



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

July 21, 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 9:04 A.M.

Items to be Discussed

1. DRAFT AGENDA REVIEW - August 4, 2026

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE 2025-2027 FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE DUAL ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT

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

- Financial changes to this item.
- Appreciation was expressed for the assistance with the Maritime Career and Technical Program.
- Scholarships.
- Cost is per credit hour.

APPROVAL OF EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY - DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR FALL 2026 AND SPRING 2027

Dr. Bernier, Ms. Renfro and Corey Wright, Deputy Superintendent, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Private Pilot courses.
- Beginning courses are available at John Ribault High School.
- Cost is per credit hour.
- A request for this program to continue in the future.

CONTRACTED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICES

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

- Financial impact and breakdown of funding.
- Federal mandates.
- Available positions in the district.

2026-2027 DISTRICT ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

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

- The decrease in the number of testing days.

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH BRANCHING MINDS

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

- Costs were explained.
- A bring back request for the number of students served.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR BIZI, INC. 2026-2027 (TITLE 1, PART A FUNDED)

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR BIZI, INC. 2026-2027 (NON-FUNDED TITLE 1, PART A)

Dr. Bernier and Dr. Anna Dewese, Executive Director, Student Discipline & Support Services, joined in the discussion of the following:

- A description of these items and how they are funded was explained.
- Reduction in the funding received for these items.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - DIRECTOR OF NURSING SERVICES

Dr. Bernier, Ms. Renfro, and Jacqueline Watkins, Chief, Human Resource Services, joined in the discussion on the following:

- The responsibilities and requirements of this position were explained.
- Salary range for this position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS- COORDINATOR, FACILITIES

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

- This current position is a contractor. This will bring this position in-house.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MAY 2026

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

- An overview of the financials was given for May. June numbers were also included.
- Recommendations for guideposts to continue the trend were given.
- Areas of concern for the future include rising fuel costs.
- A request for a bring back on the focus of enrollment numbers was made.
- Appreciation was expressed for the work with enrollments.

SAP SUCCESSFACTORS PROJECT AND S4 HANA 2025 UPGRADE CHANGE REQUEST 03

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

- Project upgrades were explained.
- Appreciation was expressed for the improvements to the capabilities of the system.

CLOSURE OF ORTEGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #16 EFFECTIVE MAY 26, 2028, AND CONSOLIDATION OF ITS ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES INTO VENETIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #68 FOR THE 2028-2029 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Bernier joined in the discussion on the following:

- The history of the timeline of this item was explained.
- A request for a copy of the votes for Venetia Elementary School was made.
- Process for conversations with outside entities regarding surplus property was explained.
- Constituent concerns were expressed regarding the size of the new Venetia Elementary School.
- Positive results of a larger school were explained.
- Community knowledge of the closure of the school.
- Board Member Community Meetings can be scheduled to assist with keeping the community informed.

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:

- Concerns were made regarding declaring Ortega Elementary a surplus property while there are still children attending the school.
- It was stated that there will be no visits to the property by potential buyers, etc. while students are present.

The meeting was recessed at 11:06 A.M.

Board Member Willie departed at 11:06 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 11:15 A.M.

CHANGE ORDER REPORT

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

- These changes will not delay the opening of the school.
- High security gates are in short supply nationwide.
- An estimate of the time will be brought back.

ADULT MEAL PRICE INCREASE FOR DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT MEAL PRICE NON-CEP DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

- The formula is mandated by the state and is a compliance issue, not a choice for the district.
- The importance of all families completing the forms was explained.

AWARD SECURITY GUARD CONTRACT - ALLIED UNIVERSAL SECURITY SERVICES

AWARD ARMED SECURITY CONTRACT - DYNAMIC INTEGRATED SECURITY

Dr. Bernier, Mr. Fagan, and Jackson Short, Chief, School Police, joined in the discussion on the following:

- Appreciation expressed for the performance-based contract.
- The number of guards and locations were explained.
- The difficulties caused by guard shortages for the district last school year by Allied Universal Security Services were explained. Dynamic Integrated Security services were used to assist with the shortage, as well as district officers.
- A request for the district to have its own guardian program.
- Factors that affect recruitment were explained.
- Funding was explained.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2026-2027 STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN

- Questions will be held until after the Board Workshop presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 4 BOARD POLICIES

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

- Clarification of the definition of traditional school was requested.
- Appreciation expressed for the progress of this item, and disappointment in the length of time it took.

- Where lists of removed books as well as a reconsideration list can be located on the website.

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 9 BOARD POLICIES:

- Questions will be held until after the presentation at the Board Workshop.

Comments from Elected Officials

None

Public Comment

There were 2 public comment speakers. Each were allowed 3 minutes to speak.

Adjournment

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting at 11:46 A.M.

Vote Results:

Motion: Anthony Ricardo

Second: Melody A. Bolduc

PASSED: 6 - 0

Aye:

Charlotte D. Joyce

April A. Carney

Reginald Blount

Melody A. Bolduc

Cindy Pearson

Anthony Ricardo

Nay:

None

CR

Superintendent

Chairman