



# **JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Minutes of Special Meeting of June 01, 2022**

**Special Meeting** of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, Stewart Auditorium, Louisville, Kentucky, on Wednesday, June 01, 2022, at 6 p.m.

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairwoman Diane Porter

Mr. James Craig

Dr. Chris Kolb

Ms. Sarah McIntosh

Vice-Chair Corrie Shull

Mrs. Linda Duncan

Mr. Joseph Marshall

### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D.

Kevin Brown, General Counsel

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

At this special meeting, the Superintendent presented the Board with a report on the JCPS School Choice Plan. Board members had the opportunity to discuss, ask questions, and consider a motion to approve components of the Plan.

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Porter called the June 01, 2022, Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:03 p.m.

### **II. Persons Requesting to Address the Board Regarding the School Choice Proposal**

The following public speakers were given three minutes to address the Board:

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|--------------------|----------------|
| ▪ Leslie Marcelino | ▪ Ramzi Sabree |
| ▪ Hollie Smith     | ▪ Lyndon Pryor |
| ▪ Raoul Cunningham | ▪ Stacy Rowan  |
| ▪ Robert Fulk      | ▪ Dawn Wilson  |
| ▪ Frank Simon      | ▪ Faye Owens   |
| ▪ Milton Seymore   |                |

### **III. Recommendation for Approval of and Consideration of Motion Regarding District School Choice Plan**

Dr. Pollio presented the School Choice Proposal. "This is about equity and improving student outcomes," He said. "This is, and has been, the right thing to do for the future of our community and the kids who go to school here."

Dr. Pollio explained that the plan will include:

- "Dual Resides" for West Louisville Students: Students living in the Choice Zone (West Louisville) will have the option to continue attending a designated middle or high school in another part of Jefferson County, go to school closer to their home or apply to a magnet program. The plan commits an additional \$12 million per year for the next decade in increased funding for West Louisville schools.
- Fewer Feeder Patterns: Some school boundaries will change to reduce the number of feeder patterns into high schools from 90 to 23. Reduced feeder patterns mean more students will be able to stay with their friends and peers throughout their school careers instead of being separated and sent to different middle or high schools.
- New Magnet Strategy: The District will adjust its magnet strategy - barring magnet schools from exiting students, setting diversity targets, centralizing the application and selection process, and adding more, popular magnet programs at more schools. The plan also creates whole school magnets at Hawthorne, Coleridge-Taylor, and Foster Elementary Schools, Western Middle School for the Arts, the Academy @Shawnee Middle School, and Western High School.

"This is a historic vote and a historic day for the children of Jefferson County," Dr. Pollio said. "Students and families and, in particular, those who live in West Louisville have waited far too long for these changes that will have a dramatic impact on students' sense of belonging, participation in school, and extracurricular activities - and in turn, their academic achievement."

Each Board member had an opportunity to share comments.

Mrs. Duncan thanked Dr. Pollio and his team for the work that went into the plan and expressed optimism about the future of student assignment. She discussed how the plan might affect diversity in schools.

Dr. Shull thanked Dr. Pollio for his cooperation and willingness to make revisions as needed to provide better access and opportunities for all students. He thanked community partners and Chair Porter for ensuring that the plan is equitable. He said he hopes this plan will provide a new beginning for JCPS and Black children. He advised that implementation is what matters and they cannot drop the ball on this.

Mr. Marshall echoed the gratitude expressed by other Board members. He acknowledged the potential in the plan for lasting improvements for staff and families. He expressed hope that the community will get behind the plan and support JCPS schools and students.

Mr. Craig said that he is proud of this work. He acknowledged that no one wants to continue under the current student assignment plan. He expressed frustration that this was not done sooner. He recognized the bravery in attempting this work and thanked Cassie Blausey for her efforts.

Dr. Kolb thanked community partners for their feedback and work. He said, "It [Student Assignment Plan] can't, on its own, get children in our community where they need to be. There are several other decision-making entities in our community that make very consequential decisions in the lives of kids throughout the city." He expressed frustration with legislators, Metro Council, and the Mayor who refuse to take action to help JCPS families. He advised community members to hold all decision-makers accountable to make this plan work as well as possible.

Chair Porter thanked the Board, Superintendent, JCPS leadership, the Louisville Urban League, the NAACP, Elected Officials, and the organizations who met with the Superintendent. She said, "Achievement will happen with this plan. Evaluation, accountability procedures, and recommendations for improvement must be followed as we move forward." She continued, "There are consequences if we do not implement this plan for the benefit of our students." She acknowledged that there is much work to do and public education is and must be, about providing everything necessary for ALL students to learn. She advised that everyone in the community must work together to provide the quality education all students deserve.

**Order #2022-97 - Motion Passed:** Superintendent Martin Pollio recommends the Board of Education accept a report on the JCPS School Choice Plan and act upon JCPS School Choice Plan components as follows:

- receive for first submission and reading Board Policies 09.11 School Choice System and 08.134 Magnet Education;
- receive for review related Administrative Procedures 09.11 AP.1, 09.11 AP.2 09.11 AP.3, 09.11 AP.4, 08.134 AP.1, 08.134 AP.2, and 08.134 AP.3;
- receive final School Choice Plan Proposal document;
- approve elementary, middle, and high school boundary maps;
- approve elementary, middle, and high traditional school boundary maps;
- approve job descriptions and revised organizational charts for the Director of the Choice Zone and for support provided to the Office of School Choice for magnets;
- approve the change of Shelby Traditional Academy's name to Shelby Academy;
- approve the change of J.F. Kennedy Montessori Elementary's name to J.F. Kennedy Elementary; and
- approve the creation of full magnet schools at Hawthorne Elementary, Coleridge-Taylor Elementary, Foster Academy, Western Middle, Shawnee Middle, and Western High School.

The recommendation passed with a motion by Ms. Diane Porter and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

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. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

**Order #2022-98 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the June 1, 2022, Special Meeting at 7:14 p.m. 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
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

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Diane Porter  
Chairwoman

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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**