

**JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Jackson High School  
September 16, 2025**

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The Board of Education of the Jackson Public Schools held a regular board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 16, 2025 at Jackson High School, 544 Wildwood Ave., pursuant to notice duly given.

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

**Approval of Agenda**

*Motion by M. Acton, supported by S. Sharp, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Patterson Jeremy spoke about the upcoming November 4th bond vote, noting that this bond represents a 0% increase in the millage rate. He shared that two community sessions have already been held, with another scheduled for October 14th, and the district is also exploring the possibility of hosting a session via Google Meet. Jeremy also provided an update on the District Leadership Team meeting, where the focus this year will be on three key areas: attendance, academics, and recruitment/retention of both staff and students. In addition, Jeremy highlighted upcoming events, including Pink Viking Night, Homecoming on Friday, September 26, 2025, and the rededication of Mehall Soccer Field.

**Citizens Requesting to Address the Board**

**Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- 25-26-17 Minutes
- 25-26-18 Human Resources
- 25-26-19 Bond Financial Report, August

*Motion by M. Acton, supported by A. Sharp, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0 unanimously.*

**Discussion Items**

**Action Items**

**25-26-20 Playground Update for John R. Lewis and Northeast Elementary**

Marcus provided a summary of the playground updates, which are being funded through the 2018 bond funds. The new equipment is designed to promote greater social interaction among students. Similar equipment has already been installed at Dibble, where it has proven to be very popular with students.

*Motion by C.Simonetti, supported by M.Acton, approve the purchase of the playground equipment for John R. Lewis and Northeast Elementary. Motion carried unanimously*

#### **25-26-21 MDE EV Bus Grant**

Marcus provided an overview of the district's current electric bus contracts with Hyland. He explained that the new contract will be structured similarly to the previous one, with both contracts set to expire at the same time, allowing all buses to be renewed under a single agreement. Marcus also reported that the district has saved \$65,000 in fuel to date.

*Motion by C.Simonetti, supported by M.Acton to approve the MDE EV Bus grant contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously*

#### **25-26-22 JPS Authorized Signatures**

Currently, the superintendent is authorized to serve as the designated signer for district contracts. However, the district does not have an official board resolution formally identifying the designated signers. Recently, an individual passed away and named Jackson Public Schools as one of the beneficiaries of their estate, and the company handling the matter has requested an official corporate resolution. Going forward, the district will update this resolution each January.

*Motion by M.Acton, supported by A.Sharp to approve the corporate resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously*

#### **25-26-23 Certification of Tax Levy**

The REC millage was found to be incorrect, and a new amended tax rate will need to be signed for district records and submitted to the state. Jackson County approved their REC millage last August. Jackson Public Schools collects these funds and then returns them to the City of Jackson.

*Motion by D. Dobies, supported by M.Acton to approve the amended tax levy as presented. Motion carried unanimously*

#### **Board Comments**

The Board members were given an opportunity to provide comments.

#### **Calendar**

- September 19, 2025 - Pink Viking, Withington Stadium, 7:00 pm
- September 26, 2025 - JPS Homecoming, Withington Stadium, 7:00 pm (parade starts at 6:00 pm)
- October 21, 2025 - Regular Meeting, JHS Media Center, 6:00 pm

**Adjournment**

*Motion by D.Dobies, supported by A.Sharp, to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm. Motion carried unanimously.*

  
Cheryl Simonetti, Secretary