



**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Special Meeting of April 10, 2024**

**Special Meeting** of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Corrie Shull	Vice-Chairman James Craig
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Dr. Chris Kolb
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Mr. Joseph Marshall
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.  
Kevin Brown, General Counsel  
Caroline Callahan, Chief of Communications and Community Relations  
Brad Daniel, Assistant Director, Routing and Special Populations  
Marcus Dobbs, Executive Administrator of Transportation  
Dr. Rob Fulk, Chief Operations Officer  
Robert Moore, Chief of Schools

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**

Chair Shull called the April 10, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:07 p.m.

Chair Shull asked for a motion to allow public comments.

General Counsel Kevin Brown clarified that, based on the Open Meetings Act, amendments to the agenda for a special meeting are not permitted.

Chair Shull asked for a motion to table the meeting.

Mr. Marshall advocated for continuing the meeting to allow the Transportation team to comprehensively present their decision-making rationale and directly address Board inquiries in the presence of the community.

**Order #2024-45 - Motion Failed:** A motion to table the meeting until there can be community conversation and inclusion by community members failed with a motion by Ms. Gail Logan Strange and a second by Dr. Corrie Shull.

Mr. James Craig	No
Mrs. Linda Duncan	No
Dr. Christopher Kolb	No
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	No
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	No
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

**Order #2024-46 - Motion Passed:** A motion to approve the agenda 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
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	No
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	No

## **II. Action Item: Recommendation for Approval of JCPS Transportation Plan for the 2024-25 School Year**

Dr. Pollio, accompanied by his Transportation team, presented a series of options for the Board's consideration. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mrs. Duncan wanted clarification regarding the impact of current driver staffing levels on lost instructional minutes. She questioned recommendations from the audit. She asked about start time options for schools losing transportation and the potential to incentivize the return of previously departed bus drivers.

Mr. Marshall inquired about the rationale behind not presenting all 16 options considered by the Transportation team. He emphasized the importance of transparency and advocated for increased community collaboration throughout the decision-making process. He questioned the time needed to implement a new plan. He acknowledged that the community wants to ensure the District is working with outside partners. He expressed concern and asked about mitigating overcrowding issues in resides schools. He questioned the legal ramifications of lost instructional time. He expressed concern that none of the options might satisfy the Racial Equity Analysis Protocol (REAP) standards. He emphasized the need to carefully consider the balance between ensuring equitable choice for families and maintaining equitable access to instructional minutes. In closing, he underscored the critical importance of collaborative plan development with the community to foster trust and strengthen the District's relationship with its constituents.

Ms. McIntosh raised concerns about the disproportionate impact of lost instructional time on specific student demographics and highlighted equity issues within the current plan. She then asked if buses had cleared for the day and if not, when they were expected to clear. She wanted to ensure that the proposal would include free Tarc passes for all middle and high school students and stipends for F/R lunch students. She questioned offers of assistance from community members/organizations. She raised concerns regarding the potential budgetary impact of compensating staff for extended work hours caused by late buses and then asked if there is still a waitlist at Magnet schools. She expressed concern about creating a fluid situation by basing Transportation on F/R lunch data.

Dr. Kolb affirmed the Transportation team's alignment with the audit report's recommendations, and that their disagreements were regarding the statements and claims made by the auditor during the March 26 meeting. As he discussed the work that went into the proposed options, he acknowledged that one of the key takeaways and recommendations from the report was that the Board needs to listen to Transportation - he stated that he plans to do that. He confirmed that the District is now five weeks behind schedule since the Board has yet to approve a new plan. He asked how the bus issues have affected teachers, administrators, and students as he expressed concern about a growing staffing crisis. He then highlighted a few items from 70 pages of REAP analysis. He said that he was not notified of the Community REAP scheduled for Thursday. He acknowledged that the Racial Equity Policy does not call for Community REAPs and that the District has never done Community REAPs in the past. He then asked Dr. Fulk to clarify the District's collaboration work with UPS. He questioned the impact of lost instructional time on student achievement and pointed out the inequity with the current plan. He stated that he cannot sit on this vote any longer knowing that they are depriving 30,000 kids of instructional time.

Ms. Logan Strange asked why the majority of late students are Black and Brown. She questioned using a different transportation model given the positive student outcomes achieved since the COVID pandemic under the current model. She questioned compensation for staff due to extended work hours caused by late buses. She asked which zip codes would be negatively impacted the most. She emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts with the community to ensure a successful plan. She acknowledged the amount of work that has gone into the proposals but wondered if it has been the right work. She expressed concern and urged the Board to take the time to get this right. She concluded by questioning the accuracy of the information and methodology used in the REAP Committee reports.

Mr. Craig displayed a spreadsheet citing data on lost instructional time and concerns raised by families, as he expressed his deep concern regarding the ongoing busing crisis' impact on students across the District. He urged the Board for immediate action and indicated his intent to vote for Option 2.

Ms. Logan Strange asked what happens to teachers whose student population decreases significantly.

Chair Shull expressed concern as he discussed access and choice with the new student Assignment Plan, stating that the proposed Transportation Plan seems to undermine that. He asked how the plan affects choice and the various factors that have been put in place to mitigate any potential for resegregation. He questioned the process of soliciting and integrating the perspectives of staff, including insights from bus drivers, and requested documentation showing that data. He raised several concerns regarding the proposal to end transportation for magnet schools. He questioned the number of students who would be forced to return to their resides schools, particularly in District 6 since Moore High School is already over capacity, asking if it would accommodate a potential 25 percent increase in students. He questioned the plan/process to adjust boundary lines given the existing delays. He questioned the involvement of the Student Assignment Office and School Choice. He asked if/how bus depots could improve route efficiency. He asked if the District lost drivers as a consequence of the 2023-24 Transportation Plan. He inquired about the efforts to prepare for the 2024-25 school year. Specifically, he requested clarification on the work that has already begun. He asked how the new plan would affect CEP and after-school programs and how the District has been able to offset lost instructional minutes. In conclusion, he discussed possible discrepancies in REAP processes and outcomes.

There seemed to be confusion regarding a Community REAP meeting. Chair Shull stated that a Community REAP had been scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024. Board members Craig, McIntosh, and Kolb indicated they were not aware of or notified about the meeting.

Chair Shull then made the following announcement.

“I will now entertain a motion regarding the transportation plan for the 2024-2025 school year.”

Mr. Marshall said, “The news tonight that Student Assignment was not at the table and has not been at the table, to me, is a huge misstep.” He continued, “We cannot entertain this vote tonight until we can look at the community and say that we have done everything, and everyone impacted has been at the table.” He then offered a motion to table the vote.

**Order #2024-47 - Motion Failed:** A motion to table the vote until Transportation can entertain all Central Office staff affected and bring principals and everyone affected to the table failed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Marshall and a second by Ms. Gail Logan Strange.

Mr. James Craig	No
Mrs. Linda Duncan	No
Dr. Christopher Kolb	No
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	No
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

Mrs. Duncan emphasized the urgency of the vote due to its impact on the timeline for schools and staffing. She advocated for a quick decision to allow staff to begin planning and preparations for the upcoming school year.

Chair Shull reopened the floor for a motion on the proposed Transportation Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

Dr. Kolb moved to adopt Option 2. This option proposes the discontinuation of transportation services for all magnet and traditional schools, except high schools exceeding a 75 percent free/reduced lunch (F/R) enrollment: Central and Western High Schools. The motion further directed Dr. Pollio's administration to conduct a comprehensive review of the District's transportation system and present a report to the Board by December 1. The report development process must prioritize robust and meaningful community engagement.

**Order #2024-48 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adopt Option 2: Discontinue service to all magnet and traditional schools, except high schools ABOVE 75% Free/Reduced Lunch (F/R) lunch enrollment: Central and Western High Schools and to instruct Dr. Pollio's administration to revisit school transportation and provide the Board a report no later than December 1 and as part of that lead-up, go above and beyond to ensure that community input is meaningfully and substantially considered throughout the process passed with a motion by Dr. Christopher Kolb and a second by Mr. James Craig.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Christopher Kolb	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	No
Mr. Joseph Marshall	No
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	No

Mr. Craig displayed an email conversation and said the following, "There was an allegation about my having responded to an email about the Community REAP that was scheduled for tomorrow. I just want to show here that I did request the Chair:

*I know that a majority of the members of the Board of Education want this meeting to be next week. Nobody has discussed a public REAP with them.*

That was, I believe, on Saturday evening. Up until this meeting tonight when we heard from the Chair, no one had had meaningful discussion with the full Board of Education about the Community REAP that was scheduled for tomorrow evening."

Dr. Kolb agreed, "I have no emails from Chair Shull on that topic."

Mr. Craig requested this information be reflected in the Meeting Minutes. Dr. Kolb agreed.

Dr. Shull responded, "There was a scheduled meeting for April 16, and Mr. Craig, I'm glad you put it in the Minutes because it recognizes the fact that you indeed responded to my request for a Public REAP. So again, my statement stands that I asked for it, I requested it of the Superintendent, and you responded."

### III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

**Order #2024-49 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the April 10, 2024, special meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m. passed with a motion by Dr. Christopher Kolb and a second by Ms. Sarah McIntosh.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Christopher Kolb	Yes
Ms. Gail Logan Strange	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

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Dr. Corrie Shull  
Chairman

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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**