

# Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Joliet Township High School District 204

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A Board of Education Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Township High School District 204 was held Tuesday, October 21, 2025, beginning at 7:00 PM at the Joliet West High School, 401 N. Larkin Ave., Joliet, Illinois.

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call - 5:00 PM**

### **II. Closed Session**

*Closed Session is to discuss and consider items such as student discipline, collective negotiating matters, acquisition of land, pending legal matters, and/or personnel for the appointment, employment, pay, discipline, performance, or dismissal as designated by school board policy 2:200.*

President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. in the Board Room at the Conference Room, 401 N. Larkin Ave., Joliet, Illinois. Members Present Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Matt Kennedy, Mrs. Michelle Stiff, Mrs. Christine Lynn, Mrs. Lorraine Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Angela Huntington, and Mr. Dan Coffey.

Mrs. Lynn moved that the board go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel, negotiations, property, student discipline, and litigation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Nuemayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Stiff, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

### **III. Call to Order and Roll Call - Regular Meeting - 7:00 PM**

President Kennedy reconvened the meeting into Regular Session at 7:08 p.m. in the Board room at the Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois and asked for roll call. Members Present: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

President Kennedy welcomed all guest in person and watching livestream and thanked the JROTC.

### **IV. Public Comment on Any Agenda Item**

*Members of the public may make comments to the Board of Education on any item listed on the agenda. The time allotted to comment is limited to five minutes, unless the Board President decides to shorten public comment to conserve time and give the maximum number of individuals opportunity to speak as designated by school board policy 2:230.*

No Public Comment.

## **V. Consent Agenda**

*The Consent Agenda is used for those items that usually do not require discussion or explanation before Board of Education action. It may also include items for which the law requires board action but which the board rightfully delegates to the staff.*

- A. Minutes of September 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Minutes of September 9, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- C. Payroll, Organizations & Activity, and Cafeteria Report - *Policy 4:60*
- D. Freedom of Information Request(s) - *Policy 2:250*
- E. Check Register - *Policy 4:60*

A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Hopewell Schools from the Check Register. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to make a correction to the September 16, 2025 minutes. Comments. Motion is removed.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the remaining Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll Call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, and Mr. Coffey. Nays: None. Abstain: Dr. Huntington.

## **VI. Recognition and Awards**

## A. Central Campus

### AP Scholar

Horacio Almazán  
Felix Arcand  
Abril Barrientos  
Omár Beltrán  
Alexander Calderón  
Madelyn Curry  
Amber Davis  
Emily Duering  
Joaquín Espinoza  
James Fiegel  
Jhoana Figueroa  
Karlee Fruasto  
Fabián García  
Malcolm Greene  
Aiden Hadley  
Shunashi Márquez  
Liliana Mena  
Shyann Mendoza  
Delany Morán  
Erika Saénz  
Marjorie Santos  
Tayla Stallings  
Chloe Van Ness  
Uriel Vázquez  
Eric Zamudio

### AP Scholar with Honor

Amaya Crowder  
Noemí Herrera-Rodríguez  
Ozziel Lara  
Rauri O'Hara  
Abigail Schreiner  
Leo Smith  
Evelyn Ventura  
Ella Woolcock

### AP Scholar with Distinction

Erick-Isai Jolomna  
Dimitris Kourtidis

## B. West Campus

### **AP Scholar**

Dishi Agarwal  
Mia Agnich  
Jonathan Baranak  
Sidney Barlog  
Mackenzie Barton  
Leslie Combs  
Aliya Delgado  
Jessica Deltoro  
Oliver Emefiele  
John Ferak  
Addison Fowler-Favale  
Mikyla Gallego  
Jonathan Hood

Elizabeth Huerta  
Olivia Keene  
Ava Kennedy  
Jennifer Lara  
Ava Laurendi  
Cassidy Malloy  
Henry Mastin  
Renzo Mayfield  
Erin Mosier  
Janae Muhammad  
Derek Ngo  
Elijah Paz  
Connie Pham

Alaina Potocki  
Esha Rathod  
Dylan Ringofer  
Gavin Rodriguez  
Sofia Saravia  
Natalie Schuster  
Sania Taylor  
Abel Torres  
Sara Viamonte  
Penelope Wagner  
Calloway Walsh  
Raejon Williams

### **AP Scholar with Honor**

Christopher Backus  
Connor Bergin  
Christina Chau  
Vaughn Craven  
Taylor Greenwood  
Gianna Jaramillo  
Cara Konieczny  
Elizabeth Lange  
Julian Lopez  
Madeline McCarroll  
Audra Medved

Evan Newman  
Xierra Rapata  
AaNaye Robinson  
Keven Robles  
Nevaeh Seiber  
Joy Seyl  
Ariel Smith  
Ellis Steven Tabe  
Dylan Trainor  
Zoe Walsh  
Henry Young

Selena Zepeda

### **AP Scholar with Distinction**

Daniel Bautista  
Charlotte Dean  
Emily Diaz  
James Gibson

Lina Govoni  
Ava Offermann  
Payton Palesh  
Caleb Price

Yahaira Ramirez  
Emma Roberts  
Marco Rodriguez  
Noah Tarver

### **National Commended Scholar**

Emma Roberts  
Marco Rodriguez  
Dylan Trainor

### **National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist**

Caleb Price

## VII. Superintendent Reports

### A. Correspondence

No Correspondence.

### B. Legislative Report

No Legislative Report.

- C. 5 Essentials Presentation - *Mrs. Tecara Parker, Joliet West, Principal and Mr. Shad Hallihan, Joliet Central Principal*  
Mrs. Parker and Mr. Hallihan gave an overview of the 5 Essentials Survey results. Both gave examples of areas to celebrate and areas of improvement with goals. Mrs. McDonald shared a summary of the Hanover Climate and Culture Survey.
- D. Advanced Placement (AP), Accelerated Placement, Honors, and Early College Credit Presentation — *Assistant Principals, Dr. Jeff Riley and Dr. Sean Hackney, Curriculum Directors, Mr. Paul Oswald, Mrs. Nicole McMorris, Mrs. Susi Montano, Mr. Pat O'Neil, and Mr. Chris McGuffey*  
The curriculum team provided an overview of the Advance Placement at Joliet Township High School.

### VIII. Action Items

- A. Agreement Between Joliet Township High School and Sunbelt Staffing, LLC  
A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the Agreement with Sunbelt Staffing, LLC as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None.
- B. Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Various Will County Board of Review Appeals  
A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Various Will County Board of Review Appeals as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Nuemayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey. Nays: Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.
- C. Breakfast After the Bell Mandate  
A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve the Breakfast After the Bell Mandate Opt-Out. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, and Dr. Huntington.
- D. Disposal of Equipment  
A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the Disposal of Equipment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.
- E. Donation(s)  
A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the Donations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Comments. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mrs. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Lynn. Nays: None.
- F. JTHS Stipend Update  
A motion was made by Mrs. Lynn to approve the JTHS Stipend Updates. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Comments. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn,

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Nays: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mr. Fitzpatrick.

G. Personnel Reports - *Policy 5:30; 5:180; 5:185; 5:210*

1. Professional Resignation Request(s)

- a. Abel Farias, Head Robotics, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025
- b. Sergio Miranda, Head Girls Track, Central Campus, effective September 17, 2025
- c. Steven Zeko, Assistant Girls Soccer, Central Campus, effective September 5, 2025

2. Professional Leave of Absence Request(s)

- a. Michael Kurkamp-O'Shea, Teacher, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective October 16, 2025 through October 24, 2025 Medical-Family
- b. John Ciolkosz, Teacher, Freshman Academy, West Campus, is requesting an intermittent leave of absence effective October 1, 2025 through October 10, 2025 Medical-Family
- c. Nicholas Davis, Teacher, BMIS, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective November 24, 2025 through December 10, 2025 Medical-Paternity
- d. Steven Zeko, Teacher, Freshman Academy, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective January 15, 2026 through February 26, 2026 Medical-Paternity

3. Professional Extra Pay Recommendation(s)

Central Campus- Athletics

- a. Gabriel Lozano, Volunteer Boys Soccer
- b. Elonza Hilliard, Volunteer Baseball
- c. Kamron Majerus, Head Girls Track
- d. Larry Pennuto, Head Boys Wrestling
- e. Joe Hoyt, Group Interpretation

West Campus- Athletics

- a. Charles Rumpf, Assistant Badminton
- b. Ty Batusich, Volunteer Baseball

Campus Level, Fine Arts & School Related

Central Campus

- a. Kelsey Duranty, Rho Kappa
- b. Gia Gomez, Mock Trial
- c. Julia Tolbert, Mock Trial
- d. Karina Maldonado, Spanish Honor Society
- e. Rocio Flores, Spanish Honor Society
- f. Mathilde Gleizes, French Honor Society
- g. Kyla Fris, American Sign Language Honor Society
- h. Lauren Kline. Science National Honor Society
- i. Elizabeth McNally, Mu Alpha Theta

- j. Laura Boyle, Science National Honor Society
- k. Kenji Balderas-Sato, CTSO- IT
- l. Jarod Battisto, CTSO- IT

West Campus

- a. Lisa Fike, Rho Kappa
- b. Annie Monninger, Rho Kappa
- c. Lisa Fike, Mock Trial
- d. Julia Baker, Mock Trial
- e. Jackie Gruneich, Spanish Honor Society
- f. Andrea Olszta, French Honor Society
- g. Alissa Claassen, American Sign Language Honor Society

4. Professional Salary Advancement Request(s)

- a. Ulises Ornelas, Central Campus, from D8 to E8
- b. Danielle Litko, West Campus, from D10 to E10
- c. Chelsea Miller, Pathways, from C8 to D8
- d. Chad Mirus, West Campus, from E14 to G14
- e. Jennifer Baxter, West Campus, from D15 to E15
- f. Anne Zmuda, Central Campus, from C19 to D19

5. Professional Additional Assignment Request(s)

- Homebound Tutor, Jacob Niemann, Pathways, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Matt Hurst, Pathways, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Sheri Kennay, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Robert Lewis, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Ann Bernard, Pathways, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Jenna Carrasquillo, AVAC/Transition, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Joe Carrasquillo, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Amary Maberry, West/Central, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Christine Austin, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Meghan Culp, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Jennifer Galloy, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor-short term only, Phan Mathis, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Matthew Hall, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.

- Homebound Tutor, Terra Meyer, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Juan Torrez, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Andrew Smother, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Sharrlyn Martin, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor-short term only, LaMellis McMormick, District, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor-short term only, Julie Strong, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Susana Vera, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Melissa Stapleton, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Elisabeth Gillespie, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Ashley Brettman, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Mike O'Shea, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Jasmine Rosenboom, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Lindsey Furczyk, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Kerry Wells, AVAC/Transition, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Lydia Nino, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Doug Fowler, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Sommer Stice, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor-short term only, Jennifer Fowler, West Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor-short term only, Marci Flores, Pathways, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Neil Hodge, Pathways, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Karla Gomez-James, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.
- Homebound Tutor, Karina Maldonado, Central Campus, effective September 18, 2025.



- Virtual Tutoring Program/Science Teacher, Arrielle Dacer, Central Campus, September 22, 2025.
6. Classified Resignation Request(s)
    - a. Eric Nunez, Systems and Data Administrator, Technology, District, effective October 21, 2025
    - b. Kyle O'Keefe, Maintenance Mechanic, Building and Grounds, West Campus, effective October 3, 2025
    - c. Michael Urbanavicius Cardozo, Security, Central Campus, effective September 26, 2025
    - d. Adriana Lopez, Instructional Paraprofessional, Special Services, Central Campus, effective October 6, 2025
    - e. Margarita Pizarro, Service Worker, Cafeteria, Central Campus effective October 13, 2025
  7. Classified Leave of Absence Request(s)
    - a. Nicholas Larkin, Security, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective September 22, 2025 through October 10, 2025.  
Medical- Paternity
    - b. Marianna Williams, Bus Aide, Transportation, is requesting a leave of absence effective September 8, 2025 through November 28, 2025  
Medical-Personal
    - c. Deborah Salinas, Custodian, Building and Grounds, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective August 17, 2025 through December 10, 2025 Medical-Personal
    - d. Susan Guerrero, Administrative Assistant, Business Office, Admin Center, is requesting a leave of absence effective October 10, 2025 through December 5, 2025 Medical-Personal
    - e. Bianca Lee, Paraprofessional, Special Education, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective September 30, 2025 through October 29, 2025 Medical-Family
    - f. Andrea Peete, Paraprofessional, Pathways, is requesting an intermittent leave of absence effective October 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026  
Medical-Family
    - g. Marcus Cambic, Paraprofessional, Security, Pathways, is requesting a leave of absence effective October 8, 2025 through October 31, 2025  
Medical-Family
    - h. Sonia Coffee, Office Staff, District Textbook Center, Central Campus, is requesting an intermittent leave of absence effective October 16, 2025 through October April 16, 2026 Medical-Family
  8. Classified Employment Recommendation(s)

- a. Stephanie Rivera, Full Time Assistant Cook, Cafeteria, Central Campus, Step 1 \$16.24 per hour effective October 22, 2025
- b. Steve Radovanovic, 2nd Shift Custodian, Building and Grounds, West Campus, Step 1 \$18.45 per hour effective October 22, 2025
- c. Yanira Luna, Office Staff I, Human Resources, District, Step 9 \$20.49 per hour effective October 22, 2025
- d. Yolanda McElrath, Bus driver, Transportation, District, Step 6 \$23.63 per hour effective October 22, 2025
- e. Alisa Iacsin, Bus Driver, Transportation, District Step 1 \$21.72 per hour effective October 22, 2025

9. Classified Change of Status Recommendation(s)

- a. Ana Moreno, Taskforce Clerical, Central Campus to Office Staff II, PPS, Central Campus, Step 12 \$20.83 per hour effective October 22, 2025

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynn to approve the Personnel Reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Nays: None.

H. Student Discipline Recommendation(s) – *Policy 7:190*

Mr. Coffey began by saying, “after receiving and deliberating the information contained in the hearing officer’s report, the Board of Education is charged with deciding:

- 1. Whether removing the child from his or her learning environment is in the best interest of the school;
- 2. What the rationale is for the specific duration of the recommended expulsion;
- 3. Whether all appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions were exhausted; and
- 4. Whether the continued presence in school would either; (a) pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or (b) substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school.

The Board of Education must then convene into public session to formally vote on the motion to expel, if the expulsion is the consensus arrived at during executive session.”

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student W252601 be expelled from all District 204 programs until June 2026. The Board of Education

then stayed the expulsion so Student W252601 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student W252601 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in June 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Roll call vote: Ayes: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student C252602 be expelled from all District 204 programs until June 2027. The Board of Education then stayed the expulsion so Student C252602 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student C252602 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in June 2027. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey. Nays: None.

#### **IX. Unfinished Business**

No Unfinished Business.

#### **X. New Business**

No New Business.

#### **XI. Board Reports**

Mrs. Stiff shared her appreciation and applauded all the hard work of the entire staff at Joliet Township High School. She also shared after 6 years of being on the Board of Education, she has seen the growth of our district due to the work of our entire staff.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer shared that she attended the ELL awards.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer shared that Take Back the Night will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer shared she attended the LEDA event, which is led by numerous JTHS alumni.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer thanked Mr. Hallihan and Mrs. Lopez for their efforts in reminding students at Joliet Central that they matter and that we care about them. Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer also thanked clerical, para pros, security, and teachers for their work in making our students feel safe.

Mrs. Stiff shared that Dr. Guseman was recognized as the 2025 Athena Award Winner by the Joliet Chamber.

Mr. Kennedy shared that he attended Joliet Central and Joliet West homecoming parades.

Mr. Kennedy shared that he attended Community Connections at Joliet Central. Mr. Kennedy thanked everyone who was involved.

Mrs. Lynn shared that she attended a football game and the Joliet West homecoming parade.

Mr. Fitzpatrick shared his concern with staff retention. He feels that there are staff leaving to work in other districts.

Dr. Guseman shared that our school report card shows as a district our retention is 93% and for support staff is 86%.

Mr. Fitzpatrick shared that the district should pay staff with the 18-million-dollar surplus the district currently has.

Mrs. Lynn thanked all the administrators. She shared that our retention is a reflection of our administrators.

## **XII. Announcements/Public Comment**

Yolanda Alexander, bus driver for Joliet Township High School shared her concerns with potentially outsourcing bus services.

Sarah McLaurien, President of the Paraprofessional Union, discussed her concerns with wages for the paraprofessionals and the importance of all paraprofessional positions at Joliet Township High School.

Tim Schreiber, security and Joliet West High School, discussed his concerns with the wages and importance of paraprofessionals.

Sabrina White shared her concerns with wages for paraprofessionals and the importance of all paraprofessionals.

Megan Heckler, teacher at Joliet Central, shared her appreciation for paraprofessionals and shared her support for higher wages for the paraprofessionals.

Melissa Rainford, parent of student in the AVAC program, shared her appreciation for the paraprofessionals that have supported her son and also shared her support for higher wages for the paraprofessional.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Stiff and seconded by Mrs. Lynn, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Mr. Matthew Kennedy  
President

Mrs. Michelle Stiff,  
Secretary