

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

June 10, 2026

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

Also Present: Jon H. Rother, Superintendent; Laurie Badertscher, Recording Secretary; Marsha Bacon, 4-8 Principal; Dr. Laura Rademacher, Director of Student Services/Special Education; Marcus Scheer, Director of Technology.

The Johnson County School District No. 0050 Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2026 in the Tecumseh site Elementary Building room 106, 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-present, 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 Sarah Weber to approve the May 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

FINANCIAL REPORT

Superintendent Rother reviewed the financial report and answered questions regarding the claims for payment listings. A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Jon Schmid to approve the General Fund Claims for payment in the amount of \$1,016,231.07, Building Fund in the amount of \$586,986.77 and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund in the amount of \$8,000.00 as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to approve the Johnson County Central Lunch Fund payment for preschool snacks in the amount of \$344.10 as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-no, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-1.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

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

- Summer School
- FFA COLT conference
- National SkillsUSA- Jay Chaudhari and Zeke Burki
- Required meeting with the County Attorney- Attendance
- District Retreat with ESU 4
- NDE Day Kearney
- Non-CDL training

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

- Amplify ELA curriculum training
- National Skills USA-Jay Chaudhari 7th place Extemporaneous Speaking
- ESU 4 data retreat
- BIST training
- Administration leadership retreat
- Instrumental Music
- KSB Law Student Discipline training
- DIEBELS training – ESU 4
-

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

- Amplify- CKLA training
- Summer school
- Report Cards (ready for pick-up)
- Behavior Intervention Support Team
- Transportation meeting
- Instructional Practice Guide training

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

- NeMTSS training
- School Psychologist search
- NDE Transition and re-Fresh training
- Nebraska Reading Improvement report
- ESU 4 leaders retreat
- ESU 4 data retreat
- BIST planning and procedure development

Activities Director, Mr. Collin reported on the following:

- District Track
- Summer weight room hours
- Summer team camps
- Wall of Honor
- State Golf qualifier- Jack Waring

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Results of required U.S Citizenship Test
- Lease-to-purchase bus
- Options for leasing vehicle from Brinkman Brothers GM

- ECNC possible new members
- Meeting with Johnson County Attorney- JCC attendance policies
- High School improvements progress

Superintendent Rother facilitated a discussion on whether or not to allow backpacks in high school. Jon Schmid recommended to continue to allow backpacks in high school. Dan Jones believes this is something High School Principal Justin Damme can decide and he would support his decision. Middle School Principal Marsha Bacon indicated that backpacks are not allowed to be carried in the middle school.

Superintendent Rother shared a facilities update report compiled by Russ Waring to include the following:

- High School draining issues addressed
- Replacement of AC Cook site
- Boiler inspections Tecumseh site
- Football field sprinkler repair
- Lights in Cook shop
- Long jump pits repairs
- Summer work
- High School improvement updates

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of scoreboards for the Cook site. After discussion the Board of Education recommended the purchasing of two scoreboards for the main gym in Cook and recommended moving the scoreboard currently in the main gym to the auxiliary gym in Cook.

FUTURE DATES

- DA Davidson Golf Outing – June 25th
- ALICAP Workshop – July 9th
- Special Board Meeting to discuss, consider and take any necessary action on a resolution increasing the school district’s base growth percentage used to determine the school district’s property tax request authority by up to 6%- Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSIONS

A discussion was held regarding a date for an upcoming board retreat. The Board of Education requested that Mr. Rother organize a retreat to be held at 5:00 p.m. July 21, 2026. Superintendent Rother led a discussion regarding a resolution to increase the school district’s base growth percentage used to determine the school district’s property tax request authority by up to 6%. Jon Schmid recommended that Mr. Rother provide a line item document showing actual estimated expenditures.

Superintendent Rother provided information regarding NDE Rule 91, NDE Rule 92 and the NDE Pupil Transportation Guide. Discussion was held.

REGULAR AGENDA-BUSINESS

The Building and Grounds Committee met on May 27, 2026 and provided an outline of the next projects they feel need to be completed for the district. A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Gail Hutt to authorize the Building and Grounds Committee to pursue projects necessary to continue renovating the high school and resurfacing the track next summer. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

Discussion was held with regards to setting the breakfast and lunch prices for the 2026-2027 school year. The current federal reimbursement rate for breakfast is \$2.94 and the lunch reimbursement rate is \$4.69. Mr. Schmid believes the full pay prices should be the same as the federal reimbursement rates.

A motion was made by Jon Schmid to set the 2026-2027 breakfast rate at \$2.94 and the lunch rate at \$4.69. Motion failed for lack of a second.

After further discussion regarding meal prices, a motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to table the 2026-2027 meal price agenda item. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-no, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 5-1

Superintendent Rother provided information regarding entering into a lease/purchase agreement for a 14-passenger Thomas bus (es) with Truck Center Companies. Discussion was held. Jon Schmid recommended we look into the possibility of purchasing a diesel bus. It was recommended by the Board of Education to pursue the purchase of a bus and to not enter into a lease/purchase agreement. No action was taken.

Discussion was held regarding the following polices: 2008-Meetings; 3003-Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Site Improvements; 3003.1-Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds; 3004.1-Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds; 3048-Communicable Disease; 4017-Relations with Employee Collective Bargaining Associations; 4019-Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee; 4056-Resignation of Certificated Staff; 4065-Staff Use of AI Tools; 5001-Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism; 5003-Admission of Part-Time Students; 5004-Option Enrollment; 5035-Student Discipline; 5048-Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (ANAPHYLAXIS); 6009-Grade Placement and Academic Credits of Transfer Students; 6038-Student Use of AI Tools.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding Policy 5504-Option Enrollment. Mr. Rother informed the Board of Education what standards and rationale he considers prior to accepting option students to the district. Mr. Rother is comfortable with the “board of education authorizing the superintendent of schools to make decisions on its behalf pursuant to and to apply the criteria articulated by this policy in determining whether to grant or deny option enrollment applications,” as stated in the policy.

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to approve the policy changes as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

A motion was made by Jon Schmid and second by Gail Hutt to approve Policy 3061-ACH Originator as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Sarah Weber to approve Policy 6046-Right to Access School Library Materials as presented. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

Discussion was held regarding a future building project. Jon Schmid does not feel that the timing is right for a bond proposal based on the current state of the economy and what he is hearing from patrons of the district. Kim Wellensiek indicated that she is receiving requests from patrons encouraging the Board of Education to pursue a building bond project. Mr. Rother stated that Facility Consultant, Russ Koch is

willing to meet with the Board of Education at any time. Further discussion was held and no action was taken at this time.

A motion was made by Justin Beethe and second by Sarah Weber to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next Board of Education meeting will be a Special Meeting July 8, 2026 at 6:00 with the Regular Board of Education Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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