

# Public Schools in Duval County

## Timeline of Major Events

1864 – 2022



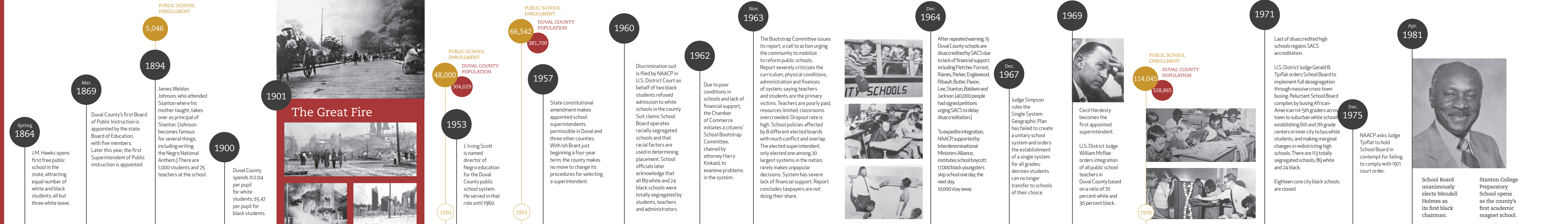
This timeline was originally commissioned by The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida in 2005, at the time of their launch of the Quality Education for All initiative. It was updated by the Jacksonville Public Education Fund in 2014 in commemoration of the Community Foundation's 50th anniversary, and was updated in 2022 by the Jacksonville Public Education Fund. To learn more, visit [www.jaxpef.org](http://www.jaxpef.org).

Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti, Duval County Public Schools Superintendent, is the first African American to lead the district. He was elected to the position in 2013 and has led the district through a period of significant growth and change. Under his leadership, the district has seen a record high graduation rate and has been recognized for its commitment to equity and excellence.

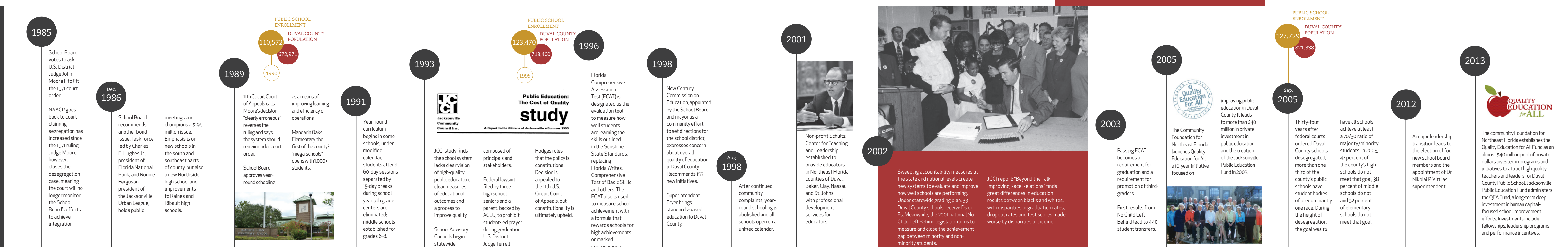
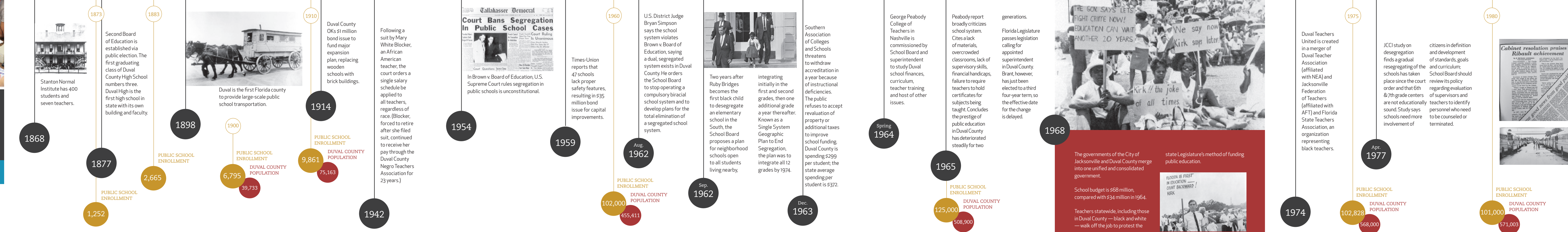


## JPEF FOUNDING BOARD

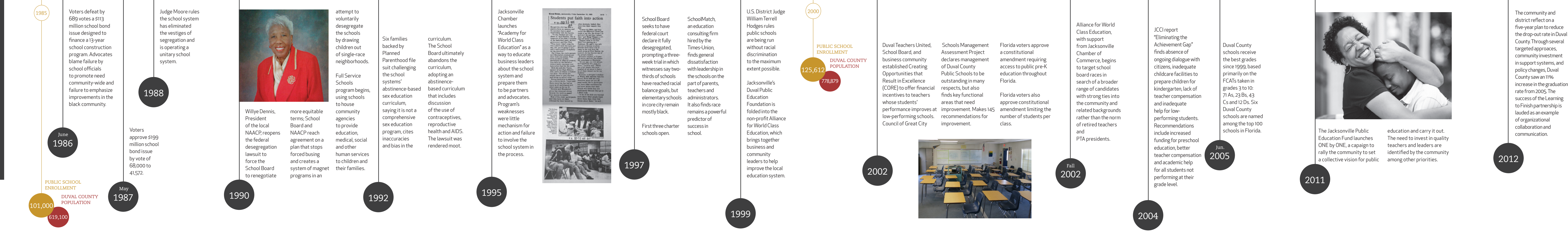
- Honorable Henry Adams, Jr.  
United States District Judge
- Ann Baker  
Community Volunteer
- John D. Baker, Chairman  
Patriot Transportation Holding, Inc.
- Dr. Jordan Baker  
Retired Principal
- E. Bruce Bower, CEO  
Alliance Investment Company
- Gary Chartrand, Chairman & CEO  
Acosta
- Carol Alexander,  
Ritz Theatre & LaVilla Museum
- Reverend Torin T. Dailey  
First Baptist Church of Oakland
- Honorable Brian Davis  
Fourth Judicial Circuit Judge
- Cindy Edelman  
Teacher/Community Volunteer
- Ronnie Ferguson, President  
Jacksonville Housing Authority
- Preston H. Haskell, Chairman  
The Haskell Company
- Shannon Perry, Ph.D.  
President  
Bugs & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida
- Delores Barr Weaver  
The Weaver Family Foundation
- Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals (ex officio)  
Duval County Public Schools
- Honorable Tommy Hazouri (ex officio)  
Duval County School Board, Chairman
- Frederick H. Schultz (Honorary)  
Schultz Investments



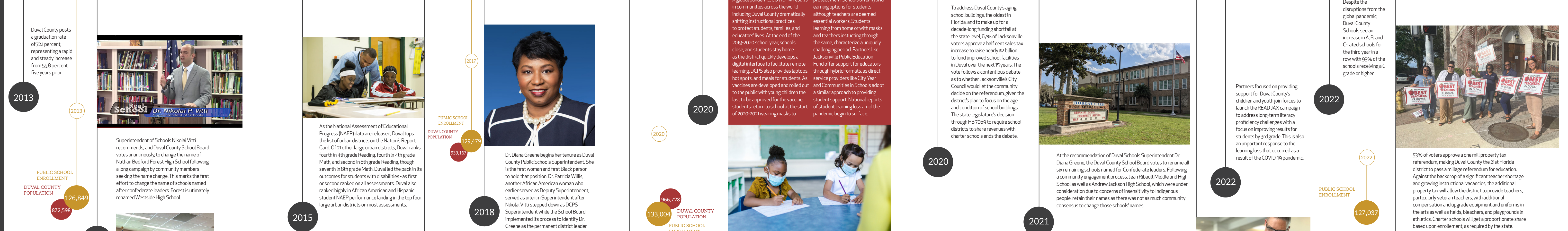
## THE FIRST CENTURY



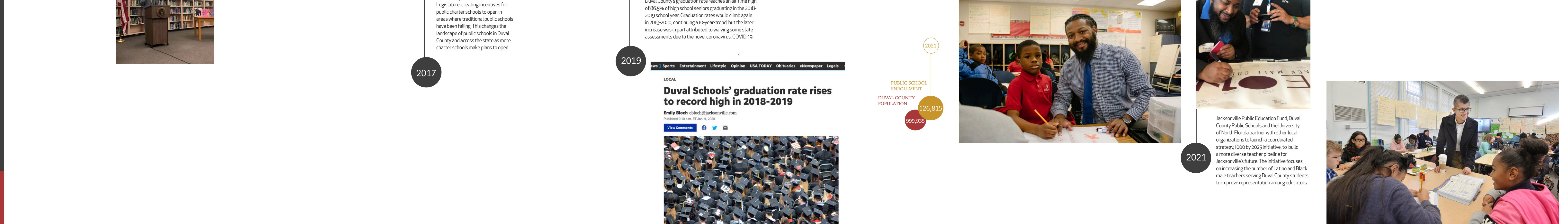
## YEARS OF REPAIR: MEETING NEW DEMANDS



## YEARS OF TURMOIL: DISACCREDITATION & DESEGREGATION



## YEARS OF REPAIR: MEETING NEW DEMANDS



1869  
1907  
SUPERINTENDENTS

- 1869 A.J. Russell
- 1869-1870 W.L. Coan
- 1871-1873 W.H. Christy
- 1874 E.F. Mawbey
- 1875-1877 John F. Rollins
- 1877-1880 Frederick Pasco
- 1880-1888 W.H. Babcock
- 1888 Walter B. Clarkson
- 1889-1891 William M. Ledwith
- 1891-1897 J.D. Mead
- 1897-1905 George P. Glenn
- 1906-1907 Hiram H. Palmer

1907  
1997  
SUPERINTENDENTS

- 1907-1913 James Q. Palmer
- 1913-1925 F.A. Hathaway
- 1925-1928 G. Elmer Wilbur
- 1928-1933 R.B. Rutherford
- 1933-1941 R.C. Marshall
- 1941-1953 W. Daniel Boyd
- 1953-1957 Iva T. Sprinkle
- 1957-1963 Ish Brant
- 1963-1973 Cecil Hardesty
- 1973-1976 John T. Gunning
- 1976-1989 Herb A. Sang
- 1989-1997 Larry L. Zenke

1997  
2022  
SUPERINTENDENTS

- 1997 Donald Van Fleet
- 1998-2004 John C. Fryer, Jr.
- 2005 Nancy Snyder
- 2005-2007 Joseph Woot
- 2007-2012 Ed Pratt-Dannals
- 2012-2017 Nikolai Vitti
- 2017-2018 Patricia Willis
- 2018-Present Diana Greene

“We have seen progress in education in Duval County over the past decade, including increased graduation rates, better school scores, and increased compensation for teachers. With the community's continued support of public education we will make even more progress towards an educational system where all students can succeed.”

- Judge Brian Davis  
JPEF Board of Directors  
2009-2022