



Duval County Public Schools

August 14, 2012, Board Workshop

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Ms. Becki Couch
Mr. W. C. Gentry
Ms. Mr. Tommy Hazouri
Mr. Ms. Paula D. Wright
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present, with the exception of Ms. Martha Barrett. Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 11:36 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[1. BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent shared the following items with the Board:

- Staff is working on responses for Board member requests regarding purchasing practices and should have by the end of the week.
- The Legislative agenda should be finalized and sent to the Board in a few days.
- The Mayor indicated that he would send a letter in the next few days regarding Bethune and Wesconnett, requesting that we donate the buildings to the City. Staff is ready to move forward with disposal of the properties and have bids for the properties in hand.
- Staff is looking at legal services being provided by General Counsel with the idea of hiring an in-house attorney. Board Member Gentry is assisting with this item. The in-house attorney would handle all of the day to day routine items and use General Counsel on an as needed basis.
- Staff is working on the pending Litigation information requested by the Board.
- Head Start was discussed. The Early Learning Coalition has data that shows about 80% of day cares meet standards, but only about 10% of Head Start centers meet the standards. The Superintendent will share this data with the Board.
- Charter Schools and hiring of personnel was discussed, along with the school systems involvement. Charters have to follow the same requirements that we do. This topic will be added to a future Workshop agenda.
- The Stay for the Northeast Florida Virtual school was denied. While it is worthy of appeal, we are not pursuing at this time. Board Members Gentry and Wright thought we should appeal. The Superintendent will ask Karen Chastain, General Counsel's Office, to review this further.
- The Commissioner's visit has been postponed until a new Commissioner of Education has been selected.
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The Board had the following items:

- Board Members Hazouri and Wright requested a list of all contracts that the Superintendent signs off on that do not come to the Board for approval.
- Board Member Gentry is working on a Duval version of the FSBA Resolution regarding the FCAT and should have a final draft this week.
- Chairman Burney provided an update on the Superintendent search and the August 16, 2012, meeting to review applications.
- Board Member Gentry shared that the Jaguars Mark Lampy was trying to raise funds to provide teachers with tickets to games. The goal is to provide 250 tickets each for 4-5 home games.
- Chairman Burney indicated that she shares information at each monthly Chamber meeting on our school system. The media has not given us the credit due for our focus on student achievement.
- Vice-Chairman Lee complimented staff on the Read It Forward signage on the JTA buses.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
 Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
 Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice-Chairman

2. EDUCATIONAL DIRECTIONS LLC CONTRACT

Minutes:

The Superintendent started the discussion by indicating that this has been a great partnership. Together we have formed a hybrid model that will pave new paths. Andrew Jackson High School will continue on this program this year. It should be their last year.

Mr. Frank DeSensi, Educational Directions, LLC, provided the Board with an overview of the program. A copy of his report is attached to the Minutes. There are several levels of services offered for the students. Dr. Robert Knight, Educational Directions, LLC, talked about data, and the focus on gains at the high school level.

Discussion included the following:

- How do we address sustainability? Who would do what?
- Should have had report to review prior to discussion.
- Principals and teachers were not surveyed for their input.
- Provide Board with information on all district support provided to Educational Directions, LLC.
- The role of the School Improvement Office was discussed. A report on compliance with the State and grants will be provided to the Board.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent
Mr. Frank DeSensi, Educational Directions, LLC
Dr. Robert Knight, Educational Directions, LLC
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice-Chairman

3. POLICY MANUAL REVIEW

Minutes:

This topic was not discussed.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 2:55 p.m.

BSC

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman