



# Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

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## May 20, 2026, Academic and Community Excellence (ACE) Policy Subcommittee Meeting - REVISED

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 Members Reginald Blount and Darryl D. Willie. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were not present. *Board Member Ricardo arrived at 1:21 p.m.*

Staff members present:

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

### Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

### Items to be Discussed

1. BOARD POLICY 5.46 MAGNET SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Ashley Barr, Director Strategic Partnership used a PowerPoint Presentation (see attached) to review 5.46 Magnet and Choice Programs.

Review and discussion involved:

- What is 5.46 Magnet and Choice Programs.
- Current Policy Barriers.
- Feedback received - Policy Review May 2026.
- Change in Choice landscape. Provide incentives.
- Intent & Design - Policy Revisions.
- This policy will reflect back to policy 5.44.
- Overview of Proposal:
  - Original policy (Magnet Schools and Programs).
  - Newly drafted policy (Programming and Choice Opportunities).
- Major Changes at a Glance.
- Redline Review and Feedback.
- This policy will encompass every school in the district.
- Use a systems approach and everything we offer to district programming.
- Other instructional operational models - the district had applied to be a part of the marketplace and district run charter schools.
- The ability for students to participate in extracurricular activities - home school, charter school, private school, and Florida Virtual School (consider adding in a policy).
- Policy speaks to programming only.
- This policy allows examination of everything that the district offers.
- Goals of Programming & Choice Opportunities.
- Program Development & Implementation:
  - Remove numbers, alphabetize, and use bullets.
  - Board involvement.
  - Remove 'replication' out of para 2 and leave in para 3.
- Access and Admissions:
  - The procedure is already outlined in policy.
  - Updating procedures annually would be helpful.
- The Board could use a refresher before the choice fair.
- Special Transfers:
  - Special transfers need to be better defined.
- Controlled Open Enrollment.
- An explanation was provided about accessing the school of your choice.
- Use the language that is online regarding controlled open enrollment to the policy.
- Special transfer option – a student is able to attend a school that is not a magnet school/magnet program, and not the student's neighborhood school.
- Special transfer is not a pathway; it is an administrative designation.
- The Lottery.
- Magnet schools and programs.
- School options for teachers' children.

- Discussion about where to add information about special transfers or to strike it out.
- The timeframe of controlled open enrollment.
- Students who have a hope scholarship.
- A student can be accepted in a school at the principal's discretion.
- Controlled open enrollment is based on capacity and is opened quarterly.
- Work on coming up with another name instead of just 'special transfer'.
- Programming and Choice Opportunities.
- Choice Programs.
- It is a struggle to understand if schools are dedicated magnet, magnet, or choice.
- Magnet schools within boundaries and outside of boundaries.
- Clarification of Choice is needed.
- Schools within schools.
- Provide parents with clarification about the magnet, choice, and dedicated magnet programs.
- Get rid of magnet schools, create dedicated magnet and choice only.
- Parents need to know that if a child is in a gifted program and their child is not magnetized, it does not mean their child will get into the next school for the gifted program.
- School within a school program is only in secondary schools.
- Elementary schools are whole school magnet schools.
- The process of enrolling a student is confusing.
- Transportation versus non-transportation.
- Replicating programs versus transportation.
- Acceleration and Advanced Academic Opportunities.
- Add language to explain that access to these programs is strictly merit-based only.
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs.
- Career and Professional Education Act (CAPE) industry certification is not a merit-based program. It belongs under CTE.
- Monitoring and Reporting.
- Administrative Procedures and Implementation.
- Notify the Board through the weekly update.
- Community Engagement.
  - Alphabetize the purpose of the community engagement list.
  - Remove the section on 'Applicability'.
- Consideration of Feedback.
  - Remove line about permanent committees and advisory bodies.
- Make sure the community knows what to expect.
- When looking for something in policy, it is easy to find. If looking for something in a procedure, it cannot be found.
- The definition of reasonable as used in the policy was explained.
- Recruitment and Outreach.
- Transportation.
- Next steps were discussed.

## Adjournment

### 1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Superintendent

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Chairman