

**JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026**

AGENDA

6:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Superintendent's Report
6. Consent Agenda
 - 25-26-63 [Minutes](#)
 - 25-26-64 [Human Resources](#)
 - 25-26-65 [Monthly Financial Report, February](#)
 - 25-26-66 [Summer Tax Collection Agreements](#)
7. **Citizens Requesting to Address the Board** (*Board Policy 0167.3*) - *this is an opportunity for any citizen present to address the Board on any item. The time limit is normally five (5) minutes, but the president or presiding officer may impose a shorter time limit if necessary.*
8. Discussion Items
 - 25-26-67 [Taher Annual Contract Renewal](#)
 - 25-26-68 [Non Unit Salary Schedule](#)
 - 25-26-69 [Committee of the Whole](#)
 - 25-26-70 [Technology Device Purchase](#)
9. Action Items
 - 25-26-71 [Bond Change Order Approval](#)
 - 25-26-72 [2025/26 - 2nd Budget Amendment](#)
 - 25-26-73 [Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage](#)
 - 25-26-74 [Elementary Technology Purchase](#)
 - 25-26-75 [Superintendent Goals](#)
10. Board Comments
11. Calendar
 - March 20, 2026 - JHS Ambassador Auction, , JHS Fieldhouse, 5:00 pm
 - March 27, 2026 - Spring Break
 - April 28, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting, JHS Media Center, 6:00 pm
12. Adjournment

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-63

SUBJECT: Minutes

FOR ACTION: Jeremy Patterson

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

In accordance with Board policy, the minutes of the Board of Education must be approved by the Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval of the following minutes as presented:

February 17, 2026

Regular Board Meeting

March 11, 2026

Finance/Facilities Meeting

**JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Minutes
Organizational/Regular Meeting
February 17, 2026**

The Board of Education of the Jackson Public Schools held its Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at Jackson High School, 544 Wildwood Ave., pursuant to notice duly given.

Present: Marilyn Acton, Derek Dobies, Kesha Hamilton, Subba Redday, Cheryl Simonetti, Tabitha Williams, Alaina Sharp

Approval of Agenda

Motion by D. Dobies, to approve the agenda and to move action item 25-26-62 to discussion. T. Williams support. Motion carried 6-0

Superintendent's Report

Guest Chef Brian Renz - Chef Brian came and cooked King Pao for the board of education, he has visited JPS for 26 years. He appreciates the connection and relationships that he has built with the staff. Pamphlet was handed to the board of education and was designed with teachers to engage students.

MASB Award Recipients - Board members who were recognized by MASB were Alaina Sharp, Marilyn Acton, Chery Simonetti and former board member Shalanda Hunt.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- 25-26-51 Minutes
- 25-26-52 Human Resources
- 25-26-53 Monthly Financial Report, January

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

Citizens Requesting to Address the Board

Discussion Items

25-26-54 MASB Spring Institute

M. Acton encouraged board members to attend the Spring Institute, which will be held this year in Lansing. She noted that the conference provides a valuable opportunity to network with other board members from across the state. She also emphasized that attendees gain important and timely information from these sessions that helps keep the board informed and up to date.

25-26-55 Bond Change Order Approval

Mr. Leon expanded on the higher-than-normal bond change order approval amount, explaining that it will help prevent work stoppages and give JPS the authority to continue progress on the bond program without delay. He noted that during the last bond, the board approved \$75,000 for change orders, and the administration is recommending the same approval amount for this bond.

25-26-56 Board Policy for Compensation

M. Acton noted that many school boards compensate school board members for attending monthly board meetings. Currently our board policy allows \$30 per meeting.

Motion by C. Simonetti, supported by A. Sharp to let 25-26-56 die. Motion carried 6-1 (No - M.Acton)

25-26-57 Committee of the Whole

M.Acton read the definition of committee of the whole in the context of school boards allows all board members to participate in discussions and decision making as a single group rather than a smaller committee. This approach can enhance collaboration and ensure that all perspectives are considered in the decision-making process. She noted that other school boards have done this and it works for their meetings.

25-26-58 Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage

D. Dobies noted that public act 257 and 258 passed in 2024, these policies are at the state level that are geared towards educating gun safety and safe storage. The Department of Health and Human Services created a flyer about recent gun law and safe storage. There is a requirement for public school districts to post on their website and distribute those either electronically or via mail. JPS has this posted on our website and our leadership team has engaged in gun safety intervention working with the city of Jackson. This resolution would distribute this form to students, so they can help educate their parents.

25-26-59 Elementary Technology Purchase

Mr. Leon mentioned that JPS is planning to transition elementary students from a 1:1 technology model back to the use of classroom carts. He explained that JPS utilized classroom carts prior to COVID and noted that there is not a significant need for 1:1 technology at the elementary level. He also stated that funding for this purchase would come from the 2026 bond.

25-26-62 Superintendent Evaluation Process

J. Patterson shared that his first evaluation was conducted in December 2025. He stated that a mid-year evaluation will take place in July 2026, followed by his formal evaluation in December 2026. He also reviewed his evaluation goals with the board and discussed the focus areas he will be working toward.

Action Items

25-26-60 E-rate Projects

The district is planning to upgrade its network switches and battery backups. To support this project, the district will utilize the federal **E-Rate** reimbursement program, which will reimburse 85% of the total cost (85 cents on the dollar).

Bids were distributed and reviewed last month. At this time, the bid is being recommended for award to All Covered to complete the work.

Motion by D. Dobies, supported by S.Reddy, to approve E-Rate Projects. Motion carried unanimously

25-26-61 Approval of Annual Retainer Contract

*Motion by C. Simonetti, supported by A.Sharp, to approve the annual retainer contract as presented.
Motion carried 4-3 (No - D. Dobies, K. Hamilton, T. Williams)*

Motion by D. Dobies, supported by T. Williams, to place an RPF for legal services bid for 2027. Motion carried unanimously

Board Comments

The Board members were given an opportunity to provide comments.

Calendar

- February 25, 2026 - District Improvement Meeting, JHS Media Center, 5:00 pm
- March 11, 2026 - Finance/Facilities Meeting, Reynolds Hall, 1:00 pm
- March 17, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting, JHS Media Center, 6:00 pm
- March 20, 2026 - JHS Ambassador Auction, , JHS Fieldhouse, 5:00 pm

Adjournment

Motion by D.Dobies, supported by S.Reddy, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Alaina Sharp, Board Secretary

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Finance/Facilities Committee
Reynolds Hall
Meeting Minutes of 3/11/2026

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Derek Dobies

Members Present:

Marilyn Acton, Cheryl Simonetti, Derek Dobies, Jeremy Patterson, Julie Baker, Carrie Putman, Jessica Southwell, Todd Frey, Jesse Hagensen, Joe Boertman, Marcus Leon, Matt Farhat

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

The agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the 1/29/2026 meeting were approved.

Finance Update:

The check registers for January and February were presented and all questions have been answered.

The non unit salary schedule was discussed. The Human Resource Department has created a formal salary schedule to comply with Office of Retirement Services requirements. This will protect non unit employees down the road for pension obligations. Changes include creating a formal step and salary schedule in the same manner used for bargaining units. Contracts will be adopted in 3-year cycles and approved by the BOE. Discussion will occur at the March BOE meeting.

The purchase of an additional wireless network was discussed for informational purposes but will not be brought to the full board as it is under the bid threshold. JPS has need for an additional network to support certain educational programs like robotics as well as devices like thermostats. These devices don't function on the normal JPS network because it only authenticates users and not devices. This new network will have authentication tools in place to only allow approved devices to access it. The cost is \$18,060.

The Food Service Management Company renewal for Taher was discussed. This is the second of four optional renewals. Contract rates are based on the original MDE approved contract when the original contract was bid. MDE requires that the BOE approve the contract for the Food Service Management Contract. Discussion will occur in March with action in April.

Program participation, CEP and meal prices were discussed. Annually the district participates in the free and reduced price meal program which includes School Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Fresh Fruit and Summer programs. The district receives federal reimbursements for each of these programs for meals claimed. For 2026-27 CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) will be in year 2 of a 4 year cycle. CEP allows the district to provide all JPS students free lunch. Annually, the district looks to reauthorize this cycle back to year one to

push out our CEP qualification as far as we can go. Meal prices are adopted according to USDA meal reimbursement guidelines and approved by MDE.

The 2025/26 March Budget Amendment was discussed. We have received the final Title allocations that are included in this amendment. This amendment did not change much compared to the December amendment. The ending fund balance is currently projected to be 18.71%.

The district annually requests the BOE to authorize summer tax collections. This allows the district to collect 100% of taxes in the summer. This helps the district with cash flow and eliminates any need for borrowing. Approval will be sought at the March BOE meeting.

An RFP for legal services was discussed. The Committee is tasked with reviewing the contract and providing recommendations they would like to see or change in the contract for an RFP. After suggestions are provided an RFP will be developed.

An RFP for banking services was discussed. The district's main depository is Comerica who was bought out by Fifth Third Bank. We have heard from Comerica that it is business as usual but the timing is right to conduct an RFP for banking services. It's been more than 5 years since the last one. The district will conduct an RFP and then provide results to the BOE for discussion and approval.

The TMP fee contract schedule was provided. These fees are already fixed into the cost of the bond and budgeted for. Final contracts for both TMP and Triangle are still being developed. Once those are finalized they will be brought to the BOE for approval.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm; next meeting will be May 6th, at 1 pm; Reynolds Hall

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-64

SUBJECT: Human Resources

FOR ACTION: Human Resources

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

New Hires

Dawn Francis has been hired as the MTSS Coach at Cascades Elementary. She received her Master's degree from Eastern Michigan University.

Resignations

Nicholas Dent was hired in December 2025 and resigned effective March 20, 2026. He taught social studies at Jackson High School.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-65

SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report, February

FOR ACTION: Mr. Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The February Financial Report has been prepared.

Overall, revenues at 59%, are higher than the expected revenues of 55% through the same time period last year. This is due mainly to strong tax collection rates, and a private donation for an upcoming project. Current overall expenses at 54% are slightly lower than the expected expenses of 57% through the same time period last year. Most categories are tracking to budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends approval of the February 2026 Financial Report as presented.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Revenues and Expenditures for the Seven Month Period
Ending January, 2026

	Prior Year Ending	Current Year Budget	Prior Year to Date Actual	Current Year to Date Actual	% YTD	% Prior YTD	
REVENUES:							
Local Revenues	13,314,888	14,012,693	11,645,673	14,311,929	102%	87%	Strong tax collection, Private donation Includes 24/25 deferred revenue approx \$1million
State Revenues	53,923,817	53,542,182	26,461,739	26,466,018	49%	49%	
Federal	4,190,058	3,402,091	1,747,459	1,264,538	37%	42%	
Transfer-In	3,253,232	3,776,824	1,534,668	1,789,664	47%	47%	
TOTAL REVENUE	74,681,995	74,733,790	41,389,539	43,832,149	59%	55%	
EXPENDITURES:							
Instruction							
Elementary	17,660,148	17,739,712	9,829,728	8,426,211	47%	56%	
Middle School	5,545,797	4,873,486	3,139,651	2,266,711	47%	57%	
High School	9,644,526	9,055,632	5,366,836	4,592,251	51%	56%	
Summer Programs	362,205	185,266	177,027	7,003	4%	49%	
Special Education	7,907,459	8,931,132	4,390,743	4,707,613	53%	56%	
Compensatory Education	2,873,187	3,110,286	1,688,244	1,544,888	50%	59%	
Vocational Education	7,445	7,633	4,693	4,497	59%	63%	
Total Instructional	44,000,767	43,903,147	24,596,922	21,549,173	49%	56%	
Support Services							
Pupil Support	3,188,321	2,996,632	1,757,980	1,579,795	53%	55%	
Instructional Support	2,749,922	2,024,262	1,652,053	983,212	49%	60%	
Executive Administration	853,788	625,892	489,871	412,900	66%	57%	Election costs- to be moved to bond
School Administration	5,315,450	4,345,004	3,135,100	2,523,392	58%	59%	
Business Services	1,387,749	1,600,016	984,601	1,060,770	66%	71%	
Maintenance & Operations	7,578,122	7,899,357	4,926,413	4,686,073	59%	65%	
Transportation	4,840,271	4,584,519	2,375,882	2,910,316	63%	49%	Billed for PY health benefits in current year
Central Services	1,850,340	1,845,571	1,098,482	1,093,164	59%	59%	
Technology	2,456,330	2,862,374	1,706,174	1,459,862	51%	69%	
Athletics	1,135,583	1,136,097	718,619	824,453	73%	63%	
Other Support	979,468	103,817	180,092	130,413	126%	18%	
Total Support Services	32,335,344	30,023,541	19,025,267	17,664,349	59%	59%	
Community Activities							
Community Activities	1,439,902	1,832,992	790,627	696,726	38%	55%	
Site & Building Improvements	67,521	68,500	40,564	646,714	944%	60%	Energy projects. Budget will be adjusted with next amendment
Transfers-Out	64,024	532,256	13,364	479,745	90%	0%	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	77,907,558	76,360,436	44,466,744	41,036,707	54%	57%	
Excess of Revenues, over Expenditures							
	<u>(3,225,562)</u>	<u>(1,626,646)</u>	<u>(3,077,205)</u>	<u>2,795,442</u>			

Foundation 9,608.00 10,050.00

State Aid Membership 4,866.00 4,866.00

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 24-25-66

SUBJECT: Summer Tax Collection
Agreements

FOR ACTION: Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The summer tax collection agreements with the Townships of Summit, Blackman, Napoleon and Liberty expired in 2025. Since we intend to have a summer tax levy in 2026, we must agree on terms of collection. The agreement with the City of Jackson is the same as prior years.

COST/BENEFIT STATEMENT:

The District has collected one-half of our tax levy in the summer since 1983 and began collecting 100% in the summer of 2002. This improves our cash flow and reduces our borrowing needs and interest costs.

Fees paid to the townships for collecting the 2025 summer taxes totaled \$14,465 which represents reimbursement for their costs. The rates listed below are the same cost per parcel as last year. The projected cost of collecting summer taxes in 2026 is as follows:

<u>Collecting Unit</u>	<u>Parcels</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
City of Jackson	16,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Summit Township	9,022	1.20	10,826
Blackman Township	1,858	1.85	3,437
Napoleon Township	109	1.55	170
Liberty Township	21	1.50	<u>32</u>
			<u>\$14,465</u>

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT:

The operating budget includes the cost of summer tax collection.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval of the summer tax collection agreements for 2026.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-67

SUBJECT: Taher Annual Contract Renewal

FOR DISCUSSION: Marcus Leon

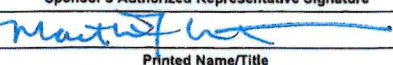
STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

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.

No action required at this meeting. Administration will recommend approval at the April meeting.

School Year 2026-2027
Food Service Management Company
Contract Renewal Agreement
(COST REIMBURSABLE CONTRACT)

Note: Do not complete this tab if sponsor has a Fixed Price contract.
Use the Fixed Price Agreement form on next tab.

Sponsor Name			Agreement Number		
Jackson Public Schools			38170		
Food Service Management Company Name			Year of Original Contract		
Taher, Inc			2024		
This document contains the rates and fees for the furnishing of food service management for non-profit food service programs for the period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. The terms and conditions of the original contract are applicable to the contract renewal. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Midwest Region for December 2025 is 4% as released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Equivalent Meal Factor increased from \$4.9700 to \$5.14 for SY 2025-2026. This Contract Renewal Agreement, attachments, and the original Contract, with addenda, if any, constitute the entire agreement between the Sponsor and the Food Service Management Company. The parties shall not execute any additional contractual documents pertaining to this Contract, except as permitted by applicable law.					
RATES MUST NOT BE ROUNDED UP					
Fee Items	Current SY 25-26 Rate (must match what was approved by MDE for the SY 25-26 renewal)	Percentage Rate of Increase		New SY 26-27 Rate**	Note:
		% Per Original Contract	Other Agreed Upon % for SY 26-27*		
1. Management Fee per Meal (breakfast and lunch) and Meal Equivalent (a la carte)	\$ 0.0515	3%		\$ 0.0530	*Only percentage rates lower than the original contract's percentage rate may be negotiated and/or agreed upon by both parties (such as 0%) for renewals. Higher negotiated percentage rates are not allowed; a rebid for new contract terms will be necessary. **Price Per Meal and Meal Equivalents must be quoted as if <u>no</u> USDA Donated Commodities will be received. ***Planned Client Investment refers to any planned dollar amount the FSMC will invest on the Sponsor's behalf to improve the food service program (such as the purchase of large kitchen equipment or improvements to serving lines, etc.). The Sponsor will pay back that dollar amount to the FSMC over a specified time period as agreed upon by both parties.
2. Administrative Fee per Meal or Month	\$ 6,489.00	3%		\$ 6,683.67	
3. Reimbursable Breakfasts					
4. Reimbursable Lunches					
5. A la Carte Meal Equivalents	\$ 4.97			\$ 5.14	
6. After School Snacks					
7. At Risk Suppers					
8. Special Milk					
9. Has the SY 26-27 budget been agreed upon by the Sponsor and FSMC? (yes/no)		No			
10. Advance Payment dollar amount for SY 26-27, if any		No			
11. Guaranteed Return dollar amount for SY 26-27, if any		No			
12. Planned Client Investment*** dollar amount for SY 26-27, if any		No			
13. Has the Sponsor made any changes to the scope of service in the last year?			Describe Changes Made in the Last Year		Addendum or Amendment Approved by MDE (yes/no)
(X) Mark all that apply.					
☐ Added or closed a site(s)					
☐ Began a new child nutrition program, such as CACFP, SFSP, FFVP, etc.					
☐ Made changes to meal types served, such as adding snacks or suppers					
☐ Added a vendored meal agreement/contract with another sponsor					
☐ Added an alternate agreement with another local education authority (LEA)					
☐ Made changes to revenue, such as catering, concessions, vending machines, etc.					
☐ Other (describe)					
Before MDE Approval - Both parties must sign this portion prior to GEMS/MARS upload.			After MDE Approval		
The Food Service Management Company (FSMC) certifies that it will operate in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. By submission of this proposal, the FSMC certifies that, in the event it receives a renewal award under this solicitation, the FSMC shall operate in accordance with applicable program laws and regulations. The FSMC shall not plead misunderstanding or deception because of such estimates of quantities, or of the character, location, or other conditions pertaining to the proposal. This Agreement shall not exceed one year. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both parties agree to the terms specified on this Contract Renewal Agreement and hereto have caused this Agreement to be signed by their duly authorized representative on this day and year.			FOR MDE USE ONLY		
			Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has reviewed and approved this Food Service Management Company Contract Renewal Agreement for School Year 2026-2027.		
FSMC's Authorized Representative Signature		Date	MDE Reviewer Signature		Date Approved
		3/12/2026	Sponsor must sign this section AFTER MDE's review/approval in GEMS/MARS.		
Printed Name/Title					
Bruce Taher, CEO			The Sponsor may proceed with this item at the next board meeting for approval and obtain the authorized Board Representative signature and date below. Once the contract renewal is fully executed, it is the Sponsor's responsibility to upload a copy of the final, fully executed FSMC Contract Renewal Agreement form into GEMS/MARS and submit a copy to the FSMC.		
Sponsor's Authorized Representative Signature		Date			
		3/13/26	Sponsor's Board Representative Signature		
Printed Name/Title			Date		
Matthew Farhat, Executive Director Business Services			Printed Name/Title		

School Year 2026-2027
Food Service Management Company
Sponsor Acknowledgement for Contract Renewal

Sponsor Name	Agreement Number
Jackson Public Schools	38170
Food Service Management Company Name	Year of Original Contract
Taher, Inc.	2024

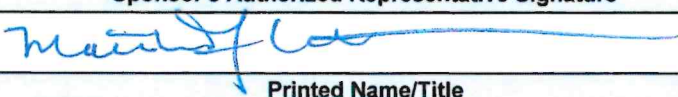
By signing this Sponsor Acknowledgement for Contract Renewal, the Sponsor acknowledges its responsibilities as outlined in the food service contract, including the overall operational and financial responsibility for the Child Nutrition Programs.

The Sponsor acknowledges it is required to conduct monthly (or at least quarterly) invoice reconciliations of its food service contract to ensure compliance with Federal law.

The Sponsor certifies its staff directly and independently conducts reconciliations of food service contract invoices to verify the usage and crediting of USDA Foods, allowable costs, and the accuracy of fees and/or per meal charges in accordance with the Sponsor's food service contract.

The Sponsor further acknowledges it may be required to submit copies of any and all books and records pertaining to the food service contract including, but not limited to, the following: food service contract invoices with supporting documentation from the company, Sponsor's internal reconciliation materials, distributor invoices, and all other related documents.

Note: The Sponsor must sign this page prior to uploading into GEMS/MARS.

Sponsor's Authorized Representative Signature	Date
	3/13/26
Printed Name/Title	
Matthew Farhat, Executive Director Business Services	

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-68

SUBJECT: Non-Unit Salary Schedule

FOR DISCUSSION: Jeremy Patterson/Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The non-unit salary schedule has been revamped and is being presented for discussion. .

This item was reviewed at the March 11th Finance/Facilities Committee.

No action at this meeting. Approval will be recommended at the March meeting.

	2024-25					2025-26				2026-27			
	FTE	Contract Wage	Total Wage	Contract 403(b)	Total 403(b)	Contract Wage	Total Wage	Contract 403(b)	Total 403(b)	Contract Wage	Total Wage	Contract 403(b)	Total 403(b)
Deputy Superintendent	1.0	131,679	131,679			147,199	147,199			150,443	150,443		
Asst Superintendent	3.0	131,679	395,037	11,193	33,579	134,313	402,939	12,760	38,280	136,999	410,997	14,385	43,155
Executive Director- Human Resources	1.0	100,611	100,611	8,552	8,552	121,651	121,651	11,557	11,557	124,084	124,084	13,029	13,029
Executive Director-	1.0	100,611	100,611	7,546	7,546	121,651	121,651	10,340	10,340	124,084	124,084	11,788	11,788
HR Generalist	1.0	65,545	65,545	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benefits Specialist	1.0	65,545	65,545	0	0	66,856	66,856	0	0	68,193	68,193	0	0
Success Coach- secondary	1.0	72,828	72,828	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Success Coach- elementary	1.0	70,000	70,000	0	0	71,400	71,400	0	0	72,828	72,828	0	0
District MTSS Coordinator	1.0	81,138	81,138	0	0	95,833	95,833	0	0	97,750	97,750	0	0
Restorative Justice Coordinator	1.0	66,300	66,300	0	0	67,626	67,626	0	0	68,979	68,979	0	0
HR Generalist/Exec Asst to Superintendent	1.0	72,284	72,284	2,000	2,000	73,730	73,730	2,000	2,000	75,205	75,205	2,000	2,000
Administrative Assistant-Communications	1.0	60,306	60,306	0	0	61,512	61,512	0	0	62,742	62,742	0	0
Administrative Assistant-Curriculum	1.0	54,101	54,101	0	0	55,183	55,183	0	0	56,287	56,287	0	0
Payroll Accountant	1.0	69,707	69,707	0	0	71,101	71,101	0	0	72,523	72,523	0	0
Grant/GL Accountant	1.0	63,579	63,579	0	0	64,851	64,851	0	0	66,148	66,148	0	0
GL Accountant II	0.0	58,280	0	0	0	59,446	59,446	0	0	60,635	0	0	0
Accounts Payable/Purchasing Specialist	1.0	48,000	48,000	0	0	48,960	48,960	0	0	49,939	49,939	0	0
Tech Liason	2.0	62,612	125,224	0	0	63,864	127,728	0	0	65,141	130,282	0	0
Tech Liason II	1.0	44,616	44,616	0	0	53,040	53,040	0	0	54,101	54,101	0	0
Pupil Accounting	1.0	54,101	54,101	0	0	55,183	55,183	0	0	56,287	56,287	0	0
Pupil Accounting II	1.0	53,040	53,040	0	0	48,960	48,960	0	0	49,939	49,939	0	0
Montessori Consultant	1.0	38,554	38,554	0	0	44,737	44,737	0	0	45,632	45,632	0	0
Strength and Conditioning Coach	1.0	54,101	54,101	0	0	57,630	57,630	0	0	58,783	58,783	0	0
TOTALS	24.0	1,619,217	1,886,907	29,291	51,677	1,584,726	1,917,216	36,657	62,177	1,466,279	1,744,783	41,202	69,972
TOTAL BUDGET INCREASE(DECREASE)							30,309		10,500		(172,433)		7,795

Note:
2% salary increase for 2025-26, and 2026-27
1% 403(b) increase for 2025-26, and 2026-27 where applicable

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-70

SUBJECT: [Chromebook Purchase](#)

FOR DISCUSSION: Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The district typically purchases devices over the summer to cover its needs for the following year. JPS has recently learned of a significant price increase taking effect 4/1/26, and has a quote, included here, to purchase for 400 additional student Chromebooks. These will be used as district stock and are being paid for from the 2025 Bond fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration is not seeking approval at this time, unless the board wishes to approve the recommendation to move forward with these purchases in the amount of \$108,344 as presented.



Technology

Dell Chromebook 3120 (8/64x86)

11" clamshell Chromebook, current Chrome OS, durable design for education use, Intel N100 Processor (Passmark:5476), 8GB RAM, 64GB eMMC, 10-hour battery, Intel® Wi-Fi 6 AX203, 2x2, 11.6" HD 1366x768 display, (2) USB-C, (1) USB 3.2, built-in speakers and microphone, combo headphone mic/jack, (2) USB-C: Bluetooth 5.0, integrated HD graphics, HD RGB camera (1280x720), ANSI keyboard, touchpad, 1/1/0 mail-in warranty

REMC ITEM# 256340

Educational List Price \$564.69

REMC Price \$240.87

Contract Expiration Date Mar 31, 2026

Quantity Each

Manufacturer Dell

Model Chromebook
3120

Reseller Order Number PDT25C-229020

VENDOR INFORMATION



Technology

Chrome Management License

Chrome Management Console License

REMC ITEM# 256510

Educational List Price \$38.00

REMC Price \$29.99

Contract Expiration Date Mar 31, 2026

Quantity Each

Manufacturer Google

Model PDT25C-Google

Reseller Order Number PDT25C-Google

VENDOR INFORMATION



Notes:

\$5,000 p-card maximum charge. Email orders and inquiries to remcsales@peopledriven.com.

Primary Contact

Jeff Seelenbinder

6300 Venture Hills Blvd SW

Byron Center, MI 49315

PH 2488808442

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-69

SUBJECT: Committee of the Whole

FOR DISCUSSION: Marilyn Acton

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The Board President would like to discuss a committee of the whole.

RECOMMENDATION:

No action at this meeting.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-71

SUBJECT: Bond Change Order

FOR ACTION: Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

During the 2018 Bond program, the board approved authority to sign off on change orders higher than the typical threshold for board approval, in order to minimize work stoppages. The limit set for the 2018 bond program was \$75,000 before needing board approval on change orders. For the 2026 bond program, the administration would like to re-authorize this approval process with the same limit. For context, board approval was needed once at this higher limit, ensuring construction schedules could be kept, minimizing the impact to students and learning.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommendation is to approve the bond change order as presented.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-72

SUBJECT: 2025/26-2 Budget Amendment

FOR ACTION: Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The 2025/26-2 budget amendment will be discussed. The amendment was discussed in more detail at the March 11th Facilities/Finance meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval of the 2025/26-2 budget amendment as presented.

2024-25 School Year		General Fund Budget				
	Original Adopted	Dec-25 Amended	Mar-26 Amended	Jun-26 Amended	Comments	
Revenue:						
Local Sources	\$ 13,896,445	\$ 14,012,693	\$ 15,094,261	\$ -	Stadium lighting donation \$900k	
State Sources	50,827,986	53,542,182	54,555,193	-	Section 27L funding \$706k	
Federal Sources	3,412,712	3,402,091	4,650,331	-	Final Title allocations	
Other Sources	3,771,824	3,776,824	3,850,224	-	Insurance claims (JHS flood)	
Total Revenue	\$ 71,908,967	\$ 74,733,790	\$ 78,150,009	\$ -		
Expenditures:						
Instruction:						
Elementary	17,036,076	17,739,712	18,104,554	-		
Middle School	5,001,843	4,873,486	5,061,268	-		
High School	8,947,435	9,055,632	9,148,996	-		
Summer Programs	210,288	185,266	267,527	-	Increased Title expenditures	
Special Education	8,250,368	8,931,132	9,023,435	-		
Compensatory Education	3,087,229	3,110,286	3,585,685	-	Increased Title expenditures	
Vocational Education	7,483	7,633	7,791	-		
SUBTOTAL	42,540,722	43,903,147	45,199,256	-		
Support Services:						
Pupil Support	3,042,324	2,996,632	3,168,131	-		
Instructional Staff	1,567,722	2,024,262	1,888,059	-		
Executive Administration	598,056	625,892	628,472	-		
School Administration	4,301,498	4,345,004	4,404,182	-		
Business Services	1,506,207	1,600,016	1,545,103	-		
Maintenance & Operations	7,847,712	7,899,357	7,817,297	-		
Transportation	4,719,906	4,584,519	4,636,265	-		
Central Services	1,749,105	1,845,571	2,612,467	-	Section 27L funding \$706k	
Technology	2,840,368	2,862,374	2,610,838	-		
Athletics	1,128,673	1,136,097	1,202,665	-		
Other Support	125,250	103,817	205,643	-	Extra duty contracts	
SUBTOTAL	29,426,821	30,023,541	30,719,122	-		
Community Activities	1,865,856	1,832,992	1,942,271	-		
Site & Building Improvements	70,000	68,500	1,374,010	-	Energy projects and Stadium lighting project	
Debt Service & Transfers Out	7,101	532,256	538,786	-		
Total Expenditures	\$ 73,910,500	\$ 76,360,436	\$ 79,773,445	\$ -		
Excess Rev Over (Under) Exp	(2,001,533)	(1,626,646)	(1,623,436)	0		
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 15,975,966	\$ 16,552,401	\$ 16,552,401	\$ 16,552,401		
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 13,974,433	\$ 14,925,755	\$ 14,928,965	\$ 16,552,401		
Projected Fund Balance % of Exp	18.91%	19.55%	18.71%	0.00%		

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-73

SUBJECT: Gun Safety and Storage

FOR ACTION: Derek Dobies

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Student and staff safety is our top priority. Unsecured firearms in homes and vehicles pose a risk when minors gain access, increasing the potential for accidental injury, suicide, or school-related violence. While the district does not regulate private firearm ownership, we can play a role in promoting awareness of safe storage practices. The issue before the Board is whether and how the district should communicate and partner with families and community agencies to support responsible firearm storage and help prevent tragedies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval for the JPS resolution for gun safety and storage.

MEMORANDUM

TO: JPS Board of Education
FR: Derek Dobies, Treasurer
RE: Discussion Item: Resolution in support of gun safety and safe gun storage
DA: Feb 11, 2026

Colleagues,

Attached for your consideration is a Resolution in Support of Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage. Over the past several years, I have worked alongside community partners - including BeSMART for Kids - to advance responsible safe storage practices at the local level, while also advocating in the Michigan Legislature for stronger statewide protections. With the passage of Public Acts 257 and 258 of 2024, Michigan has taken important steps to require districts to distribute state-developed firearm storage information to families and to post those materials publicly.

Thanks to the leadership of Superintendent Patterson and our administrative team, Jackson Public Schools is now compliant with the new statutory requirements (notices attached). However, I believe we should take additional, proactive steps to safeguard our students.

This resolution moves us beyond minimum compliance. Rather than only posting materials on our website and electronically distributing them, the resolution directs that the state-developed informational notice be sent home in hard copy form with students and returned with a signed acknowledgment from parents or guardians. That simple step ensures the material is not just available, but actually seen and reviewed by families. This approach is consistent with other district policies and longstanding school practices where we request parental acknowledgment - including various tests, permission slips, and other important communications that require parent review and signature. In addition, the resolution encourages the district to elevate gun safety awareness through voluntary campaigns, partnerships, and community education efforts, helping to reinforce a culture of prevention and shared responsibility.

Gun violence remains the leading cause of death for children and teens nationally, and research consistently shows that secure storage is one of the most effective strategies for reducing accidental shootings and youth suicide. As a majority-minority district serving a diverse student population, we have both a moral and civic obligation to use every reasonable tool available to keep our children safe.

Finally, this resolution complements a broader opportunity before us. The current School Aid budget includes \$10 million in competitive Community Violence Intervention (CVI) grants (Sec. 97n) for districts to develop comprehensive, evidence-based youth violence prevention strategies centered on mentorship, engagement, and wrap-around supports. During my time as Mayor of the City of Jackson, we launched a CVI-style initiative grounded in partnership, prevention, and data-driven strategy. I believe there is a strong opportunity for JPS to pursue this funding in collaboration with the City of Jackson and its existing Group

Violence Intervention framework.

Such a partnership could integrate school-based supports with community-level outreach and mentorship, sustain efforts that are currently set to expire in 2026, and deepen coordination between the district, the city, and our nonprofit partners. I look forward to working with the Board, district administration, and city leadership to explore a competitive application and expand this conversation in a thoughtful, strategic way.

This resolution is about doing more than checking a box. It is about signaling clearly that student safety is not partisan, not performative, and not optional. It is shared work - and it requires all of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Dobies
Treasurer, Board of Education
Jackson Public Schools

**JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GUN SAFETY AND SAFE GUN STORAGE

WHEREAS, The safety and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff is a top priority in Jackson Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, In Michigan, gun violence is the leading cause of death in children and teens ages 1-17 in 2023; ¹ and

WHEREAS, Rates of death from firearms among ages 14 to 17 are now 22.5% higher than motor vehicle-related death rates; in the U.S., middle and high school age children are now more likely to die as the result of a firearm injury than from any other single cause of death; ² and

WHEREAS, U.S. Secret Service analyses of targeted school violence have found that most attackers used firearms and those firearms were most often acquired from the home, including from a parent or close relative; ³ and

WHEREAS, Child-access unintentional shootings reached a record high in 2023, surpassing 400 incidents in a single year; ⁴ and

WHEREAS, Suicide remains a major driver of firearm deaths in the United States, and recent analyses of CDC data show firearm suicide at record levels in the early 2020s; ⁵ and

WHEREAS, Youth firearm suicides overwhelmingly involve firearms accessed in the home, and research indicates that for youth age 18 and under, a large majority use a firearm belonging to a family member; ⁶ and

WHEREAS, Research indicates that 47% of firearm owners who have children living in their homes do not safely store at least one of their weapons; ⁷ and

WHEREAS, Survey-based estimates indicate that as of 2021, approximately 30 million U.S. children lived in households with firearms - about 7 million more than in 2015 - and about 4.6 million lived in homes with at least one firearm stored loaded and unlocked; ⁸ and

WHEREAS, Jackson Public Schools is a majority minority district, and analyses of incidents of gunfire on school grounds indicate that two in three incidents (2013–2021) occurred at schools where students of color constituted a majority of enrollment; ⁹ and

WHEREAS, Evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep our community safe; ¹⁰ and

WHEREAS, Keeping students, teachers and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders within our school district; and

WHEREAS, The Michigan Legislature enacted Public Act 257 of 2024, which added Section 1313a to the Revised School Code and requires the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to develop and provide

to the Michigan Department of Education an informational notice regarding firearm storage best practices, including an overview of the requirements under MCL 28.429, frequently asked questions, and information on obtaining gun locks and safes; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 258 of 2024 requires, beginning October 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, that school districts distribute this state-developed firearm storage informational notice to the parent or legal guardian of each enrolled student, and further requires districts to post links to the Department's webpage containing this notice; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 258 of 2024 provides civil immunity to school districts, board members, officers, and employees for damages allegedly arising out of the informational notice developed under Section 1313a, ensuring that districts may comply with this requirement without fear of liability; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recognizes that compliance with these statutory requirements presents an opportunity not only to meet legal obligations but to reinforce a culture of safety, shared responsibility, and prevention across our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board directs the Superintendent to ensure that the informational notice developed pursuant to Sections 1313a and 1313b of the Revised School Code is distributed annually beginning no later than October 1, 2026, to the parent or legal guardian of each enrolled student electronically or by mail, and additionally sent home with students in hard copy form, with a requirement that a parent or legal guardian sign and return a written acknowledgment confirming receipt and review of the informational notice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent shall ensure that links to the Michigan Department of Education webpage containing the informational notice in English, Spanish, and Arabic are prominently posted on the District's website in accordance with state law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the District shall explore opportunities to host or support voluntary safe storage awareness campaigns, including participation in Gun Violence Awareness Month, and provide information to families regarding free or low-cost firearm safety devices where available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board and Superintendent shall continue to partner with local law enforcement, public health officials, medical and mental health professionals, and nonprofit organizations to expand access to gun locks and safes, promote voluntary safe storage practices, and educate families about their legal responsibilities under Michigan law.

Vote: **Aye:** _____,
Nay: _____,
Abstain: _____.

Resolution declared _____.

Ms. Alaina Sharp
Secretary, Board of Education

1. <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/2025-07/Gun-Violence-in-Michigan-2023-Factsheet.pdf>
2. <https://labblog.uofmhealth.org/lab-report/facts-on-us-children-and-teens-killed-by-firearms>
3. https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/Protecting_Americas_Schools.pdf
4. <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/notanaccident/>
5. <https://everytownresearch.org/report/the-rise-of-firearm-suicide-among-young-americans/>
6. <https://hsph.harvard.edu/research/means-matter/means-matter-basics/youth-access-to-firearms>
7. <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/06/Guns-Report-FOR-WEBSITE-PDF-6-21.pdf>
8. Matthew Miller and Deborah Azrael, "Firearm Storage in US Households with Children: Findings from the 2021 National Firearm Survey," *JAMA Network Open* 5, no. 2 (2022): e2148823
9. <https://everytownresearch.org/report/how-to-stop-shootings-and-gun-violence-in-schools/>
10. David C. Grossman et al., "Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries," *JAMA* 293, no. 6 (2005): 707–14



Derek Dobies <derekdobies@gmail.com>

Michigan Safe Storage Law for Firearms

Lois Dunning <lois.dunning@jpsk12.org>
Reply-To: lois.dunning@jpsk12.org
To: derekdobies@gmail.com

Tue, Feb 10, 2026 at 6:01 PM

Dear JPS Families,

As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, as required under Michigan law, we are sharing important information about Michigan's firearm secure storage requirements (effective February 13, 2024).

What the law requires ([MCL 28.429](#)):

If a firearm is left unattended where a minor (under 18) is present or likely to be present, it must be securely stored by either:

- **Securing it in a locked box or container**, and/or
- **Unloading it and securing it with a locking device** (such as a trigger lock or cable lock) that prevents the firearm from being used.

This requirement applies:

- In your home **and** when firearms are brought to another location.
- In vehicles: if a firearm is in a vehicle, the vehicle must be locked when not in use, and the firearm must be secured (locked in a container or disabled with an appropriate locking device).

Additional details, FAQs, and resources are included in the attached documents and can also be found on our website: <https://www.jpsk12.org/families/michigan-safe-storage-law>

Thank you for reviewing this information and for partnering with us to help keep our children and community safe.

Sincerely,

Jackson Public Schools

[safe_storage_notice.pdf](#)

[What is Secure Storage Law in MI 091225-4-final Flyer.pdf](#)

Jackson Public School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Jackson Public School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

Safe Storage Notice for House Bills 5450 & 5451

Effective Date: Feb. 13, 2024

To help protect Michigan's youth and prevent firearm-related unintentional injuries, Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 28.429, Section 9 of 1927 PA 372 requires firearm owners to securely store firearms wherever minors are present or likely to be present. This notice is designed to assist parents, guardians and gun owners to comply with the new secure storage requirements.

Below you'll find a summary of Section 9, Subsections (1) and (2) of MCL 28.429, answers to frequently asked questions, secure storage resources, and information on how to obtain free or low-cost firearm locks and storage.

Safe Storage Requirements

If a firearm is left unattended where a minor (under 18) is or is likely to be present, it must be:

- Secured in a locked box or container, and/or
- Unloaded and secured with a locking device (like a trigger or cable lock) that would prevent anyone from using it.

This law applies whether firearms are in your own home or brought to another location.

Firearms in Vehicles

If a firearm is in a vehicle, the vehicle must be locked when not in use, and the firearm must be secured and either locked in a container or disabled with a trigger or cable lock.

Penalties for Noncompliance

If a minor gains unlawful access to a firearm this can result in criminal charges and penalties up to 15 years in prison.

For a detailed description of the law, visit: [MCL - Section 28.429 - Michigan Legislature](#) or [MDHHS Firearm Prevention Resource Library](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Does the safe storage law apply to all firearms or only certain types?

A: This law applies to all firearms, including handguns, rifles and shotguns. If the firearm is not under immediate control of the possessor, on premises where a minor is likely to be present, it must be securely stored to prevent access by minors.

Q: Does this law apply to both loaded and unloaded firearms?

A: Yes. Both loaded and unloaded firearms must be properly secured to prevent unauthorized access by minors. All firearms should be treated as if they are loaded. Even unloaded firearms can pose a threat to minors if not securely stored.

Q: Do I need to use a specific type of lock or safe to comply?

A: Yes. A "locked box or container" means a secure container, specifically designed for the storage of firearms, that is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, key lock, combination lock, or similar locking device to which a minor does not possess the key or combination or otherwise have access. "Locking device" means a trigger lock, cable lock or similar lock that prevents a firearm from discharging. If a locking device is used, the firearm must be unloaded and rendered inoperable.

Q: What should I do if I suspect another child might have access to a firearm that isn't being securely stored, and therefore in violation of the law?

A: Contact your local law enforcement agency. Students can also report potential violations on school property to Michigan's OK2SAY program at OK2SAY@mi.gov, text 652729 (OK2SAY), or call 855-565-2729 (8-555-OK2SAY). Call 9-1-1 for any emergency.

Q: Where can I get a lock box/container or a locking device?

A: Firearm safety kits provided by [Project Childsafe](#) are free. These kits contain a cable lock and an informational brochure. Some local police departments, local health departments or other community organizations may provide free or low-cost firearm locks or storage devices. Check with your local law enforcement agency for more information. Please refer to the "free and reduced cost firearm locking devices" section of this notice for more information on where to find these items in your community.

Q: As a non-gun owner, how can I make sure that children and teenagers stay safe when they visit homes with firearms?

A: Even people who don't own firearms can take proactive steps to ensure the safety of youth by teaching children about the danger of touching firearms, asking hosts if firearms are present, verifying if they are securely stored, and sharing safety resources. Additional resources are available at [Be SMART](#).

Q: Where does this law apply?

A: The law states "premises" - whether it is the property of the person possessing the firearm, someone else's property, or anywhere children may be present. If the firearm is left unattended by the possessor, including in a vehicle, it must be securely stored to prevent access by minors. These requirements apply across all of Michigan.

Q: Are there exceptions to the law?

A: This law does not apply if the minor obtains the firearm:

- With the permission of the minor's parent or guardian and if the minor uses the firearm under the supervision of the parent, guardian, or individual who is age 18 or older who is authorized by the person's parent or guardian, and:
- The firearm is possessed or used for minor's employment.
- The firearm is possessed or used for ranching, farming or hunting, if the minor is following all applicable hunting laws.
- The firearm is possessed or used for target practice or instruction of safe use of a firearm.

Penalties may not apply when:

- A minor obtains a firearm through the minor's unlawful entry of any premises or motor vehicle where the firearm has been stored.
- A minor obtains a firearm while lawfully acting in self-defense or defense of another.

Q: Where can I find additional information on firearm safety and safe storage?

A: Additional information includes:

- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) [Firearm Injury Prevention Resource Library](#).
- University of Michigan Institute for Firearm Safety [Safe Firearm Storage Toolkit](#).
- [Back-to-School Resources](#) from the University of Michigan Institute for Firearm Safety
- [Firearm toolkits](#) from Prevent Child Injury (by age group).

Free or Low-Cost Firearm Locking Devices

If you're looking for free or reduced cost firearm locking devices, there are several resources available to support you.

- [Project ChildSafe](#) is a national program that partners with law enforcement and other agencies to distribute free firearm safety kits, which include cable locks. You can use their online "find a safety kit" tool to locate a participating agency in your area.
- [Be Smart](#) is a community program that focuses on promoting responsible gun ownership and secure firearm storage to reduce accidental shootings and deaths among children.
- **Local health departments** may also offer locks or safes at no cost or at a discount as part of a firearm injury prevention initiative. Contact your local health department to find out if they distribute free firearm locks.

- **Local police departments** often provide free firearm locks. Call or visit their websites to ask about the availability of safe storage devices.
- **Firearm retailers or shooting ranges** may occasionally participate in lock distribution programs or offer discounts on safe storage materials. Call or visit their websites to check on the availability of resources.
- **Local suicide prevention coalitions or non-profit organizations** may also offer locks or safes as part of community safety programs. Call or visit their websites to check for availability.

MDHHS-Pub-2211 (6-25) The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, disability, religion, age, height, weight, familial status, partisan considerations, or genetic information. Sex-based discrimination includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, and pregnancy.

Michigan's secure storage law went into effect Feb. 13, 2024 to help protect Michigan's youth and reduce firearm injuries. The law requires firearm owners to securely store firearms whenever minors are present or likely to be present. It also requires schools to share this information with all parents and guardians, which is intended to help parents, guardians and firearm owners understand and comply with Michigan's secure storage law.

Summary of the Law ([MCL 28.429](#))

Secure Storage Requirements

If a firearm is unattended where a minor (under 18) is or is likely to be present, it must be:

- Secured in a locked box or container, and/or
- Unloaded and secured with a locking device, like a trigger or cable lock, that would prevent anyone from using it.

This law applies whether firearms are in your own home or brought to another location.

Firearms in Vehicles

While traveling with a firearm in a vehicle, the vehicle must be locked when not in use, and the firearm must be secured and either locked in a container or unloaded and disabled with a trigger or cable lock if a child is present or likely to be present in the vehicle or destination.

Importance and Benefits of Secure Storage to Help Keep Children Safe

Legal ownership of firearms is a Constitutional right. This comes with important safety responsibilities to prevent thefts, firearm homicide, firearm suicide, and unintentional firearm injuries, including among children. **Simply hiding unlocked firearms or keeping them on a shelf out of reach does not guarantee or equal secure storage under Michigan law.** Secure storage reduces the risk of unintentional injuries among children and theft of guns. When access to guns is reduced, the overall suicide rate drops.



Unintentional firearm injuries among children 17 years and younger happen most often:

- With guns that are loaded and unlocked.
- When a child is playing with a gun or showing it to someone else.



In these situations, the most common victim of an unintentional firearm injury is a friend or a sibling of the child.



Closets and nightstands are common locations of guns used in these fatal unintended shootings.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For more information and a full list of other resources, including Project ChildSafe, visit the MDHHS firearm secure storage page at **[MDHHS Secure Storage](#)**.

Project ChildSafe

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Call or text 988)

University of Michigan Family Guide to Firearm Home Safety

Or scan the QR code below:



Michigan's secure storage law went into effect Feb. 13, 2024 to help protect Michigan's youth and reduce firearm injuries. The law requires firearm owners to securely store firearms whenever minors are present or likely to be present. It also requires schools to share this information with all parents and guardians, which is intended to help parents, guardians and firearm owners understand and comply with Michigan's secure storage law.

Q: Does the safe storage law apply to all firearms or only certain types?

A: This law applies to all firearms, including handguns, rifles and shotguns. If the firearm is not under immediate control of the possessor, on a premises where a minor is likely to be present, it must be securely stored to prevent access by minors.

Q: Does this law apply to both loaded and unloaded firearms?

A: Yes. Both loaded and unloaded firearms must be properly secured to prevent unauthorized access by minors. Even unloaded firearms can pose threats to minors if not securely stored.

Q: Do I need to use a specific type of lock or safe to comply?

A: Yes. A "locked box or container" means a secure container, specifically designed for the storage of firearms, that is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, key lock, combination lock or similar locking device to which a minor does not possess the key or combination, or otherwise have access. "Locking device" means a trigger lock, cable lock, or similar lock that prevents a firearm from discharging. If a locking device is used, the firearm must be unloaded.

Q: What should I do if I suspect another child might have access to a firearm that isn't being securely stored, in violation of the law?

A: Contact your local law enforcement agency. Students can report potential violations in a school setting to Michigan's OK2SAY program at OK2SAY@mi.gov, text 652729 (OK2SAY), or call 855-565-2729 (8-555-OK2SAY). **Call 9-1-1 in any emergency.**

Q: Where can I get a lock box, container or a locking device?

A: Some police departments, local health departments or other community organizations may provide free or low-cost firearm locks or storage devices. Firearm safety kits which contain a locking device and an informational brochure are available through [Project ChildSafe](#). Check with your local law enforcement agency for more information.

Q: Are there exceptions to the law?

A: The law does not apply if the minor obtains a firearm:

- With the permission of the minor's parent or guardian and if the minor uses the firearm under the supervision of the parent, guardian, or individual who is 18 or older and is authorized by the minor's parent or guardian, **and** the firearm is possessed or used for:
 - The minor's employment.
 - Ranching, farming, or hunting and the minor is compliant with all applicable hunting laws.
 - Target practice or instruction of safe use of a firearm.
- Through unlawful entry of any premises or motor vehicle where the firearm has been stored.
- While lawfully acting in self-defense or in defense of another individual.

Q: As a non-gun owner, how can I make sure that children and teenagers stay safe when they visit homes with firearms?

A: Even if you don't own a firearm, you can take proactive steps to ensure the safety of youth by teaching children about the danger of touching firearms, ask hosts if firearms are present, verify if they are securely stored and share safety resources. For additional resources, please visit: [Gun Safety Resources | Be SMART](#).

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-74

SUBJECT: Elementary Technology
Purchase

FOR ACTION: Marcus Leon

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The district would move elementary technology from a 1:1 model to classroom technology carts. Instead of each student being a device that can be taken home, every elementary classroom will have a dedicated classroom cart of either Chromebooks or Ipads, depending on grade level. This is the model that was used until the COVID-19 pandemic. Devices are not required to be used at home on a daily basis. The district has seen large amounts of broken devices, which drains district time and financial resources, that could be directed elsewhere. The district is looking to purchase 13 chromebook carts and 7 Ipad carts to fulfill the elementary needs. Carts will be purchased through the state REMC cooperative, and be funded with 2026 bond proceeds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommendation is to approve the elementary technology purchase as presented.

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Jackson High School
March 17, 2026

ITEM: 25-26-75

SUBJECT: Superintendent Evaluation

FOR ACTION: Jeremy Patterson

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Superintendent Goals for 2026 will be discussed.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommended approval of the superintendent goals as presented.