



# **JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Minutes of Special Meeting of February 09, 2021**

**Special Meeting** of the Jefferson County Board of Education held via  
Video Teleconference, on Tuesday, February 09, 2021, at 6 p.m.

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairwoman Diane Porter  
Mr. James Craig  
Mr. Joseph Marshall  
Dr. Corrie Shull

Vice-Chair Chris Kolb  
Mrs. Linda Duncan  
Ms. Sarah McIntosh

### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.  
Jimmy Adams, Chief Human Resources  
Kevin Brown, General Counsel  
Kim Chevalier, Chief Exceptional Child Education Officer  
Renee Murphy, Chief Communications and Community Relations Officer  
Chris Perkins, Chief Operations Officer  
Eva Stone, Health Coordinator  
Robert Moore, Chief of Schools  
Christy Rogers, Assistant Superintendent for High Schools  
Michelle Dillard, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning  
Joe Leffert, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools  
Paige Hartstern, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools  
Lamesa Marks-Johns, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools  
Nate Meyer, Assistant Superintendent for Accelerated Improvement Schools  
Alicia Averette, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Supports  
Katy Deferrari Assistant Superintendent for School Culture and Climate  
Shervita West, Principal at Brandeis Elementary School - District 1  
Scott Collier, Principal at St. Matthews Elementary School - District 2  
Jason Neuss, Principal at Ballard High School- District 3  
Laura Mullaney, Principal at Gutermuth Elementary School - District 4  
Rob Fulk, Principal at Iroquois High School - District 5  
Robert Gunn, Principal at W.E.B. Dubois Middle School - District 6  
Terra Greenwell, Principal at Ramsey Middle School - District 7

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-conference 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-conferenced meetings remotely.”

Members of the public had the opportunity to voice opinions or express concerns by submitting remarks via email or mail.

### **SPECIAL MEETING: WORK SESSION**

The purpose of this work session was to allow Board members an opportunity to interact with assistant superintendents and principals who have been planning for an in-person return to school. The District team shared plans and answered questions.

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Porter called the February 09, 2021, Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6 p.m. and made the following announcement:

“Before we go forward, I like would like to read a statement to ensure to people that we do read their emails before we start the meeting.

Pursuant to the adopted policy of this Board, Robert’s Rules of Order govern the way we conduct this meeting. This means that board members are expected to abide by the Parliamentary procedures and customs as outlined and defined by Robert’s Rules. The public also expects the board to be an example to our students. This board should be an example for how policy-making bodies act in a democratic society. Vigorous but respectful debate is expected. Our students are watching. As members, we shall all act in good faith so that when we disagree, we will not be disagreeable. Because of this, I will do my best to maintain and enforce the following Parliamentary standards:

1. Remarks from members should be confined to the issue in question.
2. Members should refrain from attacking the motives of other members and from the use of inappropriate or vulgar language.
3. Remarks should always be addressed to the Chair and not to other members.
4. Questions directed from a member to another member are to be directed to the Chair. At that point, the Chair will then ask the member if he/she will yield to a question.
5. We should strive to use the formal names and titles of members whenever possible.

We are dealing with what may be the most complex issue of our time in public service. We all bring different ideas and thoughts to the table. Let’s proceed in a manner that recognizes those differences, celebrates common ground, and always seeks to find solutions that benefit our students.”

## II. Work Session: District Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dr. Pollio introduced a group of JCPS leadership staff and announced that this special called meeting was to continue the conversation about the potential return to school and to provide a couple of updates on the timeline. He reminded everyone that there will be no vote tonight on the return to in-person school - this is a part of the conversation. He stated that there would be a separate Board meeting on February 16 to provide greater detail regarding the JCPS return to school plans.

JCPS principals and administrators provided a short presentation that highlighted different areas of the return to in-person learning plans. Each Board member had 15 minutes for questions, answers, and comments.

Dr. Shull asked questions regarding protocols and safety mechanisms at alternative schools; transportation; temperature checks; protocols for those not in compliance with face masks; the availability of nurses for every school; and vacant positions for bus drivers and custodians.

Ms. McIntosh asked questions regarding the possibility of hybrid models for in-person learning; the utilization of certified staff members; Chromebook availability/use in school and at home; processes for day-to-day classroom activities; mental health; and extra custodial staff.

Mr. Marshall asked questions regarding services for ECE students in virtual learning and supports for staff working with ECE students; staff safety in smaller spaces; school supports from the District level; and timing on the safe return to in-person learning.

Mrs. Duncan asked questions regarding the meaning of *safe opening*; temperature checks; sanitizing during class-changes; procedures at bus depots; class scheduling; and standardized responses for all schools.

Mr. Craig asked questions regarding protocols for students who develop symptoms during the school day; student behavior issues and physical interactions; ventilation; and space issues.

Dr. Kolb asked questions regarding the process of selecting virtual or in-person learning; class size/student-teacher ratios and the ability to de-densify classrooms; and liability concerns with in-person learning.

Chair Porter asked questions regarding ventilation; protocols for hand-washing; the availability of custodians and bus drivers; sanitation in school buildings and other District buildings; quality of instruction; protocols for those not in compliance with safety guidelines; and procedures to care for a student having a fever over 100.4.

Chair Porter concluded the meeting by instructing Board members to send additional questions to Dr. Pollio.

### III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

**Order #2021-31 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the February 9, 2021, special meeting at 8:38 p.m. passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Mr. Joseph Marshall.

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

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Diane Porter  
Chairwoman

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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**