

# JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Regular Business Meeting of June 24, 2025

**Business Meeting** of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, June 24, 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

## **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.
Kevin Brown, General Counsel
Carolyn Callahan, Chief of Communications and Community Relations
Marcus Dobbs, Executive Administrator, Transportation
Dr. Dena Dossett, Chief of Accountability, Research, and Systems Improvement
Dr. Rob Fulk, Chief Operations Officer
Amy Stokes-Levine, Supervisor Systems Improvement

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.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

#### I. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Craig called the June 24, 2025, Special Meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and made the following announcement.

"The Board will conduct a closed session, as permitted by KRS 61.810(1)(k) of the Open Meetings Act and KRS 156.557(6)(c), for the purpose of preliminary and formative discussions regarding the evaluation of the superintendent."

II. Enter Closed Executive Session for Preliminary and Formative Discussions Regarding the Superintendent's Evaluation Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(k) and KRS 156.557(6)(c)

**Order #2025-107 - Motion Passed:** A motion to conduct a closed session, as permitted by KRS 61.810(1)(k) of the Open Meetings Act and KRS 156.557(6)(c), for the purpose of preliminary and formative discussions regarding the evaluation of the superintendent passed with a motion by Ms. Gail Logan Strange and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

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

# III. Adjourn from Executive Session

The Board adjourned the closed session at 5:53 p.m.

**Order #2025-108 - Motion Passed:** A motion that the Board of Education adjourn from Executive Session and return to Open Session passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Mr. Trevin Bass.

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

Chair Shull made the following announcement.

"The Board of Education met in Executive Session for the purpose of preliminary and formative discussions regarding the evaluation of the superintendent pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(k) of the Open Meetings Act and KRS 156.557(6)(c). No action was taken."

## IV. Approval of the 2024-2025 Final Board Summative Evaluation of Superintendent Marty Pollio

**Order #2025-109 - Motion Passed:** A motion to approve the 2024-2025 Final Board Summative Evaluation of Superintendent Marty Pollio passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Mr. Trevin Bass.

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

## V. Adjournment

The Board unanimously adjourned, moving directly into the Regular Business Meeting.

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Shull called the June 24, 2025, Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:02 p.m.

## I. Moment of Silence

# II. The Pledge of Allegiance

#### A. Vision Statement

Ms. Lister read the District Vision Statement.

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

- **A.** Recognition of the Meyzeek Middle School Quiz Bowl Team for its Third Place Finish in the NAQT National Middle School Quiz Bowl Tournament
- **B.** Recognition of Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary Student Tohan Kumar for Winning First Place in a National Math Competition
- C. Recognition of Student Winners of the TARC Design-A-Bus Competition

At his last Jefferson County Board of Education meeting before retirement, Dr. Pollio was honored with a video tribute to his years of service showcasing significant achievements.

**Order #2025-110 - Motion Passed:** A motion to receive the recognitions passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

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

# IV. Recommendation for Approval of Meeting Agenda

**Order #2025-111** - **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. Gail Logan Strange.

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

# V. Recommendation for Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**Order #2025-112 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the Minutes of June 10, 2025. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Mr. Taylor Everett.

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

# **VI. Superintendent's Report**

In his farewell report, the Superintendent expressed deep gratitude for the recognition he received, reflecting on his eight-year tenure, which began in July 2017. He highlighted key achievements, including the establishment of W.E.B. DuBois Academy and navigating the unprecedented challenges of a pandemic and staffing shortages, noting the District's resilience and his own longevity in a demanding role. He proudly recalled implementing significant, though controversial, changes like tax adjustments and a new student assignment plan, believing these will lead to exceptional future outcomes. A recent highlight was the donation of the YUM headquarters, valued at \$40-50 million. He extended heartfelt thanks to his parents (both former teachers in the community), the entire JCPS family, educators, principals, and his leadership team for their unwavering support and dedication during challenging times.

# VII. Superintendent Search Process Update

## **VIII. Student Outcomes-Focused Governance Update**

# A. Recommendation to Receive Monitoring Report on Interim Metrics for Guardrail 5: Protect Appropriate Testing

Mr. Everett served as the Board Facilitator on this update and Dr. Dena Dossett, Chief of Accountability, Research, and Systems Improvement, presented the report. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Chair Shull inquired about the frequency of individual teacher-created assessments, asking if this is a common practice or an anomaly. He also raised questions regarding the percentage of high school and middle school students not completing assessments, specifically the CERT and Defenses of Learning. He asked what these high school students are doing instead and how the District ensures their preparedness for graduation.

Mr. Craig expressed appreciation for the presentation, highlighting the research-backed points that warn against over-reliance on traditional standardized tests.

Ms. Logan Strange echoed Mr. Craig's concerns about over-testing and whether it stifles teacher creativity. She questioned if the "Journey to Success" program allows teachers the autonomy to innovate and teach effectively, rather than being solely driven by mandated tests. Her core question was whether there's room within the District's framework to empower teachers to focus on genuine learning over test preparation, despite state assessment requirements.

Ms. Lister echoed the sentiment of moving away from excessive testing, a theme throughout the meeting's discussion. Her primary question revolved around the flexibility within both district-required and federally/state-mandated assessments. She specifically asked if there are alternative options or replacements for current tests, and what suggestions exist to reduce the time spent on district-required testing.

Mr. Everett inquired if there was any indication regarding potential changes or removals of current statemandated tests, seeking to understand if the state was considering altering its assessment requirements.

Mrs. Duncan highlighted a concerning dip in middle school participation in both Defenses of Learning and Milestone assessments, inquiring if the cause of this decrease was known and what strategies might encourage greater engagement. She also expressed a strong belief in the importance of teacher-created assessments. Finally, she suggested that future surveys should explore whether teachers find current assessment requirements overwhelming or disruptive to instructional time.

Mr. Bass inquired about potential biases in tests. He questioned the confidence level regarding the ability to close the achievement gap and improve graduation and career readiness rates. Finally, he asked what actions the District can take to communicate its recommendations to the state level in Frankfort, and whether such advocacy is even possible.

**Order #2025-113** - **Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive a report on Interim Metrics for Guardrail 5: Protect Appropriate Testing. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

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

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

There were no speakers at this time.

#### X. Action Items

#### XI. Information Items

## A. Transportation Update

Marcus Dobbs, Executive Administrator, Transportation; Dr. Rob Fulk, Chief Operations Officer; and Amy Stokes-Levine, Supervisor Systems Improvement presented an update on Transportation. Each Board member had an opportunity to ask questions.

Mrs. Duncan expressed her hope for two start times in the near future, suggesting a survey for elementary staff with a 9:40 a.m. start to gauge their preference between an early dismissal and the current later dismissal, citing the significant difficulties the current schedule poses for their families. She also reiterated her long-standing confusion regarding the difference in driver numbers: 740 drivers for 62,700 students in 2021 versus 800 drivers for 46,000 students currently.

Mr. Everett thanked the team for an incredible year and commended the choice of Traversa, noting his positive experience with them. His main question concerned the afternoon transportation, observing that it was not as efficient as the morning, with students waiting longer at school. He inquired if this was a normal occurrence or something still being actively addressed, and what the reasons for it were. He encouraged them to find a way to eliminate the 9:40 a.m. start time.

Ms. Lister agreed that the 9:40 a.m. start time needs to change and expressed a hope to be able to provide transportation for all students.

Ms. Logan Strange questioned the progress of the new technology's soft rollout this summer.

Mr. Craig expressed confidence in the transportation department, commending their mastery of data and the demonstrated improvements, especially in reducing lost instruction minutes. He highlighted the achievement of an 89 percent graduation rate.

**Order #2025-114 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education receive the Transportation Update. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mrs. Linda Duncan and a second by Ms. Tricia Lister.

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

#### XII. Consent Calendar

- XII.A Report of Certified Leaves
- XII.B Report of Personnel Actions
- XII.C Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions
- **XII.C.1** Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions Diversity, Equity & Poverty
- XII.C.2 Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions Operations
- **XII.D** Recommendation of Approval of Field Trips Request and Receipt of Report of Field Trips Approved by the Superintendent
- XII.E Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeouts and BG-5 Forms
- **XII.E.1** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Boiler Replacement at Auburndale Elementary School
- **XII.E.2** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Phase I HVAC Renovation at Sam Meyers Hall
- **XII.E.3** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Boiler Replacement at Stopher Elementary School
- XII.F Recommendation for Approval of Construction Change Orders
- **XII.G** Recommendation for Approval of Competitive Negotiations, Bid Tabulations, Contract Renewals, and Amendment
- XII.H Recommendation for Approval of Professional Services Contracts of \$20,000 or More
- XII.I Acceptance of Summary of Professional Services Contracts

- XII.J Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer
- XII.J.1 Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Invoices
- XII.J.2 Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Purchase Orders
- XII.J.3 Acceptance of Orders of the Treasurer-Vouchers
- XII.K Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Funding
- XII.K.1 Acceptance of Donations and Small Grants
- XII.K.2 Recommendation for Acceptance of Donation from the Altamira Foundation
- XII.K.3 Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2026 Funding for Family Resource Youth Service Centers (FRYSC)
- XII.L Recommendation for Approval of Agreements
- XII.L.1 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement for Data Sharing with Bellarmine
- XII.L.2 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with BSCS Science Learning
- XII.L.3 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandums of Agreement with Campbellsville University
- XII.L.4 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Flight 502
- XII.L.5 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Hope Collaborative
- XII.L.6 Recommendation for Approval of Data Privacy Agreement with Just Right Reader, Inc.
- **XII.L.7** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Education and Labor Cabinet, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- **XII.L.8** Recommendation for Approval of Lease Agreement/Land Swap Renewal with Louisville Metro Government
- XII.L.9 Recommendation for Approval of Gift Agreement with Norton Hospitals, Inc. for Athletic Trainers
- XII.L.10 Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to Data Privacy Agreement with Otus
- XII.L.11 Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Pace Contracting LLC
- XII.L.12 Recommendation for Approval of Affiliation Agreement with Spalding School of Nursing
- **XII.L.13** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS)
- **XII.L.14** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Data Sharing with Woolpert, Inc.
- **XII.L.15** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to Agreement with Alternative Transportation Solutions dba Everdriven
- **XII.L.16** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to the Third-Party Administrative Services Agreement with Charles Taylor
- XII.L.17 Recommendation for Approval of Agreement with the YMCA of Greater Louisville
- **XII.L.18** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with The YMCA of Greater Louisville for Childcare Enrichment Programs
- **XII.L.19** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the Jefferson County Teachers Association to Change the Payment Structure for Teachers Participating as Members of Their School/Site Collaborative Leadership Team
- **XII.M** Recommendation for Approval of General Liability and Educators Legal Liability Insurance Policy Renewal
- XII.N Recommendation for Approval of Nonresident Student Tuition Rates for Fiscal Year 2025-26
- XII.O Recommendation to Receive a Report on the 2025 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly
- XII.P Recommendation for Approval of 2025-26 Salary Schedules, Salary Placement Rules and Procedures
- XII.Q Recommendation for Approval of the District Traceable Communication System
- XII.R Adoption of Attached Board Policies (2nd Reading) and Review of Attached Administrative Procedures
- XII.S Acceptance of Board Policies for First Reading and Administrative Procedures for Review
- XII.T WITHDRAWN: Student Outcomes-Focused Governance Timeline

**Order #2025-115 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the June 24, 2025, Consent Agenda. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Mr. Trevin Bass.

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

# XIII. Board Planning Calendar

**Order #2025-116 - 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 Mr. James Craig.

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

## **XIV. Committee Reports**

Mr. Craig announced his appointment as chair of the Board of Education's Revenue Committee. He plans to meet with the CFO and General Counsel before the Fourth of July to map out the committee's work for the coming months. All Board members have submitted a proposed committee member, and these individuals will be contacted, ideally before the holiday. The committee aims to hold its first meeting in late July or early August to begin its work. Mr. Craig hopes the committee's recommendations will be ready in time to influence the January 2026 budget presentation.

# **XV. Board Reports**

Mrs. Duncan formally thanked Dr. Pollio for his courage and sacrifice, crediting him with enabling the District's growth. She praised him as a problem-solver who tackled issues head-on, significantly changing the landscape of JCPS. She highlighted the student assignment plan as a remarkable achievement and acknowledged his courageous handling of challenges, including threats of state takeover. Mrs. Duncan concluded by expressing the District's lasting indebtedness to him.

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

The following public speakers were allowed three minutes to address the Board.

Sarah Rosenbalm, an alumni parent and employee with a background in early childhood education and business development, proposed the creation of a "JCPS Hub App" to serve as a 24-hour information center, helping students easily access local resources.

Maddie Shepard, President of the Jefferson County Teachers Association, praised Dr. Pollio as JCPS's unwavering leader, likening his tenure to an inverse "Hero's Journey" where he consistently confronted challenges like state takeovers, pension crises, and the development of an aspirational strategic plan by staying to defend the District rather than leaving.

Reginal Glass, representing Central High School staff and the Human Relations Commission's education committee, thanked the Board for approving a donation from the Alamire Foundation to make Central High School's science labs operational again.

## XVII. Executive Session (If Necessary)

## XVIII. Action Item (If Necessary)

# XIX. Adjournment

The June 24, 2025, business meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

**Order #2025-117 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the June 24, 2025, meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education at 7:31 p.m. passed with a motion by Mr. Trevin Bass and a second by Ms. Gail Logan Strange.

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

Dr. Corrie Shull	
Chairman	Superintendent/Secretary