



E-AGENDA MANAGER

Duval County Public Schools

February 7, 2017, Regular Board Meeting

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Chairman
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch
Ms. Cheryl Grymes
Ms. Lori Hershey
Mr. Warren A. Jones
Mr. Scott Shine
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief Officer of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. after a performance by the Ortega Elementary School Steel Band under the direction of Mr. Shaun Bennett.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

[INVOCATION OR THOUGHT OF THE DAY](#)

Minutes: The invocation was given by Pastor Ted Corley.

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

[FORT CAROLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

Megan Green, Principal, Fort Caroline Middle School

Ms. Green highlighted the new dedicated magnet program which includes five new art areas for students: Visual and Performing Arts, Theatre, Instrumental Music, 2D Art, Dance and Digital Art. Ms. Green presented a PowerPoint which showcased the school programs. See attachment.

Communications

[RECOGNITION - ATLANTIC BEACH COMMISSION](#)

Minutes:

At the January 9, 2017, meeting the Atlantic Beach Commission presented contributions to both Atlantic Beach Elementary School and Mayport Coastal Science Middle School to help enhance their programs. Atlantic Beach Elementary was awarded \$15,500 which will be used for their after-school enrichment and cultural arts programs. Mayport Coastal Science Middle School was awarded \$12,000 which will enhance the summer transition camps, but will also go toward enrichment programs to supplement social and academic challenges.

Thank you to the Atlantic Beach Commission for investing in our schools and providing opportunities for achievement and involvement. Mitchell Reeves, Mayor of Atlantic Beach, stated in the last five years the Atlantic Beach Commission has donated over \$165,000 to our schools. He also recognized Board Member Shine for his work with local government to make sure we get the job done at our, local schools.

[RECOGNITION - SANDALWOOD AIR FORCE JROTC COLOR GUARD](#)

Minutes: Tonight we are celebrating a group of Sandalwood High School students who represented Sandalwood High School and Duval County Public Schools in an honorable way. Captain Ryman Shoaf, retired U.S. Navy, retired spoke on behalf of the Turning Points America. We want to thank Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, School Board Members, Students, Teachers and their Parents for instilling patriotism in our students.

[RECOGNITION - COLLEGIATE MENTOR PARTNERS](#)

Minutes:

This program teams up middle school students with collegiate student-athletes. The District's department of Family and Community Engagement has created a Middle School Athletic Mentoring Partnership with a number of our local colleges and universities.

The University of North Florida, Jacksonville University, and Edward Waters College have all committed their athletic programs to mentor middle school student athletes within Duval County Public Schools.

Students have already participated in group mentoring sessions, sports clinics, college tours and have received valuable advice.

Larry Roziars, Assistant Superintendent of Family and Community Engagement, Dr. Donnie Horner, Provost, and Alexander Ricker-Gilbert, Athletic Director from Jacksonville University, Stanley Cromartie, Interim Athletic Director from Edward Waters Colleges, were recognized.

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the agenda as submitted on January 31, 2017, with the following changes:

- Recognitions/Presentations -

- Communications - Atlantic Beach Commission - Item Added
- Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Employee Suspension without Pay and Termination - Julius Ferguson - Withdrawn - PASS
- Human Resource Services - Professional Standards - Employee Suspension without Pay - Angela Moody - Withdrawn
- Board Member Travel - Item Amended

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Ashley Juarez

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Chairperson's Report

[CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Chairman Paula Wright

The past two weeks have brought much attention to our community around the issue of violence. In particular, the last two weeks have demonstrated the fear that is prevalent in our community, and unfortunately, a few of our schools have been in the headlines as a result of students having a weapon in their possession while in school. Like each of you, we are grateful to God that as a result of students sharing

information, random searches, and even an instance of self-reporting that no physical harm was brought to any of our children.

The Board, like all of you in our city, takes a zero tolerance position on weapons of any kind in our schools. Thus, the Board Members sought to discover from our most precious constituents – our students- ideas, solutions, concerns and strategies to help grapple with our community issue of violence.

Board Members met with students at each of the middle and high schools where a weapon was discovered. Principals selected a diverse group of students and Board Members lead discussions to understand from the students' perspectives how they feel about a peer in their school having a weapon on campus. The discussions at the eight schools were productive, enlightening, engaging, and hopeful. Students were concerned, yet honest, forthright, yet kind.

Common themes:

- Opportunities in school to hear from community leaders via assemblies.
- Safety of neighborhood/community with more Jacksonville Sheriff Office police visibility in neighborhood during school hours.
- Concern for students who had weapons.
- More meaningful after school programs.
- Peer to Peer meetings.
- Social hour for students to meet and greet.
- Social hour for students/parents/teachers/administrators.

Students recognize that the weapons will not be brought in schools until the community rises up and unifies as one.

Superintendent's Report

[SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, Duval County Public Schools

Dr. Vitti thanked Chairman Wright for her leadership as Board Chair. He feels she has been an important partner. The strategy to engage the students directly was an important one. Positive feedback from the principals and some students was received during this process.

It is important to talk about where we are and where we were in order to address this important issue. We had not had any examples of any students bringing any weapons to school with the intent to hurt any staff, administration members or students at the school site.

Dr. Vitti provided a broader analysis of weapons and violence as it pertains to youth. The data which was presented does not include Charter Schools and looks at youth between 10-24 years old. See attachment.

Department Reports

[DEPARTMENT REPORTS](#)

Minutes: No department reports.

Public Comment

[PUBLIC COMMENT](#)

Minutes:

James Bay

Mr. Bay, Director of Business Development at Nopetro, is a Florida-based compressed natural gas provider. He has thirty seven years of school bus experience. Natural gas is a less expensive fuel for school buses and reduces maintenance. It's safer for the students on the bus because of the air quality. Nopetro prevents bus companies from having any capital impact when purchasing natural gas school buses. He would like to have the opportunity to provide additional information concerning converting to natural gas at a future workshop.

Demetrice Sapp, School Counselor

Ms. Sapp is a school counselor at Parkwood Heights Elementary. She is also representing the First Coast Counseling Association which is a local

chapter of the Florida School Counselor Association. We would like to increase awareness of school counseling by recognizing National School Counseling Week. She would also like to acknowledge School Services week which includes school nurses, school social workers and school psychologist. She thanked the Superintendent for his support of the District school counseling team. We are the greatest cheerleaders in the school. Wednesday at Parkwood Heights Elementary are called Working Wednesday where a profession is shared each week via video.

Sherman Randall

Mr. Randall is owner and operator of Randall Bus Services. They have been in existence for the past seventy-four years. For sixty years we served the District. He is here today to address the issue of minority contracts. We are ready and able to fulfill the obligations of the Request for Proposal.

Darlene Miller, Parent

Ms. Miller has addressed the Board several times over the last few months. She has an issue with special education classes. Students learn in different ways. Differentiation gives students what they need. Her student needs help.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

Karen Nuland, President, Duval County Council of PTA's

January was a busy month for the PTA in Duval County. We visited Lone Star Elementary, Sadie Tillis Elementary Schools, Robert E. Lee High, Englewood High Schools. We re-chartered the PTA's at Oak Hill Academy Elementary and Fort Caroline Middle School.

We arranged for art from our Reflections Art Program to be displayed in the atrium of City Hall, highlighting the talented students of Duval County.

We participated in the community discussion "Real Talk" hosted by Florida PTA with community leaders in Jacksonville's minority communities.

We completed two sessions of the Student Leadership Academy. Dr. Crystal Timmons worked with students to discover their leadership styles. School Board Member Becki Couch explained how the education funding works to the students. Community Organizer, Angie Nixon, helped the

students understand the legislative process.

We coordinated with the Family & Community Engagement team to publicize the Discover Duval School Tours to parents.

Comments from District Student Government Association

[COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION](#)

Minutes:

Tia Wynn, Junior Class President, Terry Parker High School and President of the Jacksonville Association of Governing Students (JAGS)

We have held two meetings in January, one on January 11, 2017, and the other on January 25, 2017. On January 11, 2017, we found out we would all be receiving new Surface tablets. We all felt that Oprah give away moment. We were the first students to receive the tablets. She would like to thank Jim Culbert, Executive Director, Information Technology, and Holly Lanham, Specialist, Instructional Technology, for this wonderful opportunity.

On January 25, 2017, the group focused on the Florida Association of Student Councils. This organization gives students the opportunity to write resolutions to our state legislators. We plan to work toward creating a model for student government councils in schools. We believe this task will enhance the educational experience for all students in Duval County Public Schools. The next meeting will be held February 8, 2017, at 3:30 p.m. All students are encouraged to attend.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

Chris Stovall, President of IBEW

We appreciate the changes that the Board has made at A. Philip Randolph Career Academy. The Board has finally started to understand that not everyone goes to college. We need more opportunities for vocational

education.

Terri Brady, President, Duval Teachers United (DTU)

Ms. Brady thanked Pearl Roziers, Executive Director, School Choice/Pupil Assignment Operations, and her staff for the outpouring of students and parents who participated at the School Choice Expo. It just gets better and better each year.

We have been asked to host the only Florida roll-out of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) Report on March 11, 2017. This group does research on major countries who do a form of public education and assessment levels on narrowly focused academic curriculum. This past last year it was done in Science. We will be hosting the roll-out of one of the findings for this past study on March 11, 2017. Surrounding counties have been invited. It is very exciting. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the minutes for the meetings listed in the agenda item:

- December 7, 2015 - Regular Board Meeting - Minutes Amended
- January 9, 2017 - Regular Board Meeting
- January 10, 2017 - Board Workshop
- January 11, 2017 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion - PASS
- January 17, 2017 - Board Workshop & Committee Meeting
- January 18, 2017 - Policy Handbook Review
- January 20, 2017 - Board Member Meeting
- January 25, 2017 - Board Member Meeting

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch	
Second: Scott Shine	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:	
That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Warren Jones	
Second: Rebecca Couch	
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Human Resource Services - Staffing

3. [HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTION](#)

Attachment: [Agenda_02-07-17_TRANS.pdf](#)

4. [MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, CONTRACT COMPLIANCE \(FOOD SERVICE\)](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Min_Quals_Sup_ContractCompl_020717.pdf](#)

5. [APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS](#)

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

6. [SETTLEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL UNION 177, IBEW](#)

Attachment: [TA 2016-12-22 IBEW.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

~~7. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION - JULIUS FERGUSON - WITHDRAWN~~

~~8. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY - ANGELA MOODY - WITHDRAWN~~

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

9. [MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [November 2016 Monthly Statement.pdf](#)

10. [ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS DECEMBER 31, 2016](#)

Attachment: [Master Narr Resolution No 4.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

11. [APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE OF GAS TAX REVENUE FUNDS FOR DISTRICTWIDE ROAD PAVING AND REPAIR PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Feb 2017 Agenda Item-Gas Tax Revenue Project List 12-14-16.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

12. [PREQUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Prequalifications-Renewals for Board Agenda 02-07-17.pdf](#)

13. [CHANGE ORDER REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Change Order Report Chart 02-07-17.pdf](#)

14. [PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \\$1,000,000](#)

Attachment: [Facilities Project Completions for Board Meeting 02-07-17.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

16. [SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [04FEB17.pdf](#)

Attachment: [05FEB17.pdf](#)

Attachment: [06FEB17.pdf](#)

Attachment: [07FEB17.pdf](#)

Attachment: [FEB FY17 RETIREMENT.pdf](#)

Attachment: [ROSUM FEB.FY17.pdf](#)

17. [DECEMBER 2016 PURCHASE REPORT](#)

Attachment: [DECEMBER 2016 BOARD REPORT.pdf](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

1. [PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: ADOPTION OF DISTRICT-WIDE GRADES 9-12 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS](#)

Minutes:

Jim Miller, Parent

Mr. Miller stated he knew nothing about the curriculum because very little information was on-line concerning the curriculum. We have had difficulty in the past not having enough class sets of materials.

He would like to make sure enough materials are available for students. Mr. Miller has an Exceptional Education Student and had a very difficult time getting copies for home use.

Will the curriculum allow for differentiation? Some students learn straight from the book, others do not. Teachers need to have the flexibility and the curriculum needs to support it. The goal is to

learn the information.

The pacing guides need to be realistic. They do not always take into account some students' need for more time.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the adoption and purchase of Houghton Mifflin Collections (2017) for English Language Arts grades 9 through 12. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Cheryl Grymes

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Lori Hershey - Aye

Warren Jones - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Scott Shine - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

[2. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: ADOPTION OF DISTRICT-WIDE GRADES 6-12 SOCIAL STUDIES INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the adoption and purchase of the following social studies instructional materials:

1. McGraw Hill, Discovering Our Past: A History of the World: 2013 Florida Edition: grades 6-8 core

instructional materials for World History

2. Pearson: Magruder's American Government: (2016) grades 9-12 core instructional materials for American Government - PASS
3. Pearson: Economics: 2013, Florida Edition, grades 9-12 core instructional materials for Economics
4. McGraw Hill, Sherman: The West in the World: 2014, AP Edition, grades 9-12 core instructional materials for AP European History.

Vote Results

Motion: Rebecca Couch

Second: Lori Hershey

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - Transportation

15. [STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES GSA 5 AWARD](#)

Attachment: [GSA5 Estimated Costs from FY 13-17.pdf](#)

Attachment: [GSA 5 Agreementvfinal.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Vice-Chairman Smith Juarez voiced her concern with bringing this busing contract forward. We are again in a situation where we are forced to make a decision because the planning has not been in place. She cannot continue to support items that do not have the planning and requested exploration of opportunities for this District.

This contract is for ten years which will commit the District for a decade. She stated the Superintendent has indicated that with

the current capital restraints, we could be facing tougher times in two to three years. She is recommending deferral so that the Board can go through the process rather than looking at assumptions.

The Superintendent indicated that he has been very transparent with the Board and the challenges of the contract with Birnie Bus Company. There has been open conversation at Board Workshops and Board Meeting about the challenge of the Birnie Bus contract. We moved quickly with cost in mind that was outside the Birnie Bus contract. The short-term analysis is a savings. If we move forward with the one company that did bid on this contract, it would mean a \$200,000 increase per year if everything stays the same regarding the current cost of oil and natural gas. Long-term cost is pure speculation.

The District does have a commitment now from one company in order to ensure a fleet of new buses. If we defer tonight, we risk the chance of having the only bidder withdraw. The District could be left with no bus company to serve 12,000 students. We also run the risk of having the one bidder not offering services in the Fall. The timeline is not ideal but it was clearly communicated to the Board in September and October 2016.

General Services Administration (GSA) will be meeting with all the minority business contractors.

Board Members voiced concern for the length of the contract. The Superintendent indicated that contractors are not willing to commit to a shorter contract because of the capital investment. Single year renewals are a business risk for contractors.

There is a fixed increase of 3% from year to year in the contract.

The current bus contractor that is linked to the current recommendation has offered six to eight buses that would be operating on natural gas so that we could analyze the cost effectiveness with this fleet. This will be part of any bid moving forward.

Chairman Wright requested the Superintendent provide a report to show minority participation with the Student Transportation of America Inc. in this contract.

Vice-Chairman Smith Juarez indicated that as a result of her conversations with the Superintendent, they both concluded that the time to explore this would be when a contract comes up that included the purchase of new buses. The Superintendent indicated that he did not recall this conversation. Vice-Chairman Smith Juarez stated that she felt the planning was not what was requested in terms of how we look at transportation and our

transportation contracts. Without some understanding that staff has looked into the advantages and drawbacks of both types of vehicles, she is not willing to support this item.

She asked that the Board give direction to the Superintendent to research, vet and understand the advantages and drawbacks of diesel versus compressed natural gas as fuels for our contractors. She also suggested the Board have a workshop to look over all the financial aspects and the health safety aspects.

During the discussion, the Board learned that the proposed vendor agreed to implement a pilot program for compressed natural gas as part of the contracted services. At that point, Vice-Chairman Smith Juarez disclosed that this matter could inure to the special gain or loss to her family, which has an ownership interest in CH4 Partners, LLC. Therefore, she abstained from voting on this agenda item.

Speakers

Ms. Paula D. Wright, Chairman
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Board Member
Mr. Scott Shine, Board Member
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent
Mr. Don Nelson, Assistant Superintendent, Operations

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES - GSA 5, contract award to Student Transportation of America, Inc., for the contract period from August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2027. - PASS

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the contract upon approval as to form by the Office of Legal Services.

Vote Results

Motion: Scott Shine

Second: Warren Jones

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Abstain
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board defer the original motion to the March 7, 2017, Regular Board Meeting. - FAIL

Vote Results

Motion: Ashley Juarez

Second: Rebecca Couch

Rebecca Couch	- Nay
Cheryl Grymes	- Nay
Lori Hershey	- Nay
Warren Jones	- Nay
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Nay
Paula Wright	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Member Travel:

- February 8-9, 2017 - FSBA Workshops - Howey In The Hills,

- FL - Jones, Smith Juarez
- February 2017-June 2017 - Northeast Florida School Boards Coalition Meetings - St. Augustine, FL - Couch
- March 10-15, 2017 - CGCS Legislature - Policy Conference - Washington DC - Wright
- March 28, 2017 - FSBA New Board Member Training - Tallahassee, FL - PASS - Hershey, Jones
- March 28-31, 2017 - FSBA Day in the Legislature - Tallahassee, FL - Wright, Smith Juarez, Couch, Hersey, Jones
- April 5-7, 2017 - FSBA Master Board Training - Howey in the Hills, FL - Wright, Smith Juarez, Couch, Grymes, Hershey, Jones
- June 21-25, 2017 - National FACE Conference - San Francisco, CA - Smith Juarez

Vote Results

Motion: Cheryl Grymes

Second: Warren Jones

Rebecca Couch	- Aye
Cheryl Grymes	- Aye
Lori Hershey	- Aye
Warren Jones	- Aye
Ashley Juarez	- Aye
Scott Shine	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Superintendent travel:

- January 13, 2017 - FL Music Education Association Awards Ceremony - Tampa, FL - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Warren Jones

Rebecca Couch - Aye

Cheryl Grymes - Aye

Lori Hershey - Aye

Warren Jones - Aye

Ashley Juarez - Aye

Scott Shine - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Becki Couch

Board Member Couch thanked Ortega Elementary for the performance tonight. Mr. Bennett, music teacher, did a wonderful job.

She thanked the Chairman for her leadership this week, for arranging the talks at several of the schools where incidents occurred with weapons. Ms. Couch met with students at Ed White High School. It was very enlightening. The principal did a great job of providing a very diverse group of students.

Board Member Couch thanked the Duval County Council of PTA's for

allowing her to speak at the Leadership Academy. The students had outstanding questions. They received training from her concerning what is in the purview of the legislature.

She reminded everyone about the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Extravaganza on February 11, 2017. This is one of the best events we go to as Board Members.

Board Member Couch thanked School Counselors who do so much for our students.

Board Member Scott Shine

He thanked Mitchell Reeves, Mayor of Atlantic Beach, for coming tonight and his kind words about our work together. He is very involved in education and the community.

Safety first is the issue of our students coming to and from our schools. Some of our students are walking to school before sunrise. He would like to challenge the Superintendent and the Board to make a change in school hours for high schools. We may be able to do this at a cost of about eighteen cents per student per day. There is a cost, but if we save one life, it's worth it. There is a lot of data that shows if students get more sleep they will perform better.

He thanked Chairman Wright and the Superintendent for their work with the issue of guns in schools. Everyone who owns a gun needs to lock them up or purchase a lock for each gun. These locks are available for about \$10.00. He believes if you cannot afford a lock you cannot afford a firearm. Very few firearms that have come into the schools have been stolen. "Every right has a responsibility."

Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez

She thanked Pearl Roziers, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice/Pupil Assignment Operations, for all the work which was done at the School Choice Expo. Thank you also to all of the teachers and principals that made it a success.

She reminded everyone about the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Extravaganza on February 11, 2017. This is an event not to be missed.

The EDDY Awards will be held on February 24, 2017. Anyone in the community can purchase a ticket and help us salute our teachers. The five finalists have been named.

Congratulations to Sandalwood High School and their ROTC students. They perform year after year at drills and competition and within the school community.

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Superintendent and staff who worked to

make sure that there is now a Cyber Security Early College Academy. This will be an opportunity for those IT students to specialize and get some work force experience and exposure. Anyone who would like to see Sandalwood High School will have the opportunity to attend a Discover Duval Tour on February 16, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at Sandalwood High School.

She was very pleased to hear Board Member Shine's suggestion to move the high school times. We will look forward to having this discussion and seeing what the opportunities are.

Thank you to our School Counselors for all the work they do for our students.

Board Member Warren Jones

He commended the Superintendent and the Chairman for their leadership concerning weapons at school. Both of you have been proactive. Our schools are safe but we need to make sure parents take responsibility to monitor what is happening. Our students have done a good job of reporting to teachers and staff when they see someone with a gun. He enjoyed speaking with students at Raines High School this week. Hopefully the funds from the Jacksonville Journey will help improve the safety of these neighborhoods that surround our schools.

Board Member Jones thanked Pearl Roziers, Assistant Superintendent, School Choice/Pupil Assignment Operations, for her work on the School Choice Expo. She went out with a bang.

He had an opportunity to meet two of the students who will be cohosting the EDDY Awards on February 24, 2017, and thanked Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity for providing scholarships to Saqqara Parish for \$1,000 and Miles Jackson for \$3,000.

Board Member Cheryl Grymes

Board Member Grymes thanked Chairman Wright for her leadership in arranging the talks with the students at schools which had an issue with weapons. She went to Terry Parker High School. The diversity of students was great. Ms. Grymes reached out to Joyce Morgan, City Council Member. She was not available but Darren Mason, Assistant to Ms. Morgan, was able to attend. He went to Terry Parker High School and was President of the Senior Class when he attended school there. The students were very frustrated with the negativity that comes with things that are going on in the community and the school gets rolled up into it. We talked about how they could change the perception that their school was not safe.

Thanked Megan Green, Principal of Fort Caroline Middle School for presenting tonight. There will be a Discover Duval tour on March 3, 2017, at Fort Caroline Middle School.

Board Member Lori Hershey

Board Member Hershey thanked Chairman Wright for her leadership in arranging for Board Members to meet with the students concerning weapons at a school. She hopes the round table discussion with students will continue. She visited Mandarin High School and was told by students it was not the factors inside the school that was causing guns on campus; it was factors outside the school. This is a community issue.

On February 2, 2017, she attended the Florida Braille competition at the main library downtown. Two students from Atlantic Coast High School attended, Adriana Sanchez and Britney Grady.

She participated in Challenge Day at Twin Lakes Middle School. It was quite an experience and a powerful day.

Last week Senator Bean, Superintendent Vitti and Board Member Hershey went to Twin Lakes Middle school because of two students who have expressed concern over school lunches. The Superintendent ate his lunch and enjoyed it. The students were very excited.

Board Member Hershey thanked Dr. Vitti and his team for addressing repair needs at the schools in District 7 and addressing them with speed. This has energized principals, teachers and staff in Mandarin. They are very happy they have the support of the District.

Chairman Paula Wright

Chairman Wright thanked the students from Ortega Elementary in the Steel Band under Mr. Bennett's direction.

One of the most important points she walked away with when talking with the students about violence in the schools is that too many students do not feel they are important to somebody. They feel they are not worthy of appreciation and gratitude from somebody.

She thanked all of our School Counselors and asked everyone to remember School Counselors Week. Duval County Public School provides Mental Health Counselors at each of our middle schools.

February 24, 2017, we will recognize the five teacher finalists at the EDDY Awards. The five finalists are Allison Bear, J. Allen Axson Montessori School, Michael Bostic-Jones, William M. Raines High School, Holly Hultgren, Frank H. Peterson High School, Latrece Brown, Andrew Robinson Elementary and Caitlyn Stetson, Reynolds Lane Elementary. This will be an exciting night.

Thank you to Pearl Roziers, Assistant Principal School Choice/Pupil Assignment Operations, and her staff for doing a wonderful job at the School Choice Expo.

When talking with staff, she found we have an awesome staff

and support. When she shared the idea with the Superintendent about Board Members going out to schools to speak with students concerning the weapons issue, she was contacted immediately by staff and they put it all together. She wanted to thank principals, staff and Board Members. Everyone was willing to share and listen.

Board Members are on their way to Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida for a finance forum tonight and we will return with a lot more information about budgeting.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

CSM

Superintendent

Chairman