

**JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
315 EAST DUNKLIN  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO  
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President John Ruth at 6:00 p.m. at the Board Building, 315 East Dunklin Street, Jefferson City, MO.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Pam Murray, Steve Bruce, Doug Whitehead, John Ruth, Dennis Nickelson, Michael Couty and Ken Theroff. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Ruth led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL MOVERS**

Thomas Jefferson Middle School orchestra performed the National Anthem and Janie B. Good for the Board and audience.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Doug Whitehead and seconded by Steve Bruce. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes-7. Nays-None. Abstentions-None. Absent-None.

**OPEN FORUM**

No one came forward with an open item.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

President Ruth presented the Consent Agenda items for approval, including Regular and Closed Meeting minutes of November 9, 2015. A motion was made by Doug Whitehead and seconded by Ken Theroff to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes-5. Nays-None. Abstentions-2. Absent-None. Pam Murray abstained for voting on item VII. (C. Disbursements) and Ken Theroff abstained for voting on item VII. (D. Personnel Report).

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2014-15 District Audit**

Mr. Jim McGinnis of the Gerding, Korte and Chitwood accounting firm provided the 2014-15 audit and noted that the financial condition of the Jefferson City Public Schools is very stable. Mr. McGinnis commended the District's Business Office for their diligence in maintaining excellent accounting practices and for their assistance in providing prompt, accurate information to the accountants for the audit. A motion was made by Dennis Nickelson and seconded by Steve Bruce to accept the audit as presented. The motion carried: Ayes-7. Nays-None. Abstentions-None. Absent-None.

**REPORTS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS**

**Superintendent Update**

Superintendent Larry Linthacum discussed JCPS' areas of focus and how the District will continue working on fine-tuning the strategic plan, gleaned major points from the prior strategic plan. These points will be applied throughout JCPS in a defensible and sustainable manner while using a common sense approach that maintains student learning as the focal point. He also went over how the District will use curriculum, instruction and assessments to ensure that kids learn on a daily basis. See Superintendent's report.

## CO Reports

Dr. Gretchen Guitard discussed The International Center of Education (ICLE) process and the beginning of their scope of work with the District. Surveys and building visits have been completed and data findings from these two areas were shared with Central Office Administrators. Teachers will begin curriculum work in January and will be comprised of nearly 30 teachers on each of the four committees, focusing on elementary math and english/language arts, middle school english/language arts and algebra. Progress reports will be provided as this work unfolds.

Dr. Tammy Ridgeway provided an academy update focused on strengthening the academy model through restructuring. Additional details will be communicated soon. She also shared that through the restructuring of Academies we have contracted with Dr. Dewey, a school scheduler, who is working with 6-12 grade administrators and counselors to determine priorities for a schedule. Due to restructuring, adjustments will need to be made to the schedule for grades 9-12. Both middle schools are working toward having a same schedule next school year.

Dr. Kathy Foster provided an update on administering the new DESE Classroom Diagnostic Assessments in math and reading. The tool is designed to help schools and students in MAP testing for grades 3-8. The new tool will offer immediate feedback to the students, teachers, and administrators.

Dr. Sheila Logan discussed the completion of on-site elementary special services planning meetings to discuss strengths, challenges, and future considerations and needed supports. See Dr. Logan's Report.

## Instructional and Facility Resources

Mr. Jason Hoffman presented rationale for reporting capitol budget expenditures from facility improvements to instead expend budgeted monies toward instructional improvement resources. This proposal was met favorably by the Board of Education. See Mr. Hoffman's report

## JCPS Student Attendance

Mr. Bob James shared how attendance matters at JCPS. He shared national and local statistics as well as factors that contribute to non-attendance, including the impact on academic achievement. Ninety percent of JCPS students are in attendance 90% of the time. Mr. James discussed the "Jaybirds Come to School" media campaign as outreach to encourage and solicit improved attendance at the high school. Improved attendance equates to improved student achievement. See Mr. James' report.

## Streaming Board Meetings

Mrs. Amy Berendzen informed the Board of steps being taken in consideration of livestreaming future meetings to include equipment and web hosting procurement.

## **FUTURE DATES**

President Ruth reminded the Board members of the upcoming events listed on the Agenda.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Second Read of 2016-2017 School Calendar

The 2016-17 student calendar was presented for approval. A motion was presented by Michael Couty and seconded by Doug Whitehead to approve the 2016-17 student calendar as presented. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes – 7. Nays – None. Abstentions – None. Absent – None.

### Second Read of Policies

The Board second read the following policies: *BBB, BBBA, BBC, BHA, BHD, CC, DGA, DLC, DLCA, IL, JFH, JHCD, JHCF, KL and JFCL*. After discussion, a motion to change the first word "will" on policy BHA to "shall" was presented by Dennis Nickelson. A motion to adopt the Board policies as presented was made by Pam Murray and seconded by Dennis Nickelson. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes – 7. Nays – None. Abstentions – None. Absent – None.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND OPEN TO ENTER INTO CLOSED MEETING**

At 8:30 p.m. a motion was made to suspend the regular meeting to enter into closed session pursuant to §610.021 (2) RSMo leasing, purchase, or sale of real estate by a public governmental body..., (6) scholastic probation, expulsion, or graduation of identifiable records, performance rating or records...; and (14) records which are protected from disclosure by law. The motion was made by Steve Bruce and seconded by Doug Whitehead. The motion carried with a roll call vote: John Ruth-Aye; Steve Bruce-Aye; Doug Whitehead-Aye; Dennis Nickelson-Aye; Ken Theroff-Aye; Michael Couty-Aye; and Pam Murray-Aye.

**ADJOURN CLOSED MEETING**

The Board adjourned the closed meeting at 11:15 p.m. with a motion made by Ken Theroff and seconded by Dennis Nickelson. The motion carried with a roll call vote: John Ruth-Aye; Steve Bruce-Aye; Doug Whitehead-Aye; Dennis Nickelson-Aye; Ken Theroff- Aye; Michael Couty-Aye; and Pam Murray-Aye. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes-7. Nays-0. Abstentions-None. Absent-None.

**RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING**

The regular open meeting resumed at 11:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Doug Whitehead presented a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dennis Nickelson. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes-7. Nays-0. Abstentions-0. Absent-0. The regular, open meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

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John Ruth, President

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Stephanie Sappenfield, Secretary