



## Duval County Public Schools

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February 10, 2009, Board Workshop

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Chairman  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Nancy Broner  
Ms. Betty Burney  
Ms. Vicki Drake  
Mr. W. C. Gentry  
Mr. Stan Jordan  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS WORKSHOP OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent, was also present.

Call Meeting To Order

### [CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The Chairman called the Board Workshop to order at 10:04 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

### [1. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES](#)

Minutes:

Updates on Recent Conferences:

Board Member Vicki Drake updated the Board on her recent FIRN trip to Washington, DC. The Federal Stimulus package and she shared information on what could be coming to Florida. Board members all agreed that they needed to be kept informed

and work even closer with our State Legislature for the coming year.

Board Member Betty Burney participated in the Florida Children's Campaign last week. Among the topics discussed were legislation, education, and health.

Board Chairman Tommy Hazouri shared information about his recent visit to the Thomas Jefferson School in Arlington, VA. Chairman Hazouri traveled with the Principal and some staff members from Lee High School to view the small learning community school. He indicated that the programs and students were unbelievable and that the resources for the school were impressive.

Board Member Nancy Broner talked about a recent Chicago case study by Arnie Duncan and that it would be good for the Board to read and discuss at a future Workshop.

#### Updates on Recent Board Member Requests:

The Board received an update on recent Board Member requests.

#### Housekeeping Issues:

Board Meeting and Workshop protocol was discussed. The consensus was that Board Member Broner would research what other Districts do and that this topic would be added to a future Board Workshop.

#### Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman  
Mr. Stan Jordan, Board Member  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Chairman Hazouri encouraged new Board Members Jordan and Gentry to attend the upcoming Broad Institute. There is a session to be held in May 2009 and new Board Members for participating Districts will be invited to attend.

Board Member Gentry asked about the policy and/or practice of replacement items going on the Consent agenda instead of the Discussion agenda. Ms. Broner will add this to her research on Board Meeting and Workshop protocol.

Chairman Hazouri asked that Board Member Gentry share a letter and legislation he had drafted to Senator Wise on behalf of the Schultz Center with the entire Board.

## [2. ACE TRANSPORTATION UPDATE](#)

Minutes:

Staff reviewed the proposed draft scenarios which was the result of meetings to date regarding the ACE Transportation process, and requested feedback from the Board.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman  
Mr. Paul Soares, Chief of Operations  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent  
Ms. Leslee Russell, Director of Transportation  
Mr. Stan Jordan, Board Member  
Ms. Vicki Drake, Board Member  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

3. BUDGET REVIEW

Minutes:

Staff reviewed the Budget with the Board. Cost saving strategies were discussed.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent  
Mr. Stan Jordan, Board Member  
Mr. Mike Perrone, Budget Director  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Vice-Chairman  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member  
Ms. Vicki Drake, Board Member  
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer

4. OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL COSTS

Minutes:

Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, provided the Board with a report on legal costs for 2007-2008, and discussed with the Board. The Board discussed ways to reduce the amount we pay in legal fees. Some suggestions were to hire in-house counsel; have staff review legal bills; a staff person to review cases before they are sent for litigation; and, asking our main General Counsel contact to work with staff prior to a decision being made to go forward with litigation. The

consensus was that Karen Chastain will work with Sonita Young, our Policy and Compliance Officer, and come back to the Board with a recommendation.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman  
Ms. Karen Chastain, Assistant General Counsel  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member  
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer  
Mr. Steve Bright, Director, Business Services

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Chairman adjourned the Board Workshop at 4:59 p.m.

BSC

This is the template Closing Statement

We Agree on this

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Superintendent

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Chairman