



Duval County Public Schools

January 6, 2009, Regular Board Meeting

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

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman, Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman, and Board members: Ms. Nancy Broner, Ms. Betty Burney, Ms. Vicki Drake, Mr. W. C. Gentry, and Mr. Stan Jordan, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes:

Reverend James Scott
Christ the King Catholic Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

[1. SEPTEMBER BOOK OF THE MONTH QUILT PROJECT WINNERS](#)

Minutes:

--For the past six years, Duval County Public Schools has partnered with the Jacksonville Agricultural Fair for the annual September Book of the Month Quilt Project where students have an opportunity to create a quilt that represents the story line of one of the books they read during the month of September.

--This year, under the direction of their teachers, students in grades Pre-K through 5th submitted 48 quilts that connected the book *A Cloak for the Dreamer* by Aileen Friedman, visually or morally.

--Judging of the quilts was done in two categories, a Juried Process and Community Voting, which takes place at the Jacksonville Fair. Each category has first, second and third place, as well as honorable mention.

--Here to help present the awards are Jeannie Wells and Martha Leverock from the Greater Jacksonville Fair Association.

--The Schools receiving the Jurors' Awards are as follows:

- Mayport Elementary received \$50 for their honorable mention
- Henry F. Kite Elementary received \$150 with their third place win
- Susie Tolbert Elementary, our second place winner, received \$300; and
- Jacksonville Heights Elementary received \$500 for their first place win

The schools receiving Community Awards are as follows:

- Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center received \$50 for their honorable mention
- Loretto Elementary received \$150 for their third place win
- R.L. Brown Elementary received \$300 for winning second place; and
- Chaffee Trail Elementary received \$500 for their first place win

--In addition to the juror and community awards, the following 8 schools received Merit Award Ribbons for their distinguished quilt designs and applications. These schools are not present tonight but I would like to acknowledge them during this presentation:

- Arlington Heights Elementary
- John E. Ford Elementary
- Louis Sheffield Elementary
- Pine Forest Elementary
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary
- St. Clair Evans Academy
- Martin Luther King Elementary
- Lake Lucina Elementary

--Congratulations to each of you! The principals, teachers and students from each winning school should be extremely proud.

2. TRUANCY AWARENESS MONTH POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Minutes:

--In September, Duval County Public School students were invited to participate in a poster contest to promote truancy awareness. The theme of the contest was "Count Me In for Learning." To participate, students submitted drawings that demonstrated the importance of attending school.

--Schools reviewed the drawings and submitted their first-place winners into a district-wide competition which was broken into two categories, elementary and secondary. Winners of the district competition received gift cards to local malls, donated by the Jacksonville United Against Truancy Program.

--Winners at the Elementary level are as follows:

- From Twin Lakes Academy Elementary, our 1st place winner is Cassidy Besser
- From St. Clair Evans Academy Elementary, our 2nd place winner is Shawn Wess
- And from Hyde Park Elementary, our 3rd place winner is Katelyn Layton

--Winners at the Secondary level are as follows:

- From LaVilla, our 1st place winner is Kendall Wilson
- From Southside Middle School, our 2nd place winner is Madeline Van Houten
- And from Fort Caroline Middle, our 3rd place winner is Karina Paliy

--Congratulations to these very talented students for doing an outstanding job!

3. PTA RECOGNITION - LENELLE CRUSE

Minutes:

--Last November, Lenelle Cruse ended her term as the President of the Florida PTA.

--Ms. Cruse, a former speech pathologist for Duval County Public Schools has been a volunteer in our district for more than 28 years. During this time, she held numerous positions in local PTA units at Lola M. Culver, Henry F. Kite, Rufus E. Payne elementary schools, James Weldon Johnson Middle and Stanton College Preparatory.

--The theme for Ms. Cruse's presidency was "Building Bridges for Children." She believes that PTA is a bridge between the home, school and community. She has a true passion for the work of local PTA units and recognizes that these local units are the heart and soul of the national PTA.

-- During her tenure as Florida PTA President, Florida PTA held its first Emerging Minority Leaders Conference, its first statewide Dad's Summit, a Community Connections Conference, as well as partnered with the Guardian Ad Litem Program and the Florida Attorney General's office to promote the state's Cyber Safety program and much more.

-- Ms. Cruse has traveled the state of Florida representing parents, guardians, care-givers and children. She has met with educators, business leaders, legislators and government officials to discuss educational, health, safety and security issues affecting children and families.

--Ms. Cruse, thanks for all you do to secure the future of our students. You have been and will continue to be a great representative of Jacksonville and Duval County Public Schools.

4. GREENSCAPE OF JACKSONVILLE, INC.

Minutes:

--Last October, Greenscape of Jacksonville, Inc. provided all Duval County Public Schools third-grade teachers books to assist their students with environmental education.

--Here tonight to talk about the grant acquired to purchase the books is Anna Dooley, Executive Director of Greenscape.

5. CARDIAC SCIENCE

Minutes:

--Last February, a Fletcher High school student was critically injured during a lacrosse game. Due to the fast actions of some fast thinking adults, this student's life was saved using a defibrillator.

--Joining us tonight, to honor these adults is Mike Castleman, Southeast Regional Manager for Cardiac Science, the makers of the defibrillator used.

6. COMMUNITY & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT - NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Minutes:

--January 2009 is National Mentor Month. This month is designed to focus national attention on the need for mentors

--With an anticipated \$140 million deficit for next school year, it is critical that we recruit mentors to help obtain our goal of increasing the academic achievement for all Duval County Public Schools students.

--Last year, I made a call to action to have 20,000 mentors for our students by the year 2020. While this is an ambitious goal, I am assured that our great community is up to the challenge.

--Here tonight to speak more about mentors and the positive impact that mentors have in rising student achievement is Dewitt Robinson, the district's lead person for mentor management.

7. RECOGNITION OF CHARTRAND FOUNDATION

Minutes:

--The Chartrand Foundation was found in 2006 by Jacksonville philanthropists, Gary and Nancy Chartrand.

--In January 2007, the organization's Executive Director, Jeff Chartrand, used his years of experience as a classroom teacher to create their first initiative, Inspire.Create.Achieve. also known as ICA.

--Through ICA, the foundation invested more than \$500,000 to schools in the district's Superintendent and Standard Bearers Cluster, which includes some of our most challenged schools.

--ICA's mission was to bring real-world, relevant experiences in the arts, civics, and sciences to students through both school administered grants and community partnerships.

--In 2008, the Chartrand Foundation committed another \$500,000 for their Neighborhood Schools of Choice Initiative.

-- This initiative builds on the success of the I.C.A. model by adding a community engagement component and a focus on expanded learning opportunities at Smart Pope Livingston Elementary and Eugene Butler Middle schools.

--By the end of the 2008-2009 school year, the Foundation's investments in Duval County Public Schools will total over \$2.5 million.

--I would like to take this time to give a heartfelt thank you Jeff and his parents for the major support they provide to Duval County Public schools

--It is through initiatives like those funded by the Chartrand Foundation that will help us realize our vision of ensuring that all Duval County Public Schools students will attain the knowledge and skills to be successful in post-secondary education and/or the workforce.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Jennifer Snead, president of the Duval Art Teachers Association, thanked the Superintendent and Board for supporting the arts over the years. Our children will have an artistic way to compete in the changing ways of becoming a teacher. They will need tough and imaginative ways of thinking. We must make our students prepared for every level. Please do not delete the arts as we would be going backwards for over 50 years. We need critical thinking. All students receive equal amounts of art, music and physical education at least at the elementary level.

Mr. Jim Clark, representing Daniel Memorial, said Happy New Year and I appreciate your dedication and congratulate all of you for your public service...it is very much appreciated and at times, it may not seem like that, but it is. I'm here to inform you of our interest...some trustees this morning read the paper and felt it would be appropriate for me to inform you of some of our strategic planning and what our interests as we were looking at the Norwood Elementary School. For a number of years, we've been looking for a northside location. Of the 1,000 kids we serve, approximately 300 of those are in zip codes to the Norwood property. Our trustees said this morning, "How come we weren't mentioned in there?" and I said I wasn't sure as the newspaper doesn't always have all of the details. We want you to know of our interest and that is primarily our continuation to be involved as a partner with the school district. We have enjoyed our relationship over the years. We ran a charter school which was considered financially one of the best in the state. We have resources

and assets that we could bring to that neighborhood. We did provide some background information in terms of our standards, stats and accreditations. We realize this is a very difficult decision but our trustees wanted us to make sure that you knew that our intent is to look for a good location, provide academic as well as counseling services and that part of the reason that we were looking at that particular location. I will continue to work if this does not work out.

Ms. Carmen Godwin representing Riverside Avondale Preservation and by a letter dated January 2nd, Riverside Avondale Preservation is in support of the School Board accepting the bid for the John Gorrie School. John Gorrie is an important building in the Riverside historic district and there are tax incentives for rehabilitation. There are also restrictions. The Riverside Design Regulations and the Zoning Overlay which define restoration materials, appropriate uses and even parking requirements. These regulations and the amount of restoration required make this property unique. While RAP used the building as an asset to the property, a developer most surely would view it as a liability. Consider this when discussing the option to rebid. Gorrie is situated on Stockton Street and a corridor that soon will be the gateway to our neighborhood. Much of this corridor is in need of attention and the community is in the midst of an initiative to revitalize the street scape. Gorrie has not been used as a school for more than 17 years. Neglect during that time caused major deterioration of the structure and the vacant building is hurting in area already struggling in our neighborhood. It was suggested that the School Board hold on to the property for 3-5 years for the possibility of building teacher housing or just to rebid. Gorrie's interior is in horrible state of disrepair and continues to deteriorate with every rain. This was attested to at the last Board meeting. If the Board decides to keep the property, consider whether you are committed to spending hundreds of thousands of education dollars on a very much needed roof that complies with the historic regulations. Otherwise, the property will continue to deteriorate and devalue. We know that the high bidder is committed to putting a roof on the building immediately and has a plan for future use that will increase area property values and stimulate area business. Right now, this vacant school is a big hole in our community. As we stated in our letter, our neighborhood does not need another boarded up and deteriorated building.

Ms. Marjorie Pardue, Educational Outreach Director for Beaches Fine Arts, and we do alot of work within the Duval Schools system. I would like for you to understand the level of dedication and support of our organization to the continued development and importance of the arts in your school system. As a member of ACE, Beaches Fine Arts would like to thank you for providing the leadership and support to maintain the arts in education. We provide the art curriculum to our children, free busing to educational concerts, master classes, etc. We have musicians work with the children and help integrate our music with your curriculum. I work with the teachers to work with the artists. We bring the world to you students and we're proud to partner with you and inspire beautiful music.

Mr. Edward Exson said some decades ago, Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, stated, "The number one problem in the world is over population." Such declaration intends that the established policy of America, or that to be instituted be aimed at the detriment of blacks. That future diabolic schemes (this Board does plenty) could be carried out with an analytic power, without notice. Such analysis has allowed Democratic government of, for and by the people with disparate treatment imposed.

that despot type administration has committed or been complicit in a Tsunami style wave of abnormality on its people. Guns, drugs, unequal educational opportunities, illiteracy, broken families, disparate prison sentencing, unemployment, disparate health care, gentrification, racism, the list goes on resulting in a depraved, deviate black ghetto. The following is as grievous and maligned as the above: disrespect for each other, ineffective black legislative representatives, black preachers exploitations, black on black crimes, inordinate tolerance for that should not be tolerated, bastard babies, and the list goes on, as well. A few years prior to McNamara's statement, "The Southern Manifesto" was signed by 19 southern senators resisting the Supreme Court's decree on school integration. It can be said unequivocally that Jacksonville has never had equal schools, notwithstanding, the court declaring a unitary system. I believe that the magnet school's attraction was to discriminate. The capital outlays has a disproportionate amount of funds building schools away from the inner city leaving them with more instability. I suggest to you that recommendation West Jacksonville Elementary School to be closed is not results of a tight budget. It is gentrification driving that decision. That area of town will be rezoned for other uses, not residential. The citizens are being bamboozled with an out of town consultant who's going to make that recommendation. Of all the inequities and wasteful spending in Jacksonville, Mayor John Peyton had the audacity to go to Washington with a "wish list" as though it would be a first come, first serve.

Ysryl expressed Happy New Year to everyone. We're making decisions that cause a negative effect with others. I think about the past in history and slavery that was right here in Jacksonville. I give thanks for you for moving forward and making change especially in the black community. We deal with children who make a mistake and they're taken off to an alternative school. There are many frustrations and much anger being held in by these children. It's our responsibility to help with the pain of a child and become a village to support them.

Ms. Jennifer Mansfield said I live within walking distance of John Gorrie. You have my support in selling the school now for the betterment of our community.

Mr. John Turner spoke about the sale of schools (distributed a handout) and attendance; dropping out of school before age 16 when the school must do an Exit Interview. That interview must be documented, signed by both the student and parent and filed. I can not find any school doing this and we should look into it. This is a Florida Statute and we could possibly change a child's decision to remain in school. Please get back to me on this.

Pastor Ted Corley wished everyone a Happy New Year. Someone said that 2009 is going to be fine and will challenge you - I see fabulous accomplishments for the School Board in 2009. Duval County will receive national recognition as our children deserve to go to the finest schools in America, right here in Duval County. You make exceptional progress. I challenge you my desires and prayers and at the end of the year, we will accomplish it.

Mr. Mark Seibler spoke about the deterioration of John Gorrie and urged the Board to sell the school now. 2009 should be a fine year and consider the job creation as the School Board needs money. Rid yourselves of the liability and receive funds. We'd like

to see that building turn over and not be boarded up. It will drag that neighborhood down. Please allow the present high bidder to proceed and help the local economy. Thank you.

Mr. Dave Siebert spoke about the arts in schools. We need the arts in all schools and standards. Please compare which schools are doing better and think out of the box. Start to compete a little bit. Who can bring in volunteers to our students when you have to trim funds? The magnet programs have robbed Jacksonville - compete for the most volunteers.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

PTA - Annette Worthen:

First, I would like to wish each of you a Happy New Year! While we do not hold a general meeting in the month of December, we were still busy assisting local units and representing PTA on several committees both in the school system and in the community of Jacksonville. The WJCT/VyStar Mr. Rogers sweater drive that our local PTA's participated in was a huge success with 25 pallets of clothing donated. The cold weather clothing was distributed by area social service organizations and was greatly appreciated by the recipients. DCCPTA representatives helped with the distribution at the Sulzbacher Center.

The Teacher Supply Depot has received 40 pallets of donations since the first of December. We would like to thank the Chamber of Commerce for their support by mentioning the needs of the depot in their member's newsletter. The 40 pallets of materials were donated by Mike Shad Ford, River Printing, Dewey and LeBoeuf Law Firm, River City Signs, AT&T, Triple A Motor Club, The Haskell Company, Kelly Services, BCBS of Florida, CITI and several individuals in the community. Martha Barrett also helped with donations from Bank of America. If you as a Board or community member know of a business that is remodeling, moving, closing or downsizing and would like to donate items to the depot, please call Chris Buckley at the depot - 381-7480. Due to budget cuts and the economic down turn, the depot has seen a huge increase in the number of visits by teachers. In fact, as of December, we have had more visits than all of last school year and we are not even half way through this school year.

The Florida PTA understands that the state and nation are facing tough economic times. However, a quality education system is the key to economic recovery and stability and the needs of children have to be prioritized by the Legislature. The

policies of the past have contributed to the under funding of education and children's services which have depleted the revenue stream. There will be a "Rally in Tally" on March 18 where local PTAs/PTSAs units from all over the state will meet in Tallahassee to raise awareness and let our concerns be known. More information about the rally will be given to the local units later this month and will also be posted in our newsletter and on our website: <http://www.schoolnotes.com/32207/dccpta.html>

PTA is appreciative of the support of each of the School Board members, the Superintendent and the district staff. If there are any issues that the School Board or Superintendent would like PTA to address, please call on us. Thank you.

District Advisory Council - Rachel Raneri:

Good evening and Happy New Year to all of you. I was one of those many volunteers...we're still looking for donations of carpet squares. So, if anyone in the community is hearing this and they own a carpet store, we can use your carpet squares.

The District Advisory Council did not meet in December, however, many of the DAC members have been participating in the community ACE meetings. At this point in the year, School Advisory Councils should be doing their mid-year School Improvement Plans review.

I've been in touch with Martin Miller and he's keeping us up to date on the Special Session of the Florida Legislature.

Once again, I'd like to remind the Board, schools and community that I am available for training for School Advisory Council and I also hope to do some training for future principals. I don't make New Year resolutions but my wish for the district in 2009 is for a safe, healthy and financially sound year.

Our next DAC meeting will be January 26, 2009, 6th floor conference room at 6:00 pm. Thank you.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Terrie Brady, Duval Teachers Union president, said good evening. I'd like to say Happy New Year with the same problems and challenges that we're going to be facing. The Legislature is in its second day of Special Session 2009-A and I state that as "A"

since I believe there will be additional sessions before March even begins. The session was called to make further reductions to the current year budget 2008-2009 after tax collections fell shorter of earlier estimations, once again. The news from the committee hearing that happened just yesterday and today is very distressing but it is exactly what we expected.

The current proposal to reduce the K-12 Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) funding for this school year is by 2% from the third FEFP calculation. The Senate and the House are not identical but both cuts on a per pupil spending is on an average almost \$140.00 less per student than what we started this year off with for the remaining part of the year. The two proposals vary by only 9cents per student. The third calculation that includes the FTE count from October, 2008, saw a reduction in excess of 17,500 students that when balanced within the funding formula, cost districts a total of almost \$90 million dollars.

Additionally, the funding for National Board Certification, in both proposals, is being cut \$11 million dollars or 20%. The bonus is being reduced from 10% salary to 8%. If this reduction passes, the total reduction since the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year for National Board Certification would be 57% reduction in the total revenue that was set aside in trust funds so that our teachers could garner high level of proficiency and of certification level to do their jobs better in the classroom.

Finally, one of the biggest insults to our members throughout the state of Florida and to all district employees is the inclusion of a provision in the House budget conforming bill that just happened today that permits the Department of Education to enforce a proportional salary cut to all district employees, school board members, and superintendents if the district's general fund reserves fall below 2%. The FEA, our state-wide organization attorney testified before the House Pre-K-12 Appropriations Committee and expressed that the opinion of this provision is unconstitutional and we will fight to have it removed from the House Conference Report or we'll be taking it to court.

What makes this serious situation every more frustrating is the Legislature's unwillingness, and I have to restate this, again...the unwillingness specifically in the House to consider revenue options. These options clearly make sense and would soften the blow to not only schools but also our most fragile children throughout the state and our seniors. If all goes as planned, the House will vote on the Appropriations Reduction Bills on Thursday. The Senate will vote on their respective Appropriations Reduction Bills on Friday. The conference committee meetings will take place this weekend and if they are needed to work out the differences with the final Conference Reduction Bill being laid on the members' desks by Monday, 72 hour waiting period and the deed will be done next week...additional cuts hitting all districts throughout the state.

I guess I should be grateful and I am grateful to the collaboration of you, the Board members, and the Superintendent and, I guess, DTU. We're one of only two of 7 urban districts throughout this state that have Collective Bargaining Agreements as we stand before you at this time. I believe our Collective Bargaining Agreement, through collaboration and continued partnership truly shines in a year that we all are wringing our hands in disgust because it was the best that any of us could do for our

employees. We maintained, we moved forward slightly and we maintained our quality insurance where other districts are cutting left and right because you, the Board members and the administration values what is the greatest asset in that district and that is the employee who goes to work every day to support our students.

And, again, Mr. Superintendent, you and the Board and the Budget Office, have been very open and transparent to the strategic moves and discussions that have and will take place in the very near future with the future budget discussions and cuts that we are confronted with throughout our district as those districts throughout the state.

Please always keep in mind the tremendous asset that our district has in each and every employee and the excellent job that they do in the best interest of our students. We look forward at DTU to continue our collaboration and partnership in difficult times and we want to continue to assist in any way possible in moving our district forward because we do the work for the students every day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Board.

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Minutes:

Tonight, I want to first welcome back Board member Nancy Broner. We missed you and hope you are well on the way to a speedy recovery.

I want to congratulate Board member Betty Burney, her brother, New York City Councilman Larry Seabrook and all of the Seabrooks and the several sponsors for recognizing and acknowledging the 1958 Matthew W. Gilbert Junior-Senior High School State Football Champions, this past weekend. The recognitions began with our School Board at our December Board meeting, the mayor's Proclamation on December 11, and the City Council's Proclamation at the Recognition Ceremony last Friday. Additionally, state Senator Tony Hill has invited the 1958 State Champions to Tallahassee this spring to be recognized by the Florida Legislature. congratulations Gilbert Panthers, once again!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Bruce Johnson, an 8th grade student at Mandarin Middle School, who has been invited to attend the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. Bruce was chosen because of his involvement with the People to People Student Ambassadors group. Congratulations, again, to Bruce and his family!

The next two months are going to be busy and decisive. We are entering 2009 with

cautious optimism, but know that school budgets throughout the state are hanging on every hope and every vote of the Legislature! The Governor and the state Legislature face a \$2.3 billion dollar budget shortfall. Duval County schools are facing a \$90 million dollar shortfall - \$140 million if there is a delay in implementing the Class Size Amendment.

Next Tuesday, January 13, we will have a workshop for 10:00-4:00 on several items including our budget and the ACE (Academic and Community Excellence) discussions on school consolidations, boundary changes, class scheduling, among others. This workshop is being held after nearly 35+ community meetings, and still counting. These public meetings will help the Board adopt policies complimenting our four-year, six point Strategic Plan for student achievement.

Tonight, I ask all of our citizens to join the Superintendent and our Board as we roll up our sleeves and begin the difficult task of writing a budget that will continue to move our district forward, leaving no child left behind. We encourage our parents, parent organizations, unions, community leaders, and our public officials to make these efforts up close and personal and to let the Governor and our legislators know they must make public education their top priority. While we know that money is not the only answer, it is a vital part of the solution if we want to provide our children with equity in every school and a high quality public education!

This concludes my report.

[2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Superintendent Pratt-Dannals said he'd like to begin with some good news and that is I'm in schools, which I'm able to do regularly, and meet with our cluster chiefs, principals and be able to visit with our teachers to see the high level of commitment that is present amongst our school leaders, our teachers, and our support staff as far as assisting our students to reach all the potential that they have. Despite the challenges, in terms of the budget both this year and especially next year, they have been able to look beyond that and some are rightfully concerned about their jobs at this point because we're probably are going to have to make some significant cuts in places. We don't know where those are as yet, but despite that, they are moving on, staying focused, persevering and staying very positive in terms of their role and their relationship with students, and so I commend them.

The second two individuals I'd like to commend are Mr. Doug Ayars and Mrs. Willis for the kind of leadership that they provided in engaging the community, teachers, and administrators in moving forward in several areas under the general manor called "ACE" (Academic and Community Excellence). It began with Mr. Ayars' work on looking at consolidations and boundary changes. Regardless of how each one of these individual decisions comes about, and we'll know more about when the public hearing

and Board workshop on January 13 and the vote on February 3, the reality is that we are going to have to make some consolidations in terms of schools. We have about some 7,000 too many elementary seats and about 4,000 too many middle school seats in our district which is creating an overhead problem that we're not able to use those dollars to improve our Turnaround schools, to help attract and retain high quality teachers and principals at some of our most challenged schools and in some of the other directions that we would like to go. So, whether or not these are the right decisions, obviously, we'll be working with the Board, hearing from the public, and seeing what direction we need to go, but the overall direction, and I'm talking about a ten-year type plan in terms of doing some very smart decisions, things that would engage the community, that we look at consolidations in a way that are win-win, that are very positive and also, pay very close attention if we do have a school closure as to the re-use of that facility and not be in a position we are tonight on deciding whether or not to sell a building that has been vacant for 17 years. So, I've made that commitment to Board members to work collaboratively, to work with the community, and to try to make wise decisions. Those are very challenging because there's no situation in which parents are going to say "thank you" for considering closing our school. Our desire is to show how that can be a very positive thing in terms of moving into a better facility with a higher quality of program because of being able to be a little bit larger in size and, therefore, the kind of dollars we're having to hire more custodians, bookkeepers and principals can be put into a longer school day, more assistance in tutoring, more art, music and physical education for students and things that truly benefit them. So, we know that the public has been very engaged...those members of the community that have participated in those working groups, we thank you very much for the kind of work you did. In many cases, you represented an individual school but you looked beyond that individual school to look for the betterment of the community at-large.

The second group is just getting underway under Mr. Ayars' leadership is the transportation group that we will have some fairly quick input and, hopefully, some recommendation for this coming budget year and, also, a much longer view of the magnet programs - which ones we should keep, which we should consolidate and how that impacts transportation, as well. Again, that's beginning shortly and we won't have those results immediately, although some of the magnet transportation kinds of recommendations may be coming out of that transportation group..

Mrs. Willis is very close with a collaboration with Mrs. Brady and DTU in looking at our high school and perhaps, middle school scheduling to make sure we collaborate with them because it is an area where we have to and will work collaboratively to make sure we make wise decisions that will save significant funds for the district. This is one of our biggest ticket items for this coming school year and it's been a very good working relationship to be able to move as far as we have. We've had an opportunity to workshop the Board and will continue on January 13. It does look likely that we will move forward with some form of high school and perhaps middle school and it could potentially change beginning any time and we'll be getting that information once we have an opportunity to go back to the Board and with the committee we set up with Mrs. Brady with teachers and principals. We'll get that information out more broadly to the community, PTAs, SACs, principals, teachers, etc. to get their input prior to a final decision. However, it's on a fast track and we must make these decisions quickly because very soon, we'll begin the budgeting process for next year. This will be

extremely challenging because usually at this point, we're pretty good about reading the tea leaves as far as where we're going to be financially the next year. We're approaching it from what I think is a conservative approach and yet, not over estimating the pain that we would potentially have. We're between \$100-140 million dollars short depending on whether or not there's relief on Class Size going to the individual classroom level. The penalty is such that there's not a huge financial penalty. Again, this is very challenging and the workshop is on January 13, 2009.

I'll list some of the items we currently have listed. I emphasize that these are only preliminary and they're not even recommendations of mine at this point, much less, the Board has not had an opportunity to help me in terms of prioritizing these, cleaning up the list, adding and subtracting, etc. They have seen the list but this is preliminary. I want the public to know the kind of magnitude of what we're looking at. This is not something where we cut a few district administrators and are able to close the gap. If you're looking at least a \$100 million dollar gap on a less than \$1 billion dollar budget, that's 10%. 85% of our costs are in salaries and benefits. So, many of the items you see on this list, will be in the area of staff - district or support staff. In most cases, it will not be in classroom teachers because of the Class Size Amendment and that limits our ability to do that. So, it's all other areas that are on the table. We need to look at how we do our work, rethink how we do our work and make sure we're not doing business as usual because it's different times and now we must look back on how we do things.

Read the ones that were \$3 million dollars and above: art, music, p.e., guidance, media - \$27 million dollars; reduction of employee hours or days - \$20 million dollars; high school/middle school scheduling - \$10 million dollars; health benefits (no inflation factor) - \$9 million dollars; raises and/or steps - \$8.8 million dollars; cabinet add-ons - \$5.9 million dollars; workman's compensation - \$5 million dollars; debit health card - \$?; reduction in the assistant principals - \$20 million dollars - cutting 1/4 of the number; reduction of instructional coaches - \$5 million dollars; potential savings in transportation - \$4 million dollars; enhanced positions in the secondary level within Math and Language Arts - \$3 million dollars; flexible spending account - \$3 million dollars; restructuring categoricals - \$3 million dollars; modifying our ESE delivery model - \$3 million dollars.

Again, I will be working with the Board over the next several weeks to come up with a prioritized list and then our goal is to take this information to the District Advisory Council, PTAs, a presentation on Thursday with the principals, schools, community groups, associations and other to help build the kind of understanding that is necessary to look for some long term solutions to the limited educational funding. The decisions made over a number of years and we can't tweak what we're doing to meet this budget; it will be difficult. In a down economy, Florida's dependency on property and sales taxes hurts us worse. I am optimistic that working together we will be able to weather this and make the best decisions, although they are painful decisions, for our students and parents. I look forward to working with the Board in that process.

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Mr. Mike Perrone, Budget Director

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer

Reports

[1. OPERATIONS REPORT - MR. DOUG AYARS](#)

Minutes: Mr. Ayars said since the Superintendent explained everything in his report, I'll pass this evening.

[2. ACADEMIC SERVICES - MS. PAT WILLIS](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Willis, Deputy Superintendent, said as our students, teachers and staffs return now to begin a new semester, we are at Academic Services department, are especially working closely with the schools as we prepare our students to meet success on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Mrs. LeRoy is going to share a brief update on how we are supporting schools in this area.

FCAT Support for Schools - Kathy LeRoy

As March and FCAT testing quickly approaches, Academic Services is working extensively with schools on key areas that will support increased student achievement. First, it is clear from analyzing previous District FCAT data that our students are not responding effectively on the Performance Task questions in Reading, Mathematics and especially Science present on the Test. We are making every effort to continue to support teachers in preparing students to respond to these Short and Extended Response questions. This process will encourage our students to respond more effectively and ultimately receive more points. To support increase achievement on the FCAT Writing Test, we have been providing in depth professional development with support from the State on effective scoring of student writing so that our teachers are experts on the process. We are encouraging all schools to give students regular opportunities to practice both short and extended response questions and timed writing.

Also, Academic Services is about to launch the very successful Science FCAT rotation we currently implement with high schools to all of our middle schools. The Science Department has developed a series of **Grade 8 Science Benchmark Investigations** to help students review what they have learned about the benchmarks that will be assessed on FCAT Science.

Additionally, District math and science resource teachers will present a second "**Saturday Labs at the Library**" on January 24 at the Regency Library. Targeted for grades 3-5, these hands-on investigations will reinforce the Sunshine State Standards that students are learning in

their elementary classrooms. A third session is scheduled for February 21 at the Bradham-Brooks Northwest Branch library. We are also continuing our collaboration with Bethel Baptist's BEST Academy on Saturdays.

Finally, all of the high schools have counseled with their 11th and 12th grade students who have not yet been successful on the FCAT to make sure they understand that the summer re-take is no longer an option. Letters have been distributed to the parents of these students to make sure they are also aware.

Further information about the library program and the upcoming FCAT day-by-day schedule can be found on the District website.

Speakers:

- Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member
- Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
- Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
- Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 6, 2009, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the January 6, 2009, Agenda as submitted on December 16, 2008, with the changes listed in the item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

- Lance Benton - Not Present
- Betty Burney - Aye
- Victoria Drake - Aye
- William Gentry - Aye
- Thomas Hazouri - Aye
- Stan Jordan - Aye
- Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

December 9, 2008 - Special Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Minutes for the Meetings listed in the Agenda Item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Stan Jordan - Aye

Brenda Priestly jackson - Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Minutes:

Items to return to the Consent Agenda:

Mrs. Burney - return Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment 1. Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) Grant Evaluation - place on Discussion on Consent Items;

Mr. Gentry - as to Item 1 Mrs. Burney just put back on the Consent Agenda; I would like to address that item and move it back to the Discussion Agenda.

Mr. Gentry said the boiler plate language that is attached to many of the contracts that basically abdicates responsibility of the School Board with respect to renewal of contracts. I only designated a couple of specific ones, but they are throughout the agenda and I would like to address that issue before we approve the agenda or we can address it later and go back and move to strike those if the Board agrees that that language should not be in the proposed recommendations. What I'm referring to is the fact in the letter that I sent over is the fact that in virtually every contract, there's language to the effect that it's recommended authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract. Many of these contracts are multi-year and many are for millions of dollars and the only stipulation for renewal is that if deemed by the Superintendent or his designee to be in the best interest of the school district and there's fiscal ability to do so. That boiler plate language results in an absolute delegation of the Board's authority in every instance in every one of these contracts. I want to address that language in what I believe to be the necessity of removing that until we can come up with more appropriate language instead of that very broad language.

Ms. Chastain, Office of General Counsel, I want to make sure I understand the comment, I don't understand or believe that to be standard contract language. When a matter is sent for General Counsel's Office for form approval, I look to the agenda item and if the term of the contract is not specified, it's for one year only and there's certainly no inherent renewals, whether it comes back to the Board or is simply upon the Superintendent's recommendation unless the agenda item expressly says so. So, I want to be clear on with your concern...I believe it was mentioned earlier during a workshop that contracts and specifically, agenda items, do not delegate for the time being and I think it's in the context of the budget crunch that we're facing, that we don't have multi-year contracts that are renewed without the Board affirmatively approving the annual renewal. Is that...

Mr. Gentry said to Ms. Chastain and to the Board, for example, Item 4 (Operations - Purchasing and Logistics) - Telecom Services, it's in the agenda, it's a recommendation that the Board approve the purchase of some \$4 million dollars of this product. The second sentence of the recommendation that the Board is going to vote on says:

"Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions

are favorable to the school district and subject to availability funds."

And under that particular contract if we give that authority to the Superintendent, he will have authority for six years or his designee to renew those contracts on such terms as maybe favorable - in his view which means the terms may be changed and only subject to availability of the existing funds...and I don't really care what the practice has been...that's what the language is in the agenda item.

Ms. Chastain said through the Chair to Mr. Gentry, what I apparently was not clear in articulating...I was trying to understand whether you have a concern about the agenda item, as written, which apparently is your concern versus some sort of adopted boiler plate contract language to which there is not an adopted standard. So, I think it's the specific agenda items that you are concerned about and that's really the nature of my question.

Mr. Gentry, Mr. Chairman, I am concerned about the agenda item. The agenda item being the adoption of the contract and as part of the adoption in every one of these instances, giving absolute discretion to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract...not on the same terms...not on consistent terms, but on terms favorable to the district. It's a very broad delegation and that boiler plate language appears in virtually every one of the recommendations on the agenda to approve the contract. And, I respectfully submit that that is a grossly over broad delegation of authority. So, I want to address that issue before we adopt and approve these contracts only to the extent...I'm not talking about the contract...only that sentence is in there which will give authority presumably to the Superintendent five years from now, whomever they may be, hopefully, it's still Mr. Pratt-Dannals, to renew that without bringing it back to the Board. That's what I'm trying to accomplish.

Mrs. Priestly Jackson said I understand Mr. Gentry's concern and my interpretation of that language has always been for that particular contract period. I had always thought that the contracts came back to us in essence if it was a...it's a three year contract with each year one year renewable. We didn't have to see it for those one year renewables unless the conditions and terms changed on it. That was my interpretation. I didn't know that we granted to the Superintendent a broad authority to after that three year window by going in and executing the contract. That was always my understanding that language included multi-year contracts and renewable annual basis, but we in essence, award the contract for a specified window of time. If the conditions change for that year within that, then it came back to us. I know we pulled some out and I think Mr. Gentry raises a valid point in relation to the tight budgetary times. If that language is not appropriate at a particular point if you're facing a \$100 million dollar deficit. I know heretofore we weren't facing that so it was not...our policy in the past had been if the item was budgeted in that particular function, if that particular department had said I've already budgeted for this, then we didn't really second guess because we felt that was kind of micromanaging in our essence if it's already budgeted. If it wasn't within that or outside the prior contract amount, then those are the kinds of things that gone on our screens. So, I first want to know if I'm correct in my assumption that what we had done before was for a contract window of three years with annual renewals that we did not request to see unless they changed or did we give a grant of something broader than that?

Ms. Chastain said, through the Chair to Mrs. Priestly Jackson, there are a number of variables that can effect and I'll try to speak generically. Your assumption is correct. If the agenda item contemplates a three year contract and during those three years, there were annual renewals and there were enough terms and it was delegated to the Superintendent to exercise an annual renewal, the Board would see that in some form. Perhaps, not to the same overt attention to detail but it would show up in your budget. Certainly, if during the course of the three annual renewals for the total three year term, if something materially changed that was outside the initial agenda item and initial authority, then that would come back to the Board. The fact of the matter is all of your contracts are annual anyway because it's always subject to appropriation and the availability of legally available funds. So, you always have that protection anyway regardless of the terms of the contract. Any lease that you have, for example, which would be multi-year has that annual savings language, so you do have that financial protection in all of your contracts. The discussion during the workshop was some time back but it was my understanding, whether correct or not, that there was heightened concern that the standard language that you had in your agenda items that we pay attention is to whether you wanted to see those annual renewals affirmatively come back and not see them for, you know, three years or whenever the initial overall term would end or not and I think that's part of my confusion right now.

Mrs. Broner said to Mr. Gentry's point, it's exactly the point we've brought up several months ago and the Board and Superintendent...we all agreed that in these times it would be appropriate to...we review them anyway...the annual renewals, but it is the same concept point that we brought up before you got on the Board, so it is a good point and the Superintendent agreed. So, I think the way we have been functioning...we do see these renewals. They come...it will say we're in the second year of a four-year contract and so on...but, going forward from here, perhaps, it would be a discussion we should have penning down the language that you have...

Mr. Ayars said the only comment he would possibly make is that I agree...I think the language is worded so it favors...I can't recall the phrase...I don't have it in front of me...but, the phrase Mr. Gentry quoted, I would use something along the lines consistent with the terms of the contract instead of...someone help me here...the phrase Mr. Gentry quoted about ...terms that are favorable, right...I would just say renewable along the lines consistent with the terms of the contract. Then it's quite clear. So, I think whatever he's saying is...and I agree with Mrs. Broner, as well, to maybe have discussion on that wording. Mrs. Jackson's comment, I do want to reinforce that...that's exactly how we have done it and aside from a fiscal maybe concerns of the day, so to speak, just from an acquisition point of view, annual renewable contracts is a great tool in the tool box. It does provide us an ability to renew and sustain pricing and deliver service at a really good cost because we're not doing a whole new contract development each time, but the mechanics of how we do that...I'm all there and think we should review the wording of that language.

Mr. Gentry said Mr. Chairman, I appreciate and I recognize apparently that this has been discussed in the past and what I understand that the Superintendent has agreed that he will bring these matters to your attention and that there is a practice of how this is handled. From a governance and institutional standpoint, if that is the practice, there certainly is no reason to have this language in the resolution that gives the authority.

The practice should be consistent with the authority and secondly, and again with all due respect, this is a three-year contract which expressly provides that there are two potential renewals and it expressly gives absolute discretion to the Superintendent or his designee to renew it only subject to be favorable to the school district on terms, which means different terms, potentially, and subject to the availability of funds. Now, I have total confidence in the Superintendent and his designee but from an institutional standpoint, we should not, in my view, we should not be approving this sort of language because we have to assume the same people are not necessarily there all of the time. It shouldn't be based on personalities. It should be based upon institutional practice. This language is not necessary if what we're doing is what you're telling me the practice is. So, I would recommend...the point being, I know also that there are a lot of items that are common items that don't need to be reviewed by the Board at the same level as major contracts and things. I understand what everyone is trying to accomplish...it's just and I am new to the Board, and so I look at it from a different perspective and from the perspective of someone seeing this for the first time, it's too broad of a delegation and I certainly feel very uncomfortable with it regardless of the fact, as a matter of practice...we're not doing it.

So, I would suggest at this juncture, that we simply and would move that we strike this last sentence from these various places in the agenda where it appears and then over the next few weeks, we work out appropriate language that actually contains the delegation that we intend to give to the Superintendent and then we'll go back at another meeting and insert that language in these agenda items. I believe this language needs to come out of these items.

Ms. Chastain said to the Board, I want to make sure that we know where we are from a posture standpoint and parliamentary procedure. The motion on the floor is approval of the Consent Agenda and Mr. Gentry, I think three of the items that you're concerned about are already pulled for discussion. That would be Operations - Purchasing and Logistics, Item 4. Telecom Services; Item 5. Bi-Directional Fiber; and Item 6. Vertical Digit/Key Telephone System. So, perhaps we'd be best served because these are on the Discussion Agenda anyway, to take up those items one by one. Loudly and quickly, I flipped through the agenda and the only other items that are presently still on the Consent Agenda are Approval of Source of Supply contracts for maintenance and repair of grease traps and painting and painting supplies. It's not my decision but those seem a little innocuous and perhaps can stay on Consent and maybe we can focus on your concerns for the three items that are on the Discussion Agenda and then in summary, your comments tonight really bring home with your new perspective a continuation of the conversation some months ago and perhaps during the agenda workshops, there would be greater emphasis focused on this particular issue so that we can effectuate the conversation we had previously and again, tonight. I don't know how that sounds to you.

Mr. Gentry said if Ms. Chastain will tell me this language does not appear any place else in the agenda other than the items that have been pulled, I am perfectly happy, however, I have not gone through to check that and it seems to appear any place that there's a contract and so, that's why I raised it now. I do not think it should appear in any of the recommendations to this Board or be approved by this Board and to the extent that it appears...I don't care if it's a grease trap or a can of paint, the language is overly broad.

The Chairman said we'll take a 15 minute break.

Mrs. Jackson said by pulling the item, you approve the language. That's why Mr. Gentry raises the issue before we approve the Consent Agenda. It's basically throughout the agenda, so what would be appropriate, if the Board wants to strike the language and make a motion to strike that language in every agenda item before the Consent Agenda is approved, then we move forward from that point and then you can still have discussion on the others to just to take it out. At this point...

The Chairman said while we're doing that, we'll take a break/recess and we'll bring it back.

The Superintendent said he wanted to clarify that I did have an opportunity to discuss this with Mr. Gentry earlier and we are certainly in agreement in terms of making sure this language is clear with the idea that the Board has sufficient oversight. It gives the Superintendent and staff sufficient latitude on some lower level items. They are kind of obvious in terms of repurchasing and certainly I think Mrs. Priestly Jackson's view of how we have treated this language in the past was that we didn't use it in a broad authority in terms of changing terms of the contract. If we ever change the terms of the contract, we brought that back to the district and the language was intended to mean if it still made sense for the district, do we still need it? Do we have the money? Could we potentially get a better price or product by going out for a new bid? That was what was discretionary not changing what was in the item. However, I agree that the wording is broader than our practice and certainly agree that we will work with the Board to come up with something that's reasonable and workable and we're in agreement with that.

Ms. Chastain said I agree what's on the floor now is Approval of the Consent Agenda. It's been moved and seconded and then Mr. Gentry raised his concern about certain items on the Consent Agenda containing language that he is concerned about. So, I think what needs to happen is Mr. Gentry needs to make a motion to amend the Consent Agenda along the following lines...rather than attempting to identify every particular item that contains the following language, that it be a general amendment that to the extent any agenda item on the Consent Agenda contains language something like the following (it doesn't have to be verbatim):

"A recommendation that authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent fiscal years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds."

And then to the extent that any of these agenda items provide for renewals that that be deleted, as well so the intent is to generically offer a deletion of that type of delegation to the Superintendent so that the intention is any contract that extends beyond your fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 needs to come back to the Board for specific review and approval before any such renewal or extension be approved and authorized for signature.

Mr. Gentry said I accept the characterization which is simply to approve the agenda items with the deletion from the recommendation of the clause that provides the delegation to the Superintendent of renewals in the broad terms you set out moments ago and that would be my motion to delete that from the agenda items.

Mrs. Priestly Jackson seconded the amendment.

Mr. Jordan said I want to make sure I understand the use of the amendment. If you amend it, it is my understanding that Board member Gentry wants this to be in effect for all contracts not just for the ones on the Consent Agenda and my question is the way you worded it, does this amendment apply to the Consent Agenda item or does it reach beyond that?

Ms. Chastain said through the Chair to Mr. Jordan, the way I've worded it is and what is properly on the floor now, is approval of the Consent Agenda and so, I think if I propose to you that the easiest course of action is to take care of the Consent Agenda tonight and the items that are up for approval and then to the extent that we have subsequent agendas during agenda workshops or whatever, that we would be cognizant of this practice that has been previously discussed by the Board and has been brought up in detail again tonight, so that when we come to your regular Board meeting, these specific agenda items are in better form.

The Superintendent said there are also three items on the Discussion Agenda, and was that your question, Mr. Jordan? Then, we would also have to address those individually and change them in some other process.

Mr. Jordan said Mr. Gentry raises a very good point that is centered on Board policy and the question that I think to do what he wants to do is going to require a free-standing motion, but to do what we're doing tonight is just to correct the Consent Agenda. Is that the way you understand it, Mr. Gentry?

Mr. Gentry said that is the motion at this point.

Mr. Jordan said but we understand that as we move from here, it will require a free-standing policy agenda item?

Mr. Gentry said "right."

Mrs. Priest Jackson said I want to add that this is new language and this is what we were talking about. This language is not actually in the contract...it's in the agenda item and it's new language that we did not have and so what I share in the latter was a pattern and practice of the Board and what's come up. The language that's come in from the agenda item gave the broad grant. Most contracts are required to be executed by the chair of the Board, the Superintendent and General Counsel. I don't know if there are any contracts that fall outside of that scope...I don't recall when I was chair that we had that language in there. It seems there may have been something to come up more recently in terms of the agenda items and Mr. Gentry, my understanding is saying, "wherever it came from, send it back, we don't want it" which is a very valid point and so henceforth. I don't think we'll see it in any other agenda items in the future.

Ms. Chastain said that is the intention particularly after the discussion tonight.

The Chairman asked Ms. Chastain if she attends the Agenda Preparation Group meetings and she responded "no". The Chairman said it is his understanding that it was done at the last meeting, is that correct, that this language was put it? I'm just pointing it out because it is new and the practice has been that it's been coming before...but that's OK and we're taking care of that with this amendment and Mr. Jordan, to respond to you, I think what we're talking about every other issue like this that comes to us won't have...it will have this type of language or no language at all. Is that correct?

Ms. Chastain said that is correct. The agenda item should not have this language. Again, the contracts that are form approved by me, one thing I specifically look for in the contract is subject to availability of funding. Otherwise the contract terminates immediately.

Vote on the amendment: 7-0

Voe on the motion, Approval of Consent Agenda: 7-0

Motions:

Approval of Consent Agenda. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Betty Burney

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Stan Jordan - Aye

Brenda Priestly jackson - Aye

Motions:

Amendment No. 1 - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: William Gentry

Second: Brenda Priestly Jackson

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Stan Jordan - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Consent Agenda

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[1. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS](#)

Attachment: [agenda_01-06-09_trans.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Compensation

[1. SALARY SCHEDULES \(PART-TIME HOURLY\)](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach_01-06-09_PN_0809.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach_01-06-09_CE_0809.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Priestly Jackson said she just wanted some conversation relative to this item concerning raising the minimum wage and at some point in time, we, as a district will talk about living wage and not minimum wage which is a different standard. Additionally, I raise concerns about I know we've come a long way in terms of talking about the Strategic Plan and I have some concern about the Strategic Plan and identifying this item and wanted to make certain that we looked at as many that would fit as possible to make certain that it was as clear and which one it was directly related to.

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [November 2008 Final Board Statement.pdf](#)

Operations - Information Technology

[1. 2009 TECHNOLOGY RETROFITS GROUP A](#)

Attachment: [Benefits Challenges Retrofits Jan09 Phase3.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[1. AUTHORIZE A DRAINAGE EASEMENT WITH THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DISTRICT STORMWATER FACILITIES SERVING FLETCHER MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

Attachment: [B-C-City of Jax Beach Drainage Easement.doc.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[1. PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: NEW AND RENEWAL](#)

Attachment: [B-C-PREQUAL.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Prequal-Renewal.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Prequal-New.pdf](#)

[2. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE CONTRACTS AND CERTIFICATES OF FINAL INSPECTION ON VARIOUS MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS VALUED AT UNDER \\$1,000,000](#)

Attachment: [B-C-SC-CFI-DEC.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-SC-CFI.pdf](#)

[3. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: FACILITIES SERVICES CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER REPORT \(DECEMBER 2008\)](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-C-O-RPT-DEC08.pdf](#)

Attachment: [B-C-C-O-RPT-DEC-2008.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[1. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [06JAN2009.pdf](#)

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM1.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [ROJAN09.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [04JAN2009.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [January 09.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [07JAN2009.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [05JAN2009.pdf](#)

2. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF GREASE TRAPS

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM Grease Traps.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [GREASE TRAP ITB017 09 LM.pdf](#)

3. PAINT AND PAINTING SUPPLIES

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM ITB-008-09-LM.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [PAINT AND PAINTING SUPPLIES \(2\).pdf](#)
- Attachment: [Rejection ITB-008-09-LM Paint and Painting Supplies.pdf](#)

7. WALL-HUNG HEAT PUMPS

- Attachment: [B and C for Wall-Hung Heat Pumps.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [WALL HUNG HEAT PUMP.pdf](#)

Academic Services

1. OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD TRIP REQUEST - LAVILLA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CHORAL DEPARTMENT TRIP TO AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND

- Attachment: [Benefits Challenges LaVilla Trip.pdf](#)

~~2. PLACEMENT - ACADEMIC PROBATION PROCEDURE - WITHDRAWN~~

~~3. PLACEMENT - ACE ACADEMIC MODEL HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULING CONFIGURATION - WITHDRAWN~~

~~4. PLACEMENT - ACE ACADEMIC MODEL - ACCELERATED PROGRAMS PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - WITHDRAWN~~

5. 2008-2009 ENHANCED INSTRUCTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECENTLY-ARRIVED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND YOUTH GRANT PROPOSAL

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM.1.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [Immigrant Budget Attachment.pdf](#)

Discussion

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

1. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

Attachment: [General Fund Resolution Jan 6.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Capital Projects Resolution Jan 6.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Special Revenue Other Resolution Jan 6.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Food Service Resolution Jan 6.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Mr. Michael Perrone, Budget Director
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Budget Resolutions as outlined in the agenda - PASS item.

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[1. MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \(MSAP\) GRANT EVALUATION](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM Jan 09 Agenda Item.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Gentry offered to amend the motion to be consistent with the Consent Agenda and ask that this item and Items 4, 5 and 6 delete from the recommendation the delegation phrase as we did with the Consent Agenda. The amendment states:

That the Duval County School Board strike the following language from any and all agenda items on the Consent Agenda which contain said language or similar language in their Recommendations:

"Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds."

Ms. Chastain suggested that we take the items one at a time so that we're clear.

Ms. Broner seconded the amendment.

Mr. Gentry asked that we take Items 4, 5 and 6 out of order so I can make my same motion and then come back to the others?

Speaker:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Dr. Sally Hague, Director, School Choice

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the first renewal of the contract with American Education Solutions for the period February 6, 2009 through February 5, 2010, and that authority be delegated to Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for the third and final year provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Motions:	
Amendment No. 1	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: William Gentry	
Second: Nancy Broner	
Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[2. SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY - JOHN GORRIE MIDDLE SCHOOL NO. 22: PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Gorrie-Bid-Tab.XLS.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Gorrie Sale-Ashco Qualified Bid Itr 11-12-08.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

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

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a Purchase and Sale Agreement with John Gorrie Investment Group, Inc., in the amount of \$500,000, for the sale of John Gorrie Middle School No. 22. That the Duval County School Board authorize its Chairman and the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Agreement when form approved by the Office of General Counsel. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Nay
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Nay
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

[3. SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY - LOLA CULVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 13: PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Culver-Bid-Tab.XLS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Mr. Stan Jordan, Board Member
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a Purchase and Sale Agreement with North Florida Educational Institute, Inc., ("N.F.E.I., Inc."), in the amount of \$370,000, for the sale of Lola Culver Elementary School No. 13. That the Duval County School Board authorize its Chairman and the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Agreement when form approved by the Office of General Counsel. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

[4. SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY - NORWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 23](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Norwood-Bid-Tab.XLS.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-Norwood Sale-Karst-Smith Qualified Bid ltr 11-12-08.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member
Mr. Stan Jordan, Board Member
Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Grace and Truth Community Development Corporation, in the amount of \$200,000, for the sale of Norwood Elementary School No. 23. That the Duval County School Board authorize its Chairman and the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Agreement when form approved by the Office of General Counsel. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Nay
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[4. TELECOM SERVICES - VOICE AND DATA](#)

Attachment: [TELECOM SERVICES tab.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES 012.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Gentry offered the same amendment as stated for the Consent Agenda item, as follows:

That the Duval County School Board strike the following language from any and all agenda items on the Consent Agenda which contain said language or similar language in their Recommendations:

"Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds."

Ms. Broner seconded the motion.

Speakers:

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Terri Stahlman, Chief Technology Officer

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a source of service contract for Telecom Services, Voice and Data with AT&T Southeast for the period from date of award through June 30, 2012, with services beginning July 1, 2009. Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds. There are two potential renewals. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Motions:	
Amendment No. 1	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: William Gentry	
Second: Nancy Broner	
Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

[5. BI-DIRECTIONAL FIBER OPTIC TOPOLOGY RING](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES 013 \(2\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [ATT-ITBE-013-09-LM.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Gentry offered the amendment that was stated for the Consent Agenda item, as follows:

That the Duval County School Board strike the following language from any and all agenda items on the Consent Agenda which contain said language or similar language in their Recommendations:

"Recommend authority be delegated to the superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds."

Ms. Broner seconded the motion.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a source of service contract for a Bi-Directional Fiber Optic Topology Ring with AT&T Southeast Inc. for the period from date of award though June 30, 2012, with services beginning July 1, 2009. Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds. There are two potential renewals. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Motions:

Amendment No. 1 - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: William Gentry

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

6. VERTICAL DIGITAL/KEY TELEPHONE SYSTEM AND AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT

Attachment: [BENEFITS CHALLENGES Key Sys .pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Gentry offered the amendment that was stated for the Consent Agenda, as follows:

That the Duval County School Board strike the following language from any and all agenda items on the Consent Agenda which contain said language or similar language in their Recommendations:

"Recommend authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds."

Ms. Broner seconded the motion.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member
Dr. Terri Stahlman, Chief Technology Officer

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve a source of supply contract for Vertical Digital/Key Telephone System and Auxiliary Equipment with Windstream Supply LLC for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Recommend

authority be delegated to the Superintendent or his designee to renew the contract for subsequent years provided terms and conditions are favorable to the school district and subject to availability of funds. There are two potential renewals. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Motions:

Amendment No. 1 - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: William Gentry

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton	- Not Present
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Stan Jordan	- Aye
Brenda Priestly jackson	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for Board members:

January 14, 2009 - Gang Reduction Task Force Session - St. Augustine, FL - Burney, Gentry, and Priestly Jackson

February 1-3, 2009 - NSBA Federal Relations Network Conference - Washington, DC - Drake

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board Members Travel: - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Betty Burney

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Stan Jordan - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

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

January 14-16, 2009 - District Management Council 6th Annual Superintendent's Strategy Summit - Miami, Florida

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following travel for the Superintendent: - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Lance Benton - Not Present

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Stan Jordan - Aye

Brenda Priestly jackson - Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

No Comments for the Record at this meeting.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

lsd

Superintendent

Chairman