JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Public Hearing: Pre-Bargaining
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2026

Executive Session*:* The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on August 6, 2026 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 any of the following: 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.

(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).*

(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 and Philip Marsh were also in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Public Hearing: Pre-Bargaining: Public Hearing of the Jennings County Teacher Union and 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. The hearing began at 6:45 p.m.

The following link was also available to live stream the Public Hearing: Pre-Bargaining meeting from your home:

https://youtube.com/live/xzM4-n8JzZAe

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.

Public testimony was taken at this meeting pursuant to Indiana Code 20-29-6-1(a).

Agenda:

1. Call to order
   Dr. Johnson called the meeting to order.
2. Overview
3. Public input or comment
   Mrs. Vaughn stated the team has worked hard over the summer and looking forward to this school year.
4. Adjournment
   The hearing adjourned at 6:46 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/RBbRw6u-kd8

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 were presented for approval without discussion:
III. Minutes;
VIIA8. Field Trips;
VIIB1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
VIIB2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
VIIB3. Professional Staff: Transfers;
VIIB6. Conference Requests;
VIIC1. Support Staff: Leaves;
VIIC2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
VIIC3. Support Staff: Transfers;

VIIC6. Conference Requests;
VIII. 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:
VID2. July 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. Sullivan made a motion to approve consent agenda items. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of July 23, 2026.
These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
- JCSC Information Statement.
  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.
  None at this time.

V. Old Business
   A. NEOLA, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 1520.08, Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 3120.08, Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 3131, Reduction in Force (“RIF”) in Certified Staff, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 3430, Leaves of Absence, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 4120.08, Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Policy 5111 *(T.C.)*, Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students without Legal Settlement in the Corporation; Proof of Indiana Residency, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Admin. Guideline 3131, Reduction in Force (“RIF”) in Certified Staff, 2nd Reading, Approval.
      - NEOLA, Admin. Guideline 5111, Admission to the Corporation, 2nd Reading, Approval.
        Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- NEOLA, Admin. Guideline 1535, School Administration Involvement in Athletic Coaching, 2nd Reading, Approval.
  Mr. Shepherd requested to pull Admin. Guideline 1535 to vote on separately. Dr. Johnson made a recommendation with suggested edits for the typo. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
  Ms. Morrison made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 5 yes, 2 no (Mr. Shepherd and Ms. Whitcomb). Approved.

B. Programs (Policy 2000)
None at this time.

C. Finances (Policy 6000)
None at this time.

D. Operations (Policy 8000)
None at this time.

E. Property (Policy 7000)
None at this time.

VI. New Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Enrollment Update, Inform.
   Dr. Johnson updated on current enrollment. We have 3,476 students on our second day of classes.
2. Panther Online Academy Update, Inform.
   Mrs. Manowitz updated us on the current enrollment for the Panther Online Academy. We currently have 19 students. JCSC will continue accepting enrollment.
3. JCSC Athletics Structure, Approval.
   Dr. Johnson requested approval to adjust titles in athletics to JCSC Athletic Director/JCHS AD for Joe Hartwell and JCSC Asst. Athletic Director/JCMS AD for Leah McLeod with no changes to pay or benefits. Mr. Shepherd expressed concerns with the structure.
   Ms. Morrison made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 1 no (Mr. Shepherd). Approved.
4. JCSC Athletics Handbook, Approval.
   Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
5. Certified Staff Evaluations, Inform.
   Mrs. Manowitz presented the updated certified staff evaluations tool.
6. Human Sexuality Curriculum, Approval.
   Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for the annual Human Sexuality Curriculum: I Decide for Me. JCSC partners with Clarity to present 6th through 12th grade students. This material can be viewed online at https://idecideforme.com/. Parents will have the opportunity to decline participation if they choose to do so.
   Dr. Pettit highlighted that this information is online and JCSC requires signed parent permission slips before a student participates.
   Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

7. Technology Use Update, Inform.
   Dr. Johnson shared plans for Jennings County Schools to decrease student device usage at school. This shift is in alignment with updated researched best practices in technology use in instruction and feedback from parents on strategic plan surveys and staff input.
8. Field Trips
   None at this time.

B. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)
1. Leaves
   - Heather Eckert, BCE Teacher, Maternity Leave effective 1/27/2027-end of the 2026-2027 school year, Approval.

   This leave was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.
2. Resignations/Retirements
   - Julie Green, NVE Teacher, retirement effective end of 2028-2029 school year, Approval.

   This retirement was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.
3. Transfers
   None at this time.
4. Recommendations
   - Ethan Hacker, NVE Music Teacher, $46,100.00 / year x 7.25 hrs. / day x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
   - Steven Wells, JCHS Welding Teacher, $46,100.00 / year x 7.25 hrs. / day x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
   - Richard Zimmerman, JCHS IMPACT Teacher, $65,000.00 / year x 7.25 hrs. / day x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
   - Richard Zimmerman, JCHS Volunteer Asst. Football Coach, effective 8/7/2026, Approval.
     Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

   - Jason Burton, JCHS Head Football Coach, contract extended through the 2027-2028 school year, $12,789 stipend.
     Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

   - Travis Wrightsman, JCHS Head Boys Basketball Coach, contract extended through 2027-2028 school year, $12,789 stipend.
     Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Athletic Department Contracts 2026-2027, Approval.
   Dr. Johnson requested approval for the Athletic Department Contracts for 2026-2027 for Joe Hartwell and Leah McLeod with no change to pay or benefits associated.
   Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
6. Conference Requests
   None at this time.

C. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

   None at this time.

2. Resignations/Retirements
   - Jessica Dickmeyer, NVE Nurse, resignation effective 8/7/2026, Approval.
   - Katie Lykins, Scipio Nurse, resignation effective 7/5/2026, Approval.
   - Brandon McIntyre, JCMS 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, resignation effective 7/30/2026, Approval.
   - Thomas Mellencamp, JCMS Asst. Football Coach, resignation effective 7/27/2026, Approval.
   - Christopher Roberts, JCHS Custodian, resignation effective 7/24/2026, Approval.
   - Alta Staton, SCE Paraprofessional, resignation effective 7/23/2026, Approval.

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

3. Transfers
   - Melissa Allen, JCSC SPED Bus Aide (part-time) to full-time, effective 8/5/2026, Approval.
   - Phyllis Apsley, JCSC SPED Bus Aide (part-time) to full-time, effective 8/5/2026, Approval.
   - Emily Merry, BCE Cook to JCMS Cook, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
   - Shyann Young, BCE SPED Paraprofessional to Scipio SPED Paraprofessional, effective 8/4/2026.

   These transfers were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

4. Permission to Post Title I Paraprofessionals, Approval.

   Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Recommendations
   - Diana Adams, JCHS SPED Paraprofessional, $15.75 / hr. x 7 hrs. x 180 days, effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
   - Connor Ertel, JCMS Boys Tennis Coach, $1,237.00 stipend, effective 7/28/2026, Approval.
   - Renee Gross, JCMS Asst. Football Coach, $1,925.00 stipend, effective 7/27/2026, Approval.
   - Chelsea Fields, JCHS SPED Paraprofessional, $14.50 / hr. x 7 hrs. x 180 days, effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
   - Noah Henderson, JCSC SPED Bus Aide, $14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. x 180 days, Approval.
   - Brittney Johns, SCE SPED Paraprofessional, $ 14.50 / hr. x 7 hrs. x 180 days, effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
   - Sara Jones, Scipio Nurse, $28.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
   - Serena Ritchie, SCE Paraprofessional, $14.75 / hr. x 7 hrs. x 180 days, effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
   - Grace Smith, JCHS Asst. Girls Volleyball Coach, $3,850.00 stipend, effective 7/30/2026, Approval.

- Charlene Sproles, BCE Cook, $ 14.75 / hr. x 7 hrs. x 182 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
- Lilian Stidham, JCHS SPED Paraprofessional, $ 15.00 x hr. x 7 hrs. x 180 days, effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
- Shawn Sylvia, JCHS Attendance Secretary, $18.50 / hr. x 8 hrs. x 200 days, effective 7/27/2026, Approval.
- Taylor Wilson, HE Paraprofessional, $14.00 / hr., effective 8/4/2026, Approval.
- JCSC Youth Football Program, Volunteer Coaches, effective 8/7/2026, Approval.
  - Nicholas Yatsko

  Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- Kristi Sigler, JCHS Head Girls Basketball Coach, contract extended through 2027-2028 school year, $12,789 stipend.
  Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

6. Conference Requests
   None at this time.

D. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations/Grants, Approval.
   - Brush Creek Elementary, Approval.
     - Linda Anglin Memorial Dart Tournament and Benefit, $3,500.00 for student snacks.
   - Hayden Elementary, Approval.
     - Fidelity Charitable, $500.00 for school lunches.
   - JCSC, Approval.
     - H.O.P.E. Food Program
       - Anne Dickerson - $225.00
       - Christ Baptist Church - $300.00
   - North Vernon Elementary, Approval.
     - NVIC, $85.00 to purchase items to tie-dye t-shirts.

   Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
2. 2027 JCSC Budget, 1st Presentation, Inform.
   Mr. Marsh presented the 1st presentation on the 2027 JCSC budget and introduced each fund plan.
3. 2027 JCSC Capital Projects Plan, 1st Presentation, Inform.
   Mr. Marsh presented the plan and the calendar for adoption as follows:
   - 1st Presentation – August 6, 2026
   - Permission to Advertise – August 20, 2026
   - Advertisement – September 3, 2026
   - Public Hearing – September 17, 2026
   - Adoption – October 1, 2026
4. 2027 JCSC Bus Replacement Plan, 1st Presentation, Inform.
   Mr. Marsh presented the plan and the calendar for adoption as follows:

- 1st Presentation – August 6, 2026
- Permission to Advertise – August 20, 2026
- Advertisement – September 3, 2026
- Public Hearing – September 17, 2026
- Adoption – October 1, 2026

5. July Fund Report.
   A copy of this report was included in the board packet.

E. Property (Policy 7000)
   None at this time.

F. Operations (Policy 8000)
   1. Authorization for Superintendent to fill positions without board action prior to August 20, 2026, Approval.
      Mr. Nieman made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.
      7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

G. Relations (Policy 9000)
   None at this time.

VII. Claims
The claims were presented for approval in the amount of $1,180,613.07 (claims 113525 – 113733) and payroll in the amount of $1,120,202.55 (check date 7/31/2026).
These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other
A. Updates.
Dr. Johnson thanked all students, staff and parents for a great start to the school year!

IX. Adjournment
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.
7 yes, 0 no. Adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will be on August 20, 2026 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	Curt Nieman
Cheryl Miller - Vice President	Travis Shepherd
Pat Sullivan - Secretary	Mary Lynn Whitcomb
Chelsea Morrison	