

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
February 27, 2025

Executive Session: The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on February 27, 2025 at 5:30 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).
- (6) With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction:
(A) to receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct;
IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6).
- (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, Travis Shepherd, Earl Taggart and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Pat Sullivan and Chelsea Morrison joined via phone. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:54 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 will begin at 7:00 p.m.

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

<https://youtube.com/live/cvenxITWYGY?feature>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Travis Shepherd, Earl Taggart and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Pat Sullivan joined virtually and 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 will be presented for approval without discussion:

- III. Minutes;
- VIB1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIB2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIC1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VIC2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIC3. Support Staff: Transfers;
- 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:

- VIIIA1. Essential Service Committee Meetings, 2/18/2025.
- VIIIA2. Area Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, 2/3/2025.

Agenda

- I. Pledge
The President, Dr. Amy Pettit opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. She reminded everyone that we are live streaming this board meeting and welcomed those joining us via the web and those present in person.
- 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 February 13, 2025.
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.
None at this time.
- V. Old Business
 - A. NEOLA
 - NEOLA, Policy 0164, Notice of Meetings (T.C.), Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 0164.4 (*rescind*), Meeting on the Board Defined, Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 0165, Board Meetings, Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 0172, Legal Counsel (T.C.), Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 1213.01, Staff-Student Relations (T.C.), Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 1220, Employment of the Superintendent, Second Reading.
 - NEOLA, Policy 1230, Responsibilities of the Superintendent, Second Reading.

- NEOLA, Policy 1617, Weapons, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 2312 (*rescind*), Class Size, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 2623, Student Assessment, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 3217, Weapons, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 3220.02, Supplemental Payments for Teachers, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 4217, Weapons, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 5410, Promotion, Placement, and Retention, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 5460, Graduation Requirements, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 5772, Weapons, Second Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 7217, Possession of Firearms, Second Reading.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for the policies as a group.

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

VI. New Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. IDOE Transfer Requests Deadline, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for the annual IDOE transfer deadline date to be the last student day set for May 21, 2026.

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

2. Results Driven Accountability (RDA) Data, Inform.

Mr. Ebinger asked to table this item. IDOE informed schools their data might contain errors.

Tabled for a later date.

3. Pre-K Programming Sites for BCE, NVE and SCE for the 2025-2026 School Year, Approval.

Mr. Ebinger requested approval to continue the three Pre-K sites at BCE, NVE and SCE for the school year 2025-2026 with a potential of an additional site added to North Vernon Elementary if the enrollment numbers support the need.

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

4. Pre-K Program Fees for the 2025-2026 School Year, Approval.

Mr. Ebinger requested approval for a \$50 per week fee for the families that do not qualify for the CCDF vouchers or On My Way Pre-K funding to keep the program sustainable and be cost neutral going forward.

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

5. Virtual / Online School, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz referenced Dr. Johnson's previous study of recent decline in student enrollment. A proposal was made for JCSC to incorporate a K-8th grade online program through Edmentum EdOptions Academy. Edmentum is a credited and state approved online learning platform with a comprehensive K-8 program aligned with JCSC standards by using qualified teachers through Edmentum. Mrs. Manowitz will request approval at the next board meeting in order to start marketing online services for JCSC. If there are any questions, please reach out to Carrie Manowitz (812-346-4483) for more details. Mr.

Taggart inquired about skill trades being offered but at this time the program is not being offered to high school students, only K-8th grade.

6. FiveStar eRate Battery Proposal, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz stated that we need to secure battery backup for IT and will be requesting approval at the next board meeting.

B. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

- Kyndyl Euler, SCE Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 5/19/2025 to end of 2024-2025 school year, Approval.
- Lauren Hagedorn, JCMS Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 4/28/2025 to end of 2024-2025 school year, Approval.
- Joshua Long, Teacher, Administrative Leave, effective 2/13/25-2/21/25, Approval.

The leaves were approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Resignation – Joshua Long, effective 2/24/25, Approval.

This resignation was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

3. Recommendations

- Billie Ballenger, Career Increment / Master Teacher Stipend 2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028, 2028/2029, 2029/2030
- Jessica Hall, Career Increment / Master Teacher Stipend 2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028, 2028/2029, 2029/2030
- Kevin Smith, Career Increment / Master Teacher Stipend 2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028, 2028/2029, 2029/2030

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for three Master Teacher Stipends.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion.

6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Resolution **BUS2025-003** to allow Certified Supplemental Pay for 2024 Early Literacy Achievement Grant, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval to allow Certified Supplemental pay for the 2024 Literacy Achievement Grant.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.

6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

C. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

- Amanda Wells, JCHS Cook, Unpaid Leave effective 2/17/2025 and 2/18/2025, Approval.

This leave was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Miranda Elam, JCHS Custodian, resignation effective 12/5/2024, Approval.
- Melissa Holloway, JCHS Cook, resignation effective 2/28/2025, Approval.
- Brittany Lykins, JCMS Girls Assistant Soccer Coach, resignation effective 2/12/2025, Approval.
- Summer Ritz, SCE Para Pro, resignation effective 2/21/2025, Approval.
- Charlene Sproles, SCE Custodian (Part-time), resignation effective 2/13/2025, Approval.

These resignations were approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

3. Transfers

- Christina Trejo, JCHS Custodian to Scipio Elementary Custodian, effective 2/18/2025, Approval.

This transfer was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

4. Recommendations

- Tarina Bullard, JCMS Cook, \$15.50 / hr. x 7 hrs., effective 3/10/2025, Approval.
- Aaron Martin, JCHS Assistant Track & Field Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 2/28/2025, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for these recommendations.

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

5. Resolution **BUS2025-004** to allow Classified Supplemental Pay for 2024 Early Literacy Achievement Grant, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval to allow Classified Supplemental pay for the 2024 Literacy Achievement Grant.

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

D. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations, Approval.

- JCHS donations, Approval.
 - Harmon Construction, Inc., \$500.00 to JCHS Men's Volleyball Club, Approval.
 - Martinrea Industries, \$150.00 donation to JCHS eSports Team, Approval.
- Scipio Elementary donations, Approval.
 - Purdue University, In-Max Micro Grant, \$2,000.00 to Scipio Elementary teacher Viola Davis's classroom to purchase a View Sonic View Board, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for these donations as read.

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

2. Resolution, Approval.

- a. *Attachment* – **BUS2025-005** – Resolution to allow the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer to make transfers of appropriations within Major Funds (Education, Operations, and Rainy Day) to establish the 2025 Budget for the current year for the State Approved Budget Order by Major Account Classification.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for this resolution with an updated timeframe for the budget.

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

E. Relations (Policy 9000)

1. Jennings County Public Library Board of Trustees Appointments, Approval.
Dr. Johnson requested approval for reappointment to the Public Library Board for Jeff Green (4-year term) and Jessica Floyd (1-year extension).
Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion.
6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
2. MOU between JCSC and Western Governors University, Approval.
Dr. Johnson requested the approval for the annual MOU between JCSC and Western Governor's University.
Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.
6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$1,491,902.38 (claims 104916 – 105138) and payroll in the amount of \$1,302,592.58 (check date 2/14/2025).
These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

A. Updates.

1. Essential Service Committee Meeting Minutes, 2/18/2025.
2. Area Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, 2/3/2025.

These items were included in the board packet.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion.
6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will be March 13, 2025 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

Amy Pettit - President

Travis Shepherd

Cheryl Miller - Vice President

Earl Taggart

Pat Sullivan - Secretary

Mary Lynn Whitcomb

Chelsea Morrison