



## Duval County Public Schools

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June 25, 2015, Board Committee Meeting and Workshop

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 Board Member Becki Couch. 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 9:12 a.m.

Items To Be Discussed

[DRAFT AGENDA FOR JULY 7, 2015](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent reviewed the July 7, 2015, Draft Agenda with the Board. Discussion included the following:

- DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES FOR 2015-2016

- Board Member Scott Shine discussed the expense of travel and membership to these organizations. He wanted to be sure the expense was of value. Board Member Jason Fischer suggested not renewing membership to the Florida School Board Association (FSBA). He said when he attended the conference members were denied the ability to speak. The majority of the Board agreed to renew the membership to FSBA.
- VITALYST AGREEMENT
  - Jim Culbert, Executive Director, Information Technology, explained that Vitalyst was used last year to supplement the help desk for two big projects. It was used as a supplement during the evening to help staff during the move to Office 2013 and Office 365. In June, we will be transitioning to support the new parent single sign-on accounts. We will be setting up an 800 number just for this purpose. In August, it will be used for the parent portals.
- HERO - STUDENT BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE FOR SCHOOLS
  - This item is coming back to the Board for approval because of the change in the funding source from the STRIVE grant to SAI funds. The district has roll forward dollars in SAI to fund this program.
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez asked the Superintendent to look at all schools not just Duval Transformation Schools (DTO) schools.
  - Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, said he will compare DTO schools versus non-DTO schools. He may be able to substitute some of the schools. If a change is made to the agenda item, he will inform the Board.
- AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PITSCO EDUCATION
  - There are two parts to this amendment. The first part of the amendment is to purchase additional 8th grade modules. The second part is to expand to select elementary schools based on the feeder pattern and schools that want to enhance their theme. Schools with the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) theme has yielded higher student achievement than schools with other themes. Board Member Constance Hall asked if we looked at adding PITSCO Labs.
  - Dr. Vitti indicated that there is not an opportunity to add a new PITSCO Lab at this time. All middle schools do not have PITSCO Labs.

Board Member Jason Fischer left the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Returned at 9:51 a.m.

- TITLE I INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS
  - We went through a Request For Proposal (RFP) process this year which we did not do in the past. The parents who served on the committee selected Catapult Academy for services.

Board Member Jason Fischer left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

- APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT CALENDARS FOR SCHOOL YEARS 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019
  - By starting earlier students will have additional instruction time before state assessments begin.
  - This information will be communicated to parents through the website, district e-mail, and hopefully, the media will pick this up also.
- QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL GRANT FOR DTO FULLY-RELEASED READING INTERVENTIONISTS
  - Grant opportunity in the Andrew Jackson, William Raines and Jean Ribault High Schools feeder patterns.
  - Students that worked with the interventionists showed more growth than the school average.
  - Quality Education For All (QEA) dollars will be used to fund the interventionists at the elementary level.
  - Interventionists will work with K-2 in small groups.
  - Reporting will be done through the Data Tracker system.
  - Interventionists will be provided in 36 schools.
  - Board Member Paula Wright requested the Board receive a quarterly report concerning the schools that were selected. She would like to have Iranetta Wright, Regional Superintendent, attend a meeting to answer questions.
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez said she would like to request the organization look at the entire district as a whole not just select schools.
  - Chairman Cheryl Grymes stated QEA indicated the focus of the grant is only for the selected schools.
- FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL INC. D/B/A DUVAL CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AT BAYMEADOWS CONTRACT
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez asked if the registration requirements listed in the item were needed before registering the student. Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, indicated that she will check with staff.
- REAPPROVAL OF SUPERVISOR, SAFETY NETS
  - This position has been vacant for 12 months which requires a vote from the Board to reinstate the position.
- APPROVAL OF THE SALARY SCHEDULES
  - This item updates the salary schedule to comply with the salary increase voted on previously.
  - Board Member Scott Shine requested that abbreviations be spelled out in future agenda items.
  - Board Member Constance Hall requested a list of vacant job descriptions.
- SALE OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY - NORMANDY SCHOOL NO. 204/OFDC-ITB-023-15
  - This property is assessed at \$1.6 million on the tax rolls.
  - Board Member Scott Shine indicated that he was concerned when he saw that the property is being assessed for \$1.6 million on the tax roll. It is being sold for \$355,000. The property is taxed

at this rate based on what the property was used for. The \$355,000 is the value of the land only.

Board Member Jason Fischer returned to the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

- LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND CHETS CREEK CHURCH FOR USE OF PARKING LOT AND RECREATION AREA AT CHETS CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 264
  - This is a 15-year contract but it is personal to the other parties involved since they are making the improvements.
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez requested the financial impact of this project since the maintenance cost would be the responsibility of the district. The Superintendent will follow up.
  - Board Member Paula Wright asked for an update on QZAB completions and other construction projects. The Superintendent will provide this information.
- PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 5.44 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez requested the language be refined. She will work with Karen Chastain, Chief of Legal Services, on corrections to this policy.
- PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISIONS TO POLICY 2.26 BOARD MEETING PROTOCOL AND FORMAT
  - The Chairman questioned the public comment revision. Why does this item not include workshops for public comment. Also, did you discuss the public comment being limited to the topic being discussed.
  - Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez said committee did not include workshops since these are for information purposes and no action is taken. We did not limit discussion.
  - Board Members Scott Shine, Jason Fischer and Chairman Cheryl Grymes agreed with having public comment at all meetings.
  - Board Member Scott Shine will bring an amendment to this item at the Regular Board Meeting on July 7, 2015.

## BUDGET UPDATE

Minutes:

- The Superintendent presented an overview of the budget. Discussion included the following:
  - The Superintendent presented a balanced budget including the loss of students through Charter enrollment and the Lowest 300 for the 39 schools funded.
  - The 5% reserve is intact.
  - An additional 100 positions have been added but not funded at the state level.
  - This year all schools were held harmless knowing schools would

- likely lose students.
- o The district had a significant decrease in surplus teachers.
- o The budget includes a reading coach at every school.
- o Specialist positions have been reduced from 87 to 71.
- o Administrative staff at the district level have been cut by seven.
- o Increase in salaries by \$10 million. That was negotiated with the Duval Teachers Union (DTU).
- Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, polled principals at the 39 schools that are required to have the additional hour of instruction. Two of these schools were still interested in keeping the additional hour.
- Board Member Constance Hall suggested a staggered schedule for the schools with the additional hour. The Superintendent will look at this option.
- Dr. Vitti, Superintendent, recommended that the district fund reading and math interventionists at select schools based on roll forward dollars.
- Vice-Chairman Ashley Smith Juarez asked the Superintendent to send the Board information on the cost of reading and math interventionists.

Board Member Scott Shine left the meeting at 12:22 p.m. He did not return.

- Board Members requested time be given for presentations at future meetings.
- Board Member Paula Wright requested the Superintendent revisit adding a full-time counselor at the over-age academy.
- The Superintendent asked for Board feedback concerning uniforms at all elementary and middle schools with the opt-out language. There is an opportunity to generate one-time money of \$750,000 dollars. The Board would have to vote to adopt a district-wide uniform policy at elementary and middle schools to be eligible for additional funding from the legislature. The consensus of the Board was it is too late to implement the policy for the upcoming year but they are open to looking at the uniform policy for next year.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

CSM

We Agree on this

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Superintendent

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Chairman