

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Minutes
Regular Meeting
August 18, 2026

The Board of Education of the Jackson Public Schools held its Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at Jackson High School, 544 Wildwood Ave., pursuant to notice duly given.

Present: Marilyn Acton, Derek Dobies, Tabitha Williams, Alaina Sharp, Subba Reddy, Tyshon Gray, Kesha Hamilton

Approval of Agenda

Motion by A. Sharp, supported by D. Dobies, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried 7-0

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Patterson highlighted the great things happening at Jackson Public Schools. He congratulated Mr. Willie Lewis, Principal at Pathways High School and Associate Principal for 11th Grade at Jackson High School, on receiving a Fulbright Teacher Exchange Award for the 2026–27 academic year.

Mr. Patterson also provided an update regarding the District's cell phone policy and its implementation.

Additionally, Mr. Patterson congratulated Mr. Joe Boertman on his promotion to Director of Facilities.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- 26-27-09 Minutes
- 26-27-10 Human Resources
- 26-27-11 JESPA Contract Renewal

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

Citizens Requesting to Address the Board

Discussion Items

26-27-12 EV white fleet

Mr. Leon provided an update on the District's white fleet, which includes non-student transportation vehicles such as maintenance vans and food service vehicles.

Highland Electric approached Jackson Public Schools with an opportunity to pilot an electric maintenance van and an electric food service box truck. The six-month pilot was provided at no cost to the District. Following the pilot, both vehicles received positive reviews from the respective departments and demonstrated low maintenance needs.

Based on the success of the pilot, the District would like to move forward with purchasing both vehicles. The electric food service box truck would be purchased using the Food Service Fund, while the electric maintenance van would be purchased using the General Fund.

No action was taken, and will be brought back to the September board meeting for an action item.

26-27-13 EV bus carport

Mr. Leon provided an update on the District's EV bus carport project. A couple of years ago, Jackson Public Schools applied for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) electric school bus grant. The District originally applied for funding for four electric buses but ultimately purchased two, leaving some grant funding available.

JPS requested approval from MDE to use the remaining grant funds for the construction of an EV bus carport. The District has partnered with Harvest Solar, which previously installed solar panels at three JPS buildings.

The proposed project would be a covered solar carport similar to those located at Michigan State University. The carport would extend over approximately one-third of each bus and would provide coverage for the area where the buses connect to the charging ports. This design would help protect the charging equipment and make it easier for drivers to remove snow and ice from the buses during the winter months.

Two proposals were presented to the Board for consideration.

No action was taken, and will be brought back to the September board meeting for an action item.

Action Items

26-27-14 MASB Delegate Assembly

A Motion by A. Sharp supported D. Dobies, to approve Marilyn Acton and Tabitha Williams for MASB Delegate Assembly. Motion carried 7-0

26-27-15 Superintendent's Contract Extension

A motion by D. Dobies supported S. Reddy, to approve the Superintendent's Contract Extension. Motion carried 6-1 (no- K. Hamilton)

Board Comments

The Board members were given an opportunity to provide comments.

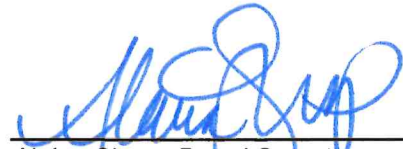
Calendar

- August 24, 2026 - Welcome Back Staff
- August 26, 2026 - First day of school for students

- September 4-7, 202 - No School, Labor Day Observance
- September 15, 2026 Regular Meeting, JHS Media Center, 6:00 pm

Adjournment

Motion by S. Reddy, supported by D. Dobies, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



Alaina Sharp, Board Secretary