

**JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**Central Administration Office Building**  
**Executive Session**  
**Annual Board of Finance Meeting**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**January 26, 2023**

**Executive Session:** The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on January 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Special Education Board Room of the Jennings County School Corporation Central Administration Office Building, 34 West Main Street, North Vernon, IN 47265, to discuss the following in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b):

- (3) Discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(3).
- (5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees. IC 5-14-1.5-6(b)(5).
- (9) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

Board Members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Earl Taggart, Cheryl Miller, Chelsea Morrison, Pat Sullivan, Travis Shepherd and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Superintendent Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz and Philip Marsh were also in attendance. Also present were SRO Matt Staples and NV Police Chief, Keith Messer, JCHS Principal, Dustin Roller, and JCHS Assistant Principal, Stephanie Ebbing

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

**Annual Board of Finance Meeting** – The annual meeting of the Board of Finance for Jennings County School Corporation was held in the Board Room of the Jennings County School Corporation Central Administration Office Building, 34 West Main Street, North Vernon, IN 47265. This meeting began at 6:47 p.m.

The following link was also available to live stream the Annual Board of Finance Meeting from your home:

<https://youtu.be/iHjUDbsuUmY>

**Agenda**

- Dr. Pettit called the Annual Board of Finance meeting to order (Bylaw 0151.1)
- A. Election of a President and Secretary
  - Dr. Pettit asked for a nomination for President of the Board of Finance.
  - Mr. Shepherd made a motion to nominate Amy Pettit. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.
  - 6 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Pettit). Approved.

Dr. Pettit asked for a nomination for Secretary of the Board of Finance.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to nominate Pat Sullivan. Mrs. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Sullivan). Approved.

B. Designation of Depositories

Mr. Marsh stated the banks that JCSC uses - German American Bank, Jackson County Bank - opened 1/18/2023 and Old National Bank – closed 1/18/2023.

C. Receive and review the Annual Investment Report

Mr. Marsh stated that no CD's were purchased and/or sold during 2022.

D. Review the Investment Policy of the Corporation, Policy 6144

Mr. Marsh stated there were no changes to this policy.

E. Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

Mr. Marsh stated that the oldest outstanding check in the system is dated 8/11/2022.

F. Corporation Fiscal and Qualitative Indicators

Mr. Marsh stated that this packet was given to the board.

G. Adjournment

Ms. Morrison made a motion to adjourn the Board of Finance Meeting at 6:51 p.m. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

**Regular Meeting:** The Board of School Trustees held its regular meeting in the Board Room of the Jennings County School Corporation Central Administration Office Building, 34 West Main Street, North Vernon, IN 47265. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

The following link was also available to live stream the Regular Board meeting from your home:

<https://youtu.be/A653X4GWhYE>

Board Members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Earl Taggart, Cheryl Miller, Chelsea Morrison, Pat Sullivan, Travis Shepherd and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Superintendent Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Todd Ebinger, Roy Herr, Lisa Hearne and Board Executive Secretary Debbie Andis were also in attendance.

This meeting was a meeting of the School Board in public for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and it was not to be considered a public community meeting. There was time for public participation as indicated by the agenda. (Policy 0166)

Consent Agenda Items: The following items were provided to the Board for their review and approval. If any Board Member had a concern about an item, he/she would have requested that the item(s) be removed from this grouping to be voted upon individually.

The following consent agenda items were presented for approval without discussion:

- III. Minutes;
- VIA1. Field Trips;
- VIB1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIB2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIB4. Conference Requests;
- VIC1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VIC2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIC4. Conference Requests;

## VII. Claims;

Information Items: These items were given to the Board to review. If a Board Member wished to discuss any of these items; he/she would have indicated that the item(s) be removed from the grouping for discussion during the meeting.

The following information items were shared with the Board:

VIIIA1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes 1/03/2023.

VIIIA2. Spark of Kindness Toy Giveaway, Thank You card.

## Agenda

### I. Pledge

The President opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Pettit thanked everyone for joining us tonight and added a reminder that we are live streaming this event.

### II. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

### III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2023.

These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

### IV. Community Non-Agenda Items

- The President asked if anyone would like to speak on any items on the agenda or any other topic.

There were no comments

Dr. Pettit stated that Chief Messer with NVPD is with us tonight to speak on the event that happened at JCHS today.

*Attachment* - Chief Messer read the NVPD News Release dated 1/26/2023.

### V. Old Business

#### A. Programs (Policy 2000)

##### 1. JCHS New Course Proposals for 2023-2024 School Year, Approval

- Industrial Maintenance Fundamentals (7104)
- Teaching and Learning (7162)
- Culinary Arts (7169)
- Understanding Diversity (7174)
- Mass Media Production (7307)
- Computer Science (7352)
- Principles of Healthcare (7168)
- Medical Terminology (7164)
- Healthcare Specialist: CNA (7166)
- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) (7164)
- Healthcare Specialist Capstone (7255)
  
- Project Based Learning (0547)
- Service Based Learning (0539)
- Work Based Learning (0543)

# North Vernon Police Department

## News Release

### Bomb Threat

**Date:** Thursday, January 26, 2023

**For Immediate Release**

On Thursday, January 26, 2023 12:20 PM officers of the North Vernon Police Department were notified of a bomb threat at the Jennings County High School.

At 12:11 PM on Thursday January 26, 2023 at the Jennings County High School a student received an air drop on he iPhone in the cafeteria. The name of the iPhone used to send the air drop is reported to be "There's a bomb at JCHS". Upon opening the air drop, it was a photograph of a male and female sitting on a couch.

At 12:20 PM the student reported the air drop to Jennings County High School staff, and School Resource Officer Matt Staples of the North Vernon Police Department. At that time the Schools were placed on a lockdown, and the cafeteria was immediately cleared by SRO Staples and school staff. Students and staff were evacuated from the high school, and escorted to the Jennings County Middle School.

During this time, Homeland Security Officer Scott Crane was called to the high school with his K9 specially trained to detect explosives. Soon after they arrived to the location along with Deputies from the Jennings County Sheriff's Department, and Indiana State Police and cleared the entire high school. No explosives, guns, or other weapons were located within the building.

During this time, other officer from the North Vernon Police Department, Jennings County Sheriff's Department, Indiana State Police, Indiana Conservation Officers, and Indiana Excise Police arrive to the Jennings County High School and Jennings County Middle School.

Shortly after, another air drop was sent out inside of the Jennings County Middle School of a photograph of a gun. The Jennings County Middle School was also being searched at that time. Searches of the schools continued, and accountability of students and staff were taking place. No guns, explosives, or other weapons were located in the Middle School. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the photo of the gun was taken on January 1, 2023 at 1:23 AM from a different location, and not on any school property.

The investigation is ongoing, and further information may be released at a later date.

Thank you to the Jennings County School Corporation teachers and staff. Your dedication to the safety and education to the youth in our community is greatly appreciated.

To all parents of students, thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this stressful situation. Your children's safety is of the utmost concern for the North Vernon Police Department, Jennings County School Corporation, and all other agencies involved.

Thank you to all assisting agencies including but not limited to:

Scott Crane, Indiana Homeland Security

Jennings County Sheriff's Department

Indiana State Police

Indiana Excise Police

Indiana Conservation Officers

Jennings County Dispatch Center

**For further information contact:**

Sergeant Isaac Barkes – Public Information Officer

[North Vernon Police Department](#)

[ibarkes@nvpd.org](mailto:ibarkes@nvpd.org)

(812) 346-1466

Mrs. Johnson asked for approval for new JCHS courses for the 2023-2024 school year that were presented at our last meeting.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to accept the new courses. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Discussion: Dr. Pettit shared some information about a phone conversation with Dave Cheatham (who spoke at our last board meeting) regarding his continuing concerns about the naming of course #7174 Understanding Diversity. He has been in contact with the Department of Education and would like to request this course be renamed. Dr. Pettit encouraged Mr. Cheatham to receive and review the information that the Department of Education is sending him and then reach out to Mr. Roller at JCHS to share his thoughts on this course information. The board would take this item, as listed on the agenda, and if there's additional information or if anyone would like to make a motion to change the course title, this would be done at a later meeting.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. JCHS Graduation Requirement Change Proposal, Approval

Mrs. Whitcomb made a motion to approve the graduation requirement change.

Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

B. Finance (Policy 6000)

1. *Attachment* - JCSC to Switch Holding / Savings Banks from Old National to Jackson County Bank, Approval

Mr. Marsh stated that this is a resolution confirming the switch from Old National to Jackson County Bank for banking paperwork and is asking for approval.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VI. New Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Field Trips

None at this time.

B. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

None at this time.

2. Resignations/Retirements

None at this time.

3. Recommendations

- Jonathan Stoner, HE Math Bowl Sponsor, \$432.00 stipend, effective 1/03/2023.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the professional staff recommendation.

Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Conference Requests

None at this time.

C. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

None at this time.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Margaret Ashpaugh, GCE Cook, retiring effective 5/26/2023.
- Teresa Brandt, JCHS Cook, termination effective 1/09/2023.

**A Resolution to allow the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer to switch holding/bank from Old National to Jackson County Bank.**

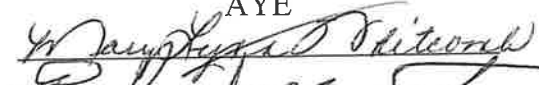


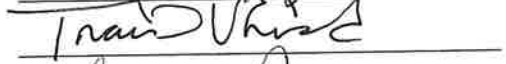

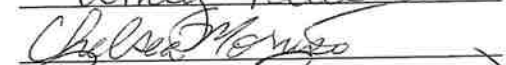
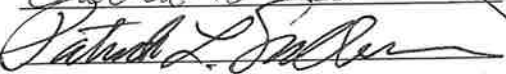
**Whereas,** The Board of Trustees of Jennings County Schools authorizes opening a new account at Jackson County Bank.

**Now therefore be it resolved,** that the Board of Trustees of Jennings County Schools hereby authorizes the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer of the Corporation to open new account at Jackson County Bank.

**Resolution #: Bus2023-001**

Adopted this 26th day of January, 2023.

**JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

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ATTEST:   
Secretary

- Loretta Kiernan, SE Para Pro, resignation effective 1/17/2023.
- Ashton Lucas, JCHS/NVE Nurse, resignation effective 1/31/2023.
- Charles Sarver, JCHS Custodian, retiring effective 2/28/2023.
- Alexis Tharpe, NVE Para Pro, resignation effective 1/13/2023.
- Kennedy Vance, SE Para Pro, resignation effective 12/16/2022.

These resignations /retirements were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

3. Recommendations

- Scott Alcorn, JCS Bus Driver, \$18.00 hr. x 8 hrs. day, effective 1/03/2023.
- Paige Bateman, JCHS ED Self Contained Para Pro, \$15.20 hr. x 7 hrs., effective 1/20/2023.
- Ralph Byard, SCE Custodian 5 1/2 hrs.(part-time) to 8 hrs. day(full-time), effective 1/27/2023.
- Donald Coquerille, JCHS Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for 2022-2023 school year, effective 1/20/2023.
- Monica Harris, JCMS CNA, \$17.00 hr. x 7 hrs. day, effective 2/06/2023.
- Shawn McGill, GCE Volunteer NASP Archery Coach, effective 1/20/2023.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the support staff recommendations. Mrs. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Conference Requests

None at this time.

D. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations, Approval

- Hayden United Methodist Church, \$6,000.00 to HE for Student Needs.
- New Bethel Church & Alert Church, Truckload of Canned Food to JCHS Panther Pantry.
- NVIC, \$500.00 to JCHS for Student Needs.
- John T. & Megan Clerkin, \$100.00 to JCHS National Art Honor Society.
- Dr. Scott Terry, Grocery Cart Full of Canned Food Items to JCHS Panther Pantry.
- Hardwood Farms, Inc., \$1,000.00 to JCHS School Supply Shop.
- Donations to JCS HOPE Food Program:
  - Ryan & Brittany Black - \$100.00
  - K & G Sports, Hurley Hooligan T-Shirts - \$1,700.00
  - JCHS Basketball Game - \$762.01
  - JCHS Winter Formal Dance - \$1,500.00

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the above donations. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

E. Relations (Policy9000)

1. MOU between Taylor University Education Dept. and Jennings County Schools for student field experience placement, Approval

Ms. Morrison made a motion to accept the Taylor University MOU. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.



VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$437,919.01 (claims 12,033 – 12,152) and payroll in the amount of \$1,234,080.28 (check date 1/31/2023). These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

A. Updates

1. Plan Commission Meeting Minutes 1/03/2023.  
These minutes were included in the board packet.
2. Spark of Kindness Toy Giveaway, Thank You Card.
3. Other

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

The Board of Trustees of Jennings County School Corporation did not discuss any subject matter in the Executive Session other than that specified in the Public Notice.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Pettit - President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Shepherd

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chelsea Morrison - Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Earl Taggart

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pat Sullivan - Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Lynn Whitcomb

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Miller