



# **JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Minutes of February 07, 2023**

**Business Meeting** of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, Stewart Auditorium, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, February 07, 2023, at 6 p.m.

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairwoman Diane Porter

Mr. James Craig

Dr. Chris Kolb

Ms. Sarah McIntosh

Vice-Chair Corrie Shull

Mrs. Linda Duncan

Mr. Joseph Marshall

## **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.

Kevin Brown, General Counsel

Carolyn Callahan, Chief of Communications and Community Relations

Chris Perkins, Chief of Operations

This meeting was conducted via videoconference pursuant to KRS 61.823 and KRS 61.826. The primary location for this meeting and where all members could be seen and heard by the public was the VanHoose Education Center. Members of the Board were permitted to attend in-person or via video-teleconference pursuant to KRS 61.826. Members of the public were permitted to attend in person or watch the live-stream of the meeting.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

Chair Porter called the February 7, 2023, Business Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:03 p.m. This was followed by a traditional moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Shull read the Vision Statement.

### **III. Recognitions and Resolutions**

**A. Recognition of the Twenty-Four Jefferson County Public Schools Teachers Who Obtained Their National Board Certification for the First Time**

**B. Recognition of Meyzeek Middle School Students Agastya Mishra, Pratham Tippi, Pramath Kodukulla, and Dhiraj Javvadi for Working With NASA to Design a Module for the Upper Atmosphere to Collect Data**

**Order #2023-17 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive the recognitions for February 7, 2023, 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

#### **IV. Recommendation for Approval of Meeting Agenda**

**Order #2023-18 - Motion to Amend Passed:** To amend the main motion from: "A motion that the Board of Education approve the agenda for February 7, 2023." to: "A motion to amend the agenda for February 7, 2023, to add Action Item VIII.B. *Consideration of a Professional Services Contract with Council of the Great City Schools to assist with District Governance*" passed with a motion by Dr. Christopher Kolb and a second by Mr. James Craig.

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

**Order #2023-19 - Motion Passed:** A motion that the Board of Education approve the agenda for February 7, 2023, as amended, passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Dr. Corrie Shull.

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

#### **V. Recommendation for Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Order #2023-20 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the minutes of the January 17, 20, and 21, 2023, meetings passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan 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

## **VI. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Pollio briefly highlighted improvements the District has implemented over the past few years. He then discussed transportation challenges and the need to improved student attendance and outcomes. He stated that he plans to present revised school start times in the coming weeks to help tackle those issues.

## **VII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board on Action Items or Consent Calendar Items to be Voted Upon Separately at Board Member Request**

The following speakers addressed the Board regarding the action item: VIII. A. *Recommendation to Name Three New Schools Opening for the 2023-24 School Year.*

Carrye Bowers-Jones recommended that Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School retain its name at the West End elementary school.

Franklin Jones promoted the name Dr. William H. Perry.

Gale Sanders implored Board members to retain the name Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School.

Andrea Houston spoke on behalf of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. to give support to the nomination of Dr. Freda Meriwether for the name of a future school.

Clyde Benton spoke on behalf of First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown and urged the Board to consider naming a school after Dr. Freda Meriwether.

Becky Robertson nominated her mom, Desi May Anderson, a retired JCPS counselor, for name recognition for one of the new schools.

## **VIII. Action Items**

### **A. Recommendation to Name Three New Schools Opening for the 2023-24 School Year**

Dr. Pollio presented his recommendations. He stated that he supports the name Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School and hopes to come back with a recommendation to recognize Phillis Wheatley somewhere in the school building or on the campus. He acknowledged overwhelming support for the names Dr. J. Blaine Hudson Middle School and Echo Trail Middle School. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Dr. Kolb questioned the process and the reasoning behind the original recommendation of Phyllis Wheatley.

**Order #2023-21 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education name the three new schools that will be opening for the 2023-24 school year as follows:

- The elementary school at 18th and Broadway is to be named Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School.
- The middle school on Echo Trail is to be named Echo Trail Middle School.
- The middle school in West Louisville, location TBD, is to be named Dr. J. Blaine Hudson Middle School.

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. Consideration of a Professional Services Contract with Council of the Great City Schools to Assist with District Governance**

At Dr. Kolb's request, the Board amended the original meeting agenda to add this action item.

Dr. Kolb began by explaining that he is following up on the recent Retreat and these are the three things specifically recommended by the Council of the Great City Schools. He motioned that the Jefferson County Board of Education take the following three steps as outlined by the Council of the Great City Schools: First, establish an ad hoc implementation committee, chaired by Board Member Joe Marshall, to coordinate work with the Council of the Great City Schools to implement student outcomes-focused governance. Second, include an action item on the agenda for the February 28 meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education to approve an implementation timeline for work with the Council of the Great City Schools to help implement student outcomes-focused governance. Third, no later than February 21, the Jefferson County Board of Education will perform a baseline board self-evaluation and set progress goals for the second quarter of 2023.

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

Mrs. Duncan stated that she is uncomfortable with moving forward without the opportunity to exchange thoughts and feelings. She expressed concern with the cost involved. She said that she is not ready to move ahead on this part right now.

Dr. Kolb advised that he is not suggesting they sign any contracts tonight but just that they create a process to plan for that if that is what they ultimately decide at the February 28 meeting.

Mr. Craig seconded Dr. Kolb's motion and said that he hopes the Board will move forward tonight. He said that his takeaway from the retreat was a consensus that the work proposed by the Council was necessary.

Ms. McIntosh asked if they would have the opportunity to see Board member feedback. She then advised that they would probably need the Council to help facilitate conversations and she hopes to move forward with the work to become a highly functioning board.

Mr. Marshall said that it is time to get on the same page and he believes that the Council of the Great City Schools has a plan to help the Board move towards getting actual results and outcomes for kids.

Chair Porter explained, “I’m sorry things have not come back to you as quickly as you would like for it to have come back but we have continued to receive the information and working with the Superintendent and his team and working on putting the agenda together, some things have had to be moved.” She continued, “So, if it’s not happening fast enough, it’s not that we are ignoring anything that comes before this board that is presented to the Chair, the Superintendent, and his leadership team.” She expressed the desire to obtain more information, specifically the financial piece, in working with the Council of the Great City Schools.

**Order #2023-22 - Motion Passed:** A motion was made that the Jefferson County Board of Education takes the following three steps as outlined by the Council of the Great City Schools:

- First, establish an ad hoc implementation committee chaired by Board Member Joe Marshall to coordinate work with the Council of the Great City Schools to implement student outcomes-focused governance.
- Second, include an action item on the agenda for the February 28 meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education to approve an implementation timeline for work with the Council of the Great City Schools to help Implement student outcomes-focused governance.
- Third, no later than February 21, the Jefferson County Board of Education will perform a baseline board self-evaluation and set progress goals for the second quarter of 2023.

The motion passed with a motion by Dr. Christopher Kolb and a second by Mr. James Craig.

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

**IX. Information Items**

**A. Acceptance of a Presentation Regarding the Secure Storage of Firearms**

Mr. Craig introduced Cathy Mekus and Leah Nord, members of the Kentucky chapter of Moms Demand Action. They gave a presentation on how the District can work to educate parents on secure firearm storage. They recommended including “Be SMART” secure firearm storage information in the Student Behavior and Intervention Handbook. They explained that the “Be SMART” program helps parents and other adults normalize conversations about gun safety and take responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries, youth suicide, and gunfire on school grounds. The presentation came with a resolution, which was included on the Consent Agenda. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment.

Dr. Shull, expressed appreciation for the presentation and then said, "I'm sorely concerned about the proliferation of guns in our communities. I'm even more irritated by the impotence of our city government and the refusal of our state and national governmental bodies to do something to reduce these guns in our streets." He continued by saying "I appreciate your work - I think it's important that this board adopt this resolution but I would also like to make a motion that Dr. Pollio bring the Board a proposal at the April 25 Board meeting to install metal detectors, and that we immediately develop a School Security Task Force comprised of community members and students that will study issues pertinent to the installation of metal detectors to ensure that we implement best practices and restorative practices ensuring that we are not unduly criminalizing students"

Chair Porter seconded the motion and gave each Board member an opportunity to respond before taking a vote.

Dr. Kolb said, "I do not plan to vote for this motion for a few key reasons. One is that Dr. Pollio and his team, in collaboration with the Board, worked for at least three years, maybe longer, on the safety plan that we currently have. Throughout all of that work, we were well aware of the number of guns in the United States, which is, for every 100 people in the United States there's 120 guns. It's the highest rate of gun ownership in the world by leaps and bounds. So, we've done that work – I don't know what has changed that would cause us to re-examine those years of work that Dr. Pollio and his team did in conjunction with this Board. I also am planning to not support it because there's no evidence that metal detectors are effective at keeping guns out of schools. They're fairly easy to circumvent and we know from instances where they have been installed that there's just no way around the fact that racial bias will happen in implementation. The criminalization of black children will happen in implementation because it's happened everywhere that they've been installed. So, I'm not sure why we would think that we would be any different than anywhere else in the country where they have installed metal detectors." Additionally, Dr. Kolb questioned whether guns are the most urgent safety issue facing children in schools.

Mr. Craig said, "Thank you Dr. Shull for the motion, I will support it. I don't think that it is replicating or replacing any of the good work that Dr. Pollio has done. And as I often have said, he should be commended for bringing a safety plan to the Board of Education in January of 2022 that got our unanimous support."

Ms. McIntosh stated that a metal detector stopped a gun recently in a Fayette County school. She acknowledged that metal detectors are not foolproof but are more effective than what the District is currently doing. She said, "I absolutely support metal detectors and any other technology that comes along."

Mrs. Duncan questioned the idea that the metal detectors shouldn't/wouldn't lead to the criminalization of students. She acknowledged that bringing a gun on school property is a crime. She then went on to say, "I am very supportive of the attempt to do what we can with metal detectors. It won't be perfect but I'm very supportive of the attempt to try something. Right now, I don't even want to wait that long for metal detectors - I'm very concerned about backpacks and the carrying of backpacks throughout the day in a school. I think backpacks need to be in a locker and put away with coats."

Dr. Pollio stated that installing metal detectors is not an issue of cost but rather personnel. He advised that each high school would need between five to ten detectors and each middle school would need three to five, which would cost about \$5 million. He said, "The concern for me really is twofold, which is the implementation. We will need eight to ten trained personnel at every school in order to implement this for multiple hours a day. So I just can't say enough, this is going to be a major challenge with our staffing crisis right now. I'm not saying we can't do it, I am saying it is going to be a very heavy burden to have eight to ten people every day." He continued, "The second thing, we are going to have to strongly consider - this board voted not to have police officers in buildings in 2019 – in order to successfully have searches of backpacks if the weapons detector goes off, we will have to have police officers. Right now, those are not available to us as we try to hire. And so these are major barriers in the way."

**Order #2023-23 - Motion Passed:** A motion that Dr. Pollio bring the Board a proposal at the April 25 Board meeting to install metal detectors, and that we immediately develop a School Security Task Force comprised of community members and students that will study issues pertinent to the installation of metal detectors to ensure that we Implement best practices and restorative practices ensuring that we are not unduly criminalizing students 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	No
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

**Order #2023-24 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education accept a presentation regarding the importance of the secure storage of firearms. The recommendation 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	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

## **B. Acceptance of Facilities Update**

Chief Operations Officer Chris Perkins provided an update on JCPS Facilities including new construction and renovation projects; progress on new commitments; and a vision for rebuilding schools on existing campuses replacing old buildings in poor condition, coupled with a commitment to upgrading athletic facilities and playgrounds. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mrs. Duncan questioned the location for the new Dr. J. Blaine Hudson Middle School. She then asked, “We have facilities with - like in the case of Butler where their boosters raised a lot of money to create a turf field and I think it's a \$150,000 turf field - what does that do to our delivering equitable facilities across to other high schools?”

Mr. Marshall said, “I know we all have facility needs in all of our districts but specifically in District 4, we are in dire need of another quality middle school.” He expressed concerns regarding Conway Middle School.

Ms. McIntosh asked if Thomas Jefferson Middle School would have access to the new athletic facilities if the W.E.B. DuBois Academy is constructed on the property. She questioned the ability to renovate schools that are located in historical buildings. She acknowledged the population growth in her area and asked, “What is our backup plan for making sure that District 7 has enough seats to accommodate all of our students?” She later recommended including restrooms in upcoming renovation plans.

Dr. Kolb asked about the plans for Atherton High School. He then questioned the aesthetic differences between Echo Trail Middle School and Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School.

Chair Porter asked, “We say that in the fall, the temporary location for the new middle school is going to be in the current building where Wheatley Elementary is. Would you talk to us about what you need to do to change an elementary school to a middle school?” She then asked about the installation of cameras in parking lots. She also questioned plans to expand the outside area at the George Unseld Early Learning Center. She requested that, going forward, she would like to know the specifics of what is going on in the Choice Zone. She concluded by asking if there is a need for additional staff to help with Facilities.

**Order #2023-25 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive an update on JCPS Facilities. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig 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

## **X. Consent Calendar**

**A.** Report of Certified Leaves

**B.** Report of Personnel Actions

**C.** Recommendation for Approval of Field Trip Request and Receipt of Report of Field Trips Approved by the Superintendent

**D.** Recommendation for Approval of Bids and Revised BG-1 Forms

**1.** Recommendation for Approval of Bid and Revised BG-1 Form for Phase I HVAC Renovation at Johnson Traditional Middle School

**2.** Recommendation for Approval of Bid and Revised BG-1 Form for Window Replacement at King Elementary School



- 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Bid and Revised BG-1 Form for Partial Roof Replacement at Wheeler Elementary School
- E.** Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completions and BG-4 Forms
  - 1.** Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for Wood Floor Installation in the Small Gym at Marion C. Moore School
  - 2.** Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for Phase I HVAC Renovation at Mill Creek Elementary School
  - 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for Window Replacement Phase I at Olmsted Academy South
- F.** Recommendation for Approval of Construction Change Orders
- G.** Notification of Growing Landings, LLC Construction Easement at Norton Elementary School
- H.** Recommendation for Approval of Draft Amended District Facilities Plan and Selection of Hearing Officer
- I.** Recommendation for Approval of Bid Tabulation, Contract Renewals, and Amendments
- J.** Recommendation for Approval of Professional Services Contracts of \$20,000 or More
- K.** Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer
  - 1.** Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Invoices
  - 2.** Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Purchase Orders
  - 3.** Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Vouchers
- L.** Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Funding
  - 1.** Acceptance of Donations and Small Grants
  - 2.** Acceptance of Project Prevent Grant from the U.S. Department of Education
  - 3.** Acceptance of Additional Funding from Family and Children's Place for the 21st Century Community Learning Center at Engelhard Elementary School
- M.** Recommendation for Approval of Agreements
  - 1.** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Backside Learning Center
  - 2.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the Kentucky Department of Education for the Release of JCPS Employee
  - 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Kentucky State University for Dual Credit
  - 4.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with La Casita Center
  - 5.** Recommendation for Approval of Agreement with School Smiles Kentucky, PSC
  - 6.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative
  - 7.** Recommendation for Approval to Renew a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Louisville, Physicians Incorporated
  - 8.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with WAGS Pet Therapy of Kentucky, Inc.
- N.** Recommendation for Approval of KDE for the Turnaround Team in Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools
- O.** Recommendation for Approval of Comprehensive School Improvement Plans of TSI Schools and Review of Gap Goals

- P.** Recommendation for Appointment of Audit and Risk Management Advisory Committee Member
- Q.** Recommendation for Approval to Name the Gymnasium Floor at Fairdale High School the Lloyd Gardner Gymnasium Floor
- R.** Recommendation for Adoption of a Resolution Supporting the Secure Storage of Firearms
- S.** Recommendation for Adoption of Board Policies (First Reading)

Mrs. Duncan pulled down item X.Q. *Recommendation for Approval to Name the Gymnasium Floor at Fairdale High School the Lloyd Gardner Gymnasium Floor* to express appreciation and recognize the career of Lloyd Gardner.

**Order #2023-26 - Motion Passed:** A motion to approved the Consent Calendar for February 7, 2023, minus item X.Q. *Recommendation for Approval to Name the Gymnasium Floor at Fairdale High School the Lloyd Gardner Gymnasium Floor*, 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	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

**Order #2023-27 - Motion Passed:** A motion to approve consent item X.Q *Recommendation for Approval to Name the Gymnasium Floor at Fairdale High School the Lloyd Gardner Gymnasium Floor*, passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan 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

## **XI. Board Planning Calendar**

Chair Porter requested an update on reading.

**Order #2023-28 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive the attached planning calendar outlining discussion agenda items. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig 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

## **XII. Committee Reports**

Dr. Kolb reported on the Policy Committee.

## **XIII. Board Reports**

There were no reports.

## **XIV. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (If Necessary)**

The following speakers address the Board on non-agenda topics.

Brad Watson, parent of an Eastern High School student, expressed concerns with school safety.

Shreeta Waldon, parent of a Butler Traditional High School student and Executive Director of Kentucky Harm Reduction Coalition, discussed the significance of the problems with substances in schools and the need for prevention programs.

Anthony Piagentini, Metro Council Representative for District 19, discussed the need for a partnership between JCPS and Louisville Metro regarding school safety.

## **XV. Executive Session (If Necessary)**

## **XVI. Action Item (If Necessary)**

**XVII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

**Order #2023-29 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the February 7, 2023, meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education at 9:02 p.m. passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Marshall 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	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**