

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
May 22, 2025

Executive Session: The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on May 22, 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):

- (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).
- (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, Earl Taggart, Chelsea Morrison, Travis Shepherd and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh and Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:55 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/SvGBrTGx8MU?feature=share>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Earl Taggart, Chelsea Morrison, Travis Shepherd and Mary Lynn Whitcomb. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Amanda Sullivan, Lisa Hearne and Board Executive Secretary Deb Johnson were also in attendance. Todd Ebinger was not 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;
- VIIB1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VIIB2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIIB3. Professional Staff: Transfers;
- VIIB5. Conference Requests;
- VIIC1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VIIC2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIIC3. Support Staff: Transfers;
- VIIC5. 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 will be shared with the Board:

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. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Board Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of May 8, 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.

Speaker 1 – Jera Shelton spoke about wanting more transparency when it comes to the safety and welfare of our children and that our children are being protected from the moment that they get on the bus until they are delivered back to their

designated location. We as a community place the trust and care of our children with Jennings County Schools. We place that trust in whole as a community on the school system shoulders and we do that in prayerful ways. Jera doesn't want this to feel that we are against anyone. Unity is key because division does nothing for us as a community.

Speaker 2 – Casey Shelton spoke about when he was a kid, school was a safe place and in today's society it seems like things have flip flopped. He has two children in Jennings County Schools and he feels like there should be cameras in all of our classrooms for the students and teacher's protection. In conclusion, Casey would like to see more safety for our kids and wants to know that will be addressed.

V. Old Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. JCSC Procedures FAQ Document, Inform.

Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Manowitz read aloud an FAQ document that has answers to questions that have come up in community conversations. (ex. Bullying response, how we handle a mental health crisis, Erin's law, staff licensing, etc.) This will be made available on our school website. If you have additional questions, please contact Dr. Johnson, Mrs. Manowitz, Mr. Ebinger, and Mrs. Sullivan at 812-346-4483. Dr. Johnson concluded, starting with the school year 2025-2026 we will have the Say Something app available for use.

VI. New Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

▪ Field Trips

None at this time

B. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

- Jacqueline Graves, JCHS Teacher, Unpaid Leave, effective 5/19/2025-5/23/2025, Approval.

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

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Rebecca Gilley, NVE SPED Teacher, resignation, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
- Caitlin Roll, JCMS Teacher, resignation, effective 5/23/2025, Approval. These resignations were approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.

3. Transfers

None at this time

4. Recommendations

- Ian Clarkson, NVE Summer School Teacher, (9 days), \$292.97 / day, effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.
- Roger Williams, NVE Summer School Teacher, (9 days), \$434.05 / day, effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.

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

- Travis Wrightsman, JCHS Impact/Alternative Ed. Teacher, \$75,800.00 / yr. x 185 days, JCHS Boys Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, \$12,789.00 stipend, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
Mr. Taggart commented another New Castle boy and we come from a community that loves basketball. This community will give you everything and God has blessed you.

5. Conference Requests

- Dustin Bentz, IAACE Annual Meeting, Plainfield, IN, 5/15/2025-5/16/2025, Approval.
- Tom Brooks, Brainstorm, Sandusky, OH, 5/4/2025-5/6/2025, Approval.
These conferences were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

C. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

- Savanna Caneer, SCE Para Pro, Unpaid Leave, effective ½ day on 5/9/2025, Approval.
- Skyler Ray, SCE Para Pro, Maternity Leave, effective 8/6/2025-end of 2025-2026 school year, Approval.
- Autumn Temple, SCE SPED Preschool Para Pro, Unpaid Leave, effective ½ day on 5/16/2025, Approval.
These leaves were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Sarah May, JCMS Administrative Asst., resignation effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
- Marcia McGill, JCSC Bus Aide, retirement effective 5/22/2025, Approval.
- Dakota Redmond, JCSC Bus Driver, resignation effective 5/9/2025, Approval.
- Allie Stewart, JCEC Career Coach & CCMA Instructor, resignation effective 6/19/2025, Approval.
These resignations/retirements were approved as consent agenda items.

3. Transfers

None at this time.

4. Recommendations

- Sheldia Austerman, JCMS Summer Custodian Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
- Mason Conrad, JCSC Summer Tech Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
- Autumn Fischvogt, Central Office Summer Administrative Asst. Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
- Mary Jane Gootee, NVE Summer School Para, \$16.50 / hr. (9 days), effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.
- Denise Horstman, JCSC Accounts Payable, \$22.45 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day x 260 days, effective 7/1/2025, Approval.
- Alyssa Kent, Hayden Elementary Summer School Para Pro, \$13.70 / hr. (9 days) x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.
- Amber Lozier, BCE Para Pro, termination effective 5/9/2025, Approval.

- Jackie Miller, NVE Summer School Para Pro, \$17.70 / hr. (9 days), effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.
- Christian Stewart, JCMS 7th grade Head Football Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
- Kay Ward, Scipio Elementary Summer School Para Pro, \$16.50 / hr. (9 days), effective 5/27/2025-6/6/2025, Approval.
- Heather Willis, JCMS SPED Para Pro, termination effective 5/14/2025, Approval.
- Shyann Young (name correction, Lovitt to Young from 5/8/2025 Board Approval), NVE Summer Custodial Support, \$14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
- Evan Zohrlaut, JCSC Summer Tech Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve all recommendations. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- William “Bill” Marling, JCSC Summer Mowing Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Ms. Morrison seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- Kristi Sigler, JCHS Head Girls Basketball Coach, contract extended through 2026-2027 school year, \$12,789 stipend.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- Michael Kelley, JCMS 8th Grade Head Football Coach, \$2,889.00 stipend, effective 5/23/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Recommendation (*Pending Hiring Requirements*)

- Tyler Moore, JCSC Summer Tech Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
- Seth Shepherd, JCSC Summer Tech Support, \$12.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 5/27/2025, Approval.
Mrs. Hearne requested approval pending hiring requirements. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Conference Requests

None at this time.

D. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations/Grants, Approval.

- Brush Creek Elementary, Approval.
 - Expert Eye Care, \$60 for 6th grade celebration.
- Hayden Elementary, Approval.
 - JCCF Essay Contest Winner, \$100 to Mrs. Erin Stoner’s Class.

- NVIC, \$250.00 for a school-wide Hayden 500 project.
 - PSI IOTA XI Sorority, \$1,000.00 for 2025/2026 Art Club for 3rd-6th grades.
 - JCEC, Approval.
 - Dollar General Literacy Foundation, \$10,000.00 Grant for Adult Literacy to Grow Individualized Instruction.
 - JCHS, Approval.
 - Black Cat Racing Team in memory of Bob Watts.
 - Karen Lanam - \$10.00
 - Phil & Kathy Gosser - \$20.00
 - Nancy Smith - \$20.00
 - Ron & Kay Bloemer, Ann Lawson, Elise Allen - \$20.00
 - Brian, Jenn, Paxton Liggett - \$20.00
 - Kate Wernke - \$25.00
 - Glenn & Judy Heath - \$25.00
 - Deanna Howard - \$25.00
 - Chuck & Ann Paul - \$40.00
 - Nick & Chris Megel - \$40.00
 - Martha Davis - \$40.00
 - Diane Abernathy - \$50.00
 - Dennis & Sheila Coquerille - \$50.00
 - Bo & Candy Miller - \$50.00
 - Lance & Erin Treadway - \$200.00
 - Employees of Watts Electric & Control Imagineering - \$1,100.00
 - Mark Dearing, \$141.00 for PBIS.
 - Jennings Church of Christ, Inc., \$200.00 to Panther Pantry.
 - Scipio Elementary, Approval.
 - Scipio United Methodist Church, \$100.00 to student meal accounts.
Mr. Marsh requested approval for donations as read. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
2. Resolution, Approval.
- a) *Attachment* - Resolution # **BUS2024-009** - Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County School Corporation to make payments of claims without board action prior to June 12, 2025, 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 the standard resolution for more than two weeks between board meetings. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approved. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.
 - b) *Attachment* - Resolution # **BUS2025-010** – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Gift Cards by School Officials and Employees, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for the bi-annual resolution. Ms. Morrison made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- c) *Attachment* - Resolution # **BUS2025-011** – Resolution authorizing the Transfer \$1,500,000 from Education Fund to Operations Fund in June 2025 and December 2025, to reimburse the Operations Fund for Expenses not allocated to student instruction and learning for the 2025 Budget Year, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval. Ms. Morrison made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

E. Operations (Policy 8000)

1. Volta IT Testing Services, Approval.

Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for an outside IT security firm to test our systems security against cyber-attacks. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. 3rd Annual Muscata”duck” Race, Approval.

Mrs. Manowitz requested approval for JCHS Girls Basketball Team to host their 3rd Annual Muscata”duck” Race charitable gaming event following all policies and procedures required by the state. This was a very successful event last year which enabled the JCHS Girls Basketball team to donate back to the Hope Food Program as well.

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

F. Relations (Policy 9000)

1. Curtis & Livers Annual Contract, Approval.

Mrs. Sullivan 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 \$1,581,361.28 (claims 106412 – 106645) and payroll in the amount of \$1,306,721.59 (check date 5/15/2025).

These claims were approved without discussion as a consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

- A. Updates.

None at this time.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. Adjourned. 7 yes, 0 no. Approved.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will be June 12, 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