



JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Board Work Session

August 31, 2021

Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at Central High School,
1130 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at 6 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwoman Diane Porter	Vice-Chair Corrie Shull
Mr. James Craig	Mrs. Linda Duncan
Dr. Chris Kolb	Mr. Joseph Marshall
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	

Board members Duncan, McIntosh, and Shull attended the meeting via videoconference.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.
Thomas Aberli, Executive Administrator Budget
Dr. Alicia Averette, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Support Programs
Kevin Brown, General Counsel
John D. Collopy, Executive Administrator Budget
Dr. Charles Davis, Coordinator of the Equity and Inclusion
Dr. Aimee Green-Webb, Chief Human Resources
Cordelia Hardin, Chief Financial Officer
Chris Perkins, Chief Operations Officer
Eva Stone, Health Coordinator

The purpose of this meeting was for Board members to have a Work Session for discussions regarding the Working Budget, Student Learning Centers, and the 2021–22 School Year; and to consider consent agenda items.

This meeting was conducted via video-teleconference 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 Central High School. 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

WORK SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Porter called the August 31, 2021, Work Session to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Recommendation for Approval of Meeting Agenda

Order #2021-145 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the agenda for August 31, 2021. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Marshall and a second by Dr. Christopher Kolb.

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

III. Recommendation for Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Order #2021-146 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021, and August 23, 2021, meetings. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. Joseph Marshall 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

IV. Work Sessions

A. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Working Budget

Dr. Pollio, Cordelia Hardin, Thomas Aberli, and John D. Collopy presented an overview of the Working Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21, which will be recommended for the Board's approval on September 14, 2021. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mr. Marshall questioned the revenue forecast asking if there would be a sharp decrease in funding in the coming years as ESSER funds are eliminated. He stated, "I just want to make sure that we're prudent in how we're allocating these funds. And, once we get closer to knowing that they're going to drop off - to be very strategic in the way that we deal with that."

Ms. McIntosh acknowledged that federal funding has limitations/stipulations on how it can be spent. She asked, "Before we vote on this, could we see a breakdown of ... recurring costs every year related to operations?" She also wanted to see more information regarding social-emotional, mental health services, and any other family services available to the entire family of JCPS students.

Mr. Craig asked, "Are we maintaining enough flexibility in the working budget to pivot as circumstances change with COVID?" He then questioned the District's tax rate increase and asked, "Are we doing a second billing in tax year 2021 or in November of 2021 for the 2019-2020 year?"

Mrs. Duncan asked, "Have we identified items that we are paying for right now in our General Fund that maybe we could use ESSER funds for and free up money to spend on other things from the General Fund?" She then asked, "We have nurses in all of our buildings right now and we have mental health counselors in our buildings and I was just wondering if that would be something we were paying for out of General Fund?" She noted that is an area that could be paid for by ESSER funds rather than General Fund.

Dr. Kolb recognized that this is the first time in a while that we are not going to have a deficit budget - that our revenue will exceed expenses. He then stated, "My preference is to put as much funding as we can behind, as you talked about, those social emotional-supports, family supports that Ms. McIntosh referred to, as well as anything and everything we can do to address those needs - I think will pay off in many different ways for us, including academic achievement." He then suggested they used funds to enhance recruitment efforts to address staff vacancies. He concluded by discussing air quality improvement and stated, "I hope we dedicate as much money as we can to ventilation."

Dr. Shull echoed the need for family supports and improved air ventilation systems. He asked if the District would be able to achieve 1 to 1 technology this year. He then questioned the status of increasing the diversity of offerings in libraries.

Chair Porter asked, "I'm looking on page 5 where it breaks down exactly how things are spent and for what purpose, how do we as the board know how the dollars are actually spent and where the dollars are going?" She went on to say, "One of the things that we have talked about ... is smaller class sizes for our students. And the question becomes, I know it's a staffing issue, but how do we as a board know that we are moving forward with some of the things that we have spoken of?" She then expressed concern and asked for clarification regarding the procedures around water fountains and the installation of bottle filling stations in every school.

B. Student Learning Centers

Dr. Pollio, Dr. Alicia Averette, Dr. Charles Davis, and Chris Perkins delivered the presentation. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions regarding Student Learning Centers and the commitment and focus the Centers will have on students of color. Board members expressed appreciation for the work going into the Centers and were excited with the potential they will bring to JCPS students.

Dr. Shull asked, "When will a facility be secured in the West End?" He questioned the holdup and wanted clarification on the process and the expected timeline. He asked, "What mechanisms are we putting in place to ensure that funding is provided for all of the services?" He encouraged the District to move forward and stated, "I just want to put it out there that we don't need to treat this program as though it is something that is temporary."

Dr. Kolb asked, “How are we working to make sure that as many kids who really need these services as possible, get enrolled?” He asked how students would be identified and who is responsible for connecting with families to get them enrolled. He wanted details/clarification on student transportation.

Mrs. Duncan asked about attendance expectations, student schedules/movement, attendance incentives, transportation, and building security.

Mr. Craig wanted clarification on the timeline – specifically, he was concerned with securing the property for the West Louisville Community. He asked, “How many students do we think are ultimately going to benefit at each center?” He expressed concern with staffing shortages and the strain on Transportation and wanted to ensure the centers would have the support needed to make them successful. He wanted to ensure that classroom teachers would not be pulled in order to staff the centers.

Ms. McIntosh asked for clarification on the referral and registration process. She wanted to ensure that all interested families have the opportunity to enroll and have accessible ways to register. She wanted to make sure there are opportunities for physical activities. She noted that many students participate in after-school activities and asked what transportation will be available to those students.

Mr. Marshall also expressed concern with staffing shortages and the strain on Transportation. He wanted to clarify the process of assigning a location to students, wondering if it would be based on their home address. He advocated for expanding the program to include a center in district 4.

Chair Porter questioned the facilitation of the plan asking, “How do we move it forward?” She requested a timeline for staffing and more specific information about what it takes to facilitate these different activities. She requested the list of the 10 different facilities that the District has looked at and the list of KDE requirements. She stated, “I think it's extremely important that we are very honest about what our needs are.” She expressed concern with the delay in moving forward with the West Louisville center and requested a timeline of what needs to be accomplished to get the center up and running.

C. A New Way Forward: Update Regarding the 2021-22 School Year

Dr. Pollio, Dr. Aimee Green-Webb, and Eva Stone shared an update regarding the 2021-22 school year, including enrollment information, the Pathfinder School of Innovation, and ongoing work to use the best guidance available for state and national experts to respond appropriately and effectively to the evolving challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mr. Marshall asked for an update on nurses and staffing challenges amid quarantines. He requested clarification on the accuracy of the Dashboard numbers. He asked, “Do we have any idea how much spread we're actually seeing in our buildings versus cases that are coming in from outside?” He asked about a potential upcoming Special Legislative Session, “Is there a lot of talk amongst superintendents of creating a united front to try to ask for more NTI days or to put some more information out there to show our legislators that we really do need some leeway in how we handle this for our district?” He concluded by clarifying the Consent Agenda item which will allow additional sick days for employees due to a positive case of COVID-19 requiring isolation for themselves or requiring quarantine or isolation for their child.

Ms. McIntosh asked, “Teachers and other staff members have multiple children - are they going to be limited on the number of times that they are granted COVID leave, or is that going to just be on an ongoing as-needed basis?” She asked if the District is tracking how often the quarantine kids come up positive after having exposure at school. She emphasized the importance of mitigation strategies to help prevent many kids from being exposed.

Mr. Craig acknowledged the difficulties that every staff member in the District is currently facing and the importance to do this safely and figuring out a way to keep buildings open for as long as possible. He discussed staffing shortages and asked if there might be any flexibility coming out of an upcoming Legislative Session. He advocated for NTI flexibility and stated, “We've been losing instructional time for potentially the third year in a row - we need to provide these services to the kids.” He also advocated for parents to give consent for weekly COVID testing for their child and asked if classrooms could push this option. He wants to get the message home, stating, “It helps us to be able to respond and to stay open.” He expressed the need to move the conversation forward regarding staff vaccinations/testing and said, “I talked to some folks and I think that there would be community support for requiring staff members to vaccinate or to produce a negative test on a weekly basis. As one board member, I think there's probably community support for that today, and I would encourage us to start moving in that direction.” He also discussed sports and wondered if the District should consider requiring players to be vaccinated or have a negative test. He expressed frustration that there are no conversations in the city of Louisville or in the state of Kentucky about closing anything but schools, saying, “Schools should be the last to close and the first to open.”

Dr. Kolb encouraged the community to take advantage of the free drive-thru COVID-19 testing for JCPD students, staff, and families. He expressed concern with the growing rate of COVID infection and urged schools to get parental consent for weekly testing. He suggested the District require the form be completed to give or withhold consent so that parents are consciously reviewing the form and making that choice. He then went on to say, “I'm on board with Member Craig - I encourage us to have vaccine mandates for our staff, all staff members as soon as possible. If we don't have one in place by the next Board meeting, I plan to make a motion to adopt.” He wanted to ensure that schools are receiving support and clarified the limited NTI options.

Mrs. Duncan stated, “One of the things that's troubling me is, I'm not feeling the urgency from us to pressure or to somehow speak for our schools for legislative action on this.” She went on to say, “I feel like we need to make sure that our voice is heard prior to this Session so that they understand what we're dealing with.” She requested a report of attendance showing the number of staff and students physically in each school. She stated, “I just think maybe if we track this through attendance we have something to show these legislators to see how this is hitting our population and also show us how effective our mitigations are.”

Dr. Shull shared Mrs. Duncan's concerns and stated, “It may even be helpful to just go and directly email those same findings to all of the legislators who seem to want to restrict local school districts from making the necessary decisions for their students and their families.” He discussed how student absences negatively affect educational outcomes and wanted more information detailing what the District is doing to keep students on track.

Chair Porter requested more detail and clarification regarding student testing and how parents can give consent. She wanted to ensure there is consistency and paper forms available at all schools. She then asked, "As we talk about identifying students, would you talk me through the steps of what happens when a student is identified positive at a school ... How do we contact the parent, and what is the follow-up in the process?" She also asked, "If a Google Classroom is not working for students that are quarantined - what is the Plan B for them to get instruction as opposed to being out for 10 days with no instructions? What is the next plan, please?" She requested information regarding teacher vacancies by location and by grade.

V. Persons Requesting to Address the Board

The following individuals signed up and were allowed three minutes to address the Board.

- Dave Christopher discussed Student Learning Centers.
- Austyn Raymer discussed the need for SROs in schools.
- Bob Devore recited a poem regarding the American flag.

VI. 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 - Academic Schools

2. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions – Communications & Community Relations

3. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions - Diversity, Equity and Poverty

4. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions - Exceptional Child Education

5. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions - General Counsel

6. Recommendation for Approval of Organizational Charts and/or Job Descriptions - Operations

D. Recommendation for Approval of Field Trip Request

E. Recommendation for Approval of Projects, Assignment of Architect/Engineer, and BG-1 Forms

1. Recommendation for Approval of Project, Assignment of Architect/Engineer, and BG-1 Form for Rubber Floor Removal at Marion C. Moore School

2. Recommendations for Approval of Project, Assignment of Architect/Engineer, and BG-1 Form for Wood Floor Installation at Marion C. Moore School

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

G. Recommendation for Approval of Contract Completion and BG-4 Form for Chiller Replacement at Highland Middle School

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

1. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Boiler Replacement at Churchill Park School

2. Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Pedestrian Bridge Replacement at Dixie Elementary School

- 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Phase I HVAC Renovation at Fairdale HS – Technical Bldg.
- 4.** Recommendation for Approval of Project Closeout and BG-5 Form for Boiler Replacement at Wilt Elementary School
- I.** Recommendation for Approval of Construction Change Orders
- J.** Recommendation for Approval of Bid Tabulations, Contract Renewals, and Amendments.
- K.** Recommendation for Approval of Professional Services Contracts of \$20,000 or More
- L.** Acceptance of Summary of Professional Services Contracts for Fiscal Year 2021-22
- M.** 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
- N.** Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Funding
 - 1.** Acceptance of Donations and Small Grants
 - 2.** Acceptance of Funding from Louisville Metro Government for Sponsorship of Neighborhood Place
 - 3.** Acceptance of Funding from the Jefferson County Public Education Foundation
- O.** Recommendation for Approval of Agreements
 - 1.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Kentucky State University
 - 2.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Louisville Urban League for Street Academy
 - 3.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandums of Agreements with Spalding University for Dual Credit
 - 4.** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to the Existing Agreement with Ulliman Schutte Construction
 - 5.** Recommendation for Approval of Data Sharing Agreement with LibraryWorld, Inc.
 - 6.** Recommendation for Approval of Data Sharing Agreement with Presence Learning
 - 7.** Recommendation for Approval of Data Sharing Agreement with BusinessU LLC
 - 8.** Recommendation for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with the Kentucky Department of Education for the Release of JCPS Employee
 - 9.** Recommendation for Approval of Amendment to Data Sharing Agreement with Florida Virtual School
- P.** Recommendation for Approval of Comprehensive Financial Planning Calendar
- Q.** Recommendation of Election of Board Member to Serve on the Local Planning Committee
- R.** Recommendation for Approval of Business/Community Leader Representative for the Local Planning Committee
- S.** Recommendation for Approval of Temporary Changes to Salary Pay Rates
- T.** Adoption of Set #6 of Board Policies as Part of the District Policy Review Cycle (Second Reading)
- U.** Recommendation for Approval of COVID Sick Days

Order #2021-147 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education approve the consent calendar for August 31, 2021. The recommendation passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Dr. Christopher Kolb.

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

VII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (if necessary)

VIII. Adjournment

The August 31 work session adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Order #2021-148 - Motion Passed: A motion to adjourn the August 31, 2021, meeting at 8:56 p.m. 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

Diane Porter
Chairwoman

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**