

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THIS CONTRACT is made by and between **the Board of Education of Johnson County Central Schools**, legally known as **Johnson County School District No. 49-0050**, and referred to as "the Board" and "the School District" respectively, and **Jon Rother**, referred to herein as "the Superintendent". In accordance with its action taken and recorded in the minutes of a duly advertised board meeting, the Board agrees to employ the Superintendent, and the Superintendent agrees to accept such employment, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

Section 1. Term of Contract. The Superintendent shall be employed for a period of 1 year(s) beginning on July 1, 2021, and expiring on June 30, 2022. During this contract, the Superintendent shall render at least 245 days of service, including 185 days of service required of certificated staff members and an additional 60 days of working days of service. The Superintendent shall keep complete and accurate records of his working days and shall provide the Board of Education with a report of his accumulated working days and average weekly hours at least quarterly.

Section 2. Renewal of Contract. If a Board representative does not inform the Superintendent in writing on or before the seventh day after the regular December board meeting of the Board's intention to consider the nonrenewal or amendment of this contract, the contract will automatically renew for a period of one year from and after the expiration date provided in Section 1 of this contract. The Superintendent shall remind the Board in writing of this provision no later than its **regular November meeting** of each year of this contract and shall make the renewal of his employment contract an agenda item, for the **regular December meeting** during each year of this contract. At the time of each contract renewal and/or amendment, the Superintendent shall be responsible for taking all necessary steps to insure that the district has complied with the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act.

Section 3. Salary. The Superintendent's salary for the contract year shall be \$133,300 which shall be paid in 12 equal monthly installments beginning in the month of August, 2021. The Board shall not reduce the Superintendent's salary during the term of the contract, but may increase it and/or the benefits during the term of this contract, as an amendment to the contract, without the amendment constituting a new contract, requiring a hearing, or extending the term of this contract.

Section 4. Deductions. This contract shall conform to the statutes and regulations governing deductions from compensation. The Superintendent authorizes the District to deduct or withhold from each and every period of pay any amounts necessary to offset any damages caused by the Superintendent or the value of property or money entrusted to the Superintendent or owed by the Superintendent to the District during the course of or as a result of the Superintendent's employment, if such property or money have not properly been returned to the District. The school district shall withhold other deductions as the Superintendent and Board may agree.

Section 5. Professional Status. The Superintendent affirms that he is not under contract with any other board of education which would prevent him from fulfilling the duties of this agreement or which covers any part or all of the term provided in this contract. Throughout the contract term, he will hold a valid and appropriate certificate to act as a superintendent of schools in the State of Nebraska which he will register and maintain on file in the school district's central administrative office. This contract shall not be valid and the Board will not compensate the Superintendent for any service performed prior to the date that he registers his certificate.

Section 6. Superintendent's Duties. The Superintendent's duties shall be as prescribed by statute and by Board policies, rules, regulations and directives. The Superintendent agrees to devote his time, skill, labor and attention to his duties throughout the contract term to superintendent duties as well as elementary principal duties. The Superintendent shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board at all times and shall perform such administrative duties as the Board assigns to him. By agreement with the Board, he may undertake consultative work, speaking engagements, writing, lecturing, or other professional duties and obligations as long as they do not interfere with carrying out his duties and obligations to the school district.

Section 7. Board-Superintendent Relationship. The Board shall be primarily responsible for formulating and adopting policy. The Superintendent shall be the chief administrative officer for the district and shall be responsible for implementing Board policy. He shall organize the administrative and supervisory staff, and select, place, and transfer personnel with the concurrence of the Board. He is responsible for administering the instruction of students and the business affairs of the school district. The Board members agree, individually and collectively, to promptly refer all criticisms, complaints, and suggestions called to their attention to the Superintendent for action, study and/or recommendation, as appropriate.

Section 8. Cancellation or Mid-Term Amendment. The Board may cancel or amend this contract during its term for any of the following reasons: (a) the cancellation termination, revocation, or suspension of the

Superintendent's certificate (Nebraska Administrative and Supervisory Certificate, or the Nebraska Professional Administrative and Supervisory Certificate) by the State Board of Education: (b) any of the reasons set forth in the contract; (c) the breach of any of the material provisions of this contract; (d) incompetence; (e) neglect of duty; (f) unprofessional conduct; (g) insubordination; (h) conduct involving moral turpitude; (i) physical or mental incapacity; (j) immorality; (k) conviction of a felony; (l) any conduct that substantially interferes with the Superintendent's continued performance of his duties; (m) any arrest, criminal charge, or criminal conviction of Superintendent or failure to report the same; (n) any filing against the Superintendent under Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 43-247 or any other provision of the Nebraska Juvenile Code for child abuse and/or neglect or the failure to report the same; knowingly falsifying school district records or documents; (p) misrepresentation of fact to the district and its personnel in the conduct of the district's official business; (q) the use or possession of illegal drugs or controlled substances except as prescribed by a physician; or (r) being under the influence of illegal drugs, controlled substances or alcohol while on school grounds, at school events, or in a vehicle owned, leased or contracted by the district except as prescribed by a physician. The procedures for cancellation or amendment shall be in accordance with state statutes. The parties agree that the Superintendent's failure to comply with his duties under Section 2 (Renewal of Contract) or Section 15 (Evaluation) shall constitute a material breach of this contract.

Section 9. Disability. If the Superintendent is unable to perform his duties by reason of illness, accident or other disability beyond his control, and the disability continues for a period of more than forty-five (45) days or if the disability is permanent, irreparable, or of such a nature as to make performance of his duties impossible, the Board may initiate action to cancel this contract, whereupon the respective rights, duties and obligations of the parties hereunder shall terminate, with the exception of any benefits to be paid to the Superintendent under any insurance coverage furnished by the district.

Section 10. Transportation. The Board shall provide the Superintendent with transportation or reimburse him for mileage required in the performance of his official duties at the State of Nebraska approved rate.

Section 11. Fringe Benefits. The Board shall provide the Superintendent with the following fringe benefits:

- a. Sick Leave.** The Superintendent shall be entitled to six (6) days of sick leave. One day of sick leave per year may be substituted for bereavement leave upon the death of a family member. Otherwise, sick leave may only be used for personal illness or as otherwise provided in District policy. The Superintendent shall keep complete and accurate records of his sick days and shall

provide the Board of Education with a report of his accumulated sick days at least quarterly. The Superintendent shall not be compensated for unused days of sick leave upon the ending of his employment with the District.

- b. Vacation.** The Superintendent shall accrue up to ten (10) vacation days for the 2021-22 contract year which he may use at times he chooses so long as his absence does not interfere with the proper performance of his duties. Vacation only accrues over time (i.e. 5/6 a day vacation each month) and while vacation can be used before it accrues, if employment terminates early, any used vacation that was not yet accrued must be paid back and can be deducted from the final paycheck. Any extended vacation period while school is in session will require advance approval by the Board, and the parties will cooperate in arranging vacation time so as to cause the least inconvenience to the normal operation of the District. The Superintendent shall develop a system for recording his use of vacation days and shall keep such records current and on file in the District's central office. The Superintendent shall keep complete and accurate records of his vacation days and shall provide the Board of Education with a report of his accumulated vacation days at least quarterly. The Board may require him to use his vacation days and shall compensate him for unused vacation days upon the
- c. Expense Reimbursement.** The Board shall pay or reimburse the Superintendent for expenses that are actually, necessarily, and reasonably incurred in attending educational seminars, conventions, and workshops, conferences, training programs, official school functions, hearings or meetings, provided that (1) such payment or expense is authorized by the Local Government Miscellaneous Expenditures Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 13-2201 et seq.) or some other provision of law, and (2) the Superintendent shall secure the prior approval of the Board before incurring any such expense when the anticipated aggregate expense of any single event is \$1,500.00 or more. If the Superintendent incurs more than \$1,500.00 in educational seminars, workshops, conferences, or training programs in any contract year and chooses to not return the following year of employment as Superintendent, the Superintendent agrees to repay the district in full for expenses paid by the district.

- d. Cell Phone.** The Board shall provide the Superintendent with a cellular phone at school district expense. The Superintendent shall be permitted to use the cellular phone for personal calls except as otherwise prohibited or limited by the law. The Superintendent shall be responsible for the payment of any charges that directly result from personal use of the cellular phone and authorizes the school district to deduct the cost of the overage from his next regular paycheck.
- e. Health Insurance.** Family health insurance that is provided to certificated staff through the District's health insurance carrier.
- f. Dental Insurance.** Family dental insurance that is available to certificated staff through the District's health insurance carrier.
- g. Vision Insurance.** Family vision insurance that is available to certificated staff through the District's selected carrier.
- h. Disability Insurance.** The Superintendent shall purchase short and long-term disability insurance from the school district's carrier at his own expense. The Board will increase his salary by the amount of the premium cost.
- i. Professional Development.** The Superintendent is expected to continue his professional development and to participate in relevant learning experiences. With the approval of the Board, he may attend appropriate professional meetings at the local, state, regional and national level; and the Board will pay for valid expenses of attendance. If the Superintendent attends a national convention and does not return following the initial year of employment as Superintendent, the Superintendent agrees to repay the District in full for national convention expenses paid by the District.
- j. Professional Dues.** The school district will pay the annual dues for the Superintendent's membership in the following organizations: NCSA, AASA, NCA, and ASCD.
- k. Physical Examination.** The Superintendent may voluntarily choose to have a comprehensive medical exam each contract year, which is subject to reimbursement pursuant to the terms of this subsection "k." Any reimbursement request shall be limited to no more than \$500 of costs that are not paid by medical insurance applicable to the Superintendent. To be reimbursed, the Superintendent shall provide the Secretary of the Board (i) documentation sufficient to support the reimbursement request (e.g. receipts, explanation of benefits, etc.) and (ii) a statement from the physician certifying that the Superintendent is physically

fit to perform the essential functions of the Superintendent's position with or without a reasonable accommodation. Such statement shall be placed in a separate medical file and remain confidential as to the extent permitted by law.

Section 12. Principle Residence/Domicile in School District.

The Superintendent shall have his domicile and principle residence within the boundaries of the District as they exist on the first duty day for the Superintendent under the terms of this contract; and, the Superintendent shall maintain his domicile and residence within the boundaries of the District during the term of this agreement, or any renewal, amendment, or continuation thereof, except as otherwise provided herein. If the Superintendent is in his first year of employment with the District and does not have his domicile and principle place of residence within the District at the time of his employment, the Superintendent shall move his domicile and principle place of residence into the corporate limits of the District before the expiration of the first six months from the Superintendent's first duty day under this contract. It is the purpose of this paragraph to require the Superintendent to, at all times during such employment, live and maintain his domicile and principle place of residence in the District to encourage the Superintendent: (1) to be highly motivated and deeply committed to the District's educational system; (2) to speak to and vote on ballot issues affecting the district as a legal voter of the school district; (3) to be involved in school and community activities bringing him in contact with parents and community leaders and be committed to the future of the district and its schools; (4) to be accessible to parents and students, and allow parents and students to become personally acquainted with the Superintendent; and (5) to gain sympathy and understanding for the cultural basis of the community, and the social, economic, and environmental problems of the children of the school community and are thus less likely to be considered isolated from the community in which he is the educational leader.

Section 13. No Penalty for Release or Resignation. There shall not be a penalty for the release or resignation of the Superintendent from this contract; provided no resignation shall become effective until the expiration of the contract unless it is accepted by the Board, and the Board shall fix the date at which the resignation shall take effect.

Section 14. Compensation Upon Termination and Credit for Accrued Vacation. Upon lawful termination of this contract for any reason, the compensation to be paid hereunder shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the annual salary specified as the number of months or fraction thereof to the date of such termination bears to the 12 months in the annual salary period in which termination occurs. The Superintendent shall refund

any portion of the salary he was paid but had not earned prior to the date of termination of this contract.

Section 15. Evaluation. The Board shall evaluate the Superintendent once during the 2021-2022 school year. The evaluation shall occur no later than the **regular December meeting**. The Superintendent shall remind the Board members in writing of this provision no later than its **regular November meeting**; make his evaluation an agenda item for the regular **December** board meeting during each year of this contract; and provide them with the written evaluation instrument that is on file with the Nebraska Department of Education.

Section 16. Legal Actions. The Board will support the Superintendent if there is a legal dispute caused by his carrying out his duties properly. If a legal action, including a professional practice complaint, is threatened or filed against the Superintendent as a result of his performance of his duties or his position as Superintendent of the district, the Board will provide him with a legal defense to the maximum extent permitted by law so long as he acted in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believes to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the district and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

Section 17. Physical or Mental Examinations. To the extent allowed by applicable law, The Superintendent agrees that, at the request of the Board, he will have a comprehensive physical and/or mental examination performed by one or more licensed physicians or psychologists of the Board's choosing during the term of this Contract. The physician's report to the Board shall address whether the Superintendent is able to perform the "essential functions" of his position with or without a reasonable accommodation. Additionally, the report will address whether reasonable accommodations are necessary and, if so, provide information requested by the Board relating to such reasonable accommodations and the nature/duration of any disability.

Section 18. Disciplinary Action. The parties agree that the Board President may place the Superintendent on paid leave by delivering written notice of the same when the Board President determines it is in the best interests of the school district to do so. The paid leave shall continue unless and until a majority of the Board determines otherwise at a duly convened meeting. The Board may suspend the Superintendent without pay for a period not to exceed thirty (30) working days. Prior to suspending the Superintendent without pay, the Board President or Vice-President shall deliver a written notice to the Superintendent advising him of the alleged reasons for the proposed action and provided the opportunity to present his version of the facts. Within seven calendar days after receipt of such notice,

the Superintendent may make a written request to the President of the school board for a formal due process hearing under section 79-832. If such a request is not delivered within such time, the action of the Board shall become final.

Section 19. Governing Laws. The parties shall be governed by all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations in performance of their respective duties and obligations under this contract.

Section 20. Amendments to be in Writing. This contract may be modified or amended only by a writing duly authorized and executed by the Superintendent and the Board.

Section 21. Severability. If any portion of this contract is declared invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity or enforcement of the remaining provisions of this contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this contract on the dates indicated below.

Executed by the Board this 9th day of June, 2021

Kim N. E. Wellenside
President, Board of Education

Arthur Beetho *Arthur Beetho*
Vice President, Board of Education

Executed by the Superintendent this 9th day of June, 2021.

Jon H. Ratten
Superintendent