



Duval County Public Schools

October 7, 2008, Regular Board Meeting

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Kris Barnes
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Nancy Broner
Ms. Vicki Drake
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

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

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

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

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes:

Reverend James Scott
Christ the King Catholic Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

[1. COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT RECOGNITION - WACHOVIA BANK](#)

Minutes:

Community and Family Engagement Recognition – Wachovia Bank and Sallye B. Mathis Elementary School.

--Our first presentation is a new segment where we recognize our business partners. Business partners are a vital part of our schools and students success. By partnering with our schools, businesses - small and large - make a real difference in the quality of education provided to our children.

--Tonight, we would like to recognize Wachovia Bank. Over the past several years, Wachovia Bank and Sallye B. Mathis Elementary School have enjoyed a mutually enriching partnership. Wachovia Bank has provided financial resources for scholarships, classroom supplies, books, magazines and student incentives.

--Wachovia provides tutoring and mentoring for Sallye B. Mathis students. Gwen Crutchfield, the school's principal, says, "every school deserves a partner like Wachovia."

--Would Holly Cleveland, for Wachovia Bank and Gwen Crutchfield please come forward as we present Wachovia with a certificate of appreciation.

--On behalf of Duval County Public Schools and the Community and Family Engagement Office, I would like to say thanks to Wachovia for all you do to support learning. Through partners like you, we are able to provide our students with resources that exceed our budget constraints.

--Next month, we will recognize Bank of America during this newly added portion of our School Board presentations. Like Wachovia, the resources provided by Bank of America allows us reach our goal of increasing the academic success of all students.

[2. 2007-2008 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS](#)

Minutes:

--This year, 18 Duval County public schools were named Five Star Schools by the Florida Department of Education. This symbol of achievement is presented annually to those schools that have shown evidence of exemplary community involvement. This designation is the highest award for community participation.

--In order to earn Five Star school recognition, a school must have earned a grade of "C" or above for the 2007-2008 school year and must show documentation that it has achieved 100% of the established criteria in the categories of: Business partnerships, Family Involvement, Volunteerism, Student Community Service and School Advisory Councils.

--As your school's name is called, would the principal or designee please come up to receive your certificate:

Elementary Schools

Abess Park
Alimacani
Chets Creek
Crown Point
Ft. Caroline
Greenfield

Greenland Pines
Jacksonville Beach
Loretto
Love Grove
Merrill Road
Normandy Village
Sabal Palm
Louis Sheffield
Twin Lakes Academy
Woodland Acres

Middle Schools
Darnell-Cookman

High Schools
Mandarin

--Congratulations to all of the 2007-2008 Five Star schools!

3. COMMUNITY FIRST TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Minutes:

--In August, Brenda Jones, teacher at Raines High School was named Community First Credit Union's "Teacher of the Week."

--Along with this prestigious designation, Ms. Jones received two club seats to the August 16 Jaguars pre-season game against the Miami Dolphins.

--Ms. Jones was nominated for her dedication to each of her students.

--Her nomination form stated, "I would like to nominate Brenda Jones for teacher of the week, month, & year." "She is the epitome of an incredible educator! She takes that extra time to assist students when we need help."

--Ms. Jones, congratulations on your nomination and thank you for your hard work and dedication extended to your students.

4. EXCELLENCE IN BUDGET REPORTING AWARD - BUSINESS SERVICES

Minutes:

-- For the seventh year in a row, Duval County Public Schools has been awarded both the Governmental Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Association of School Business Officials International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for their Comprehensive annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

--Being a recipient of both of these prestigious awards has a positive impact on the district's debt issuance and provides the District with a stronger investor confidence. These awards reflect the professionalism and commitment of numerous individuals. It also reflects a high degree of dedication and leadership on the part of the Business Services staff on behalf of our district.

--Would Cindy Hill, Myrick Hethington and Anthony Cobb please come forward to be presented with the Association of School Business Officials International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting.

--Congratulations to our entire Business Services team for your commitment to budgetary excellence.

5. PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD - ROTARY CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE AND JACKSONVILLE CHILDREN'S COMMISSION

Minutes:

--For the second year in a row, the Rotary Clubs of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Children's Commission have funded and delivered third grade level Dictionary/Almanacs to all third grade students in Duval County Public Schools, through their Dictionary Project.

--Through this project, students receive a paperback dictionary/almanac from a Rotarian, the delivering Rotarian inscribes the child's name in the dictionary in their classroom.

-- This project is made possible by the kind donations of the Jacksonville Children's Commission and individual donations from each Rotary Club.

--Would Cecilia Bryant, coordinator for the Rotarian Dictionary Project, please come forward to tell us a little more about this project.

--On behalf of Duval County Public Schools and the Duval County School Board, I would like to say thank you to the Rotary Clubs of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Children's Commission. Your generous donation shows that the entire Jacksonville community is committed to ensuring that all of our students have access to high quality educational opportunities.

[6. PROJECT SOS PRESENTATION - PAM MALARKY](#)

Minutes:

--In May 1993, Dr. Pam Mullarkey founded Project SOS in an attempt reduce teen birth rates, sexually transmitted diseases, addictions to drugs and alcohol, suicides, violence and eating disorders.

--Tonight, Dr. Mullarkey is here to present Project SOS's end of the year results for the 2007-2008 school year.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Pam Kinevan said this is my last year as a parent in the district since my youngest child is a senior. Recently, my father-in-law passed away. Last week when I was helping my husband sort through his father's belongings, I came across an engraved pewter mug acknowledging and thanking him for his 16 years of service as a School Board member of Colorado Springs School District 20. This made me stop and think about how we usually thank our Board members for their service, dedication, and sacrifices as they complete their term of office, but rarely while they are serving our community. Especially, with two of our Board members heading into their final month of service, I feel that it is important to thank all of you now and not wait until the time has come to present you with a token of appreciation. Please know that many others in our community feel the same way. Since anyone who knows me well, knows that education is a passion of mine and conversation often turns to education and our school district. I cannot tell you how many times people have told me that they can't imagine making the difficult decisions you are faced with and that they wouldn't be in your shoes for anything. This has been especially true the past couple of years as you have faced budget cuts. So, please know that while we don't always agree with your decisions, especially when you are forced to reduce spending on our favorite programs, we respect you, admire you and truly appreciate all you do for our children. Thank you so much for everything you do!

Dr. Felicia Gaines brought greetings from Ribault Senior High School. We are preparing children for life outside of the gates of Ribault. Thank you for consistency for staff; now, we're asking for consistency for resources. We're thirsty for academic achievement.

Mr. Bradford Hall, a concerned senior in high school, asked why have you denied my principal's request to add resources to Ribault High? This district can afford more resources at Ribault and we did not get this way over night. Something is very wrong with this picture.

Ms. Gwen Odom, a parent of three teenagers at Sandalwood High School, spoke about issues at Sandalwood and nothing is being done about them. Please read my handout and take time to talk to the many students who can tell you what is going at their school. Read and investigate the facts and don't respond like Mrs. Mann did. There is racism at Sandalwood. Thank you.

Mr. Ulysses Smith, vice president at Stanton College Prep, expressed that students here are extremely motivated. Stanton welcomes all students who wish for a challenged curriculum. What happened to "Aim High"? Our program has worked for many years...please don't lower our standards.

Ms. Landon Burse said we don't have a practice space at Sandalwood High; we all share the school together but we must practice at a park. We endure competition for 8 hours and it is not safe at a park. We are a number one team and should be allowed to practice at our school like other teams and organizations do. Please help us with this issue.

Ms. Eden Odom, students, said I go to Sandalwood and there is racism at our school. Students don't have any say-so and these teacher/student relationships create problems. This is my senior year and I want to see some changes made.

Mr. Edward Exson said, "I have long held that some charter schools were funding for deliberate failure so that big companies could get in the market. Thereby, using certain students as commodities aiming to privatize public education. Why can't our schools do what charter school claim? Aside from failing students targeted for charter education, other American schools and universities did not prepare those other citizens, even the higher educated ones, from the predicament that greed and corruption has caused them by the financial markets. We are succumbing more and more to the New World Order. Peoples' nest eggs have been swept away and the retirement age is changing. Teachers, police, firemen and other occupations that accord two pensions are devastated. While some conservators that are allergic to fairness, equality and justice are blaming blacks and the CRA for the housing problems and not mentioning those that live in the suburbs. A wall was erected by putting illegal drugs and guns in the black community to cause havoc. The high priced pharmaceuticals supplied drugs to keep you detracted and wanting pleasure. Then, they gave you a man that they said was a born-again Christian and make him president. The list goes on...the scoundrels went to work and got us where we are now. Don't think that all greed and corruption stopped on Wall Street and Washington with a \$21 billion dollar budget - you need an independent council. How do I view that you paid \$1.8 million dollars for land that exceeded the average appraised value? That extra money could have off-set any incidental cost in changing the name of Nathan B. Forrest High School. Mr. Superintendent, that, too, is the recommendation you should make. American schools and universities did not equip so many of their educated citizens, even the elite, from the predicament that greed and corruption has caused. Washington and Wall Street have no monopoly on greed and corruption...it flows between states and cities...even Jacksonville."

Ms. Sheila Andrews welcomed everyone and said I'm here tonight because in this economic climate, you want your heart to be where our children are. I understand that in spite of Ribault High School receiving an additional 250 children at the school when they came back from their 20 day count and re-evaluation of their budget, they were told there were no funds available to you...we've given you too much. We've given Raines too much and now you must pay back. If my federal government can bail out to the tune of \$700 billion dollars, it's going to be on your heart not to provide children in standard classes that I know you had a plan for because Ribault has been on the "F" list more than one or two times. If we need to go to the bank, I can't think of a better investment for the education of tomorrow's leaders. We can not allow the children to sit there at Ribault in the standard classes to have more than the Class Size Amendment. The math science and language arts teachers are exasperated. Look at our 11th grade Science scores - only 60 children passed the FCAT. This can not be tolerated. It's on you and it's on me...bail them out. Get the teachers hired, get them in place; let's continue on the plan. I want something positive for tomorrow's future, not the ones we keep locking up again, and again, and again. Thank you so much for your time as always and I'll be back again until we get this settled. Thank you.

Mr. Dave Siebert said Jacksonville has a lot of issues and crime. There are many cities experiencing the same thing. We're building schools that are too large as they are education factories. People don't have time for the students when they are one of a 1,000 students. We're presently in the middle of a lousy economy. Some can survive in this economy and the school system can as there is a lot of vacant property

out there. We need to build new schools and have smaller schools. You need to go back to the City Council and take these eye sores off their hands. I attended an ACE meeting a week ago on the westside and every decision was to make schools bigger. Our kids are a product of these huge schools that they're attending. Thank you.

Mr. Cecil Donaldson spoke about one of the RFP's that you have regarding transportation. It seems like this was written for certain select groups and not for minorities. It's asking for companies operating 100 or more buses within a five-year period. The previous RFP stated that the companies would not have more than 2 GSAs. I understand that. One company gave up 2 GSAs and now is coming back to rebid. This RFP states that one company now can have 4 GSAs...this is not fair competitive bidding because the RFP written in the past had no more than 2 GSAs. What changed the process when you have some of these companies not performing up to standards and basically, not getting the job done. For example, using one bus for three routes; this is corruption and violation of fair practice. This is an enormous expense and appears that corruption is not on the outside. I submit to you that this process needs to be thoroughly investigated. Transportation is one of your biggest accounts funded with federal dollars. For that reason, it may be necessary to pursue an investigation with federal authorities rather than with local authorities. I ask that you carefully review this matter before a decision is made because this is a serious issue. Thank you.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman

Mr. Paul Soares, Chief Officer, Operations Support

Ysryl said I'm pleased to be here and want to speak about the contract and issues concerning buses - minority businesses. This should be with local business owners. These people are taking money out of our community. When the bid comes up, please reject it and allow the local people to participate. Being a volunteer working with the children in the schools, the nationality of the child doesn't phase me. We must fund a different kind of counseling for these children as their home lives are so different. Many are hungry with no parents in their lives. We must support these children and come up with a way to help them. It's our responsibility to help these children.

Mr. John Turner spoke about the Opinion piece that the Chairman and Superintendent wrote for the Times-Union. You stated that Florida ranks dead last among the 50 states when it comes to spending on public schools and that is if you base it on personal income. The source of your data was US Census Bureau Report. I found your findings misleading. The US Census Bureau Report is over 100 pages long and contains many different ways to rank the states when it comes to spending on public education. However, the School Board chose the one method that makes the least amount of sense when comparing Florida to the rest of the nation and that is by personal income. Florida does not have a state income tax. Florida is one of 7 states that do not have a personal income tax. So, by using that method, it's no wonder that Florida ranked dead last. If the School Board wanted to be fair and balanced, you could have used the Table 11 of the same report which ranks states by dollars per student. That is after you total up all the sources of revenue which include local, state and federal funding, and then divide it by the number of students, you will find that Florida is not dead last but ranks 34th. We fall between Missouri and New Mexico. Why did the School Board compare apples to oranges? I believe you wrote that because you wanted to taxpayers to think the real reason why Jacksonville has so many failing schools is due to the lack of funding. You want us to think it's not the School Board's fault or the teachers fault but the fault of the taxpayers for not adequately funding our public schools. Your solution to the problem is to throw more money at it instead of implementing meaningful reform. Currently, the Duval County Public School district's annual budget is \$1.8 billion dollars - if that is not enough money to properly educate our students, just how much is? Please stop telling everyone that we're ranked #50 out of the nation when we're not. Thank you for listening.

Ms. Maya Matheison, a senior at Sandalwood High School, spoke about the school's Activities Director making decisions and will not tell everyone what they are. Take Homecoming which is October 25 and we can't take anyone who doesn't go to school at Sandalwood. That's not fair as we don't just have friends that go to Sandalwood. We also can't bring someone from another school as our date to our senior prom unless they attend Sandalwood. This may not be a big issue to everybody else, but it is a very big issue to me and my fellow seniors at Sandalwood. This is unfair and something should be done about it. Please investigate what our Activities Director is doing. This did not happen in past years at our school.

Ms. Nelline Zilberg, representing Global Outreach Charter Academy, said our application was submitted on time, we received a passing score plus much praise from the Charter Commission. Unfortunately, there was one unexpected problem. The accountant to whom we relied to write the financial section defaulted on us at the last moment which put us in a very difficult situation. Due to this, the financial section of our application had to be failed on a few technicalities. We want you to know that we have already begun working with

another local, government certified accountant and Dr. Tiscornia and other Charter member commissions have already met him. With his help, we have already fixed the problems that were preventing us from getting complete approval. Given these circumstances and our passing score and most of all the high urgent need of our community for this school. We hope you will grant us a hearing for conditional approval. Mr. Soroka, who will speak after me, has already created this type of charter school before. We already have the perfect facility for it and absolutely everything worked out and now have a reputable accountant working with us to make sure that all of our financial operations remain in perfect conformity with regulations. Most importantly, we have many anxious parents who have been waiting for this school for years. Some of the representatives took time off from work to come here tonight to speak before you to let you know how important this is for them and their community. Don't do this for us, the ones doing the petition...we're just the local, not part of any grant writing conglomerate. We're doing this for these people who have this pressing need for years and if it were just us, we could wait but the parents feel they have waited too long. I hope you will hear them and be sympathetic to their needs. Thank you.

Mr. Sergey Soroka, chairman of this proposal for the Global Outreach Charter Academy. Please give our school a chance. This Slovic community has been hoping and praying for this school for at least three years. Some children have problems in school and their parents can't help because they don't speak English. I grew up in the USSR and it is very different. We want to give our children a good future. Our children pick up English much quicker than adults do and we want them to be successful in America. We urge you to allow us to open this school which will benefit all students. A great success for the entire community.

Ms. Nadia Chenkova, interpreter for Mr. Valentyn Kulbaka said we have a very special interest in this school for our community and the young people. We ask you for your support.

Mr. Yergery Morozov said I am a product of public school and graduated from UNF. Thank you for the opportunity for my graduating from public school. My parents never had a chance to help me when we came to America. Many in my community have Russian speaking parents and they can't figure out or help their children. This charter school has two languages whereby they can assist both the students and parents. I appeal this petition to look at this school to help this community. Thank you.

Mr. Gregory Dranker, real estate broker, supports the Global Outreach Charter Academy. As a parent and a professional, it was very difficult for my son 18 years ago when we came to this country. I wish we had this type of school to help us become adapted to American ways and become a member of society. As a professional, I receive feedback from the parents. This is the best way to go with our community. I respectfully ask you to support them.

Mr. William P. Clark, Jr., supports the Global Outreach Charter Academy. A strong education is required to succeed. I had a basic education entering the U.S. Navy and by the time I retired, it was not good enough. We do have an international community in Jacksonville. Please consider in promoting our entire city with a strong educational system. I ask you to please support this school. Thank you for your time and attention.

Pastor Vitaly Bondarenrs, interpreter, pastor of Slovic church...400 in our congregation including 30 newly weds with 25 births. We're thinking of our youth. Thank you for your understanding.

Ms. Livda Morozov, interpreter, thank you for this opportunity to speak. I am a mother to four sons. Please help us follow our dreams for this school and our children. In February, I attended a charter school in California. They have five branches throughout the state which are a great success. No absenteeism or discipline problems. We are fully in support of this person and school. Please grant us a commission hearing and thank you for allowing us to speak.

Comments From Parent Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Rachel Raneri, Chairman:

The District Advisory Council met on Monday, September 22nd. Once again I am happy to tell you that we had a full house. I expect we will see representation from all Areas on Oct. 27th.

Pat Carley gave us an update on the District Improvement & Assistance & Intervention Plan. She informed us of changes in the Federal and State requirements. She explained how the plan was developed and the stakeholders that were involved in the process. Pat asked the DAC members to read the general description of the plan to get an overall view and send her any feedback from their Areas.

Dr. Jeannie Ballentine, Director of Reading and Language Arts K-12/ESOL, answered a question from an Area representative about the specific reading program for 11th and 12th graders who have not yet passed FCAT Reading. She explained that the new program would focus on curriculum and strategies to increase the number of students who will pass FCAT Reading for graduation. She explained that the district will facilitate ongoing group work with intensive reading teachers in high schools and will result in a critical examination of individual student data to make a real difference in helping students graduate.

Both Dr. Ballentine and Ms. Carley expressed the need for parents and community members to work on these projects.

We were very fortunate to have our District Lobbyist, Martin Miller, join us to explain why and how the state legislation has changed the statute to include the word "district" after employee when referring to the membership of a School Advisory Council. This means that if a teacher or other District employee has a student at another school and wants to sit as a parent at their child's school, they must be listed as Staff. The DAC is concerned that they may have a difficult time filling their SAC to be in compliance, especially at the secondary level. Mr. Martin explained who and why this was voted into statute and what we can, as voters, do to change it back.

The DAC members were asked to take this information back to their Areas and send feedback to me or Mr. Martin, and most importantly, to their legislators. If Area Advisory Councils would like a person to speak to this at their next Area meeting, please contact me and we will send someone to attend and answer questions at their meeting. If there is enough data that we can give to Mr. Miller, he will take it back to the legislature. We need to work as a team to help Mr. Miller advocate for our district.

It is very important to get this information to Mr. Miller as soon as possible, please contact me if anyone needs help at the local school level.

First Coast High School would like to "Go Green" with their vending machines. They would like to replace all plastic bottles in the vending machines to cans. Sonita Young, Director of Policy and Compliance, brought the Pepsi contract with her to the meeting. She will delve further into whether or not the machines can be changed from bottles to cans. It may mean a reduction in the amount of money the schools receive on the commission they get from the sale of products. This could be a "Green" effort, but we have to weigh it against possible funds coming in. Members were asked to take this information back to their Areas and gather input to give at the next DAC meeting. We will then discuss the Pepsi contract with those who negotiated it and decide if the DAC will support a renewal. It was suggested that the district contact Pepsi to see if their company has any literature or plans to "Go Green".

We took a roll call and determined there was a quorum to vote on the new bylaws amendments that were presented at the last DAC meeting. The amended Bylaws were accepted by the current DAC by unanimous vote. Ms. Selinda Keys, Chief of Cluster 2, gave us more information on the Accreditation process and thanked all of the DAC members who have been working on the different

committees to prepare for the SACS-CASI visit.

Mr. Wiley Swanson, from ARAMARK, gave us an update on how the school meals program is going. Any student who is in arrears of their prepaid lunch, will receive a cheese sandwich and juice if they are behind in their prepaid lunch account. He also reported that, after an incident with a child with a peanut allergy ingested a "peanut butter swirl brownie", the school has developed a "peanut free area" to avoid this happening again.

As a point of personal privilege, I would like to thank all of the DAC members who have worked on the various committees for the SACS-CASI review as well as the Academic and Community Excellence meetings (known as Boundary change meetings). They have all gone above and beyond their volunteer commitments for the betterment of Duval County Public Schools.

As always, I am available for SAC training at the local level, just give me a call or email.

The next meeting of the DAC is Monday, Oct. 27th at 6:00 pm in the 6th floor conference room.

PTA - Annette Worthen, President:

Good evening, I am Annette Worthen, President of the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs.

The mission of the PTA is threefold:

- to support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise, protect and prepare their children;
- to encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this state.

Whenever a school needs parental involvement, usually the PTA/PTSA takes on the role of contacting parent volunteers. In making this initial contact with the parents, PTA/PTSA allows teachers and administrators to focus on the educational goals of our children.

This past month was a very productive month for PTAs/PTSAs here in Duval County. The local units continued their membership drives and began holding local unit meetings, organizing volunteer opportunities, offering support to their school, planning programs for their PTA/PTSA members and families and began organizing the volunteers that will be used during vision screening. On top of all the PTA activities at the local level, 20 PTA Volunteers from local units worked at the September Teacher Supply Depot opening. Over 80 people representing 60 PTAs/PTSAs attended our September County Council General meeting and 117 local PTA leaders attended our Fall Leadership Workshop and Community Services Fair.

The Principals have been very supportive of County Council this year by encouraging their local unit officers to attend the meetings and gather information to bring back to the administration as well as the PTA members. I would like to thank all the Principals and Administrators for their support of PTA. This past month we have continued to help PTAs in anyway they need us and I am excited to tell you that we now have a PTA at Grand Park Center. Dr. Blue and Ms. Wingard, one of the teachers (and PTA president) have both been instrumental in establishing the PTA there.

Even though amendments 5, 7&9 are off the ballot, PTA's are very much aware that these items will probably be brought up as legislative items this year and we are educating the parents about the negative impact these three items will have on funding for public education. We are preparing to fight these failed amendments if we see them becoming legislative items again. I mentioned last month that we would host a Pre-Convention Workshop for local PTA members and delegates to attend if they were interested in gathering information on the platform items and FL PTA Bylaws changes. The workshop was very informative and a lot of information was provided to all that attended. The Convention will be held in November and currently the local unit leaders are sharing the information with their members and deciding how to vote on both the Platform items and the Bylaws changes. As always, we are here for you. If the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs can be of assistance to you, please contact us. Thank you.

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes:

There were no comments from Employee Organizations this evening.

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

[1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Student Achievement should be the ultimate goal of a School Board and sets the foundation upon which the district implements programs that will allow students to become productive contributors to society. The Chairman's report has highlighted the outstanding accomplishments of schools throughout the district to remind our viewing audience and our district that excellence exists throughout our district. Please understand that I cannot highlight each and every school in the district; however, I can solicit input from fellow board members to have them select a school within their districts that has made gains with regards to student achievement.

Tonight I will highlight schools in School Board districts 6 and 7, which are represented by Board Members Vicki Drake and Tommy Hazouri respectively.

MAYPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mayport The tagline at the end of the Principal's email message profoundly asserts a quote from Martin Taylor: *Diversity is a natural expression of the Universe... Differentiation in the classroom respects diversity. As I highlight some of the school's accomplishments you will see how the school actually embodies the quote and has internalized it to move students to higher levels of learning. One of the school's 2007-08 highlights was that writing scores on the FCAT increase 4 points to 93% and the lowest 25% in math jumped from 58% to 65%. The school raised its grade from a "C" to a "B".*

Middle School deservedly labels itself as the "Jewel On The Beach". Principal Katrina McCray explains, "We call our school the Jewel of the Beach because it is tucked away on a naturally wooded campus with a lake and a fountain to welcome everyone."

- **Our full-time gifted program has developed a reputation as one of the best for a neighborhood school.**
- **The modern architecture makes our school the most unique facility in the district.**
- **We have an award-winning band that is honored to play at the Mayport Naval Base welcome home ceremonies for our troops.**

- **We target the needs of every child thereby offering Saturday, morning, and after-school programs to help advance our over-age population and offer enrichment for our students who meet high standards.**
- **Mayport Middle's vision is inspiring: To deliver a rigorous, relevant, and differentiated curriculum designed to maximize academic achievement of all individuals, regardless of ethnicity, economic status, physical or emotional challenges. Along with that vision comes the school's vision which is to provide a safe, respectful educational environment and challenging curriculum to prepare all students to become successful and responsible members of a diverse society.**

Allow me share other notable highlights:

- **This summer Mayport Middle was awarded a grant from Beaches Resource Full-Service Schools to provide a transition camp for our sixth graders.**
- **Through the generous support of its community partners, PTA, faculty, staff and district facilities department the school was able to accomplish and rejuvenate its academic programs and campus aesthetics in one year.**
- **As a result, Mayport Middle's greatest accomplishment has been to regain the community's respect as a safe and academically focused middle school and I am pleased to report that for the first time in 11 years Mayport's 2008-2009 enrollment has increased.**

Please join me in congratulating Mayport Middle's phenomenal principal Katrina McCray and the dedicated staff of the Jewel On the Beach.

Vice Chairman Tommy Hazouri selected two schools for recognition: Robert E. Lee and Mandarin Oaks Elementary.

ROBERT E LEE HIGH SCHOOL

Robert E. Lee High faculty and staff have done an outstanding job of moving Lee to an academic focus. This has not been a one year process, but the product of the work done at Lee over the past few years. Principal Denise Hall states that they are proud to have been the highest gaining high school in the county this past year. This was achieved by increasing the number of students that reached a score of Level 3 and above in reading by 11%, in math by 8% and in science by 4%. Learning gains by students in reading also increased by 9% and there was a 2% increase in math.

The mighty Lee Generals doubled the number of graduating seniors taking the SAT over the last 3 years and the number of AP students increased from 114 during the 05-06 school year to 700 AP students during the 07-08 school year. This is highlighted by the fact that Lee had a 140% increase in AP scores of 3, 4 or 5 from its previous year. Unlike many high schools across the nation, Robert E. Lee High School has done so while also improving the demographics of the honors classes and maintaining that demographics so that they accurately reflect the demographics of the school. Principal Hall shares that although the school has not achieved all that it set out to achieve, they are more than pleased at the progress that has taken place.

What makes Lee so special?

Lee is one of the few schools in Duval County that is split between choice students and neighborhood students, having approximately 60% neighborhood students and 40% magnet

students. Lee is configured into four distinct learning communities with an administrator and guidance counselor assigned to each.

Lee is home to the Math, Science and Engineering Academy Magnet as well as the county's first Early College program. Students in the Engineering Academy are exposed to engineering and drafting courses that rival those offered in college. Students that choose to focus on the sciences have the opportunity to experience an in-depth look by participating in at least one AP science each year starting with their 10th grade year.

Students in the Early College program have the opportunity to begin their college career during their 10th grade year on campus and finish their 11th and 12th grade years on one of the four FCCJ campuses, with the possibilities of receiving both a high school diploma and an AA degree upon graduation.

Neighborhood students that are part of either our Math and Science Learning Community or our Liberal Arts community are no less academic minded. Students are offered courses that mirror those in the magnet community. They also have an opportunity to participate in studies that reflect their own interests such as chorus, band, art, ROTC, athletics, technology, and Family and Consumer Sciences.

The staff is to be applauded for working vigorously to achieve its mission/vision which states:

Through small learning communities we prepare students to demonstrate excellence in math, science, technology and the humanities as they pursue post-secondary learning, employment and independence in our global economy.

Thank you Principal Hall for all that you do to live up to the creed of your mission and please give the Robert E. Lee staff a round of applause for making a difference in the lives of our students.

MANDARIN OAKS ELEMENTARY

As Chairman of the School Board, I take the Board's Core Beliefs and commitments very seriously. One of our most valued beliefs is that students will be prepared to learn at high levels.

- **Mandarin Oaks made Adequate Yearly Progress under NCLB for the seventh consecutive year. The school is one of only eight schools in the district to meet AYP every year since its inception.** Mandarin Oaks has been an "A" school for seven consecutive years, for eight of the ten years that Florida has had the Florida School Accountability Program.
- The percentage of students meeting high standards in math and writing has continued to increase during the past four years.
- 2008 FCAT Results:
 - 87% of students tested met high standards in reading.
 - 88% of students tested met high standards in math.
 - 90% of students tested met high standards in writing.
 - 72% of students tested made learning gains in reading.
 - 76% of students tested made learning gains in math
 - 64% of the lowest quartile made learning gains in reading.
 - 78% of the lowest quartile made learning gains in math.

I dare say that those accomplishments address every aspect of the school's mission statement which is

Mandarin Oaks Elementary will provide students with a challenging curriculum which will support active engagement in all academic disciplines and will

prepare students to meet the highest level of achievement needed to compete successfully in a global economy.

One of the questions that I ask each of the schools selected by Board members is "What makes your school so special"? Principal Patti Carson forwarded 5 fantastic points which demonstrate some very special attributes:

1. Mandarin Oaks provides educational and related services to a number of students who are enrolled in numerous low-incidence Exceptional Education programs. These students have a wide variety of disabilities and are provided a quality education in supportive and participatory classes where their individual needs are met. We also provide support from our therapy team consisting of Occupational and Physical Therapists, Speech/Language Pathologists, Vision and Hearing Teachers, as well as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. Full time registered nurses are also on site to deliver services for those requiring special medical assistance. We are very proud of our ability to provide all students with an outstanding educational program in a positive school environment.
2. Mandarin Oaks provides instruction in Mandarin Chinese Language and Culture for all students in kindergarten through fifth grades. This Chinese program was implemented during the 2007-2008 school year and was the district's first elementary Chinese program. Mrs. Xu Lei (Shoe Lay), who is part of the Chinese Guest Teacher Program, is currently in her second year of instructing students in Mandarin Chinese. Already we can see growth in students' abilities to understand and speak the Chinese language and in their knowledge of Chinese culture.
3. Mandarin Oaks Elementary continues to reach out into the community by providing classes for children and adults through our Community Education Program. This program is one of only three Community Education Programs currently housed at elementary schools in the district. We are presently offering twenty-nine different classes with an enrollment of 220 students, both children and adult.
4. Mandarin Oaks is fortunate to have extremely involved parents and parent organizations that provide support to our students. The PTA works tirelessly to support the goals of the school in a variety of ways. Many parent volunteers work daily with teachers and students to help extend student knowledge in both reading and math.
5. Mandarin Oaks has been recognized for its many achievements. We are a multiple year recipient of the Five Star School Award, the Golden School Award, as well as the 2008 Little Red Schoolhouse Award.

When a school takes its vision literally great things can happen for kids! Mandarin Oaks Elementary brings their vision to life. Listen to some of the wonderful accolades that have allowed these Mandarin Oaks eagles to SOAR:

- Mandarin Oaks has a working partnership with the University of North Florida's College of Education. Graduate and undergraduate classes are held on our campus throughout the school year. During the Reading Methods class, potential teachers are instructed and trained in assessing and remediating students in reading and writing. The UNF students then apply their instruction in classrooms with Mandarin Oaks students, providing additional assistance as needed. Other education classes taught at Mandarin Oaks are Math Methods and The Diagnosis of Reading Disabilities. In addition, many of

our teachers are CET trained, mentoring pre-interns and full-time interns. Some of our newly hired teachers are ones that were first introduced to our school while taking classes at local universities or interning here at Mandarin Oaks.

- Tim Kenney, a fifth grade math teacher, has been selected as one of three finalists in the state of Florida for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
- Zak Champagne, a fourth grade math teacher, was selected as the 2007 winner in the state of Florida for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Teachers at Mandarin Oaks continually strive for further professional development within the educational community. They take an active role in district and state mathematics programs by participating in the Academy of Math and the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

- From Mandarin Oaks, two teachers are facilitators and seven were videotaped to show model lessons in mathematics.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes:

Superintendent Pratt-Dannals said it's exciting to see recognition of our schools with the focus on high achievement with highly dedicated leaders. congratulations for all the great things you're doing for our children.

As for the Public Comments tonight, there are resources for Ribault High School. This is an issue for all schools, especially our TurnAround schools. Many schools have tremendous needs. We'll make sure the resources are there for continuing gains. Schools are too large but that contributes to the revenue we get in Florida. Duval is not alone with larger schools. High schools tend to have about 2,000 students and we break them up into smaller learning communities. Statistically, we're 50th in funding...it's a fair ways showing revenue per student. States don't have the same wealth factor. The cost for housing is higher here than in Alabama or Mississippi. The cost differential is a factor in Florida. This is the most accurate in comparing us to other states.

Commended Dr. Alvin White and Peggy Williams in preparing us for the Accreditation team. On Monday, we had presentations by district staff and interviewed our principals and Board members. There were various groups representing the stakeholders within the Duval County Public Schools system. So far, it's going well with a report tomorrow, 10/8/08, at 3:00 pm which will be televised. I feel we will pass. For everyone who had a role in this, I think you and am hopeful we'll get positive results tomorrow.

Three committees will be setting up in regards to engaging teachers and parents. Look at our exceleration program, ACE, entrance and exit criteria, middle and high schools...recommendations will go out and we're also looking at our magnet programs.

Reports

1. OPERATIONS - MR. DOUG AYARS

Minutes:

ACE - We're making great progress and just finished the 4 dialog committee meetings; compiling summaries

with detailed input from the public; we finished that process; starting Monday and Tuesday and the following week, we'll regroup with the committees and out of that, I'll provide tentative recommendations for consideration. We'll post the community meeting minutes on the website - a summary for the members to use. Everyone will have a chance to see the developments.

These meetings were chosen geographically. There has been a rumor going around and there is no issue concerning AAA High School with 9A - there's no truth to that. We're currently digesting information and will have recommendations at the 11/3/08 Board meeting; discuss boundary changes; coming back in February for 2009; recommendations about magnet programs; the facility governs the number of students who attend that school - we must get enrollment within the 105% in the next couple of years. Do a comprehensive review regarding the magnet schools and their diversity; come out with a Master Plan with Tracy Richter and staff.

Transportation - keep our programs going; take a comprehensive look and form a committee; routes and services to various schools.

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Kris Barnes, Board Member

2. ACADEMIC SERVICES - MS. PAT WILLIS

Minutes:

Just to follow on our ACE model, we are working closely with Mr. Ayars, Tom O'Dea, and Ms. Elaine Mann. There's a committee of us working to look at the ACE Academic model and it is similar to the ACE Facilities model looking at having our stakeholders and parents involved in this process. Of course, the purpose of this model as our Superintendent has said tonight, is to ensure the accessibility of accelerated programs in our high schools throughout our district and certainly, to continue to strengthen the academic programs in all of our high schools. Also, we're focusing on the high schools scheduling configuration for 2009-2010. So, the committee is working on that. mechanism by which we will make recommendations to the Superintendent and Board after having the input from staff, faculty members, community members and then bring those recommendations to the Board. The membership for the Acceleration Committee, again, consists of 1 faculty member from each of the schools who represent those accelerated programs in the schools. They are elected by the faculty to serve on the committee along with district administration and the school principals of those schools. Also, 1 parent or community representative that represents that SAC. The SAC will also send from their school someone to represent them. Then, representatives from our district SAC, our district PTA, NAACP and the Duval Teachers United will also serve on the committee for the Acceleration Programs. For the membership committee for the scheduling and configuration, Duval Administration - 6 principals, DTU staff, representatives who will look at the scheduling configuration for our high schools. We will begin this work this month starting to put together as we're working through the model, finish up with what we're doing with ACE and really working close with Mr. Ayars and Tom O'Dea as we model this, get recommendations ready to share with our larger groups and then get those recommendations to our Superintendent and the Board. We have begun this work and we will be getting communications to our principals. Ms. Mann and I have collaborated with the union on getting the memo out to our principals and some guidelines we can share with SAC. So, that's the work we've begun on our ACE Academic model.

Speakers:

Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Chairman Betty Burney said she was extremely concerned about this process. Each and every student has equal access and opportunity; all resources are equitable and accessible. Every school in Duval County has something to offer. We are a huge district and some parents believe their child must go to a magnet school to get a good education. That is wrong. I'm waiting for the results.

Speakers:

Ms. Patricia Willis, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Kris Barnes, Board Member

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2008, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the October 7, 2008, Agenda as submitted on September 30, 2008, with the changes listed in - PASS the agenda item.

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Martha Barrett

Kristanna Barnes	- Aye
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

September 2, 2008 - Regular Board Meeting
September 10, 2008 - Special Board Meeting
September 22, 2008 - Special Board Meeting

Motions:

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

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Martha Barrett

Kristanna Barnes	- Aye
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Kristanna Barnes

Kristanna Barnes	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye
Martha Barrett	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Human Resource Services - Staffing

[2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS](#)

Attachment: [HRS_attach_10-07-08_min_qual.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

[3. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES](#)

Attachment: [HRS_attach_Maintenance_Employees_Negotiated_Language_2008.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS_Attach_MA_0809.pdf](#)

4. APPROVAL OF EXEMPT SALARY SCHEDULES

Attachment: [HRS Attach AA 0809 12mths.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach AD 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach AE 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach EA 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach EQ 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach EM 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach EU 0809.pdf](#)
Attachment: [HRS Attach DA 0809 \(2\).pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

1. APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Attachment: [July-August 2008 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

Administration and Business Services - Information Technology

1. TECHNOLOGY RETROFIT AT VARIOUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - 2009: DP SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD

Attachment: [XX-B-C-REV-Retrofits-ES-2009.pdf](#)

2. MICROSOFT PREMIER SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AND SERVICES CONTRACT RENEWAL

Attachment: [xx-B-C-PREMIER-RENEWAL.DOC.pdf](#)

3. CHECK POINT ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION AND STANDARD SUPPORT – MAINTENANCE CONTRACT RENEWAL

Attachment: [xx-B-C-CheckPoint.DOC.pdf](#)

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

1. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR INNOVATIVE DELIVERY OF EDUCATION FOR ALL LEARNERS (I.D.E.A.L.) ACADEMY

Attachment: [IDEAL Exec Summary 2008.pdf](#)
Attachment: [IDEAL Scoring Matrixdoc.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES IDEAL.pdf](#)

2. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR TIGER ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Attachment: [TIGER ACADEMY SCORING MATRIX.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Tiger.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Tiger Executive Summary 2008 Rev.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman spoke to both this item and Item 3. Charter Application for Patterson Academy for the Arts and I wish to make two very brief comments and my comments are these...I know that in the past, Duval County has had some charter schools where we've had problems and have had to close a few and we've been trying to make sure that we have charter schools that would be able to provide what we need for our students to be academically successful. I am extremely hopeful with both of these charter schools.

The Patterson Academy of the Arts - the Patterson family has had a long, long standing notion for being educationally excellent in all that they have done over the years. So, I'm looking

forward to them and especially the fact that it's going to be a high school and we know we need assistance.

The same with the Tiger Academy Charter School application - I was very pleased to see that is also going to be partnering with the YMCA to make sure that our students get everything that they need to be academically prepared.

3. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR GLOBAL OUTREACH CHARTER ACADEMY -- WITHDRAWN

Attachment: [Global Outreach Scoring Matrix.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Global Outreach.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Global Outreach Academy Exec Summary 2008.pdf](#)

Minutes:

The Superintendent spoke with Ms. Lorenda Tiscornia and Ms. Karen Chastain about taking this item off the Consent Agenda and bring it back next month after they work on a financial package. There were several critical issues and they have had a change.

Ms. Chastain said the Chair could pull the item for discussion, deliberate and move to defer that item to next month's meeting. The school has consented if you defer.

Speakers:

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

Chairman Burney said she wished to remove the Charter Application and defer this item to the November 3, 2008 Board meeting.

4. CHARTER APPLICATION FOR PATTERSON ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

Attachment: [PATTERSON ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS SCORING MATRIX.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Patterson.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Patterson 2008 executive summary Rev.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

1. PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: NEW, RENEWAL AND CHANGE OF CLASSIFICATION

Attachment: [XX-B-C-PREQUAL.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-REV1-PREQUAL-NEW.DOC.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-REV-CORRECTION.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-PREQUAL-RENEWAL.pdf](#)

2. QUARTERLY REPORT OF SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE CONTRACTS AND CERTIFICATES OF FINAL INSPECTION ON VARIOUS MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS VALUED UNDER \$1,000,000 AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS

Attachment: [xx-B-C-Q-SC-CFI.DOC.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-Q-SC-CFI.DOC.pdf](#)

3. FACILITIES SERVICES CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER REPORT - SEPTEMBER, 2008

Attachment: [xx-B-C-ChangeOrderReport-09-08.doc.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-C-O-REPORT.DOC.pdf](#)

4. NEW NORTH SHORE K-8 AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS AT ANDREW JACKSON HS: SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATE OF FINAL INSPECTION, DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91080

[AND M-85350](#)

Attachment: [xx-ATT-REV-NORTH-SHORE-SC.DOC.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-ATT-REV-NORTH-SHORE-CFI.DOC.pdf](#)
Attachment: [XX-B-C-NORTH-SHORE-SC-CFI.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Priestly Jackson wanted to thank the Superintendent, Mr. Ayars and his staff for the model and for the inclusion of the athletic facility for Andrew Jackson High School. I think that showed a great force on the part of the district to include that in this work at this time and that is a true community neighborhood concept. I can't say enough and hope that this becomes a model that we use in the district for anything we want to do and the community feels is a part of the neighborhood ownership. Thank you.

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[1. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [05Oct08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [04Oct08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM1 \(2\).pdf](#)
Attachment: [October 08 woods agenda.pdf](#)
Attachment: [06Oct08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [07Oct08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [ROOCT09.pdf](#)

[2. TRACK RESURFACING AND REPAIR](#)

Attachment: [Track Resurfacing and Repair Bid BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 08-7-08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [TRACK RESURFACING AND REPAIR 08 TAB SHEET.pdf](#)

[3. OFFICE SUPPLIES FOR THE GENERAL STOREROOM](#)

Attachment: [Rejection ITB-042-08-LM.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Copy of OFFICE SUPPLIES-FINAL COPY-ITB-042-08-LM.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 01-14-08.pdf](#)

[4. RENEWAL OF EMPLOYEE GROUP LIFE INSURANCE WITH UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA](#)

[5. LEGAL LIABILITY INSURANCE \(ERRORS AND OMISSIONS\)](#)

Chief of Staff

[MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT \(SACS CASI\) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-09 IN THE AMOUNT OF \\$76,575](#)

Academic Services - School Curriculum and Programs

[1. DUVAL COUNTY ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PLAN 2008-2009](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Form - ELL Plan 100708.pdf](#)

[2. DIFFERENTIATED ACCOUNTABILITY MODEL REGIONAL SUPPORT GRANT PROPOSAL](#)

Attachment: [Attachment I.pdf](#)
Attachment: [ATTACHMENT II.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES.pdf](#)

3. FLORIDA INCREASING REFUGEE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: YEAR TWO GRANT PROPOSAL

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

4. JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF NORTH FLORIDA, INC. AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Attachment: [Junior Achievement Correlations.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Junior Achievement Middle School Programs.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Junior Achievement High School Programs.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Junior Achievement Elementary School Programs.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Junior Achievement Schools served 2008 2009.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM junior achievement revised.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Barrett wanted to say how timely this particular continuation agreement is for the elementary, middle and high school students. In this crucial time, we certainly know what its like and what is going on with the stock market and the financial world, etc., so financial education is imperative and students get a first-hand example of what it's like to be in the corporate world through Junior Achievement since most of the mentors and tutors who come into the schools for Junior Achievement are of the corporate and business worlds. I think this is a tremendous opportunity and I don't think anyone can argue that everyone needs a little financial education these days.

Ms. Burney said some years ago, back in the early 1980's, I was a corporate volunteer for Junior Achievement over at Kirby Smith and we made cups and sold cups. They've come a long way but it was an excellent program then and it's an outstanding program now. They have some truly innovative programs and the catch-phrase now is "*preparing children for the global society*" and for them to compete and Junior Achievement does that...their J.A. Global Marketplace provides practical information on international trade, how it functions, its importance in the world today and how it influences students daily lives. The focus is on key aspects of global economy such as international market and international cultural exchange and the international flow of human resources information and capital. In addition to that, Junior Achievement has been outstanding in recruiting volunteers. During the 2007-2008 school year, 813 local volunteers and mentors reached 22,863 students with JA's financial literacy, economics and workforce preparation programs which are correlated to Sunshine State's Standards.

The other important highlight is that 95% of the students realize that staying in school is important. My only heartbreak in all of this is that we've had to cut the amount of funds that we give to them and in this economy, especially where we have our state government not giving us as much as we normally had, it really hurts to see such a program as this not receive as many funds.

I want to thank Junior Achievement for all that you've done!

Academic Services - Special Services

1. CONTINUATION OF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT WITH UNITED WAY, DUVAL COUNTY HEALTH DEPT., JACKSONVILLE CHILDRENS COMMISSION, ST. VINCENT'S HEALTH SYSTEM, FULL SERVICE SCHOOLS OF JACKSONVILLE, AND DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Minutes:

Ms. Priestly Jackson spoke to both Items 1 and 2 - Continuation of Funding by United Way for two Social Workers:

Particularly in the trying times that we're facing as a community that working with our partners in a community effort to address all of our students' needs is very good and most needed and so, thank you for that and thank you for these other agencies to work with us...the United Way, Duval County Health Department, Department of Children and Families, St. Vincent's Health

Systems, Full-Service Schools of Jacksonville, and Duval County Public Schools.

Also, thank you for the funding of two Social Workers. We're going to be faced with some challenging times and we'll see the ripple effect and it's going to be a lot more than just teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, science and social studies...it's going to take more than that. I'm thankful for the funding for the additional Social Workers. This not only provides support for students but provides support for families and our research says you've got to bring everybody along. So, thank you, Mr. Superintendent, and thank you for those other agencies who are working with us.

The Superintendent said he agrees with Ms. Priestly Jackson...you did bring this issue in terms of having the directors move to full time and we were able to do that. I'll give you an example, one of our teachers, a very high performing teacher at one of our high schools was talking about a young man who is in class who had become very disruptive and just left the classroom and her first inclination was to hit the button and have security come as she didn't know where he was going or what he was going...but, instead, she walked out into the hallway and saw him seated against the wall crying. She said, "Can you tell me what's happening?" She's a great teacher who connects well with kids and she was surprised to see this happen and he said, "Well, my family is being evicted from our house, I'm the oldest male and I don't know what to do." So, they were able to provide help through Full-Service Schools and some of the other resources we have and were able to assist this family but it certainly indicates that here is a young man who ordinarily was on task and focused but because of the issues in his family, was not able to focus on what was going on in the classroom that day and became disruptive for the other students. We are going to see more of this and we must meet the needs of families and what they're going through and be sensitive to them and we're thankful for the partnerships of the Full-Service Schools and their resources. Thank you.

[2. CONTINUATION OF FUNDING BY UNITED WAY FOR TWO SOCIAL WORKERS](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FUNDING AGREEMENT FSS.pdf](#)

Academic Services - Instructional Technology

[1. PURCHASE OF RIVERDEEP DESTINATION SUCCESS PRODUCT SERIES STUDENT SUBSCRIPTION LICENSES AND RIVERDEEP LEARNING VILLAGE SUPPORT SERVICES](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Purchase of Riverdeep Destination Success.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Destination Success and Learning Village Stats.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Florida Center for Reading Research Report - Destination Reading.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Burney said she is really pleased with the Riverdeep product and what it can mean to our district. During our Board workshop, one of my concerns was that there are some schools that have not yet been retrofitted and, therefore, some teachers may not have internet access to Riverdeep, but Deputy Superintendent Willis is going to explain to our teachers, hopefully, they are listening out there, and parents, how they can access Riverdeep.

Deputy Superintendent Willis said in working with staff and Dr. Stahlman and having access to all of our staff, I know Dr. Stahlman had an opportunity to look at the elementary schools not having access...we do have internet access in all of our schools, but more than that, we want to encourage our teachers that this is a 24-7 product so that they can have access at home and we have built relationships with our libraries, anywhere, anytime access where they can get to internet access. Dr. Stahlman may be able to share a little more with what we've done with those elementary schools.

Dr. Stahlman said the elementary schools do have access and many have wireless access which means it could be a little bit slower until we have those school retrofitted. We only have a few schools left to do and it is an extensive process but we're on schedule and even ahead of schedule on that based on the revised schedule from last year. So, the schools have been invited to contact me if they have any problems getting on board and online with that software.

Academic Services - Professional Development

[1. MASTER INSERVICE PLAN FOR 2008-2009 AND ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS](#)

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Michele Green High School.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [high school training component master in service.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [Master Plan DCSB Sept 2008.pdf](#)

[2. DUVAL COUNTY ON-LINE TRAINING \(INFOSOURCE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM\)](#)

- Attachment: [InfoSourceLearningManagement92008888888888888888.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES InfoSource 2008 2009.pdf](#)

Discussion

Board Members

[1. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: REVISION OF POLICY BGA: BOARD MEMBER REQUEST FOR INFORMATION](#)

- Attachment: [POLICY BGA-BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION - FINAL - 10-07-08.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Revision of Policy BGA: Board Member Request for Information

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.

Board Member Nancy Broner explained to the public the intent of this revision. This policy was originally adopted in November, 2006 and it has served us well. This revision is to include a reporting mechanism so that the Board and Superintendent would be able to have discussion regarding trends and ways we can become more efficient in working together as Board members request data that we need to make good decisions. I feel this is a next step as the policy has served us well, but this will be the opportunity for us to become even more efficient as we look to ways to improve our district.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing and approve the attached revisions to Policy BGA: Board Member Request for Information. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kristanna Barnes

Second: Victoria Drake

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: POLICY BBAA: SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Attachment: [POLICY-SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION-FINAL - 10-07-08.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Policy BBAA: Superintendent's Evaluation

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.

Board Member Nancy Broner said this is a new policy, but not a new procedure. This is a way to convey to the community as to how the district is performing. this policy memorializes the process. The evaluation is an ongoing process between the Superintendent and Board members.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing and approve Policy BBAA: Superintendent Evaluation.	- PASS
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Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Kristanna Barnes	- Aye
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Nancy Broner	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

3. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: BOARD MEMBER CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, AND WORKSHOPS - FILE: BIBA

Attachment: [POLICY - BOARD MEMBER CONF, CONV, WORKSHOPS - FILE BIBA-10-07-08 FINAL.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Board Member Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops - File BIBA

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.

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Kris Barnes, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman

Ms. Priestly Jackson moved to separate the two and defer for a separate vote. The discussion was that we could come up with a proposed policy on Thursday and Friday with a draft since we'd be going over the Policy Manual. The Board action and voting wouldn't happen until the next Board meeting, November 3, 2008.

Ms. Barrett seconded the motion.

Speakers:

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Bonnie Cole, Board Secretary
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman
Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a Public Hearing and approve the changes to Policy BIBA - Board Member Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops. -

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Kristanna Barnes

Motions:

Defer item to the November 3, 2008, Board Meeting. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Brenda Priestly Jackson

Second: Kristanna Barnes

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Human Resource Services - Staffing

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

Attachment: [HRS Attach 10-07-08 TRANS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief Officer, Human Resource Services
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Patricia Willis, Deputy Superintendent

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Human Resource Services employee transactions listed on the attachment. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Nancy Broner

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Human Resource Services - Compensation

[1. COMPENSATION STRATEGY POLICY PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE](#)

Attachment: [HRS attach 10-07-08 comp policy.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Compensation Strategy Policy File: GCB

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.

Speaker:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and approve the attached new policy entitled Compensation Startegy - File GCB. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kristanna Barnes

Second: Victoria Drake

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[2. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY](#)

Attachment: [HRS_attach_10-07-08_susp.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief Officer, Human Resource Services

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman

Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the attached suspension without. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Victoria Drake

Second: Martha Barrett

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Brenda Priestly Jackson - Aye

[1. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: APPROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM 2008/2009 - 2013/2014](#)

Minutes:

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

Approve School District Facilities Five-Year Work Program 2008/2009 - 2013/2014

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.

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the School District Facilities Five-Year Work Program as required by Section 1013.35, Florida Statutes. The Duval County Public School District is required to take public comments prior to approval of this item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Nancy Broner

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - 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:

October 22-23, 2008 - Tampa, FL - FSBA Committee Day - Burney, Drake

October 25-28, 2008 - Atlanta, GA - National Black Child Development Institute - Burney, Priestly Jackson

November 11-14, 2008 - Seattle, WA - Chamber Leadership Trip - Barrett (No Cost to District), Hazouri

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Board Member travel listed in the agenda item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Kristanna Barnes

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - 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:

October 21-24, 2008 - Houston, TX - Council of Great City Schools Fall Conference

November 11-14, 2008 - Seattle, WA - Chamber Leadership Trip

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the travel for the Superintendent listed in the agenda item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Victoria Drake

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

Nancy Broner - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Brenda Priestly Jackson	- Aye

For The Record

FOR THE RECORD

Minutes:

Ms. Kris Barnes reminded everyone about the district Accreditation that is ongoing and wanted to welcome the NFUSSD conference that Jacksonville is hosting October 12-15, 2008. I want to thank Pam Payne for her hard work preparing for this conference.

Ms. Vicki Drake said she had the opportunity to attend a wonderful PTA meeting at New Berlin Elementary School and I learned about a new musical instrument called the "Boom Whacker" and I want one. I also attended the Sensory Safari at Lake Lucina Elementary and I was very impressed with this event. This is put on by the Safari Club and they bring in animals - also ones that are in the state of Florida - also, animals and birds from all over the world. It was very interesting to watch the children from Palm Avenue view the animals. This was a wonderful experience for the children and I appreciate the Safari Club for doing this. This was done totally by volunteers and no cost for anything - an amazing learning experience!

Mr. Tommy Hazouri thanked Dr. Amy Lingren and Ms. Selinda Keyes for all you are doing in helping me visit the schools with the PTA's and SACs - we have meetings set up for next week. I also appreciate the way you respond to the district and it is very impressive and saves us much time.

Ms. Nancy Broner thanked the members of the community who came out to two town meetings last week. Annually, Councilman Art Graham and I host town meetings - one at Twin Lakes for our town community that Mayor Peyton attended and fielded questions from the community; and one at Jax Beaches City Hall - we had quite a good attendance. It's always encouraging to see members of the community come out and express their interest in what we're doing in the school district.

Ms. Martha Barrett said she was also there with Ms. Drake at Lake Lucina and it was a wonderful experience. I also want to thank Mr. Ayars and his staff...they have done a great job with the new entrance at Merrill Road into the school. I really appreciate it and it means a lot to them. Thank you.

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson said she had a chance to go to an Area SAC meeting at Highlands Elementary School and it was good to see that group and interact with them. Secondly, I want to thank the Ribault Alumni Association, of course, the phenomenal Gaines sisters...they hosted a leadership forum last week that had Sheriff Rutherford, Senator Tony Hill, Dr. Gaffney, Councilwoman Mia Jones and Representative Gibson along with myself on a panel with about approximately 150 young people. It was wonderful and the students asked us questions...it was a very good session. It was very positive for those people to give their time and energy to that particular panel. I want to thank Mr. Gregg and Mr. Maxey from the middle school and an anchor person - it was a wonderful session and I thank them and the young people for taking advantage of that opportunity.

Ms. Betty Burney thanked Dr. Alvin White and staff for the wonderful done with the accreditation - an excellent job. I also want to thank Ms. Pam Payne for all that she's doing with the NFUSSD conference since we are hosts for that and she's doing a wonderful job. I want to remind everyone out there that next month is the election and we have two School Board seats that are vacant. I am encouraging everyone to read all you can about the candidates and make a choice that you feel will keep us on a path where we're trying to head.

Chairman Burney said our Vice Chairman, Tommy Hazouri, has something he'd like to share with us that is extremely important:

"This is a point of personal privilege to recognize a couple of unfortunate deaths. This past month, we lost

the first woman that was appointed to a senior high school principal - Vergie H. Cone. She was a principal at Lee High School and she started teaching there in 1937. Before that, she was charging \$1.00 for three lessons in tutoring in 1941 and her salary as a principal was \$1,100 without retirement. She was appointed principal in June, 1971 and spent three decades at Lee prior to that as a teacher, dean of girls, curriculum coordinator and she was certified teacher in math, English, biology and general science. She passed away on September 6 at age 100 and before she retired, she published, "*Memories of Robert E. Lee Senior High School - The First 50 Years*". I want to offer our condolences to her son, her daughter had passed away previously, to her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Robert E. Lee wants to recognize her as the first female principal in Duval County. She lived a very fruitful life.

We lost another son in Iraq - Tavarus D. Setzler - who was a 2005 graduate of Lee High School and this was very unfortunate. I spoke with Lt. Dean Williams, Sr., who is a Naval Science instructor at Lee and I'd like to share his thoughts in recognizing Tavarus and offering our deepest sympathy and condolences to his family:

"Tavarus D. Setzler was a 2005 Robert E. Lee graduate. During his four years at Lee, he had several passions, but his love was Navy JROTC. Tavarus thrived on the discipline, structure, and team concept that are the mainstay of the program. Known to many of his peers as the "shy one", Tavarus was not afraid to take charge and hone his leadership skills. He quickly developed a reputation as the "go to" person. Anytime there was an event that he could partake in, he would be the first to volunteer. When called upon, Tavarus always gave his best efforts and encouraged others to follow his example. These are but a few of his attributes that carried with him when he enlisted in the Army. Tavarus was a warrior liked by all that knew him. He will be missed but never forgotten. Our prayers go out to his family and those he touched!"

To the Lee High School family and to Jacksonville, we lost another son and our sympathies go out to his family.

Chairman Burney said tonight we saw a number of young people come and address the Board and I was happy to see those young people. That's what it's all about...giving them the opportunity to express themselves and I want them to know that your comments do not fall on deaf ears...they will not fall on deaf ears at all. Your comments are valuable and your input is certainly valuable. The information that the Chair reads, "We will take your comments into our deliberations..." that's a fact for this Board. So, thank you for coming, young people, and continue to come because this is your school system and your future is at stake. Also, we work for you - each and every one of us up here work for you; everyone in the district works for you and I applaud you for coming and I'd like to see more young people take an active role in government. Thank you very much.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman