



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Regular Business Meeting of May 13, 2025

Regular Business Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Corrie Shull

Vice-Chairman James Craig

Mr. Trevin Bass

Mrs. Linda Duncan

Mr. Taylor Everett

Ms. Tricia Lister

Ms. Gail Logan Strange

Mr. Taylor Everett attended via videoconference.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.

Kevin Brown, General Counsel

Carolyn Callahan, Chief of Communications and Community Relations

La'Tonya Frazier-Goatley, Principal

Dr. Terra Greenwell, Chief Academic Officer

Jonathan Lowe, Executive Administrator of Policy and Systems

Stephanie Maynard, Teacher

Edward D. Muns, Chief Financial Officer

Maddie Shepard, JCTA President

De'Nay Speaks, Executive Administrator

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.

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Shull called the May 13, 2025, Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m.

I. Moment of Silence

II. The Pledge of Allegiance

A. Vision Statement

Ms. Logan Strange read the Vision Statement.

III. Recognitions and Resolutions

- A. Recognition of Doss High School Spanish Teacher Yuriany Beitia for Being Selected to Participate in the 2025 Disney Imagination Campus Teacher Celebration
- B. Recognition of JCPS Library Media Specialist Tim Jones on Being Named the 2025 School Librarian of the Year by the School Library Journal
- C. Recognition of Butler High School Student Jorge Blas Bautista for Being Selected as a Gates Scholar
- D. Recognition of STLP State Championship Winners from Kammerer Middle School and Fairdale High School
- E. Recognition of Hawthorne Elementary Student Winners at the Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA) Student Showcase

Order #2025-78 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends that the Board of Education receive the May 13, 2025, recognitions. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Ms. Gail Logan Strange.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

IV. Recommendation for Approval of Meeting Agenda

Order #2025-79 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the agenda. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

V. Recommendation for Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Order #2025-80 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends that the Board of Education approve the minutes of May 24 and May 29. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

VI. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollio's report focused on expressing gratitude and highlighting the successes of the 2024-2025 academic year. Despite challenging weather, he characterized it as one of his most successful years in his eight-year tenure. He emphasized significant academic progress, including literacy and numeracy advancements and progress on the "Journey to Success" initiative. Dr. Pollio also noted improvements in the Academies of Louisville and Explore Pathways programs, as well as a positive shift in school culture and climate, citing improved safety data and positive feedback from the comprehensive school survey regarding a sense of belonging. He expressed confidence in the District's trajectory for record student growth. Reflecting on his nearly 5,000 instructional days in JCPS (with eight more to come), he looked forward to celebrating employee scholarships, Lighthouse awards, and commencement ceremonies. He concluded by thanking all JCPS employees for their hard work and dedication, emphasizing their profound impact on students' lives.

VII. Superintendent Search Process Update

Chair Shull provided an update on the superintendent search process, stating that the Board and Screening Committee interviewed six finalists on May 5th and 6th, subsequently naming Mr. Ben Shuldiner and Dr. Brian Yearwood as the final candidates. Final interviews with each finalist are scheduled for Monday, May 19th at the Center for Professional Learning, with Finalist One interviewing from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Finalist Two from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. These final interviews will be held in closed session with the Superintendent Screening Committee. The Superintendent Search Advisory Committee will then meet with each finalist on Tuesday, May 20th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the same location. Community members and JCPS staff will have the opportunity to ask questions of the finalists at two public forums on Tuesday, May 20th: from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the JCPS Center for Professional Learning and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Stopher Elementary School. Feedback can also be provided via a QR code at these forums and through JCPS social media. The Board anticipates meeting on Thursday, May 22nd at 5 p.m. for final deliberations and the selection of the next superintendent.

VIII. Student Outcomes-Focused Governance Update

A. Recommendation to Receive Goal Monitoring Report on Interim Goals 1.3: 4th Grade Milestones, 2.3: 7th Grade Milestones, and 3.3: 10th Grade Milestones

Board Member Linda Duncan facilitated the discussion on this report. The following presenters shared the information and answered questions: La'Tonya Frazier-Goatley, Principal; Dr. Terra Greenwell, Chief Academic Officer; Stephanie Maynard, Teacher; De’Nay Speaks, Executive Administrator.

Order #2025-81 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive a report on Interim Goals 1.3: 4th Grade Milestones, 2.3: 7th Grade Milestones, and 3.3: 10th Grade Milestones. The recommendation passed with a motion by Ms. Gail Logan Strange and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

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

The following public speakers addressed the Board.

Butler High School senior Jorge Blasbautista expressed gratitude for the supportive community he found at school while advocating for equitable athletic facilities and investment for Butler and other schools facing similar disadvantages within the District.

Andrea Bolden, Miss Black Kentucky USA 2025 and a doctoral candidate in quantum leadership, digital innovation, and AI, passionately advocated for a partnership with JCPS to pilot her forthcoming children's book, "The Circuit Keepers," aimed at introducing K-8 students, particularly those from underrepresented communities, to AI ethics and coding, thereby fostering critical future skills and positioning JCPS as a leader in equity-aligned, tech-centered education.

Brittani Gamble, a JCPS instructional assistant, advocated for a fair and livable wage for instructional assistants, highlighting their crucial daily support for students, including managing challenging behaviors and ensuring safety, and pointed out the inequity of not receiving the AIS stipend despite similar responsibilities and professional development requirements as other AIS school staff.

Mario Carrillo, the head coach for boys' soccer and a teacher at Butler Traditional High School, expressed his disappointment and the emotional impact on his players and their families upon learning that the promised stadium renovations for the six phase-three schools, including Butler, would not proceed as scheduled. He then posed two questions to the Board: how did the District reach this point of unmet promises, and how can they move forward to ensure equitable athletic facilities for all schools.

Homeschool parent, Amanda Capps, thanked the Board for policy revisions in the SPP&G benefiting homeschoolers while recounting her struggles and advocating for improved District communication through accessible contact information for the SPP&G policy committee.

Karen Henderson, a teacher and head girls' track and wrestling coach at Butler Traditional High School and a Butler alumna, passionately urged the Board to complete the turf and rubberized track renovations, emphasizing the unacceptable and injury-causing concrete track conditions that have persisted since her own time as a student, hindering training, causing numerous injuries, and putting Butler athletes at a significant disadvantage compared to schools with proper facilities, ultimately asking why Butler continues to be denied equitable athletic resources.

Thomas Clem, a 2023 Butler Traditional High School graduate spoke about his positive learning experiences within JCPS while highlighting the inadequate athletic facilities he and other athletes endured at Butler, urging the Board to uphold their mission statement and ensure equitable funding for the promised stadium renovations to support students' athletic aspirations and overall well-being.

Kim Seelye, a JCPS clerical staff member of over 25 years and a school secretary, advocated for a long-promised wage assessment for the underpaid 1A salary schedule, emphasizing that staffing shortages shouldn't delay this crucial work, and highlighted the high turnover rate among clerical staff due to low wages (\$15-\$16/hour for demanding and often stressful frontline roles), urging the Board to address this issue to retain valuable employees.

Willie Richardson, who works in nutritional services, stated that they are overworked and short-staffed daily. He advocated for better wages for nutritional service staff and their families, emphasizing their crucial role in JCPS.

X. Action Items

A. Recommendation for Approval of 2025-26 Student Progression, Promotion, and Graduation Handbook

Maddie Shepard, president of the Jefferson County Teachers Association; and De’Nay Speaks, Executive Administrator; presented the 2025-26 Student Progression, Promotion, and Graduation Handbook, a consolidated document reviewed and revised by a broad-based committee to establish uniform standards for assessing learning, grading, progression, and promotion across all school levels. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Order #2025-82 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the attached revised Elementary, Middle, and High School Student Progression, Promotion, and Graduation Handbooks for the 2025-2026 school year. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Mr. Trevin Bass.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

B. Recommendation for Approval of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Edward D. Muns, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mr. Everett's questions focused on understanding the primary cause of the current budget deficit. He specifically asked if it stemmed mainly from the loss of ESSER funding or if it was a result of expenses growing beyond revenues over time.

Mr. Bass inquired about potential budget cuts moving forward and how the District could proactively address them. He then asked Dr. Pollio for recommendations on what the community and JCPS could do collectively to address the ongoing financial challenges.

Mrs. Duncan inquired whether the \$13 million cost of newly added organizational chart positions over the past two years had been offset by reduced vacancies. She also sought clarification on the \$16 million allocated to the early childhood program, specifically asking what that funding covers and the number of children it supports.

Ms. Lister's asked whether JCPS has conducted a salary audit to compare its compensation for various positions to similar roles in comparable school systems or other workplaces.

Ms. Logan Strange asked if the District had realized any cost savings due to bus driver vacancies. Second, since there were no savings, she inquired how the proposed budget would address the ongoing issue of transportation and the need for additional bus drivers.

Mr. Craig stressed the importance of the contingency balance and questioned the District's budget management for long-term solvency, also seeking clarity on a \$15 million difference in projected cuts and the two-year deficit reduction strategy. He inquired about the sports field renovations, bonding capacity, and the impact of the 2020 tax increase, as well as the timeline for new construction. He then focused on employee compensation, urging discussion on the union's salary requests, and seeking confirmation on the salary study's completion for future negotiations. He also highlighted the growing needs of multilingual learners and the status of the revenue committee, suggesting a potential need for a 2026 tax increase. Lastly, he voiced strong support for the District's police department.

Chair Shull questioned the budget’s impact on students, and exploring alternatives for after-school tutoring, suggesting community partnerships or philanthropic contributions to mitigate potential academic losses.

Order #2025-83 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the attached Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The recommendation passed with a motion by Ms. Tricia Lister and a second by Mr. James Craig.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

C. Recommendation for Approval of Cell Phone Policy (Waive Second Reading) and Review of Related Administrative Procedure

Dr. Pollio stated that the cell phone policy recommendation being presented was previously discussed in detail with the Board. He reiterated his recommendation for the first option, and then outlined three options for the Board's consideration:

Option 1: The original recommendation (from the last meeting): This option allows schools greater flexibility, prohibiting cell phone use during instructional time but granting schools the discretion to decide about usage in hallways and cafeterias.

Option 2: This option would allow cell phone use during lunch hours.

Option 3: This option would prohibit cell phone use all day, including during lunch and transitions (hallways).

Dr. Pollio indicated that the only additional information to be presented at this time would be the results of a teacher survey, which Jonathan Lowe, Executive Administrator of Policy and Systems, then presented. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Ms. Logan Strange wanted to confirm her understanding that Option 3 grants schools the discretion to define and implement emergency protocols regarding cell phone use.

Mr. Craig shared a conversation with a principal indicating that emergency providers prefer to communicate with school administrators and JCPS police during emergencies rather than handling numerous individual calls from parents. Mr. Craig mentioned that this information helped alleviate his concerns regarding parental pushback against an all-day ban on cell phones.

Ms. Lister offered additional clarification regarding Option 3. She explained that it grants schools the discretion to designate a staff member responsible for communication between parents and students, aiming to address concerns about parental pushback.

Chair Shull recalled a previous presentation by Dr. Nicholas about the cell phone policy implementation at Fern Creek High School. He expressed confidence in the ability of other principals and school staff to implement similar practices and encourage best practices within their own schools, gaining the cooperation of their students and their students' families. He believes that schools will not be confiscating phones but may use pouches or require them to be kept in backpacks, ensuring accessibility for those students during emergencies.

Mrs. Duncan emphasized that for a cell phone ban to be effective, it must be consistently and thoroughly enforced. She cautioned against believing a poorly enforced policy constitutes a true ban.

Order #2025-84 - Motion Passed: A motion to waive the second reading, approve **Option 3** of the cell phone policy, and review the attached administrative procedure passed with a motion by Ms. Tricia Lister and a second by Mr. Trevin Bass.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	No
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

XI. Information Items

XII. Consent Calendar

A. Report of Certified Leaves

B. Report of Personnel Actions

C. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions

1. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions – Academics

2. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions – Exceptional Child Education

D. Recommendation of Approval of Field Trips Request and Receipt of Report of Field Trips Approved by the Superintendent

E. Recommendation for Approval of Bid for Paving Package II at Various Schools

F. Recommendation for Approval of Bid and Revised BG-1 Form for Neighborhood Place Relocation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School

G. Recommendation for Approval of Revised BG-1 Forms

1. Recommendation for Approval of Revised BG-1 Forms for Change of Funding Source

2. Recommendation for Approval of Revised BG-1 Forms for Issuance of Local School Bond

H. Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completions and BG-4 Forms

1. Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for New Middle School – West Louisville (Hudson MS) Bid Package I - Demolition

2. Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for New Elementary School – West Broadway Corridor at Dr. William H. Perry Elementary School

I. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeouts and BG-5 Forms

1. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Career and Technical Education Program Renovations at Iroquois High School

2. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Window Replacement at John F. Kennedy Elementary School

3. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Parking Lot at Portland Elementary

4. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Magnet Room Renovation at Western High School

5. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Stage Floor Replacement at YPASS

- 6.** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Food Service Phase 42 at Various Schools
- J.** Recommendation for Approval of Construction Change Orders
- K.** Notification of Utility Easement at Kerrick Elementary School
- L.** Recommendation for Approval of Competitive Negotiation and Bid Tabulations
- M.** Recommendation for Approval of Professional Services Contracts of \$20,000 or More
- N.** Recommendation for Approval of External Auditors Contract
- O.** Recommendation for Approval of Fidelity Bonds for Fiscal Year 2025-26
- P.** Recommendation for Approval of Resolutions Concerning the Jefferson County School District Finance Corporation
- Q.** Recommendation for Approval of Resolutions Concerning the Jefferson County School District General Obligation Bonds
- R.** 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
- S.** Acceptance of School Activity Fund Budget Summary for Fiscal Year 2025-26
- T.** Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Funding
 - 1.** Acceptance of Donations and Small Grants
 - 2.** Acceptance of Funding from the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries
 - 3.** Acceptance of Funding from Connected Nation for Teen Teach Tech Program
- U.** Recommendation for Approval of Agreements
 - 1.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with See Forward Ministries
 - 2.** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment #2 to the Memorandum of Agreement with Jefferson Community and Technical College
 - 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Louisville & Jefferson County MSD
 - 4.** Recommendation for Approval of Data Privacy Agreement with ScheduleInterpreter.com
 - 5.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Louisville
 - 6.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Louisville
 - 7.** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to Data Privacy Agreement with Vector Solutions
 - 8.** Recommendation for Approval of Student Placement Agreement Amendment with Washington University
 - 9.** Recommendation for Approval of Contract Modification with the Kentucky Department of Education for the Release of JCPS Employee
 - ~~**10.** WITHDRAWN: Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Teach Kentucky, Inc~~
 - 11.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Volunteers of America Restorative Justice for Project Prevent Grant
 - 12.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Metro United Way-Unite Us
 - 13.** Recommendation for Approval of Agreement with Louisville Marriott East
- V.** Recommendation for Approval of Workers' Compensation Excess Insurance Policy
- W.** Approval of Student Support and Behavior Intervention Handbook for the 2025-2026 School Year

Order #2025-85 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the consent calendar for May 13, 2025. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Mr. James Craig.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

XIII. Board Planning Calendar

Order #2025-86 - 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. Trevin Bass and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

XIV. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

XV. Board Reports

Mrs. Duncan shared two positive highlights. First, she attended a celebration at Southern High School for 17 students in the "Best College Match" program led by Greg Dawson, who collectively earned over a million dollars in scholarships. Second, she commended the Louisville Youth Wind Symphony (LYWS), under the direction of Dr. Amy Acklin, who held its inaugural concert on Mother's Day.

XVI. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (If Necessary)

XVII. Executive Session (If Necessary)

XVIII. Action Item (If Necessary)

XIX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Order #2025-87 - Motion Passed: A motion to adjourn the May 13, 2025, meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education at 8:13 p.m. passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Mr. James Craig.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes
Mr. Trevin Bass	Yes
Mr. Taylor Everett	Yes
Ms. Tricia Lister	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes

Dr. Corrie Shull
Chairman

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**