



Duval County Public Schools

January 13, 2009, Special 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 SPECIAL 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. Betty Burney, Ms. Vicki Drake, Mr. W. C. Gentry and Mr. Stan Jordan, present. Ms. Nancy Broner was absent.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The Chairman called the Special meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Operations - School Choice & Pupil Assignment

[1. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR JOHN STOCKTON ES NO. 88 AND VENETIA ES NO. 68](#)

Attachment: [Stockton Venetia Map final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Stockton and Venetia Boundary Change.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Superintendent Pratt-Dannals thanked Mr. Doug Ayars, his staff, and the community

who had participated in this ACE process. Part of the challenge we are facing as a district is that we have too many seats. If you look at the total, it's about 11,000-12,000. We must find ways either through boundary changes, getting schools closer to their capacity, schools nearer to each other and they can change it to between 85-105%. In other cases, recommend some consolidations. They did so as planners, looked at much data with a lot of discussion but they weren't always the parent of the child in that school and there's a different perspective and we understand that.

We had an extensive Board workshop today and discussed each of the boundary change recommendations and each of the closure recommendations. It's obvious at this point that there's not sufficient support to move forward for the closure at either Finnegan or West Jacksonville. I have not yet formally withdrawn them because, according to counsel, if I withdraw them that would preclude someone who came and wished to speak tonight from speaking, but I am confident, at some point soon, those will be withdrawn, but I'm not yet withdrawing them so in case you did come this evening and still wanted to speak, you may do so.

Other boundary changes and the one closure at Wesconnett are still the recommendations and you're free to speak to those items.

Chairman Tommy Hazouri announced that Board Member Broner was here all day attending the workshop. She recently had knee surgery a few weeks ago and has daily physical therapy. She asked to be excused from this meeting but we will provide a transcript of this meeting in order to keep her updated.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Boundary Change for John Stockton ES No. 88 and Venetia ES No. 68

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following people spoke in opposition of the boundary change:

Ms. Tammy Sellers
Ms. Lara Mathis
Mr. Daniel Tapia
Ms. Ana Medranda
Mr. Kenny Mills
Mr. Sean Deese
Ms. Jorie-Vale Bisbee
Ms. Monica Leverette

The following person spoke in favor of the boundary change:

Ms. Lisa Page

Ms. Rachel Raneri, Chairman of the District Advisory Council, but I'm here as a member of the public tonight. I want to thank the very hard working staff of this

district that worked so hard on all of these ACE programs and projects. I attended many of the community meetings and I feel there were a lot of people who attended and expressed their views and the district has worked extremely hard as transparent a process as possible. I thank you all for that.

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

2. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR DINSMORE ES NO. 45, S. A. HULL ES NO. 169, AND RUTLEDGE PEARSON ES NO. 95

Attachment: [Dinsmore Hull Pearson Map final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Dinsmore Hull and Pearson Boundary Change.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Boundary Change for Dinsmore ES No. 45, S.A. Hull ES No. 169, and Rutledge Pearson ES No. 95

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following people spoke in opposition of the boundary change:

Ms. Karen Williams
Ms. Stephanie Johnson
Ms. Kristine Taylor
Mr. Dwayne Williams

The following people spoke in favor of the boundary change:

Ms. Felicia Gaines
Ms. Pervalia Gaines

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR BEAUCLERC ES NO. 230 AND KINGS TRAIL ES NO. 203

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Beauclerc and Kings Trail.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Beauclerc Kings Trail Map final.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Boundary Change for Beauclerc ES No. 230 and Kings Trail ES No. 203

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following person spoke in favor of the recommendation:

Ms. Dianne Sox

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[4. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR WHITEHOUSE ES NO. 51 AND MAMIE AGNES JONES ES NO. 236](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Whitehouse and Mamie Agnes Jones.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Whitehouse MA Jones Map final.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Boundary Change for Whitehouse ES No. 51 and Mamie Agnes Jones ES No. 236

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following people spoke in opposition of the boundary change:

Mr. Brian Carlyle

Mr. Luis Mercado

Ms. Regina Johns

Ms. Cindy Glover

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[5. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR LONE STAR ES NO. 233 AND DON BREWER ES NO. 217 AND FOR MERRILL ROAD ES NO. 228](#)

Attachment: [LoneStar Brewer MerrillRd 010509 final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Boundary change Lone Star Brewer and Merrill Rd.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Boundary Change for Lone Star ES No. 233, Don Brewer ES No. 217,
and Merrill Road ES No. 228

The following person spoke in favor of the boundary change proposal:

Ms. Marilyn Fenton-Harmer

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[6. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR K-8 SCHOOL "DD" \(103RD AND CONNIE JEAN RD\) NO. 274 BOUNDARY AND PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR GREGORY DRIVE ES NO. 243, ENTERPRISE LEARNING ACADEMY ES NO. 255, AND NORMANDY VILLAGE ES NO. 221](#)

Attachment: [DD Connie Jean Map final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES School DD Connie Jean Rd.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Public Hearing only for K-8 School "DD" No. 274, Boundary and Proposed Boundary Change for Gregory Drive ES No. 243, Enterprise Learning Academy ES No. 255, and Normandy Village ES No. 221

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[7. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL "B" \(BARTRAM SPRINGS\) NO. 161 BOUNDARY AND PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR GREENLAND PINES ES NO. 249 AND MANDARIN OAKS ES NO. 258](#)

Attachment: [Bartram Greenland Pines Mandarin Oaks Map final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES School B Bartram Springs.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Public Hearing only for Elementary School "B" No. 161 Boundary and Proposed Boundary Change for Greenland Pines ES No. 249 and Mandarin Oaks ES No. 258

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item; there being no response, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Action will be taken on this item at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[8. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF WESCONNETT ES NO. 57 INTO CEDAR HILLS ES NO. 97 AND OAK HILL ES NO. 210](#)

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

Attachment: [Wesconnett Cost Saving Sheet.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Wesconnett Consolidation map only- final.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Consolidation of Wesconnett ES No. 57 into Cedar Hills ES No. 97
and Oak Hill ES No. 210

The Chairman asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to the Board regarding this item and the following person spoke in opposition of the consolidation proposal:

Ms. Marie Brocato

Ms. Annette Worthen, PTA president, thanked everyone on the working groups on the westside of town. We put in many hours and met at night. Doug Ayars and Tracy Richter did a wonderful job getting information that was requested. We made educated and informed decisions and we know we are affecting people's lives. Children mirror their parents' emotions and it can be a positive experience. Please don't be afraid to move your child. This is a difficult decision for the Board to make and you must consider all children.

The Chairman closed the public hearing and action will be taken at the February 3, 2009 Board meeting.

[9. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF WEST JACKSONVILLE ES NO. 143 INTO S. P. LIVINGSTON ES NO. 149](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Consolidation West Jax into Livingston.pdf](#)

Attachment: [West JAX Consolidation MAP ONLY final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [West Jax Cost Saving Sheet.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Consolidation of West Jacksonville ES No. 143 into S.P.
Livingston ES
No. 149

The Superintendent restated what he said earlier in the meeting that there was not sufficient evidence to move forward at West Jacksonville ES No. 143 and Finnegan ES No. 247 at this time. They are not presently withdrawn and some people may wish to speak..

Ms. Betty Metz, representing the West Jacksonville School Advisory Council, Chairman, I have to say thank you, thank you, thank you so very much for keeping our wonderful school open. I know it was a very difficult decision with Doug Ayars who has been there so much and I'm so glad that you came and evaluated and you saw...we just could not let this gem of a school go away and I know you have very difficult fiscal decisions to make. We do appreciate your keeping our school open. Our principal and staff have worked so hard and all for the benefit of these children and as a tax payer in this area, I want to relate to the other tax payers in Duval County, how wonderful their tax dollars are being spent and utilized to help these children in creating a wonderful educational environment.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

[10. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY FOR PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF JOSEPH FINEGAN ES NO. 247 INTO MAYPORT ES NO. 227](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Consolidation Finegan into Mayport.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Finegan Consolidation map only final.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Finegan Cost Saving Sheet.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman declared the public hearing open on the following item:

Proposed Consolidation of Joseph Finegan ES No. 247 into Mayport ES No. 227

As stated earlier by the Superintendent, there is not sufficient evidence to move forward at this time. This item has not been withdrawn tonight in case anyone would like to speak to it:

Mayor John S. Meserve, City of Atlantic Beach, read Resolution No. 09-02 supporting the continued operation of General Joseph Finegan Elementary School until Navy planning for future personnel assignments at Naval Station Mayport is formalized and the long term need for the school can be properly evaluated. *(See Attachment)*

Ms. Adele Griffin read a letter of support from Senator Mel Martinez. *(See Attachment)*

Ms. Jacquelyne Smith read a letter of support from Congressman Ander Crenshaw. *(See Attachment)*

Mr. Harrison Conyers read a letter from Captain Dan McCarthy, NAS Mayport. *(See Attachment)*

The following people spoke in support of the Superintendent's decision in keeping Finegan ES open:

Mr. Mark Frank
Ms. Marie Parker
Mr. Jason Parker
Ms. Maria L. Roberts
Ms. Krystella Hubbard
Ms. Monica Pinkston-Grogan

The Chairman closed the public hearing. Mr. Hazouri thanked the Board, staff and all those who came to the meeting this evening.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The Special meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman