



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held via
Video Teleconference, on Tuesday, May 21, 2020, at 7 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwoman Diane Porter

Mr. Chris Brady

Mrs. Linda Duncan

Mr. Corrie Shull

Vice-Chair Chris Kolb

Mr. James Craig

Mr. Joseph Marshall

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.

SPECIAL MEETING

In light of the Governor having declared a state of emergency within the Commonwealth on March 6, 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak and in compliance with guidance issued by the Executive Branch on March 12 and 16, 2020, regarding the conduct of meetings of state boards and commissions during the emergency period, this meeting was conducted by video-teleconference and available for live public viewing online.

The guidance from the Executive Branch provided that all Kentucky Boards and Commissions take proper health precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and accordingly, with respect to the public attendance at meetings of said bodies, states "members of the public will only be able to view video-teleconferenced meetings remotely."

I. Call to order

Chair Porter called the May 21, 2020, Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7 p.m.

II. Recommendation for Approval of Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2020-21

In compliance with KRS 160.470 and the administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education, the Jefferson County Board of Education is required to approve tax rates. The proposed rate increase of 7.0 cents will be for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

Of this 80.6 cents rate, 7.0 cents will be subject to recall as it exceeds the current 4 percent rate of 73.6 cents per \$100 assessment. Required advertisements were placed in the Courier-Journal on May 6, 2020, and May 13, 2020. A public hearing was held prior to this Board meeting. For rates subject to recall, as required by KRS 160.470(8), an additional advertisement will be placed within 7 days following this board meeting should the board vote to levy a recall rate.

Dr. Pollio provided the rationale for the tax rate increase. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Dr. Kolb reminded Board members of what is at stake with this tax rate approval and said that he intends to vote in favor of this increase and will do everything he can to ensure it becomes a reality.

Mr. Brady acknowledged the challenges faced by the District and stated that under normal circumstances he would be in complete agreement with increasing revenue. He stated that the entire world has changed as a result of COVID-19 with one-third of Kentucky's workforce unemployed. He cannot in good conscious vote to increase revenue until this crisis has passed.

Mr. Shull said that the time is now to do what is right for the community. He acknowledged that for some communities it is never a good time to increase taxes. He said that he supports the potential of JCPS students and the tax increase.

Mrs. Duncan acknowledged that this is a very difficult decision and that when they started this process they could not have known that there would be a pandemic that would change everything. The future in education is not going to be the same as it was in the past and she feels like a tax increase is not in the best interest of our citizens at this time.

Mr. Craig agreed that the pandemic has changed everything and has exacerbated problems that were already there. He acknowledged the great amount of student-need, which continues to grow. He will vote to increase revenue.

Mr. Marshall also acknowledged the unmet needs of students and stated that if this revenue increase can push the District forward, he will stand behind it.

Chair Porter recognized the deficits in the District and stated that this is more than a Facilities Plan. She said that it is beyond time to address the many issues that are affecting academic performance. All students need help and all schools should be performing at a level higher than they are.

Order #2020-60 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the General Fund tax rate of 80.6 cents on real property and 80.6 cents on personal property for the Fiscal Year 2020-21. This rate represents a 7 cents increase to the current rate of 73.6 cents. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Corrie Shull and a second by Mr. James Craig.

Mr. Chris Brady	No
Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	No
Dr. Christopher Kolb	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mr. Corrie Shull	Yes

III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Order #2020-61 - Motion Passed: A motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Mr. Joseph Marshall.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes
Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Christopher Kolb	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mr. Corrie Shull	Yes

Diane Porter
Chairwoman

Dr. Martin A. Pollio
Superintendent/Secretary

**THESE ACTIONS, ALONG WITH THE AGENDA ITEMS, MAKE UP THE OFFICIAL MINUTES,
WHICH ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**