



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

June 16, 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 except Vice-Chairman April A. Carney. Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Mr. William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, were also present. *Board Member Darryl Willie arrived at 9:30 a.m. and left at 11:35 a.m.*

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - July 1, 2026

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF UNIQUE LEARNING SYSTEMS

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

- Difference between last year's cost and the upcoming year's cost.
- The subscription cost is per student.
- Enrollment anticipation.

APPROVAL OF THE UNITED WAY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA FULL SERVICE SCHOOLS

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Gap analysis break down.
- How the contract would be funded if funds are lost.

- Kids Hope Alliance (KHA) and tax change that goes into effect 2027–2028.
- Property tax on the November ballot and when it could possibly go into effect.

APPROVAL OF FLDOE MENTAL HEALTH ALLOCATION PLAN

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

- Daily Living Activities-20 (DLA-20) and the rule change.
- How DLA affects the district.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF READ180 FOR 6TH-8TH INTENSIVE READING

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Read180 has been used for many years.
- Read 180 is used for different readers with different gaps.
- The contract is for 5 years.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WRITING RESOURCE FOR GRADES 9-12 FROM TURNITIN, LLC.

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Turnitin features.
- International Baccalaureate teacher support.
- Student support.
- Support for Student Code of Conduct.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COURSEMOJO FOR GRADES 6-8 ELA

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

- Aligned to curriculum.
- Assist teachers with standards already being taught.
- Encourages student participation and dialog.
- Prompts to guide through questioning.
- Teacher dashboard to detect misconceptions.
- Cost.
- Student Outcome.

APPROVAL OF COMPREHENSIVE EVIDENCE-BASED READING PLAN (CERP) 2026-2027

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Financial Impact.
- How supplemental academic instructional dollars will be used.
- State plan-based allocation.
- Cost comparison through the years.
- Declining cost and why.
- Duplicated services removed.

- Fidelity measures.
- Base student allocation.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS (CGCS) 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The responsible party.
- Expense was removed from the Board's budget.
- Slight increase in dues and fees.
- Future options for board members to participate in conferences.
- Blends staff and board activities and provides opportunities to gain information from top organizations.
- Provides opportunities to expand.
- The organization informs regarding policies at the federal level.
- The difference between CGCS and Florida School Boards Association (FSBA).
- CGCS gives a national perspective and provides support to the Superintendent and Cabinet Members.

APPROVAL OF TITLE I, PART A INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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

- The number of private schools participating.
- How it is funded.
- Poverty index.
- Parents self-identify.
- Final calculation of award.
- Schools impacted.
- Reimbursement process.
- Administrative fees.

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE LAMPO GROUP, LLC. (RAMSEY EDUCATION) FOR PERSONAL FINANCE AND MONEY MANAGEMENT COURSE

The following was shared:

- Appreciation for how the students can benefit from this item.

APPROVAL AGREEMENT WITH READ USA, INC. FOR TUTORING SERVICES

The following was shared:

- Appreciation for Twin Lakes Elementary being included to receive these services.
- An amazing program.
- Appreciation shared for the work being done by the organization.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONTRACTED SERVICES AT THE SCHULTZ

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Contract employee doing the work versus a Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) employee.
- Employee expertise.
- The individual becoming a DCPS employee.
- Revenue generation.
- History of the Schultz Center.

IMAGINE LEARNING - EDGENUITY FOR DVIA VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION PROGRAM (VIP) AND DVIA BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM (BLP)

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- State law regarding this item.
- Full-time and virtual students.
- Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) received.
- A financial breakdown was requested as a bring back.
- Cost paid to Florida Virtual.
- New leadership for the virtual program.
- Florida Virtual Flex.
- The number of students that start the program vs. the ones that successfully complete the program was requested as a bring back.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH CITY YEAR, INC. 2026-2027

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- City Year currently services nine (9) schools.
- A request was made to have the services at Crown Point Elementary.
- A specific amount of funding available.
- Less than 27 schools in the district meet the need to pay the cost to have City Year in the school.
- Stretching resources.
- Securing private funding.
- Workforce training.
- Network among all the district's partners.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (DUVAL READS) 2026-2027

Dr. Bernier joined the discussion on the following:

- Positive experiences.
- Leon Baxton, CEO of Communities in Schools, was recognized and appreciation was shared for the work that has been done.

- Plans for expansion or growth. Other schools desire the program.
- The risk of losing property tax dollars and how that would affect after-school programs.
- Funding that supports other supplemental programs to ensure safety.
- A list of all the traditional schools and what program supports the school was requested as a bring back.
- After-school programs are connected to positive student achievement.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS BRIDGE TO SUCCESS (BTS) PROGRAM 2026-2027

This item was discussed in connection with agenda item 20. No further discussion.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS STUDENT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (SEP) 2026-2027

This item was discussed in connection with agenda item 20. No further discussion.

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT WITH THE I'M A S.T.A.R. FOUNDATION, INC. 2026-2027

The following were shared:

- Appreciation was shared for Betty Burney, Executive Director, I'm A S.T.A.R. Foundation and the work being done.
- Partners that adapt to the strategic plan.

APPROVAL OF THE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS, JACKSONVILLE 2026-2027

The following were shared:

- Appreciation for the program and the work being done.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR BIZI, INC. 2026-2027 (TITLE I, PART A FUNDED)

The following was discussed:

- The reasoning behind the 2 separate contracts, Title I Funded and Non-Funded Title I.
- The cost is based upon the number of students on campus and the type of educational services.
- Community partner support.
- Bizi store.

*The meeting recessed at 10:36 a.m.
The meeting resumed at 10:44 a.m.*

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS — MAY 2026

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

- Update on fund balance.
- The financial position of the district.
- Explanation of debt.
- Capital fund balance.
- Appreciation for Mr. Fagan's work.
- Budget is stable and expenditures are being watched.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - APRIL 2026

This item was discussed in conjunction with item 32.

RESOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY ACCEPTING THE DONATION AND CONVEYANCE OF THE FORMER U.S. HIGHWAY 301 RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- This is a donation from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).
- For the purpose of extending the new build for Baldwin.

APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT OF A TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY AND THE JACKSONVILLE ELECTRIC AUTHORITY FOR THE MCMILLIAN STREET FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation of the item was shared.

DECLARE ORTEGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 16, LOCATED AT 4010 BALTIC STREET AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNSUITABLE AND UNNECESSARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- An explanation was given for this item.
- What happens when a building is declared surplus?
- Concerns with sales of properties.
- Florida statute and board policy.
- No intent to demolish the building, only to surplus.
- A lot of distrust in what is being said.
- Internal policy needs to be revised to ensure we do what we say.
- Things that happened in the past with the sale of properties.
- Policy addresses process.
- Policies currently being worked on by Policy Subcommittee.
- Reasons Ortega is being declared unsuitable.
- When did the Board vote on the closure and consolidation of Ortega?
 - A part of the 2019 Bold Plan and Master Facility Plan.

- A request was made that the same process be used for each school.
- Voting on something as a part of a plan.
- Moving forward, if a school is closed or consolidated, make sure that item comes before the Board as a single item for each school, then placed in the Master Facility Plan (MFP).
- The majority of the students attending Ortega do not live in that neighborhood.
- Did the Board vote on Ortega as an individual item or was it included in a plan that was voted on? More research will be done on this item.
- Timeline for the planning phase of Venetia Elementary.
 - Construction will start in March 2027.
- Community engagement and meetings.
- Ortega student capacity.
- Enrollment expectations to justify building a new school for Venetia Elementary.
- MFP adjusted to deal with issues.
- Past Board communication. Establish a different Academic and Community Excellence (ACE) process.
- Capacity of new build for Venetia Elementary.
- Uncomfortable building a new school, not knowing where the students will come from.

APPROVE GRANT OF AN EASEMENT A BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF DUVAL COUNTY AND PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM, INC FOR A GAS SERVICE LINE AT CHAFFEE TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 142 AND CHAFFEE TRAIL MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 140

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Explanation for the community.
- Communication regarding the extension of the road. A turning lane will be implemented.

CHANGE ORDER REPORT

No Changes.

PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000.

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The number of projects funded through 1-Mill. (Bring Back).

AMENDMENT FOR THE CONTRACTS FOR OEO CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CONTINUING SERVICES: RFQ NO. 20-23/TW

Jim Culbert, Chief Officer, Operations, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Reasoning behind why the amount increased moving from Jacobs to internal.
- Allow Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) companies to bid.

AMENDMENT TO THE DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT CONTRACT — ADDITIONAL SERVICES NO. 1R3 - LORETTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 30 - RFQ NO. 07-

23/LM

Dr. Bernier and Mr. Culbert joined in the discussion. This item was revisited later in the meeting and the following was discussed:

- Appreciation for Mr. Culbert and his team.
- Methods to minimize amendments.
- Finding companies to work within the budget.
- MFP Reduction. Contracts allow contingency.
- Proactive planning to ensure amendments are not necessary.

GSA 4, SEVENTH AMENDMENT FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CONTRACT, STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA

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

- Transportation difficulties.
- Improvements.
- Explanation of changes made.
- Principal feedback.
- Companies are being more responsive.
- Trying to get at least 2 district buses.
- Leadership team communications.
- Not enough buses to transport our students.
- Bus cameras are extremely important.
- Contract language regarding internal cameras.
- Accountability.
- Contracted bus services cost.

MINIMUM MILEAGE AMENDMENT FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CONTRACT, STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA, GSA 5 NINTH AMENDMENT

This item was discussed in conjunction with item # 46.

SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

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

- The method of sale for surplus items.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: 2026-2027 CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Dr. Bernier and Byron Copeland, Director, School Climate Office, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Changes implemented.
- Additional changes were shared.
- Clarification regarding tardiness.
- Flexibility and fairness.

- Dress code.
- Consistency in the approach to the dress code.
- Educating parents.
- A request was made for animal cruelty to be included.
- Animal cruelty should be tracked and addressed.
- The difference between animal cruelty and a misdemeanor.
- Threat team review.

Comments from Elected Officials

None.

Public Comment

There was one public speaker, and she was given 3 minutes to speak.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

Vote Results:

Motion: Anthony Ricardo

Second: Reginald Blount

PASSED - 5-0

Aye:

Anthony Ricardo

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cindy Pearson

Charlotte D. Joyce

Nay:

None

MA

Superintendent

Chairman