



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

July 21, 2026, Board Workshop

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 for Board Member Darryl D. Willie. 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 12:18 P.M.

Items to be Discussed

1. 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kortney Wesley, Director of Government Affairs, Kim McDougal, Senior Advisor, The Arrow Group, and Sha-Ron James, Senior Advisor, The Arrow Group, presented a PowerPoint presentation, 2026 Legislative Updates. They, Dr. Christopher Bernier, Superintendent, and Tammie Talley, Director, District Athletics, joined in the discussion on the following:

- HB 0757 - School Safety
- SB 824 - School District Unimproved Real Property
- HB178 - Athletics in Public K-12 Schools
- HB 1201 - Student Health & Safety
- HB 1279 - Education (Ed Train)
- SB 182 - Education
- HB 851 - Additional Learning for Instructional and School Administrative Personnel
- HB 538 - Extracurricular Activities
- HB 561 - Educator Preparation and Certification
- HB 753 - School Counselors

- HB 1069 - Background Screenings
- SB 1296 - Public Employees Relations Commission
- HB 145 - Claims Against the Government - Vetoed
- SB 382 - Micromobility Device - Vetoed
- HB 1073 - Public Education (School Board Member Bill of Rights)
- HB 1471 - Systems of Law and Terrorists Organizations
- HB 373 - Statute of Limitations for Violations Involving Required Reports Concerning Children
- HB 4049 - J-1 Bill
- HB 5001E - General Appropriations Act
- 2027 Outlook

2. FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Jose Acevedo, Director, Foundation Development, presented a PowerPoint presentation Community Collaborations & Partnerships: Foundation Development Update. He and Dr. Br. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Strategic Context
- Architecture & Governance
- Financial Leveraging
- Risk Mitigation
- Roadmap - 2026-2027 Future Timeline

3. STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN

Wendy Dunlap, Executive Director, High School Acceleration & Support Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation 2026-2027 Student Progression Plan (SPP) Updates. She and Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- Purpose: Requirements and Procedures
- Timeline
- SPP Sub-Committees
- SPP Link
- Revisions

4. BOARD POLICIES: CHAPTER 5.44 & CHAPTER 8.50, 8.51, 8.53, 8.59

Dr. Bernier and Cami Sams, Executive Director, Policy & Compliance, joined in the discussion of the following:

- Policy 5.44 - School Attendance Boundaries, School Closure and School Consolidation updates
- Policy 8.50 - Auxillary Services - Educational Facilities Planning
- Policy 8.51 - Auxillary Services - Academic and Community Excellence (ACE) Planning Process
- Policy 8.53 - Auxiliary Services - Closures and Community Impact
- Policy 8.59 - Auxiliary Services - Naming or Renaming Schools

These policies will be re-noticed and placed on the September 2026, Regular Board Meeting agenda.

The meeting was recessed at 1:33 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:39 P.M.

5. GOVERNANCE

Jacqueline Watkins, Chief Officer, Human Resources, and William Spillias, Office of General Counsel, joined in the discussion on the following:

Hiring of a School Board Attorney:

- Candidate ranking by total average points. Gilbert Evans and David Osbourne scored 4.36 total points each and Paul Gibbs and Jared Brooks scored 4.14 total points each. Shane McGrath scored 3.86 points total.
- Each Board Member shared their interview experience regarding each of the candidates and shared their candidate's recommendation for a second interview.
- It was decided David Osbourne, Gilbert Evans and Jared Brooks would advance to a second interview which will be conducted by TEAMS and scheduled for next week.
- Appreciation was expressed to candidate Shane McGrath. It was stated he was very impressive with a great deal of knowledge. It is the Board's desire to continue working with him.

Superintendent's Evaluation:

- A reminder to complete and submit the evaluation tool to either Corey Wright, Deputy Superintendent or Michael Ramirez, Chief of Staff, before the due date of August 1, 2026.

Cancellation of August 11, 2026, Board Workshop - due to the start of school on August 10, 2026.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 P.M.

Vote Results:

Motion: Anthony Ricardo

Second: Melody D. Bolduc

PASSED: 6 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce
April A. Carney
Reginald Blount
Melody D. Bolduc
Cindy Pearson
Anthony Ricardo

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman