

**JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 0050**  
**JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

April 8, 2026

Members Present: Gail Hutt, Dan Jones, Jon Schmid, Sarah Weber, Kim Wellensiek

Also Present: Jon H. Rother, Superintendent; Laurie Badertscher, Recording Secretary; Justin Damme, High School Principal; Marsha Bacon, 4-8 Principal; Rebecca Robeson, PreK-3 Principal; Dr. Laura Rademacher, Director of Student Services/Special Education; Garret Collin, Activity Director; Marcus Scheer, Director of Technology

Absent: Justin Beethe

Three visitors were present

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The Johnson County School District No. 0050 Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 8, 2026 in the high school room 204, Tecumseh, Nebraska. A current copy of the agenda was available for inspection in the office of the Superintendent prior to the meeting. The notice of the meeting and agenda was posted at the three main school buildings as well as the Tecumseh and Cook Post Offices. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Nemaha Valley Observer and on the school district website.

President Kim Wellensiek called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting by announcing that the Open Meetings Act rules were posted. Roll call was taken. Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-present, Dan Jones-present, Jon Schmid-present, Sarah Weber-present, Kim Wellensiek-present.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Dan Jones to approve the March 2026, regular Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

A motion was made by Jon Schmid and second by Dan Jones to approve the March 24, 2026 Johnson County Central Special Board of Education meeting minutes as present. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-abstain, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 4-0-1

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Gail Hutt to approve the March 26, 2026 Johnson County Central Special meeting minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-abstain, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 4-0-1.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Rother presented the Financial Report to the Board of Education. Discussion was held regarding expenditures. Board member Jon Schmid requested the Johnson County Central Lunch Fund payment #12043 (for pre-school snacks) in the amount of \$704.50 be removed from the expenditure listing for later consideration.

A motion was made by Jon Schmid and second by Gail Hutt to approve the General Fund claims for payment in the amount of \$927,182.38, Building Fund expenditures in the amount of \$66,635.08, Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund in the amount of \$8,500.00 and the financial report as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Dan Jones to approve the claim for payment #12043 to Johnson County Central Lunch Fund for pre-school snack reimbursement in the amount of \$704.50 as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-no, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 4-1

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** None

### **PRESENTATION to the BOARD**

English Language Learners teacher Lisa Weber provided an overview of the EL program at Johnson County Central Schools to board members. The program currently supports 25 K-12 students. Mrs. Weber shared the annual program review as well as ELPA testing results and program statistics.

The Board of Education members were provided an opportunity to ask questions regarding the EL program at JCC. Learning about the program and the support the program provides to students and staff within the district was appreciated by the Board of Education.

### **ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

High School Principal, Mr. Damme reported on the following:

- Senior class end of year information.
- Graduation – May 9, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m. High School Gym
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade orientation – May 6, 2026
- JCC High School Honors Day – May 1, 2026 -2:30 p.m.
- Summer School
- Driver's Education
- FFA students to NRCSA
- HOSA-Future Health Professionals: Harley Reyes, first alternate (national qualifier)
- FFA Agri Science Fair national qualifiers: Reece Badertscher, Ashley Beethe, Adree Case, Cooper Jones, Levi Othmer, Brianna Robeson, Saige Rother, Sophia Schmid, Wesley Schmid, Molly Weber, Riley Wellensiek, Catherine Wendt
- ECNC Student Art Day
- Levi Othmer named 2026-27 Nebraska FFA Vice-President
- Nebraska Class C All State Honor Band – Cameron Werner
- JAG Program

Middle School Principal, Mrs. Bacon reported on the following:

- NEMTSS (Nebraska Multi-Tiered System of Support) Self-Assessments completed
- Securly- hall pass system
- Continuous Improvement Cycle
- 2026-2027 Staffing
- ESU #4 – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Mudecas Quiz Bowl – April 14<sup>th</sup>

- Middle school State FFA
- Middle school State Skills USA
- Nebraska trout project
- Golden Sower reading competition
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation

Elementary Principal, Mrs. Robeson provided information on the following:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Thunderbird recognition
- Johnson County Farm Bureau visit
- Emergency Management Agency -severe weather awareness
- Safety drills completed
- Kindergarten Round-Up – April 14<sup>th</sup>
- Purple Up Day - (show support for military connected children) – April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Book Blast program- April 15<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup>
- NED Show- PK-8
- Golden Sower reading competition
- Rose Theater- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – April 30<sup>th</sup>

Special Education Director / Student Services Director, Dr. Laura Rademacher reported on the following:

- ESU 4 – IEP Academy
- BIST program
- NDE TIP (Targeted Improvement Plan) training
- Transition Conference
- Maintenance of Effort Compliance
- ESU4 Functional Behavior Analysis and Behavior Intervention plan training
- NDE Inclusive Leadership Fellowship

Activities Director, Mr. Collin reported on the following:

- Track meets
- Golf Invite - May 7<sup>th</sup>
- Athletic Awards Ceremony – April 24<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm.
- Intra School Quiz Bowl
- ECNC meeting – April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Palmyra applied to join NCC Conference
- ECNC financial report provided
- JCC to host Mudecas Quiz Bowl – April 13<sup>th</sup>
- All Conference teams recognized
- Athletic Banquet – May 4<sup>th</sup>

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Rother reported on the following:

- Chiller at Cook site update
- Communication with Senator Bob Hallstrom
- Jerry McCall working on options for Cook site building
- ECNC administration meeting – March 15<sup>th</sup>

- Prairie Mechanical work
- PreK program
- JCC Cheever, HS Renovations Work Contract -2026

## **REGULAR AGENDA-BUSINESS**

Superintendent Rother reviewed the following policies: 3020- Copyright Compliance, 3021-Operation of School Business Office, 4018- Corporal Punishment, 4019- Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee, 5016- Student Records. Discussion was held and Mr. Rother recommended changes to Policy 3021.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to change Policy 3021 -Operation of School Business Office as presented: The central office of the school district shall generally be open for business from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. every weekday except for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. The office shall generally be open, even on days when school is cancelled due to inclement weather. The Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring that the central office is appropriately staffed when the district is open for business and shall be responsible for supervising all staff employed in the central office. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

A discussion was held regarding ALICAP School Insurance. ALICAP is the current provider of Workers Compensation, General Liability, Auto, Errors and Omissions, Crime and Pollution insurance coverage. Board member Jon Schmid asked if other options had ever been considered for coverage? Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Jon Schmid to renew our contract with ALICAP for the 2026 – 2027 fiscal year. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Dan Jones to accept the letter of resignation from Nicole Beck effective March 5, 2026. Roll call vote Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Gail Hutt to approve the 2026-2027 teaching contract of Mr. Alberto Jaramillo as special education teacher. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe – absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to approve the 2026-2027 teaching contract of Mr. Kade Davis as elementary teacher. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe – absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Jon Schmid to approve the 2026-2027 teaching contract of Ms. Makenna Hutt as elementary teacher. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Jon Schmid to approve the 2026-2027 teaching contract of Mrs. Linda Jaquez as high school spanish teacher. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0.

Superintendent Rother initiated a discussion regarding the development of a five-year facility plan for Johnson County Central as was recommended by Dan Jones. Jon Schmid recommended this scope be

narrowed to a one to three-year plan. After discussion the Board directed the Building and Grounds Committee to develop a plan and present it to the Board.

The Board discussed several facility considerations, including track resurfacing, elevator upgrades for ADA compliance, fine arts facilities, and high school science room remodeling. Jesse Hamula of Trane advised that because the current boiler is located in the older section of the Cook site, any future demolition of those facilities would require an HVAC reconfiguration.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-absent, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m

The next Board of Education meeting will be Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

Notices of the meetings will be published in the Nemaha Valley Observer as well as on the school website. The agenda will be posted at the three main school buildings as well as at the Tecumseh and Cook Post Offices. A current copy of the agenda will be available for inspection in the office of the Superintendent prior to the meeting.