

Board Minutes
August 19, 2025

The Johnson County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, August 19, 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 Ms. Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following business was transacted:

1. The proposed agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
2. The July 8, 2025 called meeting and July 15, 2025 regular meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
3. The July 2025 financial report was approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith; unanimous approval.
4. The following Field Trips and Fund-Raising Requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Mr. Thompson:
 - JCHS Beta, Great Wolf Lodge, LaGrange, GA, October 19 – 21 2025
 - JCMS Beta, Great Wolf Lodge, LaGrange, GA, October 20 – 22, 2025
 - JCMHS FFA, Macon, State Convention, April 22 – 25, 2026
 - Band, Calendar Fundraiser, August 20 – September 5, 2025
 - JCMS Cheer, Mrs. Fields Cookie Dough, August 20 - September 3, 2025
 - JCHS Beta, Trojan Blankets, August thru December 2025
 - JCMHS Beta, Calendar Fundraiser, September 1 - October 3, 2025
 - JCMHS Beta, Chocolate Bars, September 1 – 9, 2025
 - FFA, Fruit, October 2025
5. Mr. Charles Howard, JCES Principal provided the board with an update on his school, noting a strong start to the school year. He shared current discipline data and introduced a new school-wide intervention schedule based on beginning-of-year assessment results. Mr. Howard also announced the launch of a BETA Club at the elementary level. He concluded by inviting everyone to attend the upcoming Title I and PTO meeting scheduled for August 28, 2025.
6. Mr. Reid Bethea, JCMHS Principal provided the board with an update on the school, noting that the year is off to a strong start. He gave special recognition to the new band director, Ms. Stetzer, for the outstanding work she has accomplished with the band in a short amount of time. Mr. Bethea also praised Mr. Lindsey and his team for their excellent work on the new football stadium and other facility improvements. He shared that the school has implemented a new intervention schedule focused on Reading and Math, and they are actively working on credit recovery efforts. Additionally, all sports programs are now in full swing.
7. Superintendent Watkins also congratulated Mr. Lindsey and his team for the hard work on the football stadium. He noted that he had positive feedback from the community as well as employees.

8. Superintendent Watkins recommended that he and Mrs. Starlet Taylor remain as the representatives on the Johnson County Library Board. This recommendation was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Waller.
9. During public participation time, Mrs. Markeda Johnson addressed the board to express her concerns with the Middle/High handbook, specifically about policies on hoodies and security.
10. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Thompson; unanimous approval was given 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.
11. Superintendent Watkins recommended that the preliminary millage rate for 2025 be set at 11.25. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Waller, unanimous approval was given to approve this rate.
12. Superintendent Watkins presented Dr. Hanna Kiser to fill the vacant assistant Varsity Softball Coach per the high school principal and athletic director. This recommendation was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Mr. Thompson.
13. Superintendent Watkins presented Mrs. Tecia McKay for approval as Associate Superintendent of Federal Programs at 49% for the 2025-2026 school year. Ms. Smith made a motion with Mr. Waller as a second. The vote was 4-1 with Mr. Brantley voting no.
14. Superintendent Watkins presented classified personnel recommendations. The following recommendations were approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
 - **To Hire:**
 John Strand, Bus Driver
 Hillari Fair-Martin, Substitute Teacher
 Lashonna Jenkins, Substitute Teacher
 JoAnn Schaaf, Substitute Teacher
15. Superintendent Watkins recommended that the district advertise for a full time custodian. Unanimous approval was given to approve this recommendation on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Brantley.
16. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

**JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD
OF EDUCATION**

By: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Superintendent