

JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING  
March 15, 2023  
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, Giuseppe Palmeri, at 5:30 p.m. on March 15, 2023.

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

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. R. Rotante, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Michelle Richardson, Board Secretary; Mr. M. Zitomer, Board Attorney.

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mr. McCarron, the Board of Education adjourned to 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, Giuseppe Palmeri, at 6:33 p.m.

Reconvene

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

Also present: Mrs. N. Pormilli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. R. Rotante, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Michelle Richardson, Board Secretary; Mr. M. Zitomer, Board Attorney.

After the salute to the flag and the Certification of the meeting according to the tenets of the Open Public Meeting Law, the Board President 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.”

Mr. Palmeri spoke about the passing of long time Memorial Secretary, Sue McGinley, and we observed a moment of silence.

On a motion by Mrs. Gardella, seconded by Mrs. Rivera, the Board of Education added the following resolution to the Agenda, under Programs #14:

Resolved that the Board creates an Advocacy and Community Outreach Committee of the Board, comprised of Board of Education members, community members, parents, administrators and teachers, for the purpose of, among other things, enhancing communications on matters that affect our school community.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

Approve  
Agenda

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

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Palmeri spoke to the community about questions the Board of Education has received regarding why we reopened Mrs. Pormilli's contract. He explained that she has over 20 years of experience. In July 2020 Mrs. Pormilli assumed the role of superintendent. In March 2020 the Covid pandemic swept the nation. For two years we had virtual learning. Last year, we returned to normalcy and the Board of Education started to strategize on what we would do to mend that gap our students lost due to the pandemic. We wanted stability, and a superintendent that would be here long term. We felt the two years of Covid were stolen from Mrs. Pormilli. She didn't have the opportunity to help the district and to see it prosper and grow. We chose to reopen Mrs. Pormilli's contract at a public meeting in November 2022, giving her another five years. We did increase her salary, based on comparison to other districts of similar size, making sure she was at the median salary as her peers. We did not want to be without a superintendent. It's not easy to find and secure a competent superintendent. We now have a great superintendent that will see us through the future. In addition, Mrs. Pormilli and her family, though eligible for health benefits, have opted out, saving us thousands of dollars.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNITION**

1. Student/Staff Recognition
  - None.
2. Township Officials Present in Audience
  - None.

### **SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

1. Student Board Member Report

Mrs. Pormilli expressed her sincere condolences to the family of Sue McGinley. Her loss is felt deeply. Her shining light in the halls of Memorial High School and across the district are going to be greatly missed. She was a wonderful student advocate and staff supporter.

Mrs. Pormilli then turned the floor over to our student board members, to speak about some of the wonderful things happening in our high schools.

Jose Lainez Martinez– Liberty

- Jose Lainez Martinez - Liberty

Good Evening Superintendent Pormilli, Board of Education members, and guests. It is my pleasure to be back here again to fill you in on some of the noteworthy events happening at Liberty this past month.

First off, our AtLib Players hosted a wonderful musical performance of Legally Blonde. They performed in front of packed audiences, who were treated to the amazing talents of our theater students.

To conclude their successful season, our cheer team became National Champions when they won 1st place in the Varsity All Girl Division in Rhode Island. Their coach, Tara Rachele, was also recognized for her exceptional contributions and was named Coach of the Year. Several winter sports teams held their banquets to celebrate their seasons. One of those teams was the girls' basketball team. One of the players honored there was Ari Broughton who earned C South 2nd Team Honors by Shore Sports Net. Ari also scored her thousandth point this year. Additionally, Liberty hosted the Region 6 Wrestling Tournament where 4 wrestlers earned the honor to compete in the state tournament in Atlantic City. Freshman, Tucker Pazinko, Junior, Anthony Urso and Seniors, Jake Klein and Luis Velente all placed in the Region and went on to compete in AC.

Speaking of success, we are proud to announce the students that have been accepted to Boys and Girls State, and they are: Brayden Anhron, Elijah Elias, Zachary Marmelstein, Matthew O'Brien, Harrison Orton, Sabrina Watts, Gianna Roth, Helen Loayza, Aixa Perez, Gianna Iadanza, Virginia Iadanza, Danica Sisenetsky, and myself. This is a prestigious honor and we know they will represent Liberty well.

Official Board Meeting  
March 15, 2023  
Jackson Memorial High School Fine Arts Auditorium

Some of our teams gave others a lot to celebrate by helping out in the community. The Jackson Liberty Swim team members contributed to a wonderful cause known as “Stomp the Monster”. This organization raises money for cancer patients and their families for their everyday needs. The swim team raised \$2,360 overall, great job guys!

The Interact Club continues to exercise their motto “Service Above Self” by participating in a Blessing Bag Brigade Packing event this past Saturday where they donated over 800 items with the help of the Jackson Education Association.

Several other clubs are raising money for scholarships and events. The class of 2025 will be having a Saint Patrick’s Day Dunkin Donut Sale on Friday, March 17th, and the Jackson Liberty Band is selling Krispy Kreme Donuts and hosting a Lawn Egged Fundraiser.

Everyone is really getting into the spirit of this time of year. Our Spring Spirit Week is a huge success as students and staff are participating with great enthusiasm. The Student Council has another one planned at the end of the month as a way to kick off opening day for Spring Sports and gain momentum for the upcoming pep rally. We are very excited for the start of our new sports season this week and wish every single one of our teams the best of luck this year.

The sports teams are not the only ones focused on winning competitions. Our Jackson Liberty Jazz Band had a great night at the Steinert HS Jazz Festival where they received soloists, section, and outstanding musician awards. Moreover, our Art department and Academy worked hard to create a memorable event when the Jackson Academy of Arts hosted the Museum Night Art Show. We would like to congratulate all the artists that participated in this showcase and thank all parents and staff that helped support the amazing talent that was on display at the event.

In addition to all of the after school events Liberty is hosting, the administration and staff continue to work well with each other to bring innovative lessons to the classroom. The AP Biology and Environmental classes had the opportunity to participate in a Controlled Burn along with the New Jersey Forest Fire Service. The event helped generate excitement among the students and reinforced important topics discussed in school, offering real life applications. It was a valued experience.

As you can see, Liberty is staying involved and participating in different activities. I appreciate you giving me this platform to best represent some of the good news circulating around Liberty. We appreciate the opportunities that we have and thank you for your support through them all. Have a good evening.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Jose for his very informative update. She enjoyed the wonderful clips of our amazing talented students.

- Keith Adame – Memorial

Good evening Mrs. Pormilli, members of the central administration staff, and Board Members. It is my pleasure to update you all on the exciting and eventful month we have had at Jackson Memorial High School.

To start things off, as we near the end of the marking period, I am happy to report that our students and staff have been working hard to finish the term strong. Tomorrow marks the end of the 4th marking period, and we look forward to seeing the results of our students' efforts.

Spring break is also right around the corner, starting on April 6th, and students and staff alike are excited for the much-needed break. It is a time to recharge and refresh before returning for the final stretch of the school year.

I am pleased to report that SpongeBob the Musical was a huge success. We had a very impressive number in attendance over the course of last weekend. Our talented students put on an incredible performance, entertaining the entire audience with their singing, dancing, and acting skills. The feedback from the community has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are proud of our students' hard work and dedication to the production.

Another huge success in terms of events was our Battle of the Classes. The competition brought together students from all grade levels and showcased their talents and teamwork. It was a fantastic event that demonstrated the sense of community and school spirit that we have at Jackson Memorial.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention that our Interact Club is hosting a volleyball tournament on March 24th, which promises to be a fun-filled event for everyone involved.

As winter sports have come to an end, I want to take a moment to recognize our outstanding athletes. Our girls' basketball team won the NJSIAA Group IV State Sectional, an incredible achievement that deserves applause. Additionally, as I mentioned last month, our wrestling team was crowned Group IV State Sectional champs and went on to compete at the Group IV State Finals. It is truly inspiring to see our students excel both academically and athletically, and we are proud to have them represent Jackson Memorial High School.

Moving on to spring sports, we are excited to see our teams start up again. As the weather gets warmer, we can look forward to watching our baseball, softball, lacrosse, track and field, tennis, volleyball, and golf teams compete. We wish them all the best of luck in their upcoming seasons and are confident that they will make us proud.

In other news, we recently had a student-faculty basketball game during our common period that was a huge success. Many students and staff members showed up to watch, and it was a fun and enjoyable experience for all involved. These types of events strengthen our sense of community at JMHS, and we look forward to making use of the common period to organize more events in the future.

We are happy to report that our March Into Wellness initiative is going well. As mentioned in our previous update, we are prioritizing the mental and emotional well-being of our students and offering various wellness initiatives throughout the month of March. We are excited to announce that March Into Wellness Spirit Week will be starting next week, which includes daily themes such as Tie Dye day to spread love and peace, Wear All Green Day to represent the green light to reach out for help, Twin Day to match with your biggest supporter, Create Your Own Happiness day to wear whatever brings you joy, and Pawsitivity day to show school spirit.

For our seniors, regular decisions for college are coming out around now. We wish all our seniors the best of luck and know that they will go on to do great things in their post-high school lives. We are proud of everything they have accomplished during their time at JMHS and look forward to seeing them succeed in the future. Additionally, our seniors have finished submitting applications for local scholarships, and we are excited to see who will be awarded these prestigious awards.

Over these past few weeks, our DECA and FBLA chapters attended State Competition at Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City. A big shout out to Genevieve Cai and Robert Fucito, who placed top 10 in their category for FBLA, and Gianni Mustaro who was a finalist for his category. I am proud to announce that our DECA chapter had three International qualifiers after competing at state competition. Big shout outs to Alex Ariel, Jameson Klinsky, and Sujita Bomineni. This is a remarkable achievement and a testament to the hard work and dedication of our business students and their advisors. I will be joining them on the trip to Orlando Florida for ICDC, and know that we will represent JMHS with excellence and pride.

And speaking of business students, our Business Honor Society induction ceremony will be taking place on March 21st. We congratulate all the students who have worked hard to achieve this honor.

Before I finish my update, I would like to take a moment to express our condolences to Ms. McGinley's family and friends. We found out she had passed away on Tuesday. Ms. McGinley was a valued member of our school community, and she will be deeply missed. We send our thoughts and prayers out to her loved ones during this difficult time.

In closing, I would like to thank Mrs. Pormilli and the Board of Education once again for your continued support. Thank you for the opportunity to speak here tonight, and I look forward to updating you all again next month.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Keith for his update. She noted the amazing play and winter athletic season for Memorial. There are lots of things happening in our high schools, both academically and co-curricular, with wonderful programs.

#### Presentations

- a. June 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) – Suplee Clooney and Company

Mrs. Pormilli introduced Mr. Swisher to present our annual audit report.

Mr. Swisher explained that he usually speaks at the November or December Board of Education meeting, but for the fourth year in a row, the report was delayed due to the fact that certain numbers that we get from the Division of Pensions at the state level were unavailable, and they only came out at the beginning of this month, delaying every district in the issuance of their audit.

Mr. Swisher spoke about the result of the audit from June 30, 2022. Every district has an independent auditor come in and do a financial internal control compliance audit. There are two reports given, the first is the Annual Company's Financial Report. This report states that we are free from material misstatement, and the audit firm tests transactions and account balances through an audit program to make sure that the records are correct and the public can rely upon those records. Mr. Swisher was happy to report that the opinion on the financial statements is unmodified, which is the best opinion you can get.

The second letter in the report is on internal controls and compliance, which references the rules and regulations that you internally put together to make sure that those transactions are properly recorded in the system. The audit firm looks at those controls to make sure they are suitably designed to do what they are supposed to do, and they test them. He was happy to report that our internal controls are properly designed and the testing didn't reveal any problems. So, he reports that we had a clean audit for internal controls and a clean audit for compliance.

The third letter in the report involves a single audit testing our federal and state grants. They look at the ESSER grant, and he was happy to report that again, they didn't find any problems.

We have three letters that are clean. There is also a companion report, called the Auditor's Management Report, which the state requires the auditor to report on certain areas of compliance that they deem to be important, such as payroll, Treasurer's Report, Secretary's Report, etc. He is happy to report that there were no findings or recommendations, and this has been a couple of years in a row that we've had clean audits.

Mr. Swisher thanked Mrs. Pormilli and Ms. Richardson and their staff for working with the auditors for the better part of a month

Mrs. Pormilli then turned the floor over to Mr. Milewski to present the Violence and Vandalism reports.

b. 2022 District Violence & Vandalism/HIB Report for the Period of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 – Ray Milewski

Mr. Milewski began by presenting the Violence and Vandalism Report.

**Jackson School District  
 Semi-Annual Report of  
 Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse, and Weapons  
 Offenses in the Jackson School District**

*Raymond Milewski*  
 Director of Security

Presented March 15, 2023

**Report Period 1  
 September– December 2022**

### Background and Overview

State of NJ Data began collecting this data in March 2022

Objective is to collect and report incident data concerning serious student misconduct in the areas of:

- Violence
- Vandalism
- HIB
- Weapons
- Substance Abuse

Type of Incident	Number of Incidents Sept-Dec 2022	Number of Incidents Sept-Dec 2021
Violence	10	10
Vandalism	1	3
HIB Reports Investigated	36	40
Weapons	3	0
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>70</b>

### Violence Reports- Elementary

School	Fights	Simple Assault	Threats	Sexual Offense	HIB Reports Investigated
Crawford	0	0	0	0	3
Elms	0	0	0	0	1
Holman	0	0	0	0	1
Johnson	0	0	0	0	3
Rosenauer	0	0	0	0	1
Switlik	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Elementary Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

### Violence- Secondary

School	Fights	Simple Assault	Threats	Sexual Offense	HIB Reports Investigated
Goetz	0	0	0	0	3
McAuliffe	3	1	0	0	12
Liberty	2	1	0	0	4
Memorial	1	0	1	0	12
<b>Secondary Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>

### Vandalism and Substance Abuse Sept – Dec 2022

Vandalism Incidents	
School	Number of Incidents
JLHS	0
McAuliffe	0
JMHS	3
All Other Schools	0

Substance – Other substance of	Number of Incidents
Marijuana	22
Alcohol	1
Prescription Drug	0
Substance suspected/refused exam	2

Substances – Possession of	Number of Incidents
Marijuana	27
Drug Paraphernalia	16
Alcohol	1
Designer/Synthetic Drug	1

### Weapons Offenses – All Schools

• **Weapons** include any instrument readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting bodily injury, but the category is not limited to: handguns, rifles, knives; clubs; chains; sling shots; leather bands studded with metal filings; razor blades; stun guns; and any device that projects, releases, or emits tear gas or any other substance (e.g., pepper spray) that is intended to produce temporary discomfort or permanent injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air.

• A toy gun is not considered a weapon and its possession would not be reported. An imitation

Number of Incidents Sept-Dec 2022
0

**Action Taken by School District for Reportable Violence and Vandalism Offenses**

Action	Number of Incidents Acad. Yrs. 2021	Number of Incidents Sept. Dec. 2022
Police Notified (NO complaint filed)	12	37
Police Notified (complaint filed)	0	1
In School Suspension	1	2
Out of School Suspension	24	29
		<b>(total days suspended)</b>

Behavioral Students	Sept. Dec. 2021	Sept. Dec. 2022
Student Offenders	23	54
Student Victims	5	1

**District Substance Use Increase- Factors**

In 2021, Governor Murphy signed the law for the legalization of Marijuana and Hashish for Recreational Use. Since then, thirty-five (35) Medical and Recreational Dispensaries are actively operating in New Jersey, and the number is increasing.

- **Wide variety of E-Cigarettes/Vapes Products**
  - Different shapes, sizes, styles and colors are easy to conceal and often difficult to detect.
- **Various Types of Products Enable Use of Illicit Drugs**
  - Disposable, Pods, Mods, Box Mods, Pens, Nicotine Vapes and Cannabis/CBD Vapes

**2022-NYTS- National Youth Tobacco Survey**

More than 1 in 10 middle and high school students (3.08 million) reported using a tobacco product in the last 30 days. 1.6% of high school students and 4.5% of middle school students. Most commonly used product was the **E-Cigarette/Vape**.

Source: 2022-Federal and Drug Administration and CDC- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Responding To Increased Substance Abuse**
- Continued education of students focused on the dangers and negative impact of substance abuse
  - Increased visibility of School Security and staff supervision in hallways during school hours
  - Frequent checks of all areas of the building throughout the day to deter Substance Use or Vaping and possession by our students
  - Focused checks on restrooms, stairwells and other areas that have been identified and associated with Substance Use or Vaping.
  - Heightened awareness for students exhibiting signs of Substance Use during school hours
  - Information sharing between Administrators, School Security, and School Resource Officers to identify concerns and deter these behaviors in our schools

Mrs. Gardella questioned why Switlik has no reports of fights, etc. She asked what they are doing differently to prevent those issues at the one school.

Mr. Milewski replied that at Switlik, our Anti Bullying Specialists and Administration in the school are working very hard to train and provide education to the students on harassment, intimidation and bullying, and we are seeing positive results.

Mr. Palmeri asked, with substance abuse up tenfold from 2022, what are current numbers this year, and have they declined?

Mr. Milewski answered that we would have to go back and look at current numbers. He will find the numbers and give them to the Board of Education.

Mr. Milewski then presented the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report.

## Jackson School District Semi-Annual Report Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

*Raymond Milewski*  
 Anti-Bullying Coordinator  
 Presented March 15, 2023

**Report Period 1  
 September–December 2022**

### The Jackson School District's Commitment

The Jackson School District is committed to

- Creating a safe learning environment for all our students;
- Investigating all complaints of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying;
- Preventing all acts of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

#### Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Prevention for Report Period 1

School	Anti-Bullying Specialist
Holman	MaryAnn Garbooshian
Crawford-Rodriguez	Anna Yarener
Elms	Dara Felberman
Johnson	Tricia Ciaccio
Rosenuer	Erin Schnorbus
Switlik	Patrick DeBenedetto
Goetz	Stacey Flak
McAuliffe	Lindsay O'Brien
JLHS	Signe Myres
JMHS	Dan DeSantis

#### Preventative Training

- Administrator HIB Training for all School Principals and Assistant Principals (August 2022)
- Legal HIB Training for Building Administrators and School Anti-Bullying Specialists (September 2022)
  - Administrative Code Provisions
  - ADR Legal Cases
  - Investigation Strategies
  - Use of New HIB Reporting Forms
- HIB Prevention training topics presented to students by School Anti-Bullying Specialists (September - December 2022)
  - Behavior Expectations
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Cyberbullying
  - Social Skills/Relationship Improvement
  - Cultural Awareness & Implicit Bias
  - Groups at Risk For HIB
  - Victims of HIB & Bystanders
  - HIB Consequences
- Schoolwide Programs (September - December 2022)
  - LEAD University - McAuliffe and Goetz
  - Week of Respect and School Anti-Violence Awareness Week
  - SEL in Classroom
    - Responsive Classroom - Elementary
    - Advisory Period - Middle Schools
  - School Climate Team Meetings

#### HIB Investigations - Elementary

School	HIB Alleged		Confirmed HIB	
	Alleged Sept-Dec 2021	Alleged Sept-Dec 2022	Confirmed Sept-Dec 2021	Confirmed Sept-Dec 2022
Crawford	3	1	0	2
Elms	5	1	0	0
Holman	2	1	1	0
Johnson	0	2	0	1
Rosenuer	0	0	0	1
Switlik	4	0	1	0
<b>Elementary Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

#### HIB Investigations - Secondary

School	HIB Alleged		Confirmed HIB	
	Alleged Sept-Dec 2021	Alleged Sept-Dec 2022	Confirmed Sept-Dec 2021	Confirmed Sept-Dec 2022
Goetz	2	3	1	0
McAuliffe	4	5	5	7
Liberty	2	1	4	3
Memorial	2	10	4	2
<b>Secondary Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>

Motivation of Confirmed HIB		Location of Investigated HIB Incidents	
Appearance	8	On School Grounds	21
Sexual Orientation/Gender	3	School Bus	14
Disability	2	Cell phone/Internet	5
Race	2		
Age	1		

Classification of Actions of Investigated HIB Incidents	Outcomes of All Investigated HIB Incidents	
	Consequences	Remedial Measures
Demasning	Parent/Student Conference	Counseling
Offensive Text Messages	Out of School Suspension	Seating Changes
Name Calling	In School Suspension	Mediation
Offensive Comments	Detention	Restorative Practice Lessons
Mocking		
Taunting		
Hitting		
Assuming Identity		
"Roasting"		

**HIB Complaints:  
We Investigate Everything!**

- **HIB Complaint Submission**
  - Complaints received in person, telephone, email, or via links located on our district website
- **HIB Form 338** *(New for 2022-2023)*
  - Provides a means for parents, guardians or a school staff member to report an incident of HIB in a confidential manner - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**All HIB Complaints are promptly investigated in accordance with District Policy 5512- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Students**

There has been a lot of focus in Ocean County on bullying. We are committed to investigate all complaints, and our focus is on prevention.

Mrs. Gardella asked what happens at an advisory period at the middle school level?

Mrs. Pormilli explained that the advisory period is the middle school portion of responsive classroom. During beginning parts of the day, they work together, communicate, set goals, learn about ways to communicate better and accept everybody. The focus is on setting goals for themselves as well as being responsible together. She stated that we recognize that this work is never done (on making sure our schools are safe for our students and they feel comfortable and safe), and we continue to do more.

2. Remarks from the Superintendent
  - a. 2023-2024 Tentative Budget

Mrs. Pormilli began to introduce the tentative budget to the public, with this difficult scenario that we are in.

**Jackson School District  
 2023-2024  
 Tentative Budget**

Board of Education Meeting  
 March 15, 2023

**What We are Facing This Year**

**The Impact of S2 to the Jackson School District**

2018-2019 = \$1.3 million
2019-2020 = \$2.3 million
2020-2021 = \$3.5 million
2021-2022 = \$4.3 million
2022-2023 = \$4.6 million
2023-2024 = <del>\$5.6 million</del>
2024-2025 = \$805,460

**Overall  
 \$23 million  
 will be lost  
 in state aid  
 over 7 years**

**This Budget is a Reflection of the  
 6 Years' Worth of Declining Budget Cuts**

- We have been discussing - and advocating against - the S2 funding formula that has cut our aid more than \$22 MILLION in 6 years (will be \$23 million or higher over the course of 7 years.)
- Meanwhile, our expenses have risen higher than the mandated 2% cap on our tax levy
- We have been forced to operate in a "cut model" budget, year after year
  - Reduce operational costs
  - Cut staff
  - Postpone needed facilities improvements
  - Seek additional revenue
  - We have needed to draw from (and not generate additional) surplus funds - which are for emergency needs and were traditionally rolled over to support the following year's school budget needs

**We are enduring the 5th largest cut  
 to State Aid in ALL OF N.J.**

County	District	Cut	% of total aid
1 Hudson	Jersey City	-\$1,062,150	-27.65%
2 Ocean	Toms River Regional	-14,421,851	-31.77%
3 Monmouth	Asbury Park City	-8,587,256	-29.32%
4 Monmouth	Freehold Regional	-6,763,723	-22.14%
5 Ocean	Jackson Twp	-6,287,744	-18.41%
6 Monmouth	Neptune Twp	-4,222,907	-24.84%
7 Middlesex	South Brunswick Twp	-4,063,240	-20.58%
8 Ocean	Lacey Twp	-3,958,990	-27.49%
9 Ocean	Brick Twp	-2,542,260	-14.80%
10 Ocean	Stafford Twp	-2,357,904	-30.79%

Current state aid for Jackson = \$3,850 per K-12 student  
 State aid to all districts receiving comparable state aid = \$10,543 per student.

**Cost Saving Efforts and Creative Solutions**

- Staff Reductions at Every Level
- ESIP - Energy Savings Improvement Program
- Health Benefits Savings
- Special Education Programs In-District
- Aggressive Pursuit of Grants
- Advertising on Buses
- Facility Rentals (Auditoriums)
- Fought for Stabilization Aid

	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
<b>Health Benefit Costs</b>	\$21,153,715	\$21,040,702	\$21,732,586	\$24,745,356	\$26,850,406	\$21,749,443	\$21,985,342

	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
<b>Out of District Special Education Placements</b>							
# Students	84	91	93	77	57	53	
Sp. Ed Tuition	\$4,724,465	\$5,464,214	\$5,255,52	\$4,731,339	\$6,265,760	\$4,814,572	\$4,568,331

**Advocacy**

We have aggressively pursued multiple avenues to advocate for a review or pause of S2 cuts and to draw special attention to the unique circumstances faced by Jackson.

- Joined coalition lawsuit to seek S2 formula from state
- Testified to Senate and Assembly Budget Committees on multiple occasions
- Gathered public support to advocate for our students on S2 cuts
- Worked with legislators to create bill to establish nonpublic transportation consortium pilot program and provide funding for impacted districts
- Met with Governor's Office to discuss our challenges
- Met with District 12 Legislators
- Multiple requests to the Governor and the Commissioner of Education to come to our district and discuss needs

**Factors Impacting the 2023-2024 Budget**

- REVENUE:**
- **State Aid** - Impact of cuts over the past 6 years
  - **Other Aid** - How other types of temporary aid have kept us afloat
  - **Surplus** - We have been utilizing surplus funds to support programs, and in addition have not been able to generate new surplus, as in the past
  - **Tax Levy Cap** - 2% Cap limits our ability to keep on top of rising costs
- EXPENDITURES:**
- **Fixed/Mandated Costs** - Things we can't control
  - **Needs** - Curricular, Extra-Curricular, Facility, Security, Technology
- ENROLLMENT:**
- Decreases in enrollment are leveling a bit
  - Our state aid cuts FAR EXCEED our enrollment decreases

REVENUE
---------

**Sources of Revenue**

- We have limited ways to support a budget, including:
- **Tax Levy** (amount raised by taxation) - capped at 2% increase each year
    - This year that amount is \$1.8 million
  - **Grants** - we are always seeking grants (no grant writer, cut at the beginning of 52)
  - **Federal and State Programs**
  - **Participation Fees for Sports and Activities**
  - **Food Service Revenue**
  - **Child Care Revenue**
  - **Facility Rentals Revenue**
  - **Donations**
  - **Preschool Aid/State Aid**

**OVERVIEW OF STATE AID SINCE 2017**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Special Education Aid	\$42,102,240	\$42,102,240	\$39,805,296	\$36,223,752	\$32,087,240	\$27,491,891	\$21,939,947
Transportation Aid	\$1,203,261	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265
Special Education Aid	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500
Security Aid	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977
Other	\$423,208				\$248,833		

**OVERVIEW OF STATE AID SINCE 2017**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Special Education Aid	\$42,102,240	\$42,102,240	\$39,805,296	\$36,223,752	\$32,087,240	\$27,491,891	\$21,939,947
Transportation Aid	\$1,203,261	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265	\$601,265
Special Education Aid	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500	\$5,211,500
Security Aid	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977
Other	\$423,208			\$248,833			
Elementary Aid	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
State Aid				\$16,000,000	\$1,642,938	\$0	\$0

**OVERVIEW OF STATE AID SINCE 2017**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Special Education Aid	\$42,102,240	\$42,102,240	\$39,805,296	\$36,223,752	\$32,087,240	\$27,491,891	\$21,939,947
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Security Aid	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977	\$854,977
Other	\$423,208			\$248,833			
Elementary Aid	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
State Aid				\$16,000,000	\$1,642,938	\$0	\$0
<b>Change</b>	\$0	-\$65,914	-\$2,297,044	-\$3,261,004	-\$4,287,654	-\$9,709,913	-\$7,003,642
<b>% Reduction from 2017</b>	0%	-1.71%	-4.21%	-6.59%	-9.21%	-14.70%	-16.39%
<b>Change in Cost of State Aid</b>							

Total Change in Aid Since 2017 - Loss of \$40,997,523

**COVID-Related Funding Received Since 2017**  
**"Kept the Budget Afloat" From 2020 - 2023**  
**And Allowed us to Address Learning Loss**



17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
			ESSR 1 \$718,134	ESSR 2 \$4,013,288	ARP ESSR \$9,198,870	NONE
			COVID Relief \$470,288			

Without these funds, we would have been forced to make drastic changes, much sooner and would not have been able to help our students and staff climb out of the stress and learning loss of the COVID Pandemic.

**Tax Levy Increase vs. Reduction in State Aid from 2017 through Present**

	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Change in Total Aid	\$0	-\$865,814	-\$2,297,004	-\$3,281,504	+\$2,087,054	-\$8,709,613	-\$7,930,642
*General Tax Levy Increase	\$2,248,574	\$2,547,602	\$2,101,241	\$1,723,423	\$1,757,891	\$1,793,049	\$1,828,910
NET IMPACT to REVENUE	\$2,248,574	\$1,681,788	-\$195,763	-\$1,558,081	\$3,844,945	-\$6,916,564	-\$6,101,732

\* Remember: Tax Levy Increase is Limited BY LAW (CAPPED) at a 2% INCREASE each year.

ENROLLMENT and STATE AID

**Comparison of Aid to Enrollment**

Aid	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Total Aid	\$50,735,886	\$49,870,072	\$47,573,068	\$44,291,564	\$46,378,618	\$37,669,005	\$29,738,363
Change	\$0	-\$865,814	-\$2,297,004	-\$3,281,504	+\$2,087,054	-\$8,709,613	-\$7,930,642
% Change	0%	-1.71%	-4.61%	-6.90%	4.73%	-18.78%	-21.05%

**Since 2017: Cumulative Loss of State Aid = - 41.39%**

Enrollment	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24*
Enrollment (Oct. 15)	8,189	8,106	7,964	7,630	7,355	7,214	?
% Decrease		-1.02%	-1.74%	-4.19%	-3.59%	-1.9%	?

**Since 2017: Cumulative Loss of Enrollment = - 11.9%**

**Decreased Staffing Levels Since 2017**

**151.5 Positions  
Have Been  
Eliminated  
Since 2017-2018**

Administration	Nurses Aides
Teachers	Non-Certified Supervisors
Paraprofessionals	Security- Full Time
Bus Drivers	Security - Part Time
Secretaries	Receptionists
Custodians	Technology
Food Service	Garage
Lunchroom Aides	Van Aides
Grounds	Support Staff

**Every Area Has Felt the Impact of Staff Cuts  
 Many Have Been Accomplished Through Attrition/Retirements**

**We are Efficient and Effective:  
 How We Compare**

- We are **UNDER Adequacy** in spending, according to the State of NJ's Adequacy Budget calculations
- We are **14th lowest in Budgetary Cost Per Pupil** (out of 92 NJ K-12 Districts)

What is the NJ "Adequacy Budget"?

Every school district in the state calculates what would be the necessary funding level to provide a "thorough and efficient education" to every pupil in that district. This is what is referred to as the Adequacy Budget.

EXPENDITURES

### Challenges in the Face of Funding Cuts

- Contractual obligations
- Rising costs (software licenses, etc.)
- Gas prices
- Tuition increases outside our control
- Increases in special education out-of-district transportation

Rising Inflation	
Year	Consumer Price Index
2017	2.5%
2018	2.1%
2019	1.3%
2020	2.5%
2021	1.6%
2022	8.2%
2023	6.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - Middle Atlantic Region

### Challenges in the Face of Funding Cuts - Continued

**Total Non-Public Students (Transported and All)**

17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
655	1,101	1,427	1,946	2,789	3,867	4,750 estimated

**2022-2023 (One-Year) Increase:**  
 • 1078 students or 38.6% Increase

**Increase Since 2017:**  
 • 4095 students or 490% Increase

**ELL Students**

17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
181	168	226	264	284	453	540 estimated

**2022-2023 (One-Year) Increase:**  
 • 169 students or 59.5% Increase

**Increase Since 2017:**  
 • 272 students or 150% Increase

WHAT IT MEANS

### We've Reached the Fiscal Cliff...

- Loss of Aid
- Increase in Expenditures
- Surplus Depleted Over the Past 6 years - PLUS - During that same time we have not generated any new surplus

- ### Impact to This Tentative Budget:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in Administrative Staff</li> <li>▪ Reduction in Certified Staff</li> <li>▪ Reduction in Non-Certified Staff</li> <li>▪ Elimination of Courtesy Busing and Busing to Child Care Centers</li> <li>▪ Reduction of Extra-Curricular</li> <li>▪ Reduction of District Sports</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Loss of Tier 1 Capital Projects (Except Safety-Related Projects)</li> <li>▪ Reduction in School-Based Budgets</li> <li>▪ Curriculum Adoption Cycle for HS Math will be Paused</li> <li>▪ Technology Reductions</li> <li>▪ Increases to Participation Fees for Athletics and Activities</li> </ul> |
|---|--|
- These cuts are STILL not enough to reach a balanced budget. We will be exploring EVERY possible area to create a budget for approval in April.

The figures on the next slides demonstrate the "bottom line" of this Tentative Budget and the impact the 2% tax levy increase will have on the average homeowner.

We are far from having final answers as to what will be lost in this budget in order to accomplish a balanced budget.

We will be working over the next several weeks to make those decisions.

These are heartbreaking decisions to have to make, all while trying our best to maintain what makes the Jackson School District so special.

## Budget Figures and Tax Impact

### Tax Levy Information

The "tax levy" is the amount to be raised by taxation. It takes two forms:

- "General Fund" tax levy (i.e. operating budget)
- "Debt Service" tax levy (i.e. previously approved construction projects, referenda)

This year's tentative budget contains a general fund tax levy increase of 2 %

### 2023-2024 Tentative Budget

Comparison from 2022-2023 Budget

	2023-2024 Tentative Budget	Change from Previous Year	% Change
General Fund Tax Levy	\$ 93,274,419	\$1,828,910	2.00%
State Aid	\$ 29,738,363	(\$7,930,642)	(21.05%)
General Fund	\$136,773,421	(\$5,782,118)	(4.06%)
Federal/State Programs	\$ 13,696,973	(\$6,371,501)	(31.75%)
Total Debt	\$ 8,433,500	\$ 2,686	0.03%
Total Budget	\$158,903,894	(\$12,150,433)	(7.10%)

### What does this mean for taxpayers?

- TOTAL Tentative Budget is \$158,903,894
- .0005-cent Increase to the School Tax Rate
- 2023 Tentative School Tax Rate = \$1.4203 per \$100 of assessed home value
- Average home in Jackson is assessed at \$330,688
- \$2 Increase per year for the average homeowner

Look on our Budget Information Page to view:

- Budget presentations
- The full, detailed Tentative Budget document

[www.JacksonSD.org](http://www.JacksonSD.org)

**The Budget Process**  
**Public Input is Always Encouraged**  
There are various opportunities for public input:

- Budget Overview & Meeting Schedule: **Jan. 18**
- "Building a Budget" Presentations: **Feb. 15**
- **Tentative** Budget Introduced at BOE Meeting: **March 15**
- Continued Discussion/Refinement of Budget Prior to Public Hearing on **April 26**

The tentative budget is presented annually during the March Board of Education meeting. We are required to put together tentative numbers for the 2023/24 school year. We are headed into a "perfect storm" situation, or a "fiscal cliff". Other Ocean County schools are facing similar situations, due to S2 cuts. We are required to put numbers into a form for our County Superintendent by March 20. This tentative budget is not near where we want to be, and it is not finalized. This is tentative, so we can meet the requirements for the County Superintendent.

She reiterated we anticipated a \$2.5 million cut, but instead received a \$6.2 million cut, two weeks ago. Last year we also received a higher cut than that was originally shared with us.

Taxes are capped at 2%, and cannot be raised higher to help with the deficit.

Our surplus has been depleted.

We received the 5th largest school district cut to state aid in all of New Jersey.

With regard to Rosenauer school; if we closed Rosenauer we would be overcrowding our other schools. Financially, this would be a one and done revenue, that doesn't solve the overall long term revenue problem. We have to think about expenses relating to closing Rosenauer; walkers would now have to be bused, which is an added expense. Everything is being explored; there has been no decision made.

She then turned the presentation over to Ms. Richardson, to explain the budget figures and the tax impact.

Mrs. Pormilli resumed her presentation, and explained that the presentation will be up on the district website. We will now work very hard at exploring some possibilities and continue to work hard to find solutions.

Mrs. Gardella asked Ms. Richardson how the district can increase the 2% tax levy, and she asked Mrs. Pormilli about ESSER funds.

Mrs. Pormilli replied that ESSER funds and Covid money had required uses for that money to keep kids safe from the pandemic, i.e. cleaning products, shields on desks, foggers to spray classrooms and desks at the end of the day, and also mental health concern services such as YMCA counseling services that come into the school. Those are things we invested ESSER money on. We also used it for academics to close the gap created during the pandemic. Books were sent home with elementary students, and we invested in an additional Guidance Counselor. The ESSER funding ending, along with state aid cuts, affects the ability to improve mental health and also connect students to their school with extra curriculars.

Mrs. Gardella asked if other districts are still receiving ESSER money?

Mrs. Pormilli replied that most districts had two or three years to use it up. We were assigned a dollar figure, and not all districts were given the same dollar amount.

Ms. Richardson explained that there are two ways to increase the tax levy. When we submit our budget application to the DOE, there are formulas in there that if certain expenses, like your health benefits, go up a certain degree, you are able to choose to waive the tax levy and go above. That is allowed when your health benefits cost rises. Years ago, we did meet the health benefit option, and then the Board of Education supported increasing the tax levy for those purposes. The second way to raise the tax levy is to put a special question before the Township, and ask the voters of Jackson if they would agree to raising the tax levy. We did this a few years ago as a special question on the ballot for adding security to our elementary schools, and it was voted in, which then increased our tax levy permanently, to keep the elementary school security.

Currently, our health benefits are not going up significantly, so we will not qualify for increasing the tax levy due to increased health benefit cost. That is because we were wise and made good choices with our health benefits.

Dr. Osmond mentioned that over the last few years our budget has been bad. There are lots of ways to keep programming with grants. She noticed we don't have a grant writer here. Have we compared our district to those with a grant writer? Do those with a grant writer win more of the grants?

Mrs. Pormilli answered that we did have a grant writer, but lost that years ago. She has not recently done a comparison. She would assume with a writer you would receive more grants. We do have John Blair, our Energy Specialist, who has received grants to bring more money to the district. She will look into the comparison.

Dr. Osmond then asked why it would be risky to put a special question on the ballot.

Ms. Richardson explained that if the township votes down a question on the ballot, that means we cannot have that item.

Mrs. Pormilli explained that there are a lot of rules to putting on a special question. It needs to be something toward expanding, rather than something you've already paid for. If it does pass, it would permanently change the tax levy moving forward. It's not a one year change.

Mrs. Pormilli concluded her Superintendent's Reports by celebrating the incredible things we do for our students. She highlighted Jean Ciner, Guidance Counselor at Memorial, who won Counselor of the Year! Robin Linke, a Secretary at McAuliffe, won Ocean County Education Specialist of the Year! Doreen Merritt at Elms is a national top 10 finalist for Custodian of the Year!

She spoke about Read Across America; she was able to read to a fourth grade class. It was wonderful! She was invited to Goetz to judge their door decorating contest for Read Across America. They decorated doors to provide an educational experience. It was phenomenal! At Memorial, Mr. Schickling's Architecture class designs your dream home for you. She gave a shout out to Roman, the student she is working with to design her dream home. It's so exciting to be able to do that and get to work with the students. What a great project with authentic learning for the students!

She then turned the meeting back over to Mr. Palmeri.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Information Items**

1. Enrollment Report for February, 2023
2. Security Drill Report for February, 2023
3. Suspension Report for February, 2023

4. JSD Daily Substitute Assignments for February, 2023
5. Board Attorney Billing Summary for February, 2023
  - Schenck Price Smith & King, LLC
  - Comegno Law Group, LLC
6. Policy Notes

**Standing Committee Reports:**

- Buildings & Grounds – Mrs. Rivera (Chair), Mr. McCarron and Mrs. Gardella (Alt: Mr. Palmeri)  
*No update.*
- Budget/Finance – Mr. Palmeri (Chair), Mr. McCarron and Mrs. Gardella (Alt: Mrs. Barocas)  
*They met February 27<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Pormilli covered everything very well in her Superintendent’s Report.*
- Transportation – Mrs. Barocas (Chair), Mr. Palmeri & Mrs. Kas (Alt: Dr. Osmond)  
*They met February 27<sup>th</sup>. The committee discussed cul-de-sac updates, school times for 2023, non-public status and bidding for the 23/24 year and courtesy busing. Mr. Soto will provide a list of cul-de-sacs for courtesy bus stops.*
- Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Osmond (Chair), Mrs. Rivera & Mrs. Gardella (Alt: Mrs. Kas)  
*No update at this time.*

**Ad Hoc Committees will meet as needed:**

- Policy – Mrs. Kas (Chair), Mrs. Barocas & Mrs. Gardella (Alt: Mr. Palmeri)  
*No update at this time.*
- Scholarship – Mrs. Kas (Chair)  
*No update at this time.*
- State and County School Boards Representative – Mrs. Rivera (Chair) & Mr. Palmeri  
*The Ocean County School Board Association will be back in-person to host its annual 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dialogue on Wednesday, March 29 @ 545 at Brick Memorial High School.*
- Negotiations – Mr. Palmeri (Chair)  
*JEA negotiations have begun. The next meeting will be held on March 27.*

**Policy/Regulations**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved Policy Second Reading:

Policy –  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
Reading

**Policy/Regulations**

**Policy – Second Reading**

**Policy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

P 0152	BYLAWS	Board Officers (revised)
P 0161	BYLAWS	Call, Adjournment and Cancellation (revised)
P 0162	BYLAWS	Notice of Board Meetings (revised)
R 2000	PROGRAM	Table of Contents (revised)
P & R 2423	PROGRAM	Bilingual and ESL Education (M) (revised)
P 2425	PROGRAM	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (revised)
R 2425	PROGRAM	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (New)
P & R 5200	STUDENTS	Attendance (M) (revised)
P 6150	FINANCES	Tuition Income (revised)
P 8000	OPERATIONS	Table of Contents (revised)
P 8140	OPERATIONS	Student Enrollment (M) (revised)
R 8140	OPERATIONS	Enrollment Accounting (M) (revised)
P & R 8330	OPERATIONS	Student Records (M) (revised)
R 8420.2	OPERATIONS	Bomb Threats (M) (revised)
R 8420.7	OPERATIONS	Lockdown Procedures (M) (revised)
R 8420.10	OPERATIONS	Active Shooter (M) (revised)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

Approve  
Minutes

Official Board Meeting – February 15, 2023 Closed Session Meeting  
Official Board Meeting – February 15, 2023 Business Meeting

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved Bills and Claims for March 1-15, 2023 and February 2023:

Bills/  
Claims

Total Computer Checks, March 1-15, 2023	\$ 3,113,240.71
Total Computer Checks, February 28, 2023	\$ 5,468,617.96
Total Hand Checks, February 28, 2023	\$ 7,273.31
Total Payroll, February 28, 2023	\$ 8,580,006.46
FICA: February 28, 2023	\$ 403,457.89
Total Board Share	\$ 228,633.06
Retired Health Benefits and Pension Payment	\$ 7,086.23
Health Benefits	\$ 1,614,450.26
Refinancing of Existing Debt Interest	\$ 802,906.00
Refinancing of Existing Deb Principal	\$ 880,000.00
Voids	\$ (740,610.16)
Total Budgetary Payment, February 28, 2023	\$ 17,251,821.01

FOOD SERVICE  
BOARD BILLS AND CLAIMS \$ 586,744.39  
February 2023

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mrs. Gardella  
Mr. McCarron  
Mrs. Barocas  
Dr. Osmond  
Mrs. Rivera  
Mrs. Kas  
Mr. Palmeri (ABSTAINED ON ANYTHING REGARDING STAPLES)

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Board Secretary's Certification:**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(d), I certify that as of January 31, 2022, 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.



Michelle D. Richardson

Public  
Forum

**PUBLIC FORUM – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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

Mr. Palmeri 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.”

Seeing no one come forward, on a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, 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.

**FINANCE**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved the following motions:

1. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approved the line-item transfers for the month of January, 2023.

**Document A.**

2. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approved the adjustments to the Federal and State Fund 20 Projects for the 2022-2023 school year for January, 2023.

**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 approved the tentative budget for the 2023-2024 school year and the following 2023-2024 budget resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY on March 15, 2023 as follows:

1. The Board of Education approves the 2023-2024 budget for the submission to the County Superintendent’s Office in the amount of \$158,903,894.00 that consists of a Total General Fund of \$136,773,421.00, Federal/State Programs of \$13,696,973.00 and Debt Service of \$8,433,500.00.
2. The Board of Education approves the Tax Levy amount raised for General Funds of \$93,274,419.00 for the ensuing 2023-2024 school year.

**Document D.**

5. The Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, approved the renewal of the contract with Fire Security Technologies, Inc., Farmingdale, New Jersey for district-wide Fire Alarm Certification and Inspection for the 2023-2024 school year, this is the second renewal of the Fire Alarm Certification and Inspection bid of April 29, 2021.

**April 29, 2021 Bid**  
\$48,271.00

**Contract Renewal**  
\$51,210.00

6. The Board of Education approved the following Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission Coordinated Transportation Resolution:

MONMOUTH-OCEAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION  
SY 2023 – 2028

This Agreement, made this day of March 15, 2023 by and between: Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission, with offices at 900 Green Grove Rd, Tinton Falls, New Jersey 07712 (hereinafter referred to as the "MOESC"), and Jackson Township Board of Education, with offices at 151 Don Connor Blvd, Jackson, New Jersey 08527 (hereinafter referred to as "Board of Education").

RECITALS

- A. The Board of Education desires to transport special education, nonpublic, public and /or vocational school students to specific destinations.
- B. The MOESC offers coordinated transportation services.
- C. The MOESC will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed that in consideration of prorated contract costs calculated by the billing formula adopted by the MOESC, plus an administrative fee of 5.5 percent (5.5%), the Jackson Township Board of Education shall pay the MOESC for transportation services rendered. Said formula shall be based on the number of students and a per pupil mile ratio encumbering any special requirements specified by participating districts.

- 1. The MOESC will provide the following services:
  - a. Routes coordinated with other districts, whenever possible, to achieve a maximum cost reduction while maintaining a realistic capacity and travel time;
  - b. An estimated fee for all routes based on a ratio of the number of students and student mileage. It is understood that initial transportation charges are estimates based on initial mileage and ridership and thereby subject to changes as the number of students and/or mileage increases and/or decreases.
  - c. Monthly billing and invoices;
  - d. A report of students for all routes coordinated by MOESC;
  - e. All necessary interaction and communication between the sending district, receiving school, and respective transportation contractors;
  - f. Constant review and revision of routes;
  - g. Provide transportation within three (3) days or sooner after receipt of the formal written request.
- 2. It is further agreed that the Jackson Township Board of Education will provide the MOESC with the following:
  - a. Requests for special transportation on approved forms to be provided by the MOESC, completed in full and signed by authorized district personnel;
  - b. Withdrawal for any transportation must be provided in writing and signed by authorized district personnel; no billing adjustments will be made without this completed form and will become effective on the date the form is received.
  - c. Additional Cost - all additional costs generated by unique requests such as mid-day runs or early dismissals will be borne by the district making the request. All such costs must first be approved by the Jackson Township Board of Education.
  - d. Length of Agreement - this agreement and obligations and requirements therein shall be in effect between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2028.
  - e. Entire Agreement – this Agreement constitutes the entire and only agreement between the parties and may be amended by any instrument in writing over authorized signature.
- 3. It is further agreed by the Board of Education to the following:
  - a. Upon the execution of this Agreement, it is agreed that MOESC's school bus contractor, selected pursuant to the public bidding law, shall exclusively provide pupil transportation services for the identified student during the term of the contract.
  - b. The Board of Education may terminate this contract only for good cause. Good cause shall not be defined to include a lesser transportation cost alternative available to the Board of Education during the term of the Contract. Good cause includes, but shall not be limited to the following: (1) the student's parent electing to provide transportation for the student for the entire contract term; (2) the student no longer requires the transportation services because the student does not need to travel to the transportation contract's destination because the student's education plan has changed, the school assignment is changed for education-based reasons, the student has moved from the school district, the student's pupil transportation is merged with other route(s) to reduce cost, or for other good cause shown.
  - c. The parties to this Agreement acknowledge that the school bus contractor, who is providing or to be providing pupil transportation services as contemplated in this Agreement, is an "intended third-party beneficiary" of the within contract between MOESC and the Board of Education. In the event that the Board of Education should breach this Agreement, the school bus contractor shall have the right to commence legal action against the Board of Education as a result of such breach and may seek compensatory damages, or any other relief that may be appropriate.
- 7. The Board of Education approved the following resolution pertaining to submissions to the New Jersey Department of Education relative to conveyance/sale of property to Jackson Township:

WHEREAS, the Jackson Township School District Board of Education, in the County of Ocean, New Jersey (the "Board"), desires to proceed with conveyance/sale of property:

**CONVEYANCE/SALE OF PROPERTY TO JACKSON TOWNSHIP**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY to approve the submission of the conveyance/sale of property to Jackson Township to the New Jersey Department of Education, for review and Department approval of a “disposal of land request”.

Be it further resolved; the Board authorizes Spiegle Architectural Group Inc, architect of record, to make the submission of four applications to the Department of Education on behalf of the district, not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Section 1. The Board approves and authorizes the Board Secretary to submit applications to the New Jersey Department of Education on behalf of the district.

Section 2. The Board hereby authorizes the Board Secretary to make amendment(s) to its Long Range Facility Plan in order to reflect the proposed project.

Section 3. The School Administration and such other officers and agents of the Board as are necessary, including the Board Attorney, and Architect/Engineer, are hereby authorized to perform such other acts, to execute such other documents, and to do such other things as are necessary to implement the determinations of the Board set forth in the Resolution.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

8. The Board of Education approved the following resolution pertaining to submissions to the New Jersey Department of Education relative to the disposal of land:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is requesting approval to dispose of District owned properties, known as Block 9801 Lots 3, 5, 8-14, and 16, Block 4101 Lot 14, Block 12201 Lot 19, and Block 3701 Lot 110, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A; and

WHEREAS, these properties have been assessed to determine if they are in any way suitable to support either the implementation of the District’s Long Range Facility Plan (LRFP) or the educational adequacy of the adjacent facilities; and

WHEREAS, the findings of these assessments indicate that disposal of these properties is determined to be consistent with the district’s approved LRFP; and

WHEREAS, the sale of these properties will not have a negative impact on the educational adequacy of either the sites or schools adjacent to each site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jackson Township Board of Education, that the application for sale of District property be submitted to the County Superintendent of Schools and the Department of Education, Division of Finance, Office of Facilities, for approval.

9. The Board of Education approved the Alternate SEMI Revenue Projection of \$225,075.00 for use in the 2023-2024 Budget, as approved by the County Business Administrator.

10. The Board of Education approved the following Resolution for Lease Purchase and Financing of 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 \$1,401,195 and a term not to exceed seven-years (collectively, the “Acquisition”); and

WHEREAS, Educational Services Commission Lease Purchase Bidding/Financial Advisory Service (ESC) 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, ESC will conduct the Bid for the Lease Purchase on or before April 28, 2023 and will make its recommendation to the Board prior to the May 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 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.

11. The Board of Education approved the following line item transfer for the ESSER grant funds:

Transfer Amount	From Account #	To Account #
\$250.00	20-487-100-800-12	20-487-100-500-12

12. The Board of Education approved the following line item transfer within the Title III Immigrant Grant as follows for the 2022-2023 school year:

Transfer Amount	From Account #	To Account #
\$00.75	20-242-100-610-09	20-242-100-110-09

13. The Board of Education declared items as surplus, as filed with the Business Office, some items retain value and others have no monetary value.

[Document E.](#)

14. The Board of Education accepted the June 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report as submitted by the auditing firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company.

15. The Board of Education accepted the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the June 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report as submitted and recommended by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

[Document 1a.](#)

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

The Board Members all voted yes on Finance, but noted that they are reluctant on item #4, due to the unbearable cuts made and lack of known revenue support. They are voting yest to move to the next step with the DOE.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FACILITIES**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved the following motion:

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

[Document F.](#)

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

**MOTIONS CARRIED**

**PROGRAMS:**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved the following motions:

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

REQUEST	COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY	NAME	DATES	COOPERATING TEACHER(s)	SCHOOL
Observation	Georgian Court	Andrea Montague	3/16/2023 - 6/30/2023	Patricia Ciaccio	Johnson
Practicum	TCNJ	Sierra Mount	1/3/23 - 5/31/23	Lisa Cirigliano	Johnson

2. The Board of Education accepted the 2022 District Violence and Vandalism/HIB Report for the period of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 as presented.

[Document G.](#)

3. The Board of Education approved the Title III Immigrant High School Tutoring Program for the 2022-2023 school year to be paid by Title III Immigrant Grant Funds (20-242-100-110-09), not to exceed \$3,858.75.
4. The Board of Education approved the Title IV STEM Robotics Program Family Night for Grades 6-12 on May 4, 2023, to be paid for by Title IV Grant funds (20-280-200-110-09), in the amount of \$588.00 in total, at no cost to the Board.
5. The Board of Education approved the following personnel to virtually participate in the VEX Robotics Professional Development Course, paid by Title IV Professional Development Grant Funds (20-280-200-590-09), not to exceed \$999.00.
  - a. Christopher Perry, Math Teacher/Jackson Liberty High School
6. The Board of Education approved the application, and acceptance if awarded, for the NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for Excellence in Education Grant of up to \$8,000.00 for McAuliffe Middle School to fund the House of Pride for the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) House System submitted by Teacher Jerriann Parlow.
7. The Board of Education approved the application, and acceptance if awarded, for the NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for Excellence in Education Grant of up to \$10,000.00 to fund the McAuliffe Middle School Thrifter Upper II Program for the Vintage Shoppe submitted by Media Specialist Bridgit Lapierre Valgenti and Teacher Victoria Hay.

8. The Board of Education approved the application, and acceptance if awarded, for the NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for Excellence in Education Grant of up to \$587.00 to fund the Elms Elementary School First Grade Summer Reading Challenge Program submitted by Teachers Alyssa, Agoston.
  
9. The Board of Education approved the application and acceptance, if approved, for the Sustainable Grant Program submitted by Shaina Brenner, Second Grade Teacher at Elms Elementary School in the amount of \$10,000.00 to obtain materials needed for an outdoor Pollinator Garden.
  
10. The Board of Education approved the participation of the Jackson Branch of the Ocean County Library at our Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) Family Night to be held on April 20, 2023 at Holman Elementary School, at no cost to the District.
  
11. *omitted*
  
12. The Board of Education approved an amendment to the 2022-2023 IDEA Basic Grant in the amount of \$2,499.00 to expend prior year rollover funds.
  
13. The Board of Education approved professional day requests and the travel related expense resolution from school board and staff members as filed with the appropriate supervisor.

**Document H.**

14. The Board of Education approved the following resolution to create an Advocacy and Community Outreach Committee:

Resolved that the Board creates an Advocacy and Community Outreach Committee of the Board, comprised of Board of Education Members, community members, parents, administrators and teachers, for the purpose of, among other things, enhancing communications on matters that affect our school community.

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

**MOTIONS CARRIED**

**STUDENTS:**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved the following motions:

1. The Board of Education approved a revision to the following out of district placements (accounts 20-250-100-566-09/11-000-100-566-09, unless otherwise noted):

a.	One (1) Student	Placement:	Coastal Learning Center South
		Tuition:	<del>\$32,635.35</del> <b>\$33,665.94</b> plus \$16,340.00 <b>\$16,856.00</b> Aide pro-rated
		Effective:	January 25, 2023

2. The Board of Education approved services for the 2022-2023 school year with The Stepping Stones Group to provide the following services to Jackson students as per their Individualized Education Plan mandates, total cost not to exceed \$30,000.00 (11-000-217-320-09-210000):
  1. Occupational Therapy Services - \$86.00 per hour
  2. Occupational Therapy Evaluations - \$350.00 per evaluation

3. The Board of Education approved a contract revision for the 2022-2023 school year with Limon Educational Consulting, LLC (Christine Limongello) to conduct the following evaluations to various Jackson students on an as needed basis, total cost not to exceed \$25,000.00 (11-000-219-320-09-210000):
  - a. Comprehensive Assessment of Cognitive Abilities - \$320.00 per evaluation
  - b. Comprehensive Assessment of Cognitive Abilities and Achievement Skills - \$450.00 per evaluation
  - c. Additional Fee per Rating Scale - \$40.00 (up to 3 respondents per scale)
  - d. Case Management & Meeting Attendance - \$70.00 per hour

4. The Board of Education approved the following volunteer clubs and advisors for the 2022-2023 school year:

	<u>Volunteer Club</u>	<u>Volunteer Advisor(s)</u>	<u>School</u>
a.	Cougar Wrestling Club	Dominic Salerno Joseph Fuca Naomi Fletcher	Goetz

5. The Board of Education approved an out-of-state overnight trip for the Jackson Liberty High School Band to Walt Disney World, Orlando, Florida, Thursday, February 29, 2024 - Monday, March 4, 2024, at no cost to the Board.
6. The Board of Education approved participation of the Jackson Liberty and Memorial High School Boys and Girls Track Teams in the Penn Relays, April 27-29, 2023 at the University of Pennsylvania, cost to the Board being district transportation and entry fees.
7. The Board of Education approved an overnight trip for Jackson Memorial High School DECA club to participate in the DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida, Friday, April 23, 2023 through Wednesday, April 26, 2023, cost to the Board being student/advisor/chaperone registration fees and advisor/chaperone hotel accommodations.
8. The Board of Education approved an overnight trip for the Jackson Memorial High School FBLA to the FBLA State Leadership Conference held at Harrah's Resort and Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey, March 6-8, 2023, cost to the Board being registration fees, advisor/chaperone hotel accommodations and district transportation to and from the conference.
9. The Board of Education retroactively approved the overnight trip for the Jackson Memorial High School Girls Wrestling team to compete at the NJSIAA State Championships held at Phillipsburg High School in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, Sunday February 26, 2023, at no cost to the Board.
10. The Board of Education retroactively approved the overnight trip for the Jackson Memorial High School Boys Wrestling team to compete at the NJSIAA State Championships held at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, March 1-4, 2023, at no cost to the Board.
11. The Board of Education accepted, 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 I.**

12. The Board of Education approved educational field trips as filed with the Transportation Director.
13. The Board of Education approved a revision to services for the 2022-2023 school year with My Own Two Hands, LLC-Lynda Goetz to conduct various services to various blind/visually impaired students on an as needed basis, total cost not to exceed \$95,000.00 (11-000-217-320-09-210000).

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mrs. Gardella

Mr. McCarron  
 Mrs. Barocas  
 Dr. Osmond  
 Mrs. Rivera  
 Mrs. Kas  
 Mr. Palmeri

**MOTIONS CARRIED**

**PERSONNEL**

On a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the Board of Education approved the following motions:

1. The Board of Education approved the employment of the following substitutes for the 2022-2023 school year, effective March 16, 2023, unless otherwise noted:
  - a. Yvonne Hollingsworth, Custodian, \$16.50 per hour
  - b. Anais Lundy, Custodian, \$16.50 per hour
  - c. Nika Wypych, Driver-Transportation, \$28.00 per hour
  
2. The Board of Education approved the following substitutes and daily rates for the 2022-2023 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	Teacher- Long Term Leave/Full Year \$294.44 per day
a.	Bruett	Susan					X	X	X
b.	Casey	Samantha				X			
c.	Cianci	Patricia					X	X	X
d.	Curtis	Philip					X	X	X
e.	Darrar	James					X	X	X
f.	Daya	Jaclyn			X				
g.	DeJesus	Jessica	X						
h.	Dunleavy	Maureen	X						
i.	Giunta	Dominick				X			
j.	Imperiale	Robin					X	X	X
k.	Klein	Jacob		X	X				
l.	McLoughlin	Brooke	X			X			
m.	Stampfel	Gail				X			
n.	Testa	Joseph					X	X	X
o.	Ventolo	Ellen					X	X	X
p.	Whitaker	Jennifer		X					

3. The Board of Education approved the following staff for student teaching, co-curricular advisors and/or athletic coaches for the 2022-2023 school year, effective March 16, 2023, unless otherwise noted:
  - a. Samuel Barocas, Volunteer Assistant Coach/JMHS, pending fingerprints.

- b. Erin Sandor, Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, pending fingerprints
4. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepted with best wishes, the resignation of the following employees, due to retirement:
    - a. Robert Paneque, Supervisor-Athletics/JMHS, effective July 1, 2023.
    - b. Carol Dugan, Driver-Transportation/District, effective July 1, 2023.
    - c. Joyce Rabbitt, Driver-Transportation/District effective July 1, 2023.
    - d. Jennifer Walsh, Driver-Transportation/District, effective April 1, 2023.
    - e. Patti Watson, Paraprofessional/Goetz, effective July 1, 2023.
    - f. Lisa Raney, Reading Teacher/Holman, effective July 1, 2023.
    - g. Tina Del Sontro, Teacher/Switlik, effective July 1, 2023.
    - h. Maryann Hreha, Teacher/Elms, effective July 1, 2023.
  5. The Board of Education accepted the resignation of the following employees:
    - a. Karin Pena, Computer Service Technician/District, effective March 6, 2023.
    - b. Dzengis Ramush, Driver-Transportation/District, effective March 16, 2023.
    - c. Riccardo Sindoni, Driver-Transportation/District, effective February 21, 2023.
    - d. Anna Holder, Food Service Worker/JMHS, effective November 14, 2022.
    - e. Nicole Phillips, Secretary-JEA/JMHS, effective March 27, 2023.
    - f. Dawn Cicco, Special Education MD Teacher/Elms, effective April 24, 2023.
    - g. Rita Sweeney, Food Service Worker/Crawford-Rodriguez, effective April 3, 2023
    - h. Samantha Helle, Paraprofessional/Elms, effective April 17, 2023.
    - i. Melissa Contaldi, Receptionist-PM/Goetz, effective April 5, 2023.
  6. The Board of Education approved a leave of absence for the following personnel:
    - a. Diane Arnone, Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District, unpaid medical leave of absence, effective March 2, 2023 through March 17, 2023, returning March 20, 2023.
    - b. Karen Giorgianni, Van Aide-Transportation/District, revised unpaid Federal and NJ Family Leave of Absence, effective February 21, 2023 through March 24, 2023, returning March 27, 2023.
    - c. Kevin Rucker, Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District, unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 10, 2023 through TBD.
    - d. William Lloyd, Driver-Transportation/District, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective January 19, 2023 through February 2, 2023; unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 3, 2023 through February 27, 2023, returning February 28, 2023.
    - e. Heidi Pagano, Driver-Transportation/District, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 22, 2023 through TBD.
    - f. Joyce Rabbitt, Driver-Transportation/District, paid Medical Leave of Absence effective February 27, 2023 through TBD.
    - g. Timekoe Rosario, Driver-Transportation/District, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective November 14, 2022 through February 23, 2023, returning February 24, 2023.
    - h. Bria Graves, Board Certified Behavior Analyst/District, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective May 17, 2023 through June 1, 2023; unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective June 2, 2023 through June 30, 2023; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective September 1, 2023 through December 1, 2023, returning December 4, 2023.
    - i. Michael Piazza, Food Service Worker/McAuliffe, paid Medical Leave of Absence effective February 22, 2023 through March 3, 2023; unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective March 6, 2023 through TBD.
    - j. Jean Ciner, Guidance Counselor/JMHS, unpaid intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective February 9, 2023 through June 30, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.
    - k. Rebecca Mitchell, School Psychologist/Goetz, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective September 1, 2022 through October 13, 2022; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective October 14, 2022 through January 20, 2023; revised unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence, effective January 23, 2023 through June 30, 2023, returning September 1, 2023.
    - l. *omitted*
    - m. Anthony Dzienkiewicz, Physical Education Teacher/JLHS, revised unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective January 31, 2023 through February 16, 2023, returning February 21, 2023.
    - n. Kathleen Bunce, Math Teacher/JMHS, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective May 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, returning September 1, 2023.
    - o. Lauren Komanitsky, Literacy Teacher/Goetz, paid Leave of Absence, effective May 3, 2023 through May 8, 2023; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective May 9, 2023 through TBD.
    - p. Grace Smith, Preschool Inclusion Teacher/Rosenauer, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective May 15, 2023 through May 24, 2023; unpaid Federal and NJ Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective May 25, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
    - q. Debra Lauria, Food Service Worker/Switlik, paid Medical Leave of Absence, effective April 17, 2023 through June 30, 2023, returning September 1, 2023.

7. The Board of Education approved the following contract adjustments:
  - a. Christopher Daniels, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08), decrease hours from 7 hours per day to 6 hours 30 minutes per day (5 days per week), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in hourly rate.
  - b. Kathleen Keating, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08) increase hours from 6 hours 30 minutes per day to 7 hours per day (5 days per week), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in hourly rate.
  - c. Tara Molnar, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08), decrease hours from 7 hours per day to 6 hours 40 minutes per day (5 days per week), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in hourly rate.
  - d. Kristy Moore, Driver-Transportation/District (11-000-270-160-08), increase hours from 6 hours 30 minutes per day to 7 hours per day (5 days per week), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in hourly rate.

8. The Board of Education approved the following contract adjustments for longevity for the 2022-2023 school year, in accordance with the current negotiated contracts:

	First Name	Last Name	Title	Bargaining Group	Effective Date	Reason	Current Salary	Adjustment	Adjusted Salary (Prorated)
a.	Dawn	Pisano	Paraprofessional	JEA	4/1/2023	10 Years Longevity	\$37,626.00	\$1,000.00	\$38,626.00
b.	David	Tedeschi	Guidance Counselor	JEA	3/1/2023	17 Years Longevity	\$91,727.00	\$1,500.00	\$93,227.00

9. The Board of Education approved the transfer of the following personnel:
  - a. Piotr Kapuscinski, transfer from Custodian/JLHS to Custodian/JMHS (11-000-262-100-01-250202), Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, transfer position (and PC #240), effective March 2, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - b. Jennifer Collins, transfer from Food Service Worker/Johnson to Food Service Worker-Lead/Rosenauer (61-910-310-100-05), replacing Elizabeth McLean (resigned) (PC #287), effective March 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, salary \$17,647.63 (\$14,144.13 plus \$3,503.50 lead stipend) pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - c. Michelle Astalos, transfer from Lunchroom Aide/Elms to Lunchroom Aide/JMHS (11-000-262-107-01-250400), new position (new PC#), effective March 13, 2023 through June 30, 2023, salary \$8,914.50 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Lunchroom Aide guide.
  - d. Lisa Barbolini, transfer from Paraprofessional-Classroom/Crawford-Rodriguez to Paraprofessional-Classroom/Holman (11-213-100-106-09,) transfer position (and PC #265), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - e. Dana Gruiero, transfer from Paraprofessional-Personal/Elms to Preschool Paraprofessional /Elms (20-218-100-106-09/73% and 20-218-100-106-09-700000/27%), replacing Patricia Urdaz-Aquilino (transfer) (PC #1790), effective April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - f. *omitted*
  - g. Patricia Urdaz-Aquilino, transfer from Preschool Paraprofessional/Elms to Paraprofessional-Personal/Elms (11-000-217-106-09-210000), replacing Dana Gruiero (transfer) (PC #1809), effective April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - h. Carolyn Witmer, transfer from Secretary JEA-CST/Holman to Secretary JEA-CST/Holman (80%) and Rosenauer (20%) (11-000-219-105-09-210000), effective March 16, 2023 or sooner through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - i. Mike Piazza, transfer from Food Service Worker/JMHS to Food Service Worker/JLHS, replacing Lorraine Terrero (transfer) (PC #1608), effective March 16, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
  - j. Lucia Cwalinski, transfer from Paraprofessional-Classroom/Switlik to Paraprofessional-Classroom/Holman (11-216-100-106-09) replacing Alice Beauduy (retired) (PC #283), effective April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, adjust salary from \$38,476.00 to \$39,126.00 (\$37,976.00 plus \$650.00 hygiene stipend plus \$500.00 educational stipend).

10. The Board of Education rescinded the following transfers:
  - a. Camille Castiglia, transfer from Food Service Worker/Holman to Preschool Van Aide-Transportation/District (20-218-200-110-09), 5 hours 34 minutes per day, replacing Michael Makofsky (transferred) (PC #1896), effective March 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, hourly rate \$18.50 per hour, as per the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.

- b. Allison Walla, transfer from Paraprofessional-Personal/Elms to Paraprofessional-Classroom/Holman (11-216-100-106-09), effective April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, no change in salary.
11. The Board of Education approved the employment of the following personnel:
- a. Gregory Chadwick, Van Aide-Transportation/District (11-000-270-107-08-250311), replacing Kerry Anne Sine (transferred) (PC #205), effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, hourly rate \$18.50 per hour, as per the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - b. Valerie Forstenhausler, Van Aide-Transportation/District (11-000-270-107-08-250311), replacing Mary Maier (transferred) (PC #109), effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, hourly rate \$18.50 per hour, as per the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - c. Andrew Rasmussen, Part-Time Custodian/McAuliffe (11-000-262-100-07-250202), new position (new PC #), Monday through Thursday, 4:00 PM through 10:00 PM, effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$22,850.88 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - d. Darrel Naidu, Part-Time Custodian/Switlik (11-000-262-100-06-250202), new position (new PC #), Monday through Thursday, 4:00 PM through 10:00 PM, effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$22,850.88 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - e. Alexia Raess, Lunchroom Aide/JMHS (11-000-262-107-01-250400), replacing Maria Mantello (resigned) (PC #1547), effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$8,914.50 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Lunchroom Aide guide.
  - f. Jimmy Lam, Mechanic Helper/Transportation (11-000-270-160-08-250301), replacing Nicholas Schastny (resigned) (PC #1059), effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$42,744.00 pro-rated, as per Step 11 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - g. Michael Fabrizio, Part-Time Custodian/JMHS (11-000-262-100-2-250202), new position (new PC #), Monday through Thursday, 4:00 PM - 10:00 PM, effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$22,850.88 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
  - h. Benjamin Kafton, Part-Time Custodian/JMHS (11-000-262-100-01-250202), new position (new PC #), Tuesday through Friday 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM, effective March 16, 2023, pending fingerprints through June 30, 2023, salary \$22,850.88 pro-rated, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 Teamsters contract.
12. The Board of Education approved the following coaching adjustments for the 2022-2023 school year:
- a. Resignations:
    1. Julie Cairone, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach /JMHS, effective 2022-2023 school year.
  - b. Rescind Appointment:
    1. Jeffrey Bartone, Assistant Boys Tennis Coach/JMHS, replacing Emily Myhal (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,267.00, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
  - c. New Hires:
    1. Joseph Iorio, Assistant Baseball Coach/JMHS, replacing Quinn Taylor (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,405.00, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
    2. Brianna Sosdian, Head Girls Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, replacing Diana Stritzki (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$6,783, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
    3. Brittany Corti, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, replacing Julie Cairone (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,405, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
    4. Brittany Dilger, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach/JMHS, replacing Brittany Dilger (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,958.00, as per Step 6 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
    5. Erin Sandor, Assistant Softball Coach/JMHS, replacing John Donza (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,405, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract, pending fingerprints.
    6. Sara Leanza, Assistant Boys Tennis Coach/JMHS, replacing Emily Myhal (resigned), effective 2022-2023 school year, stipend \$4,267.00, as per Step 1 of the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
  - d. Contract Adjustments:
    1. Stephanie Healy, Head Cheerleading Coach/McAuliffe, contract adjustment from Step 1 \$4,258.00 to Step 6 \$4,960.00 to correct step, effective 2022-2023 school year, per the 2022-2023 JEA contract.
13. The Board of Education approved the following volunteer coaches for the 2022-2023 school year:
- a. Thomas Cahill, Volunteer Baseball Assistant Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.
  - b. Robert Huzzy, Volunteer Baseball Assistant Coach, JMHS, assisting Head Coach Patrick George.
  - c. Samuel Barocas, Volunteer Lacrosse Assistant Coach/JMHS, assisting Head Coach Pat Conti, pending fingerprints.

14. The Board of Education approved the following additional Athletic Chaperones and Athletic Event Staff for Goetz Middle Schools for the 2022-2023 school year, per the Athletic Event Staff schedule:
  - a. Joy Thacker
  - b. Dylan Rainieri
  - c. Janet Schwartz
  
15. The Board of Education approved the following additional High School Athletic Event Staff for the 2022-2023 school year, per the Athletic Event Staff schedule:
  - a. Liberty High School
    1. Kerry Crowley
    2. Nadine Abline
    3. Darlene Pellegrino
  
16. The Board of Education approved the following personnel for the Title III Immigrant High School Tutoring Program for the 2022-2023 school year, to be paid by Title III Immigrant Grant Funds (20-242-100-110-09), not to exceed \$3,858.75:  
Teachers, 1.25 hours per day, 1 day per week, 21 weeks, \$49.00 per hour each:
  - a. Kate Dembinski
  - b. Carmen Ramos
  - c. Julie Sica
  
17. The Board of Education approved the following new positions for the 2022-2023 school year:
  - a. Four (4) Part-Time Custodians/District
  
18. The Board of Education approved the following teaching staff to be a presenter on the topic of Preschool Literacy at our Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) Family Night event to be held on April 20, 2023 at Holman Elementary School, total cost not to exceed \$392.00:
  - a. April Davis, Preschool Inclusion Teacher (20-218-100-101-09), not to exceed 4 hours, \$49.00 per hour
  - b. Caitlin McGrath, Preschool Inclusion Teacher (20-218-100-101-09), not to exceed 4 hours, \$49.00 per hour
  
19. The Board of Education approved the following personnel for the Title IV STEM Robotics Program Family Night for Grades 6-12, four (4) hours each, \$49.00 per hour, to be paid for by Title IV Grant funds (20-280-200-110-09), in the amount of \$588.00 in total:
  - a. Shannon Bradley
  - b. Karen Catanese
  - c. Bridgit Valgenti
  
20. The Board of Education approved the termination of one (1) employee (I.D. #2223-18/109651) for Job Abandonment, name on file with the Superintendent.
  
21. The Board of Education approved the following personnel to provide CPR/AED Training for staff members who require such certification for the 2022-2023 school year, to be paid at their contracted hourly rate, not to exceed three (3) hours each (total 6 hours), to be paid from district funds:
  - a. Amanda De Matteo-3 hours (11-000-213-100-04-260305)
  - b. David Murawski- 3 hours (11-000-213-100-07-260305)

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mrs. Gardella (abstained from #11f)  
Mr. McCarron  
Mrs. Barocas (abstained from #3a and #7c)  
Dr. Osmond  
Mrs. Rivera  
Mrs. Kas  
Mr. Palmeri

**MOTIONS CARRIED**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

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

Public  
Forum

Mr. Palmeri 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 five minutes to speak. No person may speak more than once on a topic until all others have been heard. The Board attorney will give a one-minute warning."

Lisa Crate, President of the JEA, spoke about the fiscal cliff. She knows Rosenauer was discussed, and appreciated hearing from Mrs. Pormilli about that. On behalf of her members, this topic has come up on numerous occasions. She feels selling the school, just giving us a one-time lump sum, is not a desired solution. We don't know what future enrollment will be, and losing a building and housing for those students should be one of the last options. She encourages the Board of Education to review all other options and continue to work to ensure that school remains a part of the district.

With regard to grants, the JEA has worked very hard to bring in around \$68,000 in grants through the NJEA Pride and Public grants. They will continue to do that moving forward.

She also said the JEA is working to continue to partner with their members, the Board of Education and district families to bring light to the S2 cut situation to our district. Through all of this, losing 151 staff members has created a load on the existing staff that is almost unbearable. It is almost crippling, the amount of extra work that has to be done by the remaining staff. The JEA is looking to continue to bring light to this situation. They are doing a postcard campaign that families, staff and board members can participate in. Once the details are worked out, she will share the postcard information.

Amanda Mason, Music Teacher at Rosenauer, thanked the members of the Board of Education for supporting the arts. On February 9<sup>th</sup> she had the privilege of directing the fifth grade Road Runners in their production of Aladdin Kids at Liberty High School. For many of the students, that was the first time they had ever been on a stage. She was honored to accept her position for the school year, knowing that she would be responsible for upholding Rosenauer's rich history of theatrical productions. This tradition was easily upheld due to the character, work ethic and commitment of the students and staff at their tiny school with a whole lot of heart. She also acknowledged the JEA who provided t-shirts for the students. The theater experience that Rosenauer provides is invaluable as the first theater experience those students have. It gives our families the opportunity to witness that first small glimpse of the potential in their children. Theater can create a sense of community that runs deep and lasts for generations. The Roadrunners of today and tomorrow are so lucky to be a part of something that will live on in our hearts forever.

She also shared a tiny genie lamp her parents gave her in lieu of flowers after the performance. She proudly displays this on her desk in honor of the Rosenauer thespians she has had the privilege of teaching.

Andrea Frangella, Rosenauer student parent, expressed her thank you for taking everything into account. She has been in the school for the past eight years, and she pours her heart into everything they do in that building. She says they are small and they're mighty. She pleaded with the board to consider every option before they shut the doors to Rosenauer.

Rav Hickey, a resident, asked if the state aide total increased over 8% this year.

Mr. Palmeri answered it was several hundred million dollars.

Mr. Kickey talked about the budget and the S2 cuts. Having lived in other communities, and now Jackson, we should be very proud of the students we produce. He recently attended a dance at Switlik with his daughter and was so moved by the loving community, and asked the Board of Education to keep that up, and don't let the budget ruin us, we'll find a way.

Rosario Herreo, a resident, has been in Jackson over 50 years. She no longer has kids in the district, but has been in Brookwood 1 for a long time. All of her kids attended Rosenauer. It's very hard for her to see it go down. She thinks that when creative minds put their heads together, they can come up with a creative way to get around closing the school. You could ask for parent volunteers. She would be willing to come back and volunteer to help save the school. It's very important for that school to continue on. Please, she asks us not to close it down. Selling it gets you a set amount of money at one time, but what happens after? The citizens have to help out to compensate for the difference. She pleads the Board of Education to consider her suggestions.

Amy Howells, parent of a Rosenauer and McAuliffe student and also on the Rosenauer PTA, says she respects the Board of Education doing their due diligence. She implores them to keep that school open. Her husband also attended Rosenauer. She spoke about when she first attended the orientation for her children, and noted how small and old the school was. She spoke with others who assured her how amazing the school was. She found out for herself. The staff at the school is amazing, the experiences her children had there are amazing. They have enriched her kids – phenomenal experiences. She hates to see it gone.

Mrs. Pormilli commented that she also thinks it's a phenomenal school and a quaint school that has great positive energy.

Mr. Palmeri asked those in the audience who are Rosenauer parents, or previous Rosenauer parents to raise your hand. He also has children attending Rosenauer school. He knows how important it is, and he is vested, this whole Board is invested and they will fight hard to keep those doors open. We will continue to fight for it, but you've seen the numbers and it's going to be hard. Together, as a unified town, we will try our hardest and do the best we can to get a budget where we can keep those doors open.

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

### **Board Comments**

Mrs. Gardella sends her condolences to Sue McGinley's family. She was a wonderful woman who will be sorely missed. She spoke about the Elms custodian of the year award and wished Doreen Merritt good luck. She thanked Mrs. Valgenti and Mrs. Hay for the grant they got for McAuliffe re-purposing thrift clothes. She thanked her fellow Board members for saying yes to the Advocacy and Community Outreach Program. She also looks forward to seeing more community members at future Board of Education meetings.

Dr. Osmond said she went to Liberty to see their production of Legally Blonde. The kids did an amazing job! She grew up in Jackson, and these theater and music programs are amazing. She wished congratulations to all involved. Today's news was not great, but reminds us why it's so important to go out and vote. The Board of Education represents you and has an impact day to day. She told the public to talk to their friends and the people in this town, and encourage them to watch the YouTube video of this Board of Education meeting, so they understand and they are educated. If this question does make it to the ballot, people need to understand that we have to vote it through, because otherwise these things will be gone.

Mr. Palmeri explained that any decision the Board of Education makes is made with the best intentions of the students in mind. \$21 million dollars has been cut; 50% of our state aid in six years has been cut. The funding formula is broken because the Governor still considers us over funded. The only one that can change this is the Governor. He has \$10 billion in surplus. He can fund every S2 school with a very small percentage of that. We are asking the Governor to please fund your schools. You are affecting an entire generation of our youth. He also thanked Mrs. Pormilli for all her hard work.

Mrs. Pormilli thanked Mr. Palmeri for his acknowledgement. She said that we care deeply about our students. She replied that her team works just as hard as she does, and the administrative group at Central Office and her assistant all work really hard and we care about the kids and we feel the same way you all do.

Mrs. Kas expressed her congratulations to the sports teams, DECA, Mr. Withstandley, bowling, wrestling, girls basketball, etc. There are a lot of great staff accomplishments and she congratulated them all. She attended both high school plays and they were fantastic and the talent always blows her away. She also attended the Wizards basketball fundraiser for Switlik, and it was a lot of fun. She enjoyed the opportunity to read at Elms for Read Across America. On the budget, she's not sure that people realize the big picture. The narrative out in the public is that it's a 2% cut of our overall budget, but it's actually 3.2%. The bigger picture is it's 26.2% of our entire transportation budget. That's over a quarter. There are not many towns aside from Lakewood that have that cost on their budget line, and she thinks it's important to point that out. It's a big number and that number is growing, and our non-public students are more than half of our public students. There are 4600 non-public students and 7200 public students. There is definitely an imbalance there. She'd like to invite the Governor to come here and see what our district has to offer our students and what they stand to lose.

Mrs. Rivera thanked everyone for coming out and watching the live stream and for the input and comments. She also took part in the Read Across America at Elms. She thanked Mrs. Pormilli and staff for their dedication and hard work. She wished everyone a safe evening.

Official Board Meeting  
March 15, 2023  
Jackson Memorial High School Fine Arts Auditorium

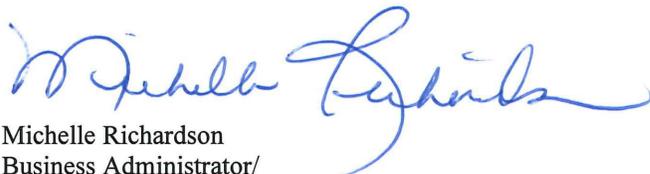
Mrs. Barocas went to Elms for Read Across America and it was a great experience, reading to the kids. She also saw SpongeBob and Legally blonde. The children are amazing, and the talent is a testament to our excellent programs at our schools. It's important to keep the arts and athletics in our schools. She thanked Mrs. Pormilli for going above and beyond to advocate for our schools.

Mr. McCarron made it to both high school productions, and both were amazing with a very talented group. Goetz has The Wizard of Oz coming up March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He thanked the Board of Education and Mrs. Pormilli for their hard work on the budget. We have a lot to take on and we will get through it.

There being no further discussion, on a motion by Mrs. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Kas, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:43 p.m.

Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Richardson  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary