

# Jasper County Charter System Board Bullets

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Highlights of the Jasper County Charter System Board of Education Meeting held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Central Services Office

Thank you to those Principals, Administrators, and Staff attending:  
Anne Harrison, Buddy Cain, Gary Jenkins and Audrey Stokes

- Mr. Schilling called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.
- The agenda was approved an amended agenda striking the SGA report from JCHS and the FY 21 Technology Plan.
- Opening ceremonies were held.
- Mr. Schilling called for public comments. There were none.
- Mr. Garland presented each board member with a framed certificate in recognition of Georgia School Board Appreciation Week. He thanked them for their leadership, dedication, and support in advocating for children.
- Mr. Garland delivered the attendance and health report for the month of February 2020. From the report, it was noted 390 of 2469 students (15.79%) have missed 10+ days of school this year. The report was compiled after day 129 of the instructional calendar. The district goal is to have less than 20% of our students absent 10+ days during the school year.
- Mr. Garland delivered an update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic in terms of the schools. He stated the Governor issued an executive order to close schools from March 18-March 31. Also, there was expectation to implement a distant learning platform along with meal distribution during the time of closure. He stated guidance has been received from the Georgia School Superintendents Association and Georgia Department of Education on how to align with recommendations from the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Federal Government. At this time, there were zero cases of COVID-19 in the county and one case in an adjoining county. He noted the difficulty in providing distance learning via online with approximately 50% of the county not having connectivity. Instructional packets were developed and delivered today and over 1300 meals were served. From March 18-March 20 meals would not be served as time was needed to coordinate longer range plans as it is unclear the length of the event in terms of school closure. The Central Services was operating on a limited staff with all campuses closed March 18-March 20.

Mr. Garland stated on March 23, all campuses would be open with limited access from 9AM-3PM. The administrative team is working on a plan to allow faculty and staff to enter the buildings in order to gather materials, check online platforms, and develop continued lessons in order for the instructional delivery to move forward. He noted the difficulty in providing such opportunity while adhering to social distancing recommendations. The goal was to have instructional materials ready for all students by Thursday for another distribution.

Meals will be served at March 23-March 27. The meals will be lunch and a breakfast for the following day. He stated the meal plan are for all children 18 years of age or younger. This does not exclude children not enrolled in JCCS. The meals will be distributed by the transportation department and JCCS employees willing to assist. Distribution will begin at 10:30 AM each day with buses. Curbside pickup will be available at all of the following locations: JC Pre-K, JCPS, WPES, JCMS, and JCHS. He noted the curbside pickup may be adjustment pending participation on the campuses.

Mr. Garland thanked all employees for their patience, understanding, and cooperation during this unique time in our country. He stated this pandemic will forever change public education.

The board of education thanked everyone for their efforts as this is a difficult time for everyone with all of the uncertainty. The board also thanked Mr. Garland for his efforts in communication with all in Jasper County.

- The February 2020 financial and expenditures report was presented. With 67% of the fiscal year complete, the system reported a 7.51% positive differential between revenues and expenditures.
- Mr. Garland requested the board consider adopting a Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) Salary Schedule for FY21. He stated currently in Jasper County there is one SLP and one assistant serving over 100 students. There is a strong need for additional staff in terms of SLP however recruiting efforts were difficult. He noted several districts have a separate scale for SLP's. With a separate scaled noting competitiveness with surrounding counties, he believed recruitment of an additional SLP would promote our system for a viable option of employment. Also, there has been much consideration of contracting with a third party vendor for SLP services. However, this option in many arenas is typically more expensive than hiring an additional SLP. Executive Director of Instructional Support Services, Ms. Donna Poole, is exploring this option.

The board agreed this scale needed to be a priority. Mr. Garland was charged in developing a SLP salary schedule for approval. He stated this would be on the April meeting agenda.

- Mr. Garland gave a brief update on the athletic complex. Weather and now COVID-19 have slowed progress significantly in completing the project. Hydro seeding work was to begin this week and early next week but it was unclear how much COVID-19 would delay progress on the facility.

With the delays in the athletic project and the impact of COVID-19, he also noted the renovation project slated to begin at JCPS during the summer of 2020 will most likely be delayed.

- The Board selected Mr. Schilling and Ms. Dennis to represent JCCS during the summer GSBA meeting as voting delegates.

- The minutes for the February 11, 2020 work session and the February 18, 2020 business meeting were approved as presented.
- The following fundraisers were approved as presented:
  - Jasper County Primary School PE, Chic-Fil-A sales during field day
  - Jasper County Primary School Specials, Car Line Raffle
  - Jasper County Primary School Specials, Chic-Fil-A sales staff and parents
  - Jasper County Primary School Specials, Krispy Kreme doughnut sales
  - Jasper County Middle School Cheerleading, Bunny contest
  - Jasper County Middle School Cheerleading, Krispy Kreme doughnut sales
  - Jasper County Middle School Cheerleading, Elementary cheer camp
  - Jasper County Middle School Cheerleading, Coca-Cola product sales
  - Jasper County Middle School Cheerleading, Popcorn sales
  - Jasper County High School Technology Student Association, Car Wash
  - Jasper County High School Competition Cheer, Sponsorship Letters
- The following overnight field trips were approved as presented:
  - JCHS FBLA, Atlanta, March 20-March 22 (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)
- The board approved the FY21 Head Start Application as presented.
- The Board of Education approved a motion to enter into executive session.
- The Board of Education approved a motion to exit executive session.
- The Board of Education approved the following personnel recommendations made by the Superintendent:

**New Hire**

- a.** Jesus Bautista, Substitute Custodian, Jasper County Board of Education (effective 02/14/2020)
- b.** Torrie Heller, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- c.** Dana Barefoot, Teacher Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- d.** Cynthia Hensley, Teacher (ESOL 49%), Washington Park Elementary School (effective 03/01/2020)
- e.** Jenna Smith, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- f.** Clare Williams, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- g.** Katlyn Hamlin, Custodian, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 02/24/2020)
- h.** Regan Duke, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)

- i. Natalie Mowbray, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- j. Jemica Brown, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)
- k. Julie Kelly, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 08/02/2020)  
**\*Pending release from contract\***
- l. Amy Rejmer, Teacher, Jasper County Middle School (effective 08/02/2020)
- m. Andrea Bishop, Teacher, Jasper County Middle School (effective 08/02/2020)
- n. Morgan Harris, Teacher, Jasper County Middle School (effective 08/02/2020)

### **Resignation**

- a. Jessica McGhee, Teacher, Jasper County Primary School (effective 05/28/2020)
- b. Crystal Hyatt, Intervention Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 05/2020)
- c. Jennifer Nelson, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 05/28/2020)
- d. Karly Devole, Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School (effective 05/28/2020)
- e. Stephanie Kelly, Teacher, Jasper County Primary School (effective 05/28/2020)

### **Retirement**

- a. Eugene Stinson, Bus Driver, Jasper County Transportation Department (effective 03/11/2020)
- b. Andrew Rewis, Teacher, Jasper County High School (effective 05/28/2020)
- c. Jesus Bautista, Custodian, Jasper County High School (effective 01/31/2020)
- d. Barabra Crews, Clerical, Jasper County Middle School (effective 05/28/2020)

### **FY 21 employment contracts as presented by the Superintendent were approved.**

- OLD BUSINESS-

Mr. Garland noted a potential meeting to be held later this month with Southern Crescent Community College to discuss opportunities with Foothills Charter School to open a campus in Jasper County.

- The board approved a motion to adjourn at 7:23 PM
- The next meetings of the Jasper County Board of Education will be as follows:

March 21, 2020 7:30 AM Whole Board Training  
 April 14, 2020 6PM Work Session  
 April 28, 2020 6PM Business Meeting