Meeting Minutes
Duval County Public Schools

February 18, 2026, Policy Subcommittee 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 Chairman Charlotte Joyce, Board Members Reginald Blount and Darryl Willie. *Board Member Melody Bolduc arrived at 1:15 p.m.* Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were not present. Other staff members in attendance included Corey Wright, Chief Officer, Accountability and Assessment, Cami Sams, Executive Director, Policy and Compliance, Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice Pathways, and Jennifer Copeland, Specialist, Strategic Partnership.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. BOARD POLICY 5.44 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

Cami Sams shared the purpose of the meeting, which was to establish the committee members and walk through the revised version of Board Policy 5.44. The following were discussed:

- The goal is to set up community feedback.
- New Changes:
  - Structural Changes to align with diversity.
  - Things taken out of policy and things kept in the policy.
- Thought process behind what was taken out and added.
- Changes to when the Superintendent will submit a report to the School Board. The report will now be published at the end of the year instead of July.
  - The report will cover school census data and the utilization report.
- Monitoring and readjusting configuration.
- Implementation of strategies for enrollment increase.
  - Where utilization requires changes.
  - Structural changes may be needed.

- The minimum that triggers the adjust located under the School Census and Utilization Report.
- A request was made to have more protection for schools that are under 85%.
- Buildings that are unable to accommodate seven hundred (700) students.
- The need to consider a clear data-driven definition based on utilization for Monitor, Adjust and Reconfigure.
  - Other things to be considered in the definition.
  - Florida Statute 1002.333(7)(d) and Pre-K funding.
- Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) should be used as the baseline.
  - Utilization would go up if the FISH number is lower.
- Structural concerns.
- Deferred maintenance.
- A suggestion was made to have something in the policy to support if a building is popular and well utilized but has structural issues that need to be taken into consideration.
- Spaces that are underutilized due to issues that need to be dealt with.
- If a school meets the 85% criteria for capacity, then leave the school open.
- Concerns regarding limitations due to a school's capacity and the risk of being closed.
- Concerns regarding keeping a school open because of utilization, but the cost to maintain the school is inefficient.
- Percentage should be based upon the utilization.
- Full-time equivalent student (FTE).
- Small schools that are underutilized.
- Rank schools based upon utilization.
- How to weigh the factors involved.
  - Monitor, adjust, and reconfigure.
  - Consider the factors between the community and the board.
  - When consolidation takes place, it allows more money for the students.
  - Ensuring that the community understands why the consolidations need to happen and how it can be done while having a positive impact on everyone.
- Hold-Harmless Period
  - No additional boundary changes during this time.
- Section A for Criteria, Major Maintenance and School Performance was added.
  - Program accessibility was added to Access and Opportunity.
  - Discussions regarding adding School Performance.
- The goal is not to disrupt students.
- Continuity factor.
- Concerns regarding stability were shared.
- Not consolidating a school and not having continuity.
- The 3-year window referenced in the hold-harmless period would produce equitability.
- A request was made to have all schools balanced.
- Think futuristically and be strategic in planning.
- A. (6) and (7) will be combined and titled "Stability."
- The criteria for Considering New Boundaries, Consolidations, and Closures were aligned as:
  - Capacity.
  - Size.
  - Proximity.
  - Siblings.
  - Programs.
  - Major Maintenance.
  - Stability.

    - School Performance.
- ACE working group process.
- The acceptable range for monitoring under the School Census and Utilization Report.
- Identify what constitutes reconfiguration.
- Magnet schools that do not have an opportunity to increase their enrollment.
- An inquiry was made regarding a separate policy for Programs.
    - Magnet programs under 64%.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

MA

Superintendent

Chairman