Regular Board Meeting
Jackson Public Schools
December 16, 2025
05:30 PM

Board Present	Attorneys and Administrative Staff
Barbara Hilliard, President	Dr. Michael Cormack, Deputy Supt.
Burbette Taylor, Secretary	Dorian Turner, ESQ., Board Attorney
Frank Figgers, Member	Larrissa Harris, ESQ., General Counsel
Akilah Irvin, Member	Earl Burke, CFOO
Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member	Dr. William Merritt, IV, Chief of Staff
Mitch McGuffey, Vice-President	

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order**: Mrs. Hilliard, Board President, called the Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District to order on December 16, 2025, at 5:33 P.M.

II. **Establishment of Quorum**: A quorum was established with all six (6) members, namely, Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Burbette Taylor, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Akilah Irvin, attending the meeting in person.

III. **Adoption of Agenda**: The Board voted to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was made by Burbette Taylor and seconded by Jeanne M. Hairston. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

IV. **Reading and Approving Minutes**

A. **December 4, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**: The Board voted to approve item A as presented. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Frank Figgers. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

V. **Superintendent's Remarks:** Dr. Cormack shared remarks on behalf of Dr. Greene, in his absence.

A. **Introduction of Student Board Representatives | Laketia Marshall-Thomas, Assistant Superintendent, High School Division**

VI. **Public Participation for General Comments and/or Proposed Issues:** None.

VII. **Information Items Only:**

A. **Review of Updated Adult Meal Pricing:**

B. **Review of Agreement Between Hinds County Sheriff's Office and Jackson Public School District**

C. **Review of the Renewal Agreement between Hinds Behavioral Health Services (HBHS) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):**

D. **Review of the Renewal Agreement between Mississippi Smiles and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):**

E. **Review of the Renewal Agreement between Marion Counseling Service, PLLC and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD)**

F. **Review of the Renewal Agreement between SlateXP LearnSafe and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD)**

G. School Improvement Monthly Updates for Identified Schools

H. Review of the Renewal Agreement between Medcor (Nurse Triage Services) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD)

VIII. Information / Action Items:

A. Approval of Engagement Letter between Dorian E. Turner, PLLC and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item A. The motion was made by Mitch McGuffey and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

B. Approval to Rescind the Data Sharing Agreement between Empirical Education & Jackson Public Schools and Approve the Data Sharing Agreement between Resonant Education & Jackson Public Schools (Pilot Evaluation of the Sankofa Chronicles SEL Curriculum): The Board voted to approve item B. The motion was made by Frank Figgers and seconded by Akilah Irvin. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mirch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

C. Approval of the Correction of the Funding Source for the Mathematics High-Impact Tutoring (SY 2025-2026) Service Agreement: The Board voted to approve item C. The motion was made by Mitch McGuffey and seconded by Frank Figgers. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

D. Approval of the Agreement between WestEd and the Jackson Public School: The Board voted to approve item D. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Frank Figgers. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

E. Approval of MOU between WBF Global & Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item E. The motion was made by Burbette Taylor and seconded by Jeanne M. Hairston. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

F. Approval of Agreement between NOVA and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item F. The motion was made by Mitch McGuffey and seconded by Akilah Irvin. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

G. Approval of Agreement between the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, St. Dominic Health and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item G. The motion was made by Mitch McGuffey and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

H. Approval of Monthly Financial Report for the Month Ended November 30, 2025 (FY2025-2026): The Board voted to approve item H. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Frank Figgers. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin,

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

I. Approval of the 16th Section Lease Agreement between Jackson Public School District (Lessor) and Fuelmax, LLC (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item I. The motion was made by Burbette Taylor and seconded by Akilah Irvin. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mirch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

J. Approval of Sales Parameter Resolution for Bridgeway and Path Lease Purchase Financing: The Board voted to approve item J. The motion was made by Mitch McGuffey and seconded by Frank Figgers. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

IX. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Finance:

A. Approval to Designate Specified Property as Surplus Property and Approve Disposal: The Board voted to approve item A. The motion was made by Frank Figgers and seconded by Mitch McGuffey. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

B. Approval to Award Bid 26-3275 to Jackson Restaurant Supply for Cafeteria Serving Equipment at Powell Middle School: The Board voted to approve item B. The motion was made by Frank Figgers and seconded by Mitch McGuffey. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

C. Approval of Request to Award RFQ 2025-03-26 Windows 10 Managed Upgrade Proposal for JPSD to KIBS Corp3: The Board voted to approve item C. The motion was made by Frank Figgers and seconded by Mitch McGuffey. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

D. Approval of Various Disbursements from Accounts Payable and Activity Funds: The Board voted to approve item D. The motion was made by Frank Figgers and seconded by Mitch McGuffey. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

X. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - General:

A. Approval of the Amended Use of Facility Agreement between the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Trademart Center) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item A. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

B. Approval of Agreement between Canopy Children's Solutions and Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item B. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

C. **Approval of the Renewal Agreement between Tougaloo College (TC) | Field Experience and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD):** The Board voted to approve item C. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

D. **Approval of the Renewal Agreement between the Juanita Sims Doty Foundation (JSDF) and the Jackson Public School District**: The Board voted to approve item D. The motion was made by Jeanne M. Hairston and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

XI. **CONCENT AGENDA ITEMS - Personnel**

Approval of Personnel: The Board voted to approve item A. The motion was made by Akilah Irvin and seconded by Burbette Taylor. The votes cast for the motion were: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Akilah Irvin, Burbette Taylor, and Jeanne M. Hairston. There were no votes cast against the motion. **PASSED**

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

In closed session, Frank Figgers then moved, and Jeanne M. Hairston seconded the motion, to enter into executive session (1) to take up one employee suspension recommendation, and (2) to consider a request to institute a quantum meruit legal proceeding. The motion was unanimously approved.

In executive session, the board took up the superintendent's recommendation of the suspension of Sequica James. The board's findings and decision are set out in the order attached to these minutes.

Finally, the board took up a request from General Counsel, Larissa Harris, to institute a quantum meruit legal proceeding seeking authority to pay a summer school worker. After discussion, Jeanne M. Hairston moved, and Frank Figgers seconded the motion, to approve the request. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

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***