



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2014

REGULAR meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at the VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on Monday, January 27, 2014, at 7 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairwoman Diane Porter
 Mr. Chris Brady
 Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad
 Mrs. Debbie Wesslund

Vice-Chairman David A. Jones, Jr.
 Mrs. Linda Duncan
 Mr. Chuck Haddaway

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Superintendent Donna M. Hargens, Ed.D.
 Rosemary Miller, General Counsel
 Kathy Smith, Assistant Secretary to the Board

WORK SESSION

Board members conducted a work session at 5 p.m. to discuss the roles and responsibilities of SBDM Councils and their effect on student achievement. All Board members were present.

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Porter called the January 27, 2014, regular meeting to order at 7 p.m. with a traditional moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Vision Statement.

III. Approval of Minutes

Order #2014-011 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the January 13, 2014, regular meeting. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Chris Brady and a second by Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

IV. Recognitions and Resolutions

- A. Recognition of National Board Certified Teachers**
- B. Recognition of Highland Cleaners and Sam Meyers, Inc.**
- C. Recognition of Pedro A. Bryant, Vice-Chairman of Louisville Enterprise Group**

Order #2014-012 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education receive the recognitions and resolutions for January 27, 2014. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Chris Brady and a second by Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

Mr. Jones made the following motion: “I move to waive Board Policy 1.45 Board Meeting Agenda and amend the agenda to move Discussion Items VII.A. and B. up to this point in the agenda.”

Order #2014-013 - Motion Passed: A motion to waive Board Policy 1.45 Board Meeting Agenda and amend the agenda to move Discussion Items VII.A. and B. up to this point in the agenda passed with a motion by Mr. David A. Jones, Jr. and a second by Mr. Chris Brady.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

VII. Discussion Items Brought Forward

VII.A. 2013–14 Suspension and Discipline Report

Dr. Judi Vanderhaar, evaluation specialist, Planning and Program Evaluation; and Charles C. Davis Jr.; coordinator; Diversity, Equity, and Poverty Programs presented the 2013–14 suspension and discipline report. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mrs. Duncan: “There are several things that are said in this report that I think are a little bit misleading, and I would hate to leave this report publicly this way and then go into private session where we vet out the things that are troubling to me. You know, offense-to-suspension ratio should be at one-to-one—if there is an offense committed—if there is a fight, then there should be a suspension. What jumps out at me in this is that we have 5,000—over 5,000 African American students fighting and 2,000—I’m just rounding it off—and about 2,000 suspensions. By the same token, we’ll have 2,000 white students fighting and 883 suspensions. So, I know later on there will be an explanation for that, but that’s not one-to-one, that’s one-to-less-than-one. And one of the things that jumps out at anybody that looks at this report is that the—when you begin to talk about disproportionate suspensions, the number of African Americans who are involved in fights—5,000 versus 2,000—and the suspensions are really corresponding with the same thing with the white students in fights—2,000 to 883. You can see, that’s pretty close to one-to-one. If they’re involved in a fight, then they’re likely to be suspended at the same rate. It’s not one group being suspended more than another group—dramatically—those are pretty close in all of our

groups we could see that. So, I think we confuse that issue about disproportionality because suspensions have to do with the offenses. If there is an offense, there is a suspension. If it's a suspendable offense, then there should be a suspension that follows that. That's the part that—we see a one-to-one ratio on that, so that is really not disproportionality. It's just disproportionate in the sense that that percent of the population, but that has nothing to do with the offense. And that whole concept of disproportionality is troubling to me. Five thousand fights—or 5,000 kids fighting versus 2,000 kids fighting—you're going to have more suspensions of African American students for 5,000 fights than you are for 2,000 white kids fighting. So, that's just logical. Another thing that's troubling to me on here is this—we're almost equating suspensions with these proficiency rates. Which comes first—the chicken or the egg here? We have 42 percent proficiency for the District, and of those kids that were suspended one or two times, it looks like 15 percent of them are proficient down to 8 percent of them are proficient. But the suspension one or two times didn't cause the proficiency—or the lack of proficiency. The suspension was the result of behavior. Now the behavior may be traced back to frustration over lack of proficiency, but the behavior is what caused the suspension, and the suspension is not creating the lack of proficiency. That's there—it's just as a by-product then we see the suspension happening because the behavior is out of—lots of times maybe the frustration of the student. But, it sort of leads you to believe here that if you suspend one or two times, then *Bam!* your proficiency is going to drop. And I think that's very misleading. That is not—I mean the people who get suspended were at that proficiency level before the suspension, and to me, that's what helped feed it. But, you know, we looked at the dress code violations—and my question here, and again it's going to be the question at the work session—if you have 2,000 dress code violations and only six-hundred-and-some wind up in ISAP or if you have 1,000 and only a certain number way below that wind up in ISAP for the day, what's happened? Why is it that all of them are not in ISAP for the dress code violation? What created that difference there between our African American students—they're 27 percent more likely to finish the day in ISAP for a dress code violation whereas white students are 15 percent likely to finish the day in ISAP. But, what accounts for that difference? And that's what we need to take a look at. And, I don't believe it's because we send our white students on to class out of dress code. There's something else going on here and that's something that we need to take a look at. One of the things that bothers me in this national trend—of all those things being done and tried, not one word about parents. And yet, parents are the key people that need to be informed about what kinds of behaviors will not be acceptable in schools. And those parents are responsible for teaching their kids so that they don't engage in those behaviors that result in these consequences, but we don't have parents anywhere in there. Everybody is just trying to treat the problem and not go back to what could help with the source. The parent has the influence here, and the parent should be included in this list of things that are being tried in order to reduce suspensions throughout the whole nation. I think probably—I know with the work session we'll have an opportunity to talk a little more about that and, I hope get some more explanations about this. But I thought this data was the perfect data for everybody to look at and for everybody to understand that the numbers of the suspendable offenses are what trigger suspensions. And one thing here also that comes across to me loudly and clearly in here—11 percent of all the referrals wound up in suspensions. Just look at all the referrals coming in! That's 4,700 suspensions, I guess—11 percent of the referrals. Look at all the referrals coming in. The effort should be *what can we do/what can be done to support teachers* so that these referrals aren't written in the numbers that they're written. And the automatic referral to the assistant

principal—teachers need to understand they’re the person that holds that discretion—they don’t have to automatically write that referral to an assistant principal. There are others in that building that they can take a look at and write referrals to—get kids to—for conflict resolution—for those things that we have listed there that Youth Services Centers—anger management—that they sometimes hook kids up with. But, those things should—the teacher does not have to write a referral to an assistant principal; however, when an assistant principal receives a referral that says a student threatened a teacher, or a student cursed at a teacher, or did something that falls into our category of non-negotiable offenses—the teacher—or whatever the student did—then the assistant principal is obligated to follow the discipline code and respond in the way that’s appropriate for that. Now, when—once they get the referral—they may find out different things—that may be the reason some of these fight situations did not end in suspensions or the fight situations may have been handled different ways. But, every referral does not have to go to an assistant principal, but when it goes, you have to expect the assistant principal to follow what’s in the *Code* because the teacher expects the assistant principal to follow that. I just think this is going to be an interesting report. It’s an interesting thing to look at, but we have to be very careful about oversimplifying this and just causing—just saying because more African Americans are suspended, it’s disproportionate. It’s only—it only becomes that when you compare it to the percent of the population that they make up of a school. And that doesn’t have anything to do with the offense.”

In relation to the provision of mental health treatment, Mrs. Wesslund asked whether the lack of communication between the mental health provider and the school is related to HIPAA privacy rules. She has heard that there are issues with students receiving services at other facilities and the school is not receiving the information they need to help the child in the school setting. She noted that this is especially problematic with younger children who can’t provide the information on their own.

Mr. Brady asked that the data be broken down by socio-economic status for the February 10 work session.

Mr. Jones requested data disaggregated by school. He is interested in how much variation there is among schools and how schools compare to each other and to other schools with similar demographics.

Mr. Tom Moffett addressed the Board of Education concerning discipline issues.

Order #2014-014 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education receive the 2013–14 Suspension and Discipline report. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Chuck Haddaway and a second by Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

VII.B. Report on Individual Learning Plans

The following staff members presented a report on individual learning plans. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

- Dr. Dewey Hensley, chief academic officer;
- Suzanne Wright, director, Curriculum Management; and
- Dr. Pam Royster, specialist, Curriculum Management.

Mr. Jones asked how students' capabilities are measured in an ongoing way and what data feeds into that. He requested information on how the data is used for intra-system marketing (matching elementary students to middle schools and middle school students to high schools) and if there is any external use of the data.

Order #2014-015 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education receive a report on Individual Learning Plans. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Chris Brady and a second by Mrs. Debbie Wesslund.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

V. Consent Calendar and Superintendent's Report

"Chair Diane Porter, members of the Board; it is my pleasure to call your attention to a few items of special interest.

Let's begin by talking about the weather. Based on the recommendation from the Calendar Committee, the Board approved the 2013–14 calendar on November 12, 2012, which included make-up days. Just to remind you, our calendar has 175 instructional days with 6 hours and 10 minutes of instructional time per day.

We currently have used five of the makeup days. In assigning make-up days, we first used our three February days and then June 5 and 6 – a Thursday and Friday. We have taken three 2-hour delays. At this point, the late starts will not require any make-up time. We have the minimum required (1,062) hours of instruction. The current projected last day of school is Friday, June 6.

With the very real threat of more inclement weather, we will be calling the Calendar Committee back together to discuss the possibility of using Tuesday, February 25, and then Monday, February 24, as make-up days in lieu of adding additional days into the next week of June. We will bring back a recommendation on February 10. I will ask the committee also to relook at make-up days for the Board-approved 2014–15 calendar, which was approved on June 24, 2013.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Martha Dysart and Diane Preston in our Nutrition Service Center for volunteering to represent the second region on the newly formed Commodity

Advisory Council, which will serve to ensure that all school districts order and receive all of the USDA commodities to which they are entitled.

Congratulations to Principal Jerry Keepers at Jefferson County High School for receiving the Kentucky Association of Secondary School Principals (KASSP) Dawson Orman Leadership Award. We appreciate Jerry's leadership.

Congratulations to Stopher Elementary School for being nominated as one of five schools by Commissioner Terry Holliday to participate in the 2014 National Blue Ribbon School process in the Exemplary High Performing category.

The recommendations made by the Curriculum Management Auditors were made to align our work to result in increased student achievement. Progress continues to be made. Progress on implementing the actions is a leading indicator that will result in the Success Measure of Student Achievement. You will recall that at your last meeting you approved a Contract with Magnet Schools of America to review our magnet system. That team will arrive next Sunday night.

Louisville Linked continues to match community resources with student needs—28,987 links have been made helping a total of 18,433 different students.

We have ten Board Meetings left in 2013–14. Here is an outline of the important work to be done. I look forward to it.

Chair Porter, at this time, I recommend the consent calendar for the Board's consideration."

Consent Calendar for January 27, 2014

- A. Approval of Personnel Actions
- B. Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence
- C. Approval of Organizational Charts
- D. Approval of Field Trip Requests
- E. Approval of Construction Change Orders
- F. Approval of Bid Tabulations and Amendments
- G. Acceptance of Purchase Order Report
- H. Acceptance of Voucher Report
- I. Approval of Professional Services Contracts of \$5,000 or More
- J. Acceptance of Monthly Report of Professional Services Contracts of \$5,000 or More
- K. Acceptance of Donations
- L. Acceptance of Funding from the Jefferson County Public Education Foundation
- M. Acceptance of Grants and Funding
 - 1. Acceptance of a MakingMUSIC Partnership Grant from The Gheens Foundation, Inc.
 - 2. Acceptance of Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation Grant for Doss High School

3. Acceptance of Kentucky Arts Council Grants for Butler Traditional High School and Bowen Elementary School
4. Acceptance of Funding from the Kentucky Governor's Office for the **Every 1 Reads** Nurses Initiative
- N. Approval of Submission of Grant Applications
 1. Kentucky Read to Achieve: Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Grant
 2. Family Resource/Youth Services Centers
- O. Approval of Agreement in Principle with KentuckianaWorks to Fund Customized Training for Court-Involved Youth
- P. Notification of Easements
 1. Sanitary and Sewer Drainage Easement for Klondike Elementary School
 2. Electrical Easement for Minors Lane Elementary School
- Q. Approval of Local Addenda to Memoranda of Understanding with Jefferson Community and Technical College for Dual Credit Opportunities
- R. Acceptance of an Offer of Assistance for Annual Debt Service on Bonds
- S. Approval of Student Enrollment Projections for 2014–15
- T. Approval of School Allocation Standards for Fiscal Year 2014–15
- U. Approval of General Fund Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2014–15
- V. Submission of Board Policies
 1. Revision to Board Policies: *Curriculum and Instruction* and *Students* (First Reading)
 2. Approval of Board Policies: *Powers and Duties of the Board of Education*, *Curriculum and Instruction*, and *Students*

Order #2014-016 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education approve the Consent Calendar for January 27, 2014. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. David A. Jones, Jr. and a second by Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

VI. Action Items

VII. Discussion Items

Board members voted earlier in the meeting to waive Board Policy 1.45 Board Meeting Agenda and amend the agenda to move Discussion Items VII.A. and B. up before the Consent Calendar.

VII.C. 2013–14 Board of Education Discussion Agenda Planning Calendar

- Mr. Jones thanked the Superintendent for the overview and how things fit together.

- Mrs. Duncan asked about the evaluation of the effectiveness of the extended learning programs for priority schools. She also requested a copy of the quarterly report on Priority Schools.

Order #2014-017 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Donna Hargens recommends that the Board of Education receive for information a planning calendar outlining discussion agenda items to occur during the 2013–14 fiscal year. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. David A. Jones, Jr. and a second by Mr. Chuck Haddaway.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes	Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes	Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes	Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes		

VIII. Board Reports and Requests

- Mrs. Wesslund reported on the upcoming meeting of the Commissioner’s Local School Board Member Advisory Council and requested that Board members provide her with any feedback they would like her to share with the Council. She reported that she and Mrs. Duncan will attend the 2014 National School Boards Association Advocacy Institute next week in Washington, D.C.
- Mrs. Duncan reported that the South Louisville Business Association has undertaken a mentoring program with students at Olmsted Academies North and South and fifth-grade students at Rutherford Elementary School. She also reported that the screening committee of the KSBA Board of Directors has completed interviews for Executive Director and submitted their recommendations to the full Board of Directors. She noted that the KSBA Annual Conference will be held next weekend at the Galt House.
- Mr. Brady referenced the recent OEA report and voiced his concerns about internal auditing procedures and encouraged the Superintendent to ensure that proper policies and procedures are in place.
- Chair Porter congratulated Kate Adams, a junior at duPont Manual High School, for achieving a composite score of 36 on the ACT—the highest score possible on the college entrance exam. She gave a shout-out to a Brown School student who was recognized for her artwork at the Martin Luther King, Jr. State Commission program in Frankfort.

IX. Persons Requesting to Address the Board on Non-Agenda Items

X. Executive Session (If Needed)

XI. Adjournment

Order #2014-018 - Motion Passed: A recommendation to adjourn the January 27, 2014, meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education at 9:09 p.m. passed with a motion by Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

Mr. Chris Brady	Yes
Mrs. Carol Ann Haddad	Yes
Mr. David A. Jones, Jr.	Yes
Mrs. Debbie Wesslund	Yes

Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Mr. Chuck Haddaway	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes

Diane Porter, Board Chairman

Dr. Donna Hargens, Superintendent/Secretary

**THESE ACTIONS, ALONG WITH THE AGENDA ITEMS, MAKE UP THE OFFICIAL
MINUTES, WHICH ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**