



**RICH HISTORY, BRIGHT FUTURE**  
**Jacksonville School District #117**  
**Board of Education Regular**  
**Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

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The Board of Education of Jacksonville School District #117 met in Regular Session on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM at the Board Room, 211 West State Street, Jacksonville, IL 62650. Members present at roll call were Mr. Beard, Mrs. Leonard, Mr. Lonergan, Mr. Pool, Mrs. Stewart, and Mrs. Wilson. Also, in attendance were Superintendent, Steve Ptacek, Assistant Superintendent, Matt Moore, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Kelly Zoellner, Director of Human Resources, Tami Stice, Special Services Director, Barbie Davidsmeyer, Chief Financial Officer, Rick Cunningham, and Recording Secretary, Jenn Lacey. Board Member Mrs. Trace and Superintendent Steve Ptacek were absent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**-Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to approve the Agenda as presented. Yea: Wilson, Lonergan, Leonard, Pool, Stewart, Beard. Nay: None.

**RECOGNITION**

- **JMS State Qualifiers**-Assistant Principal/AD, Janean Mays introduced Cross Country Coach, Phil Johnson, and Golf Coach, Derek James who introduced their athletes who qualified for State this year and their amazing achievements. Many achieving records for their school.
  - Owyn Haverfield-Cross-Country (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Lydia Baptist-Golf (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Rylan Blakeman-Golf (8 grade)
  - Alaina Freeman-Golf (7 grade)
- **JHS State Qualifiers**-Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, Ryan VanAken introduced JHS Golf Coach, Adam Cisne and JHS girls Tennis Coach, Doug Moy who spoke of the athletes who qualified for state. These athletes put in the time, effort and positive attitude the entire season.
  - A.J. Charpentier-Golf (12 grade)
  - Leah Range-Tennis (11 grade)
  - Abby White-Tennis (11 grade)

**RECEPTION OF VISITORS, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**-President Beard gave visitors the opportunity for comments and there were none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Nov. 26–28, No School- Thanksgiving Break (Offices Closed)
- December 17, 2025- Next Public Hearing/Regular Board Meeting @ 6:00 pm

## STANDING REPORTS

Financial/Treasurer's Report-Mr. Cunningham presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. He stated the District is 33% of the way through its fiscal year. He did say there will be 2 insurance payment coming out in the month of November. We are also behind on Revenues.

Fund Tracker- Mr. Cunningham presented the Fund tracker explaining the funds. Mr. Moore added that the District is still being very cautious with spending due to the funding.

Operating Funds Fund Balances			
Operating Funds	Current Year FY 2025	Last Year FY 2024	Difference F-Y 25 to FY 24
Fund 10 - Education	\$ 39,762,818.16	\$40,826,684.62	\$ (1,063,866.46)
Fund 20 - O & M	\$ 4,822,266.75	\$5,044,148.48	\$ (221,881.73)
Fund 40 -Transportation	\$ 3,575,358.48	\$3,730,487.44	\$ (155,128.96)
Fund 70 - Working Cash	\$ 3,311,419.15	\$3,109,355.82	\$ 202,063.33
Total	\$ 51,471,862.54	\$52,710,676.36	\$ (1,238,813.82)

Sales Tax Tracker-Mr. Cunningham reported on the Sales tracker. They received the report for sales tax in August with great increase from the prior year. The district is projecting over a \$500,000 increase.

Tentative Tax Levy Presentation-Mr. Cunningham presented the Tentative Tax Levy. He stated the fund balance has been healthy and JSD is part of a PTELL district. The Levy is the amount of money we are asking for. We ask for 10% but the maximum amount we can receive is 5%. This in an effort to capture all new construction so the district doesn't lose out on revenue.

### Tax Year 24 and Tax Year 25 Levy Comparison

	Tax Levy Year 2024	Tax Levy Year 2025
CPI	3.4%	2.9%
Limiting Rate	5.0488 (Estimated)	4.6209 (Estimated)
Estimated EAV Total (Including New Property)	\$515,119,439 (Estimated)	\$567,702,965 (Estimated)
Estimated New Construction	\$6,000,000.00 (Estimated)	\$7,000,000 (Estimated)
Levy Request	\$27,345,041 (10%)	\$ 27,697,134.00 (10.0%)
Extension Allowed by PTELL including New Property	\$25,179,212.97 (further reduced by \$757,530.86 for FY 22 Extension overpayment).	Will find out in the Spring of 2025
Bond Levy	Jacksonville does not have a bond levy. Every year the bonds are abated because the District uses an alternative revenue source, the County Sales Tax to make the bond payments.	

State Updates- Nothing to update at this time.

Vision 117 Phase IV-Nothing to update at this time.

### F.O.I.A. Report

- Steve Watts

Academic Report-Mrs. Zoellner presented to the Board the 2024-2025 academic data report. She reported that the following schools have now moved up to Commendable states scores: Eisenhower, Lincoln, North, South, Washington, and JHS. Murrayville has been awarded Exemplary status and has its students performing in the top 10% of the state statewide with no underperforming subgroups. She added that the above school are inching very close to that exemplary status as well so she is excited to see what next year brings with the continued work the teachers are doing. JMS is a year behind on the

scoring so this current year's data will determine their status. She emphasized the amazing work the teachers are doing in the district. She also mentioned the work they are doing in the buildings to work on graduation rates and chronic absenteeism.

Enrollment Reports-Mrs. Zoellner presented the enrollment report and there were no questions.

1st Quarter Discipline Report-Mrs. Zoellner presented the first quarter discipline report. She noted that there was a significant drop in incidents at the Middle School compared to this time last year and the Principal attributes that to the consistency of staff and procedures from last year leading to this year.

Certified Vacancy Report-The Vacancy Report was presented and a Board Member asked if these positions are posted anywhere and the answer is yes, on the District's website.

## **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Policy Committee-President Beard reported that the committee is meeting December 2 to review the Press 120 release.

Four-Rivers Report-President Beard reported that he and Mr. Ptacek learned at a 4-Rivers meeting that there is a desire for restructuring. They want to present that all superintendents that are represented at 4-Rivers will serve as Board Members instead of electing Board Members. President Board discussed a negative to this is there are a large member of superintendents that don't attend the meetings. Currently there are 12 superintendents that would represent 4-Rivers. That is a large number for a quorum. As it stands now JSD 117 hold 25% of the vote. We also represent a large majority of the student body. He discussed the option of pulling out of the co-op and providing the services in District. Right now, the best option is to look for an intermediate solution. Any questions should be sent to President Beard or Mr. Ptacek.

IASB Reports- Several members will leave 11/20/25 for the Joint Annual Conference in Chicago and bring back a report. President Beard discussed the Delegate position and the IASB Resolution and Constitutional Changes. They discussed how he will vote as a Delegate in Chicago; voting NO for Item 9 "Declared Emergencies".

**CONSENT AGENDA**-Mrs. Stewart moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to approve the Consent Agenda Items as Presented.

- Consideration of Treasurer's Report
- Consideration of Previous Minutes
  - Regular and Closed Session Minutes for October 15, 2025
- Consideration of Early Graduates
  - C. Combs
  - B. Hutchison
  - A. Samuals
  - A. Stuart
- Consideration to appoint a Delegate for the Joint Annual Conference
  - Board elected to appoint Noel Beard as Delegate
- Consideration of the IASB Annual Resolution and Constitution Changes
- Consideration of/to approve 2025 Tentative Tax Levy
- Consideration for/to void, reissue, or send uncashed checks to unclaimed property for FY 23
- Consideration of/to establish new Activity Account for the FFA at JMS

Yea: Stewart, Lonergan, Pool, Leonard, Wilson, Beard. Nay: None.

**CLOSED SESSION** –Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to adjourn to Closed session at 7:15 pm

**For the purposes of:**

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Public body, specific independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the Public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the Public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
- Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (11).
- The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(5)

Yea: Wilson, Lonergan, Leonard, Pool, Steward, Beard. Nay: None.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION-** Mr. Lonergan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to return to Open Session at 8:22 pm. Yea: Lonergan, Wilson, Stewart, Pool, Leonard, Beard. Nay: None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Consideration of Personnel Recommendations-** Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to approve the Personnel Recommendations as presented.

***Resignation***

- Tracy Trowbridge, Special Education Teacher at Jacksonville Middle School, effective September 17, 2025.
- Kaitlyn Cole, Special Education Paraprofessional at Jacksonville High School, effective October 20, 2025.
- Amy Haberman, Noon Supervisor at Eisenhower Elementary School, effective October 30, 2025.
- Amy Haberman, Bus Driver at District, effective October 29, 2025.
- Sarah Mulquin, Secretary at Student Services and Special Education Department, effective October 23, 2025.
- Omari Murray, Special Education Paraprofessional at Jacksonville High School, effective October 24, 2025.
- Morgan Baker, Special Education Paraprofessional at Jacksonville High School, effective November 4, 2025.
- Elise Black, School Counselor at Jacksonville High School, effective January 15, 2026.

***Termination***

- Erin Ellet, Special Education Paraprofessional at Early Years and Eisenhower Elementary School, effective November 6, 2025.

***Retirement***

- Lynn Riordan, School Nurse at Jacksonville High School, effective January 5, 2026.
- Holly O'Neil, Assistant Director of Student Services and Special Education, effective July 1, 2029.

- Joyce Hiler, Director of Food Service, effective at the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

#### ***Employment-Classified***

- Bonnie Vahle, Noon Supervisor at Washington Elementary School, *Salary: \$15.00 per hour*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to October 15, 2025.
- Jeffrey Lyle, Night custodian at Jacksonville Middle School and South Elementary School, *Salary: \$19.08*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to October 29, 2025.
- Michael Bassett, Night custodian at Early Years and Lincoln Elementary School, *Salary: \$19.08*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to October 29, 2025.
- Holly Davis, Secretary at Student Services and Special Education Department, *Salary: \$20.00/per hour*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to October 27, 2025.
- Michael Brown, Bus Monitor at Transportation Department, *Salary: \$17.20 per hour*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to November 3, 2025.
- Michael Brown, Noon Supervisor at Eisenhower Elementary School, *Salary: \$15.00 per hour*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective retroactively to November 3, 2025.
- Christopher White, Special Education Paraprofessional at Jacksonville High School, *Salary: \$18.67 per hour*, contingent upon receipt and confirmation of required employment documentation, effective November 17, 2025.

#### ***Stipends***

- Amy Gillespie, Geography Bowl at North Elementary School for the 2025-2026 school year, *Stipend: \$861.62, 2% on the base of \$43,081*, effective November 20, 2025.
- Brittany Owens, Assistant JV Cheerleading Coach at Jacksonville High School for the 2025-2026 school year, *Stipend: \$3,877.29, 9% on the base of \$43,081*, effective November 20, 2025.
- Kimberly Niffen, Freshman Class Sponsor at Jacksonville High School for the 2025-2026 school year, *Stipend: \$861.62, 2% on the base of \$43,081*, effective November 20, 2025.
- Misty Eisfelder, Special Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend: \$2,500*.
- Hayley Flowers, Special Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend: \$2,500*.
- Kayla Flowers-Hosto, Special Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend: \$2,500*.
- Rachel Kaufmann, Physical Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend: \$2,500*.
- Chloe Oestmann, Special Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend: \$2,500*.
- Nicole Loveless, Special Education Teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend pro-rated: \$833.37*.
- Jenna Stowers, Speech Language Pathologist at Eisenhower Elementary School, Elementary Planning Period for the 2025-2026 school year – 1st semester, *Stipend pro-rated: \$1,889*.

#### ***District #117 JSSA IEA-NEA Secretarial Stipends for 2025-2026 school year***

- Kim Speaker, Secretary at Early Years/Pre-Kindergarten Center, Administration of Medication Training Stipend, *Stipend pro-rated for 25-26 school year: \$546.21.*

#### ***Leaves of Absence***

- Erin Brogdon, Special Education Paraprofessional, requesting maternity leave and family medical leave to run concurrently from November 12, 2025 through January 9, 2026 (6 weeks).
- Sarah Jackson, Special Education Paraprofessional, requesting family medical leave from October 14, 2025 until November 16, 2025 (5 weeks).
- Samantha Gregory, 2nd Grade Teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, requesting family medical leave from November 14, 2025 until November 25, 2025 (1 ½ weeks).
- Alissa Slinkard, Special Education Teacher at Jacksonville High School, requesting family medical leave from August 26, 2025 until December 1, 2025 (maximum of 12 weeks).
- Bailey Cooper-Bettis, Parent Educator/Home Visitor at Early Years/Pre-Kindergarten Center, requesting revision to maternity leave to November 10, 2025 from November 20, 2025 through February 13, 2026 (11 weeks).
- Leslie Sutton, ASL Teacher at Jacksonville High School, requesting revision to maternity leave/family medical leave to September 15, 2025 until December 1, 2025 (maximum of 12 weeks).
- Mackenzie Northrop, Special Education Paraprofessional at Jacksonville Middle School, requesting family medical leave on an intermittent basis from September 8, 2025 until March 8, 2026 (maximum of up to 12 weeks).
- Elizabeth Hamilton, Special Education Paraprofessional, requesting maternity leave and family medical leave to run concurrently from December 15, 2025 through February 6, 2026 (6 weeks).

#### ***Volunteers***

- Amie Sims, Volunteer Volleyball Coach at Jacksonville Middle School for the 2025-2026 school year, effective November 20, 2025.

Yea: Wilson, Lonergan, Pool, Stewart, Leonard, Beard. Nay: None.

**Consideration of/to accept bid for General Contractor of the Murrayville/Woodson Elementary Building Project-** Mr. Pool moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to accept the bid from A. M Wilson & Co as the General Contractor for the Murrayville Woodson Elementary project for \$16,070,000.00; S.M Wilson & Co. Alternative bid 1 with Tech Electronics for Door Access Controls; S. M Wilson & Co. Alternative bid 2 with Camp electric for the Structured Cabling System; S. M Wilson & Co. Alternative bid 3 for the Pre-K Playground; S. M Wilson & Co. Alternative bid 5 for Below Ground Fire Suppression provisionally based upon fire hydrant flow test as presented.

Yea: Pool, Lonergan, Leonard, Wilson, Stewart, Beard. Nay: None.

**Resolution calling a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$2,100,000 of School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds-** Mrs. Stewart moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan that the Board of Education approve Resolution calling a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education of School District Number 117, Morgan and Greene Counties, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$2,100,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds as presented. Yea: Stewart, Lonergan, Leonard, Pool, Wilson, Beard. Nay: None.

**Consideration to approve MOU: JEA-FFA/AG Sponsor for Jacksonville Middle School-** Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mrs. Stewart to approve the MOU with JEA regarding FFA/AG Sponsor at Jacksonville Middle School as presented. Yea: Wilson, Stewart, Leonard, Pool, Lonergan, Beard. Nay: None.

**Consideration to approve revisions to FY 2026 Administrator Raises and Contracts for H.**

**O'Neil, T. Roberts, C. Karr, and J. Mays-** Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan that the Board of Education approve the revised FY 2026 Administrator Raises and Contracts as presented for H. O'Neil, C. Karr, J. Mays, and T. Roberts. It as noted that these staff have now been moved to 12 months and one I getting ready to retire. Yea: Wilson, Lonergan, Stewart, Leonard, Pool, Beard. Nay: None.

**Consideration to approve Assistant Superintendent/Associate Superintendent/Superintendent Contract for Matthew Moore-**

Mrs. Stewart moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve the Assistant Superintendent/Associate Superintendent/Superintendent contract for Matthew Moore for the 2025-2030 school years as presented. Yea: Stewart, Wilson, Leonard, Pool, Lonergan, Beard. Nay: None.

**Consideration to approve MOU: Transportation Department-Attendance Bonus for 25-26 school year-**

Mrs. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Lonergan to approve the MOU with Transportation Department regarding monthly Attendance Bonus for the months of October 2025 through May 2026 as presented.

Yea: Wilson, Lonergan, Pool, Stewart, Leonard, Beard. Nay: None.

**ADJOURNMENT-**Mr. Lonergan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:39 pm. Yea: Lonergan, Wilson, Stewart, Pool, Leonard, Beard. Nay: None.

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President

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Secretary