



Franklin & Jefferson

COUNTIES SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT 801

Executive Board Minutes

August 19, 2025

The Executive Board of the Special Education District of Franklin and Jefferson Counties met in regular session on Tuesday, August 19, 2025. The meeting was held in the conference room at Franklin-Jefferson Counties Special Education, Benton, 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 physically present.

Executive Members Present:

Steve Smith, Benton #47
Tammy McCollum, Akin #91
Kashia Cook, Christopher #99F
Benjy Johnson, Benton #103
Lindsay Robinson, Thompsonville #174
Quent Hamilton, Zeigler-Royalton #188
Jason Henry, Sesser-Valier #196
Mike Denault, Waltonville #1
Sarah Mellott, Rome #2
Robin Brooks, McClellan #12
Kim Matthews, Summersville #79
Ryan Swan, Mt. Vernon #80
Tammy Beckham, Spring Garden #178
Chad LeCrone, Mt. Vernon #201
Eric Helbig, Woodlawn #209
Adam Cross, Bluford #318

Executive Members Absent:

Kristin Ing, Ewing-Northern #115
Jennifer Arnold, Field #3
DiAnna Thompson, Opdyke-Belle Rive #5
Tommi Ryan, Grand Prairie #6
Charley Cass, Bethel #82
Jamey Hodges, Farrington #99J

Administrative Staff:

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

Guests:

Consent Agenda:

Adam Cross moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The items assigned to the Consent Agenda were as follows:

- (a) Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 15, 2025.
- (b) Approve the Payment of Bills
- (c) Approve the Treasurer's Report
- (d) Approve Resolution Authorizing Interfund Loan
- (e) Approve Partnership Agreement with SIUC EC Program.
- (f) Approve food service contracts with Summersville #79, Sesser-Valier #196 and Christopher #99
- (g) Appoint certain managers/officers/coordinator
 - a. Complaint Manager
 - b. Freedom of Information Act Officer
 - c. Open Meetings Act Officer
 - d. District Non-Discrimination Coordinator

Sarah Mellott seconded the Motion. Upon roll call being called the following vote was recorded:

Voting for the Motion: Eric Helbig, Robin Brooks, Kim Matthews, Tammy McCollum, Lindsay Robinson, Sarah Mellott, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Benjy Johnson, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Kashia Cook, Steve Smith, Adam Cross, Tammy Beckham, Mike Denault.



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Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.

Personnel:

Acknowledge Resignation:

A motion to approve the resignations of Haley Cash, Program Assistant, was made by Robin Brooks and seconded by Quent Hamilton.

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

Motion carried.

Hiring of Personnel:

A motion to hire Laine Moon, DBA the School Psychologist remote contract, was made by Mike Denault, and seconded by Chad LeCrone. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting for the Motion: Eric Helbig, Robin Brooks, Kim Matthews Tammy McCollum, Lindsay Robinson, Sarah Mellott, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Benjy Johnson, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Kashia Cook, Steve Smith, Adam Cross, Tammy Beckham, Mike Denault.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

(A) Motion to appoint/retain Frannczek, P.C. as additional cooperative counsel in a non-exclusive arrangement:

A motion to authorize Director Pieper to Appoint/retain Frannczek P.C. as an additional co-op counsel was made by Ryan Swan, Seconded by Sarah Mellott. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting for the Motion: Eric Helbig, Robin Brooks, Kim Matthews Tammy McCollum, Lindsay Robinson, Sarah Mellott, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Benjy Johnson, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Kashia Cook, Steve Smith, Adam Cross, Tammy Beckham, Mike Denault.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.



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(B) Revised Board Policies:

A motion to forward the policy updates on to the Executive Board for approval was made by Mike Denault, seconded by Robin Brooks. A roll call vote was taken

Voting for the Motion: Eric Helbig, Robin Brooks, Kim Matthews Tammy McCollum, Lindsay Robinson, Sarah Mellott, Quent Hamilton, Jason Henry, Benjy Johnson, Ryan Swan, Chad LeCrone, Kashia Cook, Steve Smith, Adam Cross, Tammy Beckham, Mike Denault.

Voting against the Motion: None.

Motion Carried.

Director's Report:

Please contact me if you are interested in Infinitec access for mandated trainings or EMBRACE 504 access. We will schedule EMBRACE DS Medicaid billing trainings this year to share updates with Districts. A copy of the Professional Development Offered by FJSPED is in your board packet.

Data from the 2024-2025 School year indicate that FJSPED completed 190 Initial Referrals and 173 Re-evaluation referrals. The District Special Education IEP Percentage document is enclosed and reports the percent of special education students within a District population. ISBE recommends 11%, while Brandon Wright has often suggested 14% is within the appropriate range. FJSPED member Districts range from 11% to 33%. We have an average of 21%.

Brandon Wight is presenting an Administrators Academy on August 26th, 2025. Registration information has been emailed to Superintendents. Please share with any staff you want to attend. This is free to member District Staff.

Cyclical Monitoring Sessions will be hosted by Director Pieper after the September Board meeting on the 16th. An EMBRACE Medicaid Webinar is scheduled for September 18th to retrain Medicaid staff.

Other:

The Governing Board meeting has been set for August 28, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

At 9:10 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Mike Denault, and seconded by Steve Smith.

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

Jason Henry, Chairman

Quent Hamilton, Secretary