



Jasper County Charter System

Tracy R. Blackburn, Superintendent

Board Bullets

Highlights of the Jasper County Charter System Board of Education Meeting held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Opening and Recognitions

- Ms. Dennis called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.
- The agenda was approved as presented.
- Ms. Blackburn welcomed Charlotte Duke, a Jasper County Primary School student and FCA member, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation. Andi McFarland of Jasper County High School read the Jasper County Charter System Mission and Vision.
- The Board presented the following recognitions:
 - We are proud to celebrate an outstanding showing by Jasper County High School students at the 2026 Senior National Beta Convention! Andi McFarland earned 1st place in the nation in 9th Grade Psychology, becoming a National Beta Champion. Also of note was the Living Literature team who placed 3rd in the nation, setting a new school record. Our Robotics team placed 9th nationally for the second consecutive year. We are incredibly proud of these students and grateful to Ms. McAlum for her leadership and support of Beta last school year.
 - Three outstanding members of the Jasper County Charter System were recognized with our Builders of Opportunity Award. Robbie Key was honored for his leadership and dedication in helping bring our construction projects from vision to reality. Mary Tumlin was recognized for developing strong CTAE pathways, building community partnerships, and creating opportunities that prepare students for life beyond school. Tyler Smith was honored for preserving Jasper County history by transforming pieces of the original JCHS gym floor into furniture and features that will continue to be enjoyed for years to come.
- Board members were recognized for their leadership and support of district construction and facility improvements. Each member received a commemorative plaque created by Tyler Smith using pieces of the original Jasper Comprehensive High School gym floor, preserving a meaningful part of Jasper County history.

Informational Items

- Construction Update: The Board received an update on construction and facility improvements completed across Jasper County Charter System. Major projects included the completion and opening of the new CTAE wing at Jasper County High School and the new 6th-grade wing at Washington Park Elementary School. The district celebrated both projects with ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the start of the school year. The JCHS project was completed on schedule, allowing occupancy and move-in prior to the first day of school.



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- Additional facility improvements included painting throughout WPES and Pre-K, replacement of WPES street lighting, 40 additional parking spaces, new fencing around the car rider loop, replacement of JCHS gym lighting, and replacement of the JCMS gym floor.
 - The district also invested in new school nutrition equipment at WPES, JCPS, and JCHS, along with furniture upgrades that included new WPES cafeteria seating for approximately 320 students, furniture for the WPES addition, and 100 replacement student desks at JCMS.
- CTAE Update: The Board received an update on Jasper County Charter System's Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education programs and the work being done to prepare students for college, careers, and the workforce. CTAE offerings include programs in business, agriculture, healthcare, CNA, AVTF/engineering, biotechnology, early childhood education, sports medicine, work-based learning, and additional middle school pathways.
 - Jasper County High School CTAE concentrators achieved a 100% graduation rate in 2025, compared with the state rate of 98.45%. The district continues to strengthen partnerships with business, industry, and higher education to ensure students develop relevant workforce skills.
 - End of Pathway Assessment results continued to improve, with the pass rate increasing from 73% in 2022 to 94% in 2026. In 2026, 134 of 142 pathway completers successfully passed their End of Pathway Assessment.
 - The district was awarded \$40,537 in FY27 Federal Perkins V funds to support CTAE program improvement, professional development, and Perkins V Plus Reserve initiatives. The grant award also reflected additional state CTAE and agricultural education allocations.
- Back to School Update: The Board received an overview of the successful start to the 2026-2027 school year, including the district's Rock Your Role theme and Education Celebration focused on cultivating a high-performing, committed workforce. School-level Teachers and Support Persons of the Year were recognized. Susan Sauls Evans was named District Support Person of the Year, and Elizabeth Proctor was named District Teacher of the Year. Other topics included:
 - District Operations: Opening updates highlighted fully covered transportation routes, fully staffed school nutrition, continued safe and effective operations, and enrollment of 2,765 students as of August 12, 2026.



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- Academic Highlights: Jasper County Primary earned GaDOE STEM Certification at the Executing Level, and Jasper County High School earned six 2026 Advanced Placement School Honors.

Business Items Approved

- The Board approved the FY27 CTAE Perkins Grant, providing \$40,537 in federal funds to support CTAE program improvement, professional development, and approved Perkins initiatives.

Superintendent's Consent Agenda

- The Board approved the July 21 Business Meeting minutes, JCHS, JCMS, and JCPK fundraisers, Jasper County Dawgs Baseball facility use, a JCHS athletic field trip request, and CTAE surplus equipment. They also approved the cancellation of the September 1 Work Session.

Executive Session

The Board voted to enter Executive Session for the purpose of personnel.

Personnel

The Board approved the following personnel recommendations from the Superintendent:

New Hires

- a. Laurie Robinson, PEC Teacher, Jasper County High School (effective 8/24/2026)
- b. Jennifer Holifield, Part-time SIS Coordinator, BOE (effective 7/1/2026)
- c. Christina Smith, Assistant Principal, Washington Park Elementary (effective TBD)
- d. Erika Livermont, District Instructional Coach, BOE (effective TBD)

Resignations

- a. Paloma White, Paraprofessional, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 7/30/2026)
- b. Tammy Lundy, Math Teacher, Jasper County High School (effective 7/24/2026)
- c. Calvin Jones, Bus Driver, Transportation Department (effective 7/27/2026)

Transfer

- a. Celine Busbee, from PEC Parapro at JCMS to PEC Paraprofessional at WPES (effective 8/10/2026)



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Board Bullets

Correction to Start Date

- a. Nolan Ensley, CTAE Ag Teacher, Jasper County Middle School (effective 7/13/2026)
- b. Jessica Carter, Paraprofessional, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 10/8/2026)

Other Business and Adjournment

- Old Business: NONE
- New Business:
 - Board Committees were discussed. Board members agreed to implement the proposed standing committee structure and assignments for the remainder of 2026. Committees will meet only as needed, and the Board also agreed to discontinue regular Work Sessions moving forward.
 - The next scheduled Board business meeting is September 15, 2026.
- The Board voted to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.