

Board Minutes
November 25, 2024

The regular meeting of the Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Jasper High School Community Room on November 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. President Greg Eckerle called the meeting to order.

Board Members and School Corporation personnel in attendance:

Greg Eckerle-Board President-Present
 Arlet Jackle-Vice President-Present
 Dr. Judy Englert-Secretary-Present
 Steve Lukemeyer-Member-Present
 Sara Schmidt-Member-Present
 Tim DeMotte-School Attorney-Present
 Dr. Tracy Lorey-Superintendent-Present
 Glenn Buechlein-Assistant Superintendent Support Services and Transportation-Present
 Tina Fawks-Assistant Superintendent Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment-Present
 Monica Young-Corporation Treasurer-Present

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by everyone in attendance.

Public Comment:

None

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Eckerle asked members if any of the consent agenda items needed to be discussed. No other items were asked to be discussed.

A motion by Steve Lukemeyer, second by Sara Schmidt, to approve the consent agenda, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Consent Agenda

- Minutes, claims and bank reconciliations
- Consideration of Request for Leave
 - As presented to the Board of Trustees
- Resignations/Retirements
 - Kaitlyn Bishop-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
 - Andrea Gress-35-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
 - Amy Buechlein-1/2 Math Bowl Coach Stipend-IRE
 - Brooke Keusch-Prom Sponsor-JHS-Effective end of this school year
 - Tony Lewis-Head Football Coach-JHS
 - Dan Fair-Boys Assistant Tennis Coach-JHS
 - Debbie Coble-Records Manager-DSP Co-op-Retirement Effective January 2025
- Staff Recommendations
 - Eli Hopf-Teacher-Semester 2 Temporary Contract-JES
 - Jennifer Weisheit-Full-time Little Wildcats Assistant-JHS
 - Pamela Scherle-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-IRE
 - Angel Lee-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES

- Rachael Lechner-35-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
- Dorothy Sibrel-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
- Melissa Hall-2/3 Certified Bus Supervision Stipend-JES
- Kayla Eisenhut-2/3 Certified Bus Supervision Stipend-JES
- Jordan Beach-2/3 Certified Bus Supervision Stipend-JES
- Alexa Chappell-1/2 Math Bowl Coach Stipend-IRE
- Wes Moser-Middle School Intramural Coordinator-JMS
- Rachael Watkins-80% Middle School Musical Assistant Stipend-JMS
- Ava Claire Werne-20% Middle School Musical Assistant Stipend-JMS
- Emma Grow-Assistant Musical Director-JHS
- Evan Elrod-Boys Assistant Tennis Coach-JHS
- Approve Master's Incentive Program Completion Base Salary Increases
 - None
- Field Trip Requests
 - JHS JAG to National Student Leadership Academy-Washington D.C.-December 4-7, 2024
 - JHS We The People Team to Indianapolis for State Competition-December 10-11, 2024
 - JHS Girls Basketball Team to Rose Hulman-December 13-14, 2024
- Other
 - None

Wildcat Spotlight—Matt Prior-Artificial Intelligence in Education

Matt Prior informed the Board about the artificial intelligence programs being used in classrooms. The expected outcome of the program is to improve student engagement and learning and enhance teacher collaboration and professional development. He talked about Scholastic AI having a great impact on education. The program was selected because of its student-first focus and was constructed with multiple safety features, with teachers acting as the final filter.

Dr. Lorey stated AI will be a permanent change affecting every industry. It will transform the learning environment in a positive way.

Mr. Lukemeyer asked how the staff is trained on the program.

Mr. Pryor stated at the beginning of the school year he went to each of the schools and talked with the staff. He stated they had some lunch and learn for staff. He has also met with staff individually and helped them with the process.

Mr. Eckerle asked if he has any comments from students on how it has helped them.

Mr. Pryor stated most students like it.

Mrs. Schmidt stated the student can focus more on what the teacher is saying, and AI takes notes on the topic.

Dr. Lorey stated Mr. Pryor is doing an excellent job with the program.

A motion by Dr. Englert, second by Arlet Jackle, to adjourn the regular meeting, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Opened Preliminary Determination Hearing

Dr. Lorey discussed the proposed bond issuance. The bond is for construction, renovation and improvements at Jasper High School, Jasper Middle School, and Jasper Elementary School. A second public hearing will be held on December 23 for any public comment before adopting a resolution to enter into a lease agreement and issue approximately 41 million in bonds to finance the projects.

Additional hearings will be held in the coming months as the bond progresses and requires further approvals.

Mr. Lukemeyer asked if there was a need to expand in the next few years.

Dr. Lorey stated yes. We will need to extend extra classrooms and staff.

Greg asked what the student capacity of the additional classrooms on the north side would be.

Dr. Lorey said it could serve 30 to 300 students as needed.

Dr. Lorey stated at JES the addition would provide two additional classrooms on the North end for the Pre-K Program. The North parking lot would need to be moved to accommodate the new classrooms.

The storm water management in the area would need to be updated.

At Jasper Middle School the project would address the refresh of finishes in existing classrooms, Art, and Science. The project would replace existing chillers and cooling towers.

At Jasper High School the North access drive would need to be moved for the new addition. New Classrooms would be built on the North side of the school. The cafeteria would be expanded for additional seating and provide parking at the sports complex by the Wellness Center.

Stifel Public Finance gave an overview of the tax rate projections, Estimated New Project Budget, and the proposed 2025 Project Budget.

There was no public comment.

A motion by Steve Lukemeyer, second by Sara Schmidt, to close the Preliminary Determination Hearing, was unanimously approved, by the Board.

The Regular Meeting was reopened.

Building & Maintenance Update—Mr. Stenftenagel

Mr. Stenftenagel asked the Board to approve the JMS/JHS food service equipment bids. The low bid was from Jasper Lumber Company for \$1,325,000.00.

A motion by Arlet Jackle, second by Steve Lukemeyer, to approve the bid from Jasper Lumber Company for \$1,325,000, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Lorey stated the current bond issue will pay for the project.

Mr. Stenftenagel asked the Board to approve Gibraltar Design to provide design services and to develop an RFP for the roof membrane replacement project at Jasper Middle School for \$9,750.00.

A motion by Steve Lukemeyer, second by Dr. Englert, to approve Gibraltar Design for \$9,750.00, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Curriculum Update—Mrs. Fawks

Mrs. Fawks informed the Board of grants that provide supplemental programming for the schools. Title I supports intervention at Jasper Elementary School; Title II provides funds for professional development for GJCS teachers; Title III supports the EL programming in various ways; and Title IV supports well-rounded education through the purchase of fine arts, STEM, and remediation materials. High Ability and Formative Assessment Grants also support the corporation throughout the year.

This year the corporation has the following additional Grants:

- Digital Learning Grant \$49,995.43
- Digital Learning Coaching Grant \$5,810.28
- Digital Learning Parent Grant \$13,850.00
- Paraprofessional Training Grant \$16,637.23

- Dubois Community Foundation Grant \$10,000.00
- SCALE K12 Grant \$10,000.00
- IDOE Summer of Learning Grant \$18,000.00

Mrs. Fawks stated she is proud of the work many people are doing to bring funding to allow the corporation to do things they might not be able to provide otherwise.

Student Support Services and Transportation Update—Mr. Buechlein
None

Other Business:

Dr. Lorey asked the Board to approve the NEOLA policy and by-law updates. The Board had received the updates at the November Board Meeting to look over.

A motion by Sara Schmidt, second by Dr. Englert, to approve the updates for the NEOLA policies and by-laws, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Lorey informed the Board the IDOE has announced the 2024 Teacher Appreciation Grant allocations for each district. GJCS is set to receive \$122,845.53. Per Indiana Statue and corporation policy, once the funds are received, we have 20 business days to distribute. Dr. Lorey asked the Board to approve the dispensing of funds for TAG on Friday, December 13. Per statue, staff members rated Highly Effective receive 25% more in the allocation than those rated Effective on their annual evaluations. She also asked the Board to approve all administrators, not including Dr. Lorey, to receive the same amount of money for Highly Effect and Effective from the Rainy Day Fund. The total cost of the fund should be \$6,960.00.

A motion by Dr. Englert, second by Arlet Jackle, to approve the payments for the Teacher Appreciation Grant and all administrators except Dr. Lorey, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Lorey stated the Board appoints one non-voting member to the Redevelopment Commission. Currently Steve Lukemeyer holds the position. The position expires December 31.

Mr. Lukemeyer stated if the Board so approves he would like to keep the position.

A motion by Sara Schmidt, second by Dr. Englert, to re-appoint Steve Lukemeyer to the Redevelopment Commission, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Announcements:

- The regular December Board Meeting will be held on December 23, 2024, at Jasper High School Community Room at 1:00 p.m.
- January reorganization meeting will be held Monday, January 6, 2025 at 7:45 a.m. in the GJCS Central Office Conference Room.

There being no further business to conduct and upon a motion by Dr. Englert, second by Sara Schmidt, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

**EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
GREATER JASPER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS**

A meeting of the Board of School Trustees (the "Board") of Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools (the "School Corporation") was held at the Jasper High School Community Room, 1600 St. Charles Street, Jasper, Indiana, on November 25, 2024, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. (Local Time), pursuant to notice duly given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board.

On call of the roll, the members of the Board were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Greg Eckerle; Arlet Jackle; Judy Englert; Steve Lukemeyer; Sara Schmidt

Absent:

(Among other proceedings had and actions taken were the following:)

The President presided over the hearing, welcoming everyone and introducing members of the Board and speakers.

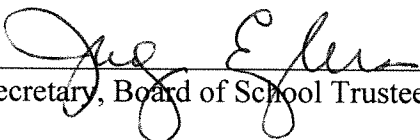
It was explained to the Board that pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5, whenever a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease agreement and/or issue bonds for the construction or renovation of a school building or buildings resulting in total costs in excess of certain thresholds, or if a school corporation has a Debt Service Fund tax rate above a certain amount, the school corporation is required to hold two public hearings on its preliminary determination to issue such bonds and enter into such lease agreement. This meeting represents the first of such hearings. Notice of both public hearings was published in *The Herald* on November 14, 2024, and was sent via first-class mail to the Dubois County Clerk and any organizations which requested such notice as provided in Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5. The proof of publication of the notice of the hearings was presented to the meeting.

It was further explained that at this hearing all interested people may give testimony and/or ask questions concerning the construction, renovation and improvements at Jasper High School, Jasper Middle School, and Jasper Elementary School, including classroom additions, HVAC improvements, deferred maintenance improvements, site improvements, and the purchase of technology and equipment (collectively, the "Project"). The purpose of the hearing is two-fold: (1) to inform the public as to the proposed Project; and (2) to allow all interested parties, taxpayers and patrons of the School Corporation to voice their opinions as to the Project and ask any questions.

After the purpose of the hearings was explained, the presentations regarding the need for the Project were given. An evaluation of the existing facilities and equipment was then presented, as well as a discussion of the details of the proposed Project. The estimated Project cost and schedule were then presented to the public. It was explained how this Project could be funded, and the potential tax rate impact the Project would have on the community.

After the above presentations, the President announced that the Board would now hear testimony and questions from the public.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.


Secretary, Board of School Trustees

ATTEST:


President, Board of School Trustees

An Executive Session was held before the regular meeting to discuss the following:
IC. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(B) Personnel-Athletic Training/Coach

Doug Ebel President

Phil Jackson Vice-President

Judy Egan Secretary

Steve [unclear] Member

Steve Schmidt Member