



Meeting Minutes

Duval County Public Schools

April 29, 2026, Academic and Community Excellence (ACE) 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 D. Joyce, Board Member Reginald Blount, and Board Member Darryl D. Willie. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were also not present.

Staff members present:

- Ashley Barr, Director Strategic Partnership
- Cami Sams, Executive Director Policy & Compliance
- Sharwonda Peek, Assistant Superintendent School Choice Pathways
- Corey Wright, Chief Officer Accountability & Assessment

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. BOARD POLICY 5.44, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

Ashley Barr, Director Strategic Planning, started the meeting off by sharing all the changes that had been made to the policy based on the conversations from the previous meeting. All the new changes were highlighted in yellow.

Board Members were given an opportunity to add any additional variables that align to the guardrails that were already listed.

Discussion involved:

- The chronological order of the step-by-step process under Community Awareness and Engagement.

- Consider using bullet points or a flow chart, so the public can understand the process better.
- Potential scenarios.
- The process is intended to help with community feedback.
- On page 4, keep the numbers and add the state report.
- Community Awareness and Discovery.
- Inquiry within the community and work with the community to solve issues.
- Information from this meeting will help inform the Master Facility Plan (MFP).
- School Census and Utilization Report and the Annual Enrollment Study.
- Trigger the Reconfigure process, and that will trigger the Community Engagement process.
- Review of the Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) report.
- Schools that are in the Adjust or Reconfigure phases.
- Appropriate attention to the schools that may potentially close versus the schools that are definitely being closed.
- Feedback on the scenarios.
- Community Re-engagement and final input.
- At each stage in the Adjust phase, there needs to be community feedback/input.
- The district maps need to be improved for better transparency.
- Talking about schools and the fate of schools causes panic in the community. Information needs to be presented to prevent panic in the community and help the situation to be more successful.
- The Reconfigure phase causes flight.
- There is a need to figure out why people are not choosing their neighborhood schools.
- If choice options are held back, it may cause panic which can affect Full-time Equivalent fund (FTE).
- Over magnetization.
- The programs in magnet schools should be offered in the neighborhood schools.
- Consider having a school within a school to help keep the students.
- Look at the largest number of students leaving neighborhood schools for a magnet program at a particular school. Look at the continuity of that particular school and use it as a pilot to start phasing the programs into the neighborhood schools.
- Scope.
- Board Policy 5.46, Magnet Schools and Programs, is going to be brought back for discussion, and should be able to help with some of the issues of concern.
- Indicators based off of reconfiguration.
- Have a meeting with the most engaged people to explain the policy to them, and then they can get the information to others.
- There is a domino effect. There are other schools affected due to the Adjust and Reconfigure phases.
- Program continuity and neighborhood priority.
- Access to high quality programs.
- Losing students due to consolidation and the programs that are offered or not offered.
- Segregation also plays a part as to why the District has so many schools.
- There is a need to involve the Communications Department in the process.
- Consider passing this current policy while working on the other policies.
- The transparency and community engagement sections need to be communicated as soon as possible.
- Much discussion took place to determine whether to move forward with the policy as is or not, and how to handle the other policies that are affected by this policy.
- Disposal of property.

- List schools in a different order based on scenarios.
- Dependent policies.
- Data availability.
- There is a change in student enrollment after the holidays because students come and go. It is not a significant jump.
- Board Policy 5.44 will be moved to the May agenda for the Board to vote on.
- It will be around the second half of next school year before any more conversations about schools take place.
- Date of implementation.
- Determination about what order to work on the rest of the policies.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

GC

Superintendent

Chairman