

Regular Board Meetings of  
the Jackson Public School District  
Board of Trustees  
March 5, 2024  
5:30 p.m.

Board Members in Person

Barbara Hilliard, Vice-President  
Frank Figgers, Member  
Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, Member  
Mitch McGuffey, Member

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

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

Board Members Absent

Ed Sivak, Jr., Board President  
Cynthia Thompson, Secretary

Secretary to the Board

Rosalind Williams

- I. Call to Order: Barbara Hilliard, Board Vice-President, called the Regular Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District to order on March 5, 2024, at 5:36 P.M.
- II. Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established as four (4) members, namely, Barbara Hilliard, Mitch McGuffey, Frank Figgers, and Dr. Jeanne M. Hairston, participated via teleconference or in person. Mr. Figgers joined the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Cynthia Thompson and Dr. Ed Sivak, Jr. were absent from the meeting.
- III. Adoption of Agenda: Mitch McGuffey motioned to approve the agenda as presented; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Barbara Hilliard, Jeanne M. Hairston, Frank Figgers and Mitch McGuffey; votes cast against the motion: none.
- IV. Reading and Approving of the Minutes:
  - a. February 20, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve item a. Frank Figgers moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Frank Figgers, 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. Ebony Rice requested to address the Board regarding the protocol for Active Shooter Drill.
  - b. Tony Spann requested to address the Board but it was held for consideration to discuss in executive session.
- VII. Information Only Item(s):
  - a. Student Board Presentation (Wingfield High School)
  - b. Graduation Rates Updates
- VIII. Information/Action Item(s):
  - a. Approval of the Job Description for Principal, Virtual High School: The Board voted to approve item a. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank

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

- b. Approval of Agreement between Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) to Provide a Grant for Teaching Artist Services at Green Elementary: The Board voted to approve item b. Frank Figgers moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- c. Approval of the 16th Section Lease Agreement between the Jackson Public School District (Lessor) and Big River Energy, LLC (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item c. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**
- d. Approval of the 16th Section Lease Agreement between the Jackson Public School District (Lessor) and S and S Apache, Camping Center, LLC (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item d. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, 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. Frank Figgers moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, and Barbara Hilliard; votes cast against the motion: none. **PASSED**

**X. Consent Agenda Items - General:**

- a. Approval of Various Policies for Amendment and Creation: GACN - Sexual Harassment (Procedures); GBEJ - Leaving Contract Prior to Final Date of Contract IDB - Accreditation (Procedures); JCG - Membership in Fraternities, Sororities, & Secret Societies KA - School-Community Relations Goals; and Creation of Policy Banning Individuals from District Property & Activities: The Board voted to approve item a. Mitch McGuffey moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, 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 item a. Frank Figgers moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion: Mitch McGuffey, Dr. Hairston, Frank Figgers, 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.

In Closed Session: Mitch McGuffey moved, and Frank Figgers seconded the motion to enter executive session to 1) hear public comment from Tony Spann, grievance, re: former employment; and 2) consider two student discipline appeals.

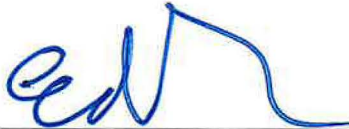
In executive session, the Board heard from Tony Spann regarding issues with his separation from employment. The Board took no action.

Next, the Board took up the recommendation of suspension for remainder of school year, with placement at Capital City Alternative School, for Student No. 00181663 for physically attacking a student and group fight. After hearing from the student, parent and district administration and discussing the matter, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Dr. Hairston seconded the motion, to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to suspend Student No. 00181663 for the remainder of the '23-'24 school year with placement at the alternative school for physically attacking a student and group fight. The motion was unanimously approved.

Finally, the Board took up the recommendation of suspension for forty-five (45) days, with placement at Capital City Alternative School, of Student No. 001359929 for a group fight. After hearing from the student, parent and district administration and discussing the matter, Frank Figgers moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to suspend Student No. 001359929 for 45 days with placement at the alternative school for a group fight. The motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Frank Figgers seconded the motion to exit executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

XIII. Adjourn: Back in open session, there being no further business, Frank Figgers moved, and Dr. Hairston seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Ed Sivak, Board President



Date



Cynthia Thompson, Board Member



Date

