

**JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**Central Administration Office Building**  
**Executive Session**  
**Regular Board Meeting Agenda**  
**August 22, 2024**

**Executive Session:** The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on August 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Special Education Conference 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) For 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 5-14-1.5-6.1(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, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Earl Taggart, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Travis Shepherd. Board member Chelsea Morrison was not in attendance. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh and Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The executive session adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

**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://youtube.com/live/aJjgy7IJkUk?feature=share>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Earl Taggart, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Travis Shepherd. Board member Chelsea Morrison was not in attendance. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Todd Ebinger, Amanda Sullivan, Lisa Hearne and Board Executive Secretary Deb Johnson 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 is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be 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;
- VIA4. Field Trips;
- VIB1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIB2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIB3. Professional Staff: Transfers;
- VIB8. Conference Requests;
- VIC1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VIC2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIC3. Support Staff: Transfers;
- VIC6. 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 will be shared with the Board:

### **Agenda**

- I. Pledge  
The President opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Consent Agenda Items  
Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve consent agenda items. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of August 8, 2024.  
These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
- IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
  - The President will ask if anyone would like to speak on any items on the agenda or any other topic.  
There were no comments
  - Recognition of the JCHS Boys' Soccer Team and JCSC Soccer Coaching Staff.  
Dr. Johnson introduced Coach Carter and the representing members of the JCHS boys' soccer team, Deken Simpson, Berkley Foist, Kaleb McIntosh, Alex Cook, Keaton Suhre, Nic Gadd, Cole Bingham, Isaiah Thompson, Braylen Foist and Brody Ertel who were part of a lifesaving emergency on 8/14/2024 that rendered aide to an Assistant Coach who had collapsed at practice that led to needing CPR and use of the AED. Coach Carter gave instructions and the team stepped up and followed directions, while Coach Carter started performing CPR. Without these steps taken, the outcome could have been very different. We are all incredibly honored and inspired to have them join us tonight and to honor their heroic measures taken to save the life of their coach and peer. We want to say "Thank You" to all coaches and students!!!

V. Old Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Certified Staff Evaluation Tool 2024-2025, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for an annual Certified Staff Tool for all four sections including Planning and Preparation, Effective Instruction, Professional Practice and Professionalism which have little to no changes from the previous year.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve the evaluation tool. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

B. Property (Policy 7000)

1. JCHS CTE Project, Update.

Mr. Marsh said we are very close in all areas except culinary. Contractors have diligently been working towards completion, but still have work to do on plumbing, additional fixtures and electrical. Mr. Marsh hopes of getting a completion list on Monday, August 26, 2024.

Dr. Pettit said the SIM lab is beautiful and an amazing area for the students and community members because they are going to be impacted by the training that will take place. Dr. Johnson will be planning an open house and as soon as we get a date set it will be announced.

VI. New Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Pre-K Programs at BCE, SCE, and NVE Update, Inform.

Mr. Ebinger provided updates on our three, On My Way Pre-k locations at BCE, SCE and NVE. All three programs are running well and our goal is to run all three sites enrolled with twenty students each. We do have some openings left at SCE and BCE. All three sites are On My Way Pre-K certified and we do have vouchers available. Students are undergoing beginning of the year assessments, with additional assessments mid-year and end of year to evaluate how our students are progressing.

2. IREAD Assessment Update, Inform.

Dr. Johnson reported that the state average pass rate was 82.5% this year on IREAD results and that almost all of our schools met or exceeded the state pass rate. The state goal is a 95% or above passing rate. JCS is very excited in the positive direction our schools are headed, but we also recognize areas of continuous improvement. JCS will focus on Science of Reading Instructions to help achieve our goals. Sand Creek became a member of the Indiana Literacy Cadre Program which allowed for a Literacy Cadre Coach as an extra resource for teachers and students which has shown learning growth. We have expanded our literacy cadre program to BCE and NVE. Summer school programs will include 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and will be offered to students that are needing additional help to prepare for IREAD testing. Sand Creek had the highest growth out of any literacy cadre school in the state of Indiana with 32.5% growth and were invited to Indianapolis for recognition for their success at the State Board of Education Meeting.

3. Annual School Improvement Plans, Approval.

Dr. Johnson asked for approval for the annual school improvement plans for each school as presented.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the improvement plans as presented. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Field Trips

- JCHS FFA – Brad Briggs, National FFA Convention Indianapolis, IN., 10/23/2024 – 10/25/2024.

This field trip was approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

B. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

- Josh Creech, JCHS Teacher, Paternity Leave effective dates 10/14/2024-11/11/2024.
- Leah Lane, SCE Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 9/18/2024-12/8/2024.

These leaves were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Justin Baldwin, JCHS Asst. Cross Country Coach, resignation effective 8/13/2024.
- Joe Hauersperger, JCHS Civil Construction Teacher, resignation effective 8/14/2024.
- Neil Snyder, JCHS STEM Contact, resignation effective 8/12/2024.

These resignations were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

3. Transfers

None at this time.

4. Permission to post JCEC/CCMA Instructor Position, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested to post an instructor position funded by an Adult Ed grant.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve posting the JCEC/CCMA Instructor position. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Earl / Cheryl 6-0

5. Permission to post two positions for JCEC EL Instructors, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested to post two positions for JCEC EL Instructors positions which will be funded by the Adult Ed grant.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the posting of two positions for JCEC EL Instructors positions. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no.

Approved.

6. STEM Contacts for 2024-2025, Approval.

- Stephanie Puckett – Brush Creek Elementary
- Courtney Kreutzjans – Graham Creek Elementary
- Baylee Craddock and Tiffany Thurston (split position) – Hayden Elementary
- Judy Alford and Damian Villa (split position) – North Vernon Elementary
- Samantha Low – Sand Creek Elementary
- Tara Kelly – JCMS

Mrs. Hearne asked to approve all annual STEM contacts as read.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve all STEM contacts as read. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

7. Extra Contractual Days for 2024-2025 School Year, Approval.

- Bradley Briggs, 30 days
- Madalyn Cardinal, 17 days
- Chelsey Paar, 13 days
- Nicole Cardinal, 15 days
- Jeffrey Green, 20 days
- Jamie Kelly, 15 days
- Anna Poore, 8 days
- Karen Schneider, 25 days
- Ashley Sedam, 15 days
- Molly Vaughn, 6 days

Mrs. Hearne requested to approve all extra contractual days for 2024-2025 school year as read.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve all contractual days as read. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

8. Recommendations

- Pamela Eggeman, SCE Literacy Cadre Coach, \$73,100 yr., plus \$3,000 stipend (one time- for hard to fill position), five additional days for training, effective 8/20/2024.
- Joseph Kelley, JCHS English Teacher, \$46,100 yr., effective 8/23/2024.
- Adam Tucker, JCHS Civil Construction Teacher, \$46,100 yr., effective 8/23/2024.

Mrs. Hearne requested all recommendations be approved as read.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to accept all recommendations as read. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

9. Conference Requests

- Todd Hearne, Joe Hartwell, Chris Thurston, Leonard Collett and Dustin Roller, Advanced School Safety Training, Indianapolis, IN., 10/21-10/22/2024.
- Stacey King, Jennifer Herr and Amanda Ruddick, IAACE Fall Conference, Belterra Casino Resort, Lawrenceburg, IN., 10/2-10/4/2024.
- Stephanie Ebbing and Dustin Roller, IACTE Statewide CTE Professional Dept. Conference, Indianapolis, IN., 9/12-9/14/2024.
- Felicia Hill, ACP Chemistry Professional Development Conference, IU Memorial Union, Bloomington, IN., 9/13/2024.

These conferences were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

C. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

None at this time.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- David Grider, JCEC NCCER Instructor, resignation effective 8/13/2024.
- Katherine Safley, SCE Para Pro, resignation effective 8/28/2024.
- Bradley Wagoner, JCMS Custodian (2<sup>nd</sup> shift), resignation effective 8/20/2024.

- Everett Wilcher, Jr., JCMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach, resignation effective 8/5/2024.
- Lawrence Mullis, JCHS Custodian, retirement effective 1/31/2025.

These resignations were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

3. Transfers

- Alan Littrell, JCSC Bus Driver, 6 hr. / day to 8hr. / day, effective 8/6/2024.
- Marcia McGill, JCSC Bus Driver, 8 hr. / day to 6 hr. / day, effective 8/6/2024.

These transfers were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

4. Permission to post two positions for JCEC EL Instructor Assistant, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne asked to post two positions for JCEC EL Instructor Assistants funded by an Adult Ed grant.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve posting two positions. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Recommendations

- Emerson Benson, JCHS Student Main Office Intern, \$11.50 / hr. x 4 hrs. / day, effective 8/6/2024.
- Mary Derringer, JCMS Custodian (2<sup>nd</sup> shift), \$16.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 8/21/2024.
- Thomas Feiles, JCSC Part-time (2-3 days weekly) Mechanic, \$20.50 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 8/19/2024.
- Melissa Holloway, JCHS Asst. Kitchen Mgr., \$17.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 9/3/2024.
- Derrek Simpson, JCHS Volunteer Asst. Boys Soccer Coach, effective 8/23/2024.
- Haylee Smith, SCE Sped Para Pro, \$14.00 / hr., effective 8/23/2024.
- Rea Webster, SCE Custodian (2<sup>nd</sup> shift) (part-time 3 days a week), \$13.50 / day x 8 hrs. / day, effective 8/20/2024.

Mrs. Hearne asked approval for all recommendations as read.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve all recommendations as read. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Conference Requests

None at this time.

D. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations, Approval.

- Anonymous, \$450.00 donation to BCE for student snacks, Approval.
- Imagination Daycare, \$500.00 donation to BCE for student snacks, Approval.
- Coffee Creek Christian Church, \$250.00 to GCE for students in need, Approval.
- Jennings Church of Christ, Inc., \$200.00 to JCHS Panther Pantry, Approval.
- St. Vincent Ascension, \$5,000.00 donation to Hope Food Program, Approval.

Mr. Marsh asked for approval for all donations as read.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve all donations. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. 2025 JCSC Budget, Second Reading, Inform.

Mr. Marsh stated slight increase in debt service for bonding for long term maintenance. This is a tax neutral bond for advertisement.

3. Permission to Advertise Budget on September 5, 2024, Approval.

Mrs. Marsh requested permission to advertise all three budgets on September 5, 2024.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve posting the budget. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. 2025 JCSC Capital Project Plan – 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation, Inform.

Mr. Marsh presented power points of the calendar for adoptions as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation – August 22, 2024
- Permission to Advertise – September 5, 2024
- Advertisement – September 6, 2024
- Public Hearing – September 19, 2024
- Adoption – October 3, 2024

5. 2025 JCSC Bus Replacement Plan – 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation, Inform.

Mr. Marsh presented power points of the calendar for the 1<sup>st</sup> presentation for the Bus Replacement Plan.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation – August 22, 2024
- Permission to Advertise – September 5, 2024
- Advertisement – September 6, 2024
- Public Hearing – September 19, 2024
- Adoption – October 3, 2024

E. Property (Policy 7000)

1. JCHS Café Remodel – Phase 1, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for lowest bid with Palmer Hamilton to start the remodel on JCHS Café.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the start of JCHS Café remodel. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

F. Operations (Policy 8000)

1. Extra Pay for Short-term 2024-2025 Contracted Bus Routes, Approval.

- Bus 307, added 10 miles at \$20 day, effective 8/6/2024 until construction is completed during the 2024-2025 school year.
- Bus 306, added 14 miles at \$28 day, effective 8/6/2024 until construction is completed during the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Marsh requested approval to make adjustments to pay for the extended mileage due to construction.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the extra mileage pay due to construction. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. Extra Pay for Long-term 2024-2027 Contracted Bus Routes, Approval.

- Bus 304, \$20 per day for newer bus purchase.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for the agreed contractual pay for the bus purchase.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve the extra pay. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

G. Relations (Policy 9000)

1. MOU between Beck Speech Therapy, LLC and JCSC, Approval.

Mr. Ebinger requested approval for Beck Speech Therapy to offer online speech services to students.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the MOU. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. MOU between Jennings County Law Enforcement Agencies, JCSC, and Jennings County Court System, Approval.

Dr. Johnson asked for approval for MOU to allow coordination of student programming and intervention for high level needs with local law enforcement.

Mrs. Miller made the motion to approve the MOU with law enforcement. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. 5 yes, 1 abstain by (Mr. Shepherd). Approved.

3. MOU between NVPD and JCSC for School Resource Officer(s), Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for annual agreement with NVPD for School Resource Officers.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve the MOU. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$1,902,181.11 (claims 101474 – 101803) and payroll in the amount of \$1,298,279.54 (check date 8/15/2024).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

Dr. Johnson stated there are so many celebrations from our kids being fantastic people to results we are seeing with literacy and other areas. We have great community partners and we are appreciative of our community.

A. Updates.

None at this time.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no.

**Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Board Meeting will be September 5, 2024 in the Board Room of the Jennings County School Corporation Central Office, 34 West Main Street, North Vernon, IN 47265. The regular meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.



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

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Amy Pettit - President

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Travis Shepherd

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Cheryl Miller - Vice President

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Earl Taggart

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Pat Sullivan - Secretary

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Mary Lynn Whitcomb

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Chelsea Morrison