



Franklin & Jefferson

COUNTIES SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT 801

Executive Board Minutes

January 20, 2026

The Executive Board of the Special Education District of Franklin and Jefferson Counties met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. The meeting was held in the conference room at the District 80 Office located at 2710 North Street, Mount Vernon, IL. Chairman, Jason Henry, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was taken by the recording secretary, and a quorum was established. All listed Executive Board members were present.

Executive Members Present:

Steve Smith, Benton #47
Kashia Cook, Christopher #99F
Benjy Johnson, Benton #103
Quent Hamilton, Zeigler-Royalton #188
Jason Henry, Sesser-Valier #196
Mike Denault, Waltonville #1
Sarah Mellott, Rome #2
DiAnna Thompson, Opdyke-Belle Rive #5
Tommi Ryan, Grand Prairie #6
Ryan Swan, Mt. Vernon #80
Chad LeCrone, Mt. Vernon #201
Eric Helbig, Woodlawn #209
Adam Cross, Bluford #318

Executive Members Absent:

Tammy McCollum, Akin #91
Kristin Ing, Ewing-Northern #115
Lindsay Robinson, Thompsonville #174
Jennifer Arnold, Field #3
Robin Brooks, McClellan #12
Kim Matthews, Summersville #79
Charley Cass, Bethel #82
Jamey Hodges, Farrington #99J
Tammy Beckham, Spring Garden #178

Administrative Staff:

Jera Pieper, Director, FJSPED #801
Andrea Kelley, Treasurer, FJSPED #801

Guests:

Consent Agenda:

Steve Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The items assigned to the Consent Agenda were as follows:

- (a) Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 18, 2025.
- (b) Approve the Payment of Bills
- (c) Approve the Treasurer's Report

Quent Hamilton seconded the Motion. Upon roll call being called the following vote was recorded:

Voting for the Motion: Steve Smith, Kashia Cook, Benjy Johnson, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Mike Denault, Sarah Mellott, DiAnna Thompson, Tommi Ryan, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Eric Helbig, Adam Cross.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.



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Personnel:

Professional Concerns:

A motion to approve the responses from FJSPED Professional Concerns was made by Adam Cross, seconded by Mike Denault.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes, with nays being none.

Consider Maternity Leave Request:

A motion to approve the maternity leave request for Hayle (Shay) Culver, was made by Chad LeCrone, and seconded by DiAnna Thompson.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes, with nays being none.

Hiring of Personnel:

A motion to employ Candace McMillan, Program Assistant, was made by Quent Hamilton, seconded by Adam Cross. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting for the Motion: Steve Smith, Kashia Cook, Benjy Johnson, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Mike Denault, Sarah Mellott, DiAnna Thompson, Tommi Ryan, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Eric Helbig, Adam Cross.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.

A motion to employ Desiree Pavletich, Program Assistant, was made by DiAnna Thompson, seconded by Mike Denault. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting for the Motion: Steve Smith, Kashia Cook, Benjy Johnson, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Mike Denault, Sarah Mellott, DiAnna Thompson, Tommi Ryan, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Eric Helbig, Adam Cross.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.

A motion to employ David Bird, Educational Technologist, was made by Quent Hamilton, seconded by Steve Smith. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting for the motion: Steve Smith, Kashia Cook, Benjy Johnson, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Mike Denault, Sarah Mellott, DiAnna Thompson, Tommi Ryan, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Eric Helbig, Adam Cross.

Voting against the motion: None.

Motion Carried.

Old Business:

None



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New Business:

(a) Consider status of closed session minutes and/or destruction of closed session verbatim recordings:

A motion to keep the Personnel Committee closed session of 4/11/24, and the Special Executive Board Meeting of 4/24/24 closed session minutes closed, and to destroy recordings was made by Adam Cross, seconded by Mike Denault.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes and nays being none.

Motion carried.

(b) Consider FJSPED Staff to conduct Child Find Screenings:

A motion to FJSPED Staff to conduct Child Find Screenings was made by DiAnna Thompson, seconded by Mike Denault.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes and nays being none.

Motion Carried.

(c) Consider Updated Joint Agreement:

A motion to consider the Updated Joint Agreement was made by Quent Hamilton, seconded by Ryan Swan.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes and nays being none.

Motion Carried.

(d) Consider date for next Governing Board Meeting:

Director Pieper will communicate a new date.

Director's Report:

Other:

Dr. Henry reminded the board to be looking for the upcoming evaluation for Director Pieper.

Adjournment:

At 9:07 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Ryan Swan, seconded by Quent Hamilton.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes with nays being none.

Jason Henry, Chairman

Quent Hamilton, Secretary