

Jasper County Charter System Board Bullets

Highlights of the Jasper County Charter System Board of Education Meeting held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Central Services Office

Thank you to those Principals, Administrators, and Staff attending:

Buddy Cain, Jerry Williams, Pam Edge Audrey Stokes, Anne Harrison.

- Mr. Schilling called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.
- The agenda was approved as presented. Opening ceremonies were held.
- Mr. Schilling called for public comments. There were none.
- The Board of Education approved a motion to enter 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. Deloris Thomaston, Substitute Teacher, Jasper County Board of Education (effective 02/01/2021)
- b. Heidi Pitt, Substitute Bus Driver, Jasper County Transportation Department (effective 01/25/2021))
- c. Timothy Brown, Substitute Custodian, Jasper County Board of Education (effective 01/25/2021)
- d. Aaron Pitts, PE Teacher/Head Football Coach, Jasper County High School (effective 03/01/2021)

Resignation

- a. Joseph Barkson, Teacher, Jasper County High School (effective 02/26/2021)
- b. Kevin Crabb, ESOL Teacher (49%), Jasper County Board of Education (effective 06/02/2021)
- c. Robert Bradley, Teacher, Jasper County High School (effective 02/26/2021)

Retirement

- a. Cathy Notestone, Bookkeeper, Jasper County Middle School (effective 06/30/2021)
- b. Carol Shell, Teacher, Jasper County Middle School (effective 05/31/2021)
- c. ReNae Fendley, Executive Director of Student Support Services, Jasper County Board of Education (effective 06/30/2021)

- Mr. Garland then introduced Aaron Pitts, new Head Football Coach of the Jasper County/Monticello Hurricanes. Coach Pitts shared a brief overview of his biography and expressed his excitement in becoming the leader of the Hurricane Football Program. The Board welcomed Coach Pitts.
- The Jasper County Primary School SGT provided an update for the Board. Ross Hays, SGT member provided data from the fall to winter administration of MAP and shared the growth happening in each grade level. He stated his appreciation of the faculty and staff for their efforts to make each child successful during the pandemic. He encouraged the Board to continue to support the faculty and staff, continue to invest in the future, and to continue using the charter system model. The Board thanked Mr. Hays for his presentation.
- Mr. Garland presented the attendance and health report to the BOE. Also he provided an update regarding COVID 19. Since the last BOE meeting held in January, there have been 13 reported employee positives of COVID-19 with 15 students as reported with a positive case as well.

Also, nine employees age 65+ received the second round of vaccine for COVID-19 on Monday.

- Mr. Garland presented an update from the facilities subcommittee meeting held on February 10. From the meeting, the recommendation was made to submit a Request for Proposal in seeking an architect for the system. Mr. Garland stated he has confirmed with the Department of Education we are the only system in Georgia that performs renovation projects without a general contractor. He recommended the Request for Proposal search for an architect with experience working with Department of Education reimbursable projects and familiar with the paperwork process if the decision is made not to use a general contractor. The Board approved the request.
- Mr. Garland also stated the need to delay any major summer renovations. Specifically, much of the work to be done at JCPS. This is due to concerns materials will be difficult to secure to finish the project before the August school start date. Also, there has been a recent spike in certain construction items such as wire and lumber. Finally, with the decision to submit a Request for Proposal in the selection of an architect, it would be a significant risk to begin such a project with an August completion date.
- Mr. Garland also noted the need to replace the roof at Central Services. The discussion was to consider a TPO style roof with the current slope. This needs to be under consideration immediately after securing an architect due to the potential cost of the repair. Mr. Garland also stated a presentation will be made at the March BOE work session by ABM regarding potential assistance in the area of school renovations, specifically communication systems.

- The January 2021 financial and expenditures report was presented. With 58% of the fiscal year complete, the system reported a 13.32% positive differential between revenues and expenditures.
- Mr. Garland presented the FY 22 budget timeline. He would like to have a proposal for BOE consideration at the May, 2021 business meeting.
- Mr. Garland recommended the sale of 10 school buses with a minimum bid ranging from \$1,200 to \$10,000 based on mileage and overall condition. The Board approved the request.
- Mr. Garland recommended the sale of a 2002 Ford F-150 with a minimum bid of \$750. The Board approved the request.
- The minutes for the January 12, 2021 Board Work Session and the January 19, 2021 regular business meeting were approved as presented.
- The following fundraisers were approved as presented:
 - Jasper County Primary School, Future Farm/Irrigation, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts sales
 - Jasper County Primary School, STEAM Night, Zaxby's sales
 - Jasper County Middle School, Soccer, Candy Gram sales
 - Jasper County High School, Soccer, Donation Letter
- The following overnight field trips were approved as presented:
 - Jasper County High School, Fishing Team to Lake Lanier GA February 26-28, 2021
 - Jasper County High School, FFA to Perry GA February 17-20, 2021
- The following facilities use agreements were approved as presented pending no conflicts with school activities:
 - Jasper County High School Auditorium and Cafeteria, Downtown Development Authority of Monticello: March 8, 2021
- Mr. Garland delivered the following good news items:
 - This year our usual first round All-State Band auditions were moved to virtual. Students have been practicing hard and preparing audition videos for the past couple of months and just recently submitted those videos for judging. We are uncertain when or how the actual District Honor Band event will happen, but we are excited to announce the following students who were selected to represent the Hurricane Band this year in the GMEA District IV

Honor Band (Jasper, Newton, Butts, Morgan, Rockdale, and DeKalb Counties):

Madelyn Kilgore, Charlie Trawick, TarevaChine Lightfoot, Will McEleheny, JK Strength

We would also like to recognize sophomores Madelyn Kilgore (tenor sax) and TarevaChine Lightfoot (euphonium) for scoring the highest on their instrument in our district, and in turn earning first chair honors.

In addition, all five of these students also scored high enough to advance to the final All-State audition which includes students from the entire state. This is the most number of students JCHS ever to move on to the final audition.

- I am excited to announce the Georgia College Regional Science and Engineering Fair Results:
 - Top Awards:
 - Tiffani McClain: Best 9th Grade Project, International Science & Engineering Fair Finalist
 - Gavin Jacobs: Best 12th Grade Project & Naval Research Award
 - Rankings for JCHS Projects:
 - 7 First Place Awards
 - 11 Second Place Awards
 - 10 Third Place Awards
 - Several Jasper County Middle School students virtually competed in the Future Business Leaders of America Region Leadership Conference. The members were tested on their knowledge of various business topics and competed against students from ten other counties in the region. All members competed in two categories, and the top ten in each category were recognized.

Two members placed first in both categories of competition: Madison James in Career Exploration & FBLA Concepts and Khayden Hope in Microsoft Office Concepts & Social Media Concepts. Other first place winners included Calleigh Stanley in Business Concepts, Collyn Jenkins in Business Etiquette, Alyssa Moon in Digital Citizenship, Abigail Garland in Employability Skills, Nathan Alexander in Computer Science & Coding, Kyla Levester in Marketing Concepts, and Sara Alexander in Public Speaking.

Three students won two second place medals: Zachary Ramsey in Business Concepts & FBLA Concepts, Rena Kate Tingler in Business Etiquette & Social Media Concepts, and Gracie Roper in Digital Citizenship & Microsoft Office Concepts. Other second place winners were Emily Hall in Career Exploration, AnnaMarie Langford in Employability Skills, and Colbie Ramsey in Marketing Concepts.

Third place winners were: Collyn Jenkins in Business Concepts, Abigail Garland in Business Etiquette, Nathan Alexander in Financial Literacy,

Zachary Garvin in Digital Citizenship, Addison Patrick in Employability Skills, Calleigh Stanley in FBLA Concepts, and Emily Hall in Social Media Concepts.

- Ninth grader Travis Teran won first place in the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site's President's Day Essay Contest. As an assignment in his Honors Government class, he wrote an essay about the President, making sure he paid close attention to the different roles the president plays (ex. Commander-in-Chief, Chief Diplomat, Chief Executive, Head of Political Party, Chief Legislator, Head of State, & Economic Guardian). Teran's essay, *A Journey of Excellence: The Extraordinary Life of Jimmy Carter*, discussed Carter's early life, education, and political career in 500 words. The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site broadcasted Teran reading his essay on Facebook Live as a part of their President's Day Celebration on February 15, 2021.
- Students at Washington Park recently participated in classroom spelling bees. The winners from each homeroom were invited to attend the school wide spelling bee which was held Monday, January 26th. After 9 rounds of spelling, Arianna Autry won the school wide spelling bee with Addison Smith placing second. Third place was a tie between CJ Best and Ethan Pritchett.
- Mr. Garland presented the findings of his research regarding the community coach certification guidelines. He stated the proposal submitted at the last board meeting will only apply to middle school as high school must follow the protocol defined by GHSA. Also there is no policy in writing pertaining to a community coach working with their own child as a coach. He recommended allowing community coaches to work with their own children as it would be monitored by the district athletic director. Currently, we have 8 community coaches with 5 of the 8 being school employees. The Board approved the recommendation.
- The Board voted to approve the extension of the FFCRA leave policy through March 23, 2021.
- Mr. Garland presented information regarding meetings with all SGT's and Pre-K policy council regarding the implementation of a student uniform policy. The notion of the policy was favorable however there was much concern with the potential financial burden on families, what the policy would specifically entail, and adequate notification to families in order to be in compliance. His recommendation, after discussion with the policy subcommittee in a meeting held on February 2, 2021, was to work on crafting a policy with much feedback from the community to be presented at the December 2021 business meeting for approval. He stated if approved with the proposed timeframe, then implementation would begin during the 2022-2023 school year. The board approved the proposal.

- Mr. Garland provided an AP/Dual Enrollment Update. Highlights of the update included overall enrollment as of February, 2021 reporting was at 2377. 9% of the students (203) are classified as gifted in KK-12. Of the 203 students identified, 7% were Hispanic/Latino, 7% were African American, 5% were Multi-Racial, and 80% were Caucasian.

Total student enrollment has increased from 110 in 2019-2020 to 126 in 2020-2021. 75 students were enrolled in one AP course, 19 students were enrolled in two AP courses, 3 students were enrolled in three AP courses and 1 student was enrolled in four AP courses. 13 minorities (7 African American and 6 Hispanic/Latino) were enrolled in one AP course, 6 minorities (3 African American and 3 Hispanic/Latino) were enrolled in two AP courses and one minority (Hispanic) was enrolled in three AP courses. African American enrollment has increased from 2 students to 10 students while Hispanic/Latino enrollment has increased from 9 students to 10 students.

In terms of dual enrollment, total enrollment has decreased from 36 to 32 students. 25% of the 32 students (8) were minorities. African-American enrollment declined from 9 students to 4 students. 19 of the 32 students are enrolled in 2 courses, 6 students are enrolled in 3 courses, 5 students are enrolled in 4 courses and one student is enrolled in 7 courses.

- Mr. Garland provided the BOE with a college readiness update. A more detailed report will be provided at the March BOE work session as the data will be used to develop a new strategic plan for the system to be implemented during the FY 22 year.
- OLD BUSINESS- Mr. Schilling requested the board review the Stanton Springs revenue sharing opportunity with the Jasper County Commissioners. Mr. Garland stated he would prepare a detailed presentation for the March business meeting and how the funding may impact the system. The Board expressed their concern about the lack of revenue sharing and the impact on our overall school budget as the project is part of the school's tax digest. The amount is increasing therefore the system's tax digest is increasing but not receiving any revenue from the agreement. The other three counties in the partnership are sharing revenues with school systems located in their boundary.
- NEW BUSINESS- Ms. Dennis requested board members consider attending the Downtown Development Authority Community Stakeholders Meeting on March 8th at JCHS. The Board will have representation at the event but

Mr. Garland asked consideration of moving the April 20, 2021 BOE Business Meeting to April 13, 2021. The Board approved the request.

- The Board of Education approved to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 PM.
The next meetings of the Jasper County Board of Education will be as follows:
 - March 9, 2021 BOE Work Session
 - March 23, 2021 BOE Business Meeting