



Duval County Public Schools

July 21, 2015 - Board Workshop and Committee Meeting

Ms. Cheryl Grymes, Chairman
Ms. Ashley Smith Juarez, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Becki Couch
Mr. Jason Fischer
Dr. Constance S. Hall
Mr. Scott Shine
Ms. Paula D. Wright
Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present with the exception of Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez and Board Member and Paula Wright. Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, and Ms. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, were also present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[GOVERNANCE](#)

Minutes:

Value Adjustment Board - Chairman Cheryl Grymes requested a Board Member to attend the VAB meeting in August. Board Members Jason Fischer and Scott Shine will not be able to attend the next meeting on August 19, 2015. A Board Member must attend the meetings in order for

the VAB to hold their meetings. The consensus of the Board was to have Board Members rotate each month. The Chairman will attend the August meeting.

Master Board Training- Board Members Jason Fischer and Scott Shine will not be able to attend this training. The consensus of the Board was to cancel the training. The entire Board needs to attend training together. Chairman Cheryl Grymes will contact Cathy Mincberg, President and CEO of The Center for Reform of School Systems, to provide training.

Board Positions - Chairman Grymes asked the Board what they would like to do concerning the two top candidates for the Board Office positions. Board Member Scott Shine suggested bringing someone in to evaluate how the office is structured. Board Member Constance Hall suggested the Board hire the two top candidates. There were no objections from the Board.

Coordinator Position- Chairman Grymes said the job description needs to be reworked.

Strategic Plan - Board Member Becki Couch suggested we have a workshop on goals and priorities.

Reports on Meetings and Conferences - Board Members provide information concerning meetings and conferences that they attend. Everyone can benefit from this information.

Texting and Driving- The Board needs to reschedule this presentation.

Constituent Services- Board Member Couch asked the Superintendent to make sure Board Members are copied on constituent issue that apply to their district. Board Member Hall stated the Constituent Services needs to be returned to the Board Office.

Task Force - City Charter Review - Board Member Scott Shine will hold the first Task Force meeting on August 12, 2015. The Task Force plan has been sent to the Board. He would like the Board to look at the questions that the Task Force will address. The group will consist of seven members. He will send the Board a complete list of members and an updated timeline. The goal is to have recommendations to bring to the Board. Board Member Couch voiced her concern for representation from all parts of the district and a concern for who is invited to participate She will send Board Member Shine names for the Task Force. Board Member Couch asked what he would do if the group comes back with a recommendation to consolidate and use their services. Board Member Shine said the big center of attention is around legal services along with the Board as it relate to Office of General Council. We will get together in a small group to discuss this further.

For The Record - Board Member Couch said she has concerns that the Board was not involved with the process concerning the Task Force on the City Charter.

Invocation or Thought of the Day at Regular Board Meetings- The consensus was to have Board Members select the person who will present at the meetings. Each Board Member will rotate similar to the rotation for Board Presentations. The Board Office will compile the list.

AUGUST 4, 2015 - DRAFT AGENDA

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the August 4, 2015, Draft Agenda with the Board, Discussion included the following:

- Florida State College Tuition- Dual Enrollment Fall 2016
 - Board Member Becki Couch asked how we ensure Dual Enrollment teachers on schools campus have a priority in staffing if one of them leaves and we have to replace them. The Superintendent said he tries to get teachers from the University. Board Member Couch suggested we look at Duval Virtual teachers to step in until a teacher is found.
- Cultural Passport Partner Agreements
 - All Title I Elementary schools and Charter schools will receive access to the program. Private schools will receive an amount of funds equal to cost of the program. Board Member Couch asked the Superintendent for the cost related to private and charter schools.
- Renewal Of Agreement With Jacksonville Regional Chamber Of Commerce
 - The Chamber Of Commerce is paid \$90,000 for services that are broken down under the financial impact. They network and recruit business partners to our Career Academies.
 - The Superintendent said the Chamber Of Commerce offers a Request for Proposal (RFP) that is set forth throughout the city and last year Big Brothers and Big Sisters was selected by the Chamber Of Commerce to provide mentoring. The industry mentoring also goes out as an RFP the same as last year.
 - Chairman Cheryl Grymes will abstain since Big Brother and Big Sisters is a mentoring provider.
 - The Superintendent will provide an explanation of the cost to justify the service.

Board Member Constance Hall asked for the cost of membership to the Chamber Of Commerce. The Superintendent will provide the cost.

- Drop Out Prevention
 - Data was provided on the last two years of work and what is working and what needs improvement.
 - The definition of Non- Graduate is a student who have earned a Special Diploma or Certificate of Completion. Students who earn

- o a Special Diploma are not calculated in our graduate rate.
- o The definition of a Drop Out is a student who has not earned a Certificate of Completion or a Special diploma.
- o The high turnover of coaches is due to promotions.
- o The Marine Science Center's goal is to have students graduate with a standard diploma and they are included in the overall district graduation rate unless they earn a Special Diploma.

Board Member Scott Shine requested information on why the percentage for the graduation rate does not add up to 100% in the Drop Out Prevention Plan. The Superintendent will follow up.

Board Member Becki Couch asked the Superintendent for data on the over-age elementary mentoring for the I'm A Star program. She also asked that we see what can be done for students that are sixteen years old and older. The Superintendent will look at the best pathway for these students.

- Continuation Agreement With United Way For Achievers For Life Program

Board Member Couch requested the targets and if they were met for this item. Also, if we did not meet the targets, what are we doing to achieve the target. The Superintendent will follow-up.

- Continuation Agreement With The Jacksonville Children's Commission For The 2015-2016 Team Up Program

Board Member Couch requested the targets and if they were met for this item. Also, if we did not meet the target, what are we doing to achieve the targets. The Superintendent will follow-up.

- District Testing Plan
 - o Science 2.0 testing will be in April. The new Florida Standards only applies to math and reading tests.

Board Member Jason Fischer felt we should be looking at using the National Reference test at least until the FSA test has been validated. The Superintendent is not opposed to using the ACT or the SAT at the high school level. He said this would be a political battle but could begin looking at this in the middle of the 2015-16 school year for 2016-17 school year.

- Public Hearing And Approval Of Revisions To The Code Of Student Conduct
 - o There was not enough information available concerning the Parent Court as suggested at a previous workshop to add this to the Student Code Of Conduct. Parent Court could be done as a pilot. The Superintendent will provide information on this in writing to the Board.
 - o Staff is currently working on the last draft of the Student Code

- Of Conduct.
- o The Superintendent will e-mail the Board the updated Student Code Of Conduct. It was not available for the meeting today.

Board Member Jason Fischer voiced his concerns over the point value associated with the Student Code Of Conduct -3.22 Sexual Assault. The Board decided to have the Superintendent review this further and send any changes to the Board. Board Member Fischer also recommended striking 2.12 a Response to Physical Attack in the Student Code Of Conduct and change the item note for Policy 2.09 Fighting (Mutual combat, mutual altercation). He recommended a revision to the item note for Policy 2.09 to read Self-Defense is described as action to block an attack, to shield yourself from being hit, and/or to use the reasonable defensive force only necessary to repel an attacker. Board Member Fischer will amend this item at the Regular Board Meeting in August.

Dr. Vitti, Superintendent said the consequence for 2.09 needs to be changed not the definition.

The Draft Agenda Meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

The Draft Agenda Meeting reconvene at 12:17 p.m.

- Attendance Plan 2015-2016
Board Member Constance Hall asked the Board to consider not giving students a zero when not in attendance. It is difficult to climb from a zero. She suggested the district contact War On Poverty concerning their work with attendance
- Developmental Responsiveness Plan 2015-2016
The Board Office has a binder for each Board Member will all the plans included.
- Minimum Qualifications - Coordinator, Public Information Records
The Superintendent recommended the Coordinator report to the Chief of Staff. This position will centralize the request for Public Records request. If the request is Board related the Superintendent will communicate with the Board or he will contact the Chairman to communicate with the Board.
- Reapproval Of Director, Research Services
This position has been enactive for a year so it must come back to the Board for approval.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

CSM

We Agree on this

Superintendent

Chairman