

JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2025
JACKSON MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS CENTER AUDITORIUM

An Official Meeting of the Jackson Township Board of Education was held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and was called to order by Board President, Tina Kas, at 5:30 p.m. on February 19, 2025.

Present: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. R. Rotante, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. L. Godlesky, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. M. Zitomer, Board Attorney; and Ms. C. Morris, State Appointed Monitor.

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Barocas, the Board of Education opened the Executive Session to discuss contracts; employment of personnel-terms and conditions of employment; pending litigation; investigations, and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege with respect to these subjects. This meeting was not open to the public. The Board would reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson Memorial High School Fine Arts Auditorium at which time action would be taken.

Exec
Session

The Official Meeting of the Jackson Township Board of Education reconvened in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and was called to order by Board President, Mrs. Kas, at 6:41 p.m.

Recon-
vene

Present: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. R. Rotante, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. L. Godlesky, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. D. Baginski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. M. Zitomer, Board Attorney and Ms. C. Morris, State Appointed Monitor.

After the presentation of the flag by the ROTC, salute to the flag, singing of the National Anthem by the ROTC and the Certification of the meeting according to the tenets of the Open Public Meeting Law, the Board President, Mrs. Kas, made the following statement:

“This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and has been duly advertised in the newspaper as an Official Meeting.”

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

Mrs. Kas announced the Board of Education has authorized our legal counsel to institute litigation against the state and Department of Education for the inequitable application of the state's funding formula to the Jackson School District. While the Board held off on filing this action many months ago because of the serious fiscal constraints, the Board decided they are left with no choice but to initiate this action now. She noted this became readily apparent when a neighboring school district announced it was going to be provided a \$65 million loan to fill its budget gap with possibly tens of millions of more dollars headed their way in the future. She noted conversely the Jackson Board of Education appears to be held to a different standard and was required to submit a balanced budget before any advanced aid payment was even considered forcing the sale of one of our schools to close our ever widening budget gap. She noted while we only want the best for every school district in the state, the Board believes the state's laws and regulations must be applied fairly and evenly to everyone yet clearly, they are not. The Board believes the state needs to be held accountable for the arbitrary and possibly discriminatory manner in which they fund school districts like Jackson, a school district that has been fiscally responsible and has been able to sustain strong programs despite the devastating cuts endured over the years. She noted this district is being pushed over the fiscal cliff with no lifeline being provided by the state. She noted this is particularly troubling because the state and the district’s fiscal monitor have candidly acknowledged that Jackson has a revenue problem and not an expense problem She stated the Board will keep the community updated about the status of the litigation as the case unfolds.

Mrs. Kas announced the following change to the agenda for the strategic redistricting and restructuring program: Item 1d will now read that Goetz Middle School will house the district’s upper elementary students for grades five and six and Item 1e will state that McAuliffe middle school will be closed and its use will be determined at a later date.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the agenda with addendums as submitted by the Superintendent of Schools.

Approve
Agenda

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

Mrs. Pormilli stated she is in agreement with the Board's announcement. She thanked the ROTC for presenting the flag and complimented a wonderful job on the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

Mrs. Pormilli invited Katie to the podium for the Student Board Member Report.

- Katie Yurgle – Liberty
- Katie thanked everyone for allowing her to speak. She shared what has been happening this month at JLHS.
- Winter sports are ending but there is still some postseason play. Some highlights: Cheerleading won first place and earned title of Grand Champions; Boys' Bowling won their state tournament opening match and will advance; Boys' Wrestling won in the first round of sectionals; many track athletes participated in the NJSIAA Championship and Girls' Wrestling won State Champions and local first responders and police escorted them through town to celebrate.
- The Science National Honor Society hosted a chocolate-covered strawberry fundraiser; Tri-M Music Honor Society sold Valentine's grams, and the Class of 2025 held a chocolate rose fundraiser, Leadership Academy delivered supplies and cards to CareOne of Jackson. It is a beautiful thing to see the generations come together and connect.
- The AtLib Players are rehearsing for the spring production of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. The show is March 6-8. Tickets are currently available for purchase.
- Congratulations to Kayla Simon and Delaney Spalthoff for being named Seniors of the Month; Jacob Cofinas and Dori O'Halloran for being named Athletes of the Month and Judy Hackett for being named Lion of the Month.
- She wished everyone a pleasant evening.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Katie for her report.

Mrs. Pormilli invited Colin to the podium for the Student Board Member Report.

- Colin Williams – Memorial – Student Council President
- Colin thanked everyone for allowing him to speak. He shared achievements, upcoming events, and opportunities at JMHS.
- Congratulations to our Girl's Jaguar Wrestling Team for winning states! Their hard work and dedication have paid off.
- Girl's Swimming had an outstanding season advancing far in the post season and finished undefeated in the regular season.
- The Interact Club is hosting its Annual Volleyball Tournament where students to compete in a friendly event for a cause.
- Annual Student vs. Faculty Basketball Game on March 5 and Battle of the Classes on March 6th. Both events bring out the best school spirit and are always a highlight of the year.
- Spring Musical, Shrek is on March 13-15th.
- Guidance helped plan March into Wellness activities highlighting the importance of mental health for teens.
- Congratulations to winter basketball, wrestling, ice hockey and track athletes and teams on their hard work and dedication.
- Spring sports season coming up will be filled with competition, teamwork, and school spirit.
- Students and teachers are settling into their new classes.
- Big changes are coming next year as Liberty and Jackson Memorial come together. While change can be challenging, this is also an opportunity for our schools to unite, collaborate, and create a stronger Jackson community. If we approach this transition with positivity and teamwork, we can make it a great experience for everyone.
- He thanked Mrs. Pormilli and the Board of Education for their ongoing support and looks forward to next month's report.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Colin for his excellent report and his wonderful positive message.

Mrs. Pormilli encouraged everyone to support the incredible drama programs and the upcoming musicals and plays in March at our middle schools and high schools. She congratulated the combined Liberty and Memorial Jackson girls' wrestling team for winning the State title. She noted this is an excellent example of the power of uniting together. She congratulated all of our winter athletes on all their successes including the basketball team who are advancing through the levels of competition. She noted she is impressed with incredible accomplishment of 18 seniors who earned the Seal of BiLiteracy in either Spanish, Ukraine, Polish, Russian or Italian. She noted the 2024-25 calendar is updated on tonight's agenda due to the recent snow day - the last day of school as of now is June 23rd. She encouraged everyone to view the Facebook page and district website which provides updates on the wonderful happenings across the district.

In regard to the SRRP, she noted information has been shared in presentations, at BOE meetings, on our website and questions were heard and answered on the Q&A document which continues to be updated.

She clarified the strategic planning committee did not make the final decision on which high school facility was chosen although they did have a lot of input but ultimately administration made that recommendation to the Board. She noted emotions are high, everyone here is well intended and trying to make the best decisions for our students so they can have the best programs and co-curriculars available to them while still making strong fiscal decisions. The goal in consolidating is to create a united strong community in Jackson, provide educational experiences and strong programs for all. She asked the community to work together to continue to move forward to benefit our students. She noted whatever the vote is this evening, the district will work hard together to unite everybody and to support our students, staff and families through the transition.

Mrs. Pormilli concluded her superintendent's report and turned the meeting over to Mrs. Kas.

Discussion Items

Standing Committee Reports:

- *Buildings & Grounds – Mr. McCarron (Chair), Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Kas (Alt: Mr. Walsh) Superintendent Pormilli, Asst. Superintendent Rotante, Anthony Bruno*
 - Updates on District Wide Capital Improvement Projects *including:*
 - Switlik - Room 7/ New compressor installed.
 - Liberty - C-125 New Thermostatic Expansion Valve installed for the HVAC unit
 - Memorial - Pre-K / Installed new hot water heater.
 - McAuliffe - Installed new walk-in refrigeration unit.
 - Liberty - B Kitchen 200 - Floor tiles replaced by maintenance
- Grant Project
 - Holman Elementary School Gym HVAC Project – Complete
- *Budget and Finance Committee – Megan Gardella*
 - Met to reviewed the preliminary budget numbers for 2025-26
 - State aid numbers come out later next week
 - Committee will meet again and have a presentation for the community at our March meeting

Ad Hoc Committees will meet as needed:

- *Scholarship Committee – Mrs. Walsh*
 - Scholarships have closed for the students and are in the hands of the sponsors
 - Selections will be made within the next six weeks
- *State and County School Boards Representative – Mrs. Rivera (Chair) & Mr. Walsh*
 - The committee will meet Monday, March 31st at 6:30pm
 - It will be 8th grade dialog at Central Regional High School.
- *Advocacy Committee – Mrs. Gardella (Chair), Mrs. Osmond and Mrs. Rivera*
 - In light of us receiving State numbers and discussing a budget, she asked the public to pay attention to how you can help advocate for funding in our schools.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following Board Meeting minutes:

Official Board Meeting – January 7, 2025	Reorganization Meeting	Approve
Official Board Meeting – January 22, 2025	Closed Session Meeting	<u>Minutes</u>
Official Board Meeting – January 22, 2025	Business Meeting	

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved Bills and Claims for February 1-19, 2025 and January 2025:

Total Computer Checks, February 1-19, 2025	\$ 3,320,400.39	Bills/
January Bill List	\$ 4,180,152.44	<u>Claims</u>
Total Hand Checks, January 31, 2025	\$ 1,158,606.75	
Total Payroll, January 31, 2025	\$ 11,847,090.88	
FICA:	\$ 600,498.28	
Total Board Share	\$ 281,794.36	
Retired Health Benefits and Pension Payment	\$ 7,891.82	
Health Benefits	\$ 3,000,032.34	
Refinancing of Existing Debts	\$ 999,375.00	
January AIL Bill List	\$ 15,889.50	
Voids	\$ (485,705.68)	
Total Budgetary Payment, for the month	\$ 21,605,625.69	
FOOD SERVICE		
BOARD BILLS AND CLAIMS January 2025	\$ 260,613.08	

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

MOTIONS CARRIED

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer’s & Board Secretary’s reports for the month of December 2024.

Treas/Bd
Sec’y
Rpt

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

MOTION CARRIED

Board Secretary’s Certification:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(d), I certify that as of December 31, 2024, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Jackson Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1.

Daniel Baginski
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

PUBLIC FORUM – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the public forum on agenda items only was opened by acclamation.

Public
Forum

Mrs. Kas made the following statement: “Please state your name and whether or not you are a Jackson resident. Each person has three minutes to speak. No person may speak more than once on a topic until all others have been heard.”

Mrs. Kas asked if anyone would like to speak on agenda items only to please come up.

Seeing no one else come forward, on a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the public forum on agenda items only was closed by acclamation.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were presented for formal approval by the Board of Education.

STRATEGIC, REDISTRICTING & RESTRUCTURING PLAN

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following motions on Strategic Redistricting Restructuring Plan:

Before voting, Dr. Osmond made the following statement so everyone can understand the reasoning behind her vote. We are in this position because the State did not give the Jackson School District our fair share of funding despite being fiscally responsible and compliant with every edict from the state. When Governor Murphy took office 7 years ago he implemented a devastating series of cuts that debilitated our district from a fiscal perspective. We tried using Band-Aids to move forward and it is no longer feasible. As our superintendent clearly communicated for years, we knew we would be eventually pushed off the fiscal cliff and that day has tragically come.

Instead of funding our schools at similar levels to what had been deemed necessary under prior administrations, it appears that Governor Murphy chose to take the surplus of tax revenues the state has received over the last 7 years and reallocated it to democratic stronghold communities that vote for them. The districts affected by S2 funding are majority Republican and I believe it was clearly a partisan move intended to punish communities who did not vote democratic and for Governor Murphy.

The state continued to cut money year after year and when we can no longer continue the cuts through austerity they forced us to beg for a loan and inserted a state monitor to oversee our finances. A state monitor is appointed by the commissioner of education who is appointed by the governor so the governor is essentially running our district. We now have a state monitor who by statutes controls our school district because we had to borrow money due to the governor's funding reduction.

The state failed us and we believe it's time to fight back. In my opinion, the BOE should do nothing and continue to operate our school in the fiscally responsible manner we have been doing. The monitor and auditors have all stated publicly that we are doing it right. They have stated on record time and again stated we do not have a spending problem but a revenue problem.

To be clear this is not a partisan board. We have been elected to fight in the best interest of the students of this community and we have no choice but to stand up to this horrible treatment received from the state. Our fight should not be about whether we are republicans or democrats rather it's simply the right thing to do. Our students deserve as much of an opportunity as the students who live in communities that vote for Democrats. What has been done is wrong to our community and our students.

In my opinion, we should continue to operate our schools as we have and I agree with fighting the state for our fair share of revenues. It's time that we unite against the funding formula which has targeted communities like ours because in my opinion we didn't vote for this Governor. Our district cannot continue to sell schools if we do; we will be left with no schools or assets.

We did our best to be rule followers and trusted the state would see the errors in their ways but they did not. We can no longer just say yes and I'm hoping we move swiftly with this lawsuit and I believe this Board does need to sue the Department of Education, the Commissioner of Education, the NJ Governor and the state monitor because in my opinion they all failed us.

The state clearly cannot be trusted. The Jackson School District was told to create a balanced budget without loan numbers being included. Other towns were told the same and ignored the directive and were rewarded with loans which I believe is unlikely to ever be repaid. The Jackson School District was told there would be absolutely no loans given by the state yet we are told the state just gave a \$65 million loan to a neighboring district. We're hearing it's probably going to be more like a \$100 million and who publicly stated that the loans will most likely not be paid back and that they will never be in a position to stop

asking for loans due to owing close to \$300 million. This is in comparison to our \$6 million loan which we are actively and responsibly responsibly paying back each year as our loan agreement requires.

In short, the State collected our taxes, reallocated the money in an unfair manner, lied and last year alone told us we should expect a cut of approximately \$800,000 but instead the state cut us by \$2.4 million. This is an additional \$1.6 million over what we anticipated based on the untruthful information the state gave us prior to the release of the actual State aid numbers.

Then last year after a huge waiting period and much begging on our part the state reallocated the money we already paid through our taxes and called it advanced state aid but that's really just a fancy name for a loan and then allowed us to repay that loan. We have been paying back this loan on time and in my opinion that's double taxation. After taking this loan, the state tells us we must pay for state monitor, who we pay over \$100,000 a year to enable her to override our votes. She is not and has never been an elected Jackson official. What has the monitor done for us besides placing us in more debt by paying her a salary that we'll need to pay year after year simply because we paid our taxes but then that money was not divided fairly.

One of the state monitor's roles is to meet with the BOE quarterly to providing training and education on avoiding decision making that leads to needing a state monitor. We have had no meetings because as our monitor has pointed out we are doing things right and this is a revenue problem and not a spending problem. The state monitor's roll is also to report monthly to our BOE and the public. I don't believe she ever did this in her monitor capacity. She only answered questions and often her answer was "I can't really answer that". In my opinion, it is ridiculous that we are forced to pay for services of a monitor that has changed nothing in the way the district runs.

Schools like ours are getting cuts, neighboring schools are getting millions and other districts are getting billions. What educational institution needs billions to offer a fair level of thorough and efficient education. In my opinion, it seems like discrimination by the state saying one population of students is more important than another; it is fiscally and morally wrong.

Our monitor has incurred us with more debt with her salary, she has not helped us secure additional funding and has not offered solid recommendations since as she stated this is not a spending issue. I would like the option discussed soon to stop signing her paychecks. I feel that if the state wants to continue to pay Ms. Morris, that is the state's choice.

We have become a unique district with a large and rapidly growing private school population. This is not a matter of public vs. private infighting. Laws and mandates have been followed, yet they are fiscally unsustainable and outdated. I call on our governing body and Governor Murphy to properly fund our district. The failure to do so is dismantling our Jackson Public Schools - the political hypocrisy needs to be fixed.

The Board has a responsibility to make ethical and well-thought out financial choices but cannot ignore the business side of education. We were voted into these positions and entrusted to oversee policy and fiscal responsibility but must also think about education and our students' well-being. Ms. Morris and the State's role is very different than the Boards. In my opinion, they look at the district strictly through the lens of finance and the goal is a balanced budget with little regard to education.

Jackson is only asking for enough to continue to offer T&A to all students in our district because we are on the verge of not being able to offer a thorough and efficient education. Without proper funding, we will not be able to continue programs, pay our bills, offer courtesy busing or produce educated and productive members of our society.

Why has the governor has offered waivers to improve test scores to essentially look better on paper for schools? Could it be the state is positioning themselves to defend litigation filed against it in court cases that are based on T&A arguments.

We must think about our actions before moving forward in all aspects of running this district since high test scores, graduate rates, attendance, etc. can lead to another excuse by the state regarding lack of funding. We want our students to be highly successful but it appears the state is using our student success against us. We need to stop the political hypocrisy. We need the state to stop punishing students for the way adults vote, stop the double taxation, stop sending billions of dollars to any school and stop the reverse discrimination. I hope we can take this all the way up the court system. In my opinion that's the only way to fix a system that's so broken is to stop placing band aids on a problem that needs complete and total reform.

Before voting, Mr. Walsh commented it is the Board's job to provide an education to the present students and the future students not the past students because of that he is looking for the best facility to be used to educate students.

1. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Strategic, Redistricting & Restructuring Plan (SRRP) Committee, adopts the restructuring plan for the Jackson School District beginning with the 2025-2026 school year as follows:
 - a. Adopt Strategic, Redistricting & Restructuring Plan (SRRP) Model #4B:
 1. Five Current Elementary Schools - PreK-4
 2. One 5-6 Upper Elementary School
 3. One 7-8 Middle School
 4. One 9-12 High School
 - b. Jackson Liberty High School to house the District High School students grades 9-12.
 - c. Jackson Memorial High School to house the District Middle School students grades 7-8 and the preschool annex.
 - d. Carl W. Goetz Middle School to house the District Upper Elementary students in grades 5-6. (adjusted by BOE prior to approval of the minutes)
 - e. Christa McAuliffe Middle School to be closed and sold or rented. (adjusted by BOE prior to approval of the minutes)

Roll Call Vote: Dr. Osmond – Yes to 1 a – No to 1 b, c, d, e
Mr. Walsh – Yes to All
Mr. McCarron – Yes to 1 a – No to 1 b, c, d, e
Mrs. Rivera – Yes to All
Mrs. Barocas – Yes to 1 a, d, e – No to 1 b, c
Mrs. Gardella – Yes to All
Mrs. Kas – Yes to All

Mr. Baginski announced that with 4 positive votes, the motion carries for the Strategic Redistricting Restructuring Plan.

MOTIONS CARRIED

FINANCE

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education open discussion on Finance.

Referring to Finance 11, Mr. McCarron asked what information was going to be provided within the appraisals for the report and would it include deeds. Mr. Baginski stated it was not; it was a real estate valuation for the property sale and also an estimate for what the property would rent for.

The Board of Education approved the following motions on Finance:

1. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the line-item transfers for the month of December, 2024.

Document A.

2. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the adjustments to the Federal and State Fund 20 Projects for the 2024-2025 school year for December, 2024.

Document B.

3. Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47, the Jackson Township Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the contracts subsequently awarded by the Board of Education, these contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. et.seq, NJAC Chapter 23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part200.

Document C.

4. The Board of Education approves the following Lease Purchase Bidding Service Resolution:
Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission Lease Purchase Bidding Service Retention Resolution
Whereas the Jackson Township Board of Education has resolved to acquire a 2025 Pickup truck, and;
Whereas financing in the amount of \$57,500.00 is needed to pay for the balance of this acquisition, and;
Whereas the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) Lease Purchase Bidding Advisory Service has the expertise and proven track record for developing lease purchase Request for Bid (RFB) and Request for Quote (RFQ) specifications for school districts and governmental units in New Jersey, and;
Whereas, 18A:18A-5. Any contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be negotiated and awarded by the board of education by resolution at a public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding therefor if It is to be made or entered into with the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, county or municipality or any board, body, officer, agency, authority or board of education or any other state or subdivision thereof, and;
Whereas, based on the RFB/RFQ responses, HCESC will prepare an analysis and recommendation for award to the lowest responsible respondent, and;
Whereas, HCESC will, as necessary, assist the District with the closing process of the lease purchase transaction;
Therefore Be it Resolved that the District retains the HCESC Lease Purchase Bidding Advisory Service to advise the district in structuring the repayment stream, develop appropriate RFB/RFQ Lease Purchase Specifications and documents to best meet the fiscal needs of the District Board of Education.
Be it further resolved that the District Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized to execute any and all related closing documentation after recommendation by HCESC and review of Board counsel.

5. The Board of Education approves the following Resolution for a Lease Purchase and Financing of an additional nine School Vehicles:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN DETERMINING TO FINANCE SCHOOL VEHICLES AND RELATED ACQUISITIONS THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE BID, RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD AND EXECUTION OF A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, APPROVING THE FORM OF CERTAIN AGREEMENTS INCLUDING A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OFFICIALS OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SUCH AGREEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE TRANSACTION.

WHEREAS, The Board of Education or the Township of Jackson in the County of Ocean, New Jersey (the “Board” when referring to the governing body, and the “School District” when referring to the legal entity and the territorial boundaries that are governed by the Board) has determined to lease purchase finance the acquisition of school vehicles, and other miscellaneous costs required to enter into a Lease Purchase Agreement (“Lease, Agreement”) for an amount of approximately \$1,301,500.00 and a term not to exceed seven-years (collectively, the “Acquisition”); and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission Lease Purchase Bidding/Financial Advisory Service (HCESC) will serve as financial advisor (the “Financial Advisor”) to conduct a competitive bid (Bid) for the Lease Purchase to finance the cost of the Acquisition pursuant to the attached contract; and

WHEREAS, HCESC will conduct the Bid for the Lease Purchase on or before February 20, 2025 and will make its recommendation to the Board prior to the April Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, The Board wishes to expedite the payment of the respective vendors of the Acquisition;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

The Board authorizes the Board President and the Board Secretary to award the Bid for the Lease Purchase upon the written recommendation of the Financial Advisor and to enter into a Lease with the successful bidder after Board Counsel has reviewed the Agreement; and

The Board hereby approves the execution of the Lease to the Lessor in order to finance the Acquisition and authorizes the sale of the Lease to the recommended low bidder as Lessor. This award is to be made in accordance with the proposal form submitted by the Lessor to the Board Secretary as of the date of the Bid, said proposal shall be attached hereto, and kept on file with the Board Secretary; and

The Board authorizes the Board President or the Board Secretary to approve any changes or deletions to the Lease Agreement or related documents as may, in the judgment of Counsel be necessary, advisable and in the best interest of the Board; and

The Board authorizes the Board President or the Board Secretary to establish an escrow account for the deposit of the lease proceeds in accordance with the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA), and to direct the deposit and investment of the lease proceeds in escrow for the term of the lease; and

The Board hereby delegates the Board President and the Board Secretary the ability to execute the lease purchase agreement and other related financing documents with recommended low bidder, serving as the Lessor and purchaser of the lease purchase agreement (the “Lessor” and “Purchaser”), and Escrow Agent (Escrow Agent); and

The Lease is hereby designated as a “qualified tax-exempt obligation” for purposes of Section 265 (b) (3) (ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

6. The Board of Education approves the following line item transfer for the 2024-2025 Title II grant funds:

Transfer Amount	From Account #	To Account #
\$642.00	20-270-200-200-09	20-270-200-590-09

7. The Board of Education approves the following line item transfer for the 2024-2025 Title I grant funds; McAuliffe and Crawford-Rodriguez accounts:

Transfer Amount	From Account #	To Account #
\$4,500.00	231-100-110-10	231-200-610-10
\$1,500.00	231-100-300-10	231-100-610-10
\$342.00	231-200-200-10	231-100-610-10
\$982.00	231-100-101-10	231-100-610-10
\$409.52	231-200-590-10	231-100-610-10
\$4,500.00	231-100-101-07	231-200-610-07
\$500.00	231-100-300-07	231-200-500-07
\$1,030.00	231-200-320-07	231-200-500-07
\$721.00	231-200-590-07	231-200-500-07
\$21.00	231-200-200-07	231-200-500-07

8. The Board of Education approves the following line item transfers for the 2024-2025 Title I SIA grant funds:

Transfer Amount	From Account #	To Account #
\$2,000.00	20-237-100-610-01	20-237-200-610-01
\$2,705.00	20-237-100-610-12	20-237-200-610-12

9. The Board of Education accepts the generous donation of \$1,000.00 from an Anonymous Donor to the Jackson Food Services Department to be used for the purpose of paying outstanding cafeteria charges at the Holman Elementary School.

10. The Board of Education declares items as surplus, as filed with the Business Office and approves the item listed as surplus property to be ***sold through GovDeals***, as per the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following resolution **authorizing the sale** of Surplus Property on GovDeals:

The Jackson Township Board of Education IN THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON, NJ, COUNTY OF OCEAN
Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property

WHEREAS, the Jackson Township Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson Township Board of Education are desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as is” condition without expressed or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED** by the Jackson Township Board of Education:

The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-83453/T2581 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Jackson Township Board of Education:

1. The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com.
2. The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.
3. The surplus property to be sold:

Food Service-Crawford-Rodriguez Surplus Items	Quantity
Fryer	1

The surplus property as identified shall be sold in an “as-is” condition without expressed or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property. Jackson Township Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted. If not sold, item will be disposed of.

11. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, awards a professional services contract to Taurus Allied Partners, Inc D/B/A Integra Realty Resources, Toms River, New Jersey for consulting and appraisal services for Goetz and McAuliffe middle schools in the amount of \$ 17,500.00.

12. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approves the sale of Surplus items from Rosenauer, Switlik, and Two Food Service fryers located at Jackson Liberty High School, items were auctioned off on Gov deals and the highest bidder for the Rosenauer student chairs, desks, misc. items and Switlik student chairs and misc. items was Esther Karmel, Houston, Texas; the highest bidder for the Switlik Student Desks was Mouhamadou Cisse, Greensboro, North Carolina and the highest bidder for the JLHS Food Service Fryers was Thierry Plaisimond, Deer Park, New York, as per the Auction results below:

Rosenauer - Student Chairs	\$725.00
Rosenauer - Student Desks	\$22.00
Rosenauer - Miscellaneous Items	\$22.00
Switlik - Student Chairs	\$180.00
Switlik - Student Desks	\$10.00
Switlik - Miscellaneous Items	\$235.00
JLHS Fryer	\$250.00
JLHS Double Fryer	\$150.00
Total:	\$1,594.00

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
 Mr. Walsh
 Mr. McCarron
 Mrs. Rivera
 Mrs. Barocas
 Mrs. Gardella
 Mrs. Kas

MOTIONS CARRIED

FACILITIES

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following motions on Facilities:

1. The Board of Education approves the use of facilities for groups as filed.

Document D.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
 Mr. Walsh
 Mr. McCarron
 Mrs. Rivera
 Mrs. Barocas
 Mrs. Gardella
 Mrs. Kas

MOTIONS CARRIED

PROGRAMS:

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following motions on Programs.

1. The Board of Education approves the following student teachers as filed with the Assistant Superintendent:

REQUEST	COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY	NAME	DATES	COOPERATING TEACHER(s)	SCHOOL
Clinical Practicum	Western Governors University	Kaitlyn Oxx	2/20/25-6/30/25	Catherine Carley	Crawford- Rodriguez

2. The Board of Education approves the Uniform Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which includes a Live Streaming Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the 2024-2025 school year, as signed by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board President and the Chief of Police of the Jackson Police Department, as on file in the Superintendent’s Office.
3. The Board of Education approves the 2025 Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Program scheduled for July 7, 2025 through August 7, 2025, program locations at Jackson Memorial High School and Elms Elementary School and the Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Program-Jackson Progressing into Careers (JPIC) for the summer of 2025, in session July 7, 2025 through July 31, 2025, Monday through Thursday, program location at Jackson Memorial High School.
4. The Board of Education approves the Jackson Child Care Academy 2025 Summer Camp for Jackson students entering Kindergarten through 5th grade in September 2025 as follows:

Socialization Summer Camp:

6 Weeks June 30, 2025-August 8, 2025 (closed Thursday, July 3 rd & Friday, July 4 th)	Monday – Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Tuition - \$2,500.00 for 6-week program. \$50.00 family discount for additional children. \$50.00 registration fee per family.	Location: Switlik Elementary School
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5. The Board of Education approves the application and acceptance, if awarded, for Round 3 of the School Based Mental Health Training grant in the amount of \$375,000.00 for the period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 (20-456-XXX-XXX-09-57000).
6. The Board of Education approves the following personnel to attend the 2025 Annual NJAMLE Conference on March 19, 2025, to be paid by Title II Grant Funds (20-270-200-590-09), in the amount of \$350.00, at no cost to the Board:
- a. Melita Gagliardi/McAuliffe
- b. Kelly DeLucia/McAuliffe
7. The Board of Education approves the following personnel to attend the SESEBA Institute PD, Self-Evaluation of Supports for Emergent Bilingual Acquisition” at Livingston Student Center, Piscataway, New Jersey on March 20 & 21, 2025, to be paid by Title II Grant Funds (20-270-200-590-09), in the amount of \$2,000.00, at no cost to the Board:
- a. Lauren Meyer - Preschool Social Worker
- b. Kaitlyn O’Halpin - Preschool Instructional Coach
- c. Brianna Fox - Preschool Instructional Coach
- d. Danielle Apel-Shenko - Preschool Intervention & Referral Specialist

- 8. The Board of Education approves the following personnel to attend the AMTNJ (The Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey), Math Matters: MTSS Strategies for Intervention and Inclusion conference on April 8, 2025, at Rutgers Lifelong Learning Center, New Brunswick, New Jersey, to be paid by Title II Grant Funds (20-270-200-590-09), in the amount of \$149.00, at no cost to the Board:
 - a. Kimberly Scott-Carretta/Johnson
- 9. The Board of Education approves guest speakers from Mike Smith Live for Jackson Liberty High School students in grades 9-12, to be funded by 2024-25 Title I SIA grant funds (20-237-100-300-12), not to exceed \$3,000.00, at no cost to the Board.
- 10. The Board of Education approves professional day requests and the travel related expense resolution from school board and staff members as filed with the appropriate supervisor.

Document E.

- 11. The Board of Education approves a consultant from CentraState Hospital to provide CPR training for a total of forty (40) staff members on March 1, 2025, at a cost of \$85.00 per person, not to exceed \$3,400.00, to be paid out of district funds (11-000-213-600-09-220000).
- 12. The Board of Education approves a revised 2024-2025 District Calendar, extending the school year to Monday, June 23, 2025 due to the unscheduled snow closure on Wednesday, February 12, 2025.

Document 1a.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

MOTION CARRIED

STUDENTS:

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following motions on Students.

- 1. The Board of Education approves the following trip for Jackson Liberty High School Girls and Boys Spring Track:

SPORT	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Girls/Boys Spring Track	April 24-26, 2025	The Penn Relays	University of Pennsylvania

- 2. The Board of Education approves an overnight trip for the Jackson Memorial High School DECA students to the New Jersey DECA State Career Development Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey on March 4-6, 2025, cost to the Board being student registration costs and advisor/chaperone hotel accommodations.
- 3. The Board of Education approves a voluntary trip for Jackson Memorial High School National Art Honor Society members to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at no cost to the Board.
- 4. The Board of Education approves a voluntary trip for the Jackson Memorial High School Drama Club to see the Musical Gatsby on Broadway in New York City on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at no cost to the Board.
- 5. The Board of Education approves a trip for the Goetz Middle School 8th Grade Chorus, Honors Choir, and National Junior Honor Society to see MJ The Musical on Broadway in New York City on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at no cost to the Board.
- 6. The Board of Education approves a trip for the Goetz Middle School Drama Club to attend the Student Theater Festival at the Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at no cost to the Board.
- 7. The Board of Education approves a trip for Christa McAuliffe Middle School 8th grade Social Studies class students to visit The Center for Jewish History in Union Square, New York City, to view the Anne Frank Exhibition on Friday, April 11, 2025, at no cost to the Board.
- 8. The Board of Education approves the application and acceptance of the American Battlefield Trust History Field Trip grant program in the amount of \$1,600.00 for the McAuliffe Middle School, as submitted by McAuliffe Teacher Christopher Ippolito for a trip to Monmouth Battlefield in the Fall, 2025.
- 9. The Board of Education approves the 2024-2025 Spring Athletic Schedules for Jackson Liberty High School, Jackson Memorial High School, Goetz Middle School and McAuliffe Middle School.

Document F,

- 10. The Board of Education accepts, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15b(6), the monthly Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report as presented to the Board of Education during Executive Session.

Document G,

- 11. The Board of Education approves educational field trips as filed with the Transportation Director.

Document H.

- 12. The Board of Education approves the following tuition for Out-of-District placements for the 2024-2025 school year (11-000-100-566-09, unless otherwise noted):

a.	One (1) Student	Placement:	Bernards Township Board of Education w/Aide (11-000-100-562-09)
		Tuition:	\$72,785.78 pro-rated
		Start Date:	January 6, 2025
b.	One (1) Student	Placement:	Union County Educational Services Commission (11-000-100-565-09)
		Tuition:	\$63,037.00 pro-rated
		Start Date:	January 21, 2025

13. The Board of Education approves the following tuition adjustment for this Out-of-District placement, which was approved on the August 24, 2025 agenda, for the 2024-2025 school year (11-000-100-566-09, unless otherwise noted):

a.	One (1) Student	Placement:	Bancroft School w/additional Aide and ESY
		Tuition:	\$177,386.53
		Effective:	January 17, 2025

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
 Mr. Walsh
 Mr. McCarron
 Mrs. Rivera
 Mrs. Barocas
 Mrs. Gardella
 Mrs. Kas

MOTIONS CARRIED

PERSONNEL

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board of Education approved the following motions on Personnel.

1. The Board of Education approves the following substitutes and daily rates for the 2024-2025 school year, to include one (1) day orientation at their daily rate:

	Last Name	First Name	Paraprofessional \$110.00 per day	Paraprofessional with 60 credits \$130.00 per day	Teacher (Substitute Certification-60 credits) \$130.00 per day	Teacher (Substitute Certification- BA/MA) \$150.00 per day	Teacher (CE/CEAS/ Standard) \$170.00 per day	Teacher-Long Term Leave/ > 8 weeks \$225.00 per day
a.	Fox	Jaclyn					X	X

2. The Board of Education approves the following staff members for student teaching, co-curricular advisors and/or athletic coaches for the 2024-2025 school year, effective February 20, 2025, unless otherwise noted:

- a. Shaun Giblock, Audio Visual Technician
- b. Joseph Cattano, Audio Visual Technician
- c. Adam Malarich, Audio Visual Technician
- d. Diego Espinosa, Volunteer Coach/JMHS, *pending substitute certificate*

3. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts with best wishes, the resignation of the following employees, due to retirement:

- a. Anthony Daniels, Custodian/JLHS, effective September 1, 2025.
- b. Manuela Moreira, Custodian/McAuliffe effective July 1, 2025.
- c. Christine Burnetsky, Driver - Transportation/District, effective July 1, 2025.
- d. Doreen Giuffrida, Van Aide - Transportation/District, effective February 1, 2025.
- e. Kimberly Nink, Van Aide - Transportation/District, effective January 1, 2026.
- f. Christine Poppe, Driver - Transportation/District, effective July 1, 2025.
- g. Brenda Priemon, Van Aide - Transportation/District, effective July 1, 2025.
- h. Paula Robertson, Driver - Transportation/District, effective October 1, 2025.
- i. Rocio Tapia, Driver - Transportation/District, effective July 1, 2025.
- j. Claire Crehan, Paraprofessional/JMHS, effective July 1, 2025.
- k. Donna De Lorenzi, Paraprofessional/Crawford-Rodriguez, effective July 1, 2025.
- l. Debra Jones, Paraprofessional/Crawford-Rodriguez, effective July 1, 2025.
- m. Theresa Gosse, Paraprofessional/Johnson, effective July 1, 2025.
- n. Kimberly Prendergast, Paraprofessional/Johnson, effective July 1, 2025.
- o. Lucinda Cooney, Special Education Teacher/Elms, effective July 1, 2025.
- p. Jane Goelz, Paraprofessional/Johnson, effective July 1, 2025.

4. The Board of Education accepts the resignation of the following employees:

- a. Robin Harrington, Van Aide-Transportation/District, effective February 24, 2025.
- b. Sara Sanchez, Van Aide-Transportation/District, effective January 31, 2025.
- c. Jhanny Deltus, Paraprofessional/Elms, effective February 24, 2025.
- d. Jennifer Galatola, Secretary-JEA/Crawford-Rodriguez, effective July 1, 2025.
- e. Jennifer Zambor, Food Service Worker/JMHS, effective February 10, 2025.

5. The Board of Education approves a leave of absence for the following personnel:

- a. Paul Patnode, Driver-Transportation/District, revised paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective October 7, 2024 through November 1, 2024; unpaid Federal Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective November 2, 2024 through February 7, 2025, returning February 10, 2025.
- b. Lorraine Catapano, Food Service Worker-Lead, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective January 17, 2025 through TBD.
- c. Angela Dorsey, Lunchroom Aide/JLHS, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 3, 2025 through February 5, 2025; unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 6, 2025 through TBD.
- d. Marguerite Dorrian, Lunchroom Aide/Switlik, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective January 2, 2025 through January 16, 2025; unpaid Medical leave of Absence, effective January 17, 2025 through TBD.
- e. Phyllis Pisciotti, Paraprofessional/Goetz, revised paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective November 4, 2024 through March 10, 2025; revised unpaid Federal Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 11, 2025 through April 30, 2025, retiring May 1, 2025.
- f. Jennifer Berrien, Paraprofessional/Elms, revised paid Sick Leave of Absence, effective November 19, 2024 through December 9, 2024; unpaid Leave of Absence, effective December 19, 2024 through January 17, 2025; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective January 21, 2025 through TBD.

- g. Danielle Keindl, Speech Language Specialist/Goetz, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 3, 2025 through April 17, 2025; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective April 28, 2025 through October 6, 2025, returning October 7, 2025.
 - h. Helena Brady, Special Education Teacher/JMHS, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective December 17, 2024 through January 24, 2025, returning January 27, 2025.
 - i. Stephanie Healy, Special Education Teacher/McAuliffe, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 3, 2025 through TBD.
 - j. Dianna Kennedy, Family & Consumer Science Teacher/McAuliffe, paid Sick Leave of Absence, effective October 25, 2024 through January 31, 2025, returning February 3, 2025.
 - k. Brandon Totten, Physical Education Teacher/McAuliffe, intermittent paid Sick Leave of Absence, effective January 22, 2024 through June 30, 2025.
 - l. Lauren Goldheimer, Special Education Teacher/Crawford-Rodriguez, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 4, 2025 through March 3, 2025; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 4, 2025 through June 4, 2025; unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence, effective June 5, 2025 through June 19, 2025, returning September 1, 2025.
 - m. Kristy Moore, Driver-Transportation/District, unpaid Federal Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 10, 2025 through March 11, 2025; revised paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 12, 2025 through March 26, 2025; revised unpaid NJ and Federal Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 27, 2025 through September 10, 2025; unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence, effective September 11, 2025 through September 30, 2025, returning October 1, 2025.
 - n. James Updike, Van Aide-Transportation/District, intermittent Federal Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 5, 2025 through June 30, 2025.
6. The Board of Education approves the following contract adjustments:
- a. Viktoria Mondik, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08), increase from 7 hours 30 minutes per day to 7 hours 45 minutes per day, effective February 20, 2025 through June 30, 2025, route adjustment, no change in the hourly rate.
 - b. Maria Mantello, Paraprofessional-Shared (11-213-100-106-09), increase salary to include hygiene stipend, salary from \$37,751.00 to \$38,576.00 (\$37,751.00 plus \$825.00 hygiene stipend) pro-rated, effective February 3, 2025 through June 30, 2025, as per Step 2 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
 - c. Emily Fhima, Math Teacher/JMHS (11-140-100-101-01), increase salary from \$57,727.00 to \$60,477.00 pro-rated, to reflect a degree change increment increase from BA Step 1 to MA Step 1, effective January 29, 2025 through June 30, 2025, as per the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
7. The Board of Education approves the following contract adjustments for longevity for the 2024-2025 school year, in accordance with the current negotiated contracts:

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Bargaining Group	Effective Date	Reason	Current Salary	Adjustment	Adjusted Salary (Prorated)
a.	Grzelak	Kelly Ann	Paraprofessional	JEA	3/1/2025	10 Year Longevity	\$40,051.00	\$1,000.00	\$41,051.00
b.	Levine	Scott	Guidance Counselor	JEA	3/1/2025	25 Year Longevity	\$98,077.00	\$500.00	\$98,577.00
c.	Magee	Susan	Special Education Teacher	JEA	3/1/2025	20 Year Longevity	\$88,802.00	\$500.00	\$89,302.00
d.	Traina	Mary	Special Education Teacher	JEA	3/1/2025	20 Year Longevity	\$95,777.00	\$500.00	\$96,277.00
e.	Witham	Sophia	Spanish Teacher	JEA	3/1/2025	20 Year Longevity	\$81,502.00	\$500.00	\$82,002.00
f.	O'keeffe	Melissa	Music Teacher	JEA	3/1/2025	20 Year Longevity	\$95,777.00	\$500.00	\$96,277.00
g.	Peclet	Valerie	Teacher	JEA	3/1/2025	17 Year Longevity	\$77,252.00	\$1,500.00	\$78,752.00
h.	Panecki	Jordan	Senior Database Admin/It Manager	NUNIT	3/1/2025	10 Year Longevity	\$94,765.00	\$1,000.00	\$95,765.00

8. The Board of Education rescinds the following contracts:
- a. Charlene Cox, Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District (20-218-200-104-09), 5 hours and 45 minutes per day, replacing Christina Rodriguez (resigned) (PC #1880), effective January 23, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, \$18.50 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
 - b. Gloria Contrera Garcia, Preschool Van Aide/District (20-218-200-104-09), 5 hours and 45 minutes per day, replacing Heather Azemi (resigned) (PC #329), effective January 23, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, \$18.50 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
9. The Board of Education approves the employment of the following personnel:
- a. Michael Annunziato, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-161-08), 6 hours and 30 minutes per day, replacing Suzanne Perret (retired) (PC #1123), effective February 20, 2025, pending fingerprints, through June 30, 2025, \$30.00 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
 - b. George Moore, Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District (20-218-200-104-09), 5 hours and 45 minutes per day, replacing Heather Azemi (resigned) (PC #329), effective February 20, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, \$18.50 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
 - c. George Pfeifer, Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District (20-218-200-104-09), 5 hours and 45 minutes per day, replacing Christina Rodriguez (resigned) (PC #1880), effective February 20, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, \$18.50 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
 - d. John Taliercio, Van Aide-Transportation/District (11-000-270-107-08-250311), 5 hours 45 minutes per day, replacing Sara Sanchez (resigned) (PC #1666), effective February 20, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, \$18.50 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.
 - e. ~~Deleted per Addendum —recinded position~~

- f. Nicole Netelkos, Preschool Inclusion Teacher/JMHS Annex (20-218-100-10109) replacing Lisa Zammit (retired) (PC #1910), effective March 1, 2025, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2025, salary \$60,402.00 pro-rated, as per BA Step 6 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.

10. The Board of Education approves the rehire of coaches for the 2024-2025 Spring season.

Document I.

11. The Board of Education approves the following coaches for the 2024-2025 school year:

a. Resignations:

- 1. Matthew Wood, Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach/JLHS, effective January 27, 2025.
- 2. Brian Chesley, Head Boys Volleyball Coach/JLHS, effective July 22, 2024.
- 3. Robert Wyskowski, Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, effective September 20, 2024.
- 4. Patrick Conti, Head Boys Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, effective June 4, 2024.
- 5. Justin McKenzie-Simon, Assistant Girls Track Coach/JMHS, effective January 27, 2025.
- 6. Salvatore Giglio, Head Girls Track/JMHS, effective May 25, 2024.
- 7. Kaitlyn Wells, Co-Assistant Boys Volleyball/JMHS, effective January 27, 2025.
- 8. Stephanie Healy, Head Girls Track Coach/McAuliffe, effective February 11, 2025.

b. New Coaches:

- 1. Justin Siering, Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach/JLHS, replacing Christopher Mulholland (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,930.00, as per Step B4 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 2. Aleina Torres, Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach/JLHS, replacing Matthew Wood (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,805.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 3. Matthew Wood, Head Boys Volleyball Coach/JLHS, replacing Brian Chesley (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$7,370.00, as per Step B4 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 4. Matthew DeRosa, Assistant Boys Lacrosse /JMHS, replacing Robert Wyskowski (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, pending fingerprints, stipend \$4,805.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 5. Robert Wyskowski, Head Boys Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, replacing Patrick Conti (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$7,848.00, as per Step B6 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 6. Karleigh Stout, Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, replacing Erin Sandor (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,805.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 7. Christopher Opdyke, Head Boys Tennis Coach/JMHS, replacing Jared Slaweski (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$5,523.00, as per Step C6 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 8. Khani Glover, Assistant Boys Track Coach/JMHS, replacing Kevin Schickling (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,805.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 9. Garrett Derringer, Assistant Girls Track Coach/JMHS, replacing Justin McKenzie-Simon (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,805.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 10. Justin McKenzie-Simon, Head Girls Track/JMHS, replacing Salvatore Giglio (resigned), effective 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$7,183.00 as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 11. Darren Trautwein, Co-Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach/JMHS, replacing Kaitlyn Wells (resigned), shared position with Servio Espinosa, effective 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$2,440.50 (50%), as per Step B3 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 12. Dominic Salerno, Head Softball Coach/Goetz, replacing Kaitlyn Sorochka (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$5,360.00, as per Step B6 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 13. Giancarlo Crivelli, Assistant Boys Track Coach/Goetz, replacing Dylan Ranieri (resigned), effective the 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,503.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 14. Dean Potenza, Head Girls Track Coach/McAuliffe, replacing Stephanie Healy (resigned), effective 2024-2025 school year, stipend \$4,503.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.

12. The Board of Education approves the following volunteer coaches for the 2024-2025 school year:

- a. Connor Bohringer, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach/JLHS, assisting Head Coach David Murawski.
- b. James Brethauer, Volunteer Assistant Boys Golf Coach/JLHS, assisting Head Coach Frank Giannetti.
- c. Gregg Patterson, Volunteer Assistant Golf Coach/JLHS, assisting Head Coach Frank Giannetti.
- d. Ryan Gallacher, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.
- e. Robert Huzzy, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.
- f. Quinn Taylor, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.
- g. Paul Hermann, Volunteer Assistant Boys and Girls Golf Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coaches Ryan Williams and Timothy Schenck.
- h. Emily Hoagland, Volunteer Assistant Girls Lacrosse/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Brittany Corti.
- i. John Donza, Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Haydee Pinera-Donza.
- j. Erin Sandor, Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Haydee Pinera-Donza.
- k. Austin Parikh, Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Haydee Pinera-Donza.
- l. Kevin Schickling, Volunteer Assistant Boys Track Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Stephen Theobald.
- m. Diego Espinosa, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.

13. The Board of Education approves the following Co-Curricular Advisor adjustments for the 2024-2025 school year:

a. Contract Adjustments:

- 1. Caryn Buonocore, National Junior Honor Society Advisor/McAuliffe, adjust stipend from \$1,790.00 (50%) to \$2,685.00 (75%), as per Step A3 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.

b. Resignations:

- 1. Kaitlyn Sorochka, FBLA Advisor/Goetz, effective February 3, 2025, pro-rated stipend adjusted to \$2,145.00, as per Step B5 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.
- 2. Melissa Lambert, National Junior Honor Society Co-Advisor/McAuliffe, effective January 19, 2025, adjust stipend to \$933.75 (25%), as per Step A5 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.

c. New Hires:

- 1. Ariety Fellenz, FBLA Advisor/Goetz, replacing Kaitlyn Sorochka (resigned), effective February 3, 2025 through June 30, 2025, stipend \$2,012.00, as per Step B1 of the 2024-2025 JEA contract.

14. The Board of Education approves the following Job Description(s):

- a. Supervisor of Mental Health Grant Services & Resources-12-month position (grant funded) (revised)

Document J.

15. The Board of Education approves the following personnel for SAT Prep:

- a. Teacher, 30 hours (20 hours instructional & 10 hours prep), unless otherwise noted, \$50.00 per hour:
1. Dara Kirschenbaum-Perry, Math/JMHS

16. The Board of Education approves the following personnel revision for the Title I/Title IV Elementary SEL/Intramural Sports Spring Program for the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid by Title I and Title IV Grant funds, at a total cost of \$7,200.00, at no cost to the Board:

- a. Switlik, ten (10) sessions, two (2) days per week, stipend \$600.00 (20-231-100-110-06 in the amount of \$1,200.00):
1. Rob Autenrieth
2. ~~Joe Barrett~~ Yaniv Hamdi

17. The Board of Education approves the following personnel to provide CPR Training for the district's coaches, security and certified staff for the 2024-2025 school year, twelve hours each, not to exceed 36 hours total, to be paid from district funds:

- a. Tyisha Ramirez, \$32.39 per hour, not to exceed 12 hours (11-000-217-106-09-210000)
b. Patrick Conti, \$50.00 per hour, not to exceed 12 hours (11-209-100-100-101-09)
c. Mary Catherine Idank, \$50.00 per hour, not to exceed 12 hours (11-000-213-100-01-260305)

18. The Board of Education approves the following personnel for the 2024-2025 school year for Audio Visual Technicians for both District Programs (\$50.00 per two (2) hour block 11-401-100-100-09) and Outside Events (\$25.00 per hour 11-401-100-100-09-300001):

- a. Shaun Giblock
b. Joseph Cattano
c. Adam Malarich

19. The Board of Education approves a transfer for the following personnel:

- a. Erika Price, transfer from Van Aide-Transportation/District to Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08), 6 hours 30 minutes per day, replacing Theresa Bollard (retired) (PC #1203), effective February 20, 2025 through June 30, 2025, \$30.00 per hour, pending negotiations, as per the 2023-2024 Teamsters contract.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Dr. Osmond
Mr. Walsh
Mr. McCarron – No to 11 b 5
Mrs. Rivera
Mrs. Barocas
Mrs. Gardella
Mrs. Kas

PUBLIC FORUM

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the public forum on any item was opened by acclamation.

Mrs. Kas made the following statement: "Please sign in and state your name and whether or not you are a Jackson resident. Each person has a maximum of three minutes to speak. No person may speak more than once on a topic until all others have been heard."

Debra Jones – teacher, resident – She stated she supports the lawsuit against the state. Referencing Ms. Morris' statements about balanced budgets, she noted Lakewood reported they would be unable to meet their financial obligations and then received a \$65 million loan 10 days before they had to suspend classes and cancel staff paychecks increasing their loan debt. She questioned why Lakewood's attorney was paid \$6 million since 2017. She doesn't understand how our district that has proved to be fiscally responsible is being cut off at the knees by a state government that is not themselves fiscally responsible.

Assemblyman Alex Sauickie – resident, parent and advocate – He noted he will continue to offer his support. He agreed with Dr. Osmond's comments about how the State is handling this situation; this problem was created by the state. He noted he would be saying this regardless of who is the governor and which party is represented. He noted this Governor destroyed this and other school districts. He wrote an editorial saying this school district is being destroyed. He noted the district was put in an impossible situation and has done everything it can. He put in legislation to change who pays state monitor's salary. He is working across the aisle to put in a bipartisan bill to replace the existing funding formula to help this District going forward. He noted there is a vote for a new governor this year. He noted last month the acting commissioner, who this district has pleaded with to help this district, put out a press release smearing the Board. Ms. Morris validated that it was incorrect – she missed the deadline not the Board. Ms. Morris did not know why the press release was issued. He noted that tomorrow in a senate committee that acting commissioner is up for a confirmation as a full commissioner and Assemblyman Sauickie wrote a letter to the chair of that board strongly opposing that and he will be at that hearing tomorrow strongly voicing his opposition.

Nechama Goldstein – Resident with non-public students – She agrees with everything about state monitor and Jackson's troubles. She noted her children go to private school and the LSTA is charging processing fees to be added to the list. She was told last year this is illegal but she is still being charged. This year she received a letter stating this fee is increasing. She asked if this is illegal as she can't fill out the form without entering a credit card. Regarding snow days, she noted while public schools are closed, private schools are open and did not get transportation that day. She would like to know the policy on this.

Mrs. Kas reminded everyone in the audience to be respectful.

Christopher Vilotti – parent – He thanked everyone for all they have done. He noted that Dr. Osmand made many good points.

Angela Frangelli – parent – She asked for confirmation that McAuliffe will close and Goetz will be the 5-6 building and if so she would like an explanation on why that was decided.

Public
Forum

Nick Bello – parent – He also wanted an explanation on the vote change in the agenda. He asked how binding the vote will be considering there's an ongoing lawsuit and is there time for that action to happen.

Jeff Henba – parent and police officer – He does not agree with the Board's decision but we need to unite and move on. He asked when coaches will be decided, who will decide the coaches and he thinks it should be on ability not seniority. He thinks it should be soon so the coaches and the athletes know. He asked what the process will be and if the kids will be involved in naming the school and what will happen with uniforms.

Seeing no one else come forward, on a motion by Mrs. Rivera, the public forum on any item was closed by acclamation.

Mrs. Pormilli asked Mr. Baginski to respond to the LSTA question. Mr. Baginski noted a credit card should not be required to fill out the B6T form. The district will follow up with the LSTA regarding this. The LSTA was able to provide transportation for about 4,000 non-public students this year. He asked Ms. Goldstein to leave her contact information so he can follow up with her after contacting the LSTA. Regarding snow days, it is the district's prior practice that transportation is not provided to any non-public schools including vo-tech. The district will continue a discussion on this practice.

Mrs. Pormilli asked Mrs. Kas to respond to the question about Goetz / McAuliffe. Mrs. Kas responded that the Board switched Goetz and McAuliffe because after an evaluation on both properties McAuliffe had a higher value so they felt that may come into play in the future. A title search revealed a reverter clause on the Goetz property stating if the property is not used for the original purpose it reverts back to the original owner and the Board felt that would diminish the value of that property.

Mr. Zitomer noted that litigation is a long, arduous process and it could potentially impact the redistricting if the lawsuit is successful but he does not think it will affect the 2025-26 school year. If the district gets the results it is looking for in terms of the funding, they can certainly evaluate the decision that is made tonight in the future.

Mrs. Pormilli noted regarding athletics, the district was waiting for final vote to make decisions and start the coach selection process and communicate it to staff. This will begin in next few weeks and will take into consideration all the things that Mr. Henba mentioned. She noted committees of students and staff regarding rebranding and mascots are already forming. She will continue to keep the public informed on the progress of our committees and noted students are a big part of that process.

Mrs. Pormilli concluded her comments. Mrs. Kas opened the floor to Board comments.

Board Comments

Mr. Walsh congratulated the girls' wrestling, boys bowling and girls swimming on their wins. He noted this is difficult and emotional as he coached at and graduated from Memorial but he is looking at the education and at the schools' facilities. He noted we will come together and make it work.

Mr. McCarron congratulated the girls' wrestling and all of the other sports. Although he can't attend all of the events, he is proud of all the success. He looks forward to spring sports. He acknowledged all the emails he received and they were all read.

Dr. Osmond doesn't 100% agree with the vote but she respects the Board. She doesn't think one way of looking at it or the other way of looking at it is wrong it's just where priorities were put. She respects the thought process saying education and facility first but she encourages the Board to not be naive to the fact that there is a business side to education and we have to keep that in mind moving forward while still thinking about the education aspect and how it will affect children. She read all the emails the comments and she saw the articles in which her words were switched. She stated we now need to unite and we move forward.

Ms. Rivera thanked everyone for coming out this evening and viewing on live stream. She noted these were tough decisions. She thanked the board members and administrators for all their hard work dedication and for respecting one another even during the hard conversations. She hopes we continue to unite. She wished everyone a safe and wonderful evening.

Mrs. Barocas stated she respects everyone on the Board and noted how tough the decisions are. She looks forward to uniting as one. She noted the lawsuit must happen. She congratulated the girls' swim, boys' bowling, girls' wrestling teams for their wins. She congratulated S. Baliatico, D. Spalthoff, G. Berkley and P. Barocas for representing Jackson at the National Girls & Women in Sports Day. She invited everyone to the JEF fundraiser noting all proceeds go to the students and classrooms. She thanked everyone for attending and noted we will get through it and we will be better for it.

Mrs. Gardella congratulated all the athletics especially the girls wrestling. She would like to see a girls' flag football team. She thank the anonymous donor for the donation to pay off outstanding lunch bills. She is looking forward to moving on and attending sporting events and the musicals. She thanked Dr. Osmond for resonating some of the Board's frustrations. She appreciated Assemblyman Sauickie especially for working across the party lines. She noted an article pointing out some easy solutions she thought Ms. Morris could give to the commissioner including using aggregate income instead of median income, mandating towns to use a portion of their payment in lieu of taxes for new developers to go towards schools or take that out, updating transportation and security calculations and making the formula public. She shared her thoughts on budget and finance. She hopes the community understands this district consolidation is one step towards closing a budget deficit and being a functional district without state involvement. She noted we don't want to destroy an amazing town by removing AP courses, courtesy bussing, athletics and academies so we need the community to forge forward with support.

Mrs. Kas noted she agrees with all the Board comments. Despite disagreeing, the Board respects each other. She reminded everyone how tireless the Board worked, each with their own thought process, interpretation and perception used to make their decisions. She is looking forward to moving on and thinks the biggest hurdle is over so we can start moving forward. She thanked the anonymous donor for the unpaid lunch balances donation and congratulated the sports teams. She thanked everybody for attending and supporting the district.

There being no further discussion, on a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:51 p.m.

Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,



Daniel Baginski
Business Administrator/Board Secretary