

MINUTES OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, REGULAR SESSION
September 11, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 - Moment of Silence
 - Pledge
3. Recognition of Visitors or Delegations Participation
 - Welcome Dr. Mary Rouse & Eddie Pless
 - Doe Elementary School – Student Spotlight
 - Johnson County Parents Coalition
4. Report of Student Board Member-Julia Crews
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman:
 - Chairman will turn meeting over to the Director of Schools for Chairman Election
 - Elected Chairman will open the floor with nominations for Vice-Chairman
7. **Consent Agenda**

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting for August 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with any additions/corrections necessary (**Attachment 7a**)

Approve the following amendments: (**Attachment 7b**)

Federal Projects Acknowledgement

General Purpose School Court Amendment

Approve overnight field trip for the following: (**Attachment 7c**)

Johnson County High School-Drama Department to Murfreesboro, Tennessee for the TN Thespian Conference from January 16, 2026 through January 18, 2026

Approve Lease Agreement between Johnson County Board of Education (McQueen House Lease-217 Donnelly Street) and East Tennessee State University for August 1, 2025 to July 31, 2030 (**Attachment 7d**)

Approve contract between The Johnson County School District and Skyward, Inc. for July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$43, 503.48 (**Attachment 7e**)

Approve the Contracts to Audit Accounts for the Activity Funds and U. S. D. A./Child School Nutrition Program Procedures for the Fiscal Year Ending July 01, 2025 to June 30, 2026, with Lewis and Associates, PC in the amount of \$12,250.00 plus travel, out-of- pocket costs (such as mileage, postage, etc.)

(**Attachment 7f-Executive Agreement August 14, 2025**)
8. Discussion and approval of the insurance committee looking at vendors for the schools benefit package for calendar year 2027. Appointment of representative from the school board to serve on committee.
9. Approve 1st and final reading of Board Policy 6.312 Use of Personal Communication Devices and Electronic Devices – changes made required by TSBA (**Attachment 9**)
10. Presentation of TISA Accountability Report – Dr. Mischelle Simcox & Mrs. Angie Wills
11. Discussion and decision about live steaming work sessions
12. 5 Year Plan Update = “Ensure teachers are using high quality instructional materials with fidelity to ensure students are exposed to a rigorous curriculum and learning opportunities.”
13. Budget Update – Tina Lipford
14. Public Comment

Information Items:

1. Director's Report

- Head Start/Prek (**DR1**)
- Board Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 (**DR2**)
- Johnson County School System 2025-2026 Calendar (**DR3**)
- September 30, 2025-Students ½ day/PD Day for staff
- Elect new Tennessee Legislative Representative/TSBA
- October 13-17, 2025 Fall Break, Central Office open but will be closed on Thursday and Friday, October 16th and October 17th
- October 23, 2025 Custodian Appreciation Day, Utrust
- TSBA 2025 Leadership and Annual Convention Conference at the Gaylord Opryland (November 13-16, 2025) (**DR4**)
- November 26-28, 2025, Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)

2. Personnel decisions made by Director of Schools (DR5**)**

The Johnson County School System does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the programs and activities which it operates pursuant to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336. If you need provisions to attend this Board of Education meeting, please notify Dr. Mischelle Simcox, Director of Schools, at (423) 727-2640.

Action taken on Agenda Items:

1. The Johnson County Board of Education met in a regular session on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 6:00 at the Johnson County Board of Education board room.
2. The roll was called with the following members present: Ms. Brown-present, Mr. Greever-present, Mr. Long-present, Mr. Robinson-present, Student Board Member, Julia Crews-present and Ms. Ward, recorder-present.
3.
 - Dr. Mary Rouse was at the meeting as she was doing an evaluation for Board of Distinction. Mr. Pless was unable to attend but was able to watch the meeting while it was livestreamed.
 - Doe Elementary School recognized Akasha Arnold as the Student of the Month. She was recognized for consistently being willing to help her peers in the classroom and always shows kindness and respect to her peers as well as her teachers.
 - Johnson County Parents Coalition-Mrs. Stonecipher stated that she had three items that she wanted to discuss. She went on to say that the parent's coalition had their first meeting this past Tuesday at Roan Creek Elementary in which the PTO was invited to attend. She stated that they a great turnout and discussed what they would doing. Secondly, she stated that parents wanted to give a congratulatory shout out to Emma Robinson and the wonderful job she is doing for the school system as the PR person. Lastly, Mrs. Stonecipher reported that she had just met with Timothy Hill and the State's Attorney with the hope of trying to eliminate the requirement of the 3rd grade retention law.
4. Report of Student Board Member, Julia Crews-Ms. Crews provided a power point that highlighted some of the accomplishments of the FFA at the Appalachian & Tennessee Valley Fair. She further stated that some of the FFA competed in the district soil judging yesterday and that one of the teams placed 2nd and will advance to regionals. She mentioned that some of the choir students will compete on September 13th for the All-East Festival Choir auditions. The Johnson County High School Drama Department will be putting on Flowers for Algernon from October 23 – 26, 2025. Ms. Crews mentioned a new program at the Johnson County High School, which is Sources of Strength. She closed by providing some upcoming dates for sports and FFA.
5. Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda and seconded by Mr. Greever carried by

- the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Ms. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes, and Mr. Long-yes.
6. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman:
 - Chairman turned the meeting over to the Director of Schools, Dr. Simcox, for the election of a Board Chairman. The floor was opened for nominations and Mr. Robinson gave the only nomination of Mr. Long. The floor was closed and subsequently carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes, and Mr. Long-yes. Mr. Long then opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice-Chairman and Ms. Brown gave the only nomination of Mr. Greever. The floor was closed and carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes and Mr. Long-yes. Congratulations to both Mr. Long and Mr. Greever for their respective appointments of Chairman of the Board and Vice-Chairman of the Board.
 7. In looking at the Consent Agenda Mr. Robinson stated that the Federal Projects Acknowledgement needed to be pulled and stated that a conversation would follow with Ms. Lipford. Mr. Robinson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda without the Federal Projects Acknowledgement and seconded by Ms. Brown and carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes and Mr. Long-yes. Ms. Lipford then discussed that specific language was needed in regards to Dr. Simcox's position in federal programs. Ms. Lipford explained that for the duration of her roll as Director of Schools, Dr. Simcox, has also been the director of the 21st Century Program. She additionally does all of the data entry for the 21st Century program and performs tasks for any other federal program as needed. Therefore, for the extra work that she does she receives a stipend as 21st Century Program Director and additional compensation for data entry, summer learning and other duties as necessary in other federal programs. It was also mentioned that in regards to the the salary that was given to all certified employees for the 2025-2026 school year that Dr. Simcox will receive \$2,400.00 since she is indeed a 12-month employee as opposed to the \$2,000.00 for all certified 10-month employees.
 8. After discussion Mr. Greever made a motion to appoint Mr. Robinson as the school board representative to serve on the insurance committee, which will be looking at benefits for the 2027 calendar year. Mr. Robinson then made a motion to approve the insurance committee and Mr. Greever seconded that motion and carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes and Mr. Long-yes.
 9. Ms. Brown made a motion to approve the 1st and final reading of the Board Policy 6.312 Use of Personal Communications Devices and Mr. Greever seconded that motion and carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-yes, Mr. Robinson-yes and Mr. Long-yes.
 10. Dr. Simcox and Mrs. Wills provided a powerpoint to summarize the TISA Accountability Report for last year and it showed the breakdown of the funding that the school district received.
 11. After discussion Mr. Robinson made a motion to no longer live stream work sessions and that motion was seconded by Ms. Brown and carried by the following roll call: Ms. Brown-yes, Mr. Greever-no, Mr. Robinson-yes and Mr. Long-yes.
 12. 5 Year Plan Update = "Ensure teachers are using high quality instructional materials with fidelity to ensure students are exposed to a rigorous curriculum and learning opportunities."
 13. Ms. Lipford provided a Summary Financial Statement Report for General Purpose Schools, Federal Projects, Central Cafeteria and Head Start which detailed the revenues and expenditures

thus far for month of September.
14. There were no public comments.

Information Items:

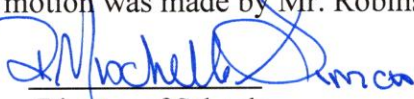
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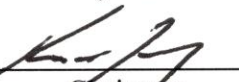
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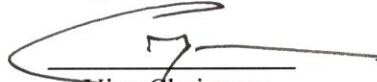
A motion was made by Mr. Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m.



Director of Schools
(Dr. Mischelle Simcox)



Chairman
(Mr. Kevin Long)



Vice Chairman
(Mr. Chad Greever)



Member
(Mr. Russell Robinson)



Member
(Ms. Holly Brown)

Member
(Mr. Ed Walker)

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