

**JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 0050
JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
December 10, 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; Rebecca Robeson, PreK-3 Principal; Dr. Laura Rademacher, Director of Student Services/Special Education Director; Garret Collin, Activity Director; Russ Waring, Director of Operations

Four visitors were present

The Johnson County School District No. 0050 Board of Education met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 10, 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 Sarah Weber and second by Jon Schmid to approve the November 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes as well as the December 1, 2025 Special 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

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Gail Hutt to approve the General Fund claims for payment in the amount of \$815,416.39, Building Fund expenditures in the amount of \$36,037.00 and the financial report 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

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

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

- Teacher Evaluations
- 2026-2027 Class Schedule
- FFA members attended Commissioner's Recognition Event at Nebraska State Capitol
- All-State Honor Choir- Kenny Ofoegbu

- Unified Bowling – District Runner-Up
- Skills USA- Lifesmarts Championship Competition- State 4th Place
- One Act – Districts-7th Place
- ASVAB Testing
- FASFA with Education Quest – December 16th
- NASSB Moratorium- December 24-28
- Appreciation to JCC Foundation - Staff Christmas Party Sponsors

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

- Standard Base Grading
- English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum
- AIM Pathway Training
- JH Boys Basketball – 15 participants
- JH Girls Wrestling – 7 participants
- Mary Robison, Cook site 4th grade Teacher, will not be in the classroom until mid-February.

Elementary Principal, Mrs. Robeson reported on the following:

- NDOT – Emmarie Shullaw winner of Name-A-Snowplow contest
- Johnson County Hospital- presentation on hand washing
- Countdown to Christmas break activities
- Elementary Christmas Program – December 15, 7:00 p.m.
- English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum
- K-3 teachers taking Science of Reading class
- Standard Base Grading

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

- Activities completed in November
- CPI Re-Certification Training – January 5th
- BIST Consultation – January 5th
- BIST Leadership Conference January 28th – 30th
- JCC to host a SUBMIT AND SHINE day- March 26th

Activities Director, Mr. Collin reported on the following:

- Dist. OR1-Palmyra- applying to Capital Conference
- JCC Wrestling Invite – December 19th
- Basketball Holiday Tournament at Weeping Water – Dec. 29th-30th
- Mudcas Basketball Tournament – Beatrice MS and Auditorium, Jan. 12th – 17th
- Volleyball All-Conference Honors
- Football All-Conference Honors
- Unified Bowling- District runner-up

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Rother reported on the following:

- NRCSA – Closing the Achievement Gap Committee, Mr. Rother SE Region Representative
- Mr. Rother Attended FFA Commissioners Recognition Event at State Capitol

- Great Plains Appraisal of the Cook Site Update
- Freeman Withdraw of ECNC Letter
- JCC Facilities 5-10-Year Plan Reviewed
- NioCorp Town Hall Meeting information provided

FUTURE DATES

- NASB Legislative Issues Conference – Monday, January 26th-27th
- NRCSA Legislative Forum- February 26th
- NRCSA Spring Conference – March 18-20
- NASB Federal Advocacy Conference

DISCUSSION

Superintendent Rother led a discussion pertaining to JCC's 2024-2025 AQuESTT (Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow) designation based on student NSCAS (Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System), ACT scores and other factors.

REGULAR AGENDA-BUSINESS

A motion was made by Dan Jones and second by Justin Beethe to conclude the Construction Management Agreement effective December 10, 2025 by and between Johnson County School District 49-0050 and Boyd Jones Construction Company. 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: **2013** - Violation of Board Ethics; **2014** - Board Code of Conduct; **3009** - Audit; **3010** - Insurance; **4008** – Outside Employment; **4009** – Restrictions on Employees Receiving Gratuities; **5007** – Enrollment of Expelled Students; **6002** – School Calendar; **6003** - Instructional Program; **6040** - Prekindergarten Program.

Mrs. Robeson facilitated a discussion regarding Policy 6040 – Prekindergarten (Preschool or Early Childhood) program. The policy changes are being recommended regarding capacity limitations. The preliminary numbers are indicated there will be more four-year-old students registered for the 2026-2027 school year. The four-year-old program is a full day program therefore it is being recommended to set the capacity at 31 students.

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Sarah Weber to accept the policies 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

Paul Grieger, of D.A Davidson and Company was present to answer questions regarding a Resolution to Authorize a Lease Purchase Agreement with D.A. Davidson to acquire, construct and equip facilities and equipment for district repairs. Discussion was held. It was understood by the Board of Education that funds would not be obtained until requested by the Board of Education and that by passing the resolution does not commit the Board of Education to issuing any debt.

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Justin Beethe to pass a resolution authorizing a Lease Purchase Agreement with D.A Davidson and Company not to exceed \$3,100,000 for improvements,

repairs and equipment for the district. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-no, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Jon Schmid to approve the 2026-2027 Negotiated Agreement by and between the Johnson County Central Board of Education and the Johnson County Central Education Association with the terms 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

President Wellensiek declared a recess at 7:15 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 7:17 p.m.

A motion was made by Sarah Weber and second by Dan Jones to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Rother's evaluation. Roll call vote: Justin Beethe-yes, Gail Hutt-yes, Dan Jones-yes, Jon Schmid-yes, Sarah Weber-yes, Kim Wellensiek-yes. Carried 6-0.

Mr. Rother was excused from executive session at 7:18 p.m.

Entered Executive Session at 7:18 p.m

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

Left Executive Session at 7:46 p.m.

Superintendent Rother returned to the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Board of Education President Kim Wellensiek and the Board of Education went over Mr. Rother's annual evaluation with him. No action was taken

A motion was made by Gail Hutt and second by Dan Jones to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: 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 8:05 p.m.

The next Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 14, 2026 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.

