

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

October 8, 2025

Members Present: Justin Beethe, 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, Middle School Principal; Dr. Laura Rademacher, Director of Student Services/Special Education Director; Garret Collin, Activity Director; Marcus Scheer, Director of Technology;

Seven visitors were present

The Johnson County School District No. 0050 Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 8, 2025 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-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 Jon Schmid and second by Justin Beethe to approve the September 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes as well as the September 24th, 2025-2026 Budget Hearing, Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request Minutes and the September 24, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes to approve the 2025-2026 Budget and Resolution to Set the Final Tax Request 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

A motion was made by Jon Schmid and second by Sarah Weber to approve the General Fund claims for payment in the amount of \$847,406.33, Building Fund expenditures in the amount of \$10,466.68 and Depreciation Fund expenditures in the amount of \$125,820.00 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

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Student Council Representatives Levi Othmer and Wesley Schmid were present representing the Johnson County Central Student Council. Discussion was held regarding the following:

- Cell Phone Use
- Work Release
- Outside Seating

Representatives from the Johnson County Central FFA chapter were present to address the Board of Education. Chapter sponsors, Connor Bartels and Christy Hodges as well as members Levi Othmer and Wesley Schmid were present to propose leasing property from the Johnson County Central School District to give students the opportunity to make managerial decisions in a corn/soybean rotation production system. The representatives present would like the Board of Education to consider leasing the current “Wilson property” to the JCC FFA Chapter for the purpose of farming the land.

The chapter members feel the benefits gained from such an opportunity would be very valuable to all students involved. Currently the FFA Chapter will plan to have someone custom farm the land for them but will be afforded the opportunity to gain knowledge in making decisions and having hands-on experience. The Board of Education asked several questions and were supportive of providing the opportunity.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

High School Principal, Justin Damme reported on the following:

- MAP testing
- SENCA poverty simulation
- 2025 Graduate, Nolan Wellensiek featured on news for shrimp farming
- Tony Davis donated Cotton Bowl Hall of Fame plaque to district
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- October 10, 2025- first quarter ends
- Veterans Day Program Tuesday, November 11, 2025- 10:00 a.m.

Middle School/ 4-5 Principal, Marsha Bacon reported on the following:

- 4th Grade -Homestead National Park
- Middle School to Attend Life Skills Pep Rally at UNL
- Math Observations
- New English Language Arts Curriculum
- Bist Consultation
- Fall Sports
- Middle School FFA and Skills USA
- Veterans Day Program Tuesday, November 11, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
- Continuous school Improvement Process -External Visit Nov 10th and Nov 11th

Elementary Principal, Beckie Robeson reported on the following:

- PreK Petting Zoo - Johnson County Extension Agency
- Title I Family Pumpkin Night
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Fire Safety Week
- MAP Testing
- CLSD Consortium
- English Language Arts Curriculum

- University Extension Office Providing Enrichment Activities

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

- IEP Academy
- Maintenance of Effort Compliance
- Indicator 13 File Review
- Medicaid Administrative Activities in Public School (MAAPS)
- Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS)
- Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics Fall Conference
- Special Education Final Financial Reports
- Behavior Interventions Plan (BIPS)
- ACT Accommodations
- Transition Programming

ACTIVITY DIRECTOR REPORT

Activity Director Garrett Collin provided information on the following:

- ECNC Volleyball- October 13th -16th
- Football Declarations - Due November 1st
- JCC Volleyball Invitational- JCC Champions
- Catherine Wendt Qualified for State Golf
- Staff v. Student Basketball Fundraiser Event- November 13th
- Winter Sports Begin – November 18th
- ECNC Conference

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Rother reported on the following:

- Heartland Roofing Agreement
- Zero Eyes Firearm Detection System
- New Bus Purchase
- Athletic Director Position

FUTURE DATES

- NASB State Education Conference – November 19- 20, CHI Health Center Omaha

DISCUSSION

Superintendent Rother informed the Board of Education 2026-2027 teacher negotiations meetings will begin in October.

Mr. Rother provided several calendar scenarios for the Board of Education to consider and discuss. Currently teachers are contracted for 177 work days and students attend 154 days. A lengthy discussion was held regarding starting school prior to or after the Johnson County Fair. Keeping the 4-day school week consistent was also discussed. No action was taken at this time.

The Committee on American Civics met Wednesday October 8, 2025. Members include; Gail Hutt, Jon Schmid and Kim Wellensiek.

REGULAR AGENDA-BUSINESS

Superintendent Rother and Director of Technology, Marcus Scheer presented information regarding Vape Sensors from Prime Secured. No action was taken to purchase sensors at this time.

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Dan Jones to accept the letter of resignation from Karen Hunzeker with regrets, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0.

Superintendent Rother reviewed the following policies: **2009-** Public Participation at Board Meetings; **2010-** Preparation for Board Meetings; **3003.1-** Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds; **3004-** General Purchasing and Procurement; **3005-** School Activities Fund; **4004-** Employment of Relatives; **4005-** Communication between Board and District Employees.

Board of Education member Jon Schmid, would like to have policy 2009-Public Participation at Board Meetings; tabled at this time. Mr. Schmid recommended the rules set forth for public comment be more defined. Superintendent Rother will gather more information related to this policy. There were no changes to policies 2010, 3003.1, 3004, 3005, 4004, or 4005.

Superintendent Rother provided a Design Services Fee Proposal presented by Clark Enersen to assist Johnson County Central with the renovations of and improvements to the existing high school. Adam Kent was present on behalf of Clark and Enersen to answer questions regarding the proposal and scope of work to be completed in the existing high school. The assumed construction cost is \$2,722,280.

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Jon Schmid to approve the Clark Enersen Design Services Fee Proposal in the amount of \$217,782 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 the use of a lease purchase agreement for renovations to the high school. Discussion was held regarding depleting the Building Fund and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund. It was the consensus of the Board of Education to wait for actual costs for the proposed projects prior to borrowing funds. Mr. Rother will contact D.A Davidson to inquire about how long it would take to have access to funds if the Board of Education entered into a lease purchase agreement.

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Dan Jones to allow the Johnson County Central FFA Chapter to manage the custom farming of the property being purchased by Johnson County Central Public Schools from the Wilsons. The Superintendent will oversee the operation. 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 by bond election. The Board of Education would like Clark Enersen and Boyd Jones to provide costs associated with a PreK-8 building with a top load gym the size of the existing Middle School gym.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

The next Board of Education Hearing will be held Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school room 204 in Tecumseh, Nebraska. The 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 agenda will be available for inspection in the office of the Superintendent prior to the meeting.