

Jackson Public School District
621 South State Street
JACKSON, MS 39201
Regular Meeting of the Jackson Public School Board of Trustees
Wednesday, July 18, 2018
5:30 P.M.

Board Members Present

Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, President
Dr. Ed Sivak, Vice President
Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Secretary
Dr. Robert Luckett, Member

Board Member Absent

Mrs. Andrea Jones, Member

Teleconference

Mrs. Letitia S. Johnson, Member

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Fredrick Murray, Interim Supt
Hon. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney
Hon. JoAnne Shepherd, Dist. Counsel
Mr. Sherwin Johnson, Communications
Ms. Sharolyn Miller, CFO
Ms. Saundra Lyons, Ex. Director HR
Dr. Calvin Lockett, Deputy Supt
Dr. Jason Sargent, Accountability Dept
Dr. Otha Belcher, Asst. Supt Area I
Ms. Laketia Thomas, Asst. Supt Area II
Mr. Gary Hannah, Asst. Supt Area III
Dr. Morris Stanton, Area IV

Secretary to the Board

Rosalind Williams

Others Present

Members of the Public

- I. Call to Order, Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Inspiration: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Board President, called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District to order at 5:34 p.m. on July 18, 2018. She extended greetings to all and called for the Area IV Division, who would lead the pledge and the speaker who would give a moment of inspiration.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established, as four (4) members were present namely: Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett. Mrs. Letitia Johnson participated via teleconference and Mrs. Andrea Jones was absent from the meeting.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Robert Luckett moved that the Board adopt the agenda as presented; Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- IV. Reading and Approving Minutes:
 - a. Approval of the June 27, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes: Dr. Robert Luckett moved that the Board approve the minutes as presented; Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- V. Public Participation for General Comments: None
- VI. Superintendent's Reports/Announcements:
 - a. Facilities update
 - b. New Teachers (Professional Development) at Cardozo Middle School
 - c. Registration to begin on July 23, 2018
 - d. Teachers return to school on August 6, 2018
 - e. Students return to school on August 8, 2018

- VII. Information Items Only:



Jackson Public Schools

For Release: July 11, 2018

Subject: JPS Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Rescheduled

Contact: Sherwin Johnson, JPS Public and Media Relations, 601-960-8935

The Jackson Public Schools' Board of Trustees has rescheduled the Tuesday, July 17, 2018 Board meeting for **Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.** at 621 S. State Street.

The Board may also take up any other matters properly coming before the Board.

The meeting will be telecast live on JPS Instructional Television on Comcast Channel 19 and available on the JPS ITV You Tube Channel at a later date.

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Jackson Public Schools

FINAL AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE: July 18, 2018

TIME: 5:30 PM

PLACE: 621 South State Street Jackson, MS 39201

I. Call to Order

a. Call to Order

Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Board President

b. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Dr. William Merritt, IV, Executive Director of State and Federal

c. Moment of Inspiration

II. Establishment of Quorum

III. Adoption of Agenda

IV. Reading and Approving Minutes

a. June 27, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Rosalind Williams, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

V. Public Participation for General Comments and / or Proposed Policy Issues

VI. Review of Discipline Case(s)

VII. Superintendent's Reports / Announcements

VIII. Information Items Only:

a. Bond Committee Chair Presentation

Mr. Leroy Walker, Bond Chair

b. Review of Policy CCC ~ Evaluation of the Superintendent

Hon. JoAnne N. Shepherd, District Counsel

c. Review of Policy AFA/EBAA ~ Emergency Closing of Schools

Hon. JoAnne N. Shepherd, District Counsel

d. Location change for school administrator for School Year 2018-2019

Sandra Lyons, Executive Director of Human Resources

IX. Information / Action Items:

a. Consideration of Election of Board Officers for the 2018-2019 School Year

Dr. Jeanne Middleton Hairston, Board President

X. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Finance:

- | | | |
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| a. | Approval of Disbursements and Accounts Payable and Activity Fund Claims for period of June 16, 2018 through July 6, 2018. | Sharolyn Miller, Chief Financial Officer |
| b. | Approval of Formal Bids | Sharolyn Miller, Chief Financial Officer |
| c. | Approval to Increase Adult Meal Prices effective August 8, 2018 | Sharolyn Miller, Chief Financial Officer and Mary Hill, Executive Director of Food Services |
| d. | Approval to Award Bid#3079 for Frozen Food, Meat Products, Crackers and Chips | Ms. Sharolyn Miller, Chief Financial Officer and Mary Hill, Executive Director |

XI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - General:

- | | | |
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| a. | Approval of Agreement between the Jackson Public School District and TE21 Inc. District Benchmark and Formative Assessment | Dr. Jason Sargent, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment |
| b. | District to District Transfer (Incoming) | Dr. Jason Sargent, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment |
| c. | District to District Transfer (Outgoing) | Dr. Jason Sargent, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment |
| d. | Approval of Part-time Hearing Officers for the 2018-2019 school year | Dr. Bishop Knox, Executive Director of Student Services |
| e. | Approval of Agreement Between Mississippi State Department of Health and the Jackson Public School District | Hon. JoAnne N. Shepherd, District Counsel |
| f. | Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between Choices for Children and Family Healthcare Services and the Jackson Public School District | Dr. Lorenda Cheeks, Student Services |

XII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Personnel:

- | | | |
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| a. | Approval of Staff Personnel Matters | Saundra Lyons, Executive Director of Human Resources |
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XIII. Other Business

XIV. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session

XV. Adjourn

- a. Bond Committee Chair Presentation: Leroy Walker briefed the Board on concerns from the community regarding the Bond.
- b. Review of Policy CCC ~ Evaluation of the Superintendent: This policy states that the Board will review and evaluate the superintendent according to statute that requires the evaluation to be based on the assessment components and benchmarks listed in the statute.
- c. Review of Policy AFA/EBAA ~ Emergency Closing of Schools: This policy allows for the superintendent or the school board to close schools in emergencies.
- d. Location change for school administrator for School Year 2018/2019: Saundra Lyons submitted for information only the location changes for school administrators for the 2018/2019 school year.

VIII. Information/Action Items:

- a. Consideration of Election of Board Officers for the 2018/2019 School Year: Dr. Robert Luckett moved that the Board re-nominate the current slate of officers to continue serving in their current position for the 2018/2019 School Year, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

IX. Consent Agenda Items - Finance:

- a. Approval of Disbursements and Accounts Payable and Activity Fund claims for the period of June 16, 2018 through July 6, 2018: The Board voted to approve items a. Dr. Robert Luckett motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- b. Approval of Formal Bids: The Board voted to approve items b. Dr. Robert Luckett motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- c. Approval to Increase Adult Meal Prices effective August 8, 2018: The Board voted to approve items c. Dr. Robert Luckett motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- d. Approval to Award Bid #3079 for Frozen Food, Meat Products, Crackers and Chips: The Board voted to approve items d. Dr. Robert Luckett motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Mrs. Letitia Johnson and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

NOTE: Letitia Johnson left the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

X. Consent Agenda Items - General:

- a. Approval of Agreement between the Jackson Public School District and TE21 Inc. District Benchmark and Formative Assessment: The Board voted to approve item a. Mrs. Barbara Hilliard motioned, Dr. Robert Luckett second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- b. District-to-District Transfers (Incoming): The Board voted to approve items b. Dr. Ed Sivak motioned, Dr. Robert Luckett second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- c. District-to-District Transfers (Outgoing): The Board voted to approve items c. Dr. Ed Sivak motioned, Dr. Robert Luckett second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- d. Approval of Part-time Hearing Officers for the 2018-2019 School Year: The Board voted to approve items d. Dr. Ed Sivak motioned, Dr. Robert Luckett second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- e. Approval of Agreement between Mississippi State Department of Health and the Jackson Public School District: The Board voted to approve items e. Dr. Ed Sivak motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- f. Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between Choices for Children and Family Healthcare Services and the Jackson Public School District: The Board voted to approve items f. Dr. Ed Sivak motioned, Dr. Robert Luckett second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

XI. Consent Agenda Items - Personnel:

- a. Approval of Staff Personnel Matters: The Board voted to approve Staff Personnel Matters as presented. Dr. Robert Luckett motioned, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard second; Votes cast for the motion: Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Ed Sivak, Mrs. Barbara Hilliard and Dr. Robert Luckett; Votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

XII. Other Business: None

- XIII. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session: Dr. Luckett moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to close the meeting to consider entering into executive session. All four (4) board members voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Andrea Jones-Davis and Mrs. Letitia Johnson were absent.

Dr. Robert Luckett then moved, and Mrs. Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to enter into executive session to consider and take action on an employee termination proceeding and to grant an appearance by Cheryl Moore Benjamin. All four (4) board members voted in favor of the motion.

In executive session, Becquelyn Green and her attorney appeared before the board to make a statement prior to the board taking action on the recommendation of termination of Ms. Green. Board members then deliberated upon the recommendation of termination. After discussion, Dr. Robert Luckett moved, and Mrs. Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to uphold the recommendation of termination. The motion was unanimously approved. The board's findings and final decision are set out in the order attached to these minutes.

Next, Cheryl Moore Benjamin appeared before the board to make a statement regarding employment issues. Ms. Moore Benjamin's appearance was moved from public participation to executive session. Board members listened to

Ms. Moore Benjamin but took no action. The matter was tabled for further information.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Dr. Ed Sivak moved, and Mrs. Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to exit executive session. All four (4) board members voted in favor of the motion.

Upon returning to open session, Dr. Robert Luckett moved, and Dr. Ed Sivak seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. All four (4) board members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.



Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Board President

8/9/2018

Date



Mrs. Barbara Hilliard, Board Secretary

8/9/2018

Date

**ORDER UPHOLDING RECOMMENDATION OF
TERMINATION OF BECQUELYN GREEN**

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. Sections 37-9-59 and 37-9-111, the Board granted Becquelyn Green (“Green”) an opportunity to appear before it to present a statement on her behalf prior to the Board making a final decision on the recommendation of termination. Green and her attorney made a statement on Green’s behalf. The Board had also previously reviewed the transcript of the hearing and hearing officer’s report submitted by Nathaniel Armistad, Esq., hearing officer.

During its deliberations, the Board determined that Green went out on medical leave and failed to return to work after exhausting all her accrued leave, including FMLA leave. Additionally, Green failed to respond to requests by district staff to let them know if and when she intended to return to work. Green’s failure to return to work after exhausting all her leave and her failure to inform the district of her intent to return to work constitutes neglect of duty. It is in the best interest of the district that Green’s employment be terminated so the district can move forward with filling her position with a certified teacher. If and when Green is able to return to work, she may re-apply for her position, if she so desires.

Dr. Robert Luckett moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to uphold Superintendent’s recommendation of termination of Green.

The question being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

BOARD MEMBER:

VOTED:

Dr. Jeanne Hairston

Aye

Dr. Ed Sivak

Aye

Barbara Hilliard

Aye

Letitia Johnson

Absent

Andrea Jones-Davis

Absent

Dr. Robert Lockett

Aye

The motion passed.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Superintendent's recommendation of termination
Becquelyn Green be upheld.



President, Board of Trustees



Secretary, Board of Trustees