

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 21 2026, 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. Christine Lynn, Mrs. Lorraine Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Angela Huntington, and Mr. Dan Coffey.

Mr. Coffey moved that the board go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel, District property, and discussion of closed minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn 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 7:02 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 the audience and watching online.

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 June 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Executive Session Minutes January 2023 to July 2023
- 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 Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Fitzpatrick.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynn to approve the remaining Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Abstain: Dr. Huntington.

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 correspondence received from Illinois State Senator, Meg Loughran Cappel regarding her support in the securing of \$100,000 grant for facility upgrades at Joliet West High School.

Dr. Guseman shared correspondence received from Senator Rachel Ventrua regarding her support in the securing of \$50,000 in DCEO grant funding to support the VNA/Joliet Central school-based health center.

- B. Legislative Report
- C. 2025-2026 Annual Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Presentation - *Dr. Brett Marcum, Assistant Principal Joliet West, and Mr. Steve Locke, Assistant Principal Joliet Central*

Dr. Marcum and Mr. Locke gave an overview of the 2025-2026 Annual Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying data and 2026-2027 recommendations.

- D. Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Presentation – *Gabrielle Garrett, Counseling Support Coordinator Joliet West and André Bouey, Counseling Support Coordinator Joliet Central*
Mrs. Garrett and Mr. Bouey gave update and shared the 2025-2026 data and review procedures updates.
- E. Exclusionary Discipline and Student Support Services Presentation – *Tecara Parker, Joliet West Principal, Shad Hallihan, Joliet Central Principal, André Bouey, Counseling Support Coordinator Joliet Central, Gabrielle Garrett, Counseling Support Coordinator Joliet West, Tiffany Rucker, Behavior Support Coordinator, Joliet Central, Kristin Chally, Behavior Support Coordinator, Joliet West, Shelley Clark Director of Equity & Strategic Partnerships, Mr. John Randich Jr., AVAC & Transition Coordinator*
The administrative team shared data, recommendations and areas of improvements regarding Annual Exclusionary Discipline and Student Support Services.
- F. Hanover Climate and Culture Survey Presentation — *Mrs. Dianne McDonald, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services*
Mrs. McDonald shared the results of the staff survey from Spring 2026.

VIII. Action Items

- A. Bi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes and Recordings
January 2023 - July 2023
A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to approve the destruction of the verbatim record for those closed session meetings of the Board of Education from January 2023 through July 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.
- A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to find that the need for confidentiality exists for all remaining closed session minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Abstain: Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.
- B. Strategic Plan Progress Update
A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the Strategic Plan Progress. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None.

C. Agreement between Joliet Township High School and Professional's Choice Hair Design Academy

A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve the agreement with Professional's Choice. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey. Nays: None.

D. Agreement between Joliet Township High School and Fusion Natural Hair and Braid Academy

A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the agreement with Fusion Natural Hair and Braid Academy. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, and Dr. Huntington. Nays: None.

E. Agreement between Joliet Township High School and ExxonMobil Joliet Refinery

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the agreement with ExxonMobil Joliet Refinery. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

F. Copier/Computer Paper Bid Results

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

G. Disposal of Equipment Request

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

H. Donation(s)

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

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

1. Professional Leave of Absence Request(s)

- a. John Ciolkosz, Teacher, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective September

30, 2026 through November 11, 2026 Medical-Paternity

- b. Andrew Flaherty, Teacher, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective August 17, 2026 through August 28, 2026 and September 29, 2026 through October 23, 2026 Medical-Paternity
- c. Chelsea Miller, Teacher, West Campus, is requesting leave of absence effective October 30, 2026 through March 26, 2026 Medical-Maternity

2. Professional Change of Status Request(s)

- a. Anna Carbine, Dean, West Campus to Coordinator of Special Services, West Campus, effective July 1, 2026, Salary \$105,000.00; due to resignation of Brandy Daniels
- b. Danielle Litko, Teacher, West Campus, to Dean of Students, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Step F-11 \$90,170; due to change of status of Anna Carbine
- c. Alyson Bauman, Music Teacher Part-Time to Music Educator Full-Time, effective August 14, 2026, Step C-8 \$81,455

3. Professional Additional Assignment Request(s)

Accelerated Advisory – West Campus - Effective 08/18/2026

- Shannon Hubbart
- Courtney Barrowman
- Amy Malizia
- Danielle Perez

Learning Lab Advisory – West Campus - Effective 08/18/2026

- Jose Ortiz
- Juan Torrez
- Heather Suca
- Jacob Babich
- Michael Brower
- Michael O'Malley
- Shannon Vega
- Angela Vainikos
- Kerri Chavez
- Carolyn Hipp
- Nicholas Koenig
- Melissa Stapleton
- Christina Vercelote
- Joseph Tucker

- Terra Meyer

4. Professional Staff Resignation Request(s)

- a. Nermeen Shaabneh, English Teacher, West Campus, effective August 3, 2026

5. Professional Extra Pay Recommendation(s)

Activities, Athletics & Volunteers

- a. Central Campus – Athletics
- b. Antonio Juarez, Assistant Football
- c. Isaiah Dixon, Volunteer Girls Volleyball
- d. Giavanna Gomez, Head Badminton
- e. Marisol Onate, Assistant Badminton
- f. Miguel Silva, Head Baseball
- g. Mario Samuel, Assistant Baseball
- h. Nick Sramek, Assistant Baseball
- i. Ken Keiner, Assistant Baseball
- j. Brian Reed, Head Boys Track
- k. Tom Hart, Assistant Boys Track
- l. Micheal Heilman, Assistant Boys Track
- m. Jared King, Assistant Football
- n. Doug Cherry, Assistant Boys Track
- o. Nicholas Ratajczak, Head Boys Volleyball
- p. Ryan Vozenilek, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- q. Timothy Holland, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- r. Julie Nettles, Assistant Boys Volleyball
- s. Stephanie Phillips, Head Girls Soccer
- t. Luis Villagomez, Assistant Girls Soccer
- u. Jordan Conejo, Assistant Girls Soccer
- v. Brian Castillo, Assistant Girls Soccer
- w. Steven Zeko, Volunteer Girls Soccer
- x. Kameron Majerus, Head Girls Track
- y. Carlotta McLaurin, Assistant Girls Track
- z. Kelly Halusek, Volunteer Girls Track
- aa. Rachel Spata, Head Softball
- bb. Christina Pottorff, Assistant Softball
- cc. Lily Vellenga, Assistant Softball
- dd. Rick Franceschina, Assistant Softball
- ee. Joe Carasquillo, Bass Fishing-Head
- ff. Kelly Newton, Chess Assistant
- gg. Rodney Coatney, Chess-Head
- hh. Joe Hoyt, Group Interpretation
- ii. Valerie O'Toole, Mathletes-Assistant
- jj. Melissa Magnuson, Mathletes-Head
- kk. Peter Lipari, Orchestra
- ll. Gandi Schlote, Assistant Scholastic Bowl
- mm. Kelsey Durante, Head Scholastic Bowl

- nn. Lauren Kline, Head Science Team
- oo. Laura Boyle, Assistant Science Team
- pp. Joe Hoyt, Head Speech
- qq. Ashley Samsa, Assistant Speech

West Campus- Athletics

- a. Artemio Hernandez, Assistant Boys Soccer
- b. Joshua Lopez, Assistant Boys Soccer
- c. Tony Kochev, Assistant Boys Cross Country
- d. Nate Atkinson, Head Girls Track
- e. Anaiah Edmon, Assistant Girls Track
- f. Essence Wisdom, Assistant Girls Track
- g. Natalie Rogers, Head Badminton
- h. Elizabeth Covelli-Reyes, Assistant Badminton
- i. Amanda Ashmus, Assistant Badminton
- j. Christina Hackett, Head Boys Tennis
- k. Donovan Smith, Assistant Boys Tennis
- l. Alexandra Bartkowiak, Volunteer Boys Cross Country

Campus Level, Fine Arts & School Related

West Campus

- a. Andrea Lopez, Extended Day Counselor
- b. Donna Miller, Extended Day Counselor
- c. Megan Gunier, Extended Day Cool Down Room
- d. Yvette Justice, Extended Day College and Career
- e. Wanda Turner, Extended Day Catalyst
- f. Greg Thompson, Extended Day Dean
- g. Chris Lincoln, Extended Day Dean
- h. Charles Rumpf, Extended Day Dean
- i. Dan Wikert, Extended Day Dean
- j. Jharita Jordan, Extended Day Dean
- k. Danielle Litko, Extended Day Dean

Central Campus

- a. Don Stinson, Head Band Director
- b. Julie Jaskowiak, Assistant Band Director
- c. Don Stinson, Stage Band
- d. Don Stinson, Jazz Band
- e. Marissa Cantu, Student Council
- f. Joshua Maurice, Student Council
- g. Kim Ortega, Freshman Class Sponsor
- h. Taylor Cochran, Freshman Class Sponsor
- i. Amy Vollmer, Sophomore Class Sponsor
- j. Kelly Newton, Sophomore Class Sponsor

- k. Luna Hilal, Junior Class Sponsor
- l. Rosaisela Cabrera, Junior Class Sponsor
- m. Sean Howard, Senior Class Sponsor
- n. Erin Drzymalla, Yearbook Sponsor
- o. Kelly Halusek, Newspaper
- p. Brianna Bowman, Human Relations
- q. Joe Hoyt, Musical Director
- r. Joshua Massey, Musical Assistant Director
- s. Joshua Massey, Madrigals
- t. Elizabeth Sullivan, National Honor Society
- u. Gandhi Schlote, Televised Student News
- v. Joe Hoyt, Technical Director (Fall)
- w. Rachel Ellis, Technical Director (Spring)
- x. Joe Hoyt, Play Director (Fall)
- y. Jennifer Foster, Fearless Females
- z. Julie Jaskowiak, Anime Club
- aa. Gandhi Schlote, Brother to Brother
- bb. Rodney Coatney, Black Student Union (BSU)
- cc. Veryl Boykin, Black Student Union (BSU)
- dd. Michelle Visser, E-Sports
- ee. Joe Hoyt, Short Film
- ff. Kristen Cooke, Snowball
- gg. Valerie O'Toole, Team Human
- hh. Dina Zmuda, Team Human
- ii. Jennifer Stansbury, SAGA
- jj. Kimberly Ortega, SAGA
- kk. Michelle Visser, Dungeons and Dragons
- ll. Gabrielle Wilk, Key Club
- mm. Kelsey Duranty, RHO KAPP
- nn. Gia Gomez, Mock Trial
- oo. Julia Tolbert, Mock Trial
- pp. Karina Maldonado, Spanish Honor Society
- qq. Rocio Flores, Spanish Honor Society
- rr. Mathilde Gleizes, French Honor Society
- ss. Kyla Fris, American Sign Language
- tt. Lauren Kline, Science Honor Society
- uu. Laura Boyle, Science Honor Society
- vv. Elizabeth McNally, Mu Alpha Theta

6. Professional Salary Advancement Request(s)

- a. Alexis Ceballos, Teacher, Central Campus, from B3 to C4
- b. Erin Reid, Teacher, Central Campus, from D13 to E14
- c. Justin Wiora, Teacher, West Campus, from A12 to B13

- d. Dale West, Teacher, Central Campus, from D16 to E17
- e. John Barber, Teacher, West Campus, from D17 to E18
- f. Susana Vera, Teacher, West Campus, from D4 to E5
- g. Julia Baker, Teacher, West Campus, from A2 to B3
- h. Amanda Wisslead, Teacher, Central Campus, from B4 to C5
- i. Andrea Czart, Teacher, West Campus, from D3 to E4
- j. Itzel Jimenez, Teacher, Central Campus, from A3 to C4

7. Professional Employment Recommendation(s)

- a. Mariah Guzman, Task Force Substitute, AVAC/Transition, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- b. Alyssa Vilcek, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- c. Angela Mendoza, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- d. James Jaskowiak, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- e. Michael Kelly, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- f. Morgan Wilson, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- g. Robert Farrell, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- h. Theodore Mackey, Task Force Substitute, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- i. Robert Daly, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- j. Dominic Calleros, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
- k. Ena Dorcoo, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day

- l. Tyler Brodeur, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
 - m. Michael Hensel, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
 - n. Shane Donaldson-Curry, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day Aiden Higgins, Task Force Substitute, West Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Daily Rate \$200 per day
 - o. Darlene Dewitz, Humanities Coordinator, West Campus, effective July 22, 2026, Salary \$115,000.00; due to change of status of Tiffany Rucker
 - p. Phillip Edwards, Special Education Teacher, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Salary Lane C-10 \$85,161; due to resignation of Maurice McCullum
 - q. Elisabeth Sebburn, Special Education Teacher, Central Campus, effective August 14, 2026, Salary C-2 \$71,275; due to resignation of Elizabeth Murray
8. Classified Retirement Request(s)
 - a. Billy Payne, Bus Driver, Transportation, District, effective July 06, 2026
9. Classified Resignation Request(s)
 - a. Mark Zook, Bus Driver, Transportation, District, effective July 09, 2026
10. Classified Leave of Absence Request(s)
 - a. Thomas Ryan, Custodian, District, is requesting an intermittent leave of absence effective June 3, 2026 through December 3, 2026 Medical-Family
 - b. Crystal Jordan, Office Staff, District, is requesting an extension on her intermittent leave of absence through December 16, 2026 Medical-Personal
 - c. Fatima Stefanech, Paraprofessional, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective August 14, 2026 through October 30, 2026 Medical-Personal
11. Classified Employment Recommendation(s)
 - a. Deyanira Roa, Office Staff II, Student Support Team, West Campus, Step 9 \$22.27 per hour effective August 14, 2026; Replacing Jessica Beatriz

- b. Kai Formella, Detention Supervisor
Paraprofessional, Student Support Team, Central
Campus, Lane C Step 2 \$20.66 per hour effective
August 14, 2026
- c. Natalie Battle, Instructional Paraprofessional,
Special Education, Central Campus, Lane C Step 4
\$21.50 per hour effective August 14, 2026
- d. Nycole Simms, Instructional Paraprofessional,
Special Education, Central Campus, Lane C Step 2
\$20.66 per hour effective August 14, 2026
- e. Shirley Milsap, Paraprofessional, Pathways
Campus, Lane C Step 4 \$21.50 per hour effective
August 14, 2026
- f. Valerie Vorreyer, Paraprofessional, Pathways
Campus, Lane C Step 3 \$20.97 per hour effective
August 14, 2026
- g. Sandra Kocian, Service Worker, Cafeteria, Central
Campus, Step 1 \$15.92 per hour effective August
14 ,2026; Replacing Malina McNair
- h. Angela Crowder, Full Time Assistant Cook,
Cafeteria, Pathways, Step 4 \$17.51 per hour
effective August 14, 2026; replacing Vicky
Aguirre

12. Classified Change of Status Recommendation(s)

- a. Joshua Vanderveen, Custodian, Buildings and
Grounds, Central Campus to 2nd Shift
Maintenance Mechanic, Buildings and Grounds,
Central Campus, Step 1 \$24.82 per hour, effective
July 22, 2026; replacing Ruben Hernandez
- b. Malina McNair, Service Worker, Cafeteria, Central
Campus to Cashier, Cafeteria, Central Campus,
Step 23 \$23.23 per hour, effective August 17,2026;
replacing Marilyn Henderson
- c. Bertha Benitez, Service Worker, Cafeteria, West
Campus to Service Worker, Cafeteria, Central
Campus, Step 2 \$16.22 per hour effective August
17,2026; replacing Maria Sanantonio

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

IX. Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business.

X. New Business

No New Business.

XI. Board Reports

Dr. Huntington shared that she attended the Special Education enrichment program.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer shared that Still Bridges was an amazing documentary and filled with JTHS Pride. She encouraged everyone to take time to view the film.

XII. Announcements/Public Comment

No Announcements/Public Comment.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Stiff and seconded by Mrs. Lynn, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Mr. Matthew Kennedy
President

Mrs. Michelle Stiff,
Secretary