

**Board Minutes**  
**November 18, 2025**

The Johnson County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, in the board office at 6:00 p.m. Kevin Brantley, Donald Smith, Sherrie Smith, Marty Thompson, and Jacob Waller were present. Chairman D. Smith called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Thompson gave the invocation and Mr. Waller led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following business was transacted:

1. The proposed agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Ms. Smith; unanimous approval.
2. The October 21, 2025 regular meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Thompson; unanimous approval.
3. The October 2025 financial report was approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
4. Superintendent Watkins presented Board Policy IFBG- Internet Acceptable Use for final approval. This policy was approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith; unanimous approval.
5. Superintendent Watkins presented a facility request from the American Red Cross to continue to use Johnson County Elementary School as a disaster shelter should the need arise. He also requested that the fee to use the facility be waived. This agreement was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Ms. Smith.
6. The following Fund-Raising Requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Ms. Smith:
  - JCMS Basketball Cheer; Krispy Kreme Doughnuts certificates, Nov. 19 – Dec. 3, 2025
  - JCMS Girls Basketball, Cake Donation/Gift Card/Booster Seat at HS Basketball games.
  - JCMS Girls Basketball, Donation Tickets, Nov. 19 – Dec. 1, 2025
  - JCHS Boys Basketball, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Nov. 19 – 27, 2025
7. Mr. Charles Howard, JCES Principal, provided the board with an update on his school. He reviewed current discipline data. He shared the school's and community's excitement in participating in the mini "Welcome Home" event for firefighter Chad Wombles, who was seriously injured several weeks ago. He also reported that the 5th grade enjoyed a field trip to the Georgia Aquarium earlier today, made possible through Johnson County 4-H. He invited board members to attend the PTO meeting on November 20, where Kindergarten students will present a short program. In addition, he extended an invitation to the Annual First Grade Shoe Box Parade, scheduled for December 18, 2025, at 1:15 p.m.
8. Mr. Reid Bethea, JCMHS Principal, presented the State of the School for both Johnson County Middle School and High School. He provided a detailed review of multiple

data points, including enrollment, demographics, School Improvement Plan goals, Well-Being initiatives, literacy strategies, discipline trends, parental involvement, and the schools' academic ranking within Oconee RESA. Mr. Bethea concluded with an overview of the next steps planned to support continued growth and improvement.

9. Dr. Hanna Kiser, Director of Special Education, CTAE, & Assessments, updated the board on several key areas. She reported Special Education FTE continues to increase and has increased significantly over the last three years. She also noted that our district was randomly selected to undergo an Assessment Accountability Audit. This has been completed and all areas were in good standing.
10. Superintendent Watkins expressed his gratitude during the Thanksgiving season for the school district and the exceptional administrators, teachers, and staff who serve Johnson County. He presented Johnson County Schools signs to the board members that they could display at their discretion.
11. On a motion by Mr. Waller, and second by Ms. Smith, the board gave unanimous approval to go into executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action, dismissal, periodic evaluation, or rating of a public officer or employee. After discussion, a motion was made to come out of executive session by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith.
12. Superintendent Watkins recommended rescinding the previous motion to hire Andy Hudson as JCES SRO. On a motion by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval was given to rescind the motion.
13. Superintendent Watkins recommended Seth Newsome for the JCES School Resource Officer position. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith, this recommendation was unanimously approved.
14. Superintendent Watkins presented personnel recommendations. The following recommendations were approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Mr. Brantley; unanimous approval.
  - **To Hire:**  
Nicole Strand, Substitute Teacher
15. The meeting was then adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

**JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD  
OF EDUCATION**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Superintendent**