**JACKSO N PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
**Board of Education Minutes**
**Regular Meeting**
**March 18, 2025**

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The Board of Education of the Jackson Public Schools held a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at Jackson High School, 544 Wildwood Ave., pursuant to notice duly given.

Present: Marilyn Acton, Shalanda Hunt, Derek Dobies, Kesha Hamilton, Alaina Sharp, Subba Redday, Cheryl Simonetti

## Approval of Agenda

*Motion by D. Dobies to approve the agenda with the amendment to add policy 8390 Animals on District Property to Old Business. No Support.*

*Motion by M. Acton, supported by C. Simonetti, to amend the agenda and refer Youth Representation at Board Meetings and Resolution Affirming JPS as a Welcoming District to All Students to the policy committee. Motion carried 4-3 (no-Hamilton, Sharp, Dobies).*

*Motion by M. Acton, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 6-1 (no-Dobies).*

## Superintendent's Report

Jackson High School/Jackson Pathways Update – DECA students highlighted their program, led by Chuck Cunningham. Principal Monica Pierce and MTSS Coach Corey Slater presented current initiatives happening at Jackson High and Pathways. Pathways senior, Ya'rayah Earl, spoke about her success at Pathways and how the program has helped her.

## Consent Agenda

D. Dobies moved 24-25-59 Minutes to Action and K. Hamilton moved 24-25-60 Human Resources to Action.

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- 24-25-61 Monthly Financial Report, February
- 24-25-62 Summer Tax Collection Agreements

*Motion by M. Acton, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.*

## Citizens Requesting to Address the Board

Nicholas Thurston
John C. King
William Hastings

**Discussion Items**

**24-25-63 Custodial Services RFP**

The Custodial Services pre-bid meeting and walkthrough with potential bidders was held on February 28, 2025. The bid opening was held on March 13, 2025. Fourteen vendors came to the pre-bid meeting and walk through, with 11 responses received. The district is in the process of reviewing bids, getting clarifying questions answered and will bring a recommendation to award a new contract at the April board meeting.

The Board asked for Enviro-Clean customer satisfaction information with the recommendation. In addition, it was asked that we identify if the companies are local and unionized.

**24-25-64 Taher Annual Contract Renewal**

Per USDA guidelines, the district's food service management contract must be approved annually by the Board. This item was discussed at the March Finance/Facilities committee. Administration will recommend approval at the April meeting.

**Action Items**

**24-25-59 Minutes**

It was clarified which Board members are on the Finance/Facilities committee.

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**24-25-60 Human Resources**

The Superintendent provided a summary of the employees who submitted the paperwork for the voluntary severance package.

*Motion by C. Simonetti, supported by A. Sharp, to receive the Human Resources report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**24-25-65 2024/25-2 Budget Amendment**

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the 2024/25-2 budget amendment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**24-25-66 JHS Painting Project**

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the quote from Lenco Painting Inc. in the amount of $39,225 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**24-25-67 Bus Purchase**

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the purchase of a diesel bus from Holland Bus Company in the amount of $55,319 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**24-25-68 Non-Unit Salary Schedule**

The non-unit salary schedule was reviewed at the January 31 Finance/Facilities Committee meeting and discussed at the February Board meeting. The impact to the 2025-26 budget for the recommended changes is an increase of $90,614.

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by C. Simonetti, to approve the non-unit salary schedule as presented. Motion carried 6-1 via roll call vote (No-Acton).*

**Recess 7:53 – 8:05 pm**

**24-25-69 Superintendent Vacancy**

Debbie Stair, MASB Asst. Director of Leadership Development, was in attendance as a resource for the Board as they prepare for hiring the next Superintendent.

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by S. Reddy, to accept Superintendent Beal's resignation effective June 30, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.*

Discussion ensued about the options for hiring the next Superintendent, which include: 1) internal search, 2) external search utilizing MASB or another search firm or 3) appoint from within.

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by M. Acton, to post to internal candidates; the superintendent's office will work MASB to assist the Board of Education in conducting the internal search; with intent of opportunity on April 15 to evaluate/interview candidates; for a cost not to exceed $15,000.*

*Vice President Dobies called the question to close debate. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion carried 6-1 (No-Hamilton).*

**Old Business**

**Strategic Plan**

*Motion by C. Simonetti, supported by D. Dobies, to table this item until a new superintendent is in place. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Committee of the Whole**

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by M. Acton, to table discussion on this item. Motion carried 6-1 (No-Dobies).*

**Board Comments**

The Board members were given an opportunity to provide comments.

**Calendar**

- April 1, 2025 - Community Engagement Session, 2025 Bond, Parkside Media Center, 5:30 pm
- April 3, 2025 - Community Engagement Session, 2025 Bond, Parkside Media Center, 5:30 pm
- April 15, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting, JHS Media Center, 6:00 pm

**Adjournment**

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by M. Acton, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.*

Cheryl Simonetti, Secretary