

**RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
**Regular School Board Meeting**  
**October 7, 2025**

*Executive Session* An executive session was held for discussion at 6:00 p.m. on October 7, 2025 with respect to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (9) Personnel. The Board certifies that no other items were discussed in executive session that adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

**Regular School Board Meeting**

*Call to Order* A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of Rush County Schools was held at the Administrative Offices on October 7, 2025. President Kevin Banks called for a motion to accept the agenda. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Banks at 7:15 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the reciting of the vision statement and a moment of silence. Members present were Jeff Amos, Addam Carmony, Matt Jones, Angie Kuhn, and Jeff Edwards. Dr. Steve Sickbert was absent. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also in attendance.

(See Exhibit Number 1 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)

*Public Comment* Superintendent Jim Jameson stated there were no public comments.

*Tell Me Something Good* President Banks introduced the Tell Me Something Good portion of the meeting. The following students and employees were recognized for Student of the Month/Employee of the Month:

Arlington: Brendan Creech-Wilkerson, Grade 4; Nicole Tuttle, Tech Coordinator

Milroy: Veronica Bossingham, Grade 4; Kirah Banks, Music & Library

RES: Prayan Patel, Kindergarten.; Kaitlin Chandler, Secretary

BRMS: Emma Fussner, Grade 7; Nick Tierney, Health & PE

RCHS: Caleb Short-Ogunmola, Grade 10 ; Christin Nicholls, Special Ed

RCS Operations: Jack Gearhart, Arlington Elementary- Head Custodian

(See Exhibit Number 2 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)

*Board Member Comments* Jeff Edwards thanked Mr. Jameson for the Tell Me Something Good segment of the meeting. Mr. Edwards congratulated all of the evening's honorees. Jeff Amos congratulated students and parents for tonight's accomplishments. Mr. Amos also thanked the volunteers who do a great job for our school system. Angie Kuhn shared how she loves watching the parents' facial expressions when hearing all the positive and kind things being said about their children. Addam Carmony congratulated students and staff members who were honored tonight. Mr. Carmony also congratulated the FFA members who attended the recent Greenhand Initiation.

Matt Jones congratulated students and staff members. Mr. Jones shared FFA students will be delivering goody bags to farmers tomorrow.

President Kevin Banks stated FFA fruit sales will begin soon. President Banks wished Dr. Steve Sickbert a speedy recovery from knee replacement surgery. He also acknowledged RCS students and staff members and our community.

*Consider Adoption  
of 2026 Budgets*

Mr. Jameson stated all requirements have been met regarding the 2026 budgets. The budgets have been presented, advertised and a public hearing has been held. Mr. Jameson shared Rush County's Assessed Value for the 2026 tax year has decreased 7.3%. This decrease creates an estimated \$520,000 negative impact to RCS Operations Fund which pays for utilities, supplies, transportation, maintenance, and support staff.

Mr. Jameson also shared Senate Bill I and other legislative changes have effected school funding. He stated even though the proposed budget reflects sound fiscal planning, hard financial decisions will be necessary in the months ahead.

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of reducing the proposed budgets to \$7,000,000 for the Operations Fund and \$15.374 million for the Education Fund. Matt Jones made a motion to approve the reduced budgets. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. Addam Carmony explained RCS is 1 of 4 school systems in the entire state who received this decrease. Mr. Carmony stated the original Education Fund budget was \$16,000,000. He shared RCS is battling an enrollment decline with the October 1<sup>st</sup> ADM count decreasing from last spring. Mr. Carmony stated going forward will be a difficult situation. However, RCS will continue to be proactive and financially responsible. Mr. Carmony explained Administration overspending has not been an issue. The reduction in income is the issue. President Banks called for a vote. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

*Consider Approval  
of 2026-2028  
Capital Projects  
Plan and Resolution*

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2026-2028 Capital Projects Plan and Resolution. The Plan and Resolution have been advertised per law. Mr. Jameson is not proposing any new capital projects at this time. He explained advertising does not obligate spending. Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. Addam Carmony reiterated there are no new capital purchases. However, this has to be approved if something has to be repaired or replaced. The Capital Projects Plan was advertised at \$1.4 million due to the BRMS chiller being \$1.3 million. President Banks called for a vote. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 3 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Approval  
of the 2026-2030  
Bus Replacement  
Plan and Resolution*

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2026-2030 Bus Replacement Plan and Resolution. The Plan and Resolution have been advertised per law. Mr. Jameson explained due to the decrease in Assessed Value and the impact from Senate Bill I, RCS is not planning to purchase or replace any buses in the current budget year 2026. RCS will reassess annually based on cash flow and revenue conditions. Jeff Amos made a motion to approve. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. President Banks called for a vote. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 4 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)

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| <i>Consider Approval<br/>of Resolution to<br/>Authorize Budget<br/>Reductions</i> | <p>Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Resolution to Authorize Budget Reductions which gives the Superintendent authority to reduce budgets if needed. Addam Carmony made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 5 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Consent Items</i>                                                              | <p>Mr. Jameson recommended approval of consent items as presented which included minutes of the previous meeting, Personnel Report, Donations, and Claims/Payroll. Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve all. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 6 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Consider Approval<br/>of Official Board<br/>Meeting Dates<br/>2026-2027</i>    | <p>Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Official Board Meeting Dates for 2026-2027. Mr. Jameson stated moving the dates would benefit the finance dept. and avoid scheduling conflicts with holidays. Mr. Jameson stated the changes would take place beginning January 2026. (see attachment)</p> <p>Matt Jones made a motion to approve. Jeff Edwards seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 7 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p>                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Update Mileage<br/>Claim Amount</i>                                            | <p>Mr. Jameson recommended approval to increase mileage rates from \$0.67 per mile to \$0.70 per mile. This follows the IRS Standard mileage rates. Addam Carmony made a motion to maintain the \$0.67 per mile rate. Jeff Edwards seconded the motion. All voted in favor to maintain the \$0.67 per mile rate. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 8 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <i>Consider Approval<br/>of Student Meal<br/>Price Adjustment<br/>(2026-2027)</i> | <p>Mr. Jameson recommended approval to increase student school meal prices for 2026-2027 school year, effective January 1, 2026. The meal prices are as follows: Breakfast- Increase from \$2.00 to \$2.25; Lunch- Increase from \$2.75 to \$2.95</p> <p>Discussion included this is only an increase for student meal prices, school corporations reapply yearly for Federal food programs, and food costs increase. Angie Kuhn made a motion to increase the student school meal prices. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 9 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p> |
| <i>Auction Items</i>                                                              | <p>Mr. Peters recommended approval of a formal auction for three school buses and one work truck. An auction date has not been set yet. Mr. Peters stated the buses and work truck could be auctioned at market value. Jeff Amos made a motion to approve. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.</p> <p>(See Exhibit Number 10 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <i>Other</i>                                                                      | <p>Mr. Jameson stated there are no other items.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

*Important*            October 27-31- Fall Break -Central Office closed October 31st  
*Dates*                November 3- Regular Board Meeting - Central Office - 6:30 p.m. **(Monday)**

*Administrators'*    Administrators' comments were heard at this time.

*Comments*        Mr. Grant Peters, Assistant Superintendent, thanked Addam Carmony for his words during the Budget segment of the meeting. Mr. Peters' reminder Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Students will not attend school on this day. Mr. Peters requests everyone respect bus stop arms. He also shared Custodial Appreciation Day was last week. Mr. Peters thanked all custodians for their efforts. Mr. Peters reported the Memorial Gym floor is almost complete. Mr. Peters thanked Tony Augsburg, Food Director, and the cafeteria staff for their patience when equipment breaks down. Julie Cramer, Treasurer, reported interest earned was about \$20,000 for the month. Patrick Anderson, Director of Special Services, reported the end of the first nine weeks will be on Friday. He also shared RCS has partnered with Ball State University through a grant for an optional after school transition program for high school autistic students. RCHS Special Ed teachers will reach out to these students families who may be eligible for stipends for this program. Julie Innis, Grant Coordinator, reported it is prudent to look over grant funding and use it to the best of our abilities due to so many cuts being made. Mrs. Innis shared RCS received the 619 Special Ed grant used for special need preschool students. The 611 grant and various other grants are still waiting for approval. The Formative Assessment grant has been approved. A PLTW meeting will take place next week with Mr. Jameson and administrators. Mrs. Innis thanked Brevin Runnebohm for his help on State reporting. Brevin Runnebohm, Corporation Technology Coordinator, thanked everyone who helped this year with State reporting. Mr. Runnebohm explained K-6 Smartboard training was completed at all buildings in September. He reported there was a power outage last week that affected our in town buildings only. Mr. Runnebohm reported the updates that have been put in place to date, were quite beneficial during this outage. However, there is more work to be done in the future. Dr. Jennifer Nahlik was not in attendance.

(See Exhibit Number 11 in the October 7, 2025 Minute File)

*Adjournment*        Angie Kuhn made a motion to adjourn. President Kevin Banks adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Jon Kevin Banks, President

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Jeffry A. Amos, Member

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Addam Carmony, Vice- President

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Jeff Edwards, Member

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Angela Kuhn, Secretary

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Matthew Jones, Member

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Dr. Steve Sickbert, Member