



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of May 11, 2021

Special Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center Stewart Auditorium, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 6:00 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

Board members Linda Duncan and Joseph Marshall attended the meeting via video-conference.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.

Kevin Brown, General Counsel

Dr. Carmen Coleman, Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Charles Davis, Specialist, Diversity Equity and Poverty

Robert Moore, Chief of Schools

This meeting was conducted via video-conference pursuant to KRS 61.820 and KRS 61.823. The primary location for this meeting was VanHoose Education Center, Stewart Auditorium. Members were permitted to attend in-person or by video-conference.

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, public attendance at this meeting is permitted, however, it was advised that COVID-related mitigation efforts would require a severely reduced seating capacity in Stewart Auditorium to ensure social distancing.

As a result, all interested members of the public were strongly encouraged to view the meeting virtually, which was available for live public viewing online.

Due to the reduction in meeting room capacity due to COVID social distancing requirements, and recognizing many members of our community were not yet ready to attend in-person public meetings, in-person comments to the Board were deferred. Members of the public had the opportunity to voice opinions or express concerns by submitting remarks via email or mail.

SPECIAL MEETING

I. Call to Order

Chair Porter called the May 11, 2021, Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollio briefly highlighted upcoming initiatives for the Future State of JCPS. He stated, "It's critical that we continue to make innovative and bold changes to how we meet the needs of students moving forward. We've all said many times that we must be willing to do things differently as we've progressed through the pandemic. There are many changes in store in the months to come, including our work on the Future State of JCPS. We know we have much work to do moving forward next year and in the years to come to meet the needs of our students. I believe that was even prior to COVID 19 but it is even more amplified now as a result of COVID 19. So, tonight is the start of some of those changes we are bringing you."

III. Action Items

A. Recommendation for Approval to Combine Roosevelt-Perry Elementary with Wheatley Elementary and Relocate the Grace James Academy to the Current Roosevelt Perry Location Beginning in August 2021

Dr. Pollio highlighted some of the changes that were discussed at the May 4 work session and summarized the following recommendations:

- Combining Wheatley and Roosevelt-Perry for 2021-22 School Year, closing Roosevelt-Perry Elementary School

Under this proposal, the previously planned combination of Wheatley Elementary and Roosevelt-Perry Elementary would be accelerated to begin in August 2021. The combined schools would be located at the current Wheatley Elementary site until the completion of the new state-of-the-art school at 18th and Broadway by late 2022/early 2023.

- Moving Grace M. James Academy to Roosevelt-Perry Facility

The Grace M. James Academy of Excellence is currently temporarily housed in the DuValle Education Center, sharing space with early childhood programs, and that building is close to full capacity. Moving the Grace M. James Academy to the Roosevelt-Perry site will allow the school to grow because the Roosevelt-Perry site has a capacity of 609 students for middle school.

Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mrs. Duncan wanted to ensure that they would be able to do the necessary renovations so that the Roosevelt-Perry site can successfully function as a middle school.

Chair Porter briefly discussed some recent renovations at the Roosevelt-Perry school building. She wanted to ensure that there would be nurses hired for the Roosevelt-Perry/Wheatley Elementary merger. She then announced an upcoming parent meeting to discuss the merger.

Order #2021-75 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve accelerating the combination of Roosevelt-Perry Elementary and Wheatley Elementary to be housed at the current Wheatley Elementary location, closing Roosevelt-Perry Elementary School, and relocating the Grace James Academy to the current Roosevelt-Perry location beginning in August 2021. The recommendation passed with a motion by Dr. Corrie Shull and a second by Ms. Diane Porter.

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

B. Recommendation to Approve the Expansion and Transformation of Jefferson County High School to Serve Students in Grades 6 to 12 Beginning in August 2021, to be renamed the Pathfinder School of Innovation

Dr. Pollio highlighted some of the changes that were discussed at the May 4 work session and summarized the plan to expand and re-envision Jefferson County High School into a cutting edge, rigorous, first-option virtual school for grades 6 to 12 to be renamed the Pathfinder School of Innovation. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Dr. Kolb asked if the virtual academy would be an A5 program and wanted to clarify how that affects student assessments. He wanted to ensure that students would have the opportunity to return to their resides-school if they decide that the virtual academy is not a good fit. He suggested they develop institutional mechanisms/procedures to ensure that students are not pushed into the virtual academy as a way to keep them from being in-person.

Chair Porter made the following statement, "As we move forward with the virtual school grades 6 through 12, how do we manage it so that it's not, as Dr. Chris (Kolb) suggested, sometimes students are pushed to go places. I don't want this to be a time-out school for some students. So, I would like for us to have periodic reports on the diversity and the demographics of the school."

Order #2021-76 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the creation of a virtual school to expand and transform Jefferson County High School to serve students grades 6 to 12 beginning in August 2021, to be renamed the Pathfinder School of Innovation. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Ms. Sarah McIntosh.

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

IV. Consent Calendar

A. Acceptance of 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants from the KDE for Newcomer Academy, Foster Traditional Academy, Iroquois High School, Minors Lane Elementary, and Slaughter Elementary School

Ms. McIntosh stated that she would abstain to prevent any potential conflict.

Order #2021-77 - Motion Passed: A motion that the Board of Education accept \$725,000 from the Kentucky Department of Education and authorize the superintendent to sign the attached contract passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

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

B. Recommendation for Approval of Professional Services Contract with Evolve502

Mrs. Duncan wanted clarification regarding how discipline would be handled at the community sites.

Order #2021-78 - Motion Passed: A motion that the Board of Education approve the attached Professional Services Contract with Evolve502 and authorize the superintendent to sign the attached contract passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Ms. Sarah McIntosh.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Order #2021-79 - Motion Passed: A motion to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. passed with a motion by Dr. Corrie Shull and a second by Mr. James Craig.

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

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**