

Regular Board Meeting
Jackson Public Schools
August 18, 2026
05:30 PM

Board Members Present

Barbara Hilliard, President
Mitch McGuffey, Vice-President
Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member
Akilah Irvin, Member
Frank Figgers, Secretary
Lee Scott, Member

Administrators Present

Dr. William Merritt, IV, Deputy Superintendent
Dorian Turner, ESQ., Board Attorney
Larrissa Harris, ESQ., General Counsel
Earl Burke, CFOO
Assistant Superintendents ESN, MSN, HSN & AS

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order: Barbara T. Hilliard, Board President, called the meeting to order on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 5:33 P.M.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established with all six (6) board members present in person, namely: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Lee Scott, Frank Figgers and Jeanne M. Hairston.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: Board Member Jeanne M. Hairston moved, seconded by Board Member Frank Figgers, to approve the agenda as presented: votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston and Lee Scott; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- IV. Reading and Approving Minutes
 - A. August 4, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve the August 4, 2026, regular meeting minutes. Mitch McGuffey moved, Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
 - B. August 12, 2026, Special Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve August 12, 2026, special meeting minutes. Mitch McGuffey moved, Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- V. Superintendent's Remarks: William M. Merritt, IV, ED.D., Deputy Superintendent presented on behalf of Superintendent Greene in his absence.
- VI. Public Participation for General Comments and / or Proposed Issues: No one signed up for public participation.
- VII. Information Items Only:
 - A. Review of the Amended Agreement between Grand Canyon University (GCU) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD)
- VIII. Information / Action Items:
 - A. Approval of the Agreement with AIM Institute for Learning and Research for Elementary Education Certification Support for School Year 2026-2027: The Board voted to approve item A. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- B. Approval of the Annual Subscription for ADASLINK and DAS3000- Sullivan's Equipment Service, Inc.: The Board voted to approve item B. Mitch McGuffey moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- C. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretary of the Army and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Units: The Board voted to approve item C. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- D. Approval of Photography Vendors for FY26-27: The Board voted to approve item D. Frank Figgers moved, Jeanne M. Hairston seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- E. Approval of Agreement between The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for Clinical Education and Training: The Board voted to approve item E. Akilah Irvin moved, Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- F. Approval of Lease Reinstatement between Jackson Public School District (Lessor) and Big River Energy, LLC. (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item F. Lee Scott moved, Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- G. Approval to Award RFQ 2026-01-26 to CDW Government LLC: The Board voted to approve item G. Mitch McGuffey moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- H. Approval of Agreement: Stericycle (Shred-it): This item was moved to executive session for discussion.
- I. Approval of Mathematics Support School Partnership Agreements with the Mississippi Department of Education for Identified Elementary Schools for the 2026-2027 School Year: The Board voted to approve item I. Jeanne M. Hairston moved, Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- J. Approval of Agreement between the Jackson Public School District and the Mississippi Department of Education for EIR Literacy Coach (Grant Signature Sheet): The Board voted to approve item J. Mitch McGuffey moved, Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- K. Approval of Agreement between the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) and Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for the School Nurse Grant Signature Sheet: The Board voted to approve item K. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast

against the motion: none. **PASSED**

IX. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Finance:

- A. Approval of Bid 3281 Computer and Technology Devices for Various Vendors: The Board voted to approve item A. Mitch McGuffey moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- B. Approval to Accept Donations from Various Donors: The Board voted to approve item B. Mitch McGuffey moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- C. Approval to Designate Specified Property as Surplus Property and Approve Disposal: The Board voted to approve item C. Mitch McGuffey moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

X. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - General:

- A. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between Arkansas State University (ASU) the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item A. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- B. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between DMN Behavioral & Counseling Group and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item B. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- C. Approval of Service Agreement with Herman Sanders: The Board voted to approve item C. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- D. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item D. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- E. Approval of JPS Recruitment and Retention Incentive Contract Addendum for School Year 2026-2027: The Board voted to approve item E. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- F. Approval of the 2026-2027 English Learner (EL) District Plan: The Board voted to approve item F. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

G. Approval of District-to-District Transfer (Incoming/Outgoing): The Board voted to approve item G. Lee Scott moved, Akilah Irvin seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

XI. CONCENT AGENDA ITEMS - Personnel

A. Approval of Personnel: The Board voted to approve item A. Akilah Irvin moved, Lee Scott seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Akilah Irvin, Frank Figgers, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Lee Scott. Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

I. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session: Mitch McGuffey moved, and Frank Figgers seconded the motion, to close the meeting to consider the need to go into executive session. The motion was approved by all six members present.

In closed session, Frank Figgers moved, and Akilah Irvin seconded the motion, to enter executive session to discuss and consider potential legal claims and liabilities in connection with the contract Stericycle-Shred-it. The motion was unanimously approved by all six members present.

In executive session, the Board heard from the administration and board attorney regarding potential legal claims and liability in connection with the Stericycle Shred-it contract. After discussion and consideration, Akilah Irving moved; and Frank Figgers seconded to approve the contract. The motion was unanimously approved by the six board members present.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Lee Scott moved, and Jeanne M. Hairston seconded the motion to exit executive session. The motion was unanimously approved by all six members present.

XII. Adjournment: Back in open session, Frank Figgers moved, and Jeanne M. Hairston seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned.



Signature of Board President



Date



Attested by Board Secretary



Date