

**Board Minutes**  
**March 16, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Jasper High School Community Room on March 16, 2026, 7:00 p.m. President Greg Eckerle called the meeting to order.

Board Members and School Corporation personnel in attendance:

Greg Eckerle-Present

Arlet Jackle-Vice President

Dr. Judy Englert-Secretary-Present

Steve Lukemeyer-Member-Present

Sara Schmidt-Member-Present

Tim DeMotte-School Attorney-Present

Dr. Tracy Lorey-Superintendent-Present

Glenn Buechlein-Assistant Superintendent Support Services and Transportation-Present

Tina Fawks-Assistant Superintendent Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment-Absent

Monica Young-Corporation Treasurer-Present

Live Stream Link

<https://youtube.com/live/Qfyxbr1tciI?feature=share>

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by everyone in attendance.

Public Comment:

None

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Eckerle asked members if any of the consent agenda items needed to be discussed.

No other items were asked to be discussed.

A motion by Mr. Lukemeyer, second by Mrs. Schmidt, to approve the consent agenda, was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Consent Agenda**

- Minutes, claims and bank reconciliations
- Consideration of Request for Leave
  - As presented to the Board of Trustees
- Resignations/Retirements
  - Kelli Gehlhausen-Secretary-JES-Effective March 13, 2026
  - Janelle Welch-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES-Termination Effective Immediately
  - Trisha Pfau-Elementary Grade Coordinator and Elementary Head Teacher-JES-Effective August 2026
  - Angie Cox-Teacher-JES-Retirement Effective August 2026
  - Wes Moser-Social Studies Teacher-JMS-Retirement Effective August 2026
  - Monica Young-Business Office/Treasurer-CO-Retirement Effective July 2026
  - Addison Betz-Student Services Registrar-JHS-Resignation Effective June 2026
  - Fred Routson-Department Head-JHS-Effective August 2026

- Staff Recommendations
  - Bonnie Rustman-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
  - Jade Kiefner-28-Hour Instructional Assistant-JES
  - Megan Wehr-Board Meeting Recorder-GJCS
  - Haley Sermersheim-20-Hour Instructional Assistant-JMS
  - Jarrod Land-Department Chair-JHS-Effective August 2026
  - Jolie Painter-Department Chair-JHS-Effective August 2026
  - Alli Hart-Assistant Softball Coach-JHS
- Approve Master's Incentive Program of \$3,000 base salary Increase
  - Heather Pfister-Grandfathered Program Guidelines
- Reschedule June 29, 2026, Board Meeting to June 22, 2026 (This is the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month)
- Field Trip Requests
  - None
- Other
  - None

#### Wildcat Spotlight-David Hubster-Phil Tolbert

Mr. Hubster informed the Board their Vision and Mission is to ensure every student is prepared for post-secondary success through high-quality instruction, equitable support, and continuous growth. Their Mission is to raise student achievement and close opportunity gaps by focusing on key performance indicators aligned to state benchmarks.

Some of the areas they are working in are as follows:

- One of the areas they are concentrating on is math growth. Their goal is to increase the percentage of students meeting growth goal from 49.2% to 55% by 2030.
- Increase the percentage of students meeting proficiency from 51.7% to 65% by 2030.
- Increase the ELA Growth percentage of students meeting growth goals from 57.6% to 65% by 2030
- Increase the percentage of students meeting proficiency from 56.7% to 65% by 2030
- Increase students reading at grade level in grades 6-8

They have implemented a three Tier focus on academic and behavioral strategies in the general education setting.

#### Tier 1 Core Instruction

- Strengthen standards-based instruction through weekly PLC collaboration
- Design vertically aligned common assessments aligned to Indiana standards
- Analyze ILEARN checkpoint and common assessment data by standard

#### Tier 2 Targeted Intervention (Responsive Support)

- Identify students through data cycles for HR-based Tier 2 intervention
- Deliver standards specific small group instruction
- Provide structured opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery following intervention cycles
- Monitor progress using common formative assessments

#### Tier 3 Intensive Intervention (Acceleration and Remediation)

- Develop and implement a formal Tier 3 math intervention framework
- Create and administer a foundational math diagnostic screener
- Progress monitors every 2-3 weeks and adjusts interventions accordingly

They developed systems of accountability and celebrating student success.

He stated with the addition of a literacy coach this will help improve students in all areas of study.

They started with the RTI program. The ELA department and math department started what's called PLC process, which is a weekly meeting, and a team of teachers that talk about student learning. They talk mainly about 4 questions; what did the student learn, how are we going to know what they learned, what are we going to do if they haven't and what we are going to do if they have.

The PLC process is basically the RTI process. The process expands out to the core classes, and this can work with behaviors too. Using different assessments, both formative and common, you can see which students are struggling and which students are able to be accelerated or enrich. With this process they can move students through the tier process. If students are struggling they put them with other students struggling with similar skills so they can master the content being taught.

Dr. Englert asked if RTI has been started. She also asked if all students-every student is included in the program.

Mr. Tolbert stated they started the PLC process. They meet on Thursday morning with a steering committee. This is to start the process of building out and hopefully start an RTI program.

Dr. Englert asked if all students including the students with IEPs will be included.

Mr. Tolbert said it will include all students. He stated he is excited about the program.

Mr. Lukemeyer stated interaction teaches leadership skills and gives students a chance for role modeling. He asked if all grade levels get to interact with each other.

Mr. Hubster said there is not a lot of interaction with the students divided by floors. He stated when building JMS that was one of the big selling points for the grades to be separated. He says they have found over the years they have lost some of the chances to role model with the students.

Mr. Eckerle thanked Mr. Hubster and Mr. Tolbert for their report.

Building & Maintenance Update

No Update

Curriculum Update—Mrs. Fawks

No Update

Student Support Services and Transportation Update—Mr. Erny

No Update

Other Business:

Dr. Lorey asked the Board to strike the first item on the other business area because the corporation is still working with the City of Jasper to finalize some of the details and the documents that she was going to ask the Board to consider in regard to the property transfer agreement, warranty deeds, and then the shared parking agreements and ingress egress agreements. She stated hopefully they will be available for the Board at the April meeting.

Dr Lorey asked the Board to approve the Teacher Appreciation Grant distribution upon receipt from the Indiana Department of Education. The Indiana Department of Education allocated \$121,948.72, which would have allowed awards to be given up to 20% of eligible teachers. A total of 74 teachers applied for the award with 69 of those applicants meeting the eligibility criteria. To maximize recognition, they would like to give all eligible applicants a consideration for a tier one award, which is \$3,500. So, in accordance with the program guidelines, if you take \$121,948.72 and divide it by \$3,500, we don't get

the full 20% of teachers. They can only award 35, and that is if they can get a little from the education fund to fulfill that 35<sup>th</sup> award.

She asked the Board to move forward with the distribution of the teacher appreciation grant once they receive the allocation from the state. She said the corporation should receive the funds around Tax Day, April 15<sup>th</sup>. By statute, the corporation has 60 days to liquidate the funds to the individuals receiving the award. She asked the Board to contribute \$551.28 from the education fund so that they could add that to the allocation from the Board and fulfill the 35 awards. The teachers who will receive the money were determined by a lottery.

Dr. Englert asked how they did the lottery.

Dr. Lorey stated they looked at positive impact of student growth, and achievement of student growth. Some of the teachers did not acquire the local assessment so they could not apply.

Mrs. Jackle asked how they would acquire the assessment.

Dr. Lorey stated with the assessment in dibbles, IREAD, ILEARN and the AP Exam.

Dr. Lorey was asked if the teachers who qualified this year would be eligible next year.

Dr. Lorey stated yes.

A motion by Mrs. Schmidt, second by Dr. Englert, to approve the distribution of the Teacher Appreciation Grant and the \$551.28 of corporation funds for the expenditure, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Lorey asked the Board to declare a 2008 Ford Fusion used by the Patoka Valley CTE Cooperative surplus to be sold.

A motion by Dr. Englert, second by Mr. Lukemeyer, to approve the 2008 Ford Fusion as surplus, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. Lorey recognized Monica Young because this was her final board meeting serving as the treasurer of Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools. She said Monica has given 30 years of dedicated service to the district, and for three decades she's been the steady hand behind much of the finances, making sure that things are accurate, making sure the corporation is compliant, and that things run smoothly. School Finance is complicated work. She said Monica has handled it with such professionalism. She's handled it with care and with a level of detail that has helped keep the district in a very strong position over the years. She said Monica, the corporation is very grateful for your commitment to the district over the years and to the students. She said her work has made a lasting impact on Greater Jasper Schools, and you will certainly be missed. The person taking her position will have big shoes to fill. She stated congratulations.

Mr. Eckerle stated on behalf of the Board, they have a parting gift for Mrs. Young. He said he must admit, when he came to the Board Mrs. Young was here and she was at every meeting that he has been at. Mrs. Young was the treasurer when he came on the Board, and he never had to worry about the finances. The State Board of Account audits went well. He stated it was easy to count on her.

Mrs. Young thanked the Board for electing her all these years. She stated she's had a lot of good memories and now it's on to the next set of memories.

#### Announcements

- School will be in session on Monday, April 6, 2026. This is a snow make-up day
- ISBA Region 9 Meeting is Monday, April 20, 2026, at Klubhaus. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m.
- Jasper High School Academic Honors Awards will be Friday, April 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the gym
- The regular April Board Meeting is on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the JHS Community Room

Adjourn

There being no further business to conduct and upon a motion by Mrs. Jackle, second by Dr. Englert, the Board voted to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

An Executive Session was not held.

Greg Wade President

Arlet Jackle Vice-President

Jack Englert Secretary

Stacy Member

Sara Schmidt Member