

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, March 18, 2026, beginning at 7:00 PM at the District Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call - 5:00 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 5:05 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Administrative Center, 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, Illinois. Members Present Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick (*arrived at 5:20*), Mrs. Michelle Stiff, Mrs. Christine Lynn, Mrs. Lorraine Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Angela Huntington, and Mr. Dan Coffey. Absent: Mr. Matt Kennedy

Mr. Coffey moved that the board go into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel updates, negotiations, property, and student discipline. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Stiff, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

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

Vice President Guerrero Neumayer reconvened the meeting into Regular Session at 7:00 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 (*arrived at 7:07*), Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

Vice President Guerrero Neumayer welcomed all 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 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 February 17, 2026 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 Dr. Hungtinton 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. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Lynn. Nays: None.

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

VI. Recognition and Awards

- A. Central Campus - *No Recognition This Month*
- B. West Campus
 - 2026 IHSA Joliet West Girls Bowling State Runner-Up
 - Joliet West High School IHSA STATE Girls Bowling Team
 - Freshman-Shailyn Perryman
 - Sophomore-Angela Mihajlovic Demco
 - Sophomore-Jordyn Jinks
 - Junior-Gianna Mendoza
 - Senior-Samantha French
 - Senior-Mia Antomenz
 - Senior-Emily Michon (IHSA ALL STATE-7th place 2520 pin fall, 210 avg)
 - Senior-Malorie Berry (IHSA Individual Regional Champ & IHSA ALL STATE-5th pl 2544-210 av)
 - Assistant Coach-Amanda Ashmus
 - Head Coach- John Lizzio

 - IHSA Individual State Speech Competition-4th place
 - Nevaeh Walker – Poetry Reading

Head Coach Kristin Blake

VII. Superintendent Reports

- A. Correspondence
No Correspondence
- B. Legislative Report
No Legislative Report
- C. Academic Return on Investment Presentation — *Dr. Sean Hackney, Assistant Principal*
Dr. Hackney have an overview of the Academic Return on Investment
- D. 2026-2027 Staffing Presentation - *Mrs. Dianne McDondald, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services*
Mrs. McDonald gave update on 2026-2027 staffing.
- E. North Winds Presentation - *Mr. Doug Pryor, President and CEO, Will County Center for Economic Development*
Mr. Pryor and Mr. Sean Kenny gave an overview on Project North Winds and the property tax abatement request.

VIII. Action Items

- A. 2026-2027 Staffing Recommendations
A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the 2026-2027 Staff Recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatric, and Mrs. Lynn. Nays: None
- B. Second Reading of Recommendations
 - 1. Policy 7:270 - Student Behavior-Attire
 - a. Recommendation 1
A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to approve Recommendation 1 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neuamyer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mr. Kennedy. Nays: Mrs. Stiff and Mr. Fitzpatrick.
 - b. Recommendation 2
A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve Recommendation 2 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Nays: Mr. Fitzpatrick.
 - c. Recommendation 3
No Motion Given.
 - d. Recommendation 4
This vote was not needed, due to previous action.
- C. JIU Credit Request Impact Coaching Cycle

A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve JIU Credit Request Impact Coaching Cycle. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, and Dr. Huntington. Nays: None.

- D. Approval for use of Joliet West Logo for Joliet Fire Department
A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to the Approval for use of Joliet West Logo for Joliet Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.
- E. 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Dates
A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve the 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Dates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Lynn. Nays: None.
- F. ROE56 Alternative Learning Opportunities Program Intergovernmental Agreement
A motion was made by Mrs. Lynn to approve the ROE56 Alternative Learning Opportunities Program Intergovernmental Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: None.
- G. IHSA Membership Renewal
1. Joliet Central
 2. Joliet West
- A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the IHSA Membership Renewal. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mr. Stiff, and Mr. Kennedy. Nays: None.
- H. Resolution Authorizing Preparation of the 2026-2027 Budget
A motion was made by Mr. Coffey to approve the Resolution Authorizing Preparation of the 2026-2027 Budget. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None.
- I. 2026-2027 Fee and Refund Schedule
A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve the 2026-2027 Fee and Refund Schedule. 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.

J. Bid Results for Dairy Products

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

K. 2026-2027 Breakfast and Lunch Price Recommendation

A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to approve the 2026-2027 Breakfast and Lunch Price Recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lynn and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

L. Joliet Central and Joliet West Construction Projects: Awards Bids; Bid Release 3

A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to approve the Joliet Central and Joliet West Construction Projects: Awards Bids; Bid Release 3. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stiff and carried. Comments. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Lynn.

M. Land Swap Contract

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

N. Summer Hours

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

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

1. Professional Resignation Request(s)

- a. Devin Bailey, Task Force Substitute, Pathways, effective February 27, 2026
- b. Elizabeth Cole, Girls Softball, Central, effective February 27, 2026
- c. Kevin O'Connell, Head Girls Volleyball, Central, December 2, 2025
- d. Malachi Pellegrini, Assistant Dance, Central, effective February 27, 2026

- e. Katie Adams, Assistant Girls Volleyball, West, effective February 12, 2026
 - f. Barbara Burns, School Psychologist, Pathways, effective May 30, 2026
 - g. Angela Williams, AVAC & Transition Program Coordinator, effective June 30, 2026
2. Professional Retirement Request(s)
- a. Cindy Jorgensen, Special Education Teacher, Transition, effective May 30, 2030
 - b. Eduardo Contreras, Dean, Central Campus, effective May 30, 2030
3. Professional Leave of Absence Request(s)
- a. Scott Laken, Special Education, Teacher, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective February 23, 2026 through April 15, 2026 Medical-Personal
 - b. Margarita Cuevas, Freshman Academy, Teacher, West Campus, is requesting an intermittent leave of absence effective February 2, 2026 through May 29, 2026 Medical-Personal
4. Professional Salary Advancement Request(s)
- a. Rocio Flores, Central Campus, from C15 to D15
5. Professional Change of Status Request(s)
- a. Kristin Chally, Dean, West Campus to Behavior Support Coordinator, West Campus, Salary \$128,000.00 effective July 1, 2026
6. Professional Extra Pay Recommendation(s)
- Central Campus – Athletics
- a. Arena Marciante, Assistant Girls Volleyball
- West Campus- Athletics
- a. Nicole Guzman, Volunteer Girls Soccer
 - b. Tony Guzman, Volunteer Football
 - c. Amanda Ashmus, Assistant Badminton
 - d. Karl Grant, Volunteer Football
7. Professional Additional Assignments for Administration Recommendation(s)
- a. Mr. Brian Paczesny
8. Professional Employment Recommendation(s)
- a. Patricia Colella, Vision Itinerant, Central Campus, effective March 18, 2026 Salary \$18,696.82 prorated; due to resignation of Caroline Krotiak

- b. Valerie Vorreyer, Task Force Substitute, Pathways, effective March 10, 2026 Daily Rate \$200; due to the resignation of Devin Bailey
9. Professional Notice of Dismissal and Non-Renewal of First Year Probationary Teacher
- a. xxx-xx-5547
 - b. xxx-xx-5901
 - c. xxx-xx-0682
10. Classified Retirement Request(s)
- a. Lisa Talarico, Instructional Paraprofessional, Special Services, AVAC/ Central Campus, effective May 29, 2026
 - b. Kathleen Hurley, Office Staff I, District, effective June 30, 2026
 - c. Elizabeth Hucek, Cashier, Cafeteria, Central Campus, effective June 5, 2026
11. Classified Resignation Request(s)
- a. Terry Winfrey, Office Staff II, PPS, West Campus effective February 20, 2026
 - b. James Fuglsang, Building & Grounds Supervisor, Building & Grounds, West Campus, effective March 1, 2026
12. Classified Leave of Absence Request(s)
- a. Aurora Servin, Office Staff, West Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective March 3, 2026 through May 29, 2026 Medical-Family
 - b. Marlen Rios Zapata, Paraprofessional, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective March 30, 2026 through May 18, 2026 Medical-Personal
 - c. Robert Macfarlene, Bus Driver, Transportation, is requesting a leave of absence effective January 18, 2026 through July 22, 2026 Medical-Personal
 - d. Consuela Bishop, Paraprofessional, Central Campus, on an approved leave of absence, is requesting an extension through May 29, 2026 Medical-Personal
 - e. Rebecca Prieboy, Paraprofessional, Central Campus, is requesting a leave of absence effective March 18, 2026 through April 15, 2026 Medical-Personal
13. Classified Employment Recommendation(s)
- a. Laura Abel, Office Staff I, Special Services, West Campus, step \$21.68 per hour effective

March 19,2026. Due to the resignation of Carla Dobson

- b. Jacob Ogden, Security, West Campus, Lane A, Step 2 \$18.91 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- c. Karl Grant, Security, West Campus, Lane C, Step 4 \$ 20.87 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- d. ~~Keyone Dearmon, Security, Central Campus, Lane A, Step 4 \$ 19.66 per hour effective March 19, 2026~~
- e. Jarret Smith, Security, West Campus, Lane A Step 4 \$ 19.66 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- f. Kimberly Guarino, Security, West Campus, Lane A Step 4 \$ 19.66 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- g. Ashli Hite, Detention Paraprofessional, PPS, Central Campus, Lane A Step 3 \$19.18 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- h. Carmen Williams Garcia, Instructional Paraprofessional, Special Services, Central Campus, Lane A Step 3 \$ 19.18 per hour, effective March 19, 2026
- i. Jaime Mata Contreras, 2nd Shift Custodian, Building & Grounds, Central Campus, Step 1 \$ 18.45 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- j. Kathryn Berry, Bus Driver, Transportation, District, Step 6 \$23.63 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- k. James Gabl, Heating Operator, Building & Grounds, Central Campus, Step 1 \$ 26.22 per hour effective March 23, 2026
- l. Shontica Anderson, Instructional Paraprofessional, Special Education, Central Campus, Lane A Step 4 \$ 19.66 per hour effective March 19, 2026
- m. Maria Ferreira, Service Worker, Cafeteria, West Campus, Step 1 \$ 15.69 per hour effective TBD

14. Classified Change of Status Recommendation(s)

- a. Terry Xydakis, 2nd shift Watchman, Building & Grounds, West Campus to 1st Shift Watchman, Building & Grounds, West Campus, no change in pay effective March 2, 2026
- b. Megan Reed, Task Force Clerical Substitute, Main Office, West Campus, to Office Staff II,

PPS, West Campus, Step 2 \$17.37 per hour effective March 5, 2026. Due to the resignation of Terry Winfrey

- c. Jonathan Humphrey, IT Assistant Network Administrator, Technology, District to IT Network/Media Manager, Technology, District \$100,000 annually effective July 1, 2026. Due to the retirement of Wendy Davis

15. Classified Notice of Dismissal and Non-Renewal

- a. xxx-xx-6850

A motion was made by Dr. Huntington to approve Personnel Reports 1-6 and 8-15. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coffey and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, and Mr. Coffey. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Mrs. Stiff to approve Personnel Report 7. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, and Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer. Nays: None.

H. Student Discipline Recommendation(s) – *Policy 7:190*

Mr. Coffey began by saying, “after receiving and deliberating the information contained in the hearing officer’s report, the Board of Education is charged with deciding:

1. Whether removing the child from his or her learning environment is in the best interest of the school;
2. What the rationale is for the specific duration of the recommended expulsion;
3. Whether all appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions were exhausted; and
4. Whether the continued presence in school would either; (a) pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or (b) substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school.

The Board of Education must then convene into public session to formally vote on the motion to expel, if the expulsion is the consensus arrived at during executive session.”

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student C252615 be expelled from all District 204 programs until January 2027. The Board of Education then stayed the expulsion so Student C252615 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student C252615 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in January 2027. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Lynn. Nays: None. Abstain: Mr. Kennedy.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student C252616 be expelled from all District 204 programs until January 2027. The Board of Education then stayed the expulsion so Student C252616 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student C252616 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in January 2027. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote: Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Mr. Coffey, Mrs. Stiff, and Mr. Fitzpatrick. Nays: Dr. Huntington. Abstain: Mr. Kennedy

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student C252617 be expelled from all District 204 programs until January 2027. The Board of Education then stayed the expulsion so Student C252617 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student C252617 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in January 2027. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: None. Abstain: Mr. Kennedy.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey that Student W252618 be expelled from all District 204 programs until January 2028. The Board of Education then stayed the expulsion so Student W252618 may continue their education through Lincoln School for the duration of the recommended expulsion. Student W252618 may reenroll at Joliet Township High School District 204 in January 2028. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer and carried. Roll call vote. Ayes: Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer, Dr. Huntington, Mr. Coffey, and Mrs. Stiff. Nays: Mr. Fitzpatrick. Abstain: Mr. Kennedy.

IX. Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business.

X. New Business

No New Business.

XI. Board Reports

Dr. Huntington shared that Joliet West Group interpretation will have a sendoff, and they will have their show on Tuesday at West.

Mr. Kennedy acknowledges that Brian Reed and Ed Contreras are on the retirement memos, and would like to thank them both for all of their work they have done for the District.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer congratulated and thanked everyone for the work that was put into the Joyful Brunch. This event benefited both the JTHS Athletic Boosters and MAC Mentoring.

Mrs. Stiff shared that the Larkin to Hammes will be named after Michael Austin Clark and tomorrow, March 19th is Michael Austin Clark Day.

Mrs. Stiff attended the Joliet Chamber annual award dinner. Joliet Township High School was recognized.

Mrs. Stiff thanked Joliet Township High School for partnering with Workforce Center of Will County on their Pathways to Profession Expo.

Mrs. Stiff thanked Joliet West culinary for baking the cookies for the Workforce Event.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer congratulated the Girls Bowling Team.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer wanted to say Happy Social Workers Month to all social workers.

Mrs. Guerrero Neumayer wanted to remind everyone that next month is sexual awareness month.

XII. Announcements/Public Comment

Dr. Guseman shared:

- Congratulations, Michelle Stiff for being awarded the 2026 Women's History Month award for outstanding achievement in workforce and labor.
- Joliet Township High School had over 300 students attend the pathways to profession Expo.
- Special thanks to Kristine and Helen Ross, Co-Chairs and their team for the amazing Joyful Brunch event.

- Special shout out to mentors for MAC Mentoring.
- Thank you to the JTHS Foundation for an amazing Trivia Event.
- JTHS Foundation Golf Outing will be June 4.
- Salute to Service will be held on Thursday, April 9.
- Night of Champions will be held on April 16.

Upon a motion by Mr. Kennedy and seconded by Mrs. Stiff, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Mr. Matthew Kennedy
President

Mrs. Michelle Stiff,
Secretary