

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Education Jenison Public Schools

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Jenison Public Schools was held on Monday, October 14, 2024, beginning at 6:30 pm in the Jenison Center for the Arts Boardroom.

Call to Order:

President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman, called the Jenison Public Schools Board of Education meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Members Present:

Amanda Peterman,
President

Eric Hartman, DC,
Vice President

Chris Reed, PhD,
Treasurer

Jen Postema,
Secretary

Jennifer Griffin, DPM
Trustee

Donna Mooney
Trustee

Members Absent:

William Waalkes,
Trustee

Others Present:

Brandon Graham, PhD,
Superintendent

Leslie Philipps,
Assistant Superintendent /
Title IX Coordinator

Christine Marcy,
Director of Finance and
Operations

Julie Roby,
Director of Special Education

Jon Mroz,
Sandy Hill Principal

Joel Korson, CPA,
Maner Costerisan

Stephen Baab,
Accounting Supervisor

Alana Kooi,
Co-Director of Teaching and
Learning

Katie Moy,
Executive Manager of
Superintendent, BOE, &
Communications

Check Presentation: Knights of Columbus

Mrs. Julie Roby, Director of Special Education, Katie Bremer (Sandy Hill CI teacher), Jamie Lemmen (Jr. High CI teacher), Anna Norton (Sandy Hill CI teacher), Patti Vredwood (Sandy Hill parapro), and Amanda VanMannen (Sandy Hill parapro) along with Jon Mroz and staff from Sandy Hill, expressed gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for their constant support to the Special Education Department. The Special Education Department has been using the funds provided by the Knights of Columbus to help provide resources and classroom supplies. The Knights of Columbus supports several local charities including Jenison Public Schools. Many of the funds they raise are through an annual Tootsie Roll Drive held in the springtime (usually around Easter). A check was presented to Mrs. Roby on behalf of the Board of Education for the Special Education Department. The Knights of Columbus appreciated the thank you letters and pictures from the students, and would love to continue getting them.

Recognitions:

Sandy Hill: Mr. Jon Mroz, Sandy Hill Principal, introduced and shared about some individuals impacting Sandy Hill Elementary and appreciated each one for their dedication to the Sandy Hill community. He introduced the individuals being recognized and shared about each.

Students:

Mr. Mroz shared that Sandy Hill wanted to do a better job at recognizing students. They started the Sandy Hill Stars where it recognizes students from all grade levels that go above and beyond day in and day out while expressing the Wildcat Way traits. This year they have decided to recognize students from each grade level and had a teacher share a little more about each individual. L. Humphrey was recognized by Mrs. Bremer and Mrs. VandeBerg; V. Perrot was recognized by Mrs. Baine; K. Spaans was recognized by Ms. Hasseler; L. Slater was recognized by Ms. Vanderheide; K. Keys was recognized by Ms. Koning; B. Bosch was recognized by Mr. Koldan; W. Loew was recognized by Ms. Thomas; and, A. Young was recognized by Mrs. Morse and Ms. Menichini

Staff:

Mr. Mroz stated that the leadership team at Sandy Hill chose the individuals with the highest support from their peers. They are appreciated for what they do for the students and staff on a daily basis. These individuals are making an impact on the students, staff, and community at Sandy Hill. He recognized Ms. Amanda VanMaanen (Lower El. CI Parapro), Amanda Johnson (Behavioral Parapro) and Ms. Samantha Cagel (Parent Club President).

Recess:

Mrs. Peterman called a meeting recess at 6:45 pm to congratulate the individuals being recognized.

Reconvene:

The meeting reconvened at 6:50 pm.

Public Comment:

Mary Martin (7376 PineGrove Dr, Jenison) - She shared concerns about the Title IX vote and boys going into girls bathrooms. She also stated that parents have rights, and asked for the school board to stand up for student and parental rights.

Harvey Nikkel (7513 23rd Ave, Jenison) - He shared with the Board the Michigan Revised School of 1995 Code 380.10, also known as Act 451. It covers the rights of parents and legal guardians, and the responsibilities of public schools. He stated that public schools serve the needs of students and parents should be involved and work together with the district.

Janee Snider (address not given, Jenison) - She shared concerns about boys being allowed in the girl's bathrooms. She shared an incident that happened to her daughter. She also shared that her daughter has experienced bullying and has been threatened and that the group in question is not being held accountable. She asked the District and Board of Education to address the incident and bullying.

Laurie Burks (1042 Brentwood St, Jenison) - She shared a concern regarding the incident that happened to Janee Snider's son a few years ago. She thought that the incident was cleared but Mrs. Burk's son mentioned recently that students still believe her son was at fault. She asked the district to clarify with the community and schools to make this right for Janee's son.

Mrs. Peterman thanked the public for their time and comments provided to the Board of Education.

Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Hartman motioned to approve the agenda as prepared. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. The Board of Education voted to approve the agenda as presented with a vote of 6-0.

Action Items:

1. Consent Agenda:

Dr. Reed motioned to accept and approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the September 23, 2024, Board of Education Workshop and the September Financial Report. Mrs. Mooney seconded the motion. The Board of Education voted to approve the consent agenda as presented with a vote of 6-0.

2. Approval of Summer Tax Resolution:

Mrs. Postema motioned to approve the Summer Tax Resolution as presented to the Board of Education. Dr. Hartman seconded the motion. Ms. Marcy stated that this is an annual resolution with Georgetown Township to collect the summer tax levy under Section 1613 of the School Code of 1976 (MCLA 380.1613 as amended). Jenison Public School and Georgetown Township negotiated and reached an agreement on behalf of the district and the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District (OAISD) for the collection of the 2024 summer tax levies. They have agreed with an aggregate price of \$3.35 per parcel to be billed and paid by the District and 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District within Georgetown Township, and continuing from year to year until revoked by the Board of Education. A roll call vote was taken:

YEAS: Griffin, Hartman, Mooney, Peterman, Postema, and Reed

NAYS: none

Abstentions: none

The Board of Education has voted to approve the Summer Tax Resolution as presented by a roll call vote of 6-0

3. Approval of Virtual Learning on High School Testing Days:

Dr. Reed motioned to discuss approval of the virtual learning on high school testing days as presented to the Board of Education. Mrs. Postema seconded the motion. The Board of Education received documentation regarding the student testing days under section 21f(14). Mrs. Philipps reviewed with the Board of Education the rules from the State for testing days that allow for flexibility of in-person attendance to offset student testing days, emergency closures, and staff professional development. The District may offer up to 15 days of online learning. It is required that the district records the students' attendance; parents are to be aware of the schedule, learning plans, and expectations; and, the Board of Education needs to approve the virtual testing days. For testing, the assigned JHS students will complete asynchronous learning via Google Classroom and submit an assignment for proof of participation in place of in-person attendance for each of their classes on testing days when their grade level is not testing. JPS plans to use this option only for student test days but wants an additional 5 days in case the District exceeds the Act of God days. Seniors will have two virtual days and freshmen and sophomores will have one. This plan makes it easier to staff testing, provide an optimal testing environment, supervise students who are not testing, and streamline testing days. The days for overage of the Act of God would only be used in an overage situation and the District would work with JEA to ensure online learning was provided per statute. If overage days are needed, students will complete asynchronous learning and submit an assignment for proof of participation in place of in-person attendance for each day of their classes for necessary make-up days. Again, impacted parents and students will be notified of the dates and provided information about the type of learning and participation expectations.

The PROPOSED PROGRAMMING/ONLINE LEARNING for Spring 2025 Testing are as follows:

Thursday, March 27, 2025

- Seniors - Regular School Day
- Juniors - WorkKeys
- Sophomores - Regular School Day
- Freshman - Regular School Day

Thursday, April 17, 2025

- Seniors - Virtual Learning (VL) Day
- Juniors - SAT w/ Essay
- Sophomores - PSAT 10
- Freshmen - VL Day

- Sophomores - VL Day
- Freshmen - PSAT 8/9 for Grade 9*
- 8th Grade - PSAT 8/9 for Grade 8*

Thursday, April 24, 2025:

- Seniors - Regular School Day
- Juniors - WorkKeys Makeup - select students only
- Sophomores - Regular School Day
- Freshmen - Regular School Day

Tuesday, April 22, 2025- Early Release @ 1:00 PM

- Seniors - VL Day
- Juniors - M-Step Science & Social Studies*

The Board of Education voted to approve the Virtual Learning on High School Testing Days as presented with a vote of 6-0.

4. Superintendent Evaluation Due Process Rights - Contract Addendum 7/1/2024:

Dr. Reed motioned to approve the Superintendent Evaluation Due Process Rights (Contract Addendum 7/1/2024) as presented to the Board of Education. Mrs. Mooney seconded the motion. Mrs. Philipps reminded the Board of Education about the new evaluation process for Superintendent Evaluations. Beginning July 1, 2024, the effectiveness ratings have changed to needing support, developing, and effective. If the Superintendent is rated “needing support,” they may request a review of the evaluation and the rating to the Board of Education. Such a request must be made in writing within 15 calendar days after the Superintendent is informed of the rating. A verbal response to the review with any modifications of the year-end performance rating shall be provided to the Superintendent at the next Board of Education meeting (the Superintendent may request this be in closed session). A final written response shall be provided within 15 days of the Board of Education meeting where the review was discussed. The Board of Education voted to approve the Superintendent Evaluation Due Process Rights - Contract Addendum 7/1/2024 as presented with a vote of 6-0.

5. SEAB Committee Recommendation:

Dr. Griffin motioned to discuss the SEAB Committee recommendations as presented to the Board of Education. Dr. Reed seconded the motion. The application window for the SEAB Committee has closed. A committee from the Central Office reviewed the applications and evaluated them based on an approved rubric. The committee members will serve terms for up to three years (some may choose to serve 2 years to create a cycle of members), starting this year. Ms. Maddie Lambert is the co-chair of the committee and the other co-chair will be a parent from the list of recommendations. The committee will also have two students, one Senior and one Sophomore. Currently, the District is in the process of identifying qualified students. The students' names will be kept confidential. The list of individuals recommended include:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| ● Maddie Lambert, co-chair, staff | ● Laurie Burks, parent |
| ● Greg VanderMeer, clergy | ● Megan Carson, parent |
| ● Alana Kooi/Kristy Rogalla, staff | ● Jennifer Gray, parent |
| ● Casey Withers, staff | ● Geralyn Lerg, parent |
| ● Luke Verbeek, staff | ● Sheri VanManen, parent |
| ● Katie Koole-McCurdy, staff and parent | ● Staci Perkins, parent |

The Board of Education voted to approve the SEAB Committee recommendations including the list of individuals for the SEAB Committee as presented with a vote of 6-0.

6. Approval of Maintenance Storage Building Project:

Mrs. Postema motioned to discuss the Maintenance storage building project as presented to the Board of Education. Dr. Reed seconded the motion. Ms. Marcy stated that the first construction project of the 2024 bond proposal will be the maintenance storage building on the main campus. It will be located West of the baseball fields and South of the fieldhouse where the overflow parking lot is located. This will store any equipment needed to maintain the main campus. Bids are being accepted this week and the estimated project total is not to exceed \$700,000. The Board of Education voted to approve the Maintenance storage building project as presented with a vote of 6-0.

7. **Approval of Pool Equipment Purchase:**

Dr. Hartman motioned to discuss the approval of pool equipment purchase as presented to the Board of Education. Mrs. Mooney seconded the motion. As discussed at earlier meetings, there are significant improvements needed for the pool. Ms. Marcy is working with the Maintenance Department and Mrs. Jen Coffey, the Pool Supervisor regarding the renovations and timeline to complete projects. The pool's equipment is old and outdated. The new equipment will provide better filtration and be energy efficient. The entire project is estimated to cost over \$4 million dollars. The equipment needed is to not exceed \$2.2 million. Ms. Marcy would like to order the equipment now to get the equipment in time to start the work in the summer. The Board of Education voted to approve the pool renovations as presented with a vote of 6-0.

Discussion Items:

1. **Audit Review:**

The Board of Education was given documentation of the audit wrap-up from Maner Costerisan, Audit Firm. Mr. Joel Korson, the Maner Costerisan representative, reviewed with the Board of Education the 2023-2024 School Year Audit. Mr. Stephen Baab, Accounting Supervisor, helps significantly in preparing to make the audit as smooth and successful as possible; he puts a lot of work into making sure the process is seamless and takes complete ownership in a lot of the preparation of the audit. He has been with JPS for over 20 years, and is an asset to JPS. Maner is required to communicate with the Board of Education its professional judgment and findings from the audit of the district's financial statements due to the board's responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. Mr. Korson shared that there were no findings from the June 30, 2023 audit and the JPS school district received the best opinion auditors can give. The audit is an unmodified opinion on financial statements and compliance requirements; there were no surprises and is a clean audit. The Food Service Fund has excess funding and the Food Service Department will continue figuring out a plan on how to spend it.

2. **MASB:**

The Board of Education discussed the upcoming 2024 MASB Delegate Assembly. It will begin Thursday, October 24 at 7 p.m. at the Lansing Center in Lansing. Delegates selected by boards of education across the state will decide MASB's positions on various education issues. Dr. Griffin will be attending the meeting as the school voting representative and asked if there are any concerns regarding the MASB vote on the amended resolutions shared with the board. The amendments seem to be straightforward.

3. **Superintendent Update:**

Dr. Graham provided a brief update on a few things happening in the district.

- Homecoming: It was a fun week and a huge success. From the spirit week activities, parade down 20th Ave (Dr. Graham walked in), football victory over Caledonia, the Jr. Class winning the float building a third year in a row, and ending with a nice dance on Saturday night. The dance had more activities than dancing that 1,200 students took advantage of.
- Strengthen Student Learning: This year the goal is to have over 100 staff members participate in PLC, and attend Adlai E. Stevenson PLCs. Improving student learning through Professional Learning Communities and partnering with Adlai E. Stevenson, a school in the Chicago area, to help with professional learning communities and finding measurable ways for essential learning.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: Conferences started this week. It's an opportunity for parents to sit down with staff to see where each student is academically for the first few months in school. Conferences are more successful at the elementary level; need to encourage more parents to participate in them for high school students. PTCs build better parent-teacher relations.
- PBIS (**Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports**) work: The beginning of the school year is over and the buildings are working on building routines.
- Marching Band: The Marching Band is having another successful year and is ranked #1 in its division.

- Family/Parent Involvement: School buildings are gearing up with more ways of parent involvement at the schools. Already this Fall, Pinewood had Donuts with Grownups, Rosewood had Watch Dog Dads, Bauerwood had its Minds and Movement event, and El Puente had its Color Run. It's exciting for community involvement.
- JCA Fall Concert Season: Concerts start this week. It will be busy at the JCA for the next few weeks.
- Board Tours: Board members will be touring various buildings throughout the next few weeks. Dr. Hartman and Mrs. Postema toured the Jr. High with Mr. Cataldo and Dr. Graham and saw the various activities and updates at the Jr. High.
- Communication with Discipline: Communication about student discipline is confidential and can only share what the law allows. Dr. Graham will share the communication with the Board of Education on what was shared regarding the student earlier in the meeting.

Dr. Reed mentioned that the OASBA will be having more meetings throughout the year. The next general meeting will be held on December 11 at 6:00pm at the new Special Education building. The OASBA also suggested having handbooks for new school board members and if each district had any and would like to share what they use. Lastly, the OAISD has added more availability for students (almost 500 more openings) since they moved the healthcare programming to another building. There has always been a waiting list for the ISD and would like to shrink that number of those waiting.

Move Into Closed Session:

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman, paused the Board of Education meeting to confer with the board to go into a closed session.

Purpose Closed Session: Negotiations

Mrs. Postema motioned to go into a closed session for Negotiations. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. President Peterman called a closed session for the Board of Education at 8:03 pm.

A roll call vote was taken:

YEAS: Griffin, Hartman, Mooney, Peterman, Postema, and Reed

NAYS: none

Abstentions: none

The Board of Education has voted to end the regular session and to go into closed session for the Board and Administration to meet in a closed session to discuss Negotiations by a roll call vote of 6-0 at 8:03 pm.

The public was dismissed.

Recess:

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman called a recess of the meeting at 8:03 pm to allow for a quick break.

Reconvene:

The meeting reconvened at 8:12 pm

Closed Session: Negotiations

During the Closed Session, The Board and Administration met in a closed session to discuss Negotiations.

Motion to come out of Closed Session and Return to Open Session:

Dr. Reed motioned to go out of the closed session. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was not necessary to end the closed session. The closed session ended with a vote of 6-0 at 8:41 pm.

President Peterman declared the Board of Education Closed Session to be ended and the meeting reconvened in open session at 8:41 pm.

Open Session:

There was no further action or discussion needed.

Adjournment:

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman, adjourned the Jenison Public Schools Board of Education meeting at 8:41 pm with acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Postema, Secretary
Jenison Public Schools Board of Education

Future Meetings:

Month:	Regular Meeting (held at 6:30 pm):	Workshop (held at 6:00 pm)
October 2024	Mon, Oct 14	Mon, Oct 28
November 2024	Mon, Nov 11	Mon, Nov 25
December 2024	Mon, Dec 9	
January 2025	Mon, Jan 13	Mon, Jan 27
February 2025	Mon, Feb 17	
March 2025	Mon, Mar 10	Mon, Mar 24
April 2025	Mon, Apr 21	
May 2025	Mon, May 12	
June 2025	Mon, Jun 9	
July 2025	Mon, Jul 14	