



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

January 6, 2026, Regular Board 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. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

The students from The San Mateo Elementary Music Club gave a performance prior to the meeting.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

Invocation:

- Pastor Terry Brown of St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church.
Partners with William M. Raines High School.

Thought of the Day:

- Captain Timothy 'TJ' Cole, Senior - William M. Raines High School
Member of the Class 3A Champions Football Team.

Chairman Joyce expressed recognition and commendation to Captain Cole and the Raines High School Football Team for representing Duval County Public Schools.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

ARLINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Chairman Joyce again acknowledged the students from San Mateo Elementary Music Club. She also recognized the William M. Raines High School Band and Cheerleaders as they provided entertainment as the public arrived for the meeting.

Scott Stewart, Principal of Arlington Middle School, thanked Board Member Ricardo for the invitation to present at the meeting. He also expressed thanks to the other Board Members.

Principal Stewart then introduced the employees who had accompanied him at the meeting:

- Donald Taft, Assistant Principal.
- Stephanie Jenkins, Science Lead Teacher.
- McKenzie Fletcher, Social Studies Lead Civics Teacher.
- Jessica Simington, Math Lead Teacher.
- Students, Zinayla Douglas and Mya Waters.

Principal Stewart and staff from the school used a PowerPoint presentation to share information about Arlington Middle School.

Board Member Ricardo expressed appreciation for the information that was shared and the work that is being done at the school.

Communications

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FINALISTS AND WINNER

Assistant Principal and Principal of the Year finalists, and Assistant Principal and Principal of the Year winners were recognized during this time. Each honoree received a Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

Assistant Principal of the Year Finalists and Winner

Assistant Principal Finalists:

Region 2 - Monifa Campbell of Enterprise Learning Academy.

- Ms. Campbell describes her leadership style as rooted in service, high expectations, and care for people.
- She also believes that when teachers feel supported, students thrive.

Region 3 - Alicia Hinson of Northwestern Legends Elementary.

- Ms. Hinson believes in a collective commitment to ensure students remain the number one priority.
- She's also driven by the school's vision of promoting academic excellence and social responsibility

Middle School Region - Brianna Jefferson of Highlands Middle.

- Ms. Jefferson's leadership is rooted in service, consistency, and high expectations paired with genuine support.
- She believes effective leaders are visible, approachable, and willing to lead alongside their teams, especially during challenging moments.

Hope Region - Philip Mitchell of Grand Park. (Was not able to make it this evening.)

- His primary leadership principles are rooted in being a servant-leader; establishing a collaborative culture; being able to clearly articulate his vision; as well as leading by example.

The Assistant Principal of the Year. That honor goes to Region 1 - Abigail Watson of Southside Estates Elementary.

- Watson says a successful school year begins with high expectations paired with genuine support for both students and staff.
- She believes strong leadership is rooted in relationships, trust, and clarity of purpose...and that when leaders listen, communicate openly, and lead with empathy, people feel valued and empowered to do their best work.

PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FINALISTS AND WINNER

Principal of the Year finalists:

Region 1 - Violet Stovall of Pickett Elementary.

- Ms. Stovall is keen on building a positive school culture with staff, students, and families to increase collaboration and commitment.
- She prioritizes communicating and implementing a clear, data-driven vision focused on student academic success.

Region 2 – Davina Parker of Spring Park Elementary.

- Ms. Parker holds principles of leadership that are grounded in service, equity, and the unwavering belief that every student and educator has untapped potential waiting to be unlocked.
- She leads by building trust, empowering others through distributed leadership, and using data.

Middle School Region - Dr. Cicely Tyson-White of Chaffee Trail.

- She has served as a middle school administrator for 14 years, leading with a strong commitment to student growth, school culture, and academic excellence.
- She lives by the quote from Dr. May McLeod Bethune, "Knowledge is the prime need of the hour."

Hope Region – Dr. Truitte Moreland of Andrew Jackson High School.

- He believes a successful school year is defined by three outcomes: measurable student learning gains, a safe learning environment, and well-supported, high-capacity, resilient staff.
- He says effective leaders teach, model, and inspire others to uphold those same principles.

The Principal of the Year. Region 3 - Kimberly Brown, of Northwestern Legends Elementary.

- Ms. Brown's leadership is built on the principle of faith with works—believing in a vision and taking intentional action to bring it to life.
- By staying laser-focused on the three A's—Academics, Attendance, and Attitude—and forming strong partnerships, her team creates a culture of accountability, eliminates excuses, and ensures growth.

PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS

In November, Governor DeSantis and the Florida Department of Education announced the recipients of the 2025-2028 Purple Star Schools of Distinction.

Twelve Team Duval schools are among those who received this designation for the unwavering support they provide for our military students and families through programs, resources, tools, and support.

The following attended the meeting to celebrate these schools are:

- Team Duval Assistant Superintendent of School Choice, Sharwonda Peek.
- Naval Station Mayport Commanding Officer, Captain Mike Trumbull.
- Naval Station Mayport School Liaison, Sharon Kasica.
- NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Captain Ryan Dexter.
- NAS Jacksonville School Liaison, Teri Wanamaker.

Our new Purple Star Schools of Distinction:

- District 1:
 - Louis S. Sheffield Elementary
- District 2:
 - Abess Park Elementary
 - Anchor Academy
 - Atlantic Beach Elementary
 - Mayport Coastal Sciences Elementary
 - Mayport Coastal Sciences Middle
 - Neptune Beach Elementary
 - San Pablo Elementary
- District 3:
 - Sandalwood High School
- District 5:
 - John N. C. Stockton Elementary
- District 6:
 - Westview K-8
- District 7:
 - Mandarin Middle School

~~PARTNER RECOGNITION: ERNST & YOUNG LLP~~

WILLIAM M. RAINES CLASS 3A FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

The final presentation included honoring the William M. Raines High School football team as our Class 3A State Champions!

- This was the Vikings' fourth time clinching a state title and this year's victory was especially sweet.
- Motivated by last year's loss to Miami Northwestern, Raines embarked on a "revenge tour" with a renewed focus on winning.
- The Vikings went undefeated all season and when it was time for their rematch against Miami Northwestern, Raines prevailed, securing a 23-22 win in the very last ten seconds of the game!
- Jacksonville has been quick to rally around this historic win.
- This included everything from a city proclamation, a pep rally, and a parade to the head coach receiving the key to the city and tickets to the Super Bowl and to team members receiving tickets to a Jags game.

Truly, this was a win for the entire city and a reminder of the heart, tenacity, and pride of the Raines community.

We're proud to recognize those who made this win possible head coach Donovan Masline and his coaching staff, quarterback Timothy Cole and the entire football team, and Principal Vincent Hall and the rest of the school administration.

We also want to acknowledge the school's amazing band and cheerleaders, who were here this evening greeting visitors with their talents as they entered the building.

Board Member Willie shared accolades about the team and the school. He gave acknowledgment to the coaches, staff, and the parents, and all involved in sharing a part of this accomplishment. He finally acknowledged Principal Vincent Hall for his work.

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 6, 2026, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the January 6, 2026, agenda as submitted on December 23, 2025, with the following changes:

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **PARTNER RECOGNITION - ERNEST & YOUNG LLP - ITEM REMOVED**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- **Approval of Agenda - Item Updated.**

SCHOOL CHOICE AND PUPIL ASSIGNMENTS:

- **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE SY2025-2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (I'M A STAR FOUNDATION) – GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)**
- **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE SY2025-2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE) – GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)**

OPERATIONS - REAL ESTATE, PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING:

- **APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER AGREEMENTS TO PURCHASE THE 1.57 ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1007 US HIGHWAY 90 WEST, BALDWIN, FLORIDA 32234 FROM ELLEN GORDON, AND AMEND AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHARLES AND JOANN AGIN, AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY. - item Amended.**

DISCUSSION

SCHOOLS OF HOPE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA ADDITION - Item Updated.

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: Reginald Blount

No discussion.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

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

Nay:
None

Chairperson's Report

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Chairman Joyce shared information about the following:

- CELEBRATIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS.
- PLANNING FOR THE YEAR AHEAD.
- SCHOOLS OF HOPE.
- UPCOMING DATES & ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Superintendent's Reports

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Bernier shared information on the following:

- GROUP OF YOUNG MEN TRYING TO FIND OUT SCIENTIFICALLY WHAT TO DO WITH PLASTIC.
- UPCOMING TESTING.
- DECEMBER RECAP.
- GIVING TREE.
- 2025 PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR - NORTHWESTERN LEGENDS E.S. - KIMBERLY BROWN.
- 2025 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR - SOUTHSIDE ESTATES E.S. - ABIGAIL WATSON.
- 2026 TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS.
- TALENTOS HISPANOS AWARDS CEREMONY - INGRID CARIAS.
- CELEBRATING PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS - 38 SCHOOLS.
- 3A STATE CHAMPIONS - WILLIAM M. RAINES H.S.
- BE SMART ONLINE.
- LOTTERY APPLICATION WINDOW.
- BE SAFE, BE SEEN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

Department Reports

No reports.

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

No report.

Comments from Elected Officials

No comments.

Public Comment

21 members of the public signed up to speak, and 5 members of the public waived their speaking time. The members of the public that signed up to speak were given 2 minutes each.

Comments from Parent Organizations

Bobbie Brewer, Secretary for Duval County Council of PTA.

Comments from District Student Government Association

No comments.

Comments from Employee Organizations

Tammie Brooks-Evans - DTU President.
Frank Delong - IBEW Representative.

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

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

- **December 1, 2025, Regular Board Meeting**
- **December 9, 2025, Board Workshop**
- **December 10, 2025, Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing(s)**
- **December 16, 2025, Agenda Committee Meeting**

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Melody A. Bolduc

No discussion.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc
Cindy 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: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: Reginald Blount

No discussion.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

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

Nay:

None

Consent Agenda

School Choice and Pupil Assignment

1. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE SY2025-2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (I'M A STAR FOUNDATION) – GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

2. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE SY2025-2026, YEAR 5 GEAR UP AGREEMENT (FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE) – GRANT B (CLASS OF 2027)

Human Resource Services - Staffing

3. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS

4. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – INTERNAL AUDITOR I, II, III COORDINATOR

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

5. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – OLUYINKA FESOJAIYE

6. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – LARRY PARSONS

7. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – LEANDER PICKETT

8. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – JAMES WAGNER

9. EMPLOYEE TERMINATION – DONNA MUNDY

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

10. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS — NOVEMBER 2025

11. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - OCTOBER 2025

Information Technology

12. QUADRANT SECURITY AND INFORMATION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT (SIEM)

13. APPROVAL OF FINAL ORDER RE: RECOMMENDED ORDER OF CASE NO. 25-4097BID AT&T ENTERPRISES V. THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

14. APPROVE THE GRANT OF ACCESS AND UTILITIES EASEMENT AND PURCHASE AND SALE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR SHELDON DRIVE AT EDWARD H. WHITE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 248

15. AUTHORIZE THE DEMOLITION OF THE FORMER SUSIE TOLBERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 128

16. SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY – LOT 1, BLOCK 12 SHADYSIDE, LOCATED ADJACENT TO JULIA LANDON MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 31, PORTION OF REAL ESTATE NUMBER 082038-0000, PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT

17. APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER AGREEMENTS TO PURCHASE THE 1.57 ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1007 US HIGHWAY 90 WEST, BALDWIN, FLORIDA 32234 FROM ELLEN GORDON, AND AMEND AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHARLES AND JOANN AGIN, AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY.

18. APPROVE THE BOARD CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR TO ENTER INTO DONATION AGREEMENT FOR PROPERTIES AT 11231 PHILIPS INDUSTRIAL BLVD E, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32256

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

19. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

20. CHANGE ORDER REPORT

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

22. CONTINUING SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS: SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD/RFQ NO. 06-26/DB

23. AMENDMENT TO THE DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT CONTRACT — NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE SPRING PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 06-22/TW - PROJECT NO. P-91760 (f.k.a P-91720)

24. AMENDMENT TO G.M. HILL CONTRACT FOR ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS: CONTRACT AWARD/RFQ NO. 03-26/DB

25. PHASE III CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS APPROVAL FOR THE NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE HOGAN SPRING GLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PROJECT NO. P-9176008

26. SELECTION AND AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE HOGAN SPRING GLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 64 - RFQ NO. 07-26/DB - PROJECT NO. P-91760

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

27. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

28. NOVEMBER 2025 PURCHASE REPORT

Discussion

Board Members

29. SCHOOLS OF HOPE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA ADDITION

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board is requested to approve the Schools of Hope Legislative Agenda Addition, which outlines the district's advocacy priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: Anthony Ricardo

Board Member Pearson:

- Requested for the Board to approve language that would be an amendment to Duval's legislative agenda.
- The language had been approved by the Florida School Board Association's (FSBA) Advocacy Committee, at the state conference, and is now on FSBA's legislative agenda.
- Shared what could happen if the Board approved the language.

Chairman Joyce:

- Expressed her concerns about approving the adjustment to the legislative platform and then shared why she would not be voting for the change.

Board Member Willie:

- Shared his thoughts about the Schools of Hope.
Shared that the changes allow others to see where the Board stands.

Vice-Chairman Carney:

- Mentioned that she agreed with the statements on FSBA, that the Board is already doing the work by communicating with various elected officials, and that putting things on paper is not doing the work.
- Shared that there is nothing in board policy about having something on the legislative platform. May want to review the policy again.

Board Member Ricardo:

- Shared that he is in agreement with the comments about the Board already doing the work and not having to put information in writing.

Chairman Joyce:

- Emphasized the items that are already on the platform.
- Mentioned that she has had conversations with those from the Department of Education and elected officials, and that things are probably going to change.

Board Member Bolduc:

- Share that her constituents want the information added to the platform.
- Agrees that the Board is already doing the work, and that the number of items on a platform can be difficult when having a brief conversation with the legislators.

Board Member Blount:

- Shared that his constituents also want the information added to the platform.
- Shared that he has had conversations with elected officials.
- Does not see a problem with having seven items on the platform.

Board Member Willie:

- Shared what the possible problem could be by not having the item on the platform. Does not know what rules the rule-makers are going to make.
- The number of items on the platform doesn't matter.
- Shared how adding the item would help staff and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to advocate.

Vice-Chair Carney:

- Talked about the work that has already been done.
- Concerned that the other items on the platform would be lost due to the advocacy of the amendment.

Chairman Joyce:

- Shared what she anticipates could happen if everyone focuses on Schools of Hope.
- Encouraged Board Members to focus on Duval's legislative platform.

Board Member Bolduc:

- Provided a suggestion about making a note that Duval County supports the FSBA platform.

Board Member Pearson:

- Talked about prioritizing time when speaking with the legislative officials.
- Explained the importance of the item.
- Encouraged the Board to be proactive instead of reactive.

Dr. Bernier provided a recap of his comments about the District's Lobbyist speaking on behalf of the Board.

There were a few more comments made regarding thoughts and concerns about the item.

PASSED 4-3

Aye:

Reginald Blount
Melody A. Bolduc
Cindy Pearson
Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Anthony Ricardo

Board Member Travel

No travel.

Superintendent's Travel

SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Superintendent's travel:

- **February 16–17, 2026, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida — Leadership Jacksonville Executive Program 2026.**

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Reginald Blount

Dr. Bernier shared the purpose of the Board voting on this particular travel.

No discussion.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

For The Record

Board Member Ricardo shared the following:

- Served as a guest judge for the San Mateo Spelling Bee.
- Attended the Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge.
- Taste of Parker at Terry Parker High School.
- Teacher of the Year - Ms. Monica Gold - Arlington Middle School.
- 3D printing lab at A. Philip Randolph.

Board Member Willie shared the following:

- Congratulated the William M. Raines High School football team, cheerleaders, and band.
- Congratulated all the finalists and winners for the Principal of the Year, Teacher of the Year and Assistant Principal of the Year.
- Teacher of the Year Recognition.
- Sallye B. Mathis - Realtor Group provided sneakers to every student.

Board Member Pearson shared the following:

- Thanked Farah and Farah - Be Safe, Be Seen.

- Shared a list of Bills to keep an eye on, and the difference between Senate and House Bills.
- Encouraged the public to keep an eye on the Property Tax discussion.

Board Member Blount shared the following:

- Visited Reynolds Lane with Leon Braxton - Communities in School.
- Teacher of the Year at Reynolds Lane.
- Will be making another round of visits to the schools.

Board Member Bolduc shared the following:

- Shared experience from the Florida School Board Association Conference.
- Visited schools, met with some of the employees and expressed thanks to them.

Vice-Chairman Carney shared the following:

- The 12 Purple Star Schools.
- Congratulated the students of Mayport Middle who are going to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) conference in New Orleans.
- Encouraged attendance at the Be Smart Online event at Kernan Middle on January 14th.
- Congratulated Williams M. Raines High School football team.

Chairman Joyce:

- District-wide test time.
- Congratulated Williams M. Raines High School football team.
- Expressed appreciation to the Board for the commentary and conversation.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting 8:57 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Melody A. Bolduc

No discussion.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

GC

Superintendent

Chairman