

Board Minutes May 19, 2026

The Johnson County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 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. Brantley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following business was transacted:

1. The proposed agenda was amended to include discussion of State Tennis Championship Rings. The amended agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Thompson, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
2. The April 21, 2026 Regular meeting and April 28, 2026 called meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Mr. Brantley; unanimous approval.
3. The April 2026 financial report was approved on a motion by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Thompson; unanimous approval.
4. Mrs. Tecia McKay, Associate Superintendent, presented the Johnson County Schools FY27 Parent & Family Engagement Policy for review. After review, Superintendent Watkins recommended that the board approve the updated FY27 Parent & Family Engagement Policy. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith, unanimous approval was given for the updated policy.
5. Superintendent Watkins presented a resolution concerning the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) grant. This grant has provided updated technology for our district to utilize distance or on-line learning. This resolution was approved on a motion by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Brantley; unanimous approval.
6. Superintendent Watkins discussed the Boys Tennis Team's recent State Championship victory. He noted that, because the tennis program does not have a budget and receive no gate receipts, funds are not available to purchase championship rings. He recommended that the high school and school district help defray this cost. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Ms. Smith, unanimous approval was given.
7. The following Field Trip Requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Waller, second by Mr. Thompson:
 - JCHS Boys' Basketball, Columbus State University, June 8 – 9, 2026
 - JCMHS FFA Camp, June 8 – 12, 2026
 - JCHS BETA, National Convention, June 16 – 20, 2026
8. Mr. Charles Howard, JCES Principal, introduced Mrs. Becky Frost and Mrs. Taylor Rowland. These teachers headed up the recent STEM Fair. Mrs. Frost announced that the local fair held at JCES had 26 entries involving 56 students. They took 6 entries and 14 students to the Regional Fair at Oconee RESA. At region, there were 4 first place and 1 second place winners. Mrs. Frost thanked Mr. Howard, District Administration, and the Board for supporting these students. The following students

were introduced and given a chance to present their award winning projects to the board:

- Emma Gatliff, 3rd grade, 2nd place
- Finn Bethea, Mason Harper, Waylon Huber - 4th grade, 1st place
- Bailee Brantley, 5th grade, 1st place

9. Mr. Reid Bethea, JCMHS Principal, introduced the coaches for the new State Championship Boys Tennis Team, Magen Douglas and Brittany Oliver. The coaches then introduced the team members. They thanked the board and administration for all the support that has been given to the team. The team members were recognized and congratulated for their recent accomplishment.
10. Superintendent Watkins commended the STEM Fair winners for their hard work and their courage to present their projects. He also congratulated the State Champion Tennis Team. Their hard work has not gone unnoticed. He also thanked the parents for their support of our students and our school system. He noted that our schools continue to excel in academics and athletics because we have such well-rounded students. He also commended the staff that continue to support and help our students on and off the field.
11. On a motion by Mr. Brantley, 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 Mr. Waller.
12. Superintendent Watkins presented personnel recommendations. The following recommendations were approved on a motion by Mr. Brantley, second by Mr. Waller; unanimous approval.
 - **Retirement**
 - Kristie Brantley, Family Connection Coordinator
 - **To Resign**
 - Pamela Calloway, JCMHS Counselor
 - **To Hire:**
 - Eurika Jenkins, Custodian
13. The meeting was then adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

**JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD
OF EDUCATION**

By: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Superintendent

