

**JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**Central Administration Office Building**  
**Executive Session**  
**Regular Board Meeting Agenda**  
**March 13, 2025**

**Executive Session:** The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on March 13, 2025 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):

(2D) A real property transaction including:

- (i.) a purchase;
- (ii.) a lease as lessor;
- (iii.) a lease as lessee;
- (iv.) a transfer;
- (v.) an exchange; or
- (vi.) a sale;

By the governing body up to the time a contract or option is executed by the parties. This clause does not affect a political subdivision's duty to comply with any other statute that governs the conduct of the real property transaction, including *IC 36-1-10* or *36-1-11*.

(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)*.

(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, Pat Sullivan, Earl Taggart and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Chelsea Morrison and Travis Shepherd were not in attendance. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:45 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/fTpEe3te-Ew?feature=share>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Earl Taggart and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Chelsea Morrison and Travis Shepherd were 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;
- VIC1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIC2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VID1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VID2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VID3. 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:

- VIE5. February Fund Report

## **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. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of February 27, 2025.  
These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
- IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
  - VFW Presentation - Patriot's Pen Winner.  
Dr. Johnson introduced Mr. Dave Stocks with the VFW to present the Patriot's Pen student award winner from JCMS, Jayden Minneman. Congratulations!
  - NVE Presentation.  
Dr. Pettit introduced Mr. Collett and NVE students presenting on Lego STEM Robots and how to code and debug the program to get them to work efficiently. NVE student participants were Elise Morin, Lukas Johnson, Allen Roller, Everett Douglas, Harper Hamrick, Catherine Kelley. NVE coaches present were Valerie Bingham and Tricia Skinner.

- JCHS Performing Arts Department- Shrek the Musical.  
Dr. Pettit introduced our JCHS Musical participants, Hannah Webster and Kaiser Daeger to speak about the upcoming “Shrek the Musical”, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and April 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at the Don Pelkey Auditorium located at JCHS.
- 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. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Virtual / Online School, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested approval to proceed with the online schooling for 2025-2026 school year.  
Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to proceed. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.  
5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
2. FiveStar eRate Battery Proposal, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for the secure battery backup for IT.  
Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.  
5 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VI. New Business

A. NEOLA

- NEOLA, Policy 6320, Purchasing, First Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 6320.01 (*rescind*) Purchasing Using Online Reverse Auctions, First Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 5610, Suspension and Expulsion of Students, First Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 6140 (*New*), Depository Agreements, First Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 6250, Required ADM Counts for the Purpose of State Funding and Verification of Residency for Membership, First Reading.
- NEOLA, Policy 8420, Emergency Preparedness Plans and Drills, First Reading.

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

B. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. CDL Textbooks, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz asked for approval for CDL textbooks.  
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to proceed with the textbooks. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.

C. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves
  - Hannah Cooper, GCE Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 5/14/25 to 8/25/25, Approval.  
This leave was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.
2. Resignations/Retirements
  - Adam Capes, JCHS Assistant Football Coach, resignation effective 2/28/25, Approval.
  - Paula Ertel, JCMS Teacher, retirement effective end of 2024-2025 school year, Approval.
  - Susan Kinney, JCHS Teacher, retirement effective end of 2024-2025 school year, Approval.

- Nickolas Nixon, JCHS Assistant Football Coach, resignation effective 2/26/25, Approval.

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

3. Permission to Post 4 JCHS Summer School Teacher Positions, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested to post summer school staff positions.  
Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the posting. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
4. Permission to Post 8 Elementary Summer School Teacher Position, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested to post elementary summer school teacher positions.  
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the posting. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
5. Recommendations
  - Ashley Heindel, JCMS Assistant Track Coach, stipend \$1652.00 effective 3/14/25, Approval.
  - Caitlin Miller, JCMS SPED Teacher, \$46,100 / year x 185 days, effective 3/14/2025, Approval.
  - Caitlin Miller, JCMS Volunteer Track Coach, effective 3/14/25, Approval.
  - Career Increment / Master Teacher Stipend  
2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028, 2028/2029, 2029/2030
    - Ben Jaquess
    - Stacey Patterson

Mrs. Hearne requested approval for these recommendations.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.

#### D. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves
  - Amanda Walp, JCHS Cook, Unpaid Leave effective 2/25/25 and 2/26/25, Approval.
2. Resignations/Retirements
  - Matt Capes, JCHS Assistant Football Coach, resignation effective 2/26/25, Approval.
  - Debbie Clark, JCHS Administrative Assistant – Attendance, retirement effective 6/2/25, Approval.
  - Tori Lane, JCMS Cheer Coach, resignation effective 3/20/25, Approval.
  - Ruth Reitman, JCSC Bus Driver, resignation effective 3/7/25, Approval.
  - Christina Trejo, Scipio Elementary Custodian, resignation effective 2/27/2025, Approval.

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

3. Transfers
  - Kelly Ernstes, JCHS Admin Asst., \$20.95/ hr. to JCSC Food Service Financial Administrative Asst., \$21.95/ hr. x 8 hrs. (195 days), effective 3/31/25, Approval.
  - Amanda Wells, JCHS Cook \$15.50/hr. to JCHS Asst. Kitchen Manager \$17.50/ hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 3/17/25, Approval.

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

4. Permission to Post 1 JCHS Summer School Para Pro Position, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested approval to post JCHS summer school teacher position.  
Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the posting. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
  5. Permission to Post 8 Elementary Summer School Para Pro Positions, Approval.  
Mrs. Manowitz requested to post elementary summer school para positions.  
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the posting. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
  6. Recommendations
    - Tyler Brown, JCHS Grounds Keeper / Custodian, \$14.75 per hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 3/11/25, Approval.
    - Sierra Eisenmenger, JCMS Volunteer Track Coach, effective 3/14/25, Approval.
    - Jennifer Moore, JCMS Dance Coach, stipend \$1,168.00, effective 2025-2026 school year, Approval.  
Mrs. Hearne requested approval for these recommendations.  
Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- E. Finances (Policy 6000)
1. Donations, Approval.
    - Brush Creek Elementary, Approval.
      - Anonymous, Three boxes bulk gumballs (\$150.00 estimated value) donation to BCE for student rewards, Approval.
      - Jason Judd, \$80.00 donation to BCE Students Donut Attendance Rewards Party, Approval.
      - Woodall's Roofing & Home Improvements, Inc., \$75.00 donation to BCE Students Donut Attendance Rewards Party, Approval.
    - Hayden Elementary, Approval.
      - Mike Waskom, \$3,862.86 donation to HE for Audio Mixers and Modular Ear Sets for the sound system, Approval.
    - JCHS donations, Approval.
      - Anonymous, \$300.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
      - BB/One Shot, \$50.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
      - BME Solutions, \$300.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
      - Jennings Church of Christ, Inc., \$400.00 to JCHS Panther Pantry, Approval.
      - Louis A Wilson Contractor, Inc., \$175.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
      - Mother Bear's Pizza, \$300.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
      - Royalty Roofing USA, Inc., \$300.00 donation to JCHS Boys Volleyball Club, Approval.
    - North Vernon Elementary donations, Approval.

- American Axle Manufacturing, \$131.48 donation for Poster boards and project display boards for STEM Fair/Science Night, Approval. Mr. Marsh requested approval for all donations. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- 2. Resolution, Approval.
  - a. *Resolution BUS2025-006* – Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County Schools to make payments of claims without board action prior to April 10, 2024, and to allow the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer to make transfers of Appropriations within the Education, Debt Service, and Operations Funds in order to Balance Major Account Classifications, Approval. Mr. Marsh requested approval for this resolution. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- 3. CSi Advisory Services Agreement, Approval. Mr. Marsh request approval for the service agreement. Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- 4. CTE Program Semi Truck/Trailer purchase, Approval. Mr. Marsh requested to approve purchase for the CTE program. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- 5. February Fund Report  
A copy of this report was included in the board packet.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$389,116.98 (claims 105233 – 105370), \$98,196.31 (claims 105371 – 105410), \$750,943.09 (claims 105411 – 105519) and payroll in the amount of \$1,305,425.02 (check date 2/28/2025) and \$1,331,728.64 (check date 3/14/2025).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

- Dr. Johnson referenced the decline in enrollment as previously stated and what that could mean for our 2025-2025 school year. JCSC staffing will need to be right sized to match our enrollment. As we plan for 2025-2026 school year we will need to make some staffing reductions to take the enrollment decline into account in order to be fiscally responsible. We will thoughtfully work through this planning to make sure our academic growth and student opportunities are continually maintained.
- Mr. Marsh is asking approval for a resolution to start the process to show interest in purchasing land adjacent to one of our current school locations. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 5 yes, 0 no. Approved.

A. Updates.

None at this time.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. Adjourned.

**Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Board Meeting will be April 10, 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