



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

January 21, 2026, Policy Handbook Review 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 except Board Members Anthony Ricardo and Darryl D. Willie. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were also present. *Board Member Blount arrived at 9:22 a.m.*

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. BOARD POLICY 4.30 CHALLENGED MATERIALS, WITH CORRESPONDING PROCEDURE

Cami Sams, Executive Director of Policy and Compliance, and William Spillias, Office of General Counsel Attorney explained the changes to the policy.

Discussion involved:

- An explanation was provided regarding the changes that were made.
- The purpose for including Florida Statute (F.S.) 847.012 in the policy.
- Appointees.
- The verbiage regarding what is pornographic, and documenting what is considered age appropriate.
- Stick to what the statute says.
- The changes to the language in the policy are set up according to the F.S. and the Federal court.
- Concerns and conversation regarding the procedures were shared.
- Look books up by the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) instead of title.
- Florida Statute (F.S.) 1006.28 regarding inappropriate material was briefly reviewed.
- Location regarding the list of books that have been removed.

- Look into changing the term “Book Reconsideration” to “Book Challenge Review Form”. Research will be done to make sure it is aligned with F.S.
- The form for challenged materials is an electronic PDF form.
- The form does not cause a problem for the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
- Paper forms will be made available for people who do not have access to a computer.

2. BOARD POLICY 5.42 DISTRICT STUDENT ATTENDANCE PROVISIONS

Ms. Sams reviewed the changes to the policy.

- Conversation was had about setting the expectations for parents/students who request absences for off-campus religious instruction during the school day.

3. BOARD POLICY 5.40 STUDENT ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

This policy has been abolished.

Mr. Spillias introduced Mr. Shane McGrath, the new attorney from the Office of General Counsel assigned to the district.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

GC

Superintendent

Chairman