



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

September 16, 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 Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

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

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - October 7, 2025

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH AMIRA LEARNING FOR AMIRA TUTORING

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

- Invitations are extended to schools, but they are not required to participate.
- Responsibility of dosage was explained.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 AGREEMENT WITH JACKSONVILLE SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAM

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Dr. Bernier stated that for the sake of transparency, he sits on the Board of Jacksonville Sports Medicine.
- The District's total expenditures for this item were explained.
- Additional contributions from Mayo Clinic, Baptist Health, Brooks Rehabilitation and the total estimated costs of this program were explained.
- The advantages of having a medical trainer operating under an Orthopedic physician.
- Advantages and success examples of having EKGs performed on athletes.
- College and career paths for this profession were explained.

- Updates to training rooms.
- The number of students involved in the sports medicine program was requested.
- The total amount of the program and what is provided was requested.
- Recognition for this program at the Regular Board Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

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

- Due to the late transition from Lutheran to Episcopal, there are openings available for the program. Confident that it will reach capacity. There are additional seats available compared to last year. These seats are available due to Episcopal realigning.
- A request for the total number this year compared to last year.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Dr. Bernier, Scott Schneider, Chief of Schools, and Laura Bowes, Executive Director, Chief of Schools joined in the discussion on the following:

- Acronyms were explained.
- Key performance indicators (KPI's) and their alignment. A cheat sheet will be created for the public.
- The state's performance indicators were explained.
- The subgroups were explained.
- School improvement plans were explained.
- Importance of serving on the School Advisory Council (SAC).
- Correlation of subgroups with the school grades.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 AGREEMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE SERVICES WITH BRANCHING MINDS

Dr. Bernier, Mr. Schneider, and Ms. Bowes joined in the discussion on the following:

- The services provided with this item were explained.
- How this item will make it easier for teachers was explained.
- Grafting and tracking provided in the program was explained.
- Software is designed to follow the student in the event that the student transfers.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH ACCELERATION ACADEMIES, LLC.

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The goal of this item was explained.
- The program is under the supervision of Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice Pathways.
- Students who complete the program will receive a DCPS Diploma.

HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

Dr. Bernier and Jacqueline Watkins, Chief Officer, Human Resources joined in the discussion on the following:

- The number of teacher vacancies.
- The number of those waiting for a background check.

- The length of time once a teacher is interviewed to be cleared and in the classroom was explained.

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

Dr. Bernier, Ms. Watkins and Matt Hemphill, Director, Alternative Certification joined in the discussion on the following:

- The number of out-of-field teachers.
- A request for a historical look at the number of out-of-field teachers as a bring back.
- Certification opportunities for teachers that the district provides were explained.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, FLEET AND MOVE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Dr. Bernier and Terri Webb, Director, Infrastructure, joined in the discussion on the following:

- The current position will be downgraded to supervisor with a new job description.
- A request for who will manage the ITB (Invitation to Bid) and the 5 responsive vendors will be brought back.

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING FOR REFERENDUM PAY - 2025-2026

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

- An explanation of the Referendum was given.
- This memorandum is for current 2025-2026 year and will be paid retroactively to July 1, 2025.
- The referendum will expire in 2026 unless approved again.

EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

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Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Information on these items will be provided confidentially.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS - AUGUST 2025

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- No status on the 4th calculations. It has been delayed and will be provided as soon as it becomes available.
- A request was made to reach out to our Senator to help support receiving the information.

DECLARE KINGS TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 203, LOCATED AT 7401 OLD KINGS ROAD SOUTH, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

DECLARE R.V. DANIELS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 162, LOCATED AT 1951 WEST 15TH STREET, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

DECLARE SUSIE E. TOLBERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 128, LOCATED AT 1925 WEST 13TH STREET, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

DECLARE ANNIE R. MORGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 21, LOCATED AT 964 ST. CLAIR STREET, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The process for declaring the properties surplus was explained.
- The Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) ends with the sale or demolishing of the property. If leased, the numbers would stay part of our district.
- Security measures for vacant properties were explained.

The meeting was recessed at 10:40 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

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

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

Dr. Bernier and Dan O'Berski, Partner/Managing Broker, Trinity Commercial Group, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Concerns expressed regarding the following:
 - Additional fees, association fees,
 - Upgrades,
 - Distance,
 - Annual costs.
 - Timing of money and moving in/out
- Letter received from Fleet Landing regarding taxes will be distributed by Mr. Poole.
- Appraisals
- Clarification of offers for the terms of sale and payments was given.
- Additional information will be provided in a workshop that is scheduled for September 17, 2025.

CHANGE ORDER REPORT

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation expressed for trimming the costs of buildings and the monies returned.

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

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

- A request for an update on the vestibules and details for Garden City Elementary.
- Funding has been reappropriated to complete the vestibules as soon as possible.

AMENDMENT TO THE DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT CONTRACT - NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE AT SOUTHSIDE ESTATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #76 - RFQ NOO. 06-22/TW

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

- Information on fees for the time delay in overseeing the project due to the changes from the original scope till now will be brought back.
- The original date of completion was July 2024, and that was pushed to June 2025, and that is why the extension of this contract.
- There is potential litigation due to the walls being built offsite not onsite as approved by the Board.
- This school is a safe, solid school and one that is recommended to be used as a prototype.

INSTALLATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM CAMERA VIOLATION PROGRAM

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Terms of the contract.
- This is the awarding of the contract to the best bidder. Contract negotiations will be ongoing awaiting resolution of certain items regarding this program, such as enforcement responsibilities, penalties, appeals process, etc. These items will be brought back to the Board.

ADULT MEAL PRICE INCREASE FOR DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- The amount of the increase was explained.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT - TC v. DCSB

Dr. Bernier and Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Importance of following the First Amendment Rule.
- Specifics of the rule were explained.

APPROVAL OF THE 2026 DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

- This item will be discussed in the following workshop.

APPROVAL OF THE NAME OF DUNCAN U. FLETCHER HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD

- The school will also receive a new turf field this year.
- The request to rename it after the former athletic director, Coach Joe Reynolds.
- Expenses of the name change.

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED OPENGATE WEAPONS DETECTION SYSTEM

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Benefits of this program.
- Maintenance responsibilities.
- Projected life and warrantee periods will be brought back.

Comments from Elected Officials

None

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Melody A. Bolduc

PASSED: 7 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Melody A. Bolduc

Reginold Blount

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman