

Jackson Public School District  
621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201  
Virtual Meeting of the Jackson Public School District Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, June 2, 2020  
5:30 P.M.

Participated via Teleconference

Letitia Johnson, President  
Dr. Ed Sivak, Vice President  
Barbara Hilliard, Secretary  
Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member  
Dr. Robert Luckett, Member  
Frank Figgers, Member

Secretary to the Board

Rosalind Williams

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Errick L. Greene, Superintendent  
Dr. Michael Cormack, Chief of Staff  
Hon. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney  
Dr. Kathleen Grigsby, Elem. Asst. Supt.  
Dr. Fredrick Murray, MS Asst. Supt.  
Saundra Lyons, Ex. Director HR  
Sharolyn Miller, CFO  
Laketia Thomas, High School Asst. Supt.  
Sherwin Johnson, Communications  
Pamela Franklin, Elem. Asst. Supt.  
Dionne Woody, Elem. Asst. Supt.

- I. Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District was shifted to a virtual meeting on June 2, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 5:37 P. M. by Letitia S. Johnson, Board President.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established as all six (6) members participated via teleconference, namely: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Ed Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Jeanne Hairston, Dr. Robert Luckett and Frank Figgers.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. Luckett moved that the Board adopt the agenda as presented; Frank Figgers second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Hairston, Dr. Luckett and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- IV. Superintendent's Report:
- a. Bond Update
- b. Superintendent's Report: In light of current events, Dr. Greene read a Letter to JPS Community. Board members expressed their appreciation of, and agreement with, his comments. Frank Figgers then motioned to adopt and include in the Board minutes, a copy of Dr. Greene's letter. Dr. Hairston second; votes cast for the motions: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- The Letter to the JPS Community is attached to the minutes as Exhibit A.
- V. Public Participation for General Comments and/or Proposed Policy Issues:  
None
- VI. Information Items Only:
- a. Review of Agreement between Canon Solutions America and Jackson Public Schools (JPS)
- b. Review of Agreement between Jackson Public Schools (JPS) and Cayen Systems for McKinney-Vento (Homeless) Students
- c. Review of Agreement between Scientific Learning and Jackson Public Schools (JPS)
- d. Review of Agreement between Millcreek of Pearl and Jackson Public Schools (JPS)
- e. Review of Agreement between Insights to Behavior and Jackson Public Schools (JPS)



**For Release: June 1, 2020**

**Subject: JPS Board of Trustees Virtual Meeting**

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

As a response to concerns related to the Coronavirus, the Board of Trustees of Jackson Public Schools will meet via teleconference at 5:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, June 2, 2020**. The Board will not meet in person but will call in to conduct the meeting remotely.

To participate, citizens should call 1-312-626-6799 and submit the Meeting ID: 825-011-6399.

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

The meeting will be available on the [JPS ITV YouTube Channel](#) and [Facebook page](#) at a later date.

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- f. Review of the Revised Job Description for the Interpreter and Records Specialist for the Jackson Public School District (JPSD)
- g. Review of the Emergency Declaration at Forest Hill High School for Fire Mitigation Service: The Board received information regarding the emergency declaration for Forest Hill High School due to a fire that occurred March 2019. The administration presented all supporting documentation for the purchase of professional services that was provided.

VII. Information/Action Items:

- a. Approval to Award Bid #3124 to Socrates Garrett Enterprises for Forest Hill High School General Improvements: The Board voted to approve item a. Dr. Sivak motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

VIII. Consent Agenda Items - Finance:

- a. Approval of the Accounts Payable Claims Docket and Ratification of the Travel and Activity Fund Claims for the Period of May 9, 2020 through May 22, 2020: The Board voted to approve item a. Dr. Luckett motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- b. Approval of Award RFP 2020-01 to Trustmark National Bank and BankPlus as Depositories for the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) for July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2023: The Board voted to approve item b. Dr. Luckett motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- c. Approval of the Lease Agreement between Carroll's Landscape Services, LLC and Jackson Public Schools (JPS): The Board voted to approve item c. Dr. Luckett motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

IX. Consent Agenda Items - General:

- a. Approval of the Organizational Chart (Revised June 2020): The Board voted to approve item a. Dr. Hairston motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- b. Approval of the Revised Job Description for Director of State and Federal Programs: The Board voted to approve item b. Dr. Luckett motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- c. Approval of the Revised Job Description for Assistant Superintendent of School Support: The Board voted to approve item c. Dr. Luckett motioned; Barbara Hilliard second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Luckett, Dr. Hairston and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

X. Consent Agenda Items - Personnel:

- a. Approval of Staff Personnel Matters: The Board voted to approve Staff Personnel as presented. Dr. Luckett motioned; Dr. Sivak second; votes cast for the motion: Letitia Johnson, Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Dr. Hairston, Dr. Luckett and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

XI. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session:      None.

XII. Adjourn: Dr. Hairston moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. That motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

  
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Letitia Johnson, Board President

06-17-2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Hilliard, Board Secretary

06-17-2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



June 2, 2020

Dear JPS Community,

I'm compelled to express my heartfelt grief and sadness in the wake of the senseless deaths of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd. I join the millions of people around the world who seek answers to these lives lost, and who so desperately need to know that their deaths won't be in vain. The sad reality of their deaths is compounded by this awful COVID-19 pandemic and the frustration of having to experience these multiple traumas all at once.

Like many of you, I'm sure, I've spent the last few weeks (years, really), reflecting on the senselessness and callousness that led to these deaths and of the promise and potential of these black lives cut short. I've also reflected on my own privilege as someone who has earned a college education and advanced in my career. Even as a black man living in America, I know that my socio-economic status affords me a degree of increased insulation from the daily affronts that many black people experience. Even still, I found myself **Whistling Vivaldi** this past weekend while out running in my neighborhood. As Claude Steele describes in this powerful text, I found myself actively working to make myself less menacing or threatening to those I passed along the way. I don't share this experience in search of sympathy, but to acknowledge that although I've accomplished and achieved a bit of that American dream, I know that my skin color is often experienced as a liability – and even I struggle to overcome this from time to time.

Like many of you, I have seen the news reports, read the articles, and consumed quite a bit of the social media posts that seem to throw salt on the wounds of racial and social inequities in our country. I have engaged in conversations with brothers and sisters of various racial, ethnic, and social backgrounds, and found us all to be searching for the key to greater understanding and harmony across differences. I've been encouraged by those who have lifted their voices in solidarity and calling for justice AND peace. As I've celebrated others and their actions to fight against injustice, I've challenged myself to determine how I might make a greater contribution.

What occurs to me is that I have an awesome opportunity and responsibility as the superintendent of Jackson Public Schools to protect and prepare our scholars to create the world that we all long for. I think about our strategic plan, and specifically our Profile of a JPS Graduate. Far beyond the mathematical and literacy skills, and much more than the knowledge of social studies, the sciences, and the arts, we have pledged to prepare our scholars to change the world with critical thinking skills, communication skills, and a global mindedness that broadens their horizons and provides a much deeper well from which to draw for the challenges they'll face. The Profile is particularly important to me as an educator because it provides a clearer sense of what we're working toward – and it isn't to simply maintain the

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status quo. Our charge is to ensure that the scholars who are called to create a more just society are well prepared to do so.

I do not consider myself an activist; however, I do believe that none of us has the luxury of sitting on the sidelines when it comes to fighting against oppression and systemic racism. To quote, Angela Davis, "In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist, we must be anti-racist." And let's be absolutely clear, we've seen far too many examples in this country of that lethal mix of prejudice and power to know that racism is very much so alive today. My goal in making these statements is not to incite or divide, but to simply name today's condition, and to invite us all to work towards the tomorrow that I know we can achieve.

As I redouble my commitment to the scholars and families in Jackson, my call to action is for each and every educator in this district, our parents, and our partners to join me in preparing the next generation of leaders and co-conspirators. One of our core values is **relevance** and it challenges us all to "learn to connect with each other, the larger community, and the 21st-century world, ultimately developing agency to contribute to positive change in Jackson, in Mississippi, and in the world." In the memories of those lives lost this month and of the enduring legacy of black Mississippians that have gone before, we will work to ensure that they did not die in vain. Far beyond our goals of improving academics and behavior, we have the moral imperative to stretch and mold young minds to become righteous leaders. Leaders who will blaze a new pathway forward for this nation and our world. Leaders who live up to all of the promise and potential that lies within them.

Sincerely,

Errick L. Greene, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

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