



THUNDERBIRD NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Building the Budget

SUPERINTENDENT MONTHLY UPDATE

BY JON H. ROTHER

When creating the budget for the upcoming school year, we (JCC Superintendent & JCC's Business Manager) look at the two previous years of budgeting. If need be, we can go back even further. A worksheet is used to compare previous years' budgets to the upcoming budget. This gives us an idea of what we'll need when accounting for the increases in costs in each category.



NOTE: The following worksheets are not complete. These are working documents.

GENERAL FUND	Source Number	ACTUAL 9-1-2024 to 8-31-2025	ACTUAL/ ESTIMATED 9-1-2025 to 8-31-2026	ADOPTED 9-1-2026 to 8-31-2027
DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS				
All Instruction Except Special Education Instructional Programs	1000's	4,748,780.00	5,058,524.00	5,507,400.00
Special Education Instructional Programs (Include Pre-School)	1200's	1,087,719.00	1,236,539.00	1,400,000.00
Support Services - Pupils (SPED Related)	2100's	246,509.00	266,200.00	286,200.00
Support Services - Pupil (Non-SPED Related)	2100's	429,639.00	434,000.00	440,000.00
Support Services - Instructional	2200's	331,214.00	373,175.00	490,000.00
Board of Education	2310	203,456.00	220,000.00	225,000.00
Executive Administration Services	2320	252,892.00	312,291.00	330,000.00
District Legal Services	2330	18,710.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Office of the Principal	2410	566,629.00	689,065.00	715,000.00
General Administration - Business Services	2500	92,421.00	62,800.00	110,000.00
Maintenance and Operation of Building(s) & Site(s)	2600's	813,980.00	880,622.00	920,000.00
Vehicle Acquisition & Maintenance	2650	1,214.00	200.00	20,000.00
Regular Pupil Transportation	2710/2720 2730/2790	557,276.00	777,578.00	800,000.00
Special Education Pupil Transportation (Include Pre-School)	2712/2713 2722/2723 2732/2733 2792/2793	43,079.00	15,200.00	17,000.00
Community Services	3300	14,054.00	17,000.00	18,000.00
Categorical Grant from Corporation	3400	3,023.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
State Categorical Programs	3500's	18,755.00	13,750.00	15,000.00
Debt Services	5000			
Federal Programs	6000's	369,118.00	400,450.00	420,000.00
Transfers to Lunch & Activity Fund	8000	301,656.00	260,000.00	270,000.00
Interfund Loan/Repayment to _____ Fund				
Total Disbursements & Transfers (Including SPED)		10,100,124.00	11,044,394.00	

Superintendent's Article & Worksheet continued on Page 2

Volume 20
Issue 2

Inside This Issue

- 1 - Superintendent Update
- 5- High School News
- 7- Middle School News
- 9- Elementary News
- 11- Activities Update
- 12- Activities Calendar
- 13- Lunch Menu
- 14- Student Services & Special Education News

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GENERAL FUND	Source Number	ACTUAL 9-1-2024 to 8-31-2025	ACTUAL/ ESTIMATED 9-1-2025 to 8-31-2026	ADOPTED 9-1-2026 to 8-31-2027
Total Special Education Disbursements	1200 + 2100 + 27X2	1,377,307.00	1,517,939.00	1,703,200.00
Total Non-Special Education Disbursements & Transfers		8,722,817.00	9,526,455.00	10,307,400.00
TOTAL BUDGET OF DISBURSEMENTS & TRANSFERS (Including SPED)				12,010,600.00
NECESSARY CASH RESERVE				2,200,000.00
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS				14,510,600.00

Each category is a compilation of all the subcategories. For example, the 1000's is "All Instruction Except Special Education Programs". We look at what was previously budgeted for in this category. Then, we look at what we've actually expended with the most current expenditure report. Every expenditure must be categorized with a number code. In the 1000's category alone, expenditures have over 600 codes! These are the numbers used to create the upcoming budget. Here is a portion of the expenditure report for the General Fund (the report is 31 pages long):

Johnson County Central Public Schools 08/18/2026 08:12 AM		Expenditure Report by Function/Object - Detail						Page: 1 User ID: LLB
Account Number	Account Description	Revised Budget	Expended During Month	Expenditures to Date	% of Budget	Balance at EOM	Unencumbered Balance	
01	GENERAL FUND							
1100	REGULAR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS							
01 1100 111 001	Teacher Salaries - Hs	920,000.00	74,155.23	916,473.81	99.62	3,526.19	3,526.19	
01 1100 111 002	Teacher Salaries Ms	642,000.00	51,490.93	641,878.39	99.98	121.61	121.61	
01 1100 111 003	Teacher Salaries Elem-tec	405,500.00	33,626.74	403,520.00	99.51	1,980.00	1,980.00	
01 1100 111 004	Teacher Salaries Elem-cook	325,500.00	23,753.51	290,915.89	89.38	34,584.11	34,584.11	
01 1100 112 001	Aide Wages--hs	10,000.00	0.00	9,995.23	99.95	4.77	4.77	
01 1100 112 002	Aide Wages--ms	10,800.00	172.80	9,916.07	91.82	883.93	883.93	
01 1100 112 003	Aide Wages--elem Tec	6,544.00	0.00	3,500.70	53.49	3,043.30	3,043.30	
01 1100 112 004	Aide Wages--elem Cook	2,500.00	0.00	2,382.38	95.30	117.62	117.62	
01 1100 113 001	Sub Salaries --hs	35,000.00	0.00	63,677.33	181.94	(28,677.33)	(28,677.33)	
01 1100 113 002	Sub Salaries --ms	60,000.00	0.00	21,525.00	35.88	38,475.00	38,475.00	
01 1100 113 003	Sub Salaries --elem Tec	25,000.00	0.00	22,734.77	90.94	2,265.23	2,265.23	
01 1100 113 004	Sub Salaries --elem Cook	15,000.00	0.00	26,884.69	179.23	(11,884.69)	(11,884.69)	
01 1100 114 001	Tech Staff Salary -hs	8,000.00	758.34	9,100.08	113.75	(1,100.08)	(1,100.08)	
01 1100 114 002	Technical Staff Salary - Ms	8,000.00	795.72	9,548.97	119.36	(1,548.97)	(1,548.97)	
01 1100 114 003	Technical Staff Salary --elem Tec	8,000.00	758.34	9,099.97	113.75	(1,099.97)	(1,099.97)	
01 1100 114 004	Technical Staff Elem Cook	8,000.00	758.34	9,099.97	113.75	(1,099.97)	(1,099.97)	
01 1100 120 001	Temporary Salaries- Non-instructional	25,000.00	0.00	21,833.00	87.33	3,167.00	3,167.00	
01 1100 120 002	Substitute Or Temporary Salaries- Non-instructional	5,000.00	0.00	4,044.00	80.88	956.00	956.00	

This is then done for each of the following funds:

- General Fund
- Special Building Fund
- Depreciation Fund
- Employee Benefit Fund
- Contingency Fund
- Activities Fund
- School Nutrition Fund
- Bond Fund
- Debt Outstanding Fund
- Qualified Capital Purpose Outlay Fund
- Cooperative Fund
- Student Fee Fund

Once we know how much we need to budget for, we then figure out what funds are available to meet the budget needs. This is done in the second portion of the worksheet. All these items are considered "Resources". The Resources are broken out into the following categories: Beginning Balances, Local Sources, County and ESU Sources, State Sources, Federal Sources, Non-Revenue Sources.

GENERAL FUND	Source Number	ACTUAL 9-1-2024 to 8-31-2025	ACTUAL/ ESTIMATED 9-1-2025 to 8-31-2026	ADOPTED 9-1-2026 to 8-31-2027
BEGINNING BALANCES				
Cash Balance, 9-1		672,049.00	1,472,778.00	1,261,997.00
Investments, 9-1				
County Treasurer's Balance, 9-1		1,482,839.00	1,018,951.00	1,020,850.00
Total Begining Balance		2,154,888.00	2,491,729.00	2,282,847.00
RECEIPTS, & TRANSFERS				
LOCAL SOURCES				
Carline Tax	1115	4,694.00	3,400.00	4,000.00
Public Power District Sales Tax	1120	7,914.00	8,850.00	9,500.00
Motor Vehicle Taxes	1125	316,913.00	290,000.00	290,000.00
Tuition Received from Other Districts	1321 / 1323 / 1335			
Tuition Received from Individuals	1311-13 / 1370	4,850.00	5,050.00	5,000.00
Other Tuition	1315 / 1320 / 1322 / 1330 / 1331 / 1340 / 1360	5,591.00	2,255.00	2,500.00
Transportation Received from Individuals	1410-1411			
Transportation Received from Other Districts	1420-1440			
Interest	1510 / 1520			
Community Service Activities	1800	3,775.00	6,200.00	6,500.00
Other Local Receipts	1910 / 1920 / 1990	3,231.00	700.00	1,000.00
Local License Fees/Court Fines	1911 / 1921	17,838.00	5,500.00	6,000.00
Nameplate Capacity Tax	3133			
Categorical Grants from Corporations / Private	1925	6,732.00	320.00	2,000.00
Other Post Secondary - 1955		270.00	1,380.00	1,500.00
COUNTY AND ESU SOURCES				
Fines and License Fees	2110	43,401.00	46,000.00	48,000.00
Other County Sources	2130			
ESU Receipts	2210	801.00	2,217.00	2,500.00
STATE SOURCES				
State Aid	3110	817,336.00	784,310.00	729,539.00
Special Education Programs	3120	871,012.00	947,457.00	1,120,000.00
Special Education Transportation	3125	17,921.00	34,735.00	13,600.00
Homestead Exemption	3130	104,933.00	90,000.00	
Payments for Wards of the State or Court	3160 / 3161			
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	3180	15,516.00	14,000.00	15,000.00
Payments for High Ability Learners	3535	5,188.00	5,530.00	4,600.00
Other State Appropriations				
State Apportionment	3400	226,884.00	137,796.00	125,000.00
Other				
State Categorical Programs	3500's		7500.00	5000.00
Other State Receipts	3990	918.00	25.00	100.00
Property Tax Credit and Personal Property Tax Credit	3131 / 3132 / 3134	2,443,928.00	2,866,325.00	

FEDERAL SOURCES				
Title ESSA Programs (Includes ESSA Title I)	4500-4511	122,722.00	139,925.00	137,000.00
	4526-4528, 4531			
IDEA Programs	4512-4523	140,635.00	139,582.00	135,000.00
	4416-4418			
Medicaid in Public Schools	4708	22,725.00	23,500.00	24,000.00
Medicaid Administrative Activities in Public Schools	4709	14,796.00	12,820.00	13,000.00
Title 8 (Impact Aid)	4305			
Other Federal Non-Categorical Receipts	4524			
Title IV-A: Student Support (18/19 Formula)	4969	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
ESSER III	4998	391,405.00		
REAP		98,005.00	54,715.00	35,000.00
Vocational Education (Carl Perkins)	4525	3,341.00		
Other Federal Categorical Receipts	4530			
CLSD	4301			65,000.00
Grants from Corporations & Other Private Interests	4710			
NON-REVENUE SOURCES				
Tax Anticipation Notes	5150			
Long Term Loans	5400			
Insurance Adjustments	5301			
Sale of Property	5300			
Transfers from _____ Fund	5200			
Cash Balance from Dissolved/Merged Districts	5610	108.00		
Other Non-Revenue Receipts	5690	10,849.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
Learning Community Property Taxes				
Interfund Loan/Repayment From _____ Fund				
Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes		7,889,120.00	8,143,821.00	5,103,186.00
Personal and Real Property Taxes	1100	4,702,733.00	5,183,420.00	9,407,414.00
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE		12,591,853.00	13,327,241.00	14,510,600.00
Less: Disbursements & Transfers		10,100,124.00	11,044,394.00	
BALANCE FORWARD		2,491,729.00	2,282,847.00	

When figuring out the current budget's dollar amount, for some of the sources, we are making predictions based on the previous years' numbers. These resources all count toward the district's Budget Authority (\$9,409,739 for 2026-2027), which is set by The State.

The difference between the district's requirements(or budget authority) and the district's Total Requirements is then made up through Personal and Real Property Taxes. The tax asking (i.e. Personal and Real Property Taxes) is then restricted by the district's Tax Asking Authority (\$10,859,540 for 2026-2027). This too is set by the State of Nebraska. Tax Asking Authority increases by 3%, but can be increased up to 7% with a vote of the school board.

If you have further questions about building the budget, please do stop by or give me a call!

Jon Rother - (402) 921-0187 or jon.rother@jccentral.org.

High School News

From Principal Justin Damme

School is off and running; students have their final schedule, and extracurricular activities are already in full swing. I met with each grade during the first week of school and discussed with the students the Student Handbook and our Activities Handbook. We went over some policies and discussed students' expectations to follow these rules throughout the year. Students were encouraged to read both handbooks so that they were familiar with the school rules. I would strongly encourage parents to view these handbooks, which are located on our school website.

Students will soon be logged into the OntoCollege ACT prep program. This is a great resource for students to fine-tune their academic skills before they take the ACT test. This gives our students quick tips, prep sessions, and bonus materials to prepare them for the test. This resource is there to help students maximize their potential on the ACT test and is an investment that our district finds important. This resource is available 24/7 at school/home free of charge.

- All Juniors will take the ACT during the mandated state ACT test on March 23, 2026
- Sophomores take the Pre-ACT on a date TBD
- All students will be granted one additional ACT test by the district at no cost (see Mrs. Reuter for more information)
- Johnson County Central is fortunate to be selected as a National ACT testing location on several dates throughout the school year. Please have your student contact Mrs. Reuter for more information on when these dates will be available. Currently, September 20th, October 17th, and October 18th are available dates.
- Mrs. Richardson has a new class for Juniors this year focused on Career/College Prep, including helping students navigate the ACT.

Important Dates/Reminders*

- HS Map Testing dates are August 25th and September 2nd
- First Volleyball Games are August 27th @ Nebraska City starting at 5 pm
- Girls Golf will start swinging in their season opener on August 27th @ Syracuse at 9 am
- Cross Country is off and running on August 27th @ Cass County Fairgrounds at 10 am
- Varsity Football kicks off August 28th @ Elmwood-Murdock, starting at 7pm
- **Picture day is scheduled for Friday, September 11th**
- Community Homecoming Pep Rally is scheduled for September 13th at the football field to kick off homecoming week

*Check the calendar on our website for more events taking place this month



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

COMMUNITY TAILGATE, PEP RALLY & BONFIRE!



6:00 PM – Tailgate, Activities & Food

7:30 PM – Pep Rally

Dusk – Lighting of the Bonfire



Middle School News

By Marsha Bacon | Johnson County Central Public Schools

The 2026-2027 school year officially began with the Middle School walk-through on Thursday, August 6th. We appreciate all the students and parents who were able to attend. The first day of school for students was August 10. It is always exciting to see returning students and meet new students who have joined the district. This year, Cook site will have around 160 students in grades 4-8. While summer gives everyone a much needed break, it is always good to have the building full of people and settle into the routine of the school year once again. We are looking forward to an amazing school year!

1:1 iPad Information

Expectations and Responsibilities for all students:

- Students and parents are to read and understand the JCC iPad Policies and Procedures handbook. Please return the signed handbook receipt to the office.
- Students are to use the device in a responsible and ethical manner.
- As with all technology, parents should supervise their child's use of the iPad at home. Any inappropriate use of the iPad may result in loss of iPad and school network privileges.
- Students who take their iPad home need to make sure they bring the iPad to school every day, fully charged. Students who repeatedly forget to bring their iPad or charge their iPad, may have to leave the iPad at school.

Please refer to the iPad handbook for a more complete list of iPad expectations for our students.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or building administrator.

Reminders

- All 7th graders and new students who enrolled from out of state are required by Nebraska State Law to have a physical on file at school.

7th and 8th grade students who plan to participate in athletics this year have several forms to turn in:

- Sports physical
- NSAA Parent Consent form
- Student insurance form
- Student handbook receipt
- Student activity handbook receipt
- \$25 activity fee

Please call the office if you have any questions.

Junior High Athletics & Activities

Junior High fall activities are underway, with good numbers of students participating this season. Students are involved in football, volleyball, cross country, and band.

At the start of any season we should take time to remind ourselves what the purpose of athletics and activities in a Middle School setting should be. While everyone wants to win and winning is one of our goals, it cannot be the purpose of our program at this level.

Middle School activities should encourage participation and the development of fundamentals that will help our students succeed at the high school level. Instead of placing the emphasis on winning and losing, we should celebrate hard work, being coachable, improving skill level, and effort every day.

If students can learn to work hard and give maximum effort at a young age, they are learning character traits that will help them be successful in high school and will serve them well for the rest of their lives. Please support our young athletes, musicians, and their coaches this year by attending games and performances, win or lose.

Thunderbird Golf Classic 2026

Saturday, September 26

Tecumseh Country Club

9:00 AM

4 PERSON
SCRAMBLE!

\$60/player

Meal & mulligans included.

Cart rentals NOT included.

Flag prizes!

Split-the-pot raffle!

Contact: Ben Swanson (402) 921-0870

Greetings From the Elementary!

September 2026

by Beckie Robeson, PK-3 Principal

It is hard to believe we are already heading into September! The first few weeks of school have been filled with excitement, smiling faces, and lots of learning. Students are settling into classroom routines, reconnecting with friends, meeting new teachers and staff, and becoming more comfortable with the expectations of their new grade level.

Our teachers have worked hard to create welcoming classrooms where students feel supported, encouraged, and ready to learn. Thank you to our students, families, teachers, and staff for helping make the start of the school year so wonderful.

Please keep an eye out for information regarding MAP testing. Testing is scheduled to begin the week of September 7. Details about which days your child will take their assessments will be sent out the week before.

Information about dress-up days for homecoming week will also be sent home during the first weeks of September. This is always a fun event, and students are encouraged to participate as we celebrate our school spirit together.

After School Program

- Our after-school program started on August 18. If you are interested in participating, you can still contact the school to enroll.
 - Available after school until **6:15 p.m.**
 - **\$25/week** for each student
 - **\$15/week** for each additional child

Paperwork Reminder

- If you haven't already, please ensure all required paperwork is up to date, including your phone numbers. ParentSquare is our main communication tool for the district. If your phone number isn't correct or up to date, you won't receive those messages.
- Remember, meals and milk snacks must be paid for in advance.

Important Dates

- **Monday, September 7:** No School
- **Tuesday, September 8:** MAP testing begins
- **Monday, September 11:** School Picture Day
- **Sunday, September 13:** Community Pep Rally & Bonfire
- **Friday, September 18:** Homecoming Parade
- **Monday, September 15:** Teacher In-service, no school for students
- **Monday, September 21:** No School
- **Saturday, September 26:** Thunderbird Golf Classic at 9:00 AM
- **Monday, September 28:** Teacher In-service, no school for students



Contact Info:

Please feel free to contact me at anytime during the school year
email: beckie.robeson@jccentral.org phone: 402-335-7839

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Something to Think About...

September 2026

School Expectations

One of our goals at JCC is to provide a school environment where every child feels safe, respected, and ready to learn. We ask students to come to school each day prepared to do their best and to make choices that positively contribute to our school community. We want all students to be exceptional Thunderbirds and model the Thunderbird Way. Throughout the school, we will continue reinforcing these expectations:

- Be Respectful - Use kind words, listen to others, and treat classmates and adults with respect.
- Be Responsible - Take care of school materials, follow directions, and come prepared to learn every day.
- Be Safe - Follow school and playground rules, and make choices that keep yourself and others safe.
- Be a Leader - Set a positive example, make good choices, help others, and do the right thing even when no one is watching.

Families can help by talking with their children about these expectations and encouraging them to make positive choices each day.

Building a Strong Relationship

Parents and families are an important part of their child's education. When families and schools work together, students benefit academically, socially, and emotionally. We want you to feel comfortable reaching out to your child's teacher or the school whenever you have a question, concern, or something positive to share. Our teachers also value opportunities to connect with parents and families.

You can support your child's learning by asking about their school day, reading together, establishing consistent bedtime and morning routines, and prioritizing regular attendance. Even a simple question such as "What is something new you learned today?" can lead to a meaningful conversation about school.

Communication works both ways, and we value the information families share with us. Together, we can provide the encouragement, consistency, and support students need to be successful.

Looking Ahead

September gives us an opportunity to build on the strong start we have already made. Our goal is not only to help students grow academically, but also to help them develop confidence, responsibility, kindness, and a love of learning.

Thank you for trusting us with your children each day and for being an important partner in their education. I am excited about the year ahead and all that our students will accomplish. When our school and families work together, we create the strongest possible foundation for our students.



Contact Info:

Please feel free to contact me at anytime during the school year
email: beckie.roberson@jcccentral.org phone: 402-335-7839

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ACTIVITIES UPDATE BY GARRETT COLLIN

Greetings Thunderbird Family

Thunderbird Family,

The 2026 fall season officially got underway on Monday, August 10th with the beginning of practice. Our athletes have been working hard and are ready to get out and compete. We are excited to have people back in the stands cheering on our Thunderbirds.

Here is a list of the number of participants we have in each activity along with our September home events.

HS Volleyball - 22

HS Football - 22

HS Cross Country - 19 boys, 3 girls

HS Girls Golf - 9

JH Football - 14

JH Volleyball - 25

Volleyball

9/3 - HTRS/Falls City

9/8 - Freeman/Wilber-Clatonia

9/10 - Palmyra

9/24 - Southern

10/3 - JCC Invite

Football

9/4 - Freeman

9/18 - Conestoga (Homecoming)

9/25 - Fairbury

Cross Country (Tecumseh Country Club)

9/4 - JCC Invite (9:00am)

Girls Golf (Tecumseh Country Club)

9/18 - Thunderbird Invite (9:00am)



September 2026



Monthly Calendar View

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		1 Girls Golf Triangular @ Auburn Country Club - 1:30 PM Varsity Volleyball Triangular @ Arlington - 5 PM	2 HS MAP Testing	3 Varsity Volleyball Triangular Home @ JCC - 5 PM	4 Girls Golf @ Tri Co Invite @ Hidden Valley GC - 9 AM Cross Country - Home JCC Invite @ Tecumseh Country Club - 9 AM Varsity Football vs Freeman 7 PM	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL	8 Girls Golf @ ECNC Meet @ Crooked Creek (LNK) - 9 AM JH Volleyball vs Lourdes CC - 4:30 PM JH Football @ FC Sacred Heart - 4:30 PM Varsity Volleyball Triangular Home @ JCC - 5 PM	9 FFA Range Judging @ Auburn - 8 AM JCC School Board Meeting - 6 PM @ HS Computer Lab (Rm 204) JCC Foundation Meeting 6:30 PM	10 Cross Country @ Bergen Invite @ Camp Calvin Crest - 4:30 PM HS Volleyball vs Palmyra Reserve/JV/Varsity - 5:00 PM	11 Varsity Football @ Falls City Sacred Heart 7 PM	12
13 HOME COMING COMMUNITY PEP RALLY	14 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service Varsity Volleyball @ MUDECAS @ Beatrice - TBD JH Football @ Freeman - 4:30 PM JV Football @ Freeman - 6 PM	15 HOME COMING WEEK Varsity Volleyball @ MUDECAS Girls Golf @ Bennington Invite @ Knolls Golf Course - 9 AM JH Volleyball vs Palmyra - 4:30 PM	16 HOME COMING WEEK Husker Harvest Days JAG Employer Engagement/SCC HealthCare	17 HOME COMING WEEK Varsity Volleyball @ MUDECAS Girls Golf - Home JCC Invite @ Tecumseh CC - 9 AM Richardson Co Parade - 11 AM Cross Country @ Fillmore - 4 PM JH Volleyball @ Wilber-Clatonia - 4:30 PM	18 HOME COMING WEEK Varsity Football vs Conestoga 7 PM Homecoming Coronation & Dance	19 JH Volleyball @ Louisville Tourney - 8 AM AppleJack Parade @ Nebraska City - 1 PM
20	21 NO SCHOOL Girls Golf @ Neb City Invite @ Wildwood Golf Course - 9 AM JV Volleyball @ Johnson-Brock - 4 PM JH FB vs Elmwd-Murdock - 4 PM JV FB vs Elmwd-Murdock - 6 PM	22	23 Doane Froshmore Choir Clinic 9 AM	24 Girls Golf @ Atchison Inv - 9 AM JH Volleyball @ Syracuse - 4:30 PM Cross Country @ Falls City Invite - 4:30 PM HS Volleyball vs Southern Reserve/JV/Varsity - 6 PM	25 FFA Ignite Conference @ Norris - 9 AM Varsity Football vs Fairbury 7 PM	26 Thunderbird Golf Classic @ Tecumseh Country Club 9 AM Varsity Volleyball @ Louisville Tourney - 9 AM
27	28 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service Girls Golf @ Auburn CC - 9 AM Cross Country @ UNK - 12:30 PM JH Football @ Johnson-Brock - 4 PM JV Volleyball Tr @ JCC - 5 PM JV Football @ Johnson-Brock - 6 PM	29 JH Volleyball @ HTS - 4 PM Varsity Volleyball Triangular @ Weeping Water - 5 PM	30 FFA District Lond Judging @ Tecumseh - 8 AM			

September 2026



JCC Lunch Menu

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Chicken Tender Hot Veggie WG Breadstick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	2 Hotdog/WG Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	3 Sloppy Nacho Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	4 Calzone Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL Labor Day 	8 Corn dog Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	9 Br. Pork Patty/WG Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	10 Cream Chicken over WG Biscuit Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	11 Pizza Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	12
13	14 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	15 Chicken Alfredo Broccoli WG Garlic Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	16 Meatball Sub Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	17 Breaded Cheese Stick Hot Veggie WG Cookie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	18 National Cheeseburger Day Cheeseburger/WG Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar	19
20	21 NO SCHOOL	22 Chicken Quesadilla Refried Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	23 Fiestada Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk 	24 Spaghetti w/Meatsauce Green Beans WG Garlic Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	25 Chicken Nuggets Potato WG Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	26
27	28 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	29 Crispito Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	30 Pulled Pork/WG Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Menu is subject to change without notice "USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender."		



WELCOME BACK for the 2026-2027 School Year!

The school year is off to a great start! As students and staff settle into new classrooms, new schedules, and new routines, building relationships, and learning what to expect throughout the school day. September is a good time to remember one simple idea: **Predictability is kind.**

For children, knowing what is going to happen next can create a sense of safety. When routines, expectations, and adult responses are clear and consistent, students are better able to focus their energy on learning, friendships, problem-solving, and growing in independence. We all have moments when a child's behavior can feel frustrating. In those moments, it can be helpful to ask:

Could I make this situation more predictable?

Sometimes a child may not be trying to be difficult—they may simply be unsure of the expectation, what comes next, or how an adult will respond. Making those things clearer can often make the interaction calmer and kinder for everyone involved.

Expectations and Boundaries

You may hear our staff talk about both **expectations** and **boundaries**. While they are closely connected, they are not quite the same. An **expectation** tells a student what we want them to do. While a **boundary** explains what the adult will do if the expectation is not met. For example:

Expectation Examples	Boundary Examples
"Use a respectful voice." "Be ready to learn when class begins." "Walk in the hallway."	"I will listen when we can talk respectfully." "If you need more time to get ready, I will give you a moment and then help you get started."

Expectations give students direction. Boundaries give students predictability, to know what is going to happen when they make the choice. Both are important because children need to know not only what is expected of them, but also how the adults around them will respond when they make a mistake, become frustrated, or need additional support.

Try It at Home

Predictability can make everyday routines easier at home, too. It does not mean that every minute has to be scheduled. Often, a few simple routines and consistent responses are enough.

Make Mornings Smoother

Instead of repeating directions over and over, create the same simple order each morning: Get dressed → eat breakfast → brush teeth → grab backpack → shoes on

Preparing clothes, backpacks, and school items the night before can also reduce decisions and stress in the morning.

An expectation might be: **"We need to be ready to leave by 7:30."**

A boundary might be: **"At 7:25, I'm going to remind you one more time, and then we will leave with what is ready."**

Make Bedtime Simpler

A predictable bedtime routine helps children know that the day is winding down.

For example: Shower → pajamas → brush teeth → quiet activity → lights out

Giving a warning before transitions can also help:

“You have 10 minutes before we start getting ready for bed.”

The routine does the reminding instead of the adult having to negotiate each step every night.

Make Homework Feel More Manageable

Homework can become overwhelming when children do not know when it will happen or how long it will take. Try choosing a consistent routine, such as:

Snack → 15-minute break → homework → free time

For a child who becomes overwhelmed easily, break the work into smaller pieces:

“Let’s do these three problems first. Then we’ll take a short break.”

The expectation might be: **“Homework needs to be finished before gaming.”**

The boundary might be: **“You can choose when you start, but gaming will wait until the homework is done.”**

The goal is not to eliminate every struggle. Children will still test limits, have difficult days, and need reminders. The goal is for them to know what to expect from the adults around them.

A Small Challenge for September

Think about one part of your family’s day that regularly becomes stressful—the morning rush, homework, bedtime, chores, getting out the door, or something else.

Ask yourself: **Could I make this moment more predictable instead of simply repeating the direction louder or more often?**

A simple routine, a clear expectation, and a calm boundary can make a big difference.

At school and at home, children benefit when the adults around them are clear, consistent, and supportive.

Sometimes one of the kindest things we can give a child is simply: **“You know what to expect, and you know what comes next.”**

Contact Dr. Rademacher at Laura.Rademacher@jccentral.org.

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This newsletter is produced monthly to inform parents, district patrons and others about school events, classroom events, and student achievements in the classroom and extra curricular activities. This information is submitted by faculty and staff members. Information may be submitted to offices at Tecumseh and Cook.

The school reserves the right to edit information in the interest of space and content.

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Child Find

Children that are birth to 5 years old who are experiencing problems with speech language, cognitive, emotional and/or physical development or have a disability can receive services through Early Childhood Education Services. If interested or in need of more information please contact Rebecca Kling, Special Education Coordinator or Jon Rother, Superintendent at 402-335-3320.

