

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Public Meeting: Ratification
Regular Board Meeting
November 13, 2025

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

- (2) (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.
- (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, Travis Shepherd, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. Chelsea Morrison was not in attendance. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant Carrie Manowitz, and Philip Marsh were also in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Public Meeting for Ratification: Public comment was taken at this meeting pursuant to Indiana Code 20-29-6-19(c). This meeting 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 meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m.

The following link was available to live stream this Public Meeting from your home:

<https://youtube.com/live/ps6t8O9GQ9Q>

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Dr. Pettit called the meeting to order and stated that this meeting is for ratification of the contract. She reminded everyone that we are live streaming. Dr. Johnson stated that we had the public hearing in October and the teacher contract is posted on our website.
3. Public input or comment on proposed contract
There were no comments.
4. Board Ratification
Mr. Nieman made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Teacher Contract as presented.
Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
5. Adjournment
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

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/OyYW2dqHSs4>

Board members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, Travis Shepherd, Mary Lynn Whitcomb and Curt Nieman. Chelsea Morrison was not in attendance. Superintendent Dr. Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, 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 will be presented for approval without discussion:

- III. Minutes;
- VIC7. Field Trips;
- VID1. Professional Staff: Leaves;
- VID2. Professional Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VID3. Professional Staff: Transfers;
- VID6. Conference Requests;
- VIE1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VIE2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- VIE3. Support Staff: Transfers;
- VIE8. 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:

VIIIF3. October Fund Report.

VIIIA1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 9/2/2025.

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.
- II. Consent Agenda Items.
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Board Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of October 23, 2025.
These minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
- IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
 - Brush Creek Elementary Spotlight.
Mrs. Likens, principal of Brush Creek Elementary introduced 2nd-grade teachers Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Hillen along with 2nd-grade students Madison Yatsko, Rowan Cothron, Liam Robinson, Breyton Bohall, Paisley Burgmeier and Lauryn Likens, to showcase STEM integration and how it looks in the classroom on Bat Units. The students studied bat sequencing and habitats by building bat boxes and becoming Chiropterologists (a scientist who studies bats).
 - JCSC Board 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 will ask if anyone would like to speak on any items on the agenda or any other topic.
No comments at this time.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Programs (Policy 2000)
None at this time.
 - B. Finances (Policy 6000)
None at this time.
 - C. Operations (Policy 8000)
None at this time.
 - D. Property (Policy 7000)
None at this time.
- VI. New Business
 - A. NEOLA, Inform.
 - NEOLA Policy 5330, Use of Medication, 1st Reading, Inform.
 - NEOLA Policy 5540 (*Replacement*), The Schools and Governmental Agencies, 1st Reading, Inform.
 - NEOLA Policy 8400 (*T.C.*), School Safety Information, 1st Reading, Inform.

- NEOLA Policy 0144.1, Compensation, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 0167.2, Executive Session, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 3220, Staff Evaluation, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 3220.01, Teacher Appreciation Grants, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 3231, Outside Activities of Staff, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 4162, Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL Holders and Other Employees Who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 5350, Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 7440.01, Electronic Monitoring and Recording, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 8121 (T.C.), Personal Background Check-Contracted Services, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 8405 (T.C.), Environmental Health and Safety Issues-Indoor Air Quality, Animals in the Classroom, and Idling Vehicles on School Property, 1st Reading, Inform.
- NEOLA Policy 8452, Automated External Defibrillators (AED), 1st Reading, Inform.

Dr. Johnson presented NEOLA policies for the first reading.

B. Administration (Policy 1000)

1. *Attachment* – Administrator Stipend, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested a one-time stipend of \$1,250.00 for administrators for the 2025-2026 school year. This amount matches the teacher stipend amount. The list of names was included in the board packet.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

C. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. JCHS – Course Additions for 2026-2027, Inform.

Mrs. Manowitz informed on the *NEW* course additions for JCHS starting 2026-2027 school year as follows.

English:

- Children's Literature (1036)
- Crime and Literature: Exploring Justice, Psychology, and Story Telling (1084)
- Mind Over Media: Critical Thinking and Argumentation (1074)
- Communication Skills for Real World Success (1096)

Mathematics:

- Technical Math (7218)

Science:

- Advanced Life Science: Plants (5074)
- Advanced Life Science: Animals (5070)
- Earth Space Science II (3046)

PE / Health:

- Introduction to Athletic Performance (3560)
- Recreational Lifting (3560)
- Gridiron Games (3560, Fall Only)

- Hoosier Hysteria (3560, Spring Only)

World Languages:

- Workplace Spanish (2136)

CTE:

- Introduction to Public Service (7190)

2. New JCHS Diploma, Inform.

Mr. Roller and Mrs. Ebbing presented requirements for the new high school diploma that will start with the 2029 freshman class and how the diploma will be implemented.

3. Pre-K Update, Inform.

Mr. Ebinger informed us that Indiana has now cut all funding for Pre-K vouchers for the 2026-2027 school year, however, we are looking at additional options to help sustain the program. Mr. Sullivan stated that these programs are valuable and residents need to contact state legislator to support these programs.

4. JCHS, Boys' Volleyball Program, Approval.

Mr. Hartwell requested approval for an IHSAA Boys' Volleyball Program for JCHS this school year. Mr. Nieman made a motion for approval. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 3 yes, 3 no. Dr. Pettit stated due to the tie vote, the motion fails.

5. JCMS, Girls' and Boys' Soccer Programs, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval to officially split the middle school soccer teams into a boys' team and a girls' team. Mr. Nieman made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

6. T.A.G. (Teacher Appreciation Grant), Inform.

Dr. Johnson gave an overview of the Teacher Appreciation Grant and why we applied, how teachers will apply and be selected, and a timeline for the process.

7. Field Trips

- Brad Briggs, JCHS FFA, State Forestry CDE, Purdue University, Rossville High School, 12/12/2025-12/13/2025, Approval.

This field trip was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.

D. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves

None at this time.

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Leslie Barton, JCHS FACS/Culinary Arts Teacher, resignation effective 11/5/2025, Approval.

This resignation/retirement was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.

3. Transfers

- Leslee Brown, JCMS Teacher to NVE Teacher, effective 11/3/2025, Approval.

This transfer was approved without discussion as consent agenda item.

4. Recommendations

- Hope Ferguson, JCMS Cheer Coach, \$1,652.00 stipend, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.

Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. *Resolution BUS2025-022* - 2025/2026 Certified Supplemental Pay for Education, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

6. Conference Requests

- Leonard Collett, IASP Fall Conference, Indianapolis, IN., 11/24/2025-11/25/2025, Approval.
- Cynthia Law, IASP Fall Conference, Indianapolis, IN., 11/23/2025-11/25/2025, Approval.

These conferences were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

E. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves

- Jennifer Moore, JCMS SPED Para Pro, Unpaid Leave effective 10/27/2025-10/29/2025, Approval.

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

2. Resignations/Retirements

- Dorothy Daugherty, JCEC Testing Proctor, resignation effective 1/16/2026, Approval.
- Stacey Hall, JCSC Transportation Admin Asst., resignation effective 11/7/2025, Approval.
- Darrell Hicks, JCHS Asst. Wrestling Coach, resignation effective 11/6/2025, Approval.
- Bailey Sanders, JCHS Girls' Asst. Basketball Coach, resignation effective 10/22/2025, Approval.

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

3. Transfers

None at this time.

4. Recommendations

- Nathan Capps, JCMS Volunteer Boys' Basketball Coach, effective 11/13/2025, Approval.
- Amber Cooper, JCMS SPED Para Pro, \$16.50 / hr. x 7 hrs. / day, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Kindra Irwin, SCE Para Pro, \$14.50 / hr. x 7 hrs. / day, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Jacob Ross, Scipio Elementary 5th & 6th Grade Basketball Coach, \$216.00 stipend (1/2 stipend), effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Bailey Sanders, JCHS Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Thomas Shepherd, Scipio Elementary 5th & 6th Grade Basketball Coach, \$216.00 stipend (1/2 stipend), effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Mary Unsworth, JCEC Certified Clinical Medical Asst. (CCMA) Instructor, \$35.00 / hr., effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Toni Wicker, JCSC Bus Aide, \$14.00 / hr. x 8 hrs. / day, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.

- Alexis Willey, JCMS SPED Para Pro, \$14.00 / hr. x 7 hrs. / day, effective 11/14/2025, Approval.
- Elementary Basketball Volunteer Coaches for 3rd and 4th Grades, Effective 10/24/25, Approval.
 - Jessica Browning
 - Riley Clark
 - Nathan Harrison
 - Derek Hillen
 - Sean Hooper
 - Alyssa Kent
 - Jenny Kent

Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

(Pending Hiring Requirements)

- Loren Clark
- Marcus Moore

Mrs. Hearne requested approval. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Classified Employee Stipend, Approval.
Dr. Johnson requested approval for a \$400.00 one-time stipend. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
6. Classified Pay Scales Step for Experience (2025-2026), Approval.
Dr. Johnson requested approval. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
7. Insurance – Classified Single (greater than and less than 205 days), Plan F Board Coverage Amount, Approval.
Dr. Johnson requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
8. Conference Requests
None at this time.

F. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations/Grants, Approval.
 - Hayden Elementary, Approval.
 - Jennings County Community Foundation, \$138.00 to Mrs. Downing's 5th-grade class for a Flocabulary subscription.
 - JCHS, Approval.
 - Billy Bloemer Memorial Fund Golf Scramble, \$500.00 to the Panther Pantry.
 - Expert Eye Care, Chassie Broadus, \$800.00 for Attendance Incentive.
 - Jennings County Community Foundation, Classroom Grants.
 - Eric Kelley - \$500.00.
 - Kristin Campbell - \$120.00
 - Keenan Castetter - \$1,000.00
 - JCMS, Approval.

- George's Family Pharmacy of North Vernon, IN., \$150.00 for Attendance Incentives.
- Sand Creek Elementary, Approval.
 - Sand Creek Trustee, \$1,500.00 for Student Misc. and Snacks.
- JCSC, Approval.
 - Cummins, Kesler Science Subscriptions-Supplemental Curriculum for 6th-grade Science.
 - Hope Food Program.
 - Corinthian Baptist Church - \$225.00
 - Graham Baptist Church - \$675.00
 - Kiwanis Club of North Vernon, IN - \$225.00
 - NVIC - \$250.00
 - Donna Staublin - \$225.00
 - John Staublin - \$225.00

Mr. Marsh requested approval for all donations as read. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- Mary Lynn Whitcomb - \$1,000.00

Mr. Marsh requested approval. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 5 yes, 1 abstain (Ms. Whitcomb).

2. Resolution, Approval.

- a. *Resolution BUS2025-023*- Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County Schools to make payments of claims without board action prior to December 11, 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. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

3. October Fund Report.

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

G. Property (Policy 7000)

1. SCE Roof Project 2026, Inform.

Mr. Marsh gave a brief update on the SCE roof project.

2. NVE Shelter House, PTO Project, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval for the NVE PTO shelter house project. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

H. Operations (Policy 8000)

1. 2026-2027 Master Calendar, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for 2026-2027 master calendar. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

I. Relations (Policy 9000)

1. MOU between IU and JCSC, Teacher Candidates and Practicum Students, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. MOU between Ivy Tech and JCSC, Dual Enrollment, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve.

Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

3. MOU between Ivy Tech and JCSC, School of Nursing, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr.

Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$1,802,721.91 (claims 109378 – 109698) and payroll in the amount of \$1,231,518.71 (check date 10/31/2025).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

A. Updates.

1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes, 9/2/2025.

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

2. MOU between Mind Trust, Inc. and JCSC, Service Agreement, Approval.

Dr. Johnson requested approval for a grant-funded tutoring program for JCMS. Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

3. Asking for approval to post Indiana Learns tutor positions.

Dr. Johnson requested approval to post. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Permission for the Lease of (1) SPED Bus through Daimler Truck Financial Services USA LLC, Approval.

Mr. Marsh requested approval to lease one SPED bus from Daimler Truck.

This bus had previously been budgeted for and approved by the board on February 22, 2024 normal operations budget. Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve. Mr. Nieman seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Adjourned.

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

Curt Nieman

Cheryl Miller - Vice President

Travis Shepherd

Pat Sullivan - Secretary

Mary Lynn Whitcomb

Chelsea Morrison