

# Regular Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District

## Jackson Public Schools

October 01, 2024, at 05:30 PM

### Board Members in Person

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

### Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Errick L. Greene, Superintendent  
Dorian Turner, ESQ., Board Attorney  
Larissa Harris, ESQ., General Counsel  
Network Assistant Superintendent(s)  
Dr. William Merritt, IV, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Michael Cormack, Deputy Supt.  
Earl Burke, CFOO

### Board Members via Teleconference

Cynthia Thompson, Secretary

### MINUTES

I. Call to Order: Dr. Sivak, Board President, called the Board Meeting of the Jackson Public School District to order on October 1, 2024, at 5:31 P.M.

II Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established when all six (6) members, namely Ed Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Jeanne M. Hairston, and Barbara Hilliard, attended the meeting in person; Frank Figgers arrived during the Superintendent's report. Cynthia Thompson participated via phone.

III Adoption of Agenda: *The Board voted to adopt the agenda as presented; motion by Dr. Hairston, seconded by Barbara Hilliard, votes cast for the motion: Dr. Sivak, Cynthia Thompson, Mitch McGuffey, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED***

### IV Reading and Approving Minutes

A. Approval of September 17, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes: The Board voted to approve item a. Barbara Hilliard moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

B. Approval of September 27, 2024, Special Board Meeting: The Board voted to approve item b. Barbara Hilliard moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

V. Superintendent's Report: Dr. Greene presented his report.

VI Public Participation for General Comments and/or Proposed Issues: None.

### VII Information / Action Items:

A. Approval of Agreements between Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, @ Rho Lambda Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Beta Delta Chapter and the Jackson Public School District: The Board voted to approve item a. Dr.

Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

B. Approval of Agreement between Defined Learning and the Jackson Public School District (JPSD) to Provide Curriculum K-12 International Baccalaureate Programs: The Board voted to approve item b. Dr. Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

C. Approval of the First Amendment to the Sixteenth Section Lease Agreement between Jackson Public Schools (Lessor) and Hinds County Board of Supervisors (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item c. Dr. Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

D. Approval of the Cancellation and Release of the Sixteenth Section Lease Agreement between Jackson Public Schools (Lessor) and Mountain Express Oil Company (Lessee): The Board voted to approve item d. Dr. Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

VIII CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Finance:

A. Approval of the Final Legal Amended Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024: The Board voted to approve item a. Barbara Hilliard moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

B. Approval of Funding for Special Education as a Separate Budget Item in the K-12 Education Budget for FY 2024-2025: The Board voted to approve item b. Barbara Hilliard moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

C. Approval of Various Disbursements from Accounts Payable and Activity Funds: The Board voted to approve item c. Barbara Hilliard moved; Frank Figgers seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

IX CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - General:

A. Approval of Various Policies for Amendment | BFA - Public Records, IDF - District Assurances for Children with Disabilities, GADQ - Vacation & Paid Leave, GADE - Sick Days, JBJ/IGD - Promotion and Retention of Students and for Deletion | IGAAA - Graduation and Transition Services Policy for Students with Disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): The Board voted to approve item a. Dr. Hairston moved; Mitch McGuffey seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed

Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

**X. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - Personnel**

**A. Staff Personnel Matters:** The Board voted to approve item a. Dr. Hairston moved; Barbara Hilliard seconded; votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

**XI Consideration to Hold an Executive Session:** Mitch McGuffey moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to close the meeting to consider entering into executive session. Votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

**Enter into Executive Session:** Frank Figgers then moved, and Barbara Hilliard seconded the motion, to enter into executive session (1) to discuss the superintendent's performance and a potential renewal contract, and (2) to hear from the General Counsel regarding the Normal Phillips pending litigation and to request certain settlement authority.

In executive session, General Counsel, Larissa Harris, updated the board on the status and legal strategy regarding the Norma Phillips litigation. Attorney Harris also requested certain settlement authority from the board. After discussion, Mitch McGuffey moved, and Jeanne Hairston seconded the motion, to grant the General Counsel certain settlement authority in connection with this legal matter. Votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

Next, the board discussed the superintendent's performance and terms and requirements of a potential renewal contract. The board took no action on this matter.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Jeanne Hairston moved, and Mitch McGuffey seconded the motion, to exit executive session. Votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **PASSED**

**XII Adjournment:** Back in open session, there being no further business, Barbara Hilliard moved, and Cynthia Thompson seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting. Votes cast for the motion were Ed Sivak, Frank Figgers, Mitch McGuffey, Cynthia Thompson, Barbara Hilliard, and Jeanne M. Hairston; votes cast against the motion were none. **The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.**




Signature of Board President



Attested by Board Secretary



Date



Date