



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

March 24, 2026, 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. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - April 7, 2026

JULY 2026 REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING DATES

- Appreciation was expressed for the move to July 1, 2026.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND CONTRACTED GRANT STAFF AUGMENTATION

Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, Corey Wright, Chief Officer, Accountability & Assessment, and Ashley Barr, Director, Strategic Partnership, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Overview of roles and outcomes of specific grants.
- \$65 million in grants has been obtained by one person since 2021.
- Appreciation expressed for this opportunity to assist with services for Mayport.
- How grants will be pursued was explained.

AGREEMENT WITH BE G.L.A.D., LLC.

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

- Appreciation was expressed for the program, the training, and the assistance it provides for our students which includes those from 113 different countries and languages.

- A request for more recent data points to be included on the item was made.
- A clarification that Windy Hill, which was consolidated, should be listed as Greenfield.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH READ USA, INC.

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

- Private school funds.
- Why the item was brought before the Board was explained.

APPROVAL OF DISTRICT CALENDAR FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Wright joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation was expressed for the students and teaching staff having the full week of Thanksgiving off.
- Duval was the only district in Florida to not provide this for students and teachers.
- Appreciation for the work by Mr. Wright on this item was expressed.
- Questions were raised as to why this was not done in the past. Dr. Bernier stated he could not answer why to the past, but when he became aware that we were the only district in Florida not providing this, he challenged his team to make this happen.
- Concerns were also expressed about families who would not be taking vacations and the need to provide childcare, etc., to those families.
- The members of the calendar committee and how they are chosen was explained.

2026-2027 ARUX SOFTWARE, INC. (EXTENDED DAY & AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS REGISTRATION & PROGRAMMING PLATFORM)

Dr. Bernier, Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice Pathways, and Darrin Williams, Director, Community Ed & Extended Day Program, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Funding.
- Fees are embedded into the charges for services.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR - PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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

- Appreciation was expressed for the organizational chart.
- Job description changes.
- Positions that were collapsed which provided for the position to be created. This is reorganization of the department without spending additional dollars.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS - FEBRUARY 2026

Dr. Bernier and Ronald Fagan, Chief Financial Officer, joined in the discussion on the following:

- An overview of the budget was provided.
- The new academic acceleration categorical was explained. It was previously told to the district that this would be good for the district, but funding to the district was actually decreased.
- Declining birth rates.
- The amount the district lost due to the family empowerment scholarship was explained.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 2026

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Fagan joined in the discussion on the following:

- An overview of the financial statements was provided.

WIDE AREA NETWORK (WAN) SERVICES

Dr. Bernier and Jim Culbert, Chief Officer, Operations & Technology Services joined in the discussion on the following:

- An overview of the item and what it provides for both students and schools was explained.

REAL ESTATE LICENSE AGREEMENT AT THE KING STREET MAINTENANCE WITH KIEWIT INFRASTRUCTURE SOUTH CO. FOR THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE'S MCCOYS CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Dr. Bernier, Mr Culbert and Randy Gallup, Director, Facilities Planning & Program Management, joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of the project.
- An explanation regarding the responsibility of any cleanup and waste.

CHANGE ORDER REPORT

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Culbert joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation for the decrease in the number of items in this report.
- Widening of bid process and cost savings.

CONTINUING SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS: SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD / RFQ NO. 11-26/DB

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Culbert joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of the item was given.
- The increase in the number of contracts in an attempt to obtain better pricing.
- Build designs.
- Inspection processes.
- Lack of review of contractors in the past and the current process.

EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDING CODE INSPECTION SERVICES - YEAR 3 OF 4 RENEWALS - RFP NO. 18-23/TW

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Culbert joined in the discussion on the following:

- District expectations of projects versus minimum expectations were explained.
- A request for a comparison of previous not to exceed amounts was made.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEM (EMCS) SERVICES

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Culbert joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of the product.
- A bring back request for an update on schools for this item.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF K12 ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS, WORLD LANGUAGES AND PERSONL FINANCE TEXTBOOK MATERIALS

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

- An overview of the courses.
- Appreciation was expressed for the data sets and the Dave Ramsey text.

Comments from Elected Officials

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: April A. Carney

Second: Cindy Pearson

PASSED: 7 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Darryl D. Willie

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman