

**Board Minutes**  
**October 17, 2023**

The Johnson County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 in the board office at 6:00 p.m. Chris Fields, Kevin Brantley, Alvin P. Moorman, Donald Smith, and Marty Thompson were present. Chairman Fields called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Moorman gave the invocation and Mr. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following business was transacted:

1. The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Smith; unanimous approval.
2. The September 19, 2023 minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Brantley; unanimous approval.
3. The September 2023 financial report was approved on a motion by Mr. Moorman, second by Mr. Smith; unanimous approval.
4. Superintendent Watkins presented Policy IHA – Statewide Passing Score, Policy DIB-OP(1) Financial Reports SBITA GASB 96, and Policy DIB-OP(2) Financial Reports GASB 87 Leases for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. On a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Moorman; unanimous approval was given to approve these policies.
5. Superintendent Watkins presented a request to join with other local government agencies, community, and businesses to donate \$100.00 to the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Laurens County/Johnson County Site to support our students. Unanimous approval was given on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Thompson to make this small donation.
6. The following fund-raising requests were approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Smith; unanimous approval:
  - JCHS Archery Team. Donation Calendar, November 1 – 30, 2023
  - JCHS Boys and Girls Basketball, Admission, Concessions, November 9, 2023
7. Mr. Charles Howard, JCES Principal, presented the State of the School for Johnson County Elementary School. He reviewed data in detail including: demographics, SIP goals, SEL, discipline, parental involvement, academic ranking within Oconee RESA, and next steps for the school.
8. Mr. Reid Bethea, JCMHS Principal, updated the board on the discipline data for his schools. He also updated the board on the many activities going on in both schools including academics and athletics.
9. Mrs. Tecia McKay, Associate Superintendent, shared pictures with the board members on various teaching and learning going on within our district. She also updated them on Federal Programs including Title I and ESSER funds. She then

presented a video from Ms. Melinda Pullen, JCMS Special Education Lead Teacher on the current reading endorsement cohort. Ms. Pullen discussed her appreciation for this opportunity. She also discussed the ways that reading is incorporated in all curriculum, not just in ELA classes.

10. Dr. Hanna Kiser, Director of Special Education, CTAE, & Assessments, discussed with the board the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment. This assessment lists the overarching needs that is tied to our Perkins Funding. The locally identified needs are: Career Awareness, Sub Group Data Analysis – all students, Updating Labs, and the number one being Soft Skills. Soft Skills are the current focus. She also reminded the board members of the upcoming mock interviews for high school students on October 24, 2023.
11. Superintendent Watkins presented the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) to the board for approval. The CLNA was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Brantley.
12. Mr. Charlie Lindsey, Associate Superintendent, updated the board on the renovation project at the elementary school noting that they were working on the front lobby/office area and the gym would be open for use on October 23, 2023. Next, he discussed transportation. He has received a quote on a new bus (the system's first gas engine bus) This bus will be partially funded with state bus funds (66%). He also discussed the pay for a driver to drive the new literacy bus for various activities. The current rate for field trips is \$10.00 per hour and he suggested that this be the rate for a driver for the literacy bus. He also is asking that this department be allowed to review inventory and plan for surplus removal with minimum bids. In the area of maintenance, he highlighted the following: reviewing agreement with Walton Gas to replace Scana Energy (projected \$15,000-\$17,000 savings per year), repairs needed at JCBOE Annex, security lighting at the lower parking area at the athletic complex, ongoing claim on the major water damage at the M/H school. Finally, much discussion was held on the needed repairs of the covered shelter at the Elementary School.
13. Superintendent Watkins recommended the purchase of the new bus, rate of pay for literacy bus of \$10.00 per hour, surplus bus/equipment removal, and the Elementary covered shelter quote by Greenway Construction. These 4 items were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Thompson.
14. Superintendent Watkins celebrated with the board that our system was 1 of 75 to receive the Paras to Teacher Grant. We have spaces for 10 paraprofessionals to take advantage of this opportunity. He also asked the board to get back with him on a date that works for the mandatory 3-hour training for the GSBA Strategic Planning/Continuous District/School Improvement.
15. On a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Brantley; unanimous approval was given to go into executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee. After discussion, a motion was made to come out of executive session by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Moorman; unanimous approval.

16. Superintendent Watkins presented personnel recommendations. The recommendations below were approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Smith, unanimous approval.

To Hire:

Wendy Smith, Paraprofessional

17. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD  
OF EDUCATION**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Superintendent**