



Duval County Public Schools

September 6, 2011, Regular Board Meeting

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Chairman
Ms. Betty Burney, Vice Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Becki Couch
Mr. Tommy Hazouri
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee
Ms. Paula D. Wright
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman, Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair and Board members: Ms. Martha Barrett, Ms. Becki Couch, Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

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

Invocation

[INVOCATION](#)

Minutes:

Reverend Clifford Johnson
Zion Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

Board Members

[1. SCHOOL RECOGNITION - DISTRICT 6 - FIRST COAST HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Vincent Hall, principal, gave the following report and had a video presentation:

First Coast has always been rich in tradition and the pride of the north side. Three Duval County Teachers of the Year have been First Coast High School teachers, including this year's Duval County Teacher of the Year – Youmone Berrien.

Our school also features two unique academic programs – the International Trade and Logistics Academy and our brand new Aerospace Career Technology Academy. These programs provide career, scholarship and internship opportunities for our students.

In addition to our academic opportunities, our school also offers our students the very best in extra-curricular activities. We have championship athletic programs, award-winning music and NJROTC programs, and many other clubs and organizations which foster student growth. We have strengthened our PTSA membership this year and our ties with community stakeholders through the North Jax Rotary Club. It has only been a few weeks, but we are definitely headed in the right direction. The faculty, staff and administrative team are committed to our students' academic excellence. We are restoring the pride.

Speakers:

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Betty Burney, Vice Chair
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Communications

1. COOKING UP CHANGE WINNERS-PETERSON STUDENTS

Minutes:

--For our first presentation this evening I would like to recognize three culinary arts students from Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology for winning the 2011 Cooking Up Change National Healthy Cooking Contest in Washington D.C.

--I would like to ask Alexis Baldwin, Leoniqua Jackson and Denver Singletary, along with Judy Schmidt, Peterson's Culinary Instructor, to please come to the front to be recognized for this outstanding accomplishment.

--Here with us tonight to tell us more about this competition is Sara Murphy, district marketing and communications manager for Chartwells Thompson School Dining Services.

--On behalf of the School Board and myself, I would like to say congratulations to these students and their teacher for winning this contest and representing Duval County at the competition. Your hard work and dedication is impressive and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

2. UNITED WAY AWARDS 2011

Minutes:

--Our next presentation recognizes one of Duval County Public Schools' strongest supporters - The United Way of Northeast Florida.

--Will Connie Hodges, president of United Way of Northeast Florida, and campaign division manager Amy Dyar please come forward?

--For many years, the United Way of Northeast Florida has provided the students and employees of Duval County Public Schools with countless acts of generosity.

--To show appreciation for their kindness, each year, the district partners with Duval Teachers United to host an employee-sponsored United Way fundraising campaign.

--Our yearly fundraising campaign allows us to give back to an organization that provides so much support to us.

--I now turn it over to Connie Hodges who will say a few words, and help us honor the school-based personnel who helped make our fundraising campaign successful:

Parkwood Heights/Ashton Price (2 time winner)
Cedar Hills Elem/Tara Bruce
Highlands Elem/Kim Coleman
Rutledge Pearson/Debbie Crotty
Kirby Smith/June Marshall
Mandarin H.S./Debbie Smith
Andrew Jackson H.S./Iranetta Wright (2 time winner)
Matthew Gilbert/Evan Daniels
Sally B. Mathis/Michelle Quarles
Ribault M.S./Ed Robinson
Greenland Pines/Martha V. Crump

[3. NATIONAL PRINCIPAL OF YEAR FINALIST-JACKIE CORNELIUS](#)

Minutes:

--For our third presentation of the evening, I would like to recognize one of our principals for being named a finalist for the 2012 National Principal of the Year program.

--Would Jackie Cornelius, please come to the front?

-- Ms. Cornelius has been the principal at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts for the past 15 years and has done an outstanding job leading her students and staff.

--Not only does Ms. Cornelius provide her students with guidance in academic curriculum, she also guides them in artistic creativity and development. What people may not know is that not only is Ms. Cornelius a principal, but she also oversees our district arts program.

--Under Ms. Cornelius's leadership, Douglas Anderson has received multiple recognitions, including the school being among the nation's top schools, and being named the 2010 National Grammy School.

-- In June, Ms. Cornelius was named the 2011 Florida State Principal of the Year and was honored at a state awards presentation during the FASA Summer Leadership Conference. She was later chosen as a finalist for the national program.

--As a finalist, Ms. Cornelius received a \$1,500 grant to be used to improve learning at her school through opportunities she feels will be best for her teachers and students.

-- Congratulations Ms. Cornelius, this is a great honor and we are very proud to have you on our team. We appreciate all of your hard work.

[4. CFE RECOGNITION-STATE FARM](#)

Minutes:

--For our final presentation this evening I would like to recognize one of our many business partners, State Farm, for their contributions to Duval County Public Schools.

--Would Joy Atkins, Public Affairs Coordinator, please come to the front?

--State Farm has been an essential partner to many schools throughout the district for the past several years. State Farm has donated time, energy and financial resources to help provide necessary tools and assistance to our teachers and students.

--State Farm employees have been reading mentors to Pine Forest Elementary and the Rally Readers Program. They have been instructors through the Junior Achievement program and mentors through Take Stock in Children. Employees have volunteered their time at the Teachers Supply Depot and they serve as Advisory members to Ribault, Wolfson and Ed White high schools.

--In addition, State Farm has provided educational support through funding to the Read It Forward Jax campaign, United Way's Graduation Now and Achiever's for Life programs, Ribault High School's Academy of Business and Finance, Teach for America and Florida's Learn-n-Serve grant organization benefiting our schools.

--I want to thank State Farm for everything they do to support our schools and students. We truly appreciate your contributions, and look forward to growing our partnership in the future.

NOTE: Mr. Hazouri recognized Boy Scout Troup 321 from the Mandarin area in Jacksonville. Welcome!

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Linda Lanier, Jacksonville Children's Commission, said I'm here to talk about our mutual effort for children in after school care. It's been almost 14 years since the Children's Commission and the Duval County School System began working to grow a system of after school care that had three elements: high standards, a sustainable funding strategy and partnership based. I believe we've done that and continue to make it better all the time. This year, pending the City Council's budget approval, we will be funding 62 after school programs; 44 of those programs will be in your elementary and middle schools and they will serve approximately 10,000 children every day. Our partnership is basically a three-legged stool and as you know, all three legs must be on that kind of stool. The first leg is the Children's Commission and what we bring to the table is the money which is a little more than \$10,000,000 and about \$8,500,000 of those dollars go to Team Up programs. We also write and manage a 21st Century Community Learning Grant. This year with the combination of two grants that comes in at \$1.1 million dollars and then we add to that grant is our own match of \$454,350 dollars. We do that in partnership with the school system because that's the way the 21st Century money started. We don't have to do that any more and can apply to that money directly but we choose to do it in partnership with the school system as a statement since this is a partnership program. We also establish the standards for the program and we manage and monitor those standards in the contract. The second leg of the stool, is you all because you have the really important element for an after school program - you have the children and you have great locations for these programs. Also, our summer programs are in many of your schools. Your staff helps us in improving the educational content of the program and you serve as the pass through for the 21st Century money that I mentioned earlier and you bring \$294, 300 dollars to the table. You have become our training partner through our after school redesign program and we're working together to focus on extended learning time and strategies for project based learning and we're enjoying working with your staff. The third leg of the stool is the non-profit agencies and they bring the talent. They show up at 3:00 pm and they are ready to take care of those kids. They are experts in positive youth development and help young people to have better peer and adult relationships and do many things that have been stripped away from our schools because of budget cuts. So, they provide sports, drama, music, art, leadership opportunities, clubs, recreation and all kinds of wonderful things. This partnership has proven itself through time and I want to thank you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Children's Commission and our staff. It's been our good pleasure to work on this project and we look forward to serving the children for many more years. Thank you.

Mr. Murray Beard, Director of Resource Development with Communities in Schools of Jacksonville, said with our schools getting settled in with the new school year, I wanted to give you a brief update about our efforts to assist our most at-risk students to stay in school, successfully learn and prepare for life. Earlier this year, the national office of Communities in Schools released the results of a five-year comprehensive evaluation that was commissioned to determine whether our organization is having any impact on student achievement and drop out results. The study was conducted by ICF International, one of the nations foremost Social/Science Evaluation firms. ICF concluded that the application of the Communities in Schools model to create resource

support around students resulted in the strongest reduction in drop-out rates in any existing drop out program that has ever been evaluated. Additionally, the study results are effective across the United States, regardless of school settings, ethnicities and grade levels. We, in Jacksonville, were pleased with the results as we were one of three cities out of 200 programs whose programs were analyzed indepth. The two other cities were Austin, Texas and Wichita, Kansas. The results indicate that the work we're doing is having an impact. This summer, Communities in Schools were pleased to operate 15 school-based summer camps. We were able to serve over 1,100 students each day of the camp which is about 1/5 of the total camp attendance here in our community. Our daily camp attendance was consistently above the requirements set by the Jacksonville Children's Commission. The highlight from the summer camp was the involvement of five incredible young men and women that were part of the Bank of America Student Leaders program. We, particularly, want to thank Martha Barrett for allowing Communities in Schools to host these students for the past seven summers. They made an incredible difference with the boys and girls they interacted with in the camps. Speaking of Bank of America, thanks to the efforts of employees of the bank and ADP, Communities in Schools were able to provide book bags full of supplies to over 1,600 students this past week. These supplies were distributed by our staff to the most needy students. Last, but not least, Communities in Schools recently received a \$522,000 grant from the Jim Moran Foundation, part of Southeast Toyota, to fund the important work of our Student Enrichment Program. These resources are specifically for site coordinators at Frank H. Peterson Academies, A. Philip Randolph Academies and Lake Forest Elementary Schools. This annual amount of \$174,000 is committed for three years. These site coordinators are on the frontline working with at-risk students in these schools providing them with the resources they need to remain in school and graduate. We're excited about this school year and look forward to making the difference in the lives of these at-risk students. Thank you.

Mr. Nicholas Poindexter, student at LaVilla School,of the Arts said I'm here tonight to celebrate an important accomplishment that I'd like to share with you. LaVilla celebrated its 10th anniversary recently and we were part of writing a book to commemorate this important event. The book is titled, "*The History We Live*" and it features letters from the school principals along with alumni of interviews and teachers that have been there from the start. There's information about where they attended college and information that gives a feel of what the school was like at the beginning. My classmates and I created this book because of the 10th anniversary. We hope you'll enjoy the book and the historical value and hard work it represents. Additional copies are available. On behalf of Ms. Janell Wagoner, principal, we wish to present to you each a copy of "*The History We Live*". Thank you.

Mr. Edward Exson said with the explosion of violence in the black (my) community in the last ten days, coinciding with the opening of school, is that an omen to bury us deeper into the abyss? How appalling that none of the self-glorifying black leaders, organizations, bourgeois and far too many semilliterate, exploiting, arrogant and conceited preachers not vilifying the perpetrators of violence. Our level of awareness has become nil. No one will dream, develop, build or create. In spite of man's advances, we are becoming more uncivilized than any people in history. Let's face it! Moreover, history could be repeating itself in the likes of the 1830's. Manifest Destiny (Indian Removal Act) - we don't have the land to be put off but it is genocide for us at the behest of great influences, we are voluntarily walking off the face of the earth with

ignorance, drugs, STD's, guns, greed and other pathologies, causing too large a percentage of us to become useless eaters. Thus, this is us culling. The goals, programs, outside organizations and other resources for a life line that have been put in place for saving the Intervene Schools are laudable. For a school district to maintain a unitary system, much should be done. My concern is that in spite of all that is being done, the life line doesn't reach the students. With the possibility that the schools may fail, will a conclusion be drawn that those students can't learn? I maintain that there must be someone to supplement what is being done and lift from the bottom so that the life line can reach them. As I have stated before, Professor Willie McCullough is the only one that I know that could reach and teach on this magnitude. I will argue that the student he tutors, their grades helped the scores of failing schools from being lower. I have reviewed the Duval County Public Schools eNews "Initial Data for 2011-2012". Some of the bullet points, I see as an enigma or a conundrum as it appears that we have a dual system - magnet schools and failing schools.

Ms. Stacy Aubrey said I'm going to bring you back to the positive. I am the Executive Director of Riverside Fine Arts, a local art organization here in Riverside. We present concerts and I'm also a proud member of our new name "JACE" which is Jacksonville Arts for a Complete Education. So, I'm here speaking on behalf of both. Last year, we had a phenomenal year as we bring music into the elementary schools. It's complimentary to all of the schools and we are supported through corporate and independent donors. Last year, we reached approximately 18,000 students in the elementary schools. About 75% of them were on free or reduced lunches and about 70% were in Title I schools which is our goal. So, we had a banner year and we've started out this year with a bang. Today, we were at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts with a master class. Some of our musicians are within the community that perform and I wanted to let you know that we are here and are appreciative of all that you do and want to keep the arts and art education in the schools. Thank you.

Ms. Pervalia Gaines-McIntosh said I am addressing you this evening on behalf of the Friends of Northwest Jacksonville Schools regarding the agreement between the School Board and Armstrong Design Group. It is our understanding that this agreement was entered into for the services of marketing of the Intervene Schools: Ribault, Raines, Jackson and North Shore. It has come to our attention that this agreement expired on August 30, 2011. As specified by the agreement, services rendered by the Armstrong Design Group included a plan to market the aforementioned schools by way of social marketing, print media, radio advertisement and television placement. With the school year well underway, the Friends of Northwest Jacksonville Schools would like to be informed of the effectiveness of this marketing campaign/agreement. If you would be so kind to answer the following questions that could help us to gauge the efficiency of this effort: (1) May we have a copy of the comprehensive marketing and public relations plan that was developed and implemented by the Armstrong Design Group? (2) May we review any marketing tools used to inform the community and families and to encourage enrollment into the intervene schools? (3) May we be provided copies of the invoices that, per the agreement, should have been submitted to the Director of High School Acceleration Programs which should specify the work performed during the payment period? (4) Did the enrollment of the intervene schools increase from last year's enrollment? A copy of these questions is being provided to you electronically and physically. To provide the answers, feel free to

email The Friends of Northwest Jacksonville Schools at friendsofwj@gmail.com. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter and for all that you do to educate our children.

Ms. Christie Lesser said you members of the Board should have received a packet from me last Tuesday and I'll recap what my situation is. I'm a certified teacher certified in two endorsements from the State of Florida. All I'm trying to do is to continue substitute teaching which is what I've done for the last three years and work extended day. I was notified by the bookkeeper at school that I will no longer be able to continue both. After investigating, I've gone back and forth, I've tried to do the proper "chain of command" in everything I've done and I've been deactivated from Kelly and never had I worked so hard to make \$11.00 an hour which is what substitutes do. I did this because my parents are ailing; they live in my neighborhood; it's my neighborhood school...what a "win win" situation for a certified teacher to substitute! I'm not asking for anything else. What a great idea for a substitute that can also be with the same community school to work extended day. Since my endeavor began, I've been told so many different things. I was told that it was "double dipping". I was told it was a workman's comp issue and that I could not work doing both. I've been told by Duval County School employees that it was a Kelly policy. I've met with the Vice President of Kelly and said it's not a policy but it's a policy of conversation. There's no written policy. As far as "double dipping", I can't work extended day but teachers work extended day and also teach during the day so there's not a "double dipping" which, I understand was the policy in question. Extended day starts after school ends. I'm being punished, I feel like and so are the kids because I love kids. I'm passionate about teaching and I'm passionate about public schools which I'm afraid is on the down fall. I just want someone to help me and hear me and tell me what I can do to make this right. If it's a policy; it's not a good policy. If it's a Kelly policy and there's a dual policy in Orange County, we don't live in Orange County and when I spoke with Kelly, they said the policy in question was because of people trying to get paid double time. I'm not requesting that and I just want to work my hours. I have the flexibility of taking care of my family and being a benefit to society. Please, somebody help me because no one will listen. I don't know what else to do, please. I will sit on a committee and try to figure out a solution so that the policy is clear.

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Debbie Gilwicks said I work at Don Brewer Elementary as an extended day director and I'm here with Christie trying to understand the policy, too. The records that we were given at the beginning of the year from Jim Field did not indicate to me at all that a substitute could not do extended day. So, we need to make a final agreement as to whether this is a concern of "double dipping" which it wouldn't be because that ends at 3:10 pm and we begin at 3:10 pm, as Ms. Lesser stated or if it's in excess of working 40 hours per week and if that's the case, then we need to be proactive and have a legal document for those extended day workers saying that we understand that we are putting in slightly more than 40 hours per week and we would not penalize or ask for anything from the district. Maybe a legal document could be made up so everyone would be comfortable with that situation because most of the workers in extended day

love their jobs and me, too. Also, we're there for a reason. Most of us have extenuating circumstances where we need the extra money - my instance is putting my son through college. So, to limit that or to have a situation where a person can't work or that teachers can't work, we need to address it now. Thank you.

Mr. Bruce Rockwell said I agree with the two ladies before me because I've been trying to research on the School Board's website and good luck. My question is that I've been trying to see how much we've cut from the magnet school transportation which I couldn't find. According to the newspaper, we cut \$219,762 from the extra curricula sports activities in which we went to the public and asked for money in which they've collect quite a bit. The magnet schools are one of the few things in the Duval County School system that have produced national awards and it seems like we're penalizing those schools or the parents for doing their job but we're rewarding the failing schools by coming up with \$1,000,000 to furnish transportation to the students at the failing schools if they want to go to another school. Federal wages are frozen. Most everyone working for the City of Jacksonville took a 2% pay cut. Teachers got a step increase last year and the 900 office employees for the School Board got a 2% increase this year. My question is I got between \$400,000-\$500,000 for the office employees and a step increase for the teachers which doing math is close to \$2,000,000 in raises last year. So, if everyone else is sacrificing, why do we keep giving a failing school system raises? We've tried that for the last 4-5 years and we still come up with failure. As the Democrats like to say is "shared sacrifice". School Board employees get their share and the children sacrifice. I don't understand the math so I'll leave it at that. Thank you.

Mr. Willie Hall said I hope you all had a great summer. I'm here today because I'm very concerned about the lack of adequate advertising and support for the intervene schools. I'm especially concerned about the adequate advertising for the new programs that begin in the intervene schools this fall. The individual school's websites are extremely inadequate and most provide very little information to no information about the school's programs. The videos that were produced for the schools that were shown at the intervene schools community meetings on August 1 and August 3, as mandated by the state, failed to provide detailed information as to the schools programs, specifically new programs. The videos showed students, parents and some officials sitting and giving their personal opinions about the school which is good, however, they failed to provide any real data as to what the school has to offer, specifically, the new programs at the beginning of school this school year. The contract that was entered into specifically said in terms of the agreement that the plan shall include social marketing, print media, radio advertising, television placement and shall include the minimum of getting the community informed about the new programs. It also says there should be periodic reports that the Director of High School Acceleration Programs should receive as to the status of this marketing. I've spoken with someone at the School Board and I'm waiting on their response to provide this information as to what this company that was paid \$42,000 and the contract ended on August 30, 2011, to promote these schools. They were paid to promote these schools while the state mandated for these videos to be produced, the Duval County School Board produced the videos. So, why are we paying a company to advertise for these schools and the School Board has to produce work that they should be doing? I'm specifically disappointed in the support for the new programs. Once again, we have been given programs without any funding and any support. There are parents and community members that still don't know what AICE or IT is and now we have performing arts

and some other programs. I find it very disturbing when I have students that I know that are taking a keyboarding class because their performing arts school doesn't have any keyboards. So, these kids are going to a keyboarding class with no keyboards. So, we must support these programs and make sure there is some accountability when we're lashing out money and we're paying people to do jobs. There are websites for these schools that these schools have technology coordinators but the websites haven't been updated in years. Thank you.

Speaker:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Mr. John Turner said good evening Mr. Chairman, school board members and Mr. Superintendent. My name is John Turner. As you recall, last month I spoke in opposition to the School Board granting the Schultz Center \$189,000 so that they could hire two new instructors and create a new program called Urban Schools Academy. As a reminder the stated goal of Urban Schools Academy is and I quote: "to enhance culturally relevant teaching strategies." unquote. Not only is that a mouth full but it is equally unclear as to what that goal really means. So, last month during public comments, in order to make it easier to understand I described the new instructors as "sensitivity trainers". After all, you are not hiring a math teacher or a reading coach but a couple of liberals to give lectures on cultural diversity in the classroom. Apparently someone from the Schultz Center took offense to my characterization of the program and went to the Superintendent who later that night made a short speech that I had misstated what the program was. He wanted to make it clear that the instructors would be "sensitive educators" and not "sensitivity trainers". With all due respect to the Superintendent you can split hairs all you want over the difference between cultural trainers and sensitivity trainers but while doing so you failed to address my main point. That point being: "How can the School Board justify diverting \$189,000 to the Schultz Center"? I thought you were in a budget crisis? The amount of funds you are diverting to the Schultz Center is roughly the same amount of money needed to fully fund all of the high school sports that you plan on canceling due to a budget short fall. I anticipate that your reply would be that the Urban Schools Academy will be paid for by a Federal grant and not local property taxes and can't be used for sports. However, if I understand it correctly the grant is part of the Teacher Incentive Fund. Which is a Federal program intended to be used as performance pay for teachers and principals in high-need schools. I am not aware that performance pay intended for teachers can be legally diverted to a privately owned training facility. Perhaps you should ask General Counsel to double check on that. Beside even if it is legal I thought the Schultz Center was supposed to be funded by local business and private donations and not by the taxpayers? Why should the taxpayers foot the bill for the Schultz Center? Those were just a few of the questions that I was hoping the School Board would clarify before you voted on the measure but that didn't happen. Instead; it passed under the consent agenda without discussion or objection. Meaning, no one on the School Board cared enough to stand up for the taxpayers, teachers or students. Yet, you are threatening to furlough teachers without pay and cancel High School sports because of a budget crisis? It just doesn't make sense to me. The whole thing was so poorly mishandled last month that tonight I hope that someone will elaborate on why you continue to give the Schultz Center millions of dollars every year yet claim you don't have enough money for high school sports? Thank you for listening.

Comments From Parent Organizations

COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes:

District Advisory Council - Rachel Raneri, Chair:

The District Advisory Council met on Monday, August 29th. Donnie Horner, the Mayor's Education Commissioner joined us to share the mayor's mission to advocate, embrace, partner and take action. We look forward to a new type of partnership with the city.

Superintendent Pratt-Dannals shared with us some of the changes and challenges for this new school year. It was great to hear how the community is rallying to help public education, but this does not create sustainability. We will need to figure out the answers for the long term.

Doug Ayars brought us information on the flawless opening of school and he also fielded many questions from the membership. A special thanks to Mr. Ayars for getting back to me and Ms. Kicklighter so quickly with answers to the questions that I then forwarded on to the DAC.

Ms. Dana Kriznar brought lots of information on the non-traditional education available through Duval Public Schools.

From the office of Community and Family Engagement, Vicki Drake updated us on how volunteers are now being screened.

And Sara Murphy shared news from food service and Chartwells as well as explaining that the quickest way to register for free or reduced lunches is to do it online. The paper applications take longer to process. Some of the schools are opening computer labs during open house to give parents an opportunity to apply right then and there.

The Honorable Fel Lee also joined us, thank you.

The next meeting of the District Advisory Council will be Monday, September 26th at 6:00pm.

PTA - Melissa Kicklighter, President:

Good evening! My name is Melissa Kicklighter and I am reporting this evening on behalf of the Duval County Council of PTAs. September will be full of PTA activity. This week will kickoff the Florida PTA campaign to increase public awareness and action to protest the 8% cut in funding in the base student allocation. On Thursday, September 8th at

8:00 a.m., we are asking that concerned parents and members of our school communities take 8 moments of silence to reflect on the continue cuts to public K-12 education and decide how they can take action to further send a clear and concise message to our State Legislators, Governor and the Department of Education that the cuts have to end, we cannot afford anymore under or unfunded mandates and we want control to given back to our local school boards and administrators in deciding what is best for our students in Duval County! Information about this campaign was sent out to all of our local PTA leaders and is available on our County Council website at dccpta.org. We have also included the contact information for eight of the State Legislators holding positions of influence within the State Legislature on education budget decisions for the coming session. We ask that concerned all citizens begin contacting these legislators along with other members of the Duval Legislative Delegation to express their concerns.

Later in the day, on Thursday, September 8, the next opening of the Teacher Supply Depot will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. As a reminder to all teachers, please remember to bring your DCPS identification badge, so that you can participate. Also, Title I Principals should be receiving an order form to request books for any special events they have scheduled for the year. Please send that back to Chris Buckley at the Depot, so that your book order can be filled while supplies last.

On Wednesday, September 14, we will host our annual Fall Leadership Training Workshop and Community Resources Fair at the Schultz Center from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. As always, this event is free and will include training sessions on all aspects of how to successfully run a PTA or PTSA at your school. This year, the County Council is requiring that all PTA Presidents and Treasurers or their designees participate in training, so that we can be sure that we have properly educated and equipped our PTA leaders for a positive and productive year. The Community Resources Fair will include information and resources from community organizations representing health, safety and the cultural arts.

Next, the County Council will host Presidents' Roundtables for our middle and high schools, so that they may share best practices in effectively running a PTA or PTSA at that level. This is the best of all training opportunities because it is first hand information sharing from our PTA leaders who are doing the work day in and day out at our schools. We encourage all Presidents to attend this special event that will be held on Thursday, September 22 here in the Cline Auditorium from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Finally, before we meet again, we will kickoff our 2nd Annual Superintendent's Leadership Academy, on Saturday morning, October 1st. We are sending our letters to our high school Principals this week asking them for the contact information for this year's nominees to the academy from their schools. We look forward to working with another special group of students' who are ready to step up to become advocates for themselves and for public K-12 education.

All of our important dates and events are listed on our website, so I encourage everyone to stay connected to PTA to through that site for information and updates. We do ask that all of our schools be sure that they have sent in their current officer information, so that we can be sure that they are receiving all communications from both the Duval County Council and the Florida PTA. Please help us help you!

I appreciate the opportunity to share the exciting things happening with PTA. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions. The County Council is pleased to work with the School Board, Superintendent, administrators and faculty to serve the students and schools in Duval County!

Title I, Parent Advisory Council - Iva Smith, Chair:

To the chair, board and Superintendent, My name is Iva Smith, parent involvement chair grandparent and at Saint Clair Evans Academy, Principal Mrs. Shana Adams. I am serving as interim chair for Duval County Public Schools' Title 1 Parent Advisory Council for 2011-2012 School year. Also serving are Sam Thurber vice Chair and parent at Frank H. Peterson, Academics of Technology, Mrs. JoAnn Floyd Recording Secretary and auntee at Jean Ribault Middle School, Mr. Doug Jones, Parliamentarian and parent at Jean Ribault Middle.

The Title 1 Advisory Council represents all Title 1 Parents and interested parents may attend the PAC meetings. Parents may contact the Title 1 District Parent Involvement Headquarters located at Matthew Gilbert Middle School...for information on upcoming events.

We have been working diligently with Ms. Myrna Amos, Director, Title 1 Parent Involvement and Pre-K Education and her team of specialists on developing and implementing programs and activities that will increase parental involvement which leads to student success. Our parental involvement mission is to "Empower parents and families to support their children's cognitive, social, and emotional development from cradle to the workforce and or college. We will accomplish this by strengthening district, schools, family and community relationships through support and training.

I am excited to announce that our first PAC meeting for this year will be held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. here at the Cline Auditorium. We encourage all Principals, Title 1 parents and interested parents to attend this meeting. The District Parent Involvement Plan will be reviewed and discussed as well as an overview of Parent Advisory Council Meetings and activities for the year.

Parents will have the opportunity to express their comments and concerns and receive immediate feedback or a follow up on concerns that are not resolved.

Last year's Parent Advisory Council Forum held at the Schultz Center was a great success. Plans for this year's event are in progress.

The Parent Advisory Council will focus on three (3) major activities this school year:

1. Parent Advisory Council Parent Forum
2. Special Support to Intervene Schools
3. Read It Forward Jax Initiative

We have an exciting year ahead of us filled with family programs and activities that will promote our parental involvement goals and objectives.

We know that parent involvement is crucial to the academic success of our students and with your support we look to see great things happen here in Duval a county with diligence, unity, vocalization, awareness and leadership. Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to speak before the board. This concludes the Title I Parent Advisory Council Report.

Comments From Employee Organizations

COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes: *No speakers.*

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Minutes:

Listening to some of the ill informed remarks tonight causes me to realize I probably need to address a couple of things. First, let me talk a little bit about the Schultz Center. The Schultz Center was established about 10 years ago. It was created and it was the vision and hard work of primarily Fred Schultz, that's why it's named after him who is now deceased. Through his efforts, over \$4,000,000 was raised in this community from the private sector. There was a special law passed about twelve years ago in the legislature to allow any community to establish something like the Schultz Center to provide services to the community and to the school districts and it required that they raise money and get a matching grant. Duval County was the only county in the state of Florida to take advantage of that statute and through the work of Mr. Schultz and the raising of that money, a total of \$8,000,000 was effectively donated to the school district to build out what is now the Schultz Center. The purpose of the Schultz Center was to create a state of the art facility, a high quality place where teachers could come and be treated like professionals and have an opportunity to receive the very highest quality professional development. It was not envisioned that the private community would continue to raise millions and millions of dollars a year to give the school system. It was envisioned that there would be a very high quality facility built with an independent board that they would then contract with the school district and other school districts and entities around the state to provide professional development including technological services to do long range video and things of that sort. That is what occurred and what has continued. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts during the last few years, the school district has been steadily cutting the amount of money we're spending on professional development at the Schultz Center. So, rather than spending more money there, the district is actually spending less. It is an

essential component of our professional development program and I would hope in time, we'll be able to go back to where we were a few years ago because of the unique opportunities and services that are provided there. It does provide contract services to the district in which the district pays for with money and in-kind services. It also provides services to Clay County, Nassau County and other counties and has the leading leadership academy in the state. People come from outside the district to receive leadership training there and has been an essential partner with the school district in building our leadership niche which we need to build deeper and quicker, if we can. That would require more money which we don't presently have. It is also a hope that we will be able to site an Urban School District Institute at the Schultz Center. Most folks that are knowledgeable about education appreciate that urban education has particular challenges and we recognize that little boys read and learn differently than little girls based upon background and socio-economic level and other levels and that there are special needs and special training in order to be in effect to teach in an urban setting. I think it would be a wonderful thing if the Schultz Center could establish an urban training center. We are an urban district and we have a lot of special needs and that would be a good thing. Unfortunately, there's not a lot of money there, but one of the things we do need to do in this school district is to make sure that all of our teachers know how to assess every child no matter what their ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status and determine how best to teach that child. Those are the sort of programs we are utilizing in part in terms of our Differentiated Education approach to make sure that everyone of our teachers, hopefully, knows how to assess every child and deliver an education in a way that the child can best learn. That is one of the things the Schultz Center is doing and I guess that's why it's called "sensitivity training" by one of our folks, tonight.

Magnet transportation - there is a lot of confusion out there. How can we be spending millions of dollars on Opportunity Scholarships and cutting magnet transportation? The answer is simple. The state of Florida is requiring us to transport children who determine they do not want to attend certain schools that are a "D" school. They received a letter saying they have the right to attend a different school and we are, by law, required to transport these children. The data we have received from our own experiences as well as other districts, is that most children that transfer to another school do not do any better in terms of their academic performance than at their previous school. More over, our experience is that many of them return to their previous school. So, it is an extraordinary expenditure of money required by the state of Florida which very likely may not be of any ultimate benefit to the children that initially take advantage of it, but we are paying for it because we're required to. Magnet transportation, on the other hand, is a choice and under Florida law, the Duval County School district is required to transport children to their neighborhood school within a two mile radius. There is no requirement that we transport children going to magnet schools. Historically, the district has done that and historically, we only receive approximately half of the money that we spend on transportation. This year, we're faced with over a \$90,000,000 shortfall. The Board had to make hard choices about cutting various things in order to make up \$90,000,000. One of the things we looked at was magnet transportation. If I'm not mistaken, the cuts we made this year resulted in roughly \$3,000,000 in savings and this is from me and not the Board...let me tell you, I think very clearly if there's no increase in funding from Tallahassee, we'll be facing another very substantial deficit and we will be looking at cutting magnet

transportation even further. Whether or not the Board does cut magnet transportation further, will be a decision of the Board but clearly that will be something we will look at. Many children and families were impacted by this and others as well by other decisions that were made. These were hard decisions and none of us like doing it but those decisions had to be made because we must have a balanced budget. When Tallahassee does not provide adequate funding, we have to make cuts. We made cuts in places where it was discretionary issues as opposed to matters that we had to fund. My understanding, for example, that the enrollment at the schools for transportation has been eliminated has not significantly changed. These were the so-called over-subscribed schools. These were schools where many children were trying to get in and could not. Many people are under the mis impression that only the kids that scored the very best get into these schools. These schools are based on lottery. There have been situations in the past where children may have very high grades and many things going for them but they don't get in because of the lottery and then other children do. So, the decision was made by the Board among many other cuts...hard decisions, to cut magnet transportation and the community needs to know that will be one of the issues we'll have to address again in terms of further cuts in magnet transportation if we're looking at another \$60,000,000 in cuts this year which is what is being projected right now if the legislature does not provide the funding. So, please understand, obviously, no one likes making those cuts any more than the ones to sports and other programs we had to cut but the fact that we're funding the Opportunity Scholarships for children to leave their neighborhood schools to go to another school is because the legislature required us to do that. I do understand there's much confusion and it's hard to understand why a child who wants to go to a magnet school and has been going to a magnet school now has no transportation and then some other child is being transported.

Positive things - a few weeks ago, we kicked off "*Read it Forward Jax*" initiative at Pinedale and we had most of the Board there. The mayor joined us and many young students sitting in the All Purpose room and the air conditioning went out and they sat there quietly for about an hour before we began. It was the most incredible thing; my wife was there and she couldn't believe how well behaved these wonderful children were. Every child received a backpack with grade appropriate reading materials and it was truly a great experience. I think the mayor really enjoyed it, as well. That afternoon, we went to WalMart on Normandy and had another great experience. The manager out there and the associates (employees) collected school supplies for the kids in the neighborhood and had eight bins of supplies for area elementary schools. We are so thankful to WalMart and all of our other community partners who are stepping up and helping. They see a need and they're meeting it. That was a great event and it was planned in conjunction with the school district. Mayor Brown got wind of that one and he showed up there, too. It adds an additional dimension to these programs that we're trying to initiate and it's an extraordinarily exciting time to have a mayor who is so engaged with public education and to partner with us. We have been enjoying with Dr. Horner and the other members of his administration.

Finally, let me just say that we are going to be having a number of events around the reading initiative. This is critical to our district and this is a long range commitment that the Superintendent and this Board have made. It's particularly difficult to do it these austere fiscal times but it's one of those things that if we don't do it now, we can never, ever dig out of the hole we're in. The hole we're in being the one that roughly

30% of our third graders are not good readers. When they leave the third grade, they're not reading effectively and 30% can not read effectively by the end of third grade. That is a state-wide phenomenon. It correlates very highly with the number of children who are dropping out and so we have a real problem in the state of Florida with reading and we have a problem in Duval County. We, as a Board and our Superintendent know that if children do not have the fundamental building blocks for reading by the end of third grade, it is very difficult for them to attain them later and they are behind. Many of them will never catch up. Our *"Read it Forward Jax"* initiative is designed to coach up our teachers and get them ready before they walk in the first day of class to recognize which children have special reading needs and to teach them the way they need to be taught so they learn how to read properly. Every child must read on grade, at grade, all the time. We're working with our content teachers outside of the first grade to make sure they're stressing reading and working with our students. This will take time and this is a program will bear fruit in approximately 3-5 years but if we don't do it now, we'll have another generation who can not read. I'm very proud of this Board for their commitment and for this community. A number of businesses in town have stepped up and are making huge contributions to this program. We will be coming out to a community meeting near you in the near future about *"Read it Forward Jax"* as there are many opportunities to help. We need a classroom library for every classroom. It only costs \$349.00 for that library and it has books for these children can take home with them which are grade and gender appropriate and fun. Many businesses and individuals in our city are buying these libraries. We hope to have continued support and it is critical for our children and our city.

[2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

First, I'd like to thank all of our school-based and district staff for a very smooth opening. Each year we have a process called "Flawless Opening". Mr. Soares guides us in that process and we track everything from whether we or not we have textbooks in place; student schedules, transportation is set and it is a very comprehensive program each year and each year we strive to get better. It was particularly challenging this year with having fewer staff to pull off all those things that need to happen but we had very few glitches Day 1. I had an opportunity to visit a number of schools with the mayor the first day and students were in class learning. It was a great beginning. I'd like to recognize some of the folks in the Operations division: Sally Hague - much work she had to do with the Opportunity Scholarship transfers in addition to the other choice options that go through her office. We've had a fairly substantial expansion of charter schools this year and that division worked much overtime in order to accomplish those tasks. Leslee Russell - transportation; Jim Hendrix - maintenance; Wayne Atwood - custodial and food services; and Andy Eckert - construction projects. A quick list of some of the projects they've done this past year: Waterleaf (new school); Darnell Cookman (major addition); Robert E. Lee HS (major addition - moved school to football field with portables); Ed White HS (12 classrooms); Dinsmore ES (12 classrooms); Gregory Drive ES (12 classrooms); New

Berlin ES (20 classrooms); and Eugene Butler (combining the former schools Paxon and Butler with a Day Treatment program). So, a number of things happened over the summer and I want to commend all of our staff and particularly the Operations staff with all of the work they do that helped make a smooth opening.

I had an opportunity to visit a number of schools. One was Rutledge H. Pearson Elementary School and this is the shirt the school gave me. It says, "An "A" in 2009, 2010 and 2011". Rutledge Pearson serves a very high need community with a number of students in foster care and many challenges. I commend Principal Debbie Crotty and their staff. I asked them what was their secret sauce? No big surprises and it's not easy to do but it's easy to understand. They have a very strong principal with a vision that all students can learn at high levels; a faculty that's willing to work together as a team and do indepth analyses in terms of where the students' needs are; adjusting instruction and I want them to prepare some kind of walking carpet through their school because they will have many visitors as they are role models.

I met with each of the Intervene's faculty to talk about our new process. Later on in Ms. Willis' report, we'll hear briefly from Dr. DiSensi about the work we've done so far and look forward to see the progress there.

It was mentioned earlier and comments earlier sometimes are way off the mark as Mr. Gentry mentioned earlier, but it was mentioned that we were a failing school district. We are a "B" school district; 85% of our schools are rated "A", "B" or "C". Yes, we have some schools with challenges and "yes" we need to focus on those schools to make sure all of our schools are high performing but we are not a failing school district. We're a district who is not afraid to identify our problems. We come up with solutions and work together as a Board/Superintendent team to address those and I believe that we're well on our way to doing that and look forward to this year.

Mr. Gentry mentioned earlier about "*Read it Forward Jax*" - I had an opportunity to visit students in classrooms to remind them that we're asking that all students to read 30 minutes each evening and share what they are learning with a parent or caregiver, friend to process what they have learned. If they read 30 minutes every night and share it with someone, it will improve their reading.

I've asked Reverend John Guns to head up a community collaborative around support for the Intervene schools and particularly focusing on parent involvement and engagement. We'll have our first meeting next week and we'll include a broad base support system representing parents, fraternities, sororities and a whole range to better engage parents in order to make improvements in these schools.

I'd like to remind everyone even though it's Sunday and we won't be in school, September 11 is this coming Sunday and I'd like to recognize all of the brave people who lost their lives ten years ago on that day.

Reports

1. OPERATIONS REPORT - MR. DOUG AYARS

Minutes:

We're going to begin a review of our boundaries in the southeast part of the county. There are five schools and we will kick off a meeting on September 19 at Twin Lakes Academy Elementary School. The five schools involve Twin Lakes Academy Elementary, Southside Estates Elementary, Beauclerc Elementary, Hogan Spring Glen Elementary and Windy Hill Elementary. We've done precommunication with the principals, School Advisory Councils and PTAs. This is the beginning of the public call for volunteers to join working groups. All meetings are open to the public and we'll look at the data, see if there is an adjustment now to relieve overcrowding but keep our eye on the future and hope go through the process in November or December timeframe and bring a recommendation through the Superintendent to the Board for the summer of 2012.

2. ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT - MS. PAT WILLIS

Minutes:

August Meetings:

August 1 Frank DeSensi, Steve Hite, Superintendent, Deputy

August 12, 15 Supt., Deputy and Steve Hite held individual meetings with Intervene principals (Iranetta Wright, James Young, Felicia Hardaway, and George Maxey)

August 26 Deputy and Steve Hite met at Turnaround Office

August 31 Intervene Schools/Educational Directions Partnership meeting at North Shore (DOE, Academic Services, Educational Directions, and Intervene Principal)

August 18, 24, 31 DOE Conference Calls (Waiver 3)

Intervene Community Outreach:

:Multi Year Intervene Schools - The Community and Family Engagement Office reached out to community organizations to facilitate collaboration, communication, and support. This initiative will help the district meet Intervene Waiver Condition 3 and Differentiated Accountability requirements.

First Year Intervene Schools - On August 17, Ed White and Forrest held Intervene Community Meetings. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the community of the current school standing and steps being taken to exit Intervene status. The meetings were advertised via letters, fliers, and parent link phone calls. Forrest and Ed

White are planning to hold another Community meeting before the end of the 1st nine weeks.

Intervene Waiver Conditions Update:

Condition 1: COMPLETE - Hosted a well-publicized event at each Intervene school to showcase available school choice options to parents and students. Completed August 1 (Raines, Ribault) and August 3 (N. Shore, Jackson).

Condition 2: COMPLETE - Engage in the services of an independent, effective school management or turnaround entity approved by the Commissioner to work closely with the school district and school leadership teams to assist in improving the performance of the Intervene schools. Commissioner Approval Completed August 24th.

o Follow Up - Educational Directions will provide the Commissioner a monthly update via the Superintendent. This information will be used to report to the State Board of Education.

Condition 3: IN PROGRESS - Fully participate and cooperate with FLDOE in a Race to the Top sponsored initiative.

o The state will hold three Intervene Community Events in Duval County. Scheduled dates are October 20 and November 14. The third meeting date is being decided. The format will include a keynote speaker, motivational speaker and discussions with community members. Community members will receive transportation, dinner, child care, and translators to facilitate their participation.

o Department and district staff participated in conference calls on August 18, 24, and 31. The next conference call will be September 12th.

o In addition to the community events, the state is going to sponsor community member site visits to high poverty and high performing schools across the nation.

Speakers:

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Board Member
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair
Ms. Pat Willis, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academic Services
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Ms. Paula Wright, Board Member
Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Educational Directions: August Activity Report for Duval County Public Schools Intervene Schools prepared by Frank DeSensi. *(See attachment of Duval County Intervene Schools Progress Report)*

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member
Mr. Frank DeSensi
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Ms. Martha Barrett, Board Member
Ms. Pat Willis, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief of Academic Services

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2011, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the September 6, 2011, Agenda as submitted on August 30, 2011, with the following changes:

1. Human Resource Services - Item 1 - Human Resource Services Employee Transactions - Revised Attachment

- PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

July 21, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
August 2, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
August 9, 2011 - Board Workshop
August 9, 2011 - Special Board Meeting
August 16, 2011 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings
August 23, 2011 - Special Board Meeting
August 23, 2011 - Board Workshop

Motions:

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

- July 21, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
- August 2, 2011 - Regular Board Meeting
- August 9, 2011 - Board Workshop - PASS
- August 9, 2011 - Special Board Meeting
- August 16, 2011 - Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings
- August 23, 2011 - Special Board Meeting
- August 23, 2011 - Board Workshop

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Paula Wright

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye

Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

[APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA](#)

Motions:	
That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Thomas Hazouri	
Second: Betty Burney	
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Consent Agenda

Academic Services

[1. CONTINUATION AGREEMENT WITH THE JACKSONVILLE CHILDREN'S COMMISSION FOR THE TEAM UP PROGRAM 2011-2012](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 9_6_11 Agenda Item 1 Team Up.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Wright said in terms of the Jacksonville Children's Commission who have done so much in terms of really focusing on our early learners...again,

a great partnership. I appreciate your effort and all the hard work you've done and will continue to do and look forward, again, to a prosperous partnership.

Ms. Burney said I see that Ms. Lanier is here and Ms. Lanier so eloquently spoke about the "pile on" that happens to children in their lives where they start off at a certain age and certain things in their lives that piles on for them and it's very hard for them at times to maneuver - like a football team - with that pile on. She and her group are truly helping with that pile on and I want to say that as a Board member, I am very appreciative. I've seen the work and I've dealt with some of the things and Ms. Lanier and I have worked together. I'm very please with what is taking place. How do you define what is quantifiable? What should be measured with Team Up? I think that with the work they are doing, they are truly measuring more than what we've seen. We've received information on attendance but truly, the work of Team Up does much more than that. I'd like to see on the next report we receive from Team Up, that there would be a way the principals and others come together collaboratively and talk about some measurable outcomes that they would like to see and present that so that we can truly get a full picture of what we're doing for our children.

Mr. Lee said I'd like to add on to what Ms. Burney is saying. It may be very beneficial to get a small collaboration of folks, both within the district and these organizations, to talk about data sharing capabilities because one of the things they're getting is rather lax. If they are truly partners and are moving the bar on many of these things, I think the data is close to be real time is going to be very beneficial for both of these organizations. I'd just like to throw that out and have some discussion or however you feel appropriate, Mr. Superintendent.

Mr. Gentry said three of the Team Up programs that were funded through the Jacksonville Journey were eliminated through budget cuts but the Children's Commission has indicated at the last oversight committee meeting that through their general funding and resources, they intend to continue those three programs and they are in critical areas of our community on the westside where they are very much needed. So, that was great news and we appreciate that very much. They are an essential part of our program, particularly for these schools that have great challenges. We appreciate all of the work the Children's Commission is doing and thank you, Ms. Lanier, for being here.

[2. SUBMISSION OF 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER CONTINUATION GRANT PROPOSALS](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 9-6-11 Agenda Item 2 21st Century Learning Grants.pdf](#)

[3. CONTINUATION AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS FOR 2011-2012](#)

Attachment: [Communities in Schools End of Year Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES CIS 9-6-2011 item 3.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Wright said, again, it's an opportunity to highlight those types of partnerships that helps the students directly. These are programs that skirt around all of the problems, looks at the child holistically and deals with those needs that we heard Dr. DeSensi talk about, in terms of engagement. Why are they not engaging? Getting down if it's not academics and what's going on at home; lack of electricity; and being hungry. This program, Communities in Schools, is helping to solve problems that we may never be aware of and I want to take this opportunity to say "thank you" because I know the type of work you're doing and commitment it takes for all of the programs that we've heard, tonight, to make it work for the benefit of children and, again, I thank you.

Ms. Barrett said Ms. Lanier is still here and I want to say "thank you" on behalf of myself of what you've done for the Children's Commission and all that they do for the children in this community. And, certainly with Communities in Schools and I see that Mr. Heymann and Bill Hodges, Murray Beard and Leon Baxton are still here. You prevent drop outs and you keep children engaged in school and for a small amount of money that we do give you and you get from other sources, you pay big dividends and you keep children in school. I know all of you and I happen to be on your Board and work with you through Bank of America, my other life, and know what a tremendous job they do in this community. Thank you.

Mr. Hazouri said each one of these organizations and we discussed them briefly at our workshop, I appreciate the honor of serving on Commission as an ex officio member and Paula served with me. I've learned alot and I've seen Linda work many organizations over the years and she's been very successful with each of them and she has delivered for this community and our children. We appreciate you. I can't say enough for Communities in Schools and they're in their 20th year. Probably the longest non-profit other than the United Way in Jacksonville, and they've always served our potential drop outs and they have had one of the most successful programs in the country. I wish our budget would be such to double or triple for all the work you put into it for \$102,000 and we get over 300% worth of work from you and I thank you for that.

Ms. Burney said I've had the privilege with Mr. Heymann and Mr. Baxton for approximately 11 years. The first project was the Back to School Rally which was quite successful and they have continued to do that for years. If there's one organization that keeps its hands on the pulse of what's happening with needy children in Duval County Public Schools, it's Communities in Schools. You've done an outstanding job in engaging our young people and I agree with Mr. Hazouri. If I had a magic budget wand, I would give you more than what you're getting because of the types of

activities you provide and the cutting edge programs. I want to say that I know you're doing a lot of work with drop out prevention and I think that this community does not understand half of what you're doing. If there's one thing I'd like to see come out of this for the next reporting time, to talk about some drop out prevention strategies because they have done a great job with it.

[4. GEAR UP GRANT](#)

Attachment: [GEARUPV-2011-2012-PerformanceofCompletedGEARUPGrants-8-11-11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [GEARUPV-2011-2012-Final Revised Project Budget-Working Copy-7-13-11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 9-6-11 GEAR Up.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Wright said what is amazing to me about the Gear Up grant is that they follow the feeder pattern. They get with the students at the middle school level and they loop up with them and make sure they understand their potential not only for college but being prepared for the job market. They provide career planning and financial literacy, parent involvement services. Again, programs that provide a holistic approach is what is exciting for the kids. It does not leave any element out. It meets them where they are and understands what they need to do and provides those various services to help the student move forward. I appreciate their efforts.

Ms. Burney said "ditto" as to what Ms. Wright said.

[5. ACHIEVERS FOR LIFE/LEARNING TO FINISH](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Achievers for Life 9-6-11 item 5.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Achievers for Life Information.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Wright said I want to express my sincere gratitude for such program because the Achievers for Life target sixth graders in hopes in helping to ensure that students do not drop out in high school. It starts at sixth grade for those students who have a grade point average (GPA) of 1.5 or less and also, attendance problems. This is what partnerships are about. This is when the community comes and joins with us and we work collaboratively together. I think Duval County is contributing financially may 6-7% ; it's not a major but the bulk of the money is coming from a grant. So, I appreciate that effort in terms of helping our city, our schools and our community with the partnership.

Ms. Barrett said I want to say "thank you" to Ms. Wright and I do agree with you 100%. I happen to be on that committee that Achievers for Life sort of

spurned from and the two schools they started with - Arlington Middle and Fort Caroline - they both just happened to be in my area and they are many more now thanks to very generous donors. This is a wonderful program and it's successful because Communities in Schools has a partnership with Jewish Family Services so it involves the whole family - the entire child and entire family and they have great results. They are targeting children who may be potential drop outs. I agree with Ms. Wright.

Human Resource Services - Staffing

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

Attachment: [ASSISTANT PRIN APPOINTMENTS 2011-12 09-06-11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach 09-06-11 TRANS.pdf](#)

[2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS - SUPERVISOR, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach Minquals 09-06-11.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[1. SUSPENSIONS WITHOUT PAY](#)

Attachment: [HRS attach 09-06-11 susp.pdf](#)

Operations - Information Technology

[1. CHECK POINT SECURITY SOFTWARE UPGRADE AND RENEWAL - PLACE HOLDER](#)

Attachment: [Check Point B and C 2011.pdf](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[1. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - New September 2011.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Approval - Renewals September 2011.pdf](#)

[2. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS, FINAL INSPECTIONS, ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT AND NET SUM OF ALL CHANGE ORDERS ON MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS UNDER \\$1,000,000](#)

Attachment: [Sept 6 2011 B-C Agenda Item CSC-CFI-Cont Sav on Projects under \\$1M Report 07 19 11.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Sept 6 2011 Agenda Item CSC-CFI Chart for August 2011 08 23 11.pdf](#)

3. REMODELING, RENOVATIONS AND NEW CONSTRUCTION AT ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL NO. 33: AMENDMENT NO. ONE TO CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CONTRACT/AJAX BUILDING CORPORATION/DCSB PROJECT NO. C-91460

Attachment: [Sept 6 2011 B-C Agenda Item C-91460 Amend 1 to Ajax Contract for Lee HS No 33 07 19 11.pdf](#)

4. AUTHORIZE A JOINT PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE FOR SCHOOL CROSSING SIGNAL INSTALLATION ON KERNAN BOULEVARD ROAD ADJACENT TO KERNAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 231

Attachment: [Sept 6 2011 B-C Agenda Item COJ Joint Project Agreement for Kernan Signal.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

2. RENEWAL OF EMPLOYEE GROUP LIFE INSURANCE WITH UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

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

3. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

Attachment: [07Sept12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [NEW BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM 2011Sept.pdf](#)

Attachment: [05Sept12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [ROSUMFY12sept.pdf](#)

Attachment: [September 2011.pdf](#)

Attachment: [04Sept12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [RORET FY12.pdf](#)

Discussion

Academic Services

6. PURCHASE OF DISTRICT-WIDE COMPASS ODYSSEY TECHNICAL SUPPORT 2011-2012

Attachment: [Compass Odyssey Duval Renewal 2011-2012 7-26-2011 quote.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Compass Odyssey 9-6-2011.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Paula Wright, Board Member

Dr. Terri Stahlmann, Chief Technology Officer

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Chairman

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Vice Chair

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the purchase of district-wide Compass Odyssey technical support provided by Compass Learning Incorporated for the 2011-2012 school year, in an amount not to exceed \$233,093 for services at 88 school sites. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Fred Lee

Second: Martha Barrett

Paula Wright	- Aye
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye

Operations - School Choice and Pupil Assignment

[1. GLOBAL OUTREACH ACADEMY FIRST ADMENDMENT TO CONTRACT](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Wright said she had a question regarding this charter school. In terms of the district, what is the percent that the district is mandated that we must allocate for transportation?

Mr. Pratt-Dannals said it really a total amount of the FEFP we received. Mr. Perrone, if you will talk to that.

Mr. Michael Perrone, Chief Financial Officer said they are entitled to 95% of our FEFP that we get from the state and from local dollars for all students. They get that and we keep 5% for management fee but they are entitled to all that funding - SAI, etc.

Ms. Wright said my second question is I am concerned about the approving for this charter school to eliminate transportation and pass it on to the parents. I want to understand our authority to do that. I didn't know we could determine what a charter school could do with their transportation.

Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, said through the Chair to Ms. Wright, this amendment is one that I recommend be done at a Board level and not a staff level. For the charter school to have as their transportation plan that the parents bring the students to school is legally permissible and the school has opted to do this after communicating with the parents. This is a very tight community. I believe they have high enrollment and the charter school has opted to do this to balance their budget. They found last year that they were in a deteriorating financial condition so when the governing Board of the charter school looked at their options based on the revenues coming in, based on enrollment, compared to their expenses when they realized eliminating transportation is legally permissible and would resolve those financial concerns, that is something the school has opted to do. As counsel, I recommend that we allow the governing Board to make that choice and the purpose of this amendment would be to complete the documents in our files. This is an older generation application. It's already three years old which is ancient history the way the legislature keeps the charter school statute. They are starting their third year of operation. This amendment would actually bring Global Outreach an older generation contract visa vis transportation inline with our current form of contract that we use, today.

Motions:

1. That the Duval County School Board approve an amendment to the five year contract with Global Outreach Charter Academy, Inc.; and,
2. That the Duval County School Board authorize the chairperson - PASS and the superintendent to execute the contract amendment on behalf of the board subject to review and approval as to form by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results	
Motion: Martha Barrett	
Second: Fred Lee	
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

1. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: WELLNESS POLICY

Attachment: [Wellness Policy - 9 Aug 11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Wellness Policy

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:

- Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Paul Soares, Chief Officer, Operations Support
- Ms. Paula Wright, Board Member

NOTE: Mr. Pratt-Dannals introduced Ms. Aszloyn Wakefield, principal at Garden City Elementary School.

Motions:
 That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing and vote to renew the Wellness Policy required under Federal Public Law (PL 108.265, Section 204) - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Board Member Travel

[BOARD MEMBERS TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

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

September 7-9, 2011 - FSBA Board of Directors' Retreat - Punta Gorda, FL - Lee
(No cost to the district)

September 22-23, 2011 - FSBA Master Board - Gainesville, FL - Barrett, Couch, Gentry,
Lee, Wright

September 26-28, 2011 - Chamber Leadership Trip - Houston, TX - Barrett, Lee,
Gentry
(No cost to the district)

October 5-8, 2011 - NSBA CUBE 44th Annual Conference - New Orleans, LA - Wright

October 25-30, 2011 - Council of Great City Schools 55th Annual Fall Conference -
Boston, MA - Barrett, Wright

Motions:

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

- September 7-9, 2011 - FSBA Board of Directors Retreat - Punta Gorda, FL - Lee
- September 22-23, 2011 - FSBA Master Board - Gainesville, FL - Barrett, Burney, Couch, Gentry, Hazouri, Lee, Wright - PASS
- October 5-8, 2011 - NSBA CUBE 44th Annual Conference - New Orleans, LA - Wright
- October 25-30, 2011 - Council of Great City Schools 55th Annual Fall Conference - Boston, MA - Barrett, Wright

Vote Results

Motion: Paula Wright

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Superintendent's Travel

[SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL](#)

Minutes:

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

September 22-23, 2011 - FSBA Master Board Program - Gainesville, FL

September 26-28, 2011 - Chamber Leadership Trip - Houston, TX

Motions:

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

- September 22-23, 2011 - FSBA Master Board - Gainesville, FL - PASS
- September 26-28, 2011 - Chamber Leadership Trip - Houston, Texas

Vote Results

Motion: Martha Barrett

Second: Betty Burney

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Becki Couch said I just wanted to say "thank you" to the Normandy WalMart for their effort in raising school supplies for the schools on the westside of town. It was a great example of public/private partnership. I, also, want to say "thank you" to those people who work so hard to raise money for sports. That's a great example of how we

can all work together to save those sacred things that our kids so love. Kudos to everyone in the school district for a great opening of school. I think everything went smoothly. I went on the walk with the mayor and superintendent and was very impressed with what I saw. Thank you.

Ms. Paula Wright thanked Kathy LeRoy for allowing me to travel with her to First Coast High School and I had an opportunity to see the trainers from Agile Minds which is from the University of Texas and how engaging they were. They also had some students which was very interesting working with the teachers. My Byrd allowed me to share a few words at her opening of preplanning to the teachers. Like you, my mind and my heart will be with those that we lost and suffered on September 11. I still remember exactly where I was on that particular day. I'd also like to thank everyone who contributed with the mayor and all of the people who helped with ROTC and sports because that is a direct benefit to students and that's why we're here to help students achieve. I'm looking forward to a prosperous, productive and successful school year.

Mr. Tommy Hazouri I reiterate what the Superintendent said and Ms. Wright about 9/11. This week, I think, all over the world, they're recognizing the 10th anniversary signifying what took place in New York. Ten years is a long time for what has taken place but, hopefully, we are a stronger country as a result of it and for that, we're blessed.

Ms. Martha Barrett said we had a wonderful opening day at Pinedale and I want to thank the principal and her staff and the mayor. I think it was a wonderful event. Congratulations to Pinedale for going from an "F" to an "A" which is almost unheard of.... Regarding sports, it looks like things are going well. I know we still need to raise some money for wrestling and folks in my district are helping with that. Great opening of schools and I want to commend Mr. Ayars and his staff and I never received a call which was great. We'll certainly be thinking of all of those who lost their lives on 9/11.

Mr. Fel Lee said thank you to the community for your continued support. You have really stepped up over the last few months with this Board for ROTC, sports...you can just go down the list. Thank you to the mayor and Education Commissioner for getting involved. I feel it's increasing the profile of education in Jacksonville. Even if there are things not positive about education, at least people are talking and many are talking right now. Several of us are going on the Chamber Leadership trip. It's been awhile since the Chamber has had education as its key focus. I'm very encouraged and would reiterate some of the comments the Superintendent said earlier about looking forward to this school year as I am, too. Thank you.

Ms. Betty Burney said I would like to thank Mr. Ayars and Mr. Dennis for what is taking place with the Butler/Paxon transition. I went over on the first day of school...the building looks great and was really well done. Thank you both for merging those two schools. I would like to say a special "thank you" to Reverend and Mrs. Ted Corley who sit with us every month and who takes the time to send us a prayer, as Board members, the first Monday in every month. It doesn't go unnoticed for me that you're here and I appreciate it.

Mr. W. C. Gentry said I want to reiterate that, Ms. Burney. We do appreciate it, Reverend Corley. I want to thank the Superintendent. We just finished the Superintendent's Evaluation process. It's not the most enjoyable thing for anyone to go through that process and the Superintendent has shown his typical professionalism, even demeanor and constructive attitude towards that. We appreciate it very much and the public may not be aware but it involves each of us members sitting privately with the Superintendent, discussing issues with him. Always with evaluations, you are always looking for things we can do better on and as human beings, it's not a fun thing to sit here and talk about it. It's been a very constructive process because of your attitude and I greatly appreciate it and I'm sure the other Board members do, too. We are looking forward to this year as I do believe the school district is on the right path. I think we have great leadership and initiatives in place to make this a great school district. I think there is a very positive atmosphere in this community. The budget crisis has had an unexpected result of really creating much engagement and opportunity. It's sad that the opportunity has to be with people stepping up and picking up the slack that has been created by the state of Florida, but that's what happened and that has pulled the community together in a way I haven't seen before. We have a number of programs today and the members have talked about with the non-profit groups that are engaged with us, presently. We have an engaged mayor, a Chamber so there's a huge momentum and as Mr. Hazouri and Mr. Lee said, reiterate your comments and it feels good and we're on the right path. I'm really looking forward to this year and it being a very positive year. At the end of the year, we'll be able to identify that we have passed the goals we've set for ourselves. I think we'll do it and I'm excited about it.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman