

Regular Board Meeting
Jackson Public Schools

September 02, 2025, at 05:30 PM

Board Present

Barbara Hilliard, President
Mitch McGuffey, Secretary
Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member
Frank Figgers, Member
Burbette Taylor, Member

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Errick L. Greene, Superintendent
Dorian Turner, ESQ., Board Attorney
Larissa Harris, ESQ., General Counsel
Network Assistant Superintendent(s)
Dr. William Merritt, IV, Chief of Staff
Dr. Michael Cormack, Deputy Supt.
Earl Burke, CFOO

Board Member Teleconference

Cynthia Thompson, Secretary

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order: Mrs. Hilliard, Board President, called the Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District to order on September 2, 2025, at 5:32 P.M.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established with five (5) members, namely, Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Jeanne M. Hairston, Burbette Taylor, and Frank Figgers attending the meeting in person. Cynthia Thompson participated via teleconference. Frank Figgers arrived at 5:34 p.m.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: The Board voted to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston, and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- IV. Reading and Approving Minutes
 - A. August 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve item A as presented. The motion was made by Burbette Taylor and seconded by Mitch McGuffey. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- V. Superintendent's Remarks: Dr. Greene presented his remarks.
- VI. Public Participation for General Comments and/or Proposed Issues:
 - A. James Lewis signed up to address the board regarding breach of contract. The item was moved to executive session because it involved employee performance.
 - B. Joshua Strong addressed the Board to welcome all to an excellent start of the 25/26 school year.
- VII. Information Only Items:
 - A. Review of the English Learners District Plan 2025-26 School Year:
 - B. Review of the Renewal Agreement between The Perfect Child (formerly Gifted Futures ABA d/b/a Growing Tree) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):
 - C. Review of the Renewal Agreement between the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra (MSO) and Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for the Strings in the Schools Program:
 - D. Review of the Renewal Agreement between Parents for Public Schools (Ask for More Jackson) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):

- E. Review of the Agreement between the Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) Planting the Seeds to Read Literacy Program:
- F. Review to Rename Wells APAC Elementary School to Wells Performing Arts Center (PAC):
- G. Emergency Declaration Due to Insufficient Chiller Capacity at Lanier High School:
- H. Review of the Renewal Agreement between Fahrenheit Creative Group, LLC (RFQ 2025-01) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):

VIII. Information Action Items:

- A. Approval of MOU between Coursemojo & Chiefs for Change and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item A. Jeanne M. Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- B. Approval to Grant Entergy Mississippi, LLC a Right-of-Way and Easement for Installation of Electrical Utilities to Power Portables at Kirksey Middle School: The Board voted to approve item B. Burbette Taylor moved; Jeanne M. Hairston seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- C. Approval of Legacy Scholars Grant Agreement with Equal Justice Initiative and Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item C. Jeanne M. Hairston moved; Frank Figgers seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- D. Approval of Increase of Limited-Service Teacher Pay: The Board voted to approve item D. Burbette Taylor moved; Frank Figgers seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

IX. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Finance:

- A. Approval of Various Disbursements from Accounts Payable and Activity Funds: The Board voted to approve item A. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- B. Approval of Contract Adjustment for Bid 3244 ESSER Program HVAC Upgrades for Casey, Galloway, Spann and Whitten | Add \$144,707.00: The Board voted to approve item B. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- C. Approval of Contract Change Order 001 | Add \$8,559.20 Restroom and HVAC/Indoor Air Quality Improvements for Isable Elementary (Bid 3254): The Board voted to approve item C. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson,

Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston.
There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- D. Approval to Extend Liquid Environmental Solutions Bid #3201: The Board voted to approve item D. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- E. Approval of Extension for Dairy Products Bid #3266-Prairie Farms: The Board voted to approve item E. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- F. Approval of Contract Change Order 003 | Add \$57,746.51 ESSER Renovations for Bailey APAC School (Bid 3225): The Board voted to approve item F. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- G. Approval to Reject All Bids for RFP 2025-16 JPSD CYBER 2025 ASM: The Board voted to approve item G. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- H. Approval to Reject All Bids for RFP 2025-17 JPSD CYBER 2025 End-Point Protection: The Board voted to approve item H. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- I. Approval of Request to Award RFP 2025-18 JPSD CYBER 2025 Disaster Recovery CBR420250469 to CDW Government, LLC.: The Board voted to approve item I. Mitch McGuffey moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

X. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - General:

- A. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between The National Center of Teacher Residencies and the Jackson Public School District: The Board voted to approve item A. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- B. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between the Boundless Educators Initiative (BEI) with The National Center of Teacher Residencies and the Jackson Public School District: The Board voted to approve item B. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**
- C. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item C. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia

Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- D. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between Stepping Stones and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item D. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- E. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between Smart Therapy and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item E. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- F. Approval of Agreement between Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for the Mississippi Whole Schools Program at Green Elementary: The Board voted to approve item F. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- G. Approval of Agreement between Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for the Mississippi Whole Schools Program at Casey Elementary: The Board voted to approve item G. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- H. Approval of Various Policies for Amendment | JBA - School Age & Entry Requirements and KKA - Parent & Family Engagement and for Creation | JCDBAA - Scholar Identification Badges and JCDACC - 1st Time Drug Offender Policy: The Board voted to approve item H. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- I. Approval of the Form MOU between the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item I. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

- J. Approval of District-to-District Transfer (Incoming/Outgoing): The Board voted to approve item J. Frank Figgers moved; Burbette Taylor seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

XI. CONCENT AGENDA ITEMS - Personnel

- A. Approval of Personnel: Mitch McGuffey motioned to approve Staff Personnel, excluding item H. Frank Figgers seconded. Votes cast for the motion were Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

XII. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session: Frank Figgers moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to close the meeting to consider entering into executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

In Closed Session, Cynthia Thompson moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to enter executive session to take up and discuss 1) a student discipline appeal, 2) public comment from Mr. James Lewis regarding his employment separation, and 3) execution of a draft nondisclosure agreement regarding certain district property, the discussion of which in open session would compromise the negotiations. The vote was unanimously approved.

In Executive Session, the Board first took up the student discipline appeal. After hearing from Student No. 001572850 and parents/representatives and district administration, Burbette Taylor moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation of 45 days at CCAS for participating in a group fight. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next, the Board heard from Mr. James Lewis, whose request for public comment was moved to executive session. After hearing from Mr. Lewis, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Burbette Taylor seconded the motion, to approve Personnel item H, the resolution requesting MDE to revoke Mr. Lewis' license for one year. The motion was unanimously approved.

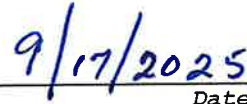
Finally, the Board received an update from Attorney Larrissa Harris, General Counsel, regarding a request to execute a draft nondisclosure agreement regarding certain district property, the discussion of which in open session would compromise the negotiations. After discussion, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Jeanne M. Hairston seconded the motion, to approve execution of the nondisclosure agreement, but revised to delete the requirement that the location of the property be kept confidential. A copy of the nondisclosure agreement is attached as Exhibit _____. Votes in favor of the motion: Cynthia Thompson, Jeanne M. Hairston, Burbette Taylor, Mitch McGuffey, and Barbara Hilliard; votes against the motion: Frank Figgers. The motion carried 5 to 1.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Burbette Taylor moved, and Frank Figgers seconded the motion, to exit executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

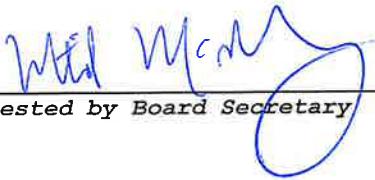
XIII. Adjournment: Back in open session, there being no further business, Frank Figgers moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned.



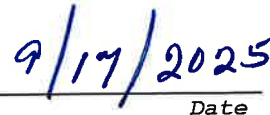
Signature of Board President



Date



Attested by Board Secretary



Date