

AJCHS #81

April 20, 2026

MINUTES

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School held its regular meeting on April 20, 2026. Upon roll call at 6:00 p.m. the following members were present: Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Plott, Mr. Mix, Mr. Houseman, Mr. Leek, and Mr. Johnson.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the Agenda as presented. All members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mrs. Plott to approve the Consent Agenda which contained the following items: approval of board minutes on 3/16/2026; approval of closed session minutes; approval of payment for bills, acceptance of financial reports, accept resignation, and approve overnight trip. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Recognition of visitors and correspondence, Public Comments: Andrea Witthoft, Josh Hileman, Keith Phillips, Kyle Vosberg.

Items from Teachers: The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on March 26, 2026, at 6:00 PM, where we proudly welcomed seven new members: Seth Cochran, Shooter Belcher, Emma Thurston, Elina Chen, Ava Rosenthal, Kinley Leek, and Adalyn Suggs (absent). These students have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, and character, and we are excited to see their continued impact on our school and community. We were honored to have Mrs. Ashley Hatfield as our guest speaker. A 2001 AJ graduate and former Miss Illinois, she shared her experiences in leadership and service, emphasizing the importance of upholding the four pillars throughout life. She encouraged students to lead with integrity, do what is right even when no one is watching, and take responsibility for their actions. The Wildcat Elevate and Celebrate Committee has been busy. We hung up a banner in the work room and did Shamrock Shoutouts for the faculty and staff. We also supplied a Pot of Gold Snack cart for St. Patrick's Day. Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Massey's Life Skills class made charcuterie Easter Eggs for the faculty and staff. Our Educators Rising Club participated in a competition style field trip sponsored by the Southern Illinois Future Teacher Coalition on March 23. Our future teachers placed in 9 out of the 13 competitions we participated in! Also, Jayda Shepard received a \$1500 scholarship! Our club is doing our part in trying to help reduce the teacher shortage in Southern Illinois by getting kids interested in becoming educators. The student council will be hosting a blood drive on Wednesday from 8:30-2:15. This will be our last drive for the year. We would like to invite you to come donate to help save lives and help our students earn scholarships through all their hard work throughout the year. The Brain Games Team competed in sectional competition at Rend Lake. One of our two teams placed 3rd overall against several teams from all over Southern Illinois. The team members were Jay Althoff, Maxwell Ruddick, Gabe Morey, and Zoe Weir. The Math Team competed at SIUC Math Field Day

on March 24th. Tyler Haywood and TJ Taylor both received Honorable Mention for scoring in the Top 15 of over 400 students. Also in Math Team news, Seth Cochran qualified in the Geometry test at the ICTM State Math Team Contest in Bloomington, IL on April 18th. Our next competition is April 30th at SEMO Math Field Day. Mrs. Treece and her classes had the privilege of working alongside Mrs. Fitz and Mrs. Chamness to prepare the lower gym for the KelTech Prom. What began as a routine setup quickly became something much more meaningful. Students moved tables, arranged chairs, and thoughtfully helped decorate, transforming the lower gym from a simple, everyday space into a beautiful setting filled with navy, gold, and white, ready to host a night many would never forget. Throughout this experience, our students were not just preparing a venue; they were creating an experience rooted in care, compassion, and inclusion. At the request of Hannah Pinneau, Mrs. Treece attended the event to capture photographs. Mrs. Treece shared that from the moment guests arrived, the room was filled with pure joy and excitement. It was clear that this was much more than just a dance, it was a moment of belonging, celebration, and connection that meant so much to every individual in attendance. Mrs. Treece expressed that the evening was deeply moving and unforgettable. Witnessing the happiness of the Prom participants, and knowing that her students played a role in creating that joy, was truly impactful. She described the experience as “one that filled her heart,” offering a powerful reminder of why opportunities like this matter. It was not only uplifting, but enlightening, a night that reflected the very best of our school community. This event was a true example of Wildcat Pride in action, living out the belief of one school. One team, one family. It showcased how our students rise to the occasion, lead with compassion, and make a lasting difference beyond the classroom. The Culinary Occupations class and Mrs. Morrison’s/Massey’s classes catered the dinner for the Kel Tech Prom. 325 servings of pasta, green beans, garlic bread, and desserts were prepared for the clients and volunteers for the evening. Fine Arts Updates: Choir had a visit from Dr. Emerson Eads, Director of Choral Studies at SIU Carbondale. He worked with them as a group on singing techniques and told them about music opportunities if they attend SIU. They enjoyed it a lot and learned many new things! Band and Choir participated in IHSA Organizational Contest on April 17. Band earned a Division II (excellent) rating, and Choir earned a Division I (superior) rating. Choir students Cayleigh Ferguson and Aryanna Ozment performed the national anthem at the Freedom Sings event on April 18. They said they enjoyed the experience. The event coordinator was very happy to have them there, and the audience feedback was really positive! Spring Fine Arts Night will be Thursday, May 7. The art show will begin at 6:00pm, followed by the band and choir concert.

Mr. Finders reported on Wildcat Academy, State Testing, and Course Changes.

Ms. Stevens reported on ESS Mandate, Handbook changes, Digital Hall Pass, Student Behavior, MTSS Structures, and Academic Intervention.

Principal Rice spoke about Upcoming Dates, Attendance, Handbook Changes, Academic Intervention Data, and Discipline Data.

Superintendent Detering reported on the Corridor Renovation Project Update, ICRMT Grant, Bus Purchase, Weight Room Improvements, Wildcat Pride Portal, Retired Teacher Luncheon, SIU Medicine Caravan, and Graduation.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson for the Board to enter into closed session at 7:23 p.m. for the following reasons (1) the purpose of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Student disciplinary cases. 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(9) Matters relating to individual students 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(10). On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson to return to regular session at 9:07 p.m. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Discussion of Handbook Changes for 2026-2027.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Intergovernmental Agreement with ROE 30 – COPE/SOAR/Attendance Support FY27. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

1st Reading of Board Policy Updates – Issue 121.

On motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Mix to approve Parent and Family Engagement Policy. All members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Ilse Pierson as EOC Aide. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Houseman and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Michelle Gregg as EOC Aide. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Leek and seconded by Mr. Houseman to approve Ashlee Stegle as EOC Aide. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Leek and seconded by Mr. Mix to approve Jessie Watson as EOC Aide. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Houseman to approve Kevin Reynolds as Assistant Bass Fishing Coach. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Leek to approve Fall/Winter Coaches as presented: Football Assistant Coaches: Carson Pengress, Reece Barrow, Nate Belcher. Volunteer Coaches: Clayton Suggs, Andrew Crabtree, Jayce Turner, Jerad Merriman, Justin Richardson, Matt Frownfelter, Jake Pecord, Ryan Hileman, Parker Turner, Sean Seavers, Aaron Lence. Volleyball Head Coach: Whitney Burris, Assistant Coach: Danny McFarland, Volunteer Coaches: Ashley Burris, Jaycee Pender. Cross Country Head Coach: Matt Denny, Assistant Coaches: Brodie Denny, Volunteer Coaches: Rick Vicenzi. Soccer Head Coach: Chelsea Reinier, Assistant Coach: Marcus Thorpe. Boys Golf Head Coach: Michael Brown. Girls Golf Head Coach: Brenda Rendleman. Cheer Head Coach: Hillary Meisenheimer, Volunteer

Coaches: Kristin Chamness, Lance Meisenheimer. Boys Basketball Head Coach: Mike Chamness, Assistant Coaches: Josh Staples, Ross Pinnon, Volunteer Coach: Blake Pena. Girls Basketball Head Coach: Rodney Seip, Assistant Coaches: Ashton Stanley, Loren Harris. Wrestling Head Coach: Chase Hargrave, Assistant Coach: Mike Delashmutt, Volunteer Coaches: Blayne Holshouser, Mika Sadler, Cole White, Justin Johnson, Chelsey Williamson, Drew Holshouser, Daniel Dover, Eddie Dahmer. Bowling Head Coach: Cary Quick, Assistant Coaches: Micah Cross, Volunteer Coaches: Bre Stone. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Leek and seconded by Mr. Johnson to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:52 p.m. On roll call, all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Angela Johnson, President _____

Michael Houseman, VP _____

Stacey Plott, Secretary _____