

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
July 10, 2025

Executive Session: The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on July 10, 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):

- (2B) For discussion of strategy with respect to the following:
 - (B) Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. As used in the clause, “litigation” includes any judicial action or administrative law proceeding under federal or state law.
- (5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees. *IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5).*
- (8) To discuss before a placement decision an individual student’s abilities, past performance, behavior, and needs. *IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(8).*
- (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, Chelsea Morrison, Travis Shepherd, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant 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 will begin 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/AwDP6JvyVPk>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Chelsea Morrison, Travis Shepherd, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. 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;
- VC1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VC2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VD1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VD2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VI. 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:

- VE2. June Fund Report.
- VIIA1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 6/2/2025.

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. Dr. Pettit also welcomed new board member Mr. Curt Nieman.
- II. Consent Agenda Items.
Ms. Morrison made a motion to approve consent agenda items. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Board Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of June 12, 2025, Work Session & Special Meeting June 19, 2025.
These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
- IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
 - JCSC Board Information Statement.
Dr. Pettit, Board President presented Guidelines for Public Participation and the importance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on Corporation matters. This policy can be located on our District Website: jcsc.org/Board of Trustee/Board Reports/Board Policies/Bylaws/po0167.3 (Public Participation at Board Meetings).
 - The President asked if anyone would like to speak on any items on the agenda or any other topic. We would also ask that you state your name, address and if applicable your group affiliation.

Gleeda Hadley with Jennings County Drug and Alcohol Task Force shared announcements for events coming up in North Vernon. 1. Open forum to parents and public located at NVE July 15, 2025 6-7 p.m. titled "Let's Talk Mental Health" sponsored by Centerstone. 2. A Back-to-school event, July 26th at CSL clubhouse from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. There will be signs directing you to the clubhouse. This event will offer haircuts, health screenings, backpacks and more. 3. There is a Parent Café survey being shared on social media and Parent Square. Parents are being asked: How can we help support? How can we better provide resources that parents need?

V. New Business

A. NEOLA, Approval.

- NEOLA Policy 0166.1, Consent Agenda, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 0167.2, Executive Session, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 1216, Dress and Appearance, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 3216, Staff Dress and Appearance, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 4216, Support Staff Dress and Appearance, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 6230, Budget Hearing, 1st Reading, Inform.

Dr. Johnson informed the board on these NEOLA Policies for First Reading.

B. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Panther Online Academy Handbook, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz presented the Panther Online Academy Handbook for online students only.

2. JCHS CTE (*New*) Course Proposals, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz presented the JCHS CTE new course proposals to update the Health and Human Services pathway to a Social and Community Services to offer Fundamentals of Human Services (7276) and Community Health Worker (7278).

3. Elementary, JCMS and JCHS Curricular Materials List, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz informed on the K-12 curriculum materials with the associated fees that are only relevant if a student loses materials and must pay for its replacement.

C. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

- Gabby Coffman, NVE Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 11/10/2025-3/29/2026, Approval.

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

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Pamela Eggeman, SCE Teacher, resignation effective 6/23/2025, Approval.
- Damian Rigby, JCMS Boys Soccer Coach, resignation effective 6/30/2025, Approval.
- Jill Stoner, JCMS Girls Cross Country Coach, resignation effective 6/24/2025, Approval.

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

3. Recommendations

- Holly Boswell, SCE Teacher, \$55,100 / yr. x 185 days, effective 8/1/2025, Approval.
- Nichole Creech, Hayden Elementary Principal, \$80,000.00 / yr. x 8 hrs. x 205 days, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Ashley Heindel, JCMS Girls Cross Country Coach, \$1,925.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Jill Stoner, JCHS Girls Cross Country Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for recommendations. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Recommendations (*Pending Hiring Requirements*)

- Lynley Arnholt, NVE Teacher, \$47,000.00 / yr. x 185 days, effective 8/1/2025, Approval.
- Madalyn Buffington, JCHS English Teacher, \$51,500.00 / yr. x 185 days, effective 8/1/2025, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for recommendations pending hiring requirements. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. St. Mary's Title Tutors for 2025-2026 School Year, Approval.

- Abby Capes, effective 2/23/2025 to present.
- Jennifer Ertel, effective 2/23/2025 to present.

Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for St. Mary's Tutors paid for out of the Title 1 grant. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

D. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

- Mary Minger, NVE Custodian, unpaid leave effective 6/11/2025-6/17/2025, Approval.

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

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Kevin Gray, JCMS Asst. Girls Basketball Coach, resignation effective 6/16/2025, Approval.
- Hannah Henson, JCMS SPED Para Pro, resignation effective 7/7/2025, Approval.
- Chasidy Kannianen, JCEC ELL Instructor, resignation effective 7/7/2025, Approval.
- Alicia Lack, JCHS SPED Para Pro, resignation effective 6/17/2025, Approval.
- Katrina Shepherd, Scipio Elementary Custodian, resignation effective 6/22/2025, Approval.
- Karie Wilson, JCMS SPED Para Pro, resignation effective 6/12/2025, Approval.

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

- Sean Selby, JCSC Tech., reduction in personnel effective 7/1/2025, Approval.
This reduction in personnel was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

3. Recommendations

- Samuel Ernstes, JCHS Asst. Boys Football Coach, \$4,814.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Shane Howard, JCHS Asst. Boys Football Coach, \$4,814.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Larry Marksberry, JCHS Custodian, termination, effective 6/25/2025, Approval.
- Trey McAdam, JCHS Asst. Boys Football Coach, \$4,814.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Chelsia Staples, JCHS Administrative Asst. to the Principal, \$19.70 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day x 260 days, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Nathaniel Staples, JCHS Boys Cross Country Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Ashley Whicker, JCMS Asst. Girls Volleyball Coach, \$1,925.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for recommendations. Mr. Shepherd asked if Chelsia Staples was already a JCSC employee and Dr. Johnson stated “yes” she is but this was a change in role. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- Tamyra Phelps, JCSC Bus Aide, \$15.50 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day x 180 days, effective 8/6/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Recommendations (*Pending Hiring Requirements*)

- Alexander Gabbard, JCMS Custodian, \$15.50 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day x 260 days, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Austin Grunden, JCMS 7th gr. Boys Asst. Football Coach, \$1,925.00 stipend, effective 7/11/2025, Approval.
- Vickie Wehner, JCHS Administrative Asst./ Treasurer, \$ 18.75 / hr. x 8 hrs. x 260 days, effective 7/21/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

E. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations/Grants, Approval.

- JCHS, Approval.
 - Student Help Fund in Memory of Linda Anglin, Approval.
 - Edward & Paula Ertel, \$50.00.

- JCHS Class of 2025, \$1,000.00.
- Black Cat Racing Team in Memory of Tyler Wells, Approval.
 - Patrick & Cynthia Ruddick, \$20.00.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for all recommendations. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. Cost Containment Update, Inform.

Dr. Johnson spoke about Cost Containment and a summary of funding changes. There will be a presentation by Barry Gardner with Policy Analytics at the next board meeting July 24th at 6:00 p.m., 34 W Main St., North Vernon, IN 47265 to discuss the impacts and next steps due to SB 1 and how that affects our community. Mr. Sullivan stated that he would highly recommend community members to attend, spread the word as we are facing unprecedented times and understanding the misconception of how a school is ran. If you cannot make the meeting, please join us via You Tube link.

3. June Fund Report.

A copy of this report was included in the board packet.

F. Property (Policy 7000)

None at this time.

G. Operations (Policy 8000)

1. Authorization for Superintendent to Fill Positions without board action prior to August 7, 2025, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested authorization to fill positions to be ready for the first day of school. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

H. Relations (Policy 9000)

None at this time.

VI. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$5,470,128.44 (claims 106968 – 107377) and payroll in the amount of \$1,311,468.09 (check date 6/13/2025) and \$1,248,807.38 (check date 6/30/2025).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VII. Other

Dr. Johnson stated that August 6th is quickly approaching for the first student day of school. Dr. Johnson also informed us that we have a new updated Facebook page called Jennings County School Corporation.

A. Updates.

1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 6/2/2025.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will be July 24, 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.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Amy Pettit - President

Curt Nieman

Cheryl Miller - Vice President

Travis Shepherd

Pat Sullivan - Secretary

Mary Lynn Whitcomb

Chelsea Morrison