

Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Joliet Township High School District 204

A Board of Education Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Township High School District 204 was held Tuesday, July 15, 2025, beginning at 7:00 PM at the District Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call - 6:00 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 6:05 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois. Members Present Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Matt Kennedy, Mrs. Michelle Stiff, Mrs. Lorraine Guerrero Neumayer, and Mr. Dan Coffey. Absent: Mrs. Christine Lynn and Dr. Angela Huntington.

Mrs. Stiff moved that the board go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel, negotiating matters, security updates, and student discipline. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Matt Kennedy, Mrs. Lorraine Guerrero Neumayer, Mrs. Michelle Stiff, Mr. Dan Coffey, and Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick. Absent: Mrs. Christine Lynn and Dr. Angela Huntington. Nays: None.

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

President Kennedy reconvened the meeting into Regular Session at 7:04 p.m. in the Board room at the Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois and asked for roll call. Members Present: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Absent: Dr. Huntington and Mrs. Lynn.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

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

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 Comments.

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 June 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Payroll, Organizations & Activity, and Cafeteria Report - *Policy 4:60*
- C. Freedom of Information Request(s) - *Policy 2:250*
- D. Check Register - *Policy 4:60*

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

VI. Recognition and Awards

- A. Central Campus – *No Recognition This Month*
- B. West Campus – *No Recognition This Month*

VII. Superintendent Reports

- A. Correspondence
Dr. Guseman shared that she has prepared the response letter to the Village of Shorewood in regard to Joliet Township High Schools opposition to the solar project.
- B. Legislative Report
Dr. Guseman gave an update on grant funding not being released, which includes funds for CTE not being released as well.
- C. Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Presentation - *Mr. John Randich, Jr., PPS Coordinator, Joliet Central and Mrs. Julie Adelman, Director of Support Services/Previously PPS Coordinator, Joliet West*
Mr. Randich and Mrs. Adelman shared data and Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention.
- D. Annual Exclusionary Discipline and Student Support Services Presentation - *Mr. Steve Locke, Assistant Principal Joliet Central, Mr. Brett Marcum, Assistant Principal Joliet West, Ms. Shelley Clark, Director of Equity and Strategic Partnerships, Mr. John Randich, Jr. PPS Coordinator, Joliet Central, and Mrs. Julie Adelman, PPS Coordinator Joliet West*

The administrative team shared all data, recommendations and areas of improvements regarding Annual Exclusionary Discipline and Student Support Services.

VIII. Action Items

A. Agreement between Joliet Township High School and Joliet Public Library

A motion was made by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer to approve the Agreement between Joliet Township High School and Joliet Public Library. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

B. Teacher Performance Evaluation Agreement

A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the Teacher Performance Evaluation Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Comments. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

C. Copy Paper Bid for 2025-2026 School Year

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the Copy Paper Bid for 2025-2026 School Year. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call votes. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.

D. Worker's Compensation Insurance Recommendation

A motion was made by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer to approve the Worker's Compensation Insurance Recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.

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

1. Professional Resignation Request(s)

- a. Gary Lopez, CTE, West Campus, effective June 29, 2025
- b. Nick Murray, Special Education, Central, effective June 23, 2025
- c. Katie Hunt, Special Services Coordinator, West Campus, effective June 30, 2025
- d. Allison Stein-Pierce, Assistant Softball, West Campus, effective July 1, 2025

2. Professional Retirement Request(s)

- a. Curt Ruch, Teacher, West Campus, effective July 15, 2029

3. Professional Salary Advancement Request(s)

- a. Taylor Venegas, West Campus, from B-4 to C-4
- b. Tim Roberts, Central Campus, from D-20 to E-20
- c. Karina Maldonado, Central Campus, from B-5 to C-5
- d. Melissa Attanaphone, Central Campus from D-20 to E-20
- e. Erin Reid, Central Campus from C-13 to D-13
- f. Jacob Niemann, Pathways Campus, from C-11 to D-11
- g. Jonathan Rashid, Central Campus, from C-12 to D-12
- h. lise Piagentini, Central Campus, from F-11 to G-11
- i. Vernice Braasch, Central Campus, from D-18 to E-18
- j. Vivian Helwich, Central Campus, from F-7 to G-7
- k. Kerry Wells, Central Campus, from F-12 to G-12
- l. Stenesha Walton, Central Campus, from D-16 to F-16
- m. Erin Drzymalla, Central Campus, from F-17 to G-17
- n. Brian Newman, West Campus, from D-26 to E-26
- o. Amanda Ashmus, Central Campus, from A-4 to C-4
- p. Lindsey Quigley, Central Campus, from E-20 to G-20
- q. Kyle Countryman, Pathways Academy, from A-11 to B-12
- r. Nermeen Shaabneh, West Campus, from C-6 to E-7
- s. Andrea Czart, West Campus, from A-2 to C-3
- t. Kacey Stockdell, Central Campus from A-2 to B3
- u. Kevin Barron, West Campus from A-11 to B12

4. Professional Extra Pay Recommendation(s)

Central Campus- Athletics

- a. Malachi Pellegrini, Assistant Dance
- b. Jacob Niemann, Assistant Football
- c. Chrisitan Smith, Volunteer Wrestling
- d. Vicente Paramo, Assistant Girls Wrestling
- e. Miguel Silva, Head Baseball
- f. Mario Samuel, Assistant Baseball
- g. Nick Sramek, Assistant Baseball
- h. Brian Reed, Head Boys Track
- i. Doug Cherry, Assistant Boys Track
- j. Tom Hart, Assistant Boys Track
- k. Michael Heilman, Assistant Boys Track
- l. Nicholas Ratajczak, Head Boys Volleyball

- m. Timothy Holland, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- n. Ryan Vozenilek, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- o. Julie Nettles, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- p. Ben Chambers, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- q. Stephanie Phillips, Head Girls Soccer
- r. Jordan Conejo, Assistant Girls Soccer
- s. Steven Zeko, Assistant Girls Soccer
- t. Jon Rashid, Head Softball
- u. Rachel Cooke-Spata, Assistant Softball
- v. Elizabeth Cole, Assistant Softball
- w. Christina Pottorff, Assistant Softball
- x. Lily Vellenga, Assistant Softball
- y. Sergio Miranda, Head Girls Track
- z. Carlotta McLaurin, Assistant Girls Track
- aa. Kelly Halusek, Assistant Girls Track
- bb. Iesha Flowers, Assistant Girls Track
- cc. Micheal Carnahan, Volunteer Girls Track

West Campus- Athletics

- a. Nick Larkin, Assistant Football
- b. Larry Traylor, Assistant Football
- c. Elber Haro, Assistant Boys Soccer
- d. Vann Sturdivant, Assistant Cheer Freshman
- e. JaQuan McGee, Assistant Boys Basketball
- f. James Mitchell, Assistant Girls Wrestling
- g. Megan Allensworth, Assistant Boys Bowling
- h. John Karczewski, Head Boys Baseball
- i. Heather Suca, Head Girls Softball
- j. Tara Litwicki, Head Boys Volleyball
- k. Marcus Mars, Head Boys Track
- l. Alan Stewart, Head Girls Soccer
- m. Nate Atkinson, Head Girls Track
- n. Renae Batsch-Haaker, Assistant Girls Track
- o. Anaiah Edmon, Assistant Girls Track
- p. Natalie Mander, Head Badminton
- q. Elizabeth Covelli-Reyes, Assistant Badminton
- r. Christina Hackett, Head Boys Tennis
- s. Patrick Haaker, Volunteer Girls Track & Field
- t. Oscar Becerra, Volunteer Boys Cross Country
- u. Lawson Sizemore, Volunteer Boys Basketball

5. Professional Additional Assignment Request(s)

- a. Monique Burey- Summer Bridge-CTE- West Campus- Effective June 3, 2025

6. Professional Employment Recommendation(s)

- a. Monica Ragusa, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - b. Robert Farrell, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - c. Devin Bailey, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - d. Christopher DiPrima, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - e. Angela Mendoza, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - f. James Jaskowiak, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - g. Julie Jaskowiak, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
 - h. Mike Kelly, Task Force Substitute, Central, effective August 15, 2025, Daily Rate \$200
7. Classified Resignation Request(s)
- a. Carmen Gamino, Instructional Paraprofessional-CTE, Special Services, Central Campus effective July 06, 2025
8. Classified Leave of Absence Request(s)
- a. Silvia Bedoy, Office Staff, Transportation, is requesting a leave of absence effective November 21, 2025 through December 31, 2025 Medical-Personal
9. Classified Employment Recommendation(s)
- a. Nicole Lambert, Pre-School Lab Aid, Central Campus, \$21.00 per hour effective August 15, 2025
10. Classified Change of Status Recommendation(s)
- a. Tywana Butler, service worker, cafeteria, Central Campus to Cashier, Cafeteria, Central Campus, Step 11 \$18.80 per hour effective August 19, 2025
 - b. Elizabeth McClintock, Cashier, Cafeteria, West Campus to Part Time Assistant Cook, Cafeteria, West Campus, \$17.41 per hour effective August 19, 2025
11. Classified Termination Request(s)
- a. Wesley Minton, Office Staff I, Educational Services, District, effective June 24, 2025

A motion was made by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer to approve the Personnel Reports as presented. The motion was Seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs.

Guerrero Neumayer, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy.
Nays: None.

IX. Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business.

X. New Business

**A. First Reading of Policy for Illinois State Board of Education
Absenteeism & Truancy Compliance**

1. 7:70 Attendance and Truancy

**B. First Reading of Review and Monitor Board Policies - *Policy*
2:240**

1. 1:10 School District Legal Status
2. 1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements
3. 1:30 School District Philosophy
4. 2:10 School District Governance
5. 2:125-E3 Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements
6. 2:240 Board Policy Development
7. 3:30 Chain of Command
8. 4:50 Payment Procedures
9. 4:90 Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds
10. 4:180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery
11. 5:20E Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment
12. 5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment
13. 7:40 Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students
14. 7:90 Release During School Hours
15. 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities
16. 7:325 Student Fund-Raising Activities
17. 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

C. First Reading of Rewritten Board Policies - *Policy* 2:240

1. 2:120 E1 Guidelines for Serving as a Mentor to a New Board of Education Member
2. 2:220 E9 Requirements for No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video During Disaster Declaration
3. 2:240E1 PRESS Issue Updates
4. 2:240 E2 Developing Local Policy

D. First Reading of Updated Board Policies - *Policy* 2:240

1. 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

Dr. Guseman shared she contacted our Attorney regarding this policy, and we were advised to select default.

2. 2:120 E2 Website Listing of Development and Training Completed by Board Members
3. 2:130 Board-Superintendent Relationship
4. 2:220 E4 Open Meeting Minutes
5. 2:220 E7 Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings
6. 7:140 Search and Seizure
7. 7:300 Co-curricular Athletics
8. 8:80 Gifts to the District

XI. Board Reports

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer shared that the Steelmen on Route 66 looks great.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer congratulated Jeremiah Fears on the NBA draft to New Orleans.

Dr. Guseman also shared that Jimmy Anderson, 2024 Joliet West graduate, was drafted to the MLB by Baltimore Orioles.

Mr. Kennedy shared that he was able to hang out with students from our AVAC program in the summer school program at Sought Out Grounds.

XII. Announcements/Public Comment

No Announcements or Public Comment.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Stiff and seconded by Mr. Coffey, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Mr. Matthew Kennedy
President

Mrs. Michelle Stiff,
Secretary