

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING
MARCH 18, 2026
JACKSON TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL FINE ARTS CENTER AUDITORIUM**

March 18, 2026 Monthly Meeting - Jackson Township Board of Education

A. Executive Session Meeting

Information: 1. Executive Session

The Official Meeting of the Jackson Township Board of Education was held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and was called to order by Board President Megan Gardella, at 5:36 p.m., on March 18, 2026.

Members present: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Members absent: Erica Osmond

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. R. Rotante, Asst. Superintendent, Dr. L. Godlesky, Asst. Superintendent, Mr. P. Green, Board Attorney and Ms. P. Blood (virtually), State Appointed Fiscal Monitor

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Barocas, the Board of Education opened the Executive Session to discuss contracts; employment of personnel-terms and conditions of employment; pending litigation; investigations, and matters falling within the attorney client privilege with respect to these subjects. This meeting was not open to the public. The Board would reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson Township Middle School Fine Arts Auditorium at which time action would be taken.

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM

B. Opening of Meeting

Procedural: 1. Call to Order

The Official Meeting of the Jackson Township Board of Education reconvened in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and was called to order by Board President, Mrs. Gardella, at 6:37 p.m.

Procedural: 2. Salute to the Flag

Mrs. Gardella asked all to stand for the salute to the flag.

Action, Procedural: 3. Certification of Meeting

For the Certification of the meeting according to the tenets of the Open Public Meeting Law, the Board President, Mrs. Gardella, made the following statement: "This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and has been duly advertised in the newspaper as an Official Meeting."

Roll Call:

Members present: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Members absent: Erica Osmond

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. R. Rotante, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. L. Godlesky, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. P. Green, Board Attorney

Action, Procedural: 4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted by the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

C. Superintendent's Report/Information Items

Discussion, Information: 1. Remarks from Superintendent

Mrs. Pormilli turned the meeting over to the student representatives for their monthly report.

Peyton Brown reported:

- Students continue to excel in athletics, academics, the arts and community involvement.
- Girls' wrestling won their first-ever NJ State Championship after their undefeated season - an impressive milestone for the program. Seven girl and boy wrestlers finished in the top 8 in NJ at States. Both wrestling coaches were named Coaches of the Year for their Divisions. Coach Lemke earned that prestigious title for the State.
- Boys bowling team won Group IV State Sectionals.
- Basketball won their divisions and made a run at States. Coach Goodale and Coach Holmes were named Coach of the Year for their divisions.
- Winter track raced at both the Nike and the New Balance Nationals, the highest levels of competition.
- Congratulations to Athletes of the Month: Marlowe Donato and Yaseer Johnson
- The annual JTHS Volleyball Tournament was a successful fun and competitive event.
- Jackson Idol was a great success, showcasing the incredible talent of our students and providing an entertaining night.

Colin Williams reported:

- The cast, crew and directors of the drama department put on an incredible performance of Mamma Mia. The disco ball dance party made the show a stand out experience.
- The National Honor Society visited our elementary schools and spent time reading to classrooms and participating in Dr. Seuss's Read Across America events.
- Congratulations to Seniors of the Month: Ethan Polk and Angelina Nguyen.
- Members of the FBLA competed at the State Competition, where six students earned Top 10 rankings in their categories.
- DECA students competed at the State Career Development Conference – congratulations to Emily Hersh, Sadie Hersh, and Kaitlin Gargioli for qualifying for the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta.
- Many students participated in the Teen Arts trip to Ocean County College showcasing all aspects of the arts.
- The JTHS band performed in the NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade, which is a great honor and an exciting opportunity for them.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Colin and Peyton for their report.

Mrs. Pormilli pointed out many wonderful activities and recognitions happening throughout the district, including Read Across America, the marching band's participation in NYC St. Patrick's Day parade and DECA's invitation to Nationals. She recognized staff including Ms. Fecak's service award for DECA and the wrestling and basketball coaches for their hard work. She noted the art contests winners at our 5-6 building and the National Honor Society students celebrating literature with our younger students. Read Across America featured Switlik Super-readers, masked readers in inflatable costumes, mystery readers and teachers dressed as book characters. She noted the accomplishments of the bowling champions and girls wrestling winning the record for the first high school State win. She is proud of this district, our students and our staff who have demonstrated what it means to come together and be unified as one community. She was impressed with the Mama Mia production at the high school. She noted Mr. Palumbo will host a trade and job fair March 25th from 6-8 at the high school. It's an opportunity for people to learn about being part of that trade. If you're interested, please attend. Several photos were displayed on the screen.

Mrs. Gardella invited Mr. Pejoski to the podium to present the Semi-Annual Report of Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse and Weapons Offenses. Mr. Pejoski presented the following slides:

Jackson School District Semi-Annual Report of Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse, and Weapons Offenses in the Jackson School District

Background and Overview

State of NJ began collecting this data in March 2002

Objective is to collect and report incident data concerning serious student misconduct in the areas of:

- Violence
- Vandalism
- HIB
- Weapons
- Substance Abuse

TOTALS FOR ALL INCIDENTS			
Type of Incident	# of Incidents Sept-Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan-June 2025	# of Incidents Sept-Dec 2025
Violence	20	18	17
Vandalism	2	4	1
HIB (Alleged & Confirmed)	53	51	42
Weapons	0	1	4
Substance Abuse	25	34	16

Violence Reports- Elementary

School	Fights	Assault	Threats	Sexual Offense	HIB (Alleged & Confirmed)
Crawford-Rodriguez	0	0	0	0	2
Elms	0	0	0	0	2
Holman	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	0	0	0	0	1
Switlik	0	0	0	0	2
JT 5-6 School	3	0	0	0	15
Elementary Total	3	0	0	0	22

Violence Reports- Secondary

School	Fights	Assault	Threats	Sexual Offense	HIB (Alleged & Confirmed)
Jackson Township Middle School	0	0	0	0	9
Jackson Township High School	17	4	1	0	11
Secondary Total	17	4	1	0	20

Vandalism and Substance Abuse

School	Vandalism Incidents		
	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan-June 2025	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2025
Jackson Township 5-6 School	n/a	n/a	1
Jackson Township Middle School	Goetz - 0 McAuliffe - 0	Goetz - 0 McAuliffe - 0	0
Jackson Township High School	JLHS - 1 JMHS - 1	JLHS - 4 JMHS - 0	0

Substance Abuse September - December 2025

Substances: Under Influence of...	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan-June 2025	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2025
Marijuana	12	17	5
Alcohol	1	1	1
Prescription Drug	0	2	0
Substance suspected/ refused exam	0	0	0

Substances: Possession of...	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan-June 2025	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2025
Marijuana	8	21	14
Drug Paraphernalia	5	3	6
Alcohol	5	1	1
Undetermined	3	2	0

Weapons Offenses – All Schools

Weapons include any instrument readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting bodily injury, but the category is not limited to: handguns, rifles, knives; clubs; chains; sling shots; leather bands studded with metal filings; razor blades; stun guns and any device that projects, releases, or emits tear gas or any other substance (e.g., pepper spray) that is intended to produce temporary discomfort or permanent injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air.

# of Incidents Sept.-Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan - June 2025	# of Incidents Sept.-Dec 2025
0	1	4

Examples:

- A toy gun is not considered a weapon and its possession would not be reported.
- An imitation firearm (e.g., an object that looks like a real handgun but cannot be fired or converted to a handgun) would be reported.

Action Taken by School District

Action	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2024	# of Incidents Jan- June 2025	# of Incidents Sept.- Dec 2025
Police Filed Complaint	0	0	2
In School Suspension	84	91	43
Out of School Suspension	117	195	92

We will continue to strive to ensure a safe district and school environment by:

- Bringing school/district safety teams and school anti-bullying specialists together to review data
- Using this data to plan programs and inform practices, approaches and curriculum
- Building strong partnerships with the Jackson Police Department specifically the School Resource Officers
- Providing training for school administrators on the effective prevention and response to violence, vandalism, and substance use
- Educating all stakeholders on how they can make Jackson Schools safer
- Providing community events to educate parents/guardians about school safety

Mr. Pejoski presented the following slides regarding the Semi-Annual Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying presentation:

Jackson School District Semi-Annual Report Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

John Pejoski
Anti-Bullying Coordinator
Presented March 18, 2026

Report Period 1
September - December 2025

The Jackson School District's Commitment

The Jackson School District is committed to:

- Creating a safe learning environment for all our students;
- Investigating all complaints of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying; and
- Preventing all acts of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

We are committed to being **PROACTIVE** and **PREPARED!**

- Behavioral Threat Assessment Training for Staff
- Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams Training-District and School
- Understanding School Violence Training
- District Training All Schools and ABS- Policies and Procedures for Addressing and Reporting HIB, Violence and Vandalism, and Substance Use
- ABC/ABS Meetings- HIB policy and data review, HIB investigation procedures

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Prevention for Report Period 1

School	Anti-Bullying Specialist
Crawford-Rodriguez	Erin Schnorbus
Elms	Dara Feltsman
Holman	MaryAnn Garbooshian
Johnson	Tricia Ciccio
Switlik	Patricia DeBenedetto
Jackson Township 5-6 School	Lindsay Costello
Jackson Township Middle School	Stacey Flak
Jackson Township High School	Signa Myra David Terecki

HIB Investigations - Elementary

School	First-Half of 2025-2026 School Year	
	Total Sept.- Dec. 2025	Founded Sept.- Dec. 2025
Crawford-Rodriguez	2	2
Elms	2	0
Holman	0	0
Johnson	1	1
Switlik	1	0
JT 5-6	15	7
Total	22	10

HIB Investigations - Secondary

School	2025-2026	
	Total Sept.- Dec 2025	Founded Sept.- Dec 2025
Middle School	9	5
High School	11	1
Secondary Total	20	6

HIB Investigations - Comparison of Same Time Period

	First-Half of 2024-2025 School Year		First-Half of 2025-2026 School Year	
	Total Sept.- Dec. 2024	Founded Sept.- Dec. 2024	Total Sept.- Dec. 2025	Founded Sept.- Dec. 2025
Total	53	30	42	16

Motivation of Founded HIBs

Appearance - 5	Sexual Orientation - 2
Race - 5	Medical - 2
Color - 3	Gender - 1
Other Distinguishing Charac. - 2	Religion - 2

Classification of Actions of Investigated HIB Incidents

Demeaning
Offensive Text Messages
Name Calling
Offensive Comments
Mocking
Teasing
Taunting
Physical

HIB Complaints: We Investigate Everything!

- HIB Complaint Submission**
 - Complaints received in person, telephone, email; or via links located on our district website
- HIB Form 338**
 - Provides a means for students, parents, guardians or a school staff members to report an incident of HIB in a confidential manner - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

All HIB Complaints are promptly investigated in accordance with District Policy 5512- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Students

Mrs. Pormilli invited Mr. Haddad to the podium to present the following slides regarding the Food Services Department Update and District Wellness Committee Report:

Jackson School District Food Services Department 2025-2026 Update & District Wellness Committee Report

Gary Haddad
Director of Food Services
Presented March 18, 2026

District Performance & Participation

Despite a 6.9% decrease in enrollment (dropping from 7,488 to 6,967 students), the district has successfully increased student engagement.

- Lunch Participation:** Rose from 44% to 48%, a 4% year-over-year "capture rate" increase.
- Free & Reduced Meals:** 48% of the student population currently receives these meals.
- Efficiency:** The district averages 20.2 Meals Per Labor Hour (MPLH), meeting or exceeding industry benchmarks across all nine locations.

Strategic Improvements & Revenue Drivers

The district invested \$286,000 in self-funded capital projects to modernize aging infrastructure. Key upgrades include:

- Infrastructure:** Full walk-in fridge/freezer replacements at Crawford-Rodriguez and JTMS.
- New Equipment:** Installation of a Rational Combi oven at the Bistro cafeteria and a renovated concession stand at JTMS.
- New Points of Service:** Implementation of Breakfast Kiosks at JTMS and JTUE, plus an afternoon snack stand for high school students.
- Engagement:** Food Advisory meetings where students sample and provide feedback on potential menu items.

Comparative Participation Statistics

- Headline:** Doing More with Less (The Capture Rate)
- Trend:** While enrollment (ADE) is down 6.9%, lunch participation is up 4%.

Category	SY 2025 (Sept-Jan)	SY 2026 (Sept-Jan)	Change
Average Daily Enrollment (ADE)	7,488	6,967	-6.9%
Lunch Participation	44%	48%	+4.0%
Daily Breakfast Avg	791	676	-0.28%
	10.56%	10.28%	

Innovation & Revenue Drivers

- Headline:** New Service Points & Student Engagement
- Strategic Initiatives:**
 - Breakfast Kiosks:** Launched at JTMS and JTUE 5/6 School.
 - Afternoon Fuel:** New Snack Stand for HS students/after-school activities.
 - External Revenue:** Coordinating catering for weekend facility events.
 - Feedback Loop:** Food Advisory meetings and student taste-testing sessions.

Breakfast Kiosk at Jackson Township Middle School

Jackson Township HS Grand Hall Concession Stand Service

Holiday Catering Service

Catering Menu

Breakfast	Lunch	Hot and Cold
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LET'S START WITH... LET'S DRINK... LET'S ENJOY... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LET'S START WITH... LET'S DRINK... LET'S ENJOY... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LET'S START WITH... LET'S DRINK... LET'S ENJOY...

Mediterranean Bar @ JTMS Lunch

Operational Efficiency & Productivity (MPLH)

Meals Per Labor Hour (MPLH) measures how many meal equivalents are produced for every hour of paid labor.

The Goal: Industry benchmarks for school food service are typically 15-20 meals for High Schools and 20-25 for Elementary/Middle Schools.

Jackson Exceeds Industry: Our district is currently averaging 20.2 MPLH across all 9 locations.

MPLH Performance by Building:
Elementary Schools: 24.6 (High Performance)
JTMS @ Clayton: 23.6 (High Performance)
JTHS: 15.7 MPLH (Target Met: 15-20 range)

Report on District Wellness Policy

- Physical education and health instruction features content on the importance of exercise, good nutrition through lessons, assemblies, events featuring physical activity (e.g. field days, walk a thons, jump rope events, dances)
- April will feature School Wellness Weeks, where schools will have special activities to promote nutrition and physical activity
- Parents are invited and attend Food Advisory meetings to discuss Nutrition and Wellness, as well as other Food Service-related issues
- Wellness Coordinator and Principals work together to evaluate compliance with policy through Annual School Progress Report (nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, recommendations, action plan)
- Wellness Coordinator presents school progress and Annual District Summary Progress Report to BOE at public meeting for recommendations

Tracking or Limiting Your Child's Snack Purchases

- Our staff puts healthy foods front and center of selections; snacks mostly behind cashier. Focus is on "Smart Snacks" (whole grain, low fat, low sugar).
- As parents, you can track your child's purchases of breakfast, lunch and any snacks on the www.jpsd.net/parents account.
- PARENTS can let us know if you would like to alter your child's account to:
 - BLOCK your child's ability to change snacks to his or her account. They will still be able to charge meals to their account.
 - BLOCK your child's ability to go through the line again for a second meal
 - Establish a daily SPENDING LIMIT (although students can try to use this for snacks only instead of a meal - cashiers try to counsel students)

Breakfast and Lunch Pricing

LUNCH	BREAKFAST
Proposed Increase = 15 cents	Proposed Increase = 10 cents
ES = \$3.75	ES = \$2.30
MS = \$4.00	MS = \$2.30
HS = \$4.25	HS = \$2.50

Jackson School District Food Services Department

Giant Sub Day

Financial Snapshot (2025-2026 School Year)

Category	Target %	Actual %	Status
Food Cost	38%	39%	Managed well despite inflation
Paper & Cleaning	4%	3.5%	Efficiency gain (Under target)
Labor & Fringe	--	59%	Reflects commitment to onsite prep

Sustainability & Nutrition Education

Building a Greener, Healthier Cafeteria

- Sustainability Grant:**
 - \$5,000 planning grant awarded
 - \$10,000 implementation grant pending
- Food Share Program (Elms Model):** Reduces waste by allowing students to donate unopened items.
- Health Ed: "Re-Think Your Drink"** displays to visually demonstrate sugar content.

Report on District Wellness Policy - Goals and Actions

District Wellness Policy Coordinator ensures compliance with Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act (HFKA) and other district wellness goals and provides an assessment of our wellness policy to the BOE at a public meeting.

- We are in compliance with all regulations district-wide
- We continually improve upon and advance knowledge of healthy menu options and Smart Snack options to all school levels
- We display promotions, signage and theme days that will encourage breakfast and lunch participation and feature new nutritional alternative menu items and place healthiest food items in the service line where students are most likely to choose them
- We have conducted student meetings at every school to gather input on menu planning, and discuss nutrition / wellness policies and Food Services-related issues

Community Input

Any student, parent, staff member is welcome to send suggestions and input to our Wellness Policy

ahaddad@jacksonsd.org
732-415-7014

Partnership: Work-Based Learning (WBL)

A standout feature of the 2025-2026 program is the partnership with the JTMS Work-Based Learning program.

- 8-9 students working in JTMS, Swiftik, and Crawford-Rodriguez, building independence and job skills.
- Three different students have expressed interest in pursuing full-time employment in the food service industry as a direct result of their participation in this program.

"The Jackson School District's food service department has truly become our greatest ally within the district and one of our strongest and most successful job locations. Their willingness to mentor, guide, and genuinely include our students has made a meaningful and measurable impact."
- Patrick Conti, Special Education Teacher

Reminders About Lunch Balances

- Despite a coordinated and consistent effort to address unpaid meal balance, the total outstanding balance district-wide is \$178,428.70
- This is a nationwide issue.
- We send out reminders monthly that shows the exact balance, and as month nears the end, we send out additional reminders. We communicate with parents in a respectful but firm manner.
- We utilize our Parent Liaisons to help communicate with families.
- Some common factors on which we are educating families:
 - Parents who believe that submitting an application for Free & Reduced lunch absolves them of their balance
 - Households where one student is listed as qualifying for Free and Reduced lunch, but others in the house are not. We are educating parents to let us know if this is the case so we can rectify that (e.g. application errors).

Regulatory Compliance: Offer vs. Serve (OVS)

- NDA Guidelines: We strictly adhere to "Offer vs. Serve" to reduce waste and ensure reimbursement eligibility.
- Reimbursable Meal Requirements:
 - Students are offered all 5 components (Fruit, Veg, Grain, Meat/Alt, Milk).
 - Students must select at least 3 components, including at least 1/2 cup of Fruit or Vegetable.
- Clear Communication: Point-of-service signage (as seen in our cafeterias) educates students on building a healthy, compliant meal.

Report on District Wellness Policy - Goals and Actions

- Nutritional and allergen information is available via our online menus and nutritional guidelines of the HFKA are displayed where food and beverages are served.

Jackson Township School District 2026-2027 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Nicole Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools
Dan Baginski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Budget Development Timeline

- Obtain instructional needs from district administrators to maintain our current level of instruction (October 2025)
- Monitor student enrollment to configure class sections at each district school (September 2025 - March 2026)
- Obtain school facilities maintenance and transportation needs to maintain all district schools, student transportation (from schools, as well as after-school, special education and HS athletic transportation) (September 2025 - March 2026)
- Examine critical district initiatives and fiscal costs to maintain existing programs and to maintain state-level compliance level compliance (September 2025 - March 2026)
- Perform line-by-line district budget review aligning curriculum and operational facility needs with spending requests (December 2025 - March 2026)

Who is involved?
Board of Education
Superintendent
Central Administration
Directors
Supervisors
Principals
Department Leaders
Business Office
Human Resources
Payroll
Transportation
Facilities

Enrollment trends and student demographic changes play a large role in the development of the budget

The number of non-public students in Jackson Township eclipsed the number of public school students during this school year

48% of our public student population is identified as economically disadvantaged

School Year	Public School Students	Non-Public School Students
2017-2018	8,190	675
2018-2019	8,106	1,101
2019-2020	7,963	1,427
2020-2021	7,630	1,947
2021-2022	7,355	2,789
2022-2023	7,214	3,657
2023-2024	7,128	4,649
2024-2025	6,814	5,755
2025-2026	6,510	7,009
2026-2027 (Projected)	6,345	8,534

Percent Change from 17-18 to 26-27: -22.92% Public, 1194.35% Non-Public

Jackson Township School District's Statewide Spending Ranks

Every year, the New Jersey Department of Education publishes an analysis of each public school's spending as a comparison among similar districts across a variety of spending areas, ranging from spending per pupil to staffing ratios. It is called the 2025 **Tentative Guide to Education Spending** and it is probably one of the best resources to get an "apples to apples" comparison of how our district spends money compared to other districts of a similar size (K-12 districts with more than 3,500 students).

Budgetary Cost Per Pupil	4th Lowest
Total Classroom Instruction	2nd Lowest
Classroom Salaries/Benefits	20th Lowest
Classroom Supplies/Textbooks	2nd Lowest
Classroom Purchased Services	15th Lowest
Total Support Services	16th Lowest
Total Administration	16th Lowest
Administration Salaries/Benefits	11th Lowest
Total Operation and Maintenance	14th Lowest

How Do Jackson's Expenses Compare To What The State Calculates We Should Be Spending To Educate Our Students?

For every district, the state calculates what would be the necessary funding level to provide a "thorough and efficient education" to every pupil in that district. This is what is referred to as the Adequacy Budget.

Budget Year	How Far is Jackson Spending Above or Below Adequacy?
2026 - 2027	\$29,656,337 BELOW
2025 - 2026	\$32,473,687 BELOW
2024 - 2025	\$23,783,329 BELOW
2023 - 2024	\$9,583,278 BELOW
2022 - 2023	\$1,120,390 BELOW

Due to budget cuts, the Jackson School District is projected to spend \$29.6 million less than what we should be spending according to the State's adequacy calculation

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN

Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,149,249	\$81,899,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,837,385	\$40,564,233	\$7,726,848	23.53%
School Budgets	\$3,008,741	\$3,787,009	\$778,268	25.87%
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$7,419,757	\$7,895,452	\$475,695	6.41%
Administrative & Instructional Support	\$14,502,031	\$5,658,333	-\$8,843,698	-59.82%
Out of District Tuition	\$4,504,800	\$5,422,659	\$917,799	20.37%
Aid in Lieu of Transportation (Non-Public)	\$8,251,947	\$9,785,431	\$1,513,484	18.34%
Transportation (Non Salary, less ALL)	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,945	2.22%

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10-Year History of Salary Expenses

School Year	Total Salary Expenses
2017-2018	\$82,522,455
2018-2019	\$83,317,465
2019-2020	\$83,585,059
2020-2021	\$82,031,674
2021-2022	\$83,228,227
2022-2023	\$96,611,495
2023-2024	\$95,180,853
2024-2025	\$82,144,067
2025-2026 (Budgeted)	\$81,149,249
2026-2027 (Budgeted)	\$81,899,375

376 positions have been eliminated from 2018-2019 through 2025-2026

The Jackson Township School District spends less on salaries now than was spent ten years ago.

Any personnel reductions for 2026-2027 will be accomplished through attrition or breakage

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High-Cost Prescription Drugs (e.g. GLP-1s)

The single most significant driver is the cost of prescription medications, which the district does not control.

Outpatient Care: There is a marked increase in the utilization of outpatient and professional services (doctor visits).

Economic Inflation: Continued upward pressure from economy-wide inflation is impacting what hospitals and physicians charge for treatments.

Post-Pandemic Care Rebound: Increases in claims related to patients delaying preventative medical care during the pandemic.

School Year	Health and Fringe Benefits
2023-2024	\$30,485,671
2024-2025	\$33,105,127
2025-2026 (Projected)	\$32,837,385
2026-2027 (Budgeted)	\$40,564,233

On January 1, 2026, the New Jersey School Employees' Health Benefits Program for active employees was increased by 31.9%

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN

Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,149,249	\$81,899,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,837,385	\$40,564,233	\$7,726,848	23.53%
School Budgets	\$3,008,741	\$3,787,009	\$778,268	25.87%
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$7,419,757	\$7,895,452	\$475,695	6.41%
Administrative & Instructional Support	\$14,502,031	\$5,658,333	-\$8,843,698	-59.82%
Out of District Tuition	\$4,504,800	\$5,422,659	\$917,799	20.37%
Aid in Lieu of Transportation (Non-Public)	\$8,251,947	\$9,785,431	\$1,513,484	18.34%
Transportation (Non Salary, less ALL)	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,945	2.22%

6 Year History of Inflation

Year	Inflation
2021	6.50%
2022	6.40%
2023	3.90%
2024	3.30%
2025	3.90%

Percent Change for Projected New Jersey General Inflation (All Other Regions in December)

Expenses	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
School Budgets	\$3,008,741	\$3,008,741	\$3,787,009
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$8,415,113	\$7,419,757	\$7,895,452

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN

Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,149,249	\$81,899,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,837,385	\$40,564,233	\$7,726,848	23.53%
School Budgets	\$3,008,741	\$3,787,009	\$778,268	25.87%
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$7,419,757	\$7,895,452	\$475,695	6.41%
Administrative & Instructional Support	\$14,502,031	\$5,658,333	-\$8,843,698	-59.82%
Out of District Tuition	\$4,504,800	\$5,422,659	\$917,799	20.37%
Aid in Lieu of	\$8,251,947	\$9,785,431	\$1,513,484	18.34%
Transportation	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,945	2.22%

In May 2025, we received a \$9.4 million loan from the State while the sale of Rosenauer was pending. Now that the sale is closed, this loan is scheduled to be paid back to the State during 25-26.

These expenditures include a \$600,000 payment on our original \$6 million advanced state aid to NJ and the annual cost of the state-assigned Fiscal Monitor

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN

Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,149,249	\$81,899,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,837,385	\$40,564,233	\$7,726,848	23.53%
School Budgets	\$3,008,741	\$3,787,009	\$778,268	25.87%
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Transportation (Non Salary, less ALL)	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,945	2.22%

Average Cost of Tuition and Transportation Costs for a Private School Special Education Student in Jackson for 2025-2026 is \$149,214 per year.

School Year	Average Number of Out of District Special Education Students
2019-2020	92
2020-2021	76
2021-2022	61
2022-2023	51
2023-2024	48
2024-2025	48
2025-2026	44
2026-2027 (Budgeted)	50

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN				
Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,148,249	\$81,589,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,337,355	\$40,554,233	\$7,726,848	23.57%
School Budgets	\$3,026,741	\$3,787,009	\$770,268	25.87%
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$7,419,757	\$7,895,452	\$475,695	6.41%
Administrative & Instructional Support	\$14,502,031	\$5,830,333	-\$8,671,698	-59.62%
Out of District Tuition	\$4,524,890	\$5,422,859	\$897,979	20.37%
Aid in Lieu of Transportation (Non-Public)	\$8,251,947	\$9,785,431	\$1,513,484	18.34%
Transportation (Non Salary, less AIL)	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,946	2.22%

Expense Category	Total Expenses	Percentage of the General Fund Expenses
Salary	\$81,148,249	50%
Health and Fringe Benefits	\$40,554,233	24%
Aid in Lieu	\$9,785,431	6%
Facility & Capital (Non Salary)	\$7,895,452	5%
Administration Expenses	\$5,830,333	4%
Transportation (Non Salary, less AIL)	\$5,554,021	3%
Out of District Tuition	\$5,422,859	3%
School Budgets	\$3,787,009	2%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$160,734,513	100%

Recent History of Jackson's Categorical State Aid	K-12 Categorical State Aid	% Decrease from Prior Year	K-12 Enrollment in Jackson	% Decrease Enrollment from Prior Year
2017-2018	\$46,635,896	-	8,199	-
2018-2019	\$46,770,072	-1.74%	8,108	-1.0%
2019-2020	\$46,473,068	-4.71%	7,964	-1.8%
2020-2021	\$42,991,564	-7.49%	7,650	-4.2%
2021-2022	\$38,755,401	-9.85%	7,355	-3.6%
2022-2023	\$34,149,533	-11.89%	7,214	-1.9%
2023-2024	\$27,851,779	-18.41%	7,128	-1.2%
2024-2025	\$23,402,010	-16.01%	6,914	-3.0%
2025-2026	\$22,999,951	-3.00%	6,510	-5.6%
2026-2027	\$22,018,952	-3.00%	6,345	-2.5%

- ### Federal and State Grants
- The district anticipates receiving/utilizing \$14,361,189 in Federal and State Grants during the 2026-27 school year including the following programs:
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) - \$2,180,774
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Title I, II, III, and IV) - \$2,646,114
 - State Preschool Grant - \$8,875,205
 - Perkins Grant (vocational) - \$69,925
 - State School-Based Mental Health Grant - \$55,375
 - Mental Health Screening in School Pilot Supplement - \$13,844
 - Cultivating Ongoing Achievement through Coaching in Literacy Grant - \$100,810

Tax Impact of 26-27 Tentative Budget

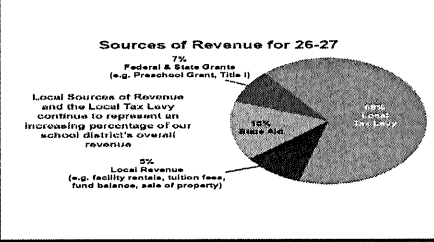
General Fund Tax Levy*	\$116,561,807
Debt Service Tax Levy	\$7,786,800
Total Tax Levy	\$124,348,607
Total Increase to Tax Levy (\$)	\$9,281,888

*General Fund Tax Levy includes Adjustment for Increase in Health Care Costs equal to \$7,314,821

Aid in Lieu for Transportation (Non-Public)

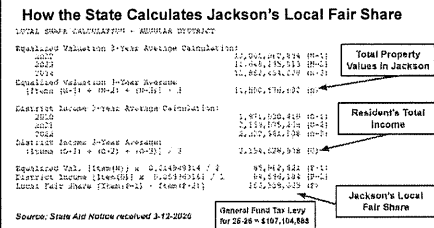
Non-Public Transportation Aid covers roughly 35% - 40% of non-public transportation costs for the district

School Year	Aid-in-Lieu Costs	Non-Public Transportation Aid (received from the State)
2017-2018	\$989,590	\$156,605
2018-2019	\$640,726	\$211,944
2019-2020	\$578,897	\$403
2020-2021	\$1,327,652	\$387,932
2021-2022	\$2,675,948	\$397,751
2022-2023	\$2,238,600	\$78,420
2023-2024	\$4,399,273	\$1,986,335
2024-2025	\$8,840,895	\$2,507,568
2025-2026	\$8,251,947	\$2,900,000
2026-2027 (budgeted)	\$9,785,431	\$3,300,000



Recent History of Jackson's Categorical State Aid

Year	K-12 Categorical State Aid	% Decrease from Prior Year	K-12 Enrollment in Jackson	% Decrease Enrollment from Prior Year
2017-2018	\$46,635,896	-	8,199	-
2018-2019	\$46,770,072	-1.74%	8,108	-1.0%
2019-2020	\$46,473,068	-4.71%	7,964	-1.8%
2020-2021	\$42,991,564	-7.49%	7,650	-4.2%
2021-2022	\$38,755,401	-9.85%	7,355	-3.6%
2022-2023	\$34,149,533	-11.89%	7,214	-1.9%
2023-2024	\$27,851,779	-18.41%	7,128	-1.2%
2024-2025	\$23,402,010	-16.01%	6,914	-3.0%
2025-2026	\$22,999,951	-3.00%	6,510	-5.6%
2026-2027	\$22,018,952	-3.00%	6,345	-2.5%



- ### This Tentative Budget Includes:
- A 25% increase to All School Supply Budgets (i.e. direct resources for students and staff)
 - New Teaching Resources for an enhanced Social Studies Curriculum in Grades 7 - 12
 - Allocations to Plan and Implement the Flexible Learning Academy at the H.S.
 - Replacement of all High School MAC Labs for all instructional classrooms and TV Studio
 - Allocations to launch interscholastic Middle School Volleyball Teams for Girls (Fall) and Boys (Spring)
 - Allocations from Capital and Maintenance Reserves to address the highest priority facility needs in the district (HVAC replacements, partial roofing replacements, and paving)
 - Technology equipment lease renewal to replace all student Chromebook devices
 - Expansion of High School Offerings (e.g. courses, APs, electives)

PROPOSED BUDGET - SPENDING PLAN

Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	%
Salaries	\$81,148,249	\$81,889,375	\$740,126	0.91%
Health Benefits	\$32,337,355	\$40,554,233	\$7,726,848	23.57%
School Budgets	\$3,026,741	\$3,787,009	\$770,268	25.87%
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Aid in Lieu of Transportation (Non-Public)	\$8,251,947	\$9,785,431	\$1,513,484	18.34%
Transportation (Non Salary, less AIL)	\$5,573,598	\$5,554,021	-\$19,577	-0.35%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$157,247,568	\$160,734,513	\$3,486,946	2.22%

Categorical State Aid

State Aid	2025-2026 Budgeted	2026-2027 Budgeted	Change
Transportation Aid	\$10,464,463	\$11,021,982	\$557,519
Special Education Aid	\$9,621,506	\$8,600,615	-\$1,020,891
Equalization Aid	-	-	-
Security Aid	\$2,613,982	\$2,386,355	-\$217,627
TOTAL CATEGORICAL STATE AID	\$22,699,951	\$22,018,952	-\$680,999

Other State Aid

State Aid	2025-2026 Budgeted	2026-2027 Budgeted	Change
Extraordinary Special Education Aid	\$1,876,584	\$1,876,584	-
Non-Public Transportation Aid	\$1,600,000	\$3,300,000	\$1,800,000
TOTAL OTHER STATE AID	\$3,376,584	\$5,176,584	\$1,800,000

Local Revenue

Revenue	2025-2026 Budgeted	2026-2027 Budgeted	Change
Free Balance	\$1,500,000	\$10,000,000	\$8,500,000
General Fund Tax Levy 2% tax levy increase + Health Ben. Cap Waiver	\$107,104,888	\$116,551,807	\$9,456,919
Special Educ. Medicaid	\$36,666	\$152,788	\$116,122
Maintenance and Capital Reserve	-	\$1,140,000	\$1,140,000
Sale of Property	\$10,788,037	-	-\$10,788,037
Misc. Income	\$2,340,804	\$5,684,382	\$3,343,578
Roll Over Prior Year P.O.'s	9,430,638	-	-\$9,430,638
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	\$131,171,033	\$133,538,077	\$2,367,044

MISSION FORWARD for 2026-2027

In spite of great obstacles, this Tentative Budget has been developed in a fiscally responsible manner to:

- Meet the state requirement to propose a balanced budget
- Continue to achieve established educational goals
- Provide all Jackson students with the highest quality educational programs, co-curricular activities, opportunities and supports

Total PROPOSED Budget	2025-2026 Budgeted	2026-2027 Proposed	Increase	% Increase
	\$182,764,235	\$182,882,502	\$118,267	0.07%

Mr. Baginski noted that a lot of work goes into this budget from a lot of different people and the entire district should be proud of this budget. He noted that he is proud of this budget.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Mr. Baginski for an excellent comprehensive outline of exactly what has happened in this district, showing the history of the issues addressed. She reiterated how proud she is of this district for doing the hard work. The last 10 years were difficult and had we not acted over these last few years, we would be in a very difficult position for our students. This budget supports everything that already exists for our students, keeping our staff and increasing opportunities for our students even while being cut. She appreciates all the work of everybody in this district, including the Board, in making sure programs are expanded and preserved for our students. She opened the floor to the Board for comment and questions.

Mrs. Gardella asked if our adequacy budget is based on local fair share. Mr. Baginski responded that adequacy is related just to our spending. It is what the state calculates we should be spending. Based on next year's budget, the state says we should be spending \$29 million more to educate our students to provide a thorough and efficient education. Mrs. Gardella noted there was a difference of about \$43 million from what the state said we should be taking in on the general fund to what we actually do take in. She doesn't think the numbers add up and asked if they are looking for us to take in more money than actually is necessary. Mr. Baginski explained that local fair share is a concept the state wants to convey to townships that they should be spending a certain amount of the tax levy to support their schools. Adequacy is about what the actual numbers spent are versus how many custodians, guidance counselors, etc. you should have.

Mrs. Gardella noted our special education state aid went down. She asked how they determine that aid. Mr. Baginski thinks that because we have such good programs and were able to reduce the number of students out of the district and reduce the costs, we've gotten less aid because of it. This is actually disincentivized. Mrs. Gardella commented that is a shame on the state.

Mrs. Gardella noted we got a negative 3% cut (the maximum) while other towns went up. She asked if other towns getting 6% is going to fix their deficit or are they still going to have problems. Mr. Baginski noted +6% is definitely better than -3% but the increases in the health benefit costs all school districts are dealing with, go far beyond the increase in state aid. Mrs. Gardella pointed out and Mr. Baginski agreed that even communities receiving more than us, might still have deficit issues and in the end we have a balanced budget with minimal budgetary change.

Mrs. Kas thanked Mr. Baginski for being so clear and concise in his excellent presentation.

Mrs. Barocas thanked Mr. Baginski for a terrific job on the budget. She noted the state gives us money based on our population / enrollment. She asked, if the non-public student population was added in, would we actually be getting the correct amount of funds and if this is one of the faults in the formula? Mr. Baginski noted we would have the cost to educate them so we would definitely get more funding.

Mr. Walsh asked how special education extraordinary aid is figured. Mr. Baginski noted there are different categories and tiers and eligibility for aid is a math calculation that depends on the severity of the need. There are reimbursements for students who are a certain type of disability, for transportation costs, paraprofessionals, etc. The actual dollar determination depends on how much money the state has set aside and how many school districts are tapping into it. Mr. Walsh noted and Mr. Baginski agreed that it may not be a true number and it could be reduced. Mr. Walsh asked where equalized aid comes from. Mr. Baginski noted equalization aid is something the state does for certain school districts it feels are underfunded. They run the categorical aid and if they don't feel it's enough, they use the equalization aid to bring them up. So we'll never qualify for that because ours is zero.

Mrs. Gardella asked if the difference between the \$150 million the state said that we should be collecting from the local people versus the \$43 million are collecting is dollar for dollar. Mr. Baginski and Mrs. Pormilli confirmed it is dollar for dollar. Mrs. Pormilli noted, according to formula that Mr. Baginski presented, local fair share is calculated using the value of the homes and the wealth of the town. Mrs. Gardella noted our local fair share covers 68% of our budget so it is a question of where is your income tax going and how you getting it back as a taxpayer.

Mr. Walsh asked if grants and aids are definite numbers. Mr. Baginski noted we were told to budget 75% of this year's Title 1-4 so for next year. He noted the preschool aid grant amount is an actual number because it came through on the state aid notice. He noted the other grants listed are actual numbers because they have been accepted.

Mrs. Pormilli concluded her Superintendent's report.

D. State Monitor's Report

Discussion, Report: 1. State Monitor's Report

No report as Ms. Blood was not present at the meeting.

E. Discussion Items - Standing Committee Reports

Discussion, Information: 1. Committee Reports

Budget and Finance Report - Megan Gardella (chair)

Mrs. Gardella noted that Mr. Baginski's presentation was the report.

Building and Grounds Report - Mr. McCarron (Chair)

Capital Improvements / Projects – District Wide
Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Update

- JTHS (Stadium Locker Rooms): Locker rooms were cleaned, sanded, and repainted, including walls and lockers.
- JTHS (Home Economics Classroom): Existing gas stove/range was removed and a new unit installed.
- JTHS (Wood Shop): Exhaust system was repaired to improve indoor air quality.
- JTHS: Four new fire door closures were replaced as required by the fire official.
- JTMS: Fine Arts exterior canopy lighting was repaired.
- JT5/6 School: The MUA vacuumed the kitchen grease trap. In addition, the in-house plumber repaired a clogged line in the cafeteria area.
- Crawford-Rodriguez: Cooling tower was filled, serviced, and checked in preparation for the A/C season.
- Transportation Building: A third new lift-station pump was installed for the transportation building restrooms. The MUA also evacuated the lift station twice.
- Administration Building: A new backflow preventer was installed on the main water line by the in-house plumber.

Superintendent Search Update - Mr. McCarron (chair)

Mrs. Pormilli is retiring effective July 1st, 2026. After reviewing all submitted application packets, the Board selected candidates to participate in the first round of interviews, which took place on March 2nd and 3rd. The committee extended appreciation to everyone who expressed interest in serving as our next superintendent. The Board is moving forward with the second round of interviews on March 23rd. He thanked the Board members for prioritizing the scheduling of these sessions to ensure that we remain on track with our timeline for naming the successor.

Scholarship Report - Michael Walsh (Chair)

The committee will meet on April 15th to select the last of the scholarships with the guidance department and the students will be notified if they are winning a certain scholarship in the first week in May.

State and School Board Report - Tara Rivera (Chair)

The next legislative meeting on May 30 virtually at 5:00 p.m..

Advocacy Committee Update by Mrs. Gardella (Chair)

Mrs. Gardella stated the committee send out emails to multiple legislators and didn't hear anything.

F. Policy/Regulations

Action: 1. Policy-2nd Reading / Adoption
Motion for the approval of Policy - 2nd Reading / Adoption

P. 0142.1	Nepotism (M)	Bylaws
P.1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	Administration
P.1552	Sexual Harassment-Staff	Administration
P.9130	Public Complaints	Community
P. TOC 1000	P.1552 Sexual Harassment-Staff	Administration

- Document: P. 0142.1 NEPOSTISM 2nd
- Document: P. 1220 EMPLOYMENT OF CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR
- Document: P. 1552 SEXUAL HARASSMENT – STAFF-New
- Document: P. 9130 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES
- Document: P. TOC 1000-1552 Sexual Harassment

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.
Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED
Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Action: 2. Abolishment

Motion for the approval of Abolishment

P. 3362	Sexual Harassment	Teaching Staff Members
P. 4352	Sexual Harassment	Support Staff
Table Of Content 3000	P.3362	Sexual Harassment
Table Of Content 4000	P.4352	Sexual Harassment

- Document: P. 3362 SEXUAL HARASSMENT-Abolished
- Document: P. 4352 Sexual Harassment- Abolished
- Document: P TOC 3000- P. 3362 Abolished
- Document: P TOC 4000-P.4352 Sexual Harassment Abolished

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.
Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED
Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

G. Approval of Minutes

Action: 1. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the following Board of Education meetings:
Official Board Meeting – February 18, 2026 Closed Session Meeting
Official Board Meeting – February 18, 2026 Business Meeting

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

H. Financial Reports

Action: 1. Bill List

Motion to approve the Bill List and Claims.

Total Computer Checks, March 1-18, 2026	\$ 4,700,459.79
February Bill List	\$ 4,170,443.21
Total Hand Checks, February 28, 2026	\$ 161,245.30
Total Payroll, February 28, 2026	\$ 7,835,748.49
FICA:	\$ 373,824.55
Total Board Share	\$ 202,934.31
Retired Health Benefits and Pension Payment	\$ 7,019.27
Health Benefits	\$ 2,282,827.16
Voids	\$ (0.00)
Total Budgetary Payment, for the month	\$15,034,042.29
Food Service Board Bills and Claims Feb 2026	\$ 280,974.23

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Action: 2. Treasurer's and Board Secretary's Reports

Motion to approve the Treasurer's and Board Secretary's Reports.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Board Secretary's Certification:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(d), I certify that as of January 31, 2026, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments(contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Jackson Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A.ISA:22-8 and ISA:22-8.1.



Daniel Baginski

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

I. Public Forum - Agenda Items Only

Action, Information: 1. Open Public Forum

Motion to Open Public Forum

Mrs. Gardella made the following statement: I need a Motion to open public forum on agenda items only. We will hold another public forum during this meeting for other questions. This public forum will be for questions on the AGENDA ONLY. Please sign in and state your name and whether or not you are a Jackson resident. Each person is allowed a maximum of three minutes to speak. No person may speak more than once on a topic until all others have been heard.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Action: 2. Close Public Forum

Motion to Close Public Forum

Seeing no one come forward, Mrs. Gardella asked for a Motion to Close Public Forum

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

J. Finance - Resolution for Action

Action: 1. Approve the following motions on Finance

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following finance resolutions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Discussion:

Mrs. Kas recognized the anonymous \$1,000 donation towards the unpaid lunch balance.

Mrs. Gardella asked if the surplus items in Finance #6 will go on GovDeals. Mr. Baginski noted that if they have any value, they will go on GovDeals. Mrs. Gardella also acknowledged the unpaid lunch balance donation.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Information: 2. Finance-Line Item Transfers January 2026

The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the line-item transfers for the month of January 2026.

Document: Finance-Line item transfer report Jan 2026 for 3-18-26 Agenda

Information: 3. Finance-Federal Projects January 2026

The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the adjustments to the Federal and State Fund 20 Projects for the 2025-2026 school year for January 2026.

Document: Finance-Federal Projects Jan 2026 for 3 18 26 Agenda

Information: 4. Finance-Awarded Vendors Subsequent to February 1, 2026

Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47 the Jackson Township Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts subsequently awarded by the Board of Education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. et.seq, NJAC Chapter 23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part200.

Document: Finance-awarded vendors subsequent to February 1, 2026 for 3-18-26 Agenda

Information: 5. Finance-WCSSSD Coordinated Transportation

The Board of Education approves the following Warren County Special Services School District Coordinated Transportation Resolution for the 2026-2027 School Year:

**RESOLUTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION
2026-2027 School Year**

WHEREAS, the JACKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT (OCEAN COUNTY) Board of Education desires to transport students for the purpose of special education, non-public school education, or their own public school students to specific destinations: and
WHEREAS, the Warren County Special Services School District, hereinafter referred to as WCSSSD, offers coordinated transportation services: and
WHEREAS, the WCSSSD will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness;
NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed that in consideration of pro-rated contract costs, plus a 5.5% administration fee as presented to the JACKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT (OCEAN COUNTY) Board of Education as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the WCSSSD's Board of Education and according to the following schedule:

Due Date	Charges	Adjustments: Prior month credits or charges, virtual days, etc
8/1/26	ESY Billings to Date	n/a
9/1/26	September as billed	n/a
10/1/26	October as billed	Less: Sept (and/or prior) adjustments
11/1/26	November as billed	Less: Oct (and/or prior) adjustments
12/1/26	December as billed	Less: Nov (and/or prior) adjustments
1/1/27	January as billed	Less: Dec (and/or prior) adjustments
2/1/27	February as billed	Less: Jan (and/or prior) adjustments
3/1/27	March as billed	Less: Feb (and/or prior) adjustments
4/1/27	April as billed	Less: Mar (and/or prior) adjustments
5/1/27	May as billed	Less: Apr (and/or prior) adjustments
6/1/27	June as billed	Less: May (and/or prior) adjustments
6/30/27	True up for June and any remaining adjustments for the year. If a net credit is due, it will be applied against the next billing unless requested otherwise.	

Information: 6. Finance-Surplus Items

The Board of Education declares items as surplus, as filed with the Business Office, some items retain value and others have no monetary value.

Current Location	Item	Age	Brand of Item	Reason	Quantity	Value
Switlik	Teacher's desk (2 drawers) handicap accessible	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Computer table	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Portable white board	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	2	Unknown
Switlik	Teacher's desk (2 drawers)	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Four drawer filing cabinets (various colors)	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	6	Unknown
Switlik	Three-tier metal shelf	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Four-tier metal shelf on wheels	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Two-tier shelf	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	16 hole cubby	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Six drawer teacher's desk	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown
Switlik	Three drawer filing cabinet	5+ years	Unknown	No longer needed	1	Unknown

Information: 7. Finance-Donation for Holman Lunch Balance

The Board of Education accepts the generous donation of \$1,000.00 from an Anonymous Donor to the Jackson Food Services Department to be used for the purpose of paying outstanding cafeteria charges at the Holman Elementary School.

Information: 8. Finance-Literacy Initiative for Families and Thriving Comp Grant-Acceptance of Funds

The Board of Education approves the acceptance of funds for the Literacy Initiative for Families and Thriving Communities Grant for fiscal year 2025, starting date September 30, 2025, ending date August 31, 2026, in the amount of \$60,000.

Information: 9. Finance-Lunch and Breakfast Prices

The Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the school lunch and breakfast prices for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

	2025-2026 Pricing	2026-2027 Pricing
Elementary School Lunches	\$3.60	\$3.75
Elementary Breakfast	\$2.20	\$2.30
Middle School Lunches	\$3.85	\$4.00
Middle School Breakfast	\$2.20	\$2.30
High School Lunches	\$4.10	\$4.25
High School Breakfast	\$2.40	\$2.50
Milk	80¢	\$1.00
Adult Lunches	\$5.00	\$5.50
Adult Breakfast	\$3.25	\$3.50

Information: 10. Finance-School Based Mental Health Grant Round 4-Acceptance of Funds

The Board of Education approves the acceptance of funds for the School Based Mental Health Grant Round 4 for the period of 1/1/26 to 12/31/26, in the amount of \$50,000.

Information: 11. Finance-Tentative Budget

The Board of Education approves the tentative budget for the 2026-2027 school year and the following 2026-2027 budget resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY on March 18, 2026 as follows:

1. The Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 budget for the submission to the County Superintendent's Office in the amount of \$182,882,502.00 that consists of a Total General Fund of \$160,734,513.00, Federal/State Programs of \$14,361,189.00 and Debt Service of \$7,786,800.00.

2. The Board of Education approves the Tax Levy amount raised for General Funds of \$116,561,807.00 for the ensuing 2026-2027 school year

Information: 12. Finance-Health Care Cost Adjustment

The Board of Education approves the following 2026-2027 budget resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY ON March 18, 2026 AS FOLLOWS:

The Board of Education has used all allowable automatic adjustments; and utilizes the adjustment for an increase in Health Care Costs in the amount of \$7,314,821.00 in order to continue the educational programs in the Jackson School District at its current level.

Information: 13. Finance-Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement

The Board of Education approves the following Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Resolution for the 2026-2027 school year:

TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Jackson Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive prior approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only as described in NJOMB Circular Letter 06-14-OMB, including amendments or revisions thereto, a threshold amount below which Board approval is not required; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b)1. et seq. and the Board of Education establishes, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1,500.00 per staff/Board member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff/Board member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable are excluded from the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq.; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as per noted on the Board of Education Approval of Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the travel and related expense reimbursement as listed on the Board of Education Approval of Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2026-2027 school year at \$130,000.00, which the school district shall not exceed. The maximum travel expenditure amount for 2025-2026 was \$130,000.00. The amount spent as of March 1, 2026 is \$14,333.34.

Information: 14. Finance-Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal

The Board of Education approves the following budget resolution for the 2026-2027 school year:

MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY ON March 18, 2026 AS FOLLOWS:

BE IT RESOLVED that as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2(d), the general fund appropriations include a \$640,000.00 withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Account for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

Information: 15. Finance-Capital Reserve Withdrawal

The Board of Education approves the following budget resolution for the 2026-2027 school year:

CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that included in the general fund appropriations, budget line 620 is a withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Other Capital Projects in the amount of \$500,000.00 for other capital project costs of \$500,000.00. The total cost of this project is \$500,000.00, which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

K. Facilities - Resolutions for Action

Action: 1. Approve the following motions on Facilities

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following facilities resolutions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Information: 2. Facilities- Facilities Usage Report

The Board of Education approves the use of facilities for groups as filed.

Document: Facilities-Facilities Usage for 3 18 26 agenda

L. Programs - Resolutions for Action

Action: 1. Approve the following motions on Programs

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following programs resolutions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Discussion:

Mrs. Gardella, regarding Programs #2, pointed out that she received an email as a community member that there are programs on June 29 which is listed as a possible calendar change date.

Final Resolution: MOTIONS #3-12 CARRIED & MOTION #2 DID NOT PASS (revised 2025-2026 Calendar)

Yes: Tina Kas (No #2, yes to all others), Allison Barocas (No #2, yes to all others), Michael Walsh (No #2, yes to all others), Tara Rivera (No #2, yes to all others), Brian McCarron (Yes to all), Megan Gardella (No #2, yes to all others)

Information: 2. Programs-Approval of Revised 2025-2026 Calendar

The Board of Education approves the revised 2025-2026 District Calendar.

Document: Programs-2025-2026 Revised District Calendar for 3-18-26 Agenda

Information: 3. Programs-Puzzle Dash for JT 5-6

The Board of Education approves consultants from Puzzle Dash to be guest speakers for the JT5-6 School students in grades 5-6 to be funded by 2025-26 Title I Grant fund (Account #20-231-100-300-02), not to exceed \$5,200.

Information: 4. Programs-Title III ESL Family Nights

The Board of Education approves the Title III ESL Family Nights, for the 2025-26 school year to be paid by Title III Grant Funds (Account #20-241-200-110-09), in the amount of \$2,400.

Information: 5. Programs-Revised NJTESOL/NJBE 2026 Spring Conference Addition

The Board of Education approves the following personnel to attend the NJTESOL/NJBE 2026 Spring Conference to be paid by Title III Grant funds in the amount of ~~\$325~~ \$390, not to exceed ~~\$325~~ \$390 in total.

	Last Name	First Name	School	Dates	Acct.	Account Number	Amount
a.	Closius	Kara	JTMS	05/21/26	Title III	20-241-200-590-09	\$325 \$390

Information: 6. Programs- Professional Development & Travel Reimbursement

The Board of Education approves professional day requests and the travel reimbursement expense resolution from school board and staff members as filed with the appropriate supervisor.

Document: Programs- Professional Development and Travel for 3-18-26 agenda

Document: Programs-Travel Related Expense Forms for 3-18-26 agenda

Information: 7. Programs-ODD Facilities

The Board of Education approves additional funds to be allocated to the following programs due to an increase in student participation as stated in the approved 2025-2026 contract. (Account #11-150-100-320-09-210000)

	Allocated To	Not to Exceed
a.	EI IS, LLC d/b/a/ LearnWell Education	\$20,000 \$35,000
b.	Silvergate Prep	\$15,000 \$25,000

Information: 8. Programs-Middle School Promotion and High School Graduation Dates and Times

The Board of Education approves the following June 2026 middle school promotion and high school graduation dates and times:

Item	Event	Date	Time	Location
a.	Jackson Township Middle School 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony	Wednesday, June 24, 2026	3 p.m.	Jackson Township Middle School Munley Field
b.	Jackson Township High School Graduation Ceremony	Thursday, June 25, 2026	3 p.m.	Jackson Township High School Football Stadium

Information: 9. Programs-Camp Invention 2026

The Board of Education approves Camp Invention to facilitate a week-long program July 20-23, 2026 at the Switlik Elementary School, at no cost to the Board. Camp Invention is a nationally recognized program focused on creativity, innovation and the spirit of invention. The weeklong STEM program provides inquiry-based activities that give rising 1st through 6th grade students the opportunity to accomplish goals while solidifying teamwork skills through daily projects.

Information: 10. Programs-Jackson Musical Theater Summer Camp 2026

The Board of Education approves the Jackson Musical Theatre Summer Camp 2026 from July 20, 2026 through August 6, 2026, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (omitting the final Friday), to be held at Jackson Township Middle School for students entering grades 4 through 9 in September 2026, camp cost of \$595 per student, with a Camp Performance on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, in the Fine Arts Auditorium, at no cost to the Board.

Information: 11. Programs-JTV Film and Television Summer Camp 2026

The Board of Education approves the following Digital Media/JTV Film & Television Summer Camp 2026 classes, five (5) days per session, to be held at Jackson Township High School, at no cost to the Board:

- a. SESSION #1: "Short Film Production", July 13 - 17, 2026, 8:30 am-2:30 pm each day, Registration/Program fee of \$250.00;
- b. SESSION #2: "Television Production", July 20 - 24, 2026, 8:30 am-2:30 pm each day, Registration/Program fee of \$250.00;
- c. SESSION #3: "Music Video Production", July 27 - 31, 2026, 8:30 am-2:30 pm each day, Registration/Program fee of \$250.00;
- d. ALL THREE SESSIONS - Registration/Program fee of \$700.00

Information: 12. Programs-2026-2027 Child Care Rates

The Board of Education approves the rates for the 2026-2027 Child Care Academy, preschool through 6th grade, as follows:

2026-2027 MONTHLY TUITION RATES (\$75 Family Registration Fee)		
MONTHLY TUITION IS PAYABLE BETWEEN THE 15TH AND 25TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO NEW MONTH OF SERVICES		
Jackson School District Childcare for Crawford-Rodriguez, Switlik, Pre-School Annex, JT 5-6 (Grades Pre-School-6th)		
Before School	4-5 DAYS	1-3 DAYS
1st child	\$234	\$140
2nd child	\$223	\$134
After School	4-5 DAYS	1-3 DAYS
1st child	\$351	\$211
2nd child	\$334	\$201

2026-2027 MONTHLY TUITION RATES (\$75 Family Registration Fee)		
Jackson School District Childcare for Johnson, Elms and Holman (Grades Pre-School - 4th)		
Before School	4-5 DAYS	1-3 DAYS
1st child	\$117	\$70
2nd child	\$111	\$67
After School	4-5 DAYS	1-3 DAYS
1st child	\$468	\$281
2nd child	\$446	\$267
ADDITIONAL CHILD CARE PROGRAM SERVICES:		
PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SITES:	AM WALK IN \$30 per child	PM WALK IN \$40 per child
RATE CHART: As of March 18, 2026		

Discussion:

Mrs. Pormilli noted the denied vote will need to be discuss because now there is no calendar for this year and it is uncertain when staff is supposed to report or not report and a new plan will need to be figured out because this is the current calendar. Mrs. Gardella noted she did not expect everybody to vote no based on her comment. Mrs. Kas stated she thought the vote was only voting on the 29th and not the whole calendar. Mrs. Pormilli noted the vote is denying the entire revised calendar for the current school year.

Mr. Green, Board attorney, noted a motion to Reconsider Programs #2 can be made and then a revote if wanted.

Motion to Reconsider Programs #2 (opens motion for a revote)

Motion by Tina Kas, second by Michael Walsh.

MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Motion to Revote on Motion #2

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Discussion:

Mrs. Barocas clarified the discussion is that on the calendar if there is another closure, the first two days to go are April 2nd, April 1st which is no problem. The next day is June 29th, which is a problem because camps start that day and some staff start summer jobs. She said if that box was adjusted to just have only April 2nd and April 1st, she would agree. It is an issue because this calendar is so close to the end of the year.

Mrs. Pormilli stated we can certainly revisit the makeup days should we need to. She noted it is just a suggested makeup day if needed. She clarified this wasn't designed on purpose, the days put back into the calendar were out of necessity. The 19th can be revisited and made a half day should we need another day but that is something we can talk about and just adjust. She doesn't think it's a reason to not approve the calendar. Mrs. Barocas thought if it was approved then it was set. Mrs. Gardella noted that since the community pass already came out to residents regarding the 29th, she'd rather see the 19th impacted.

Mrs. Pormilli noted she hears the Board would like the 19th to be impacted should we need to should we have another closure. She noted the box at the bottom are options that will be considered as the winter progresses. Adjustments can be made but it is important that we communicate that to the public if it is needed. Looking at the 19th could be considered instead of going to the 29th.

MOTION CARRIED (Programs #2 only - with no changes)

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

M. Students - Resolutions for Action

Action: 1. Approve the following motions on Students

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following students resolutions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Information: 2. Students-HIB Monthly Report

The Board of Education accepts, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15b(6), the monthly Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report as presented to the Board of Education during Executive Session.

Document: Students-February 2026 HIB Chart

Information: 3. Students-Out of District Placement

The Board of Education approves the following placements for the 2025-2026 school year, beginning February 19, 2026 through June 30, 2026:

a.	1 Student	Placement:	Mary A. Dobbins
		Tuition:	Responsible: Atlantic City Public Schools
		Effective:	2/19/26

Information: 4. Students-Educational Field Trips

The Board of Education approves educational and athletic field trips as filed with the Transportation Director.

Document: Students-Educational Field Trips for 3-18-26 Agenda

Information: 5. Students-8th Grade Class Trip to Frogbridge Day Camp

The Board of Education approves the Jackson Township Middle School annual 8th grade trip to Frogbridge Recreation Camp in Millstone, NJ on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at no cost to the Board.

Information: 6. Students-DECA International Career Development Conference

The Board of Education approves a JTHS DECA trip to the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 24-29, 2026. The purpose of this trip is for JTHS DECA students to participate in international-level leadership academies and business discipline competitions. Students earned attendance to these academies by achieving the highest possible honors designated by NJ DECA:

- Thrive Level for overall chapter distinction
- Gold Level for chapter community service
- Individual qualification from state-level competition

N. Personnel - Resolutions for Action

Action: 1. Approve the following motions on Personnel

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following personnel resolutions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Information: 2. Personnel-Retirements

The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts with best wishes, the resignation of the following employees, due to retirement:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Effective Date
a.	Berger	Shari	Teacher	JT 5-6	7/1/26
b.	Callahan	Holly	Art Teacher	JTHS	7/1/26
c.	Callahan	Timothy	Groundsperson	District	7/1/26
d.	Carello	Roseanne	Basic Skills/Intervention Teacher	Crawford	7/1/26
e.	Cusson	Antoinette	Paraprofessional	JTHS	10/1/26
f.	Firestone	Michael	Driver	Transportation	7/1/26
g.	Gallagher-Tenaglia	Cynthia	Literacy Teacher	JT 5-6	7/1/26
h.	Kahn	Tracey	Teacher	Switlik	7/1/26
i.	Kochis	Eileen	Special Education Teacher	JT 5-6	7/1/26
j.	Limongelli	Dawn	Special Education Teacher	Crawford	7/1/26
k.	Longo-Thomas	Lia	Art Teacher	Crawford	10/1/26
l.	Lynch	Kathleen	Teacher	JT 5-6	7/1/26
m.	Nelson	Tina	Preschool Disabled Teacher	Holman	7/1/26
n.	Pagano-Hein	Renee	Principal	Johnson	7/1/26
o.	Plunkett	Susan	Paraprofessional	JTHS	10/1/26
p.	Ramirez	Tracie	Paraprofessional	Elms	7/1/26
q.	Velez	Hank	Food Service Worker	JTHS	12/1/26
r.	Wardell	Marie	Teacher	Switlik	7/1/26

Information: 3. Personnel-Resignations

The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the resignation of the following employees:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Effective Date
a.	Antonucci	Sarah	Driver	Transportation	3/30/26
b.	Clanton	Malcolm	Custodian-PT	JTHS	3/24/26
c.	Etling	Shirley	Preschool Van Aide	Transportation	3/4/26
d.	Garvey	James	Driver	Transportation	3/12/26
e.	Konopka	Agnieszka	Psychologist	Crawford	4/21/26
f.	Lloyd	William	Van Aide	Transportation	3/10/26
g.	Martinez	Angela	Van Aide	Transportation	4/17/26

Information: 4. Personnel-Position Creation

The Board of Education approves the following new position(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

	Position	Location
a.	Paraprofessional	Crawford
b.	Paraprofessional	Johnson

Information: 5. Personnel-Leave of Absences

The Board of Education approves a leave of absence for the following personnel:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Leave Type	Start Date	End Date	Return to Work
a.	Barry	Jessie-Ann	Van Aide	Transportation	Paid Sick Leave	2/2/26	2/20/26	2/23/26
b.	Bender	Megan	Art Teacher	JTHS	Paid Medical	3/13/26	4/3/26	4/13/26
c.	Bonham	Stefanie	Driver	Transportation	Intermittent Paid/Unpaid Federal and NJ FMLA	2/2/26	2/17/27	NA
d.	Brady	Helena	Special Education Teacher	JTHS	Paid Medical	3/10/26	4/1/26	4/13/26
e.	Caggiano	Laureen	SAC	JTMS	Unpaid Federal FMLA	1/28/26	2/20/26	2/26/26

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Leave Type	Start Date	End Date	Return to Work
f.	Cirello	Dana	Speech Language Specialist	Elms	Revised Unpaid Federal and NJ FMLA	11/14/25	3/2/26	NA
					Paid Leave (using Personal Days)	3/3/26	3/5/26	NA
					Revised Child Care	3/6/26	3/31/26	4/1/26
g.	DeVivo	Lisa	Paraprofessional	ELMS	Paid Medical	1/5/26	3/3/26	3/4/26
h.	Fallon	Fatma	Preschool Paraprofessional	Preschool Annex	Paid Medical	3/9/26	4/22/26	NA
					Unpaid Federal FMLA	4/23/26	TBD	NA
i.	Ficarra	Eric	Music Teacher	JTMS	Revised Unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical	1/5/26	4/3/26	4/13/26
j.	Gochal-Ruderman	Rose	Special Education Teacher	Elms	Revised Paid Leave	2/2/26	3/24/26	NA
					Unpaid Federal and NJ FMLA	3/25/26	6/30/26	9/1/26
k.	Hirschberg	Melissa	LDTC	JT 5-6	Revised Unpaid Federal and NJ FMLA	11/24/25	3/10/26	NA
					Revised Unpaid Child Care	3/11/26	3/31/26	4/1/26
l.	Hoffman	Karen	Preschool Van Aide	Transportation	Paid Medical Leave	3/11/26	half day 3/25/26	NA
					NJ FMLA	half day 3/25/26	4/3/26	4/13/26
m.	Kennedy	Kristen	Kindergarten Teacher	Elms	Revised Federal and NJ FMLA	1/8/26	4/17/26	4/20/26
n.	Lloyd	William	Van Aide	Transportation	Revised Paid Medical	2/5/26	3/4/26	NA
					Revised Unpaid Medical	3/5/26	3/9/26	resign 3/10/26
o.	McDonald	Edward	Chemistry Teacher	JTHS	Paid Sick Leave	3/9/26	TBD	NA
p.	Murillo	John	Driver	Transportation	Paid Sick Leave	2/19/26	3/6/26	NA
					Unpaid LOA	3/9/2026	3/12/2026	3/13/26
q.	Newman	Megan	Physical Education Teacher	JTHS	Unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical	2/3/2026	5/8/2026	NA
					Unpaid Child Care	5/11/2026	5/15/2026	5/18/26
r.	Palme	Lorraine	Media Specialist	Switlik	Paid Medical	4/15/2026	5/11/2026	NA
					Unpaid Federal FMLA	5/12/2026	TBD	NA
s.	Pennington	Karyn	Literacy Teacher	JTMS	Revised Unpaid Federal & NJ FMLA	1/5/2026	4/14/2026	NA
					Revised Unpaid Child Care	4/15/2026	4/27/2026	4/28/26
t.	Sarana	Hope	School Nurse	JT 5-6	Intermittent Federal and NJ FMLA	2/1/2026	2/1/2027	NA
u.	Silverio	Sandra	Custodian	JTMS	Paid Sick Leave	2/2/26	3/5/26	3/6/26
v.	Spieler	Carmela	Family Consumer Science Teacher	JTHS	Paid Sick Leave	2/2/26	3/3/26	3/4/26
w.	Tilsner	Jennifer	Special Education Teacher	Crawford	Paid Medical	3/23/26	TBD	NA
x.	Valentino	Deena	Paraprofessional	Crawford	Revised Unpaid Federal and NJ FMLA	1/5/26	4/14/26	NA
					Unpaid Child Care	4/15/26	6/30/26	9/1/26
y.	Wypych	Nika	Driver	Transportation	Paid Medical	2/26/26	3/12/26	NA
					Revised Unpaid Federal FMLA	3/13/26	TBD	NA

Information: 6. Personnel-Rescind Employment

The Board of Education approves the rescindment of employment of the following personnel:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Original Board Agenda
a.	Ellison	Kaylee	Preschool Van Aide	Transportation	2/18/26
b.	McCollum	Laneeshia	Mechanic Helper	Transportation	2/18/26

Information: 7. Personnel-New Employments

The Board of Education approves the employment of the following personnel:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Account	Replacing	PC #	Effective date	Salary	Step
a.	Applegate	Donna	Receptionist (5.5 hours)	Preschool Annex	20-218-200-105-09	Angela Sito (resigned)	1951	3/19/26	\$15,988.50	1
b.	Braun	Kate	Math Teacher	JTMS	11-130-100-101-01	Lisa Trojakowski (retired)	1147	9/1/26	\$60,742.00, pending negotiations	BA Step 1
c.	Chavarria	Luis	Driver	Transportation	11-000-270-160-08	Maritza Torres (transfer)	78	3/19/26	6.5 hours per day, \$31.00 per hour	1
d.	Chavarria	Sharon	Preschool Van Aide	Transportation	20-218-200-104-09	Shirley Etling (resigned)	1855	3/19/26	5.75 hours per day, \$21.00 per hour	1
e.	Gorenca	Jehona	Paraprofessional - Personal	Crawford	11-000-217-106-09-21000	New Position	New PC	3/19/26	\$39,036.00	1
f.	Hernandez	Isabella	Special Education Teacher	JTMS	11-213-100-101-09	Mary Traina	1361	9/1/26	\$63,542.00, pending negotiations	MA Step 1
g.	Meier	William	Driver	Transportation	11-000-270-160-08	James Garvey (resigned)	24	3/30/26	6.5 hours per day, \$31.00 per hour	1
h.	Ortiz	Dayna	Preschool Van Aide	Transportation	20-218-200-104-09	Gregory Chlestos (resigned)	1841	3/19/26, pending criminal history	5.75 hours per day, \$21.00 per hour	1
i.	Platt	Alyssa	Paraprofessional - Shared	Johnson	11-216-100-106-09	New Position	New PC	3/30/26	\$40,561.00 (\$39,236.00 plus \$825.00 hygiene stipend plus \$500.00 educational stipend)	2
j.	Walle	Maria	Custodian-PT (Tues-Fri, 5 p.m.-11 p.m.)	JTHS	11-000-262-100-12-250202	New Position	New PC	3/19/26	\$24,311.04	1

Information: 8. Personnel-Transfers

The Board of Education approves the transfer of the following personnel:

	Last Name	First	From Position	From Location	To Position	To Location	Paid To Account	Replacing	PC #	Effective Date	Salary Change	Step
a.	Kirschenbaum	Carol	Lunchroom Aide	JTMS	Lunchroom Aide	JTHS	11-000-262-107-12-250400	Angela Dorsey (resigned)	100	4/13/26	No change	NA

Information: 9. Personnel-Contract Adjustments

The Board of Education approves the following contract adjustments:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Account	Effective date	Salary from	Salary to	Step	Reason
a.	Dordas	Kathryn	Van Aide	Transportation	11-000-270-107-08-250311	3/19/26	6.5 hours per day, \$21.00 per hour	6.67 hours per day, \$21.00 per hour	1	Route Adjustment
b.	Torres	Maritza	Bus Coordinator	Transportation	11-000-270-160-08-250304	3/2/26	\$56,568.93	\$58,407.42	2	Step Adjustment

Information: 10. Personnel-Longevity

The Board of Education approves the following contract adjustments for longevity for the 2025-2026 school year, in accordance with the current negotiated contracts:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Bargaining Group	Effective Date	Longevity Years	Current Salary	Adjustment	Adjusted Salary (Prorated)
a.	Livio	Kelly	Teacher	JEA	4/1/26	17 Years	\$85,092.00	\$1,500.00	\$86,592.00
b.	Lockhart	Gregory	Math Teacher	JEA	4/1/26	25 Years	\$95,152.00	\$500.00	\$95,652.00

Information: 11. Personnel-Substitute Teachers and Paraprofessionals

The Board of Education approves the following substitutes and daily rates for the 2025-2026 school year, to include one (1) day orientation at their daily rate:

	Last Name	First Name	Para-professional	Para-professional with 60 credits	Substitute Teacher (Substitute Certification 30-60 credits)	Substitute Teacher (Substitute Certification -BA/MA)	Substitute Teacher (CE/CEAS/Standard)	Substitute Long Term Leave > 8 weeks
a.	Esteves	Michelle				X		
b.	Hansen	Ryan			X			
c.	Heller	Joshua					X	X
d.	Koopman	Morgan				X		
e.	Novak	Patrick					X	X
f.	Panebianco	Melanie					X	X
g.	Svoboda	Christian				X		
h.	Talbot	Thomas			X			
i.	Worley	Willie					X	X

Information: 12. Personnel-Substitutes (Other)

The Board of Education approves the employment of the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year, effective March 19, 2026, unless otherwise noted:

	Last Name	First Name	Substitute Position	Rate
a.	Clanton	Malcolm	Custodian	\$17.00
b.	Dimaggio	Steven	Custodian	\$17.00
c.	Foster	Judi	FSW	\$15.92
d.	Orr	Michael	SLEO-Armed	\$21.50
e.	Salas	Walter	SLEO	\$17.00
f.	Sisnetsky	David	SLEO-Armed	\$21.50

Information: 13. Personnel-Volunteer Clubs

The Board of Education approves the following volunteer clubs and advisors for the 2025-2026 school year:

	Last Name	First Name	School	Club
a.	George	Patrick	JTHS	Model United Nations Club
b.	Kratz	Susan	JTHS	Helping PAWS

Information: 14. Personnel-Volunteer Coaches

The Board of Education approves the following volunteer coaches for the 2025-2026 school year:

	Last Name	First Name	Location	Volunteer Assignment	Sport	Assisting Head Coach
a.	Brown	Richard	JTHS	Assistant Coach	Baseball	Patrick George
b.	Guagenti	Erika	JTHS	Assistant Coach	Girls Golf	Timothy Schenck
c.	Patterson	Gregg	JTHS	Assistant Coach	Boys and Girls Golf Boys and Girls Lacrosse	Matthew Schmidt/ Timothy Schenck
d.	Schone	Michael	JTHS	Assistant Coach	Boys Lacrosse	Anthony Dzienkiewicz
e.	Testa	Joseph	JTHS	Assistant Coach	Baseball	Patrick George

Information: 15. Personnel-Athletic Event Staff

The Board of Education approves the following Athletic Event Staff for the 2025-2026 school year (Account # 11-402-100-100-09-250329), hourly rate per the fee schedule:

	Last Name	First Name	Location
a.	Paturzo	Thomas	JTMS/JTHS

Information: 16. Personnel-Student Teachers

The Board of Education approves the following student teachers as filed with the Assistant Superintendent:

	Last Name	First Name	Request	College / University	Dates	Cooperating Teacher(s)	School
a.	Devine	John	Practicum	Monmouth University	2/19/26-5/31/26	Scott Katona	JTHS JT-5-6
b.	Pilku	Mirela	Practicum	St. Elizabeth University	9/01/26-12/31/26	Victoria Martinez	CRS

Information: 17. Personnel-House Managers-External Events

The Board of Education approves the following personnel as House Managers for Outside Events for the 2025-2026 school year, (Account #11-401-100-100-09-300000), \$40.00 per hour:

	Last Name	First Name	Start Date
a.	Bellagamba	Judith	3/19/26
b.	Bonfiglio	Richard	3/19/26
c.	Connor	Donald	3/19/26
d.	Cornelisse	Jillian	3/19/26
e.	Fitzpatrick	Jessica	3/19/26
f.	Gwozdz	Patricia	3/19/26
g.	Hay	Victoria	3/13/26
h.	Lardieri	Michele	3/19/26
i.	Linke	Robin	3/19/26
j.	Malarich	Adam	3/19/26

	Last Name	First Name	Start Date
k.	Roma	Christopher	3/19/26
l.	Schiano	Danielle	3/19/26
m.	Szabo	Bridget	3/19/26
n.	Vargas	Andrea	3/19/26
o.	Ventrello	Jessica	3/19/26

Information: 18. Personnel-Child Care

The Board of Education approves the staff and salaries for the Child Care Academy's 2025-2026 school year (Account #62-990-320-100-09):

	Last Name	First Name	District Lead Teacher	Teacher/ Substitute Teacher	Paraprofessional / Substitute Paraprofessional	Receptionist / Substitute Receptionist	Child Care Assistant
a.	Hires	Marie			X	X	

Information: 19. Personnel-Title III ESL Family Nights

The Board of Education approves the Title III ESL Family Nights, for the 2025-26 school year to be paid by Title III Grant Funds (Account #20-241-200-110-09), in the amount of \$2,400.

	Last Name	First Name	School	Amount
a.	Barton	Christina	JTMS	\$150.00
b.	Cascio	Emily	JTHS	\$100.00
c.	Checorski	Irina	Holman	\$150.00
d.	Coughlan	Dawn	JTHS	\$100.00
e.	Crawford	Meagan	Switlik	\$150.00
f.	De Vivo-Calabrese	Dina	Johnson	\$150.00
g.	Desai	Tripti	Crawford	\$150.00
h.	Downey	Shannon	JT 5/6	\$50.00
i.	Katsoupas	Denise	JTMS	\$150.00
j.	Kosakowski	Melissa	Crawford	\$150.00
k.	Mitchell	Stacy	Holman	\$150.00
l.	Ovalles	Ana	Elms	\$150.00
m.	Panora	Diana	Johnson	\$150.00
n.	Ramos	Carmen	JTHS	\$100.00
o.	Rebeiro	Jennifer	Switlik	\$150.00
p.	Rose	Justina	JT 5/6	\$150.00
q.	Vitale	Haylee	Elms	\$150.00

Information: 20. Personnel-Suspensions

The Board of Education approves the suspension without pay of the following employees:

	Employee Name	Employee #	# Days Suspension	Reason
a.	Name on file with Superintendent	#112410	1 day	Failure to follow established procedures
b.	Name on file with Superintendent	#107971	3 days	Failure to follow established procedures
c.	Name on file with Superintendent	#104019	1 day	Failure to follow established procedures

Information: 21. Personnel-Termination

The Board of Education approves the termination of one (1) employee effective March 19, 2026, names on file with the Superintendent.

	ID #	Last Name	First Name	Title	Location	Reason
a.	115750	Martinez	Harley	Driver	Transportation	Probationary Performance

O. Public Forum

Action, Information: 1. Open Public Forum Policy

Mrs. Gardella made the following statement: "I need a Motion to open public forum any topic pertaining to the Board of Education. Please sign in and state your name and whether or not you are a Jackson resident. Each person is allowed a maximum of three minutes to speak. No person may speak more than once on a topic until all others have been heard."

Motion to Open Public Forum

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Tom Riley, parent and resident, noted snow day school closures make parents have to take off of work but replacing those days with half days also impacts parents because they need to take a half a day off from work. He also expressed concerned about the impact of the loss of instructional time specifically for HS block scheduling. He expressed concern about the school closure for the internet and our reliance on technology. He expressed concern about traffic at Johnson and the noxious fumes from a bus from an after school offsite activity. He asked if the police could assist in ensuring people are abiding by traffic laws. He learned from tonight's Food Service presentation that he can limit snacks and that running the negative balance prevents his child purchasing snacks. He gave high praise to the Johnson PTO for their enormous amount of volunteer work.

Action: 2. Close Public Forum

Seeing no one else come forward, Mrs. Gardella asked for a Motion to Close Public Forum.

Motion to Close Public Forum

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by Michael Walsh.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Mr. Riley for sharing his concerns. She noted she is always available via email or phone calls. She noted the snow closures and the emergency closure this year were not common nor ideal. Closing school is not an easy decision because instructional time is extremely important but we need to make sure we have enough staff coverage. In regard to the internet loss, she noted our phones are internet based and, as communicated, the storm impacted poles and repairs by JCP&L and our internet provider's ability to repair was delayed. Administration now has contingency plans in place should we lose both phones and internet but it is agreed we should not be that reliant on the internet. She agreed that our PTNs do a lot of work and we are always thankful to our parents. She noted she is meeting with the new Police Chief next week and will bring up his concerns.

P. Board Comments

Information: 1. Board Comments

Mrs. Barocas thanked Mr. Baginski for doing an amazing job on presenting the budget. She congratulated the girls and boys wrestling teams, the boys and girls basketball teams and our bowling team on their tremendous success they had during their season. She noted the amazing performance by the marching band during the St. Patrick's Day parade. She wished happy 18th birthday to her daughter, Paige.

Mrs. Kas congratulated Girls Wrestling and all of the athletic teams and the band at the parade. She saw the performance of Mamma Mia and said it was better than the Broadway production she saw. She congratulated DECA and wished them good luck on the next competition.

Mrs. Rivera thanked everyone for coming out and viewing on live stream and for the presentations. She saw Mamma Mia and thought it was an amazing performance. She thought Read Across America was full of great interactions and student engagement.

Mr. Walsh congratulated all the athletic teams. He praised the budget presentation and all the administrators for their involvement. He noted he does not like the half days in the school calendar because classroom instruction time is lost and if kids are not in the classroom then nothing is happening.

Mr. McCarron congratulated all the athletics. He thanked to Mr. Baginski, Mr. Rotante, and Dr. Godlesky for the buildings tours last week. He noted it was good to get into the see the buildings and see firsthand all the great things happening in our district.

Mrs. Gardella echoed everyone else's comments. She pointed out a student in Mama Mia who came out in the last three minutes of the play and nailed his part. She praised everybody in the production and noted all the athletic highlights. She noted Assemblyman Sauickie put Bill #A4750 in today with the assembly; it is meant to provide relief to school districts who in the past two years have went over the tax levy cap by 9.9% and where healthcare costs increased. She noted the bill would therefore be a state issue and the state should then correct the issue and it should not be a local issue. She is unsure if his bill will have any traction. She noted any support by the community to all the districts in our state is obviously a benefit. She noted we are for the second year increasing that tax for the healthcare waiver so, it would be a benefit to us as well. She noted our current governor ran on a campaign for improving health insurance rates and costs in the state. She also noted her concern to have a more consistent calendar although she thought this year was definitely out of character.

Q. Adjournment

Action: 1. Adjournment by Acclamation

Motion to Close the Meeting

Motion by Tara Rivera, second by acclamation.

Final Resolution: MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Tina Kas, Allison Barocas, Michael Walsh, Tara Rivera, Brian McCarron, Megan Gardella

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm



Daniel Baginski
Business Administrator / Board Secretary