explained.
- This will be the second educational foundation in the city. Jacksonville Public Education Funding (JPEF) is the only other foundation currently in the city.
- State funding possibilities.

APPROVE THE SALE OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES LOCATED AT 1701 PRUDENTIAL DRIVE

APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE 8928 PROMINENCE PARKWAY FROM DREAM FINDERS HOMES PROMINENCE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Dr. Bernier, Mr. Culbert, and Mr. O'Berski joined in the discussion on the following:

- Potential contract for the sale of the current administration building at 1701 Prudential Drive of $20,000,000.00 with a potential close date of August 2026. Final payment balance of $7,500,000.00 would be due in 36 months after closing with a secured note from Fleet Landing. There is a 90-day inspection time with an extension of 30 days at which time a hard $1 million non-refundable deposit would be due to the district. There is a leaseback option if the district should require the use of building to conduct business for 18 months.
- The purchase of 8928 Prominence Parkway is not to exceed $14,000,000.00. Inspection timeframe is 60 days. The district will have a $50,000.00 deposit, with an additional $450,000.00 due after inspection and close on December 31, 2025. There will be a financial stream needed due to the closing time of the current district administration building and the purchase of the new administration building. The net gain from the sale and purchase is $6,000,000.00 for the district.
- Concerns about where the Prominence Parkway building is located were expressed. It was stated that the desire of the district is to have all parent resource offices located at the Schultz Center Team B which is centrally located, to ensure parents do not have to go to several locations for their concerns and services.
- Pros and cons were discussed.
- Bus locations to these properties.
- A request for the number of employees that would be housed at both the Schultz Center and the new Prominence Parkway location.
- Assessed value of the Prominence Parkway location.
- Interest in the amount of loan.
- A request for an estimate of operational costs for a larger building.

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

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

- Where items are located to be viewed.

AWARD AMENDMENT OF BID 25C-823J FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEM (EMCS) SERVICES

INSPECTION, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS, FIRE PUMPS AND BACKFLOW PREVENTERS

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

- Originally negotiated under Jacobs Engineering, now under the districts.
- A request to have the not-to-exceed amount in the item description.
- A request for a price comparison of what other districts spend on these items.

UPDATED CONTRACT PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES - TEMPORARY

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

- The number of hours included in the contract.
- A request to have the not-to-exceed amount in the item description.

JULY 2025 PURCHASE REPORT

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Why fuel is listed twice was explained.

AMENDMENT TO THE UNIVERSAL PROTECTION SERVICES, LLC CONTRACT

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Duval Virtual Instructional Academy (DVIA) does not have a guardian or police presence, but often has students present, and this will provide those services.
- A request for a cost breakdown was made.

MOTOROLA RADIO N70 CONTRACT

Dr. Bernier and Johnny Harness, Director, School Police joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of what and how the item works was given.
- The date these radios were purchased.
- Service contract included.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 4 BOARD POLICIES

Dr. Bernier, Cami Sams, Executive Director, Policy & Compliance, and Taylor Phillips, Office of General Counsel joined in the discussion on the following:

- Material review committee.
- A request for clarification to point to Florida State Statutes.
- Length of appointments by Board Members
- Ms. Phillips will bring it back if the committee can signal and challenge a book.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION TO CHAPTER 9 BOARD POLICIES

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

- Liability insurance.

Comments from Elected Officials

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:
That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 12:28 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
Cindy Pearson
Anthony Ricardo
Darryl D. Willie

Nay:
None

CR

Superintendent	Chairman