

JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Central Administration Office Building
Executive Session
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2023

Executive Session: The Jennings County School Corporation Board of School Trustees met in executive session on March 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Special Education Board 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) 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(b)(5).
- (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, Earl Taggart, Mary Lynn Whitcomb, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, and Travis Shepherd. Chelsea Morrison was absent. Superintendent Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, and Lisa Hearne were also in attendance.

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:53 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/hVE1iin5m18?feature=share>

Board Members present were Dr. Amy Pettit, Earl Taggart, Mary Lynn Whitcomb, Cheryl Miller, Pat Sullivan, and Travis Shepherd. Chelsea Morrison was absent. Superintendent Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistants Carrie Manowitz, Philip Marsh, Todd Ebinger, Amanda Sullivan, Roy Herr, Lisa Hearne and Board Executive Secretary Debbie Andis 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 was not to be considered a public community meeting. There was 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;
- VIC5. Conference Requests;
- VID1. Support Staff: Leaves;
- VID2. Support Staff: Resignations, Retirements;
- 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:

- VIF4. February Fund Report
- VIIIA1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes 2/06/2023.
- VIIIA2. Essential Service Committee Meeting Minutes 2/21/2023.
- VIIIA3. Thank you card – Shepherd Family.

Agenda

- I. Pledge
The President opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
Dr. Pettit reminded everyone that we are live streaming tonight's board meeting and welcomed those that have joined us.
- II. Consent Agenda Items
Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve consent agenda items. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
- III. Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2023.
The minutes were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.
- IV. Community Non-Agenda Items
 - The President asked if anyone would like to speak on any items on the agenda or any other topic.
Greg Browning was in attendance and thanked the school board members and staff for making great strides in improving school security. Having Derrek Simpson with Shield Up Defense for School Safety evaluate our current procedures and measures is truly a step in the right direction. Mr. Browning went on to update the board on his meeting with Sheriff Kenny Freeman (topics discussed - training curriculum for teacher/staff, a bill supported by State Representative Jim Lucas, that would allow teachers to be trained and armed while on duty during the school year - awaiting senate approval, and additional SROs). In closing, Mr. Browning reminded us that deterrence is our goal. Preparedness our ally and safety our responsibility.

Dr. Pettit thanked Greg Browning for bringing great points to the school board. We continue to discuss and look at school safety procedures and measures.

▪ Scipio Elementary Showcase Presentation.

Leonard Collett, Principal of Scipio Elementary, showed a powerpoint on

“What’s Engaging Students at Scipio Elementary - Highlights!

EIE STEM Night, Ag in the Classroom, Purdue Extension – Captain Cash, Purdue Extension – Reading Made Fun – Jennings County 4-H, Little Tiger Days, Lego Club, Winter Wonderland, Family STEAM Night, National Elementary Honor Society, Student Council, Fine Arts, Fifth Grade – Knee Brace Design, Third Grade – Toy-Making Elves, Second Grade – Modeling/Preventing Erosion, First Grade – Drums, and Kindergarten – Maple Syrup. Mr. Collett passed out samples of the maple syrup for the board members to try.

V. Old Business

A. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Social Studies Textbook Adoption for K-6 Update, Inform

Mrs. Manowitz stated that this is another inform on Social Studies textbook adoption. The books are in the school buildings, the teachers have been reviewing them and turning in surveys and giving their input. This week’s school newsletters, that are going home, tell how community members and parents can also give their input and review materials.

B. Property (Policy 7000)

1. 2023 Roofing & Masonry Work at Various JCS Locations, Approval.

Roy Herr asked for approval for the masonry and roofing related work at various locations.

South Central Roofing, Inc. was the low bidder for the roofing bid. \$77,300.00

Poole Group, Inc. was the low bidder for the masonry work at NVE. \$199,512.00

The total for the two projects, plus all the alternates is: \$276,812.00

These bids came in less than the architect’s estimate for cost.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve the 2023 Roofing & Masonry Work at Various locations. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VI. New Business

A. Administration (Policy 1000)

1. *Attachment* - Renewal of Administrator Contracts, Approval

Mrs. Johnson asked for approval of renewing Administrator Contracts as presented.

Ms. Whitcomb made a motion to approve renewal of Administrator Contracts as presented. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

B. Programs (Policy 2000)

1. Permission to Post for Latch-Key Program Proposals, Approval

Mr. Ebinger stated that our current contract ends this summer and asked for permission to post advertisement to receive bids.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the posting for Latch-Key Program proposals. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. Field Trips

None at this time.

Administrator Contract Recommendations 2023

Administrators with contract expirations on June 30, 2024. I am recommending that these individuals receive a one (1) year contract continuation through June 30, 2025.

1. **Deron Brown**, School Psychologist
2. **Leonard Collett**, Scipio Principal
3. **Stephanie Ebbing**, JCHS Assistant Principal
4. **Todd Ebinger**, JC Special Ed. Elementary Director
5. **Ed Ertel**, JCHS Counselor
6. **Michael Green**, JCMS Assistant Principal
7. **Todd Hearne**, Graham Creek Principal
8. **Nick Hill**, NVE Principal
9. **Taryn Kent**, JCHS Assistant Principal
10. **Angie Klene**, JCMS Assistant Principal
11. **Carrie Manowitz**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
12. **Karen Pedigo**, JCMS Principal
13. **Shelley Stephens**, NVE Assistant Principal
14. **Cory Stevens**, JCHS Athletic Director
15. **Amanda Sullivan**, JC Special Ed. Secondary Director
16. **Susan Webster**, Sand Creek Principal

Administrators with 2-year contract expirations on June 30, 2025

1. **Dustin Bentz**, JCEC Director
2. **Joe Hartwell**, JCHS Assistant Principal
3. **Morgan Likens**, BCE Principal
4. **Leah McLeod**, JCMS Athletic Director
5. **Dustin Roller**, JCHS Principal
6. **Chris Thurston**, SCE Assistant Principal

C. Professional Staff (Policy 3000)

1. Leaves
None at this time.
2. Resignations/Retirements
 - Carolyn Hensley, JCMS Teacher, retiring effective at the end of 2022-2023 school year.

This retirement was approved without discussion as a consent agenda item.
3. Recommendations
 - Career Increment / Master Teacher Stipend
2023/2024, 2024/2025, 2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028
 - Viola S. Davis
 - Courtney Kreutzjans
 - Charlee Simpson
 - Neil Snyder
 - Karen Tucker

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve professional staff recommendations. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

4. Permission to Post 4 JCHS Certified Summer School Positions, Approval
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve posting 4 JCHS professional staff summer school positions. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.
5. Conference Requests
 - Felicia Hill, ACP Spring 2023 Biology PD, Bloomington, IN., 4/17/2023.
 - Jennifer Laman, STEM Leadership Alliance Summit, Orlando, FL. 7/09 – 7/12/2023.
 - Shawn Minton, NASRO & INSRO Conference, Indianapolis, IN., 6/28 – 7/03/2023.

These conferences were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

D. Support Staff (Policy 4000)

1. Leaves
None at this time.
2. Resignations/Retirements
 - Jerri Bliton, JCMS Part-time Para Pro, resignation effective 2/17/2023.
 - Sheyanna Cravens, JCHS SPED Para Pro, resignation effective 2/20/2023.
 - Lauren Dimmitt, NVE Para Pro, resignation effective 3/03/2023.
 - Kasi Elliott, SCE Para Pro, resignation effective 3/06/2023.
 - Karlee Gasper, JCMS Para Pro, resignation effective 3/06/2023.
 - Kayla Nimeskern, HE Para Pro, resignation effective 2/27/2023.
 - Judy Sidwell, JCS Tech Support, retiring effective June 30, 2023.

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

3. Recommendations
 - Thomas Brooks, JCS Technology Director, \$85,000 yr. (260 days), effective 3/13/2023.
 - David George, JCHS Boys Golf Coach, \$2,889. stipend, effective Spring 2023.
 - Annette Hardy, JCHS Cook, \$14.50 hr. x 7 hrs. day, effective 3/13/2023.

- Denver Ison, JCHS Volunteer Football Coach for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Tonya Johnson, JCS Sub Bus Aide to 8 Hour Bus Aide, \$13.25 hr. x 8 hrs. day, effective 2/27/2023.
- Ruth Reitman, JCS Bus Aide to Corp. SPED Bus Driver, \$18.50 hr. x 8 hrs. day, effective 2/27/2023.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve support staff recommendations. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

The board welcomed Mr. Tom Brooks, the new JCS Technology Director, and his family who were in attendance.

4. Permission to Post 1 JCHS Summer School Non-Certified Staff (Para Pro), Approval

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve posting 1 JCHS support staff summer school position. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

5. Conference Requests
None at this time.

E. Students (Policy 5000)

1. 2023 – 2024 Non-Resident Student Transfer Cut-Off Date of May 23, 2024, Approval

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Non-Resident Student Transfer Date. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

F. Finances (Policy 6000)

1. Donations, Approval

- Anonymous, \$200.00 to NVE for Unpaid Lunch Balances.
- Jennings Church of Christ, Inc., \$300.00 to JCHS Panther Pantry.
- NVIC, \$200.00 to JCHS Junior Class.
- Columbus City Band, \$500.00 to JCHS Art Department.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve these donations. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. Resolution, Approval

- a. *Attachment* - Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County Schools to make payment of claims without board action prior to April 13, 2023, 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. Shepherd made a motion to approve the above resolution. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

- b. *Attachment* - Resolution to Accept Settlement, Approval

Mrs. Johnson asked for approval of a resolution to accept a settlement. We were part of a class action law suit, along with many school districts across the country, against a vape manufacturer. We have reached a settlement and asked for board approval to accept this resolution.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the Resolution to Accept Settlement. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

A Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of Jennings County Schools to make payment of claims without board action prior to April 13, 2023, and to allow the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer to make transfers of Appropriation within the Education, Debt Service, and Operations Funds in order to Balance Major Account Classifications

Whereas, The Board of Trustees of Jennings County Schools is not scheduled to have a meeting between March 9, 2023, and April 13, 2023, and,

Whereas, It is necessary to have Board action in order to pay claims and to transfer appropriations with major account classifications, and,

Whereas, It is deemed to be in the public interest to facilitate the payment of amounts which are owed by the school corporation and to ensure that adequate appropriations are available for payment of such claims.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jennings County Schools hereby authorizes the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer of the Corporation to pay outstanding claims and to transfer appropriated amounts within the 2023 Education, Debt Service, and Operations Funds between March 9, 2023 and April 13, 2023.

Be it further resolved that a claim docket and appropriation transfer report for this period is to be presented to the Board for final action on or before the last regularly scheduled Board meeting in April 2023.

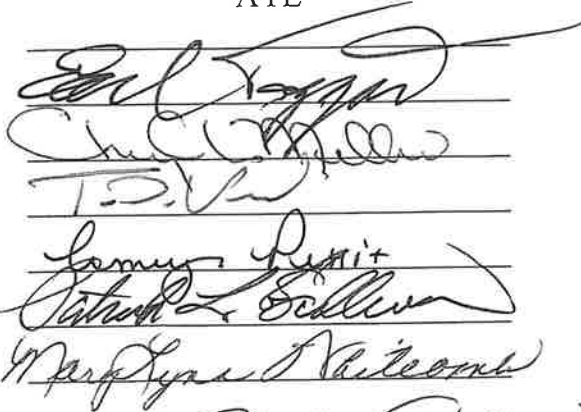
Resolution #: Bus2023-003

Adopted this 9th day of March, 2023.

**JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

AYE

NAY



ATTEST:


Secretary

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SETTLEMENT
PROCEEDS FROM JUUL LABS, INC.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Jennings County School Corporation (“School Corporation”) believes it is in the best interests of the School Corporation to resolve its litigation against Juul Labs, Inc. without the necessity of proceeding to trial and the uncertainty of a jury verdict;

WHEREAS, Juul Labs, Inc. has offered the School Corporation the gross sum of \$70,997 to settle the litigation, which will then be reduced by attorney fees, costs, and the court-ordered Common Benefit Expense assessment and paid over time;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees believes it would be in the best interests of the School Corporation to place all settlement proceeds in the Jennings County School Corporation settlement donation fund if permitted by the State Board of Accounts; and if not permitted to do so, then into any fund approved by the State Board of Accounts at the direction of Superintendent Nicole Johnson and approval of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees believes a prompt resolution of the pending litigation against Juul Labs, Inc. is in the School Corporation’s best interests and therefore authorize Mrs. Nicole Johnson, Superintendent, or Jason Judd, Attorney, to execute any and all necessary documents to effectuate the settlement as expediently as possible.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Trustees of Jennings County School Corporation authorizes settlement of its litigation with Juul Labs, Inc. in the gross sum of \$70,997, that the net proceeds be placed in the Jennings County School Corporation settlement donation fund or any other fund approved by the State Board of Accounts as directed by Nicole Johnson and approved by the Board of Trustees, and that Nicole Johnson and Jason Judd both be authorized to execute any necessary documents to effectuate settlement with Juul Labs, Inc.

RESOLVED this 9th day of March, 2023.



Dr. Amy Pettit, President

Chelsea Morrison, Vice President



Pat Sullivan, Secretary



Travis Shepherd, Member



Mary Lynn Whitcomb, Member



Earl Taggart, Member



Cheryl Miller, Member

3. Common School Loan to Purchase Chromebooks, Approval

Mr. Marsh asked for permission to apply for a spring common school loan to purchase additional 760 chromebooks.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve applying for the Common School Loan to purchase Chromebooks. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no.

Approved.

4. February Fund Report.

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

G. Property (Policy 7000)

1. Contract for Architectural Services, Approval

Mrs. Johnson asked for approval of a contract for Architectural Services with Lancer & Associates Architecture pending legal approval from our attorney. This allows us to begin working on our Read Grant CTE Project at JCHS.

Mr. Taggart made a motion to approve the Architectural Services Contract. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved

H. Relations (Policy9000)

1. School Portrait and Services Agreement between JCHS and The Barksdale Group for the 2023/2024 school year, Approval

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the School Portrait and Services Agreement between JCHS and The Barksdale Group. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

2. 4 Corners Employment Services MOU with JCSC, Approval.

Mrs. Sullivan asked for approval of this Special Education MOU with 4 Corners Employment Services. This will provide more services to our special education students who have applied with Vocational Rehabilitation as they prepare for a job after high school.

Mr. Shepherd made a motion to approve the 4 Corners Employment Services MOU with JCSC. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

3. Five Star Engineering Support Contract, Approval

Mrs. Johnson stated that we've been very happy with our agreement for engineering support with Five Star and would like to continue. Mrs. Johnson asked for approval on an engineering support contract with Five Star (three-year contract).

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the Five Star Engineering Support Contract. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

VII. Claims

The claims were presented for approval in the amount of \$1,705,337.78 (claims 12,443 – 12,602) and payroll in the amount of \$1,210,820.43 (check date 3/15/2023).

These claims were approved without discussion as consent agenda items.

VIII. Other

A. Updates

1. Area Plan Commission Meeting Minutes 2/06/2023.

2. Essential Service Committee Meeting Minutes 2/21/2023.

3. Thank you card – Shepherd Family

These items were included in the board packet.

Other

- Mrs. Johnson updated the board on school safety. We've been meeting with Derek Simpson from Shield Up Defense for school safety reviewing safety plans and entry procedures. We've also met with Sheriff Freeman and Chief Messer about working on additional SROs for next school year.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Ms. Whitcomb seconded the motion. 6 yes, 0 no. Approved.

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

Chelsea Morrison - Vice President

Earl Taggart

Pat Sullivan - Secretary

Mary Lynn Whitcomb

Cheryl Miller