

Special Board Meeting of
the Jackson Public School District
Board of Trustees
November 9, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Board Members in Person

Dr. Ed Sivak, President
Barbara Hilliard, Vice-President
Cynthia Thompson, Member
Mitch McGuffey, Member
Frank Figgers, Member

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Errick L. Greene, Superintendent
Dorian Turner, Board Attorney
Larriisa Moore, ESQ., General Counsel
Dr. Michael Cormack, Deputy Supt.
Earl Burke, Chief Operations Officer
Elem., Middle & High School Asst. Supt.
Dr. William M. Merritt, IV, Chief of Staff

Board Member via Teleconference

Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member

Secretary to the Board

Rosalind Williams

- I. Call to Order: Ed Sivak, Jr., Board President, called the Special Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District to order on November 9, 2023, at 5:32 P. M.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established as six (6) members, namely, Dr. Ed Sivak, Jr., Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston and Cynthia Thompson were present or participated via video/teleconference.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: Barbara Hilliard motioned to adopt an amended agenda to move item VIII-a from Information/Action to XII - consideration for discussion in executive session; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Barbara Hilliard, Cynthia Thompson, Jeanne M. Hairston, Mitch McGuffey and Frank Figgers; votes cast against the motion: none.
- IV. Reading and Approving of the Minutes:
 - a. October 17, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve item a. Mitch McGuffey moved; Barbara Hilliard seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson, Dr. Hairston, Mitch McGuffey and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- V. Superintendent's Report:
- VI. Public Participation for General Comments and/or Proposed Policy Issues:
 - a. Bishop Crudup addressed the Board in support of the optimization plan.
 - b. Treshika Melvin addressed the Board regarding the optimization plan.
- VII. Information Only Item(s):
 - a. Introduction of Student Board Representatives:
 - b. ESSER III Monthly Update September 16 - October 15, 2023
 - c. Feedback Regarding the Optimization Plan
- VIII. Information/Action Item(s):
 - a. Approval of Master Services Agreement for Backupify from Kaseya: This item was moved to executive session.
 - b. Approval of Agreement between Authentic Institute of Montessori (AIM) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) to Provide Professional Development Services to McWillie Elementary: The Board voted to approve item b. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- c. Approval to Amend the 2023-2024 Instructional Management System for Inclusion of the Professional Learning Plan: The Board voted to approve item c. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- d. Approval of the Renewal Agreement between Renaissance Learning, Inc. and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item d. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- e. Approval of the Grant Agreement between Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item e. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- f. Approval of Amazon Business Prime Fee Waiver Pilot Program Terms and Conditions: The Board voted to approve item f. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- g. Approval of Award of Request for Proposal (RFP 2022-16) for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) for Finance and Human Resources: The Board voted to approve item g. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- h. Approval of the 16th Section Lease Agreement between Street Enterprises Inc. (Lessee) and the Jackson Public School District (Lessor): The Board voted to approve item h. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- i. Approval of a Resolution that the Intention of the Board to Issue a Limited Tax Note (LTN) was Duly Published Without Protest; Authorizing the Negotiated sale of an LTN at an Approximate Cost of Not to Exceed Fifty-Seven Million Dollars (\$57,000,000): The Board voted to approve item i. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- j. Approval of Agreement between DebtBook and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD): The Board voted to approve item j. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

IX. Consent Agenda Items - Finance:

- a. Approval of Various Disbursements from Accounts Payable and Activity Funds: The Board voted to approve item a. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- b. Approval of Contract Adjustment Change Order #1 (Increase \$100,000) ESSER Program HVAC/Indoor Air Quality Upgrades for Jim Hill High School: The Board voted to approve item b. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank

Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- c. Approval to Reject Bid 3246 ESSER Program HVAC and Electrical Upgrades for Marshall and Oak Forest Elementary Schools: The Board voted to approve item c. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- d. Approval of Bid 3245 Restroom Improvements and HVAC Upgrades at Casey Elementary and Northwest Middle School: The Board voted to approve item d. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- e. Approval to Accept Donations from Various Donors: The Board voted to approve item e. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

- f. Approval to Purchase Five New 2023 EV School Buses Instead of Original Recommendation of Five 2024 EV Buses: The Board voted to approve item f. Barbara Hilliard moved; Cynthia Thompson seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

X. Consent Agenda Items - General:

- a. Approval of Rental Agreement between the MS Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Coliseum) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) 2024 High School Graduation Exercises. The Board voted to approve item a. Frank Figgers moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none **PASSED**

XI. Consent Agenda Items - Personnel:

- a. Approval of Staff Personnel Matter: The Board voted to approve Staff Personnel. Barbara Hilliard moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none **PASSED**

- XII. Consideration to Hold Executive Session: Frank Figgers moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to close the meeting to consider entering into executive session. The motion was unanimously approved by all 6 members present.

Mitch McGuffey then moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to enter into executive session to take up: four (4) student discipline cases, two (2) employee termination recommendations, and to receive a report from the board attorney regarding legal issues and claims in connection with the Kaseya/Backupify contract. The motion was unanimously approved.

In executive session, the board first received a report from the board attorney regarding legal issues and claims in connection with the Kaseya/Backupify contract. After discussion, Barbara Hilliard moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to approve the Master Services Agreement with Kaseya. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to approve the suspension for ninety (90) days, with placement at CCAS, of Student No. 001299869 for participation in a group fight. After hearing from Student No. 001299869 and parent and district administration, and thoroughly discussing the matter, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to uphold the recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to approve the suspension for ninety (90) days, with placement at CCAS, of Student No. 001275964 for participation in a group fight. After hearing from Student No. 001275964 and parent and district administration, and thoroughly discussing the matter, Cynthia Thompson moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to uphold the recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Figgers left the meeting.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to approve the suspension for thirty-four (34) days, with placement at CCAS, of Student No. 001228032 for participation in a group fight. After hearing from Student No. 001228032 and parent and district administration, and thoroughly discussing the matter, Cynthia Thompson moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to uphold the recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved by all five (5) members present.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to approve the suspension for thirty-four (34) days, with placement at CCAS, of Student No. 001578596 for participation in a group fight. After hearing from Student No. 001578596 and parent and district administration, and thoroughly discussing the matter, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to uphold the recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to terminate employee D. Todd. The board's findings and decision are set out in the order attached to these executive session minutes as Exhibit A.

Next, the board took up the recommendation to terminate employee T. While. The board's findings and decision are set out in the order attached to these executive session minutes as Exhibit B.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Cynthia Thompson moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to exit executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

- XIII. Adjourn: Back in open session, there being no further business, Barbara Hilliard moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned.



Ed Sivak, Board President

12-5-2023

Date



Cynthia Thompson, Board Member

12-5-2023

Date