

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2026

Executive Session: The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on May 21, 2026 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):

- (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, Pat Sullivan, Travis Shepherd, Chelsea Morrison, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, and Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 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/oz2tW_s5tIo

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Travis Shepherd, Chelsea Morrison, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, Amanda Sullivan, Todd Ebinger, 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;
- VIB2. Field Trips;
- VIC1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIC2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIC3. Professional Staff: Transfers;
- VIC6. Conference Requests;
- VID1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VID2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VID3. Support Staff: Transfers;
- VID5. 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 were shared with the Board:

- VIIIA1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 4/6/2026.
A copy of this report was included in the board packet.

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.
Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve consent agenda items. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of May 7, 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: jpsc.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, Admin. Guidelines 2221, Mandatory Curriculum, 2nd Reading, Approval.
 - NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5320, Immunization of Students in Schools, 2nd Reading, Approval.
 - NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5410, Promotion, Placements, and Retention, 2nd Reading, Approval.
 - NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5517.01, Bullying, 2nd Reading, Approval.

- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5540 (*Renumbered/Renamed*), The Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5540A (*Rescind*), Relationship with Governmental Agencies, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5540B (*Rescind*), Student Disorder, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5540.01 (*New*), Investigations by the Department of Child Services (DCS), 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 6151 (*New*), Insufficient Funds Checks, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 8500 (*Rescind*), Food Service, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 8500B (*Rescind*), Meal Charge Accounts, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 8540 (*Rescind*), Vending Machines, 2nd Reading, Approval.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 9150, School Visitors, 2nd Reading, Approval. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

B. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Panther Online Academy Handbook, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz presented the 2026-2027 Panther Online Academy Handbook.

C. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. *Resolution BUS2025-010* – Resolution authorizing the Transfer \$1,500,000 from Education Fund to Operations Fund in June 2026 and December 2026, to reimburse the Operations Fund for expenses not allocated to student instruction and learning for the 2026 Budget Year. Dr. Johnson requested approval for the standard resolution to comply with the 2026 Budget that was approved on October 23, 2025 board meeting. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

D. Operations (Policy 8000)

1. JCSC Strategic Plan Update, Inform.

Dr. Johnson commented that we are closing out the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan and progressing forward with the new Strategic Plan 2026-2030 called BLUEprint 2030. A date presentation with the results from the previous plan was shared.

E. Property (Policy 7000)

None at this time.

VI. New Business

A. NEOLA, Inform.

- NEOLA, Policy 3142, Cancellation of a Teaching Contract, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA, Policy 3220, Staff Evaluation, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA, Policy 5540, The Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA, Admin. Guidelines 5540.02, Relationship with Government Agencies, 1st Reading, Inform.

- NEOLA, Policy 8462, Child Abuse and Neglect, 1st Reading, Inform. Dr. Johnson presented NEOLA Policies and Admin. Guidelines for first reading.
- B. Programs (Policy 2000)
1. JCHS Bell Schedule, Inform.
Mr. Roller and Mrs. Ebbing presented the proposed 2026-2027 Bell Schedule for Jennings County High School.
 2. Field Trips
None at this time.
- C. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)
1. Leaves
 - Carissa Copley, JCSC Speech Language Pathologist, Maternity Leave, effective 8/3/2026-8/14/2026, Approval.
This leave was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.
 2. Resignations/Retirements
 - Charlinda Evans, JCMS Media Specialist, retirement effective 1/4/2027, Approval.
 - Lauren Miller, NVE Music Teacher, resignation effective 5/22/2026, Approval.
 - Karen Pedigo, JCSC EL Teacher, retirement effective 11/30/2026, Approval.

These resignations/retirements were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
 3. Transfers
 - Lucy Ernstes, Scipio Teacher to HE Teacher, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
 - Carey Moore, SCE SPED Teacher to Scipio SPED Teacher, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
 - Paula Moore, NVE SPED Teacher to JCSC Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Blind Low Vision Teacher, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
 - Breann Woods, BCE Teacher to JCMS Remediation Teacher, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.

These transfers were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
 4. Permission to Fill Positions Prior to Next Board Meeting, Approval.
Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
 5. Recommendations
 - John Kelley, JCHS Girls Golf Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 5/21/2026, Approval.
 - Kyle Lime, JCHS SPED Teacher, \$46,100.00 / year x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.
 - Colby Vogel, JCHS Summer School Teacher, (30 days) x 4 hrs. / day, effective 5/26/2026-6/26/2026, Approval.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
 6. Conference Requests
None at this time.

D. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

- Seth Hulse, SCE SPED ParaPro, Unpaid Leave effective 5/6/2026, Approval.
- Angela Roberson, SCE SPED Teacher, Unpaid Leave day(s) effective 5/8/2026 ½ day, 5/12/2026 ½ day, and 5/15/2026, Approval.
- Faith Vance, SCE ParaPro, Unpaid Leave effective 5/4/2026 - ½ day, Approval.
- Bret Westerhouse, JCHS ParaPro/Study Hall, Admin. Leave effective 5/12/2026 - ½ day, Approval.

These leaves were approved without discussion as consent agenda item.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Lora Anderson, NVE Cook, retirement effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, Approval.
- Carla Reeves, NVE ParaPro, retirement effective 5/21/2026, Approval.
- Bret Westerhouse, JCHS ParaPro/Study Hall, resignation 5/13/2026, Approval.

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

3. Transfers

- Aimee Merry, BCE Pre-K Instructor to NVE Pre-K Instructor, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.

This transfer was approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

4. Recommendations

- Michael Aubuchon, JCHS Summer School ParaPro, (30 days) x 4 hrs. / day, Approval.
- Lynde Doup, JCSC Summer Grounds Worker, \$14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs., effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.
- Isaiah Hammon, JCSC Summer Grounds Worker, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs., effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.
- Lisa Hudson, NVE Summer Custodial Intern (Part-time), \$14.00 / hr. x 20 hrs./week, effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.
- Lori McClain, JCSC Summer Tech Intern, \$14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs., effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.
- Brandon Sotelo, JCSC Summer Tech Intern, \$14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs., effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.
- Sandra Whitney, JCSC Summer Custodian (Scipio Elementary), \$14.00 /hr. x 8 hrs., effective 5/26/2026-7/31/2026, Approval.

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

- Lyndsay Shepherd, JCSC Occupational Therapist, \$50.50 / hr. x 7.25 hrs. x 185 days, effective 8/3/2026, Approval.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 6 yes, 1 abstain (Mr. Shepherd). Approved.

5. Conference Requests

None at this time.

E. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations/Grants, Approval.

- Graham Creek Elementary, Approval.
 - Tea Creek Baptist Church, \$300.00 for negative student lunch accounts.
- JCSC, Approval.
 - JCSC Crescendo Music Dept., Countywide Fine Arts Festival for T-shirts, Sound, and posters.
 - Ron's Auto Service of North Vernon - \$250.00

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

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. Resolution, Approval.

- a. *Resolution BUS2026-011* – Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County Schools to make payments of claims without board action prior to June 11, 2026, 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.

Mr. Nieman made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

F. Property (Policy 7000)

None at this time.

G. Operations (Policy 8000)

None at this time.

H. Relations (Policy 9000)

1. MOU between Clarity of Central Indiana and JCSC, Approval.

Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for Clarity curriculum.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. MOU between Curtis & Livers and JCSC Annual Contract, Approval.

Mr. Ebinger requested approval for the annual special education data software.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.

7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$1,119,571.40 (claims 112322 – 112533) and payroll in the amount of \$1,348,535.01 (check date 5/15/2026).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

A. Updates.

1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 4/6/2026.

A copy of the minutes was included in the board packet.

2. State Board of Education Officially Approved JCSC Request for Three Waiver Days for PD in 2026-2027.

Dr. Johnson informed the board that the State Board of Education has approved the request for three waiver days in 2026-2027 for staff professional development.

3. Scott Sage, JCHS Head Girls Volleyball Coach, \$5,775.00 stipend, effective 5/22/2026, Approval.
Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion.
7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Morrison made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.
7 yes, 0 no. Adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will be on June 11, 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