



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

January 20, 2026, Board Workshop

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 Member Mr. Darryl D. Willie. Mr. Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff, was present for Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, who was not present. Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, was also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. SCHOOLS OF HOPE

Eugene Hays, Director, School Choice Pathways, presented a PowerPoint presentation, Schools of Hope Update (see attached). He and Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Legislation.
- Rule.
- Hope Operators.
- Impacted District Schools.
- District Actions.
- Next Steps.

2. STRATEGIC PLAN: FOSTER SAFE LEARNING & WORKSPACE ENVIRONMENT

Scott Schneider, Chief of Schools, Jacqueline Watkins, Chief Officer, Human Resources, Kristen Spinner and Michelle Philips, Employee Wellness, Dr. Anna Dewese, Executive Director, Student Discipline & Support Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation (see attached), Fostering Safe Learning & Workplace Environments. They and Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff, joined in the discussion on the following:

Human Resources:

- Blue Zone Schools.
- Employee Preventive Wellness Screenings.

Division of Schools:

- Student Safety Perceptions.
- Parent Perceptions of Student Safety.
- Teacher Perceptions of Classroom Disorder.

School Choice Pathways:

- Student Discipline Recidivism.
- Zero Discipline.
- Bullying and Harassment.
- A request for a workshop on the breakdown of student referrals.

3. GOVERNANCE

The following items were discussed during governance:

- Rulemaking in Tallahassee is next Monday, January 26, 2026.
- The Subcommittee on Board Policy 8.51 will be Vice Chairman, April A. Carney, Board Member Cindy Pearson, and Board Member Anthony Ricardo. Chairman Joyce will reach out to Board Member Willie and confirm with him.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Melody A. Bolduc

Second: Reginald Blount

PASSED: 6-0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Melody A. Bolduc

Reginald Blount

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman