



Duval County Public Schools

May 6, 2008 - Regular 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 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, 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 Deacon David MacNamara
Christ the King Catholic Church

Pledge of Allegiance

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Presentations

[1. SOUTHSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT - STATEWIDE COFFEE ART CONTEST](#)

Minutes:

This year, Javamo Coffee created a statewide contest to raise awareness for Autism.

--The contest allowed children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder to compete for their artwork to be displayed on a limited release coffee bag during Autism Awareness month in April.

--I am proud to announce that Quantum Mines, a Southside Middle School Student, was named the winner of this very special contest.

--The president of Javamo Coffee said, "Quantum's artwork was selected because it reminds us again that in the battle against autism, there are many 'little victories' that we can celebrate... and this bag is certainly a celebration!"

--Tonight, we are here to celebrate Quantum and this great accomplishment.

--His art teacher, Kelley Delaney, is also here tonight to support him and to let him know how proud we all are.

--Would Quantum and Kelley join us up front, as we present Quantum with a certificate of recognition.

--Quantum, we congratulate you on this win, and many other victories to come.

[2. GRAMMY SCHOOL AWARD - DASOTA](#)

Minutes:

--For the second year in a row, Douglas Anderson School of the Arts has been designated a Grammy Signature School by the Grammy Foundation.

--This year, the foundation selected 14 schools nationwide to receive this recognition.

--Douglas Anderson School of the Arts is one of only three schools to receive the coveted Gold Award.

--Along with the gold honor, Douglas Anderson will receive a custom award and a \$5,000 grant to benefit its music program.

--The Grammy Signature School program recognizes top U.S. public high schools for making an outstanding commitment to music education during an academic school year.

--At this time, would Jackie Cornelius, the principal at Douglas Anderson to come forward and receive your school's certificate of recognition.

--Congratulations to all the faculty, staff and students at Douglas Anderson for making this music program one of the top three in the nation!

3. POETRY OUT LOUD WINNER

Minutes:

--The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, provided high school students across the U.S. a chance to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance.

--While performing, these students competed for more than \$50,000 in prizes.

--Last March, twenty-three students from across Florida performed for a chance to be named the state winner of the 3rd annual Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest.

--One of those students is our very own, Monique Henry.

--Monique, a junior at Douglas Anderson, was named the first place winner of the Florida competition.

--For this win, Monique received an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. and a \$200 cash prize. Her school also received \$500 to purchase poetry books for its media center.

--Would Monique and her principal, Jackie Cornelius, join us up front as we present Monique with a certification of recognition.

--Monique, congratulations on this phenomenal win. You have made all of us here at Duval County Public Schools proud.

4. YOUNG WRITER AWARD WINNERS

Minutes:

--Recently, several middle and high school students throughout Duval County submitted original works for the Joan Bowditch Young Writers Award, a creative writing competition.

--The competition is part of Jacksonville's annual, "Much Ado About Books" premier book festival. It is also an exciting recognition and celebration of the area's emerging writers.

--This year, the foundation received more than 200 entries from student authors in three genres: essay, poetry and short story.

--Three Duval County Public Schools' students were selected as first-place winners.

--From Douglas Anderson, we have Miguel Lugo and Myrah Fisher. From Frank H. Peterson Academy of Technology, we have Deborah MacArthur.

--Miguel was the winner in the poetry genre, Myrah was the essay winner and Deborah won the short story genre.

--Winners received \$100 and a poster signed by a guest author from the festival.

--Would Miguel, Myrah and Deborah, along with their school representatives, come up front, as we award them with certificates of recognition.

--Congratulations to each of you on a job well done.

[5. CAREER EDUCATION CLUBS OF FLORIDA-STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS](#)

Minutes:

--In March, over 450 students throughout the state attended the Career Education Clubs of Florida State Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida.

--This year's theme was, "Find Your Fit."

--At the conference, students had the chance to compete in written, performance and display events.

--There were more than 30 events for students could compete in, ranging from Accounting to Video Production.

--11 Duval County Public Schools' students won prizes during this year's conference.

--Winners, as your names are called, please come up front with your coordinators to receive your certificates of recognition.

--Joining us from Forrest High School with their coordinators, Althonia Small and Reva Oliver, we have:

- Kelly Baltz
- Lindsey Lowrey
- Faran Foy
- Raina Stiffler, and
- Amanda Lewis

--From Wolfson High School, with their coordinator, Delorise Thomas, we have:

- Jasmine Harris
- Richard Foster
- Bryan Lynch, and
- Jimmy Alexis

• And from Sandalwood High School, with his coordinators Bessie Belton and Doris Troy, we have Matthew Bartle.

--Congratulations to all the student winners and their coordinators.

[6. PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM WINNERS](#)

Minutes:

--For 39 years, the PTA Reflections Program has given students an opportunity to express their artistic talents and receive recognition for their artistic efforts.

--This year's program theme was, "I can make a difference by..." Students in grades Pre-K through twelve were encouraged to create works of art in six areas: literature, musical composition, photography, dance choreography, film and visual arts.

--The Duval County Council of PTAs and PTSAs received more than 3,000 entries from 24 participating schools. Of those entries, 270 were submitted by Duval County to be judged at the state level.

--Joining us tonight are representatives from PTA, to help hand out ribbons to the following students who won prizes at the state level of judging.

--Students were either awarded the Award of Excellence or the Award of Merit.

--Students, when your name is called, please come up front to receive your ribbon, and a certificate of recognition.

The following students received the Award of Excellence for their submissions:

- From Fletcher High School, we have Cameron Pfahler and David Kidder, and
- from Pine Forest Elementary School, we have Praniti Kudre

--These students received a \$100 gift card, a letter of recognition and a reflection's medal. These students also had a chance to represent the Florida PTA at the national level.

--Next we have the winners of the Award of Merit.

--Joining us tonight, we have

- Patrick Dirks, from Douglas Anderson
- Sonia Patel, from Chets Creek Elementary
- Arianne Romero, from James Weldon Johnson
- Vanessa Whittington, from Jacksonville Beach Elementary
- Dawn Gibson, from Fletcher High School
- Allison Carrier, from Bank of America Learning Academy, and
- Fiona Robertson and Katie Marson, from Fletcher Middle School

--Congratulations to each of these student winners and thanks to the PTA/PTSA representatives who make it possible for our students to participate in this wonderful program.

[7. FLORIDA POISON INFORMATION CENTER POSTER CONTEST WINNERS](#)

Minutes:

--To celebrate National Poison Prevention Week, students throughout Duval County participated in a poster contest, sponsored by the Jacksonville chapter of the Florida Poison Information Center.

--This year's theme was, "Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons." Students had to create a poster they believe best captured this theme.

--I am proud to announce that students from James Weldon Johnson Middle School and John E. Ford K-8 were the overall winners of the contest.

--These students were recognized at a reception and also had their posters on display at Wolfson Children's Hospital, and the Avenues and Orange Park malls.

--Area businesses donated prizes to the contest winners.

--Students, as your names are called, please join us up front with your school

representative, to receive your certificates of recognition.

--From James Weldon Johnson we have the following winners:

- 1st place winner, Emily Whitbeck, won a bicycle from Lakeshore Bicycles
- Julianne Evans, our 2nd place winner, won a bicycle from Toys R Us
- Our 3rd place winner, Ashley Losco, won a Birthday Party for 8 at Adventure Landing
- BJ Santiago, our 4th place winner, won a \$100 Birthday Party Set Up from Winn Dixie
- Rebecca Shedd and Dillon Arthur tied for 6th place. Both students received passes to Adventure Landing's Water Park; and
- In 7th place, we have Arianne Romero, who won activity passes to Adventure Landing.

--The 5th place winner comes from John E. Ford Elementary School. Allison Blackman won a family membership at the Museum of Science History.

--Congratulations to all the winners. It is important that our students know about safety and are able to spread this knowledge to their peers. Also, a big thank you to all the local businesses that were gracious enough to donate these wonderful prizes.

Comments From Audience

[COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Douglas C. Jones thanked the Board for allowing him to present this information regarding his son who is in 3rd grade at Henry Kite Elementary School. Mr. Jones son's class has had three different teachers in the first semester of school. Mr. Jones wrote the principal requesting a transfer but she refused.

Mr. Stephen Bigelow, reading teacher at Cedar Hills Elementary School, spoke in support of a person who is up for suspension before the Board this evening. The children find this art teacher to be very kind, loving and patient. He never raises his voice and is a very good teacher. Please allow him to teach the arts as he is good at it.

Mr. James Coldwell, a concerned parent and School Advisory Chair at N. B. Forrest High School, said he is an involved parent since 2001. The FCAT grading is before us and, unfortunately, school are labeled with such a grade. There are a number of programs available at Forrest and one student who is enrolled in 7 Advanced Placement courses this year. In Duval County, there are 8 high schools that are not magnets; a 200% increase in only six months and the media won't talk about the success of the non-magnet schools. Please consider the situations that exist and wonder why some schools are not magnets.

Ms. Stacy Aubrey, Executive Director of Riverside Fine Arts, explained what they're doing in the schools this year. We hit 25 schools and have reached out to 15,000 students, 10 more presentations to go until the end of the school year; our final school this year is Lake Forest Elementary School. We have 3 different musicians coming in and we do a cluster program; we have Jacksonville Children's Chorus and a trumpet player coming in. We have a outreach program called "Project Listen" which is privately funded and I encourage everyone to call our organization. If you know of any schools, we'd love to come into them and

bring music to the students. We have a great season lined up next season and we'd love to have you in the seats, as well. Please come and support our organization. We're doing a great job and are happy working in Duval County schools.

Mr. John Turner said the Interlocal Agreement you signed with the City Council is a bad contract because it lets greedy developers off the hook from having to pay mitigation fees. Fees that would be used to help build new schools and ease the overcrowding the developers created. One way to tell a good contract from a bad one is a good contract puts all the promises in writing - do we have that with the Interlocal Agreement? The answer is "no". The School Board promised the public that the Interlocal Agreement prevents students from being bused across the St. John's River...if that's really true, why can't the School Board point out where that says that in the Interlocal Agreement? Point to the part that says, "After rezoning, students will not be removed from "A" schools to be reassigned to "D" or "F" schools. These are some of the simple things that should have been in the Interlocal Agreement. Parents should ask if the School Board is not really looking at the best interest of public education, then whose side are they really on? Perhaps, the Land Use and Zoning Meeting dated June 19, 2007 will shed some light on the truth. Mr. Turner spoke about a conversation between City Council and the School Board and shifting boundary lines.

Ms. Marilyn Jones distributed information regarding her son's report card and to let the Board know she never received a progress report from Crown Point Elementary. only scholarship warnings. All the documents and grades my son has received, does not constitute failure. Ms. Jones requested a meeting with the Superintendent privately to discuss these issues. Ms. Jones is also concerned about her son at his new school where harassment, bullying, continued mental and physical abuse, lack of communication from his current teacher. Ms. Jones read some of the comments she wrote to the teacher and the teacher's response and the incident that happened concerning "Arthur", a doll that each child took home and wrote a report. Please call me and meet with me about my son immediately.

Mr. John Sanford Boswell, 58 year old man who has taught art resources for a number of years. I am up for termination and I teach at several schools in Duval County. I have not spoken with anyone regarding this situation. An incident happened on February 21, 2008 concerning a young man (student). I've never become angry or aggressive with a student in my life. I do have degeneration of the spine and degenerative bone disease. At the incident, the police and State Attorney were called and there were no arrests. The student said to me, "I'll kill you". I exercised reasonable restraint and I'm requesting to be fully exonerated. I have told you the truth.

Mr. Dexter Van Davis, representing Mr. John S. Boswell, asked, "What kind of message is that sending?" My duty is to ask you to not terminate this teacher. This young man (student) was very aggressive toward Mr. Boswell. I'm not sure of what information you received and I know there's another step - the DOAH hearing. Art education is very important to children and this is an art teacher who teaches at several schools and he's well liked and respected. Please don't allow him to be terminated. He appears to be very successful in what he does professionally.

Mr. James Moser said he was very upset, a concerned teacher, and he was concerned about the safety of our children. Mr. Moser talked about retaliation, his good character being defamed; administrators completely ignoring him, problems at his school; six teachers being assaulted. Mr. Moser said he now walks with a cane since his assault but he will not give up on our kids. Mr. Moser requested that the school and state administrators contact him. He's also contacted the Governor's office, as well. We have a serious problem and Mr. Moser wants to talk with his School Board member and the Superintendent.

Ms. Shelia Andrews said she has been attending meetings in this auditorium since 1998-99 and you have installed a special area for the chiefs and the media but no area for the handicapped. Please take a look at what ADA compliant really means. Thank you. According to the state's numbers, 68% of Duval County's 10th graders failed to meet Level III on the 2007 FCAT. If you have different numbers, please give them to me. I have revised numbers from Ribault High School that tell me they have approximately 507 students needing Intensive Reading. According to the Budget Office, they have 937 students minus 507 would be 430 - 430 is more than 23%. Ask some of the 10th graders that did pass the 10th grade Math portion of the FCAT. According to the state, 23% of their students are proficient in Reading. I am not satisfied to have our children not proficient in Reading and I need someone to explain to me why are we allowing the summer to go by in their 10th grade year without giving them retakes? I have a son with special needs and this is my plea to the Board...if he's not Level III, he's in 10th grade now, please allow him to sit for the summer administration of the FCAT. He will have lost his skills, although he's been in Intensive Reading, if we wait until next spring to give him his first administration of a retake. Thank you.

Comments From Parent Organizations

COMMENTS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Minutes:

PTA - Pam Kinevan, President:

Hi, I'm Pam Kinevan, President of the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs

On April 17th, we held our Spring Leadership Workshop at the Schultz Center. This workshop will provide training for PTA officers and board members to be effective leaders in their schools. This workshop included classes covering the role of the PTA president, treasurer, secretary, as well as the role of various chairpersons.

Again this month, many of our members are working to prepare for the next opening of the Teacher Supply Depot that will be this Thursday, May 8th from 3 – 6p.m. We encourage all teachers and principals to take advantage of all the Teacher Supply Depot has to offer.

Tonight, PTAs should be recognizing their PTA members and volunteers at the Jacksonville Sun's Game.

In the pre-game activities, PTAs of the Year will be recognized for all their good work in our schools.

Anyone who volunteered 50 hours or more this year was admitted to the game free of charge in appreciation of their commitment to our schools.

If any PTA needs assistance with closing out the PTA financial records for the school year, we will be happy to provide assistance. They may call any member of the Council Board of Managers.

If there are any issues that the School Board or Superintendent would like PTA to address, please call on us.

DAC - Rachel Raneri, Chair:

While I was not able to attend the last DAC meeting, I want to publicly thank Mary Lobello, Vice Chair, for again stepping up to lead.

Thanks also go out to Doug Ayars for his report to the DAC on

the Strategic Plan Update, Facilities Project Input Process – School Based Projects, Facilities Planning Process and an ACE update. There was discussion and Doug will take ideas back to the Strategic plan committee.

As soon as we know if there are any legislative changes that will affect the operations of School Advisory Councils, we will start to work on next year's SAC Handbook.

Because of Memorial Day and graduations, the next meeting of the District Advisory Council will be on June 9th, at 6:00 pm in the 6th floor conference room. And I hope to be able to attend.

Comments From Employee Organizations

[COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS](#)

Minutes: No speakers for this item.

Student Achievement, Reform Activities, And Reports

[1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman, said the following:

"I'd like to take a brief moment to talk about our Strategic Plan. We've heard Mr. Preston Haskell mention the plan, but the reason I'm so excited about this plan is because this Board, as a united entity, in 2004 worked to develop our Core Beliefs and Commitments, our Theory of Action and other reform policies, but we also needed a road map on how to get to the progress that we wanted and especially with a district this size, we needed something that could help us move our students in a thoughtful and methodical way that would allow us to have some strategic outcome. So, we're at the stage where we've come together and formed a united front with the Alliance for World Class Education to develop a Strategic Plan that will impact students' lives...not just this year, but in years to come.

The Strategic Plan affects every facet of our organization - our administration, operations, curriculum and instruction, budget, school safety and so on. As such, it will become metaphorically, a living and breathing animal. Our Strategic Plan will help drive our budget expenditures and allocations. It will help us as we look at boundary changes, as we shore up schools with challenges and as we maintain schools that are successfully moving students forward. In addition to that, our Strategic Plan will be a vital part of our agenda item request because each item will have to demonstrate its alignment with our Strategic Plan.

I wish to take just an opportunity to commend the Board. This Board has done a fantastic job in making sure that our plan was something that everyone could grasp onto. I would also like to commend our Superintendent on helping us to, as we worked through, getting some aggressive targets. Last week, I think the Board had an exciting Board workshop and the reason it was exciting is because we asked our Superintendent to step up to the plate and give us a little bit more aggressive targets for the first part of our Strategic Plan with regards to closing the academic achievement gap. The collaborative efforts show that we have a Board and a Superintendent who are willing to work together for the betterment of our students. We also know and heard at that workshop that there are several districts who have tried not to be as aggressive as Duval County has in setting targets. Many of them set incremental targets that really don't mean much and there are some districts who believe that because we're trying to close the academic achievement gap and there's a presidential election, we might just need to drag our heels for a little bit because a new president might come in and with *No Child Left Behind* might go to the wayside...not so much for this Board and Superintendent. Our Board and Superintendent team stepped up because regardless of what *No Child Left Behind* says, we know that it's just the right thing to do to make sure all students achieve and achieve at high levels.

The other part of the Strategic Plan that I want our parents and stakeholders and everyone to understand that we decided not to just look at FCAT scores. This Strategic Plan has multiple measures of success and the reason that is so important is because we're now not only saying it, but we're demonstrating that one single test should not determine a child's or school's future. So, I applaud the Superintendent on what you have done to make sure that we have multiple measures of success and for our Board members, for suggesting that we do that. The most important aspect of it also is that students were involved in this process. We had students from each and every one of our high schools give input and express their concerns. I want to thank those students publicly and I want to assure them that we also discussed in our Board workshop that we will take their information and make sure that we report back to them and see how we can incorporate those things that they suggested..

We also had community input...we had community input via the internet. Several individuals came to a Community Meeting that was held in this room in March, so thank you, again.

I also would like to publicly thank Mr. Preston Haskell, chairman of the Alliance Task Force. He was very methodical and very strategic.

I also would like to thank Doug Ayars who with his capable planning background and we all knew that he's a task master, and he was able to get this plan through in a short period of time, and it was not so much the quantity but the quality of it. We appreciate you for that.

I would also like to thank the Superintendent. We're blessed to have a Superintendent who has such a collaborative spirit. Thank you so much because you helped us to work through some things.

I want to thank the staff - Mr. Tom O'Dea, Dr. Amy Lingren, Deputy Superintendent Pat Willis, Vicki Reynolds, Leila Mousa and Dr. Alvin White for the parts that you've played in this plan.

I'd like to thank the Alliance for World Class Education Task Force. The task force was diverse and committed. The task force committee members included: Elnora Atkins, Terrie Brady, the Honorable Nancy Broner, who represented our Board, Chris Buckley, Gary Chartrand, George Brian Davis, Peter Rummel, Nina Waters, Cheryl Grymes, and members of this School Board.

As I close, our Board will not allow any of your hard work and efforts to go in vain. We will use this to keep us looking forward, to keep us focused, and strategic in delivering to every child that enters our doors, a high quality, public education that allows him or her to dream big dreams and to realize their potential. Thank you, again, and that concludes my Chairman's Report."

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes:

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals' report:

"I have three items tonight, the first, piggy-back on some of your comments about the Strategic planning process and then recognizing some of our leadership that will take us forward into next year who are on tonight's agenda, and finally to discuss the Resolution of the Legislative Session and the impact on our budget and the impact it will have on our district in terms of staffing and resources available to put legs, so to speak, on our Strategic Plan.

First of all, I want to commend our School Board for, not only, embarking upon the Strategic Plan process, but the collaborative spirit that was evident at each of the meetings and we had some tough conversations. We asked ourselves some very hard questions. It's a very difficult environment in which we're operating in that we all want rapid achievement of our students...particularly those students who have not achieved as well as others in the past...and, yet, we want to make sure we're able to put our resources there and make sure we have realistic targets that are doable on the part of our principals and teachers. So, I think we had a great collaboration within the last few weeks. We went back and forth to discuss some things that came to a great consensus. These targets are extremely aggressive and I commit myself and my staff to move forward on completing these and making Jacksonville, Florida Duval County Public Schools the model urban district in the United States. I firmly believe this is doable. I think we have the talent. I think we have the commitment. I am very optimistic as I go to the community. I've had the opportunity, as we're in draft on this process to discuss the six goals with the members of the community; to have interaction in person via email with teachers and principals and I think the goals that the Board has established ring true in terms of where we ought to be heading. When people look at the strategic directions, they say, "Yes, those seem like the right ones." When they look at the actions that we're going to take in order to accomplish this, they say, "That's seems like those are on target." And, when they look at the targets, they say, "Those are very aggressive and we're going to get there." So, I think working together as a team - Superintendent/Board team, I'm very confident at this point, and, again, it's not just this team that's going to execute this and make it happen. This is a community-wide effort on the part of our community-at large in order to scale up, provide the resources, provide the expertise, provide the talent, the help and support that we're going to

need in order to accomplish this. So, I think it was an excellent process and a very quick process, to go through this level, not only at the very high level, defining where we're going, but also getting to the varied discreet level of what kind of progress we're going to make in each year. It was very aggressive to try to do this in a five-month period.

I also commend the Alliance and the task force Ms. Burney outlined for their hard work. They were as delivered and asked some very tough and good questions. Each time it went through either the Board workshop or through the Alliance Task Force, the plan got better. I think it's a tribute to the fact that team work always wins. We, as individuals, may have our different strengths, but as a team, we're much stronger for having done this together. I think the level of engagement given the time limit we had on the part of the public, we had over 600 responses via the internet and about half of those being our teachers and principals, the other half in the community. The responses were very thoughtful and questions that we incorporated into the plan. I think people see the connection with the Strategic Plan and our actions and budget. This isn't a "*pie in the sky plan*" that we put a nice cover on it and place it on the shelf and then come back five years later to see if we met it. This is going to be marked up, dog-eared, a living document, as Ms. Burney said, in order for us to provide the kind of strategic direction, we need to move forward as a large urban district. So, again, thank you Board members for your participation and your support. I think we're in a great place as moving forward as a team.

I'd like to recognize some individual who are on this agenda this evening. Officially, they don't start until July 1 because that begins our fiscal year, but we wanted to name them so they can begin the planning process with their new clusters for next year. For next year, we'll continue to have a high school cluster, that remains unchanged with Ms. Elaine Mann and Mr. Larry Rozier. I'm creating a new middle school cluster that will be led by Mr. Lawrence Dennis as the School Chief and supported by Ms. Jill Budd, to join the team; and Mr. Tony Bellamy for a very high powered middle school team that we look forward to making some great progress in. What 's the ideal way to organize school support and supervision? I don't think there's an ideal way. At this point in time, we need a lot of work in our middle schools and I think that can best be done by putting together this team and asking them to work directly with those middle schools as a group in order to move forward in our academic progress.

We'll continue to have two clusters led by the Chiefs previously, joining Ms. Barbara Langley is Ms. Carolyn Davis; Ms. Jackie Byrd will be joining Ms. Selinda Keyes; Ms. Debbie Mennard will be joining Ms. Selinda Keyes; and continuing Melody Davis. These are great people and we have had some tough choices. Now, I'm convinced we have the best team here, but we had some very difficult choices and that says we have some very outstanding principals and other leaders that can move into these instructional supervision roles to move our district forward. Each of those teams has one person who is designated to work specifically with the Turn Around Schools and they'll be working with Dr. Pat Willis, Deputy Superintendent, who has the responsibility for those 30+ schools, working to make sure that they make the kind of rapid progress we need to make for those who are behind, putting the resources and support there, and the extra monitoring that will be necessary to move forward and I think this is a great plan.

Additionally, we have moving over to the Executive Director of Alternative Education and Behavioral Support Systems is Ms. Dana Kriznar, and, again, we're looking forward to her being in this role and providing some support and direction in a much needed area. So, welcome to the team and looking forward to great things from them.

Budget - we've kept this in the public eye and we appreciate the support of our media outlets. They have done an excellent job in getting the information to the public regarding where we stand. We are in a little better shape than we were because we were able to get a quarter mill of our capital money that we can use for operating money - about \$15 million dollars, but we're still \$70 million dollars in the hole, if you count the shortfall plus the two shortfalls this year plus \$19 million dollars in fixed costs that we're obligated to spend. \$70 million dollars is the biggest one-year hit in both dollar amount and percent that we've had in over thirty years. It's extremely difficult to do this work. Again, I have to commend the School Board as we've had multiple workshops, looking at items, What can we afford to cut, What can we not, What's the balance between the amount of staff we have, Where they're located...again, as we were developing our Strategic Plan, we were already thinking about where we need to place our personnel to support the execution of our plan. What can we afford to do with salary and benefits? In most districts across the state, where they have any kind of resolution, what I've heard from Superintendents and what their plans are...for the most part, it's going to be zero and in some cases, salaries cut and that's in addition to huge cuts in the number of staff members within those districts. We have been pretty fiscally prudent in our district and although we don't have huge reserves, we haven't extended ourselves as some districts have in terms of obligating themselves to the future costs and not being able to pay for it. Unfortunately, Florida's funding is so flexible and tentative, it's very difficult to plan beyond a single year. We will be cutting approximately 100

positions and over half of those are vacant, so the good news is for the most part, that doesn't impact individuals. For those individuals whose position will be lost, we'll be working with them as much as possible to help them land another position within the district. We can't promise that everybody will but our goal is as much as possible make that happen within their certification or expertise. There's no way we can cut \$70 million dollars from a budget and not have impact on staff and, unfortunately, not have it impact schools. We have, however, cushioned that blow as much as possible. Our Board has continued support of art, music and physical education resources in the elementary schools and as much as possible, put enough revenue out there to cover those limited cost additions that the schools are having to bear.

We're still finalizing and summarizing what those decisions the schools have to make to see what the net total is and should have that very soon. Again, for those people who are surplus, our goal is to do as much as possible to help them be placed into positions so they're still employed and moving forward as a team. There will be some pain and some impact and we're not able to do as much as I would like, in terms of leaning forward in some very critical areas. One example is, we continue to have a 600/1 counselor to student ratio. That's several hundred more students per counselor in most large districts. This is very difficult with the kinds of issues that students bring to the school, how much we're trying to track students in moving forward academically, keeping up with their progress, contact with parents, is very difficult. Same is true in a number of other support areas from instructional staff to other support services - psychologists, social workers, etc. These are some of the support positions we had to cut in order to make budget. We have preserved the classroom as much as possible. The *Class Size Reduction Amendment* is forcing us into a tight straight jacket in terms of having to cut everywhere except those academic courses and schools have struggled valiantly in order to hold on to programs in the midst of these cuts.

So, as we were approaching these cuts, was hiring freezes for all non-mission critical positions - we still may be filling some positions but will be at a very high mission critical, extremely limited travel, state required meetings, etc. - very few conferences unless required by some prior agreement, and we manage supplies and equipment from the central office during the last few months - not putting schools in jeopardy of receiving required supplies and equipment, but it had to be on a very high level to be able to do that.

We may have to look at our medical plan to see if there are some cost savings in that area. Little or no salary enhancements to employees but if we are able to, the focus will be at the school level - teachers and administrators. We know we won't have any salary enhancements for district administrators. We may have to look at a shortened work day, hours, or year for some employees, reduced funding for outside programs - some of these are the outside organizations that we provide support to in order to provide services to our students, but they also receive funding through other venues, and, unfortunately, we're going to have to cut back on some of those contracts in order to make our budget. Again, when you're cutting over 100 staff people and reducing funding of \$70 million dollars, it's hard not to impact all the areas of the budget.

So, where do we go going forward? In my opinion, it one of the most important moral obligations of our citizens, state, and legislature to provide a high quality public education for all students. In a report by the U.S. Census Bureau that came out a month ago that looked at public education funding in the 2005-06 school year, it rated states according to how much money they spent per student - Florida was rated at 37 out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. That's bad enough...when they recalculated the amount of money - from all sources, federal, state and local - and recalculated it according to the income of that state, Florida was dead last amongst the states only to be usurped by the District of Columbia, as being lower. What was surprising about that was that other southern states, who are typically low taxed states, were significantly higher than Florida. Again, that's on the ability to pay or income of that state is how it was calculated. I think that's embarrassing for Florida to be last and we're in a real battle for talent. As we move the expectation from a few students - 20-30% of our students being prepared for post-secondary education, which was a prior expectation up until about 10-20 years ago, to all students being prepared, it's totally dependent on our ability to marshal the human talent that's necessary in order to get this done. Business and industry know the secret. Hire the best people, prepare them, support them, and then hold them accountable. We're losing that battle to other states and other areas of employment. It's going to have to be a long term public effort, in my opinion, and it's going to be primarily parents, business community and other concerned citizens that are going to have to lead this effort because, unfortunately, when teachers, Board members, others speak, it's perceived as being self-serving and trying to protect our own. So, there has to be enough willing support from the public at-large to demand high quality public education and be willing to pay a reasonable amount for it. Again, we're not asking to be first in the nation, but it sure would be nice to be around middle pack and there are some things we know we can do that are highly effective and do right now in order to increase the level of achievement, the level of graduation rate that we can do for our students.

We will continue to provide a high quality public education for our students. Our teachers are that

dedicated. My concern is not this year...my concern is over time...what will happen if we don't make the kind of investments we need in public education. So, with that, Madam Chair, I conclude my remarks and, again, I appreciate the support of the Board and our working relationship. Thank you."

Reports

[1. JERRY HOLLAND - 2008 COUNTYWIDE STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Jerry Holland, Supervisor of Elections gave a report on the 2008 County-wide Student Voter Registration Drive. We registered 7,715 students in three days as we're progressing and setting records each year. Mr. Holland commended the Superintendent for motivating many of our students. There were four (4) public school winners:

Douglas Anderson School of the Arts registered 560 eligible students and had the highest percentage of 70%;

Paxon School for Advanced Studies had the highest percentage for a large group;

Sandalwood High School had a 66% of their eligible students; and

Mandarin High School registered 930 students which accounted for almost 25% of the total drive from all schools.

We look forward to next year and have set even higher goals. There is definitely positive peer pressure by going into the classrooms. We'll give the incentive to motivate and appreciate your cooperation and we're very proud of these students.

[2. OPERATIONS - MR. DOUG AYARS](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Ayars mentioned two items this evening:

ACE - Academic Community Excellence facilities plan - looking at June to come out with our second round of community meetings which would be a report to the public in the wake of the first round of meetings, and to get their input and awareness for ideas and concepts. Hopefully, then to establish working groups to begin to work on scenarios. I plan to give you an update at the workshop later this month preceding any steps toward the June meeting, so I look forward to that opportunity.

The second thing I'd like to comment on tonight's agenda, there is an item relating to the project at Darnell Cookman - the selection of a construction company that will actually do the construction of the high school wing. Let me comment that back in February, we had a public Community Meeting and we're looking at having another such meeting on or around May 21st - we still need to finalize the date and time, but hopefully, to meet with the public around May 21 and address the project and answer questions and hopefully, at the workshop, give you a complete update on the project as it stands.

On the city who is responsible for clean up, their idea is to select contractors and some time in either June or July, begin the effort at the site. The actual work on any of the school projects, the facility is probably more like November or December, so we still have the design to do and more detail to get through before we ever really begin work. So, I look forward to the meeting later this month and previewing you. Thank you.

[3. MATH REPORT - MS. KATHY LEROY](#)

Minutes:

School Board Report for Mathematics and Science May 6, 2008

I. Learning Schedule Revisions

All mathematics and science learning schedules are currently being revised and will be posted on River Deep in early June so that teachers will have all curricular changes before the summer. In February, District-wide surveys (via Zoomerang) were conducted across K-12 math and science asking teachers and administrators what had worked well this year, what had not, and any other concerns that teachers may have. This data was compiled and is guiding the revision process. Teams of teachers from schools that represent a cross section of District schools are conducting the revision process. In fact, all teams have members from the turnaround schools and at the high school level; all schools are represented in the revision process.

The steps in the process have included:

- Analyzing the Survey data to focus the revision process.

Reviewing the K-12 Mathematics and Science Content Validation Matrices to align with the newly adopted Sunshine State Standards (SSS) in Mathematics and Science. Similar to last year, all tested Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks are being crosschecked with each identified lesson or activity in the learning schedule to ensure complete alignment.

- Conducting an evaluation of the vertical articulation of the new standards to ensure that no content is missed by students in the transition process to new standards. For example, in Mathematics due to the FCAT schedule, we are transitioning to the new standards in grades K-1 and grade 6 this coming school year. Other grades include crosswalks, comparing the 1996 standards with the new standards so that teachers can become familiar with them.
- We are evaluating all Formative and Summative Assessments to revise some test items, adjust the timing to better align with the end of curricular units, and identify and label cognitive complexity of items. The cognitive complexity of each item will be identified so that teachers have a better understanding of State expectations of rigor. Additionally, the *Everyday Counts Calendar Math* yearlong pacing is being revised to include an optional pre-test, winter test, and post-test to identify K-5 mathematical skill proficiency.
- To support increased rigor within 9-12 mathematics, additional Assessment Exemplars are being developed that reflect low, medium and high cognitive complexity. Also some of these items will be piloted this summer so that anchor examples of quality responses can be distributed to teachers supporting increased inter-rater reliability when scoring these items and discussing them in Professional Learning Communities.
- Extensive work is being conducted to ensure that Algebra I and Geometry contain identical content and pacing in middle school and high school. Teams of middle school and high school algebra and geometry teachers are working together on these revisions to guarantee this. Additionally, the grade 5 and 6 math revision teams have been meeting to ensure that the new 2007 standards are appropriately embedded and that a rigorous bridge to support increased student achievement in grade 6 is accomplished.
- **High School Intensive Mathematics** is being revamped to better support students that have scored a level 1 or 2 on the FCAT. We are currently working to support both the FCAT requirements and CPT requirements at the same time through a proposed on-line Compass Odyssey option that a teacher can use to support instruction. Additionally, AP "Problem of the Month" activities are being developed that align an AP problem to content being covered in lower core math courses; and PSAT *Summary of Answers and Skills* data will be used to implement review and remediation of students.

II. Curriculum Development

- We know that only 37% of district 11 graders have achieved a Level 3 or better and many schools scores have remained stagnate for past 3 years in spite of interventions being used at each school. Therefore, we developed and piloted a model for review that was implemented very successfully in the four turnaround high schools

(Jackson, Raines, Ribault, and Forrest science departments). The process involved the construction of lessons that addressed the annually assessed benchmarks from the State assessment. These lessons were developed by the science staff of the four high schools in their areas of expertise (10 Independent lessons-25% Earth Space, 25% Life Science, 25% Physical, 25 % Nature of Science). Each lesson includes a hands-on, inquiry-based activity, opportunity to analyze data and apply the concepts to other levels. Starting this past January and running through February, students rotated through the lessons being taught by the content teacher that was aligned with the lesson content. After the Science FCAT administration, teachers and students were surveyed about the level of support this process provided. Both teachers and students found the lessons to be very helpful. In fact, 60% of the students surveyed felt that the experience improved their chances at being successful on the test.

Examples of Student Responses:

It helped a whole lot. Without that I would have never studied or been prepared for the test.

I think the reviews did help me because I barely remember anything I've learned in my science classes and some of the things we reviewed were really on the test.

It helped in many aspects of the test because I could recall everything the teachers went over.

It helped me a lot, I understood more this time around. I felt real committed this time. I learned this time around instead of just listening to 8 teachers talk. I remembered a lot of the techniques and experiments.

They helped by providing me with information need to succeed in passing the FCAT that I had yet to learn or never did learn or understand in my regularly attended science class.

They helped me a lot. Preparing on my own would've have been horrific. We should continue to do these FCAT Focus lessons in the years ahead.

It helped jog my memory. I was able to remember information easier, and therefore it came to me faster so that it was easier.

III. Summer Professional Development and Projects

- We are going to finalize the Grade 11 Science FCAT review so that it may be disseminated to other high schools across the District and begin the same process for the grade 8 Science FCAT.
- We have been holding elementary math focus groups to provide a forum for parent discussions to discuss how the staff can provide more support for mathematics homework and additional practice in math skills. To this end we are developing weekly homework packets aligned to the learning schedules that teachers may chose to send home to support parents as they help their children with mathematics homework.
- We are going to develop an Assessment User's Guide to provide direction and support to teachers by providing tips on analysis and possible intervention suggestions as they analyze the data for the formative and summative assessments.
- We are going to develop elementary, middle, and high school lab safety documents so that schools have direction in what an effective, age appropriate science lab would look like.
- Finally, extensive professional development will be offered this summer in K-12 mathematics and science. Professional development sessions will include: Targeted professional development to Turnaround schools in June; Intensive Mathematics; Algebra and Geometry Institutes to provided extended opportunities for middle and high school teachers to collaborate; and both advanced and initial Spring Board training. Additionally, as a key partner in the Statewide Florida PROMISE Mathematics and Science Grant, we will be one of the first Districts in the State to offered professional development to teachers and administrators about the new standards.

Approval of Agenda

[APPROVAL OF THE MAY 6, 2008, AGENDA](#)

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the May 6, 2008, Agenda as 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

Approval of Minutes

[APPROVAL OF MINUTES](#)

Minutes:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following minutes:

- March 11, 2008 - Special Meeting
- March 11, 2008 - Board Workshop
- March 18, 2008 - Special - Executive Session
- March 18, 2008 - Board Workshop
- March 19, 2008 - Board Workshop
- March 24, 2008 - Professional Services Committee
- April 7, 2008 - Regular Board Meeting

Motions:

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

Vote Results

Motion: Betty Burney

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Victoria Drake - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

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

Consent Agenda

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

[2. SUSPENSIONS WITHOUT PAY](#)

Attachment: [HRS Attach2 05-06-08 susp.pdf](#)

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[1. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS](#)

Attachment: [General Fund Resolution May 6.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Food Service Resolution May 6.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Spec Rev Other Resolution May 6.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Capital Projects Resolution May 6.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Internal Resolution May 6.pdf](#)

[2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

Attachment: [Final February 2008 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Draft March 2008 Board Statement Worksheet.pdf](#)

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

[1. REVISED: DRAINAGE EASEMENT AND SALE TO COJ - STARRATT ROAD WIDENING PROJ FIRST COAST HS](#)

[2. AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO PCPP AT WHITEHOUSE ES NO. 51](#)

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[3. NEW HS "AAA" NO. 268: PHASE III \(CONSTRUCTION\) DOCUMENTS](#)

[6. DW ROOF REPLACEMENT AT FT. CAROLINE MS NO. 238: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

[7. DW ROOF REPLACEMENT AT BEAUCLERC ES: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD](#)

[8. PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS: RENEWAL](#)

Attachment: [xx-ATT-PREQUAL-RENEWAL04-10-08.pdf](#)

[9. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: FACILITIES SERVICES CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER RPT \(APRIL 2008\)](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-C.O. RPT-APRIL-2008.pdf](#)

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

[1. DIGITAL TELEVISION PRODUCTION SYSTEM FOR NORTH SHORE K-8](#)

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

Attachment: [DIGITAL TELEVISION.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Priestly Jackson showed her support for this item. North Shore opened up a brand new school; not a renovated school but a brand new school. This item is for a television system in the school and that was part of the funds that were already allocated to the school and we want to support and indicate that. It is positive when you go to the school and you already have the infrastructure in place to accommodate the modern technological advances so I want to show my support.

[2. LICENSING AND MAINTENANCE FOR DESTINY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SOLUTION SOFTWARE](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM Licensing and Maint..pdf](#)

[3. REVISED: HEARTLAND DATA SYSTEMS ANNUAL SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL](#)

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

[4. REVISED: IT HARDWARE](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM IT Hardware\(2\).pdf](#)

[5. REVISED: MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM RFP 3 08 .pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Burney said, "I do support this agenda item but I do have a question with regards to what happens when so many of our students because of the crime rate, etc. that are impacting our students' lives, what happens and what do we do for students who have witnessed violent deaths in their families, classmates. Also, for students with parents in the military who face dramatic incidences...can someone share with us briefly how the school supports those individuals?"

Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals said we're fortunate to have a team called the Crisis Intervention Team that's on call all of the time. They are available if there's a student's death, parent's death,

sibling's death or some other major event where there is some trauma on the part of either individuals or large groups of students within the school. They work with Ms. Gloria Lockley and Ms. Kathy Bowles, and a psychologist and a social worker who go, depending on the breath of the need, they'll determine how many people need to go to the school and the duration. They make themselves available to the entire school. This is always available and, unfortunately, we have to exercise that group fairly frequently because there are a number of incidents where our students are experiencing some very dramatic and emotional stress due to what is happening in the neighborhood or at home. So, we do provide this service and it is very effective."

[6. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT](#)

Attachment: [ROMAY08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [04MAY08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [05MAY08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [06MAY08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [07MAY08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [May 08.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Agenda step BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM1.pdf](#)

Academic Services - School Curriculum and Programs

[1. PLACEMENT: ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL READING ASSESSMENT \(DRA 2\) MATERIALS FOR ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES ADDITIONAL READING ASMT MATERIALS.pdf](#)

[2. PLACEMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL READING INTERVENTION MATERIALS](#)

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

[3. LEAPFROG SCHOOLHOUSE INTERACTIVE SUMMER READING PROGRAM \(THE READ-IT-ALL SUMMER PROGRAM GRADES 3-5 AND TAG SCHOOL READING SYSTEM GRADES 1-2\) FOR ELEMENTARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM](#)

Attachment: [2007 SRS Report.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges.pdf](#)

[5. CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

Attachment: [5-year CAPE plan for Duval County1.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM CAPE1.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Burney said, "I support the item but I do have some questions that I'd like to ask...in the agenda item, we did not have an opportunity to workshop this item, so there are maybe four or five questions that I have - there's a sheet that shows the percentages - increases or projected increases for the career academies. It starts with Englewood and has each of those career academies. Can someone explain what those percentages mean?"

Speaker:

Ms. Chris Force, Director, Career & Technical Education

Ms. Burney asked that staff provide the Board with a list of the business partners and requested that we workshop this at a later date. Additionally, Ms. Burney said we need a presentation by the Chamber and more discussion."

[7. TRUANCY GRANT](#)

Attachment: [FY 2009 Public Service Grant Cover Letter.pdf](#)
Attachment: [COJ Public Service Grant App for Funding.pdf](#)
Attachment: [FY 2009 Public Service Grant Narrative.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Truancy Grant.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Burney asked the Superintendent if someone from his staff could talk about this grant and share with the public what we're doing and why we're doing it.

Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals said in the interest of time, he'd try to address it. For about the last five years, we received some funding from the City of Jacksonville. For a long time, we've had a collaborative effort with the city, Sheriff's Office, State Attorney's Office and the school district to work on the issue of truancy. We established four centers around town - one in each of the geographic areas and originally, these were run by the city and used some of our staff and about four years ago, we assumed the responsibility of those centers. Originally, we received almost \$400,000 from the city to help run these centers. They cost over \$1 million dollars a year and each year we're receiving fewer and fewer funds so while the request is for \$400,000, I believe last year we received about \$150,000. Given the fiscal situation they're in, I don't know if we'll see what portion of that money but we'll be happy to see what we saw last year, quite frankly. This is part of the *Jacksonville Journey* and the recommendation is to hire 30 additional social worker to intervene in this area of attendance. We had about 17,000 students who missed 21 or more days last year and we feel we're on better ground this year, regardless, we're not where we need to be. We're hopeful that if it doesn't come through the city, it will come from the Journey funding and we can make more significant progress in this area.

Ms. Broner said that every year we have the opportunity to advocate for funding for the Truancy centers and I hope the public knows the difference that Jacksonville has tried to make in the approach to truancy. Most programs are punitive in nature and focus on discipline of a student who is truant. Our program, for years, has tried to get at the root causes of what is causing barriers between the student and attending school and this is an intervention counseling component that we've added that has become a national model, and yet, it is threatened each and every year by funding challenges. So, unfortunately, here we are again trying to preserve this opportunity to reach students and some of their basic life challenges. I hope no matter what the budget shows, that we continue to focus on trying to intervene with students in a way that can help them get on a better track.

[9. SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES GRANT PROPOSAL](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS CHALLENGES SLC2.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Budget Narrative Grant2 2008.pdf](#)

[12. FEDERAL AIE GRANT PROPOSAL: ALL THE SCHOOL'S A STAGE](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM_01-14-08 \(3\).pdf](#)
Attachment: [Budget-Grant 1.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Grant Budget 2.pdf](#)

[CONTRACT APPROVAL BETWEEN OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE, INC. AND DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD](#)

Attachment: [OPI Professional Services Agreement.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Small Learning Communities Evaluation Proposalv1.pdf](#)

Academic Services - Special Services

[4. OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD TRIP REQUEST--DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS TOUR CHOIR](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges Agenda May 6, 2008.pdf](#)

[6. APPROVE EXPENDITURES OF \\$66,970.00 TO PURCHASE QUEST FOR SUCCESS LAB FROM APPLIED ACADEMIC LABS, INC.](#)

Attachment: [QUEST FOR SUCCESS BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES \(2\).pdf](#)

Academic Services - Professional Development

[NOVICE INTENSIVE READING TEACHERS IN HIGH NEEDS HIGH SCHOOLS](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES.doc222strive.pdf](#)

Attachment: [FL DOE Early Career Early Placement Grant 2008.doc111.pdf](#)

[COMPONENT RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL AND ADDITION TO THE DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM'S DISTRICT MASTER INSERVICE PLAN](#)

Attachment: [NOEXCUSESCOMPONENTBRDAGENDA52008.pdf](#)

General

[2. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED NAVY HOMEPORTING ADD'L SHIPS AT MAYPORT](#)

Attachment: [XX-ATT-MAYPORT-HOMEPORT-EIS.pdf](#)

Attachment: [XX-FINAL-RESOLUTION-MayportHomeport.pdf](#)

Attachment: [xx-ATT-DEIS-Testimony4-16-08.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Burney wanted to publicly thank Mr. Andy Eckert, Executive Director for Facilities, Planning, Design and Construction, from our staff, for his hard work and for attending the public hearing and sharing the views of the district in this wonderful program. We do support it and trust that we will be able to get that fleet and those children attend our schools.

Discussion

Human Resource Services - Staffing

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

Attachment: [HRS_Attach1_05-06-08_TRANS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Ms. Vicki Reynolds, Chief of Human Resource Services

Ms. Priestly Jackson asked staff to post this information, especially the site analysis, on the website.

Motions:

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

- PASS

Vote Results	
Motion: Nancy Broner	
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

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

[4. REPLACEMENT: ANNUAL CONTRACTS - VARIOUS SERVICES \(ARCHITECT/ENGINEER, CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, AND MECHANICAL\): SELECTION AND CONTRACT AWARD](#)

Attachment: [XX-REV-ANNUAL-CONTRACTS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

- Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman
- Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel
- Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief of Operations

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the selection and award of annual contracts per the attached list. These firms will be responsible for providing continuing annual services for assigned projects having estimated construction costs and study fees not exceeding the threshold amount of \$1,000,000 and \$50,000 respectively, provided for in §287.055, Florida Statutes' Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act. These will be multiple award contracts for an initial period of one year with an option to renew for two additional one-year periods. That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman and the Superintendent of Schools to execute the standard form of agreement when form approved by the Office of General Counsel. That authority be delegated to the Superintendent to renew the contracts for subsequent years, provided the terms and conditions are favorable to the District and subject to the availability of funds.

- 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

5. REPLACEMENT: DARNELL-COOKMAN CONVERSION: SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FIRM

Minutes:

Speakers:

- Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
- Mr. Doug Ayars, Chief of Operations
- Mr. Paul Soares, Chief Officer, Operations and Support
- Ms. Kris Barnes, Board Member

<u>Motions:</u>	
That the Duval County School Board approve the appointment of the firm of Auld & White Constructors, Inc., to provide construction management services for conversion of existing Darnell-Cookman Middle School No. 145 into a new middle-high school for grades 6-12, incorporating a new medical curricula. If it develops that Facilities Services staff is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the firm of Auld & White Constructors, Inc., they are authorized to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with one of the remaining firms in accordance with the Florida Code and the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act.	- PASS
<u>Vote Results</u>	
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	- Nay

Academic Services - School Curriculum and Programs

8. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE ON MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2007-2008 STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN (SPP)

- Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES FORM_May2008.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [promotion_policy_proposed_gr11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Modifications to the 2007-2008 Student Progression Plan (SPP)

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. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Myrna Amos, Executive Director, Academic Programs
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Officer for Math and Science
Ms. Elaine Mann, Cluster III School Chief for High Schools
Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel
Ms. Kris Barnes, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve changes to the 2007-2008 Student Progression Plan related to the promotion policy for students in grade 11. - 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

[10. READ 180 SUPPLEMENTAL CLASSROOM LIBRARIES FOR ALL EXISTING SECONDARY READ 180 CLASSROOMS](#)

Attachment: [Benefits and Challenges READ 180 4-06.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member
Ms. Dawn Kaunike, Teacher, Read 180
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the purchase of READ 180 supplemental classroom libraries, from Scholastic, for all existing secondary READ 180 classrooms, not to exceed \$261,000.00 from the K-12 State Reading Categorical Fund. - 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

[11. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE ON MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2007-2008 STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN Gr. 4&5](#)

Attachment: [promotion_policy_gr4_5.pdf](#)

Attachment: [BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES Student Progression Plan 2008 2009.pdf](#)

Minutes:

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

Modifications to the 2007-2008 Student Progression Plan, Grades 4-5

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

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Myrna Amos, Executive Director, Academic Programs

Dr. Patricia Willis, Deputy Superintendent

Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve changes to the 2007-2008 Student Progression Plan related to the Promotion Policy for students in grades 4 and 5. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

Second: Thomas Hazouri

Kristanna Barnes - Aye

Martha Barrett - Aye

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

[13. SPRINGBOARD CURRICULUM AND MATERIALS FOR MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, 9th - 12th GRADES](#)

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

Minutes:

Speakers:

- Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman
- Ms. Leila Mousa, Assistant to the Superintendent
- Ms. Kathy LeRoy, Chief Officer for Math and Science
- Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Motions:	
That the Duval County School Board approve the purchase of SpringBoard curriculum and materials in Mathematics and English Language Arts, 9th - 12th grades, not to exceed \$600,000.00 from College Board.	- 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

General

[1. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

Attachment: [DCPS Strategic Plan May 6, 2008.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Preston Haskell, Chairman of the Alliance for World Class Education, spoke on behalf of the Strategic Plan:

"I wish to commend you, Madam Chairman, for the work that you have done over the past several months in the development of the Strategic Plan. This district has had a number of Strategic Plans from time to time. They've largely been the works of consultants or the

Superintendent and staff...not so, this time around. In this instance, the entire Board, all seven members and the Superintendent have been deeply engaged. I think that is a significant departure from past practice and a splendid way to develop a Strategic Plan that has meaning and ownership by the School Board and in turn by all of the constituents and constituencies of the district and the Board.

You have been thoughtful and you have worked hard, you have had honest debate. You've brought much value to it and it turns, you're taking ownership of this Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan, I think, will guide, direct, policy-making and governance of this Board for many years to come. It will be updated periodically, but its general format, its fundamental structure, I think will endure for many years. The targets which you have set for student achievement, graduation rate, for the quality of teachers and principals, for the safety and security of schools, for the engagement of parents and the public and for services from the central administration to the school sites have all been well thought out. Each of these goals contains very aggressive targets. These targets have, indeed, been raised during your deliberations of the past several months. Yet, I believe, they are targets which you can achieve, they are targets which this community can and will embrace and there are ways in which we can communicate success and communicate achievement of targets to the broad community.

The Alliance for World Class Education and the task force which I chaired that worked with you in the development of this Strategic Plan is committed to helping. Now, that the Strategic Plan is on the verge of adoption in communication of results in interpreting and making the public aware of progress toward the strategic goals that have been established. When you formally take this up later in the evening, I strongly commend you to adopt it, unanimously. I commend you for taking the effort that you have to this point and that tonight's step of adopting the Strategic Plan, itself, will not be a single event, but part of a larger, broader and very important process. It will be the beginning and not the end. It will be an important step but not the achievement of the goals and targets which you have established.

So, in summary, I would simply like to congratulate this School Board for its engagement in the work which it has done. I'd like to say on behalf of the Alliance for World Class Education whose task force has been neatly engaged in working with you in the development of this Strategic Plan, to the public that this is an opportunity for the public to be engaged...for the public to be informed and for the Strategic Plan and progress towards its goals to be interpreted to the public so that they may know the district's progress in the areas, the six major goal areas, which the plan contains. I'm delighted that we have had this opportunity to create a partnership between the Alliance for World Class Education and the Duval County Public Schools and I look forward to continuing to work with you as we implement, communicate and achieve those elements of the Strategic Plan that you have so thoughtfully developed. Thank you very much."

Speaker:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman

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

District Strategic Plan

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. Tommy Hazouri, Vice Chairman

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Board Member

Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chairman

Board Chairman Betty Burney introduced Ms. Lynn Jenkins, from the Broad Institute, who is visiting us for a few days while doing a case study on Duval County Public Schools.

Motions:

FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: That the Duval County School Board conduct a public hearing on the proposed District Strategic Plan as presented. That, subsequent to the public hearing, the Duval County School Board approve the District Strategic Plan that sets forth goals and objectives for 2008-2009 through 2011-2012. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kristanna Barnes

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:

June 11-13, 2008 - Tampa, FL - FSBA/FADSS Spring Conference - Barnes, Barrett, Drake

June 18-22, 2008 - Miami, FL - 2008 CUBE Issues Seminar - Barrett, Burney, Hazouri and Priestly Jackson

Motions:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Board Members Travel listed in the agenda item. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Nancy Broner

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

Superintendent's Travel

SUPERINTENDENT'S TRAVEL

Minutes:

No travel items for the Superintendent on this agenda.

For The Record

FOR THE RECORD

Minutes:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson gave recognition to an organization that has been sponsoring an endeavor for 24 years. I want to talk about the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Gamma Beta Boule fraternity which is celebrating tomorrow's leaders - 24th Annual High Potential Youth Recognition Award Program. This program recognizes about 721 African American students that are high performers academically and I felt it incumbent to indicate what the criteria were for selection:

The following African American students from Duval County Public and private schools are being recognized for above average achievement. They scored in the 90th percentile or higher in the Reading and/or Mathematics subtests of nationally norm referenced standardized tests and scored at achievement level 4 or higher in Reading and/or Mathematics in the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). 12th grade students with a composite score of 1000 or higher on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) are identified with an asterisk and scores were based on data received by the district. I felt it was very important to highlight...often times we have a report on where students are not performing...there were 721 young people, all from Duval County Public Schools that were recognized and joining them with the Duval County School District on April 25, 2008.

I also wanted to read that I felt was very important the founding of the organization, the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity was founded in 1904 and the purpose was designs and associations of educated African American men who were accomplished in their professions, community oriented and congenial and I thought that for us, we should give a list of some of the past leaders to understand what impact often time folk are unspoken heroes and unsung heroes in the community. The history of the leadership includes: Dr. Wendell B. Holmes, Dr. Robert Mitchell, Dr. Charles Cline, Dr. Orrin Mitchell, Dr. Chester Aikens, Dr. Ezekiel Bryant, Dr. Alvin White, Mr. Luther Quarles, Dr. Floyd Willis, Mr. Willard Payne and Mr. Michael Stewart. So, I wanted us to recognize them at the beginning and congratulate the 721 young people for outstanding academic achievement.

The second thing I wanted to mention at the beginning of the program was....we often think of our schools of the arts for primarily awarding arts education in art, music or physical education, but I had the opportunity to go Duval Elementary Music Teachers Presentation which was comprised of about 20 of our elementary schools. These students had a performance at Wolfson High School and that was on April 18th and these teachers, in a matter of a few weeks, got these young people up on stage and performed for a program and I want to acknowledge those teachers, as well. We had from J. Allen Axson- Jill Lee, Bayview- Ms. Patton, Beauclerc- April Layman, Biscayne- Lavinia Shawl, Brookview- Laura Levinaugh, Crown Point- Tom Sipman and Cindy Patton, Englewood- Larry Mickel and Barbara Evers, Finegan- Mary Mickel, Greenland Pines- Brenda Chapman, Gregory Drive- Gina Hill, Holiday Hill- Erin Dye, Jacksonville Heights-

Lisa Butler, John E. Ford- Stacy Pendry, Kings Trail- Barbara Evers, Lone Star- Melissa Oppie, Neptune Beach- Nancy Ducanus, New Berlin- Frank Nettles, Ramona- Jane Prank, San Jose- Debbie Lyles, Woodland Acres- Minnie Hines, and the accompanist was Akeela Timisu. It was a wonderful program and it was something to see, young people from all of these schools, getting together for one program and they had one rehearsal and the next night you would not have known that with that rehearsal, they could have come together so it shows that not only in our arts schools do we have music education, but we have phenomenal chorus programs in some of our traditional, neighborhood schools, as well. I want to thank them as we try to educate the whole child.

Ms. Barrett said she attended the Tree Hill celebration. If you haven't gone to Tree Hill, please make every effort to see what is right here in Jacksonville. Ms. Barrett also complimented the outstanding Eddy awards event. She also attended the "Much Ado About Books" - a great celebration with visiting authors - very impressed and it was fascinating. Ms. Barrett attended the Presidents and Principals Luncheon put on by the PTA - a great job done.

Ms. Broner gave congratulations to the PTA for the Presidents and Principals Luncheon; congratulated Board Member Brenda Priestly Jackson for the launching of her new book and attending the book signing and was impressed how Ms. Jackson honored the teachers who impacted her life. Ms. Broner reminded everyone to attend the groundbreaking for AAA High School this Friday, at 10:00 am - first high school built in 20 years; and asked everyone to lift up San Pablo Elementary School - a benefit to enhance funds on Saturday, May 24 - 5K for Play - open to all runners on the beach.

Mr. Hazouri recognized Lucretia Miller for winning Teacher of the Year and who those teachers who won in the county; reminded everyone that next week is Teacher Appreciation Week - both Mr. Hazouri's wife and son are Duval County teachers; Mr. Hazouri thanked Doug Ayars, Chief Operating Officer and his staff for the new playground equipment at West Riverside Elementary School; thanked the students for registering to vote and to exercise that right and thanked the Superintendent for making this student drive possible; and reminded everyone of the groundbreaking this Friday, 10:00 am.

Ms. Drake was honored to be a celebrity reader at New Berlin Elementary School; she attended a dedication of new playground equipment at Sheffield Elementary School and thanked Mr. Ayars for finding a way to provide this equipment to the students as it is quite a burden for PTA to try and raise those funds; spoke about the Mayport Middle School Marching Band - many of these students entered middle school without ever having played an instrument - we try to educate the whole child in Duval County. Urged everyone to join PTA by attending the Presidents and Principals Luncheon and we appreciate the hard work that parents do for the PTA. Remember, Thursday, May 8th is the final opening of the Teacher Supply Depot and it will move over the summer. There is no limit this time - as much as you can carry - 3:00-6:00 pm at John Gorrie.

Ms. Kris Barnes spoke during the presentations, there were seven different groupings and every single one of those had to do with art - music, writing, poetry, visual arts, dance - which is a huge statement on the importance of art in education and it is not all reading, writing and arithmetic. Art plays into everything these children do every day. Certainly, with all the winners we honored this evening, we're doing a good job and it shows how important art is to children. Ms. Barnes thanked everyone for mentioning the PTA - we couldn't do what we do without our parent volunteers and we appreciate them. I also attended the fantastic Eddy Awards and an event at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School. They dedicated a new track through fund raisers and Councilman Art Shad matched those funds and refurbish their playground equipment. This was a fun event for everyone. As the year winds down, we hope everyone stays on track.

Ms. Betty Burney mentioned that last week Andrew Robinson Elementary School had Mother's Day at their school with close to 200 mothers attending a breakfast. They were treated like royalty and the thrill was after the breakfast, they visited their children's classrooms - a wonderful event. I also attended the Elementary School Arts Awards - Mr. Jack Matthews does an awesome job and I shared a few words with the winners - Kindergarten - 5th grade. The art work was "fantabulous". I want to echo everyone's congratulatory remarks to those people who volunteer at the Presidents and Principals Luncheon (PTA) - it was a wonderful event.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman