

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Education Jenison Public Schools

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A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Jenison Public Schools was held on Monday, November 11, 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, D.C.,  
Vice President

Chris Reed, Ph.D.,  
Treasurer

Jen Postema,  
Secretary

Jennifer Griffin, DPM  
Trustee

Donna Mooney  
Trustee

William Waalkes,  
Trustee

### Others Present:

Brandon Graham, PhD,  
Superintendent

Leslie Philipps,  
Assistant Superintendent /  
Title IX Coordinator

Christine Marcy,  
Director of Finance and  
Operations

Samuel Lemmon,  
Bauerwood Elementary  
Principal

### Recognitions: Bauerwood Elementary

Bauerwood Elementary Food Service Employees, Rachel Zondervan & Kara Deppe

Mr. Lemmon briefly shared about Rachel Zondervan and Kara Deppe who were recognized because of the important role they play at Bauerwood Elementary. Mrs. Zondervan and Mrs. Deppe are Food Service employees who provide exceptional service at Bauerwood Elementary by serving nearly 17,000 meals this year! They know the students and specific dietary requirements and food allergies. Mr. Lemmon has worked with several schools, and he appreciates the positive experience these two create at the school and how they are truly a part of the staff. The staff value and respect all they do, and appreciate how they go above and beyond serving the students at Bauerwood Elementary!

### Recess:

Mrs. Peterman called a meeting recess at 6:33 pm to congratulate the individuals being recognized.

### Reconvene:

The meeting reconvened at 6:35 pm.

### Public Comment:

Rich VanderKlok (2057 Pinewood, Jenison), JEA President and High School Language Arts Teacher, congratulated Mr. Waalkes and Mrs. Postema on their re-election to the Board of Education, and Ms. Shannon Hogan, for being elected to the 6-year position. He looks forward to working with all of them.

Shannon Hogan (8236 Greenridge Dr, Jenison) - She thanked the Board of Education and also shared her appreciation for Mrs. Peterman for her years of service on the board. She looks forward to working with the board in the years to come.

Harvey Nikkel (7513 23rd Ave, Jenison) - He shared concerns of teachers and members of the teacher union encouraging a recount of the School Board elections. He also shared concerns that the election results were similar to the Freshman class polled at the high school but were not consistent in the Senior class. He stated that teachers should teach skills and the history of the country, and not ideologies. He was concerned that students didn't know the Constitution of the United States.

Janee Snider (address not given, Jenison) - She shared concerns regarding the incident that happened with her son. She stated that the issue has not been resolved. Her son still gets blamed and her daughter also hears about it from classmates. She asked if the school district has a zero-tolerance policy then why does this continue. She feels that the district has failed him, and would like an apology to her son.

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

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Dr. Reed 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 7-0.

### **Action Items:**

#### **1. Consent Agenda:**

Mrs. Mooney motioned to accept and approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the October 28, 2024, Board of Education Workshop and the October Financial Report. Dr. Hartman seconded the motion. The Board of Education voted to approve the consent agenda as presented with a vote of 7-0.

#### **2. Approval of Maintenance Storage Update:**

Dr. Reed motioned to discuss the Maintenance Storage update as presented to the Board of Education. Mr. Waalkes seconded the motion. At the October 14, 2024, Board of Education meeting the board approved \$700,000 for the Maintenance Storage Building project. Bids were received on October 16, 2024, and bids came back higher than the initial projections. To build a facility for what is needed for the district, it will take an additional \$50,517 for the project. The project will include finishing the building with stronger and higher gauge materials that will last longer and it will store most of the maintenance materials until the Transportation-Maintenance Hub is completed. The Board of Education voted to approve the additional funding for the Maintenance Storage as presented with a vote of 7-0.

### **Discussion Items:**

#### **1. Superintendent Update:**

Dr. Graham provided a brief update on events, happenings, and updates in the district. There's been a lot of amazing things happening. It's been a great Fall and the district has had many successes.

- Emails: Dr. Graham read two emails that exemplified the characters of students. The emails are inspiring and something that the district wants to encourage all students to achieve.

- High School students - Dr. Graham read an email from a community member whose father was a former football coach and is dying of pancreatic cancer. The Bydalek boys along with the hockey team pitched in and raked and cleaned his father's yard. He was so appreciative of their help and was impressed by the students' behavior and willingness to help someone they didn't know.
- Sandy Hill: A message was sent to Mr. Mroz, Sandy Hill Principal, about a 6th-grade student who went above and beyond to help a younger student. The 6th grader noticed the younger student crying and took time to make sure they were okay.
- Athletics:
  - Volleyball: The Girl's Volleyball team won the district championship over Hudsonville! The girls won three straight sets to claim the title. The volleyball team will be playing in the regionals.
  - Swim and Dive: The Girl's Swim and Dive team won the OK White Conference Championship. It's their third conference championship in a row with Coach Kyle Stumpf. They recorded five All-American times, four new conference records, and one new pool record at the meet. They are headed to the State meet.
  - Cross Country: The Cross Country teams have had a great season, and just went to state finals. The Boy's Cross Country team finished 5th overall and the Girl's Cross Country team finished 10th. Senior Seth Conner won the individual state title at the Cross Country State Finals. Jenison alum Connor Vachon (Class of 2021) shared some inspiring words and encouragement before the students left for their meets. They also had a police escort from Deputy Jonkman.
  - E-Sports: The District is trying to get students involved in activities and started E-sports. The team placed 2nd in the Turkey Time tournament.
- Marching Band: The JHS Marching Band has claimed another state title. The marching band received the top overall score in Flight II as well as awards for general effect, music, visual, and auxiliary. It's the seventh state title in a row.
- Male Chorus: The Jr. High through 9th grade Male Chorus performed at American House. The residents loved the performance and appreciated when students made a special visit.
- Fall Play: The title of the fall play is Zap! The performances start next week, November 20-23. It is a hilarious play when seven plays collide.
- Professional Development: The staff had Professional Development on November 1. Julie Roby led training to help improve evaluation plans. Elementary principals and coaches led elementary training with assessments and standards. While the secondary had collaborative teams led by teachers to help craft quality class sessions and rubrics.
- Outreach - Hand2Hand on November 12 in the afternoon. The Administrative team will be working with Hand2Hand to fill backpacks and snacks for students.
- Recognizing the Successes of Teachers
  - High School PE Teacher of the Year: Mr. Casey Withers was named the 2024 Michigan High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year by SHAPE Michigan. He will be honored at the 2024 SHAPE Michigan Annual Convention in Lansing.
  - \$500 Classroom Scholarship from Preferred Credit Union: Mrs. Rachel Chapman, Jr. High Special Education Teacher, received a \$500 scholarship for her classroom. The student who nominated her for the annual award presented the check along with representatives from Preferred Credit Union.
- Dr. Graham congratulated Shannon Hogan, who was present at the meeting, for being newly elected to the JPS Board of Education for a 6-year term.

### **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:** MCL 15.268(H) Open Meetings Act (Act 267 of 1976) - Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA) and Attorney-Client Privilege

Mrs. Postema motioned to go into a closed session for Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA) and Attorney-Client Privilege. Dr. Reed seconded the motion. President Peterman called a closed session for the Board of Education at 6:56 pm.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

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 Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA) and Attorney-Client Privilege by a roll call vote of 7-0 at 6:56 pm.

The public was dismissed.

**Recess:**

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman called a recess of the meeting at 6:56 pm to dismiss the public and to allow for a quick break.

**Reconvene:**

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 pm

**Closed Session:** Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA) and Attorney-Client Privilege

During the Closed Session, The Board and Administration met in a closed session to discuss Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA) and Attorney-Client Privilege.

**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 7-0 at 8:47 pm.

President Peterman declared the Board of Education Closed Session to be ended and the meeting reconvened in open session at 8:47 pm.

**Open Session:**

The public was able to return to the meeting.

**Enrollment Reinstatement Vote:**

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman, shared with the public meeting that the Board of Education met in Closed Session to discuss reinstatement of a student.

Mrs. Postema motioned to approve the Enrollment Reinstatement of the student discussed in the Closed Session. Dr. Reed seconded the motion. A roll call vote was not needed. The Board of Education voted to approve the Enrollment Reinstatement as discussed in Closed Session with a vote of 7-0.

**Adjournment:**

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Peterman, adjourned the Jenison Public Schools Board of Education meeting at 8:49 pm with acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Postema, Secretary  
Jenison Public Schools Board of Education

**Future Meetings:**

<b>Month:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting (held at 6:30 pm):</b>	<b>Workshop (held at 6:00 pm)</b>
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	