

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025 7:00 PM
Central Office Board Room
401 South Pine Street
Valley, NE 68064-0378

1. Call to Order	
2. Public Communications and Correspondence	3
3. Approval of Agenda	
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5. Consent Agenda	
5.1. Approve Minutes	47
5.2. Approve Claims for Payment	
5.3. Approve Financial Report	
5.4. Approve Classified Staff	
6. Old Business	
6.1. Committee Reports	
7. New Business	
7.1. Continuous Improvement Visit Overview	50
7.2. Facility Use Discussion	53
7.3. Approve Resolution for Policy 5006 Option Enrollment Capacity	58
7.4. Approve Certified Position, .5 FTE Instructional Coach	
7.5. Approve Certificated Staff Hires for the 2025-2026 School Year	

7.6. Approve Certificated Resignations

60

7.7. Approve Student Early Completion Plan

8. **Adjournment**

Board of Education

Cole Groteluschen

Dr. Kelly Hinrichs

Luke Janke

Jamie Jorgensen

Elizabeth Mayer

Jim Tomanek

Dr. Melissa Poloncic, Superintendent

Kristi Trost, Board Secretary

This pamphlet has been developed to help the general public attending a meeting of the Board of Education to understand the internal operation of the Board. It is hoped that this pamphlet will foster improved relations between the Board and the citizens it serves.

Meetings of the Board

When

- The Board of Education convenes once each month on the second Monday except in the months that have five Mondays. In months with five Mondays, the Board convenes on the third Monday of the month. Holidays and unexpected conflicts may create exceptions to this practice.
- The Board of Education will convene in special session whenever it is deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the school district.
- Board of Education meetings are called to order at 7:00 p.m. unless another time is stipulated.

Where

- Regular and special meetings of the Board of Education will be held in the Board Room on the Valley Campus at 401 S. Pine St., in Valley, unless another location is specifically identified.
- Whenever public participation dictates the need for a larger meeting room, the Board will convene in the High School library.

Notice of Meetings

- Official notice of the time and place of the regular board meetings are posted on the doors of the schools, banks in Valley and Waterloo and the Valley City Hall.
- Notice of special meetings will be posted at least 24 hours in advance. Hearings will be published in The Omaha Daily Record.

Business of the Board

Agendas

- Agendas for the regular meeting on the second Monday of the month will be prepared in advance and kept current and available in the superintendent's office. Business items of an emergency nature may be placed on the agenda by a majority vote of the Board of Education.
- Parents, employees and patrons may request items placed before the Board of Education for consideration by contacting the Superintendent at least three business days in advance of a regular meeting.

Public Participation

- The Board of Education invites you to offer comments during the Public Communication and Correspondence portion of the meeting. Public requesting to offer comments during the Public Communication portion of the meeting shall make a request to speak or complete the sign-in information sheet at the meeting. The individual is asked to state the purpose and general nature of his or her appearance before the Board. The Board President shall indicate to the individual how much time the Board will allot the individual. Speakers normally will be given five minutes with a maximum of 20 minutes set aside for such communications.
- Members of the public requesting to speak to an item considered New or Old Business on the Agenda will request time during the Public Communications portion of the meeting. Unless the comments are related to an agenda item no action will be taken by the Board. Questions or requests of the Board by the public will be taken under consideration. The Board will direct the Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, to respond in writing to any public

question or request brought before the Board. Equal time shall be allotted to individuals speaking for and against a proposal when opposing points of view are represented at the board meeting.

- The Board invites you to share any information you may have or address any question to any Board member or the Superintendent regarding new business in the week prior to the next meeting.
- If, at any Board meeting, any person shall conduct himself or herself in a disorderly manner and after notice of the president or the person presiding shall persist therein, the president or person presiding may ask the person to leave and if the person refuses, the president or presiding officer may order any law enforcement officer or any other person or persons to take him or her into custody until the meeting is adjourned.
- Meetings may be recorded. Recording must be done so as not to disrupt the meeting.
- Meetings of the Board of Education shall be conducted in compliance with appropriate policy, state statutes and open meeting laws.

Mission Statement

DC West Community Schools engages, prepares, and empowers all of our students for the future.



The Douglas County West Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: Superintendent of Schools, 401 S. Pine St., Valley, Nebraska 68064 (402-359-2583).

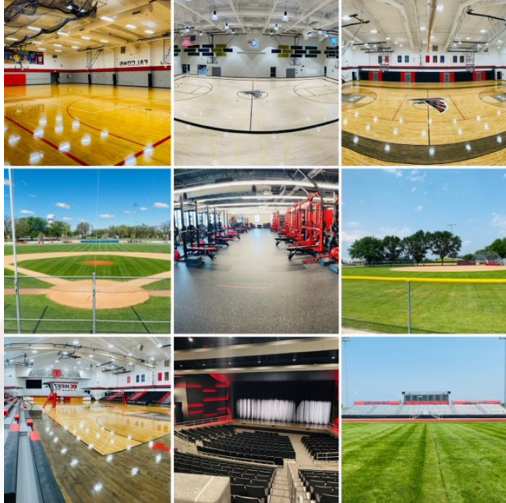
Employees and Others: Superintendent of Schools, 401 S. Pine St., Valley, Nebraska 68064 (402-359-2583).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Dept. of Education (OCR), please contact OCR at 8930 Ward Pkwy, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice) or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf) or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

Board Meeting Procedures

“Engage, Prepare, and Empower”

**Douglas County West
Community Schools
P.O. Box 378
401 S. Pine St.
Valley, Nebraska 68064**



**Douglas County West High School and Middle School
Director of Athletics & Activities Board Report March 2025
Mr. Jeremy Travis**

Well, the Winter Activity Season is beginning to come to an end and the Spring Activity Season is starting their practices today. One of the things that is really cool to watch is the growth and improvement of a student athlete, coach, team, and overall program. Improvement looks a little bit different for everyone involved but turning the struggles into strengths, the adversity into opportunity, and the setbacks into triumphs, for me watching the whole process is something I love being a part of. When everyone involved has that growth mindset, is willing to accept feedback, listens to learn, and wants what is best for everyone involved, we can get through anything together. I'm proud of what we've accomplished because winning isn't easy, it's very hard and I'm looking forward to continued growth and successes of our programs. The Spring time is another opportunity to enjoy being a part of DC West and all that it has to offer our students in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and in the community. Thank you for all of your continued supports and efforts, it is very much appreciated!



Our **HS Wrestling Team** qualified four wrestlers for the NSAA State Championship Wrestling Tournament at CHI. Sophomore, Josue Lopez-113 finished (2-2), Sophomore, Hudson Harlow-126 finished (1-2), Sophomore, Hunter Holding-144 finished (0-2), and Senior, Kayden VerMaas-190 finished (1-2). Our wrestling team had a very good season and showed we can compete with some of the big boys. With only one senior and no juniors currently out, we will continue to build upon our program for the future. Our Falcons are led by Head Wrestling Coach Ryan Braun.



Our **High School Theater** had three performances of **High School Musical** in our Performing Arts Center. The students and staff did an outstanding job and it was so fun to watch them get better and better with each performance. The Musical Head Director is Mrs. Dawn Beyl.



Our **High School Cheerleading Team** competed in The State Cheer Competition on Saturday, February 22nd at the Heartland Event Center in Grand Island. They finished in 5th place overall in their Game Day Performance in Class C-1. They also competed in the Non-Tumbling portion of State and did an excellent job. In the 1st year of Competitive Cheer, we have a lot to be proud of. Our Cheerleading Head Coach is Alyssa Lindahl.



Our **HS Boys Basketball Team** are District Final Champions by defeating Platteview 48-44. DC West has qualified for the NSAA Class B State Championship at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, NE. More details to come in the near future for our Falcons. Our Head Boys Basketball Coach is Chip Daehling.



Our **Unified Basketball Team** earned a Runner-Up Medal in their Competition at UBT last week. The team played The Falcon Way in all aspects of the competition and that is something that we are very proud of. Our Unified Basketball Team is coached by Lisa Masters.



Our **MS Girls Basketball** A-Team finished undefeated this season at (11-0). This is the first MS Girls Basketball undefeated season for the DC West Falcons, which is fantastic. The girls played hard and played together and we able to accomplish a special memory. Our MS Girls Basketball Head Coach was Mr. James Eddy.



Our **Speech Team** just competed in the Nebraska Capitol Conference Speech Competition at Raymond Central. Noelle Beyl finished in 3rd place in Dramatic Interpretation, Mitchell Sullivan finished in 4th place in Dramatic Interpretation, Nylee Hayner and Joslyn Giles finished in 6th place in duet. They will have their District Competition on Monday, March 17th at 9:00am at Elkhorn High School. Our Speech Team Head Coach is Kristi Eggen.



Our **DC West HS Journalism** Students!

ATHLETE

#1 OF THE

SCHIEBER

"Trey played tough defense, locking down some of the best shooters in the area while also shooting a high % from the field. He has been a great leader for our team pushing us to be our best."

MONTH

ATHLETE

#5 OF THE

GRIMM

"Ava's hard work is showing up at the right time for her and the team. She is a good leader both on and off the field. She is going to be missed by all of us and we wish her well next year in college."

MONTH

To view upcoming **Team Schedules or Events**, please take the following steps:

- Go to www.dcwest.org
- Click on the Activities Calendar
- Click on View Schedules
- Select Team
- Click View

There are a lot of moving parts in athletics and activities but everyone is working together towards the same common goal. I want to Thank everyone that has helped work at an event, supported our school and programs, and that have cheered on our Falcons. We are trying to RISE UP this school year and I'm a really proud Falcon!

Mr. Travis



 **JEREMY TRAVIS**
Director of Athletics & Activities (7-12)

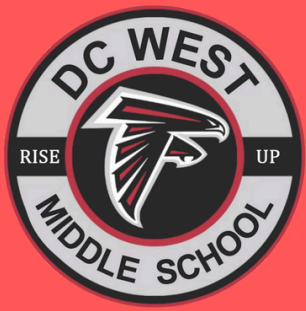
DC WEST Community Schools
Engage, Prepare, and Empower

📍 401 S. Pine Street
Valley, NE 68064

📞 402.359.2583

✉ jtravis@dcwest.org

📧 @DCWestFalcons



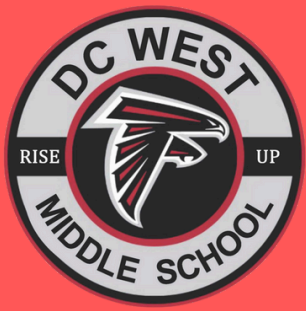
DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

DCW Middle School Students of the Month



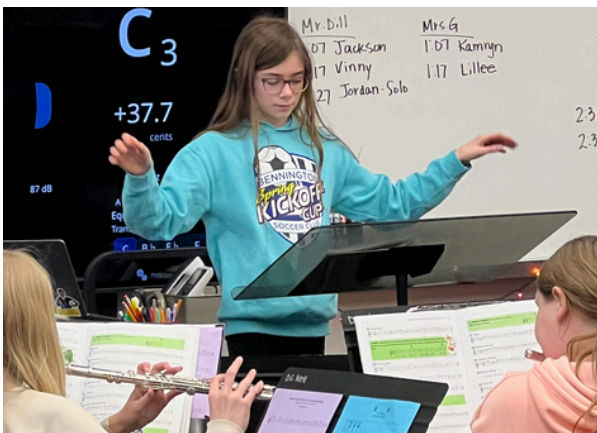
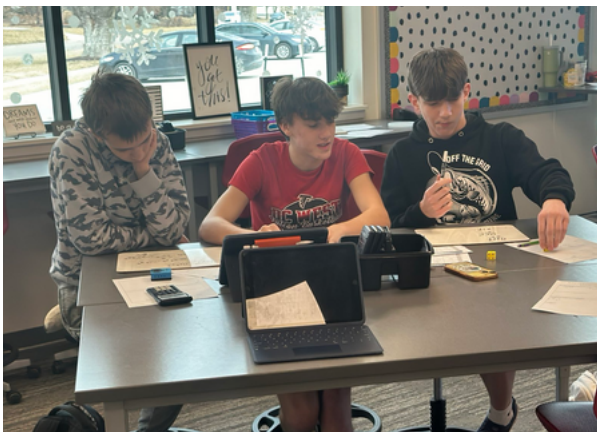
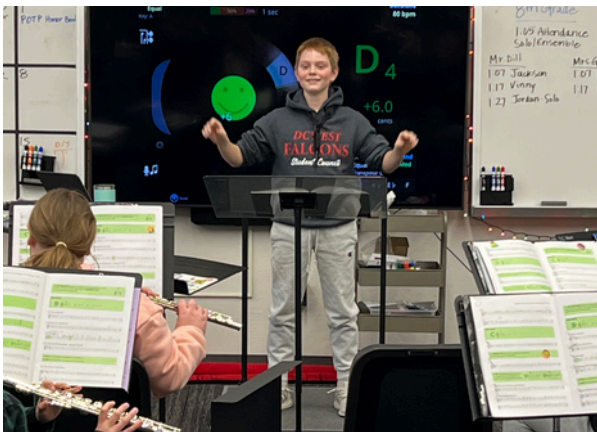
The DC West Middle School Students of the Month Program is based on qualities such as good character, leadership, and citizenship, and effort in the classroom. The student of the month must be a diligent student, complete his/her assignments on time; show a strong effort to learn subjects to the best of their ability; prepare for class; and, have good classroom participation. The student of the month demonstrates excellent behavior in and out of the classroom, is well mannered, and respectful to both peers and teachers. The student of the month displays excellent citizenship by working together with classmates in a cooperative attitude, and exhibiting good behavior. Many such students display leadership qualities and serve as role models for their peers.

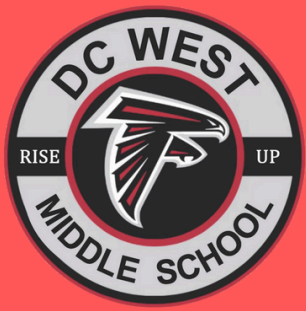


DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

Snapshots From The Classroom



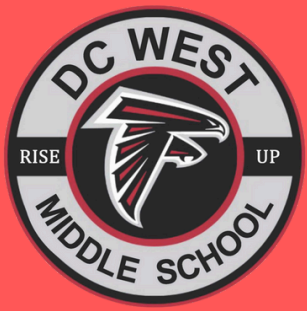


DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

Winter athletics have been thriving, with our teams showing great effort and achieving notable successes. Each team has worked hard and seen impressive results throughout the season. Our participation has been strong, reflecting the commitment and enthusiasm of our athletes. This success is a direct result of the dedication from our coaches. The continuous support from our Falcon families has been essential to this accomplishment. Together, we've built a strong foundation for the future achievements.



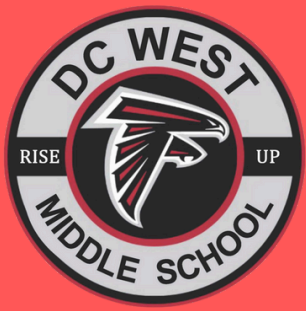


DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

Snapshots From The Classroom



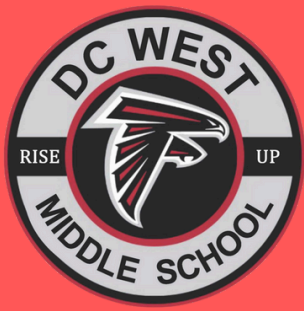


DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

MS ART PROJECTS





DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

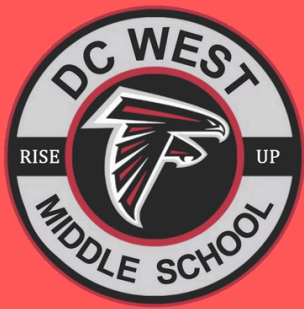
Update From Our Teacher Leadership Teams:

Our leadership teams are continuing to develop and train our staff on responsive classroom strategies. A "responsive classroom" is an effective teaching approach that emphasizes building a safe, positive, and inclusive learning environment, where students not only strengthen their academic competencies but also develop essential soft skills. This approach focuses on creating a sense of community and responding to the individual needs of each child through thoughtful classroom management and engaging academics.

In addition, Mr. Hansen, our school counselor, and I are working together to redesign the middle school experience. We are exploring opportunities to offer new electives for our students, such as coding, financial education, Google Platforms, and Falcon Athletic Advantage for 8th graders. These additions will provide more varied learning experiences, better preparing our students for the future. We are also planning adjustments to our MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) block for the 2025-2026 school year. Next year, we plan to streamline the MTSS aspect to 25 minutes, with a dedicated 20-minute guided study practice for all students, ensuring every child has access to focused academic support. Mr. Hansen and I would also like to thank Logan Dunn, Janna Giles, Katy Richards, and Shawna Younghans for their collaboration and willingness to work together to maximize learning opportunities for our middle and high school students. Their dedication and support are instrumental in our efforts to continuously improve and enrich the educational experience for our students.

Additionally, we will be rebranding Pride as "Advisory Time." Advisory Time will focus on building positive relationships between students and teachers, giving students a space to practice soft skills while exploring their interests. It will be a structured period with key components such as a welcome activity, announcements, acknowledgements, and an engaging activity, all aimed at fostering a supportive community setting.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to enhance and evolve our middle school programs.



DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2025 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

STATE AND DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

Grades	Assessment	Dates	Testing Time
6-8	ELA NSCAS	April 9th & 10th	*Block Schedule 8:48-10:21
6-8	Math NSCAS	April 15th & 16th	*Block Schedule 8:48-10:21
8	Science NSCAS	April 22th & 24th	In Class

We have moved ELA and Math State Assessment (NSCAS) to a block schedule in the morning. Research shows that students tend to perform better on tests when taken earlier in the day. By scheduling the assessments in the morning, we aim to maximize students' focus and energy levels. This adjustment ensures that students are tackling their tests during a time when they are most alert and mentally prepared.

Studies support the idea that morning testing can lead to improved outcomes. We believe this change will provide our students with the best opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

March 5, 2025
 Board Report
 Alan Sarka
 DC West Community Schools

Contents:

1. Spring Assessment Schedule
2. MTSS/PLC driven systems in place
3. Planning for next year
4. Welcoming New Staff
5. One School One Book

1. Spring Assessment Schedule (Rolled over from last month) Assessment sessions will start taking place the week we return from Spring Break and will continue through May 2nd.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3/23/25	3/24/25	3/25/25	3/26/25	3/27/25	3/28/25	3/29/25
	Beginning of MAP/NSCAS testing window		4th grade NSCAS ELA 8:30-9:30 5th grade NSCAS ELA 9:45-10:45	4th grade NSCAS ELAR2 8:30-9:30 5th grade NSCAS ELAR2 9:45-10:45		
3/30/25	3/31/25	4/1/25	4/2/25	4/3/25	4/4/25	4/5/25
1	3rd grade NSCAS ELA 10:00-11:00	2nd grade NSCAS ELAR2 10:00-11:00	4th grade NSCAS Math 8:30-9:30 5th grade NSCAS Math 9:45-10:45	4th grade NSCAS Math#2 8:30-9:30 5th grade NSCAS Math#2 9:45-10:45		
4/6/25	4/7/25	4/8/25	4/9/25	4/10/25	4/11/25	4/12/25
		3rd grade NSCAS Math 10:00-11:00	3rd grade NSCAS Math #2 10:00-11:00	5th grade Science 9:45-10:45		
4/13/25	4/14/25	4/15/25	4/16/25	4/17/25	4/18/25	4/19/25
		2nd grade MAP ELA 8:30-9:30 Kindergarten MAP ELA 9:40-10:40	1st grade MAP ELA 8:30-9:30 3rd grade MAP ELA 10:00-11:00	4th grade MAP ELA 8:30-9:30 5th grade MAP ELA 9:45-10:45		
4/20/25	4/21/25	4/22/25	4/23/25	4/24/25	4/25/25	4/26/25
		2nd grade MAP Math 8:30-9:30	1st grade MAP Math 8:30-9:30	4th grade MAP Math 8:30-9:30		

		Kindergarten MAP Math 9:40-10:40	3rd grade MAP Math 10:00-11:00	5th grade MAP Math 9:45-10:45		
4/27/25	4/28/25	4/29/25	4/30/25	5/1/25	5/2/25	5/3/25
	MAP Make-Ups	MAP Make-Ups	MAP Make-Ups	MAP Make-Ups	MAP Make-Ups	MAP Make-Ups

This Spring's assessment schedule creation took multiple factors into consideration. We tried to minimize the amount of Mondays and Fridays sessions. We also don't want to overlap testing sessions because we are being intentional with placing students that would benefit from an alternative testing environment into a small group. SPED, Intervention, EL, and 504 students will all be testing in a small group. We also added a second testing session for NSCAS to mitigate testing fatigue. The schedule allows for us to collaborate and cooperate as a staff to set our students up for success with our ultimate

goal being increased growth and achievement for all students.

2. MTSS/PLC data driven systems running consistently every 20 days.

A huge goal for DC West Elementary this year was to effectively marry our PLC and MTSS systems. The goal was to have data driven systems that inform our decision making and provide a setting for intentional collaboration where all stakeholders have a voice. In our meetings we start with encouraging vulnerability. We share instructional decision making that had an impact on student achievement, celebrations on student performance, discussions about instructional barriers, and sharing of proactive instructional shifts that will help to remove learning barriers. After this portion of our meetings we discuss students that are currently receiving intervention. It is our time to progress monitor academic and behavioral intervention and evaluate if the interventions in place are working or if we need to make a change. This process now takes place consistently every 20 days.

3. Planning for next year:

DC West Elementary is currently in the process of planning for next year. We have established goals for a few shifts to our Master Schedule that support our academic goals for small group instruction and our goals for the continued implementation of Responsive Classroom practices. We are working cooperatively with all stakeholders to establish class lists that are equitable for teachers and students. We consider many factors when we establish class lists but the main objective is doing what is best for our students.

4. Welcoming New 2025-2026 Staff

DC West Elementary is excited to announce the hiring of Amy Tessendorf. She will be taking the role of family home facilitator as Dr. Dee Acklie transitions into retirement. Amy is coming to DC West from Blair Public School with a wealth of knowledge in working with Birth to 3rd grade age students. She has many talents and strengths that will allow her to immediately embrace the role and responsibilities of family home facilitator and make an immediate impact on our population. Dr. Dee will be missed. She made an undeniable impact on the community of families for DC West. She worked tirelessly to support the needs of the

community all while expanding her role every year. She has grown the role into what it is today and we are very thankful for her servant leadership.

DC West Elementary is also excited to welcome Mrs. Meghan Ranslem as the new assistant principal. She is coming to DC West from Millard Public Schools.

MEGHAN RANSELM



“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD” -NELSON MANDELA

ABOUT ME:

I have been teaching for 7 years as a 3rd grade teacher. Prior to that I substitute taught long and short term jobs for 2 years in all the Omaha area schools. I am a lifelong learner and love building relationships with everyone I encounter. My husband Gerry works as a risk analyst at Charles Schwab. My older daughter, Quinn is 9 years old and in 3rd grade. Harper is 4 and will be in pre-K next year. We are expecting our 3rd child next month who is a baby boy! We have 3 dogs. Brantley (17) who is a Catahoula Leopard dog, Bear (6) who is a Bernese Mountain dog and a school therapy dog for the past 4 years, and Rhue (1) who is a mini Aussiedoodle. I can't explain how excited I am to meet every single one of you and join your Falcon family!

MY FAVORITES:

FOOD: TACOS

HOBBY: ART, SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY, COACHING AT NEBRASKA ELITE, & GARDENING!

DRINK: COFFEE

SEASON: FALL

SPORT: LOVE FOOTBALL! GO VIKINGS! (SORRY ALAN)

SUBJECT: LANGUAGE ARTS

COLOR: PURPLE

ANIMAL: HORSES

EDUCATION:  

CONTACT INFORMATION:

 402-881-9453

 mjranslem@mpsomaha.org

I am always open for communication at any time!

5. One Book One School: Wild Robots



Wild Robot culminated as a big whole school success. The students loved listening to their teachers read and watching the videos of other staff reading. We set a goal to have students create 50 robots. Our team was so excited to see over 80 come in that were all incredibly creative. Lastly, we had a successful food drive as part of the one book one school activities. All food went to support the food bank of COPE.

EST

2005

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

March, 2025
Board Report
Dr. Jed Johnston
DC West Elementary School

Falcon Cafe
Kindergarten Informance
PreSchool Parent Connections
 Valentine Part
 ECE Advisory
Student Leadership - K-Kids Falcon Leaders
One Book One School
 Readings
 Food Drive
 Robots
2025-2026 Planning
New Sidewalk

Falcon Cafe was held. The initiative is an opportunity for parents to learn more about the dynamic happenings at DC West Elementary School. Session topics included:

- Information on the One Book, One School initiative. 20 teachers, staff, and administrators recorded chapters for students to read along with at home.
- Math Facilitator Kelsey Nabity, Title Teachers Rosey Krauel and Jessica Seng teamed up to work with parents on using resources connected to the DC West Web Page. This interactive session showed parents ways in which to reinforce math and reading skills/concepts with their children.
- Members of K-Kids Falcon Leaders served as hosts welcoming parents and directing to the cafeteria - and to help themselves to coffee and a snack. The 5th grade students did a wonderful job.

Kindergarten Informance

- Music Teacher Kaitlin Beck created and led an

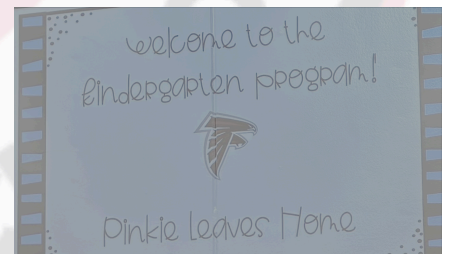


Informance with

Kindergarten students. The

program was designed to involve parents and families in what happens in a typical music class. There was great participation and excellent information on the

music curriculum and activities.



PreSchool Parent Connections

- **Valentine's Day** - parents and families were invited to school to participate in a variety of centers and activities that promote skill development and ways to work with children promoting their learning. There was fun and action, too.
- **ECE Advisory** - The Early Childhood Advisory met. The purpose is to involve and educate parents.

Student Leadership - K-Kids Falcon Leaders

- The club has now been accepted by Kiwanis International as a K-Kids Charter Club. We join one of the largest elementary student leadership and service organizations in the world.
- Dr. Poloncic met with the students to talk about leadership - her role as superintendent, leadership responsibilities, and how leadership emerges from the heart. The 32 4/5th grade students were engaged throughout!
- A new opportunity has emerged to help with Preschool Buddy Boxes. 30 Falcon Leaders signed up to give up their recess one day a week to work with the preschoolers. This is a great way to serve, give back, and for students to serve as role models!



One Book One School



Readings - School-wide, students and families were encouraged to read The Wild Robot and engage in a month's worth of activities. 20 guests (teachers, classified staff, administrators) from across the district recorded chapters so families could follow and read along.

Food Drive - one of the culminating activities was a food drive. Even though it was interrupted by a series of school closings, 940 pounds of food (as well as cleaning products) were collected and donated to COPE

Robots - one of the activities promoted was for students/families to create their own robot, bring to school, and display in the library. 83 robots now adorn the shelves!



2025-2026 Planning - using existing processes in place (Staff Senate, Staff Meeting Days) we have begun planning for next year. I will serve more on the advisory side of the process while Alan Sarka takes the lead. Planning for class list development that involves all professionals who work with students is a large and complex task. Updating and modifying the Master Schedule to continue to support District School Improvement Initiatives and building goals is also a huge undertaking. There will be much conversation, brainstorming, and hard work. The underlying theme, though, will never change - how do we best serve the learners at DC West Elementary School?

New Sidewalk - When the weather cooperates we will finally have a paved surface on the perimeter of the playground. The remaining sidewalk will be completed once the ground thaws and dries out. This will allow access for all students. Morning Walking Club will now be able to walk the perimeter and not have to traverse the grass. Due to the high volume of students who arrive early, the Walking Club provides a way to supervise students and promote a healthy activity. It is also a time for students to greet and chat with friends.



EST

2005

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

March 2025 Special Education Report

Staffing Updates

Given the statewide special education teacher shortage, we are fortunate to have few openings in our special education department this year. Our talented special education staff remains mostly stable, and the benefits of their dedication can be seen in the progress our students are making. As the Director of our Special Education department, I am constantly working to ensure our staff feels supported and that we work diligently to recruit and hire the most qualified candidates for our positions. As a special education leadership team, the Nebraska Association of Special Education Supervisors recently held our annual Legislative Conference. We met with state Senators and/or their staff and shared our concerns about the special education teacher shortage. For more information on what was shared, please click [HERE](#).

The applicant pool for our Birth-Kindergarten Speech-Language Pathologist position that has been open for the past two months has remained extremely small despite our recruiting efforts. Therefore, we have decided to maintain our contract with Speech Squad, LLC, to fulfill this position. With this contract in place, we can retain Katie Hamik, SLP, who has been serving in this position through our current Speech Squad contract this year. We are excited to welcome Katie and the experience, knowledge, skills, and relationships she has built back to the district.

Mekenna Haahr, High School Special Education Teacher, has resigned for the 2025–2026 school year, pending Board approval. As a dedicated previous employee, Mekenna graciously filled this role in the high school this year when we had challenges filling it last spring due to late resignations and statewide special education shortages. Mekenna has done a phenomenal job as a first-time special education teacher but has decided that she would like to return to being a full-time mom. We thank her for her dedication and flexibility; she will be missed!

With Mekenna's recent resignation and subsequent anticipated high school special education opening, we were fortunate to find a suitable replacement quickly. We would like to recommend Kim Loofe to the Board to fill our High School Special Education vacancy. Kim comes to us with 26 years of teaching experience, most recently as a high school special education teacher in Kearney. Kim has worked in the Kearney, Elkhorn, and Westside school districts as a special education teacher and reading specialist, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team. We are excited to welcome her to our Falcon Family!

TeamMates Mentoring Proposal

Kristen Reeves, Elementary Counselor, would like to propose a pilot of a DC West Chapter of TeamMates Mentoring. TeamMates Mentoring is a Nebraska-based mentoring program

founded by Dr. Tom and Nancy Osborne in 1991. More information about the program can be found [HERE](#). Part of initiating a new chapter is gaining Board of Education approval for the project. To that end, I have highlighted some key information from Kristen's project proposal below. We hope to be able to move forward with this meaningful project that supports our students and aligns well with our strategic priorities surrounding culture and mental health and wellness.

Excerpts from Project Proposal:

What is TeamMates?

TeamMates is a mentoring program that matches adult mentors with students in grades 3-12. The mentor and mentee meet for approximately 30-45 minutes weekly. The goal is for mentees to remain with their same mentor through high school graduation, establishing a deep, supportive bond and relationship. The program was started by Dr. Tom and Nancy Osborne in 1991 with 22 Nebraska football players mentoring 22 middle school boys from LPS. The program has grown over the years and now includes nearly 200 chapters in Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Wyoming, and South Dakota. Over 45,000 students have been impacted since 1991.

Who will the project benefit?

Research shows that one-on-one mentoring of students can significantly improve academic performance, boost self-esteem, increase school engagement, and enhance career aspirations, with mentored students often demonstrating higher GPAs, lower dropout rates, and better attitudes towards school compared to their non-mentored peers; this positive impact is particularly noticeable for students facing challenges or transitioning to a new educational environment.

How does the project support the district's strategic plan?

Becoming a Teammates Chapter would support Strategic Goal 1 by providing an evidence-based Tier 2 intervention: one-to-one adult mentoring. While Teammates "is not an at-risk program or intended to serve a specific population of students", some students could be identified through the MTSS process and provided with a source of support.

Initiating a Teammates Chapter would support Strategic Goal 2 by helping create and sustain a culture supporting students' social, emotional, and mental well-being. Research shows that mentoring relationships enhance social-emotional development by building connectedness, commitment, and consistency for participants.

TeamMates Mentoring would support all components of Goal 4: Family and Community Partnerships by engaging community members in having a meaningful role in the life of a specific child at the school. TeamMates has found that mentor relationships often evolve into career encouragement and academic achievement incentives. Partnerships would be formed with community members and businesses through the chapter's board and promotional

activities.

What resources are needed from the district to support this project?

Financial: The implementation fee for DC West is \$15,000. After the first year, the annual fee is \$1000. Currently, a donor covers the implementation cost and annual fees for participating Nebraska districts. It is unknown when or if these donor funds will be discontinued. For this reason, fundraising is recommended after the chapter's initial year to support ongoing activities and supplies.

Staff: Each chapter must have a Program Coordinator. Kristen Reeves has volunteered to be the Coordinator of DC West's chapter. The Program Coordinator will collaborate with the local chapter board, TeamMates Central Office, and school administration to implement the TeamMates mentoring program. The Program Coordinator provides direct oversight of the program to ensure quality mentoring.

Space: Spaces would need to be available for mentors to meet with students. Available spaces at that time could be the library, conference rooms, and available offices.

Materials: In the early stages, activities, especially board games, would be needed as activities for mentors to use during meetings.

Time/Participation/Support: The strongest Teammates Chapters are those with the strongest administrative and teacher support. Administrators and other staff making referrals, encouraging mentees and mentors, and attending events would help strengthen the chapter.

What is the timeline for implementation?

After gathering support from district administration and the Board of Education, a local TeamMates Governing Board must be established with representatives from the school and community. Next, the Program Coordinator must be selected and the application to request the program must be submitted to TeamMates Mentoring. We are hoping to pilot this program in the elementary in Fall 2025, if possible.

Thank you for your continued support of our staff, students, and programming! We appreciate it! Have a great month!

Nicki

Nicki Pechous, Ed.S.
Director of Special Education



Board Report March 2025

Dr. Dawn Marten - Director of Learning

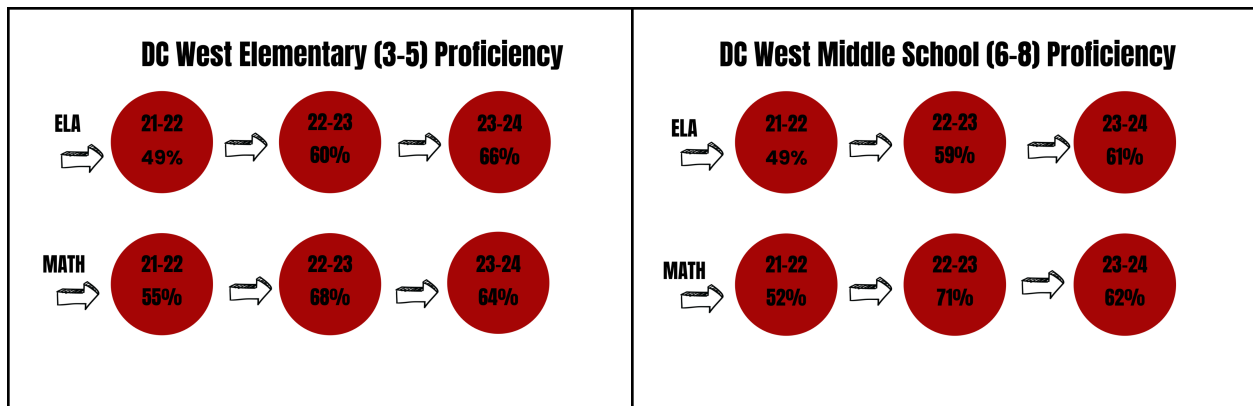
Assessments: NSCAS and ACT

NSCAS for Grades 3-8 and ACT for Grade 11 are right around the corner! Teachers have been busy preparing and reviewing content standards with students. The first NSCAS testing session will occur on April 2 and continue through April 25. NSCAS ACT is scheduled for March 25.

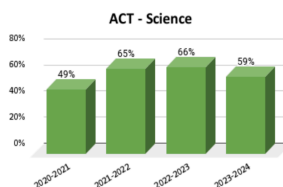
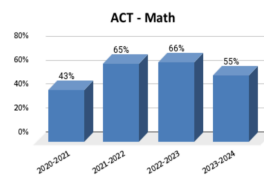
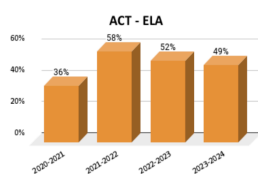
- NSCAS ELA and Math: Grades 3-8
- NSCAS Science: Grades 5 & 8
- NSCAS ACT: Grade 11

Board Data Request

[HERE](#) is a presentation that reflects the information I shared with the Board in December. It will be helpful for this data request as well. The presentation addresses specific questions about academic trend data, providing insights into each building individually and the district as a whole. The data also includes a comparison of our academic performance over time against state performance.



DC West High School Trend Proficiency Data

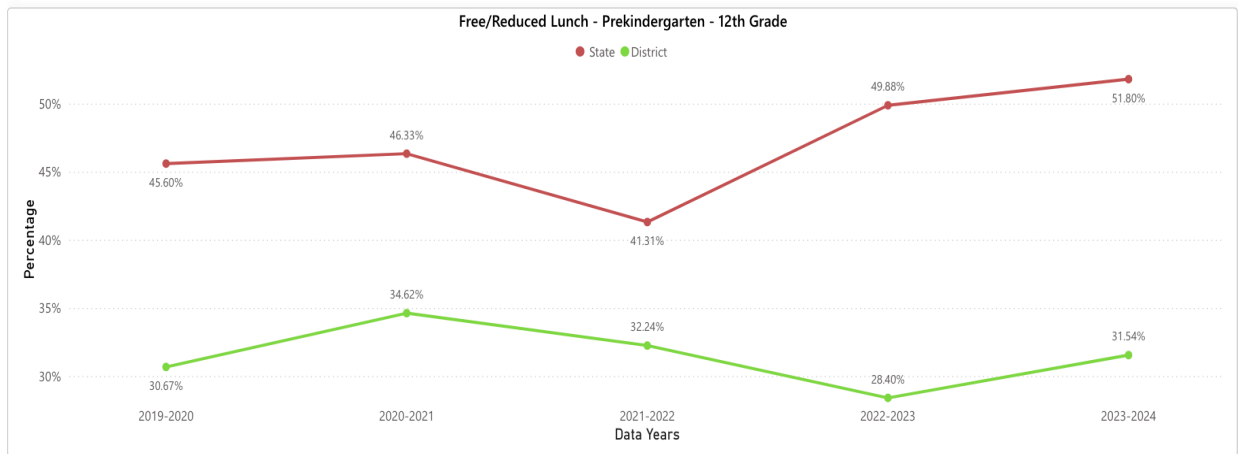




Board Question: Is the poverty number solely based on students receiving free and reduced lunch or another metric?

The State defines poverty as students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Therefore, the reported percentage reflects families who have completed, submitted, and been approved for eligibility. However, this figure does not account for families who may qualify but choose not to apply. To support these families, we engage in proactive outreach, maintain open communication, and provide reassurance about privacy and benefits to encourage participation.

Data Years	State	District
2023-2024	51.80%	31.54%
2022-2023	49.88%	28.40%
2021-2022	41.31%	32.24%
2020-2021	46.33%	34.62%
2019-2020	45.60%	30.67%





Board Question: 23-24 data comparison to school districts similar-sized district?

When comparing school districts, multiple factors are taken into account to identify "like-peers." The Nebraska Department of Education defines Similar Peer Districts based on a combination of variables, extending beyond just enrollment size. The table below highlights the 24 variables used by the state to determine Similar Peer Districts.

Variable	Description
Membership	Number of students enrolled
Attendance Rate	Average student attendance rate
FRL Rate	Percentage of free-and-reduced lunch students
Minority Rate	Percentage of non-White students
Homeless Rate	Percentage of homeless students
LEP Rate	Percentage of English language learners
Migrant Rate	Percentage of migrant students
Immigrant Rate	Percentage of immigrant students
Gifted Rate	Percentage of gifted students
SPED Rate	Percentage of Special Education students
Highly Mobile Rate	Percentage of students enrolled in two or more public schools during the school year
Mobility Rate	Percentage of mobile students
Teachers With Masters Percent	Percentage of teachers with at least a Master's degree
Average Years Teaching Experience	Average number of years taught by teachers
Land Valuation	Annual land valuation sent out from the County Treasurer's office of the district
Per Pupil Cost by Average Daily Membership	Total annual costs divided by the average daily membership for the district
Median Household Income	Median household income in the past 12 months (in 2020 inflation-adjusted dollars)
Per Capita Income	Per capita income in the past 12 months (in 2020 inflation-adjusted dollars)
Gini Index	Gini index of income inequality
Percent Age 25+ With Bachelor's Degree or More	Percent of population 25 years and over with at least a Bachelor's degree
Labor Force Participation Rate	Percent of population 16 years and over in the labor force
Unemployment Rate	Percent of population 16 years and over who are unemployed
Land Area	Area in square miles
Population Density	Density per square mile of land area

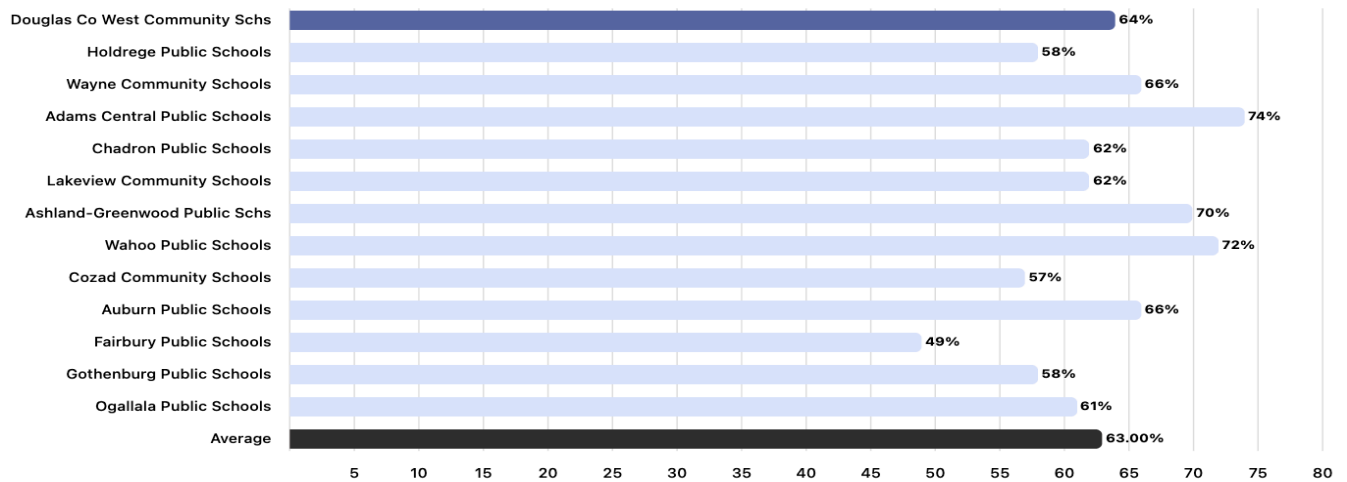


Below is the 2023-2024 data from the 12 Nebraska districts identified as Similar Peers to DC West, based on the 24 variables outlined above.

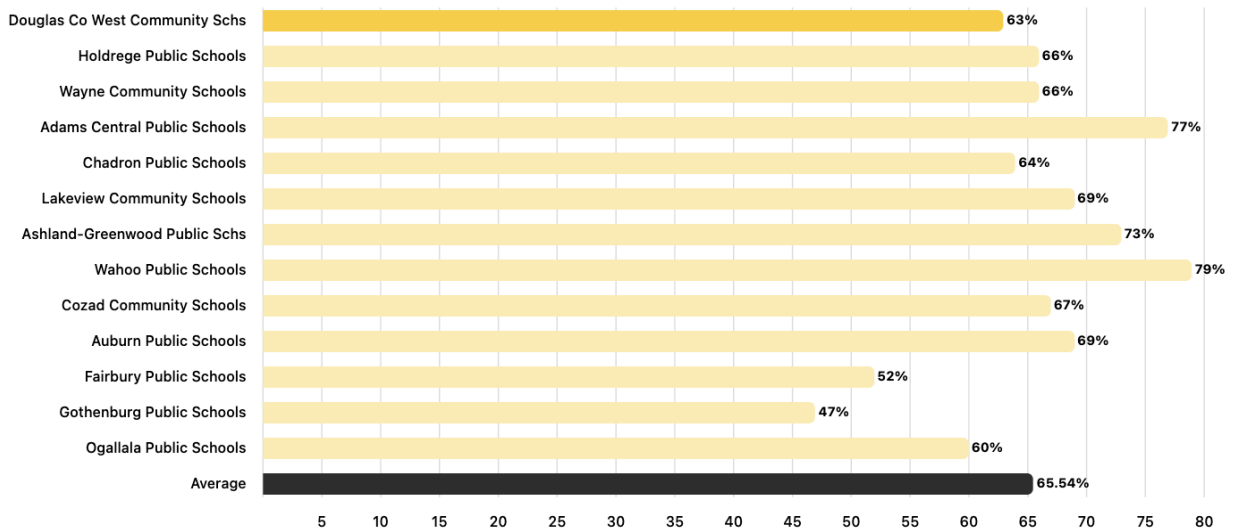
District	Total Enrollment	SPED	EL	Poverty	Attendance Rate
DC West	1116	16.98%	1.86%	31.5%	93.10%
Holdrege	1013	24.53%	2.17%	42.8%	95.36%
Wayne	1009	10.97%	7.31%	37.6%	95.32%
Adams Central	1029	13.44%	*	18.56%	95.85%
Chadron	971	13.28%	*	39.34%	93.25%
Lakeview	964	14.14%	8.55%	37.97%	94.64%
Ashland-Greenwood	1102	19.69%	*	24.32%	95.30%
Wahoo	1088	21.64%	1.06%	31.16%	95.06%
Cozad	967	14.25%	5.05%	51.19%	93.49%
Auburn	980	18.29%	*	39.80%	92.94%
Fairbury	908	16.24%	5.41%	55.40%	93.06%
Gothenburg	829	13.17%	*	44.27%	94.06%
Ogalla	821	17.29%	2.43%	55.05%	92.21%



NSCAS - ELA (Grades 3-8)

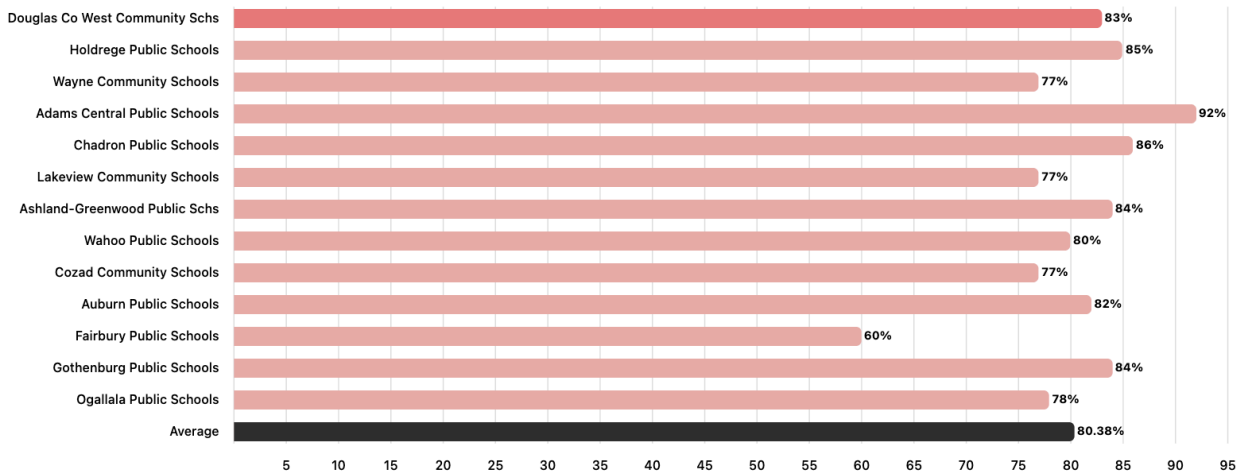


NSCAS - Math (Grades 3-8)

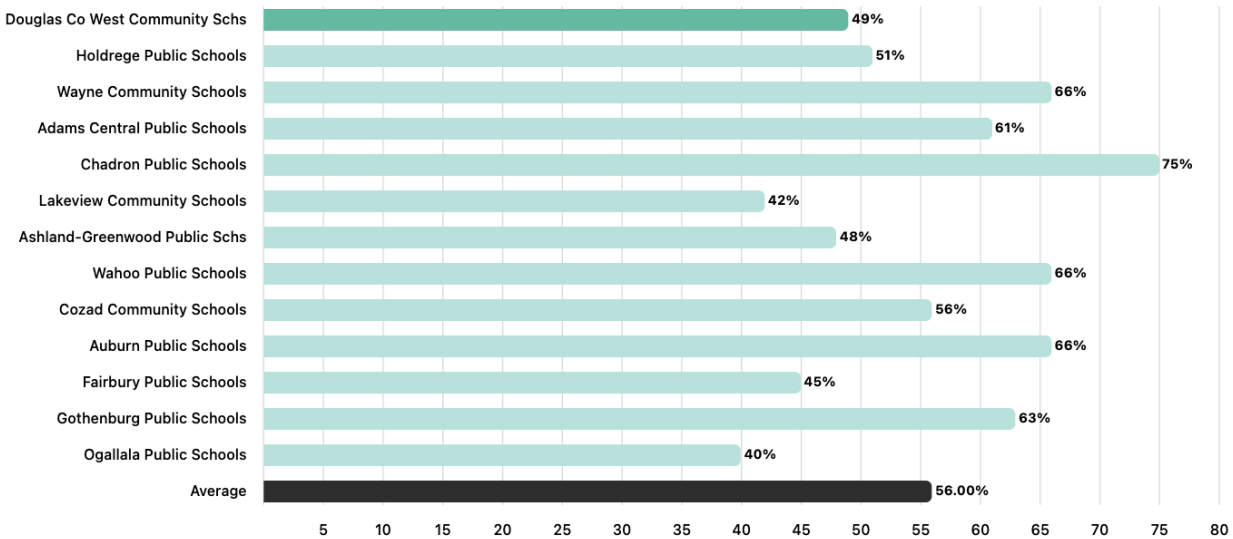




NSCAS - Science (Grades 5 & 8)

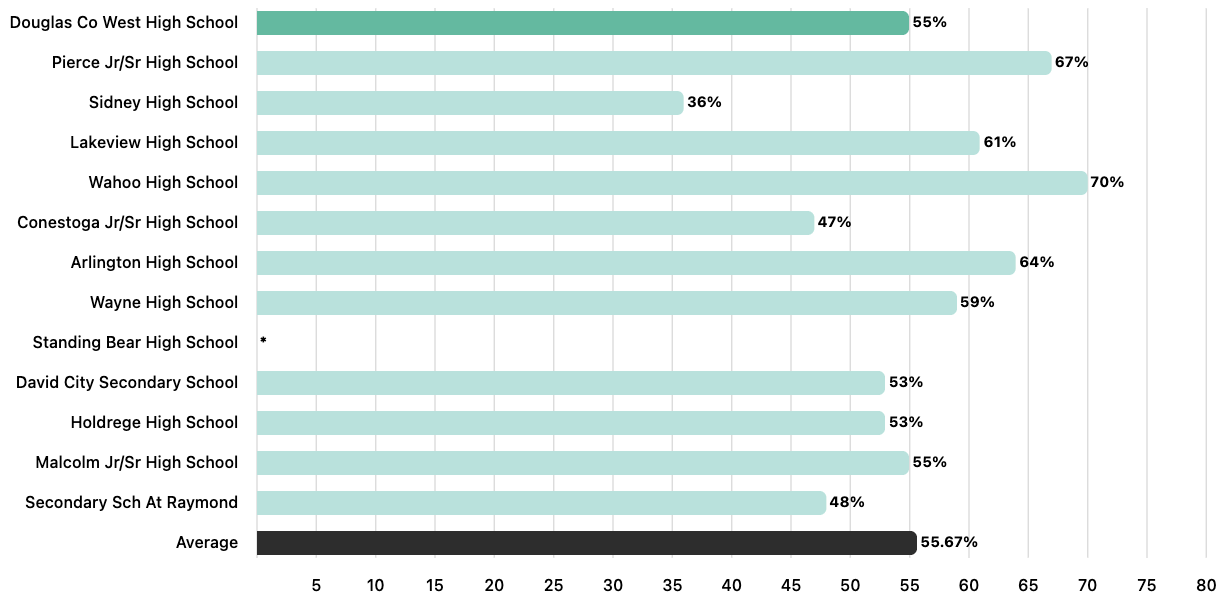


ACT - ELA (Grade 11)

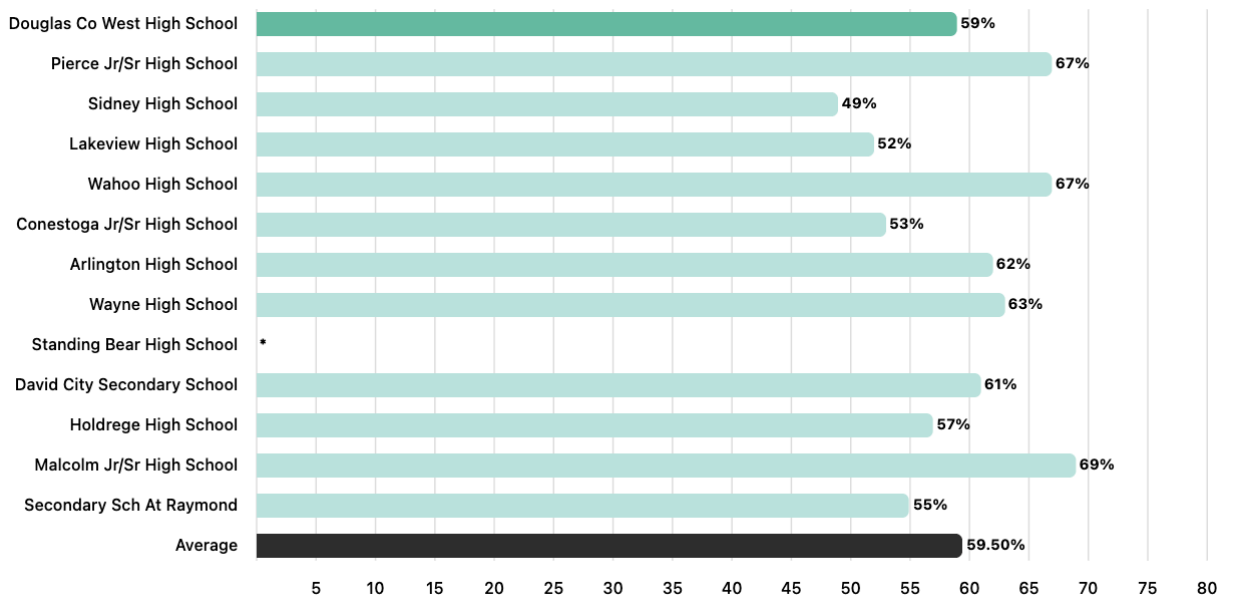




ACT - Math (Grade 11)



ACT - Science (Grade 11)



Board Report

Jim Knott –High School Principal

Douglas County West High School

March 10, 2025

We are almost halfway through March and that means the third quarter is coming to a close. The following are some important upcoming dates at the high school.

- *March 6 – End of Third Quarter
- *March 14-23 – Spring Break
- *March 25 – State Junior NeSA-ACT, Freshman/Sophomore Practice ACT, Seniors Off
- *April 12 – Junior/Senior Prom, A View @ West Shores 7:00-10:00
- *April 28 – Fine Arts Awards Night 6:30
- *April 30 – Leadership Dinner / NHS 6:30
- *May 2 – Senior Scholarship Breakfast 7:00AM
- *May 5 & 6 – Senior Final Exams
- *May 7 – Senior Last Day / Graduation Practice
- *May 11 – Graduation 2:00
- *May 21 & 22– Final Exams / Student Last Days (Tentative Due to Snow Days)

The Junior NeSA-ACT / 9-10 Practice ACT testing plan has been set. On March 25, freshmen and sophomores will be taking and self-scoring the Practice ACT test while juniors will be taking the State NeSA-ACT test. Seniors do not have school on March 25. The DC West NeSA-ACT composite average last year was 19.7 while the state average was 18.7. We continued this year to incentivize John Baylor Test Prep classes by having students set individual ACT composite score goals. If students took John Baylor and meet or exceed their individual composite goal, they will not be required to take final exams this spring.

We currently have a two teaching positions open at the high school; math and special education. We have not hired for either position but are currently in the process of interviewing for both. I am hopeful to have both positions hired soon and will report back on the progress in April.



DC WEST Community Schools

Engage, Prepare, and Empower

Superintendent's Report March 10, 2025

Annual Report 2024

Our annual community report of strategic focus, academic achievement, and general demographic information is at the printer. I have attached the annual report for the Board's review. The report will be published, printed, and mailed to all school district patrons in the next few weeks.

Administrative Evaluation Revision

As stated in my superintendent goals, I am working with a small group on the revision of the administrator evaluation system. I have included the [notes of our progress](#) from our last meeting in February to keep you updated on this goal. We look forward to having a draft put together by late spring in order to bring it forward for Board discussion and approval this summer. I'd like to give special thanks to ESU3 who is facilitating this workgroup for us.

Long Term Maintenance Planning (QCPUF)

I have begun some research on developing a long term future maintenance plan and replacement schedule based upon our current HVAC inventory, a roofing assessment, as well as any other safety or energy efficiency projects. I have discussed this concept with Facility Advocates, a company who will complete a no cost survey and investment audit, in order to assist us in designing a plan that may meet our goals in having a future ready replacement schedule with financing. I will plan to meet with the Buildings & Grounds committee in April with the information gathered and then we will advance the discussion to the entire Board. I am timing this discussion to align with the payoff of our current QCPUF bonds in 2025.

Superintendent Goals 2025:

- Lead the vision and support needed to implement strategic plan priorities in 2025. Particularly engaging in the area of high level proficiency in core area student achievement district-wide.
- Complete construction of the new sports complex opening on time and on budget.
- Complete the adoption and implementation of a new administrator evaluation system.
- Continue to unify, lead, and empower the entire administrative team to excellence.
- Identify with the Board, areas to study & research to facilitate the growth of the communities and district in the next five to ten years so we are proactive rather than reactive. Seek outside resources to consult in this process.
- Begin to develop a leadership succession plan within the district and a transition process to proactively identify and transition new leadership within the district. (Strategic Plan, Strategy 3.4)

Upcoming Dates:

[2024-2025 District Calendar](#)

[2025-2026 District Calendar](#)

[Activities Calendar](#)

March 11-13 Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 14 No School Conferences Comp Day

March 17-21 No School Spring Break

March 27-28 DC West Continuous Improvement Visit (Board involvement on March 27th, 4:00-5:45 pm & March 28th, 2:45 pm)

April 14 Regular Board Of Education Meeting

1116

Total PK-12 Students in 2023-2024

2022/23 - 1053 Students
 2021/22 - 1039 Students
 2020/21 - 985 Students
 2019/20 - 975 Students

Student Population Characteristics

Identified High-Ability Learners



STATE- 13%

Eligible for Free/Reduced School Meals



STATE- 52%

Identified as English Learners



STATE- 9%

Enrolled in Special Education



STATE- 17%

Attendance Rate



STATE- 93%

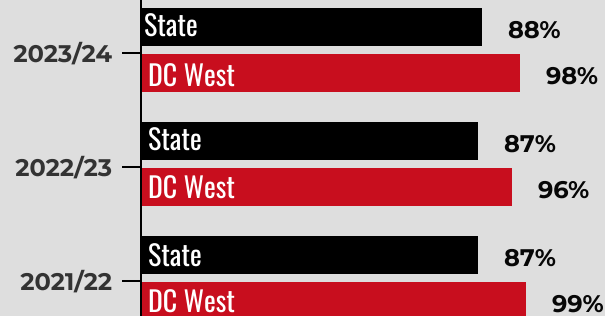
PK-12 Enrollment

Fall Membership 2024-2025

Pre-school	109
Kindergarten	58
1st Grade	81
2nd Grade	60
3rd Grade	60
4th Grade	91
5th Grade	78
6th Grade	88
7th Grade	82
8th Grade	63
9th Grade	93
10th Grade	85
11th Grade	67
12th Grade	81

Total PK-12 1096

Graduation Rate



District State Classifications 2024

District - **Great** ★★★★★
 DC West High School - **Great** ★★★★★
 DC West Middle School - **Great** ★★★★★
 DC West Elementary School - **Great** ★★★★★

2023-2024 Dual Credit Information

197 **1,767**

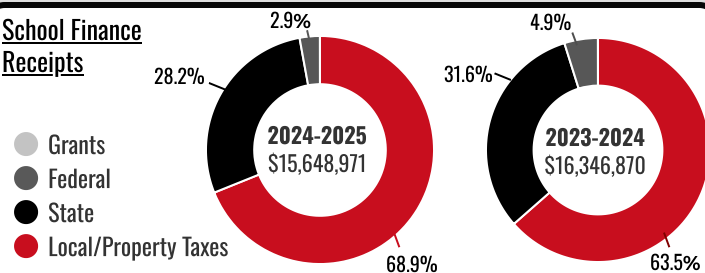
of DC West students that earned college credit in **589** classes

Total University Levels Credits Earned
 Saving our families **\$477,090** in tuition costs!

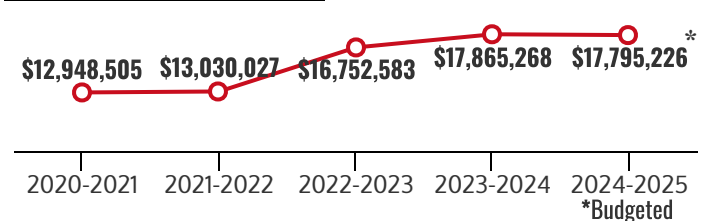


21 Average ACT Score of Students in AP or Dual Credit Courses

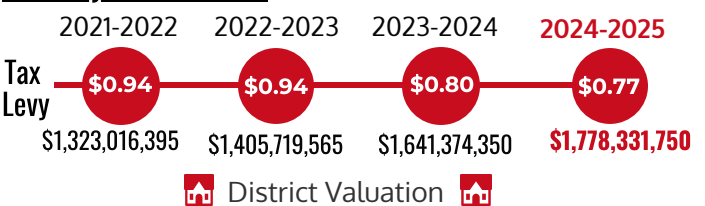
School Finance Receipts



Total General Fund Disbursements

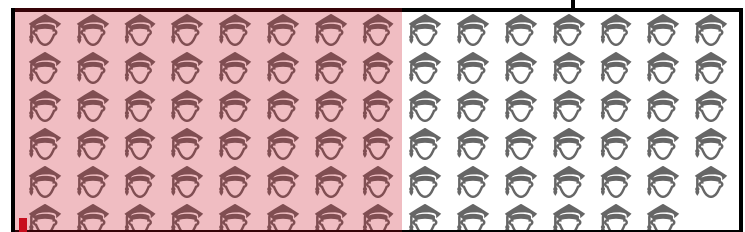


Mill Levy and Valuation



Class of 2024 Data

Total # of 2024 DC West Graduates **89**



48 # of Graduates that received at least 1 scholarship → **\$6,500,000** Total dollar amount of scholarships earned by Class of 2024

2023-2024 Certified Staff 86 Total FTE

	Teaching Staff with Masters Degree/Higher	Average Yrs Experience
DC West	55%	12 Yrs
State	59%	14 Yrs



DC WEST

Community Schools

Engage, Prepare, and Empower



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

401 Pine Street PO Box 378
 Valley, NE 68064
 PH: 402-359-2583 FAX: 402-359-4371

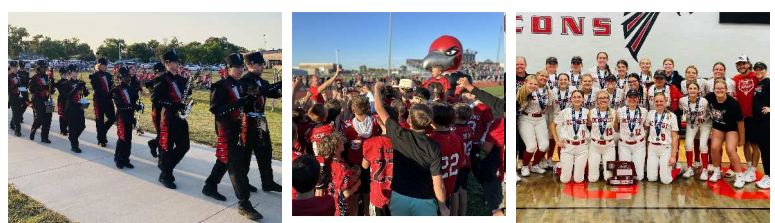
Annual Report

DC West Community Schools is a diverse, rigorous, and caring learning environment. We serve the communities of Waterloo and Valley, along with the surrounding lake neighborhoods and rural areas. There are **1096** students who call **DC West** home.







DC West Community Schools engages, prepares, and empowers all of our students for the future.

New Facility Updates

DC West Community Schools is proud to announce a new **\$12.9 million athletic complex**, slated to open in **Fall 2025**. This ambitious project, located just off 264th St, represents a significant investment in our student-athletes and the future of DC West athletics. The complex will feature a central plaza housing concessions, restrooms, athletic training facilities, and ample storage. Competition highlights include a state of the art track and a versatile turf field for football and soccer, complete with stadium seating and a two-level press box. Our baseball and softball teams will also benefit from fully turfed, regulation-size fields, each with a central press box and batting cages. Thoughtfully planned, centrally located parking and access will ensure a smooth experience for athletes and fans alike, while also positioning the district for future expansion. Importantly, this transformative project is being funded through a fiscally responsible lease purchase agreement already integrated into the current budget, ensuring **no additional tax burden** on our community. This remarkable complex will provide unparalleled athletic opportunities for DC West students for generations to come. **We look forward to cheering on our Falcons together with you, our community, in this incredible new facility and sharing many moments of DC West pride!**



Strategic Plan Priorities 2022-2027

-  **Expanded Student-Centered Learning Experiences**
To ensure diversified learning experiences prepare and empower students to be engaged through expanded learning opportunities and rigorous curriculum and instruction that accelerate the growth of each student.
-  **Culture and Cohesion**
To create and sustain a district culture that exemplifies and models high expectations for all staff and students while supporting the social, emotional, and mental health well-being of students and staff.
-  **Personnel Effectiveness**
To ensure the district provides educational leadership and highly effective staff to support our students academically, personally, and in their individual social growth, as well as building and sustaining cohesion and unity among the staff.
-  **Family and Community Partnerships**
Grow and sustain a mutually supportive and trusting partnership with stakeholder groups for the benefit of the mission and vision of the DC West Community Schools and to sustain a positive connection with and among the community at large.
-  **District Resources**
To sustain effective and efficient use of resources focused on continuous improvement, expansion and support of student learning, safe and effective learning facilities, and highly effective staff to support our students.
-  **Board Governance**
To ensure the mission and vision of DC West Community Schools aligns to the goals, community expectations, and outcomes utilized to measure improved learning for all students.

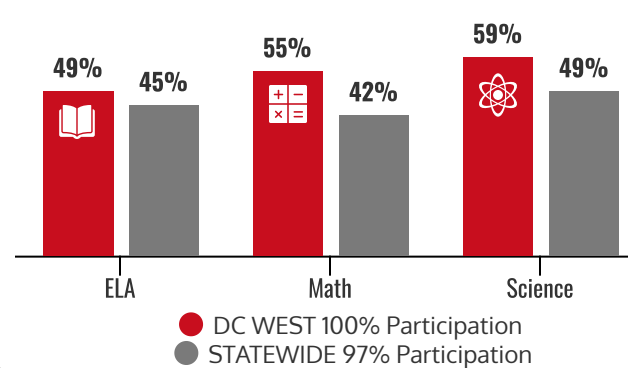
Student Achievement



In the Spring of 2024, all DC West 11th graders took the ACT as a statewide assessment. Students' scores in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science are shown to the right in terms of what percentage of DC West students were on track for approaching the ACT College Readiness Benchmark. The ranges for each performance level are shown below:

	Developing:	On Track:	ACT Benchmark:
ELA	1-17	18-19	20-36
Math	1-17	18-21	22-36
Science	1-18	19-22	23-36

NSCAS ACT Percent On Track and Above

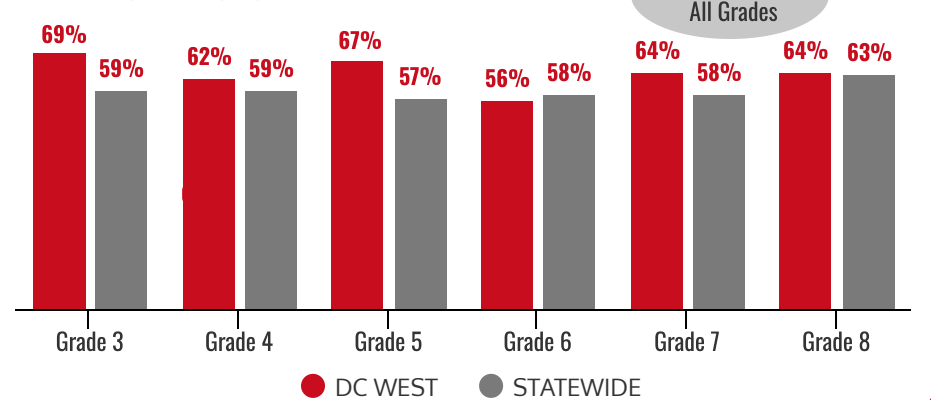


ACT scale scores range from 1-36, **DC West students' average scale scores** were:

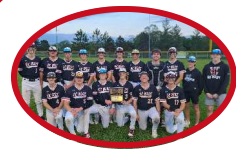
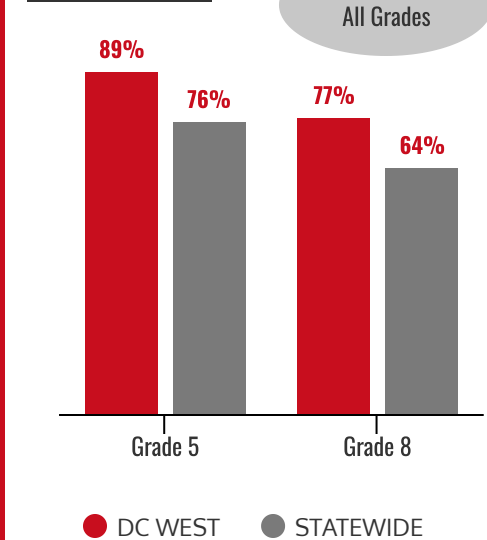
- 18** English Language Arts State: 17
- 21** Mathematics State: 18
- 20** Science State: 18

Our students in grades 3-8 are tested using the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Three levels of proficiency are determined based on test performance: Developing, On Track and Advanced. The percentage of overall proficiency in meeting state standards is calculated based upon the scores of students achieving the "On Track" and "Advanced" levels.

NSCAS English Language Arts Percent Proficient

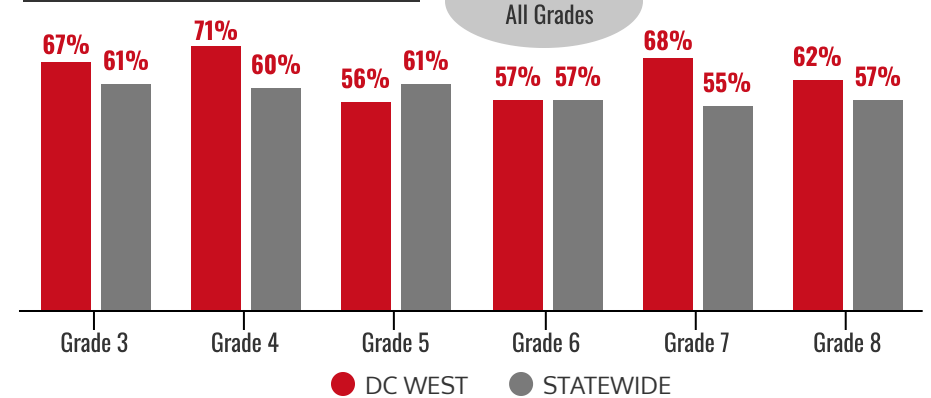


NSCAS Science Percent Proficient



Engage ~ Prepare ~ Empower

NSCAS Mathematics Percent Proficient



Financial Recap February 2025

	2/1/2025	Receipts	Expenditures	2/27/2025
General Fund	\$4,214,241.35	\$ 1,160,754.04	\$ 1,357,185.04	\$4,017,810.35
Depreciation Fund	\$1,665,464.68	\$ -	\$ 37,476.00	\$1,627,988.68
Food Service Fund	\$86,622.94	\$ 75,052.18	\$ 71,895.68	\$89,779.44
Qualified Capital Fund	\$153,925.95	\$ 20,652.80	\$ -	\$174,578.75
Bond Fund	\$1,111,251.93	\$ 66,082.34	\$ -	\$1,177,334.27
Special Building Fund	\$99,062.43	\$ 81,345.73	\$ -	\$180,408.16
	\$7,330,569.28	\$1,403,887.09	\$1,466,556.72	\$7,267,899.65

General Fund Detail

<u>Expenditures</u>	February	YTD	Budgeted
All Instructional Program	\$ 618,924.76	\$ 3,782,002.46	\$ 8,372,681.00
SPED Instructional Program	\$ 208,817.00	\$ 1,116,479.53	\$ 2,266,547.00
Support Services SPED Related	\$ 43,886.87	\$ 257,076.32	\$ 596,720.00
Support Services Non-SPED Related	\$ 46,424.84	\$ 268,849.41	\$ 497,980.00
Support Instructional	\$ 46,127.36	\$ 326,392.00	\$ 757,644.00
Board of Education	\$ 6,283.32	\$ 30,277.08	\$ 87,200.00
Executive Administration Services	\$ 28,833.80	\$ 175,039.19	\$ 387,300.00
District Legal Services	\$ 5,759.00	\$ 11,271.50	\$ 40,000.00
Office of the Principal	\$ 78,658.65	\$ 479,260.64	\$ 965,742.00
General Admin - Business Services	\$ 24,854.80	\$ 150,877.67	\$ 323,944.00
Maint & Operation of Building & Sit	\$ 145,615.94	\$ 814,738.70	\$ 2,026,979.00
Vehicle Acquisition & Maint	\$ -	\$ 755.60	\$ 15,713.00
Regular Pupil Transportation	\$ 38,174.54	\$ 204,084.34	\$ 550,095.00
SPED Pupil Transportation	\$ 10,329.23	\$ 59,807.73	\$ 165,302.00
Categorical Grant from Coporation	\$ 8,555.47	\$ 55,733.01	\$ 164,525.00
State Categorical Programs	\$ 10,756.73	\$ 72,070.98	\$ 137,588.00
Federal Programs	\$ 35,182.73	\$ 217,377.53	\$ 439,266.00
Transfer Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 1,357,185.04	\$ 8,022,093.69	\$ 17,795,226.00

<u>Revenues</u>	February	YTD
Personal and Prop Taxes	\$ 378,996.24	\$ 1,642,880.40
Carline Tax	\$ -	\$ 734.41
Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$ 134,764.37	\$ 781,747.38
Facility Rental	\$ -	\$ 2,115.00
Tuition Received from Individuals	\$ 9,075.75	\$ 55,146.10
Interest	\$ -	\$ 22,279.23
Local License Fees	\$ -	\$ 3,040.00
Grants from Corporations/Private	\$ 47,177.54	\$ 179,291.48
Other Local Receipts	\$ 189.00	\$ 6,581.70
County Fines and License Fees	\$ 1,280.54	\$ 12,190.29
ESU Receipts	\$ -	\$ 8,198.51
State Aid	\$ -	\$ 1,425,200.00
Special Education Programs	\$ 256,025.00	\$ 735,546.00
Special Education Transportation	\$ -	\$ -
Homestead Exemption	\$ -	\$ -
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	\$ -	\$ 6,299.63
High Ability Learners	\$ -	\$ 9,786.00
Early Childhood Grant	\$ -	\$ 65,222.00
State Apportionment	\$ 333,245.60	\$ 333,245.60
Other State Receipts	\$ -	\$ -
Prop & Personal Property Tax Credit	\$ -	\$ -
Title ESSA Programs	\$ -	\$ 139,407.00
IDEA Programs	\$ -	\$ 259,663.00
Medicaid	\$ -	\$ 15,543.45
ESSER II & ESSER III	\$ -	\$ 743,529.00
Other Federal Categorical Receipts	\$ -	\$ -
Sale of Property	\$ -	\$ 6,931.25
Insurance Adjustment	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 1,160,754.04	\$ 6,454,577.43

February 2025 Payroll

Net Payroll	\$ 627,227.75
Payroll Taxes (District)	\$ 67,271.48
Payroll Withholding (Employees)	\$ 159,305.22
Retirement (District)	\$ 84,588.74
Retirement Withholding (Employees)	\$ 83,751.15

Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances

02/2025 - 02/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 02/2025; Processing Month 02/2025; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

Fund: 05 ACTIVITY FUND

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704	INTEREST	3,119.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,119.58
05 704 1001	ACTIVITY PASSES	21,707.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,707.64
05 704 1002	CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS	6,103.95	230.25	0.00	0.00	5,873.70
05 704 1003	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	3,232.00	0.00	366.00	0.00	3,598.00
05 704 1004	HS DC WEST TRAVEL	163.14	0.00	743.00	0.00	906.14
05 704 1005	STAFF LOUNGE	2,008.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,008.44
05 704 1007	VALLEY WAY	10,447.57	875.00	0.00	0.00	9,572.57
05 704 1011	PTSA DONATION	4,117.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,117.70
05 704 1023	PROM	2,797.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,797.59
05 704 1102	ARTS & HUMANITIES	447.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	447.02
05 704 1104	ATHLETICS HS	6,411.53	4,677.00	6,548.40	0.00	8,282.93
05 704 1106	BASEBALL TEAM	974.55	0.00	225.00	0.00	1,199.55
05 704 1107	BAND	2,875.90	0.00	42.50	0.00	2,918.40
05 704 1108	CHEER	6,555.93	3,917.17	100.00	0.00	2,738.76
05 704 1110	SPRING PLAY	1,727.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,727.16
05 704 1111	BBB TEAM	47.36	0.00	314.69	0.00	362.05
05 704 1112	CONCESSIONS	38,739.73	5,512.30	3,764.56	0.00	36,991.99
05 704 1113	CONSTRUCTION TECH	7,106.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,106.79
05 704 1114	DANCE TEAM	1,364.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,364.63
05 704 1115	HS MUSICAL	(67.99)	973.86	6,816.50	0.00	5,774.65
05 704 1116	ONE ACT	1,050.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,050.06
05 704 1117	FBLA	2,530.22	300.00	0.00	0.00	2,230.22
05 704 1118	HIGH SCHOOL	213.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	213.01
05 704 1119	DC TECH 1:1	2,000.23	0.00	40.00	0.00	2,040.23
05 704 1120	GBB TEAM	4,514.64	0.00	202.50	0.00	4,717.14
05 704 1123	HOSA	3,447.57	240.00	35.00	0.00	3,242.57
05 704 1124	STUCO HS	3,609.42	270.98	298.50	0.00	3,636.94
05 704 1128	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	1,500.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.89
05 704 1131	FOOTBALL TEAM	517.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	517.60
05 704 1132	SCIENCE CLUB	615.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	615.19
05 704 1133	SPEECH TEAM	3,156.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,156.17
05 704 1134	VOCAL MUSIC	3,685.47	0.00	243.50	0.00	3,928.97
05 704 1136	WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB	573.62	0.00	68.50	0.00	642.12
05 704 1137	ROBOTICS TEAM	3,176.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,176.08
05 704 1141	GOLF TEAM	84.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	84.88
05 704 1142	YEARBOOK HS	3,282.49	0.00	50.00	0.00	3,332.49

Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances

02/2025 - 02/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 02/2025; Processing Month 02/2025; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

Fund: 05 ACTIVITY FUND

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704 1151	CROSS COUNTRY TEAM	1,975.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,975.43
05 704 1161	SOFTBALL TEAM	5,430.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,430.36
05 704 1166	BOYS TRACK TEAM	128.02	0.00	57.50	0.00	185.52
05 704 1167	GIRLS TRACK TEAM	0.00	0.00	57.50	0.00	57.50
05 704 1176	VOLLEYBALL TEAM	5,123.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,123.90
05 704 1186	WRESTLING TEAM	1,668.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,668.67
05 704 1198	SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS	598.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	598.12
05 704 1199	CHANGE BAGS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
05 704 1222	SCIENCE GRANT	3,055.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,055.68
05 704 1224	STUCO MS	12,757.62	745.70	1,559.55	0.00	13,571.47
05 704 1225	COFFEE CART - EL SPED	1,576.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,576.40
05 704 1319	DISNEY MUSICAL	15,203.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,203.93
05 704 1320	PRESCHOOL	11,478.86	192.02	0.00	0.00	11,286.84
05 704 2112	MS CONCESSIONS	2,568.39	975.43	1,167.00	0.00	2,759.96
05 704 2121	MS BBB TEAM	211.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	211.05
05 704 2136	MS FOOTBALL TEAM	368.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	368.47
05 704 2201	ART CLUB MS	153.83	0.00	126.00	0.00	279.83
05 704 2204	ATHLETICS MS	1,807.30	1,530.00	1,935.00	0.00	2,212.30
05 704 2205	UNIFIED SPORTS	1,329.12	124.98	20.00	0.00	1,224.14
05 704 2216	MS DRAMA	96.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	96.47
05 704 2218	MIDDLE SCHOOL	954.71	0.00	18.00	0.00	972.71
05 704 2242	MS YEARBOOK	3,289.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,289.48
05 704 3220	ELEM FIELD TRIP	4,294.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,294.59
05 704 3221	PBIS/FALCOIN	3,678.90	0.00	665.83	0.00	4,344.73
05 704 3222	BATTLE OF THE BOOKS	105.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	105.50
05 704 3318	ELEMENTARY	5,950.44	414.75	0.00	0.00	5,535.69
Fund Total: 05		237,643.00	20,979.44	25,465.03	0.00	242,128.59

Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances

02/2025 - 02/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 02/2025; Processing Month 02/2025; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05, 12

Fund: 12 STUDENT FEES

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
12 704	STUDENT PARTICIPATION FEE	24,603.22	0.00	35.00	0.00	24,638.22
Fund Total: 12		24,603.22	0.00	35.00	0.00	24,638.22

02/27/2025 05:47 PM

MARCH 10, 2025 BOARD BILLS

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
4N6 FANATICS LLC		250.00
APPLE COMPUTER INC		178,394.82
BLAIR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS		75.00
BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES INC		36.25
BSN SPORTS LLC		1,323.43
CINTAS CORP		271.89
CONESTOGA HIGH SCHOOL		84.00
CONTROL TEMP, INC.		302.40
CROUCH RECREATIONAL DESIGN INC		404.00
DAILY RECORD, THE		269.99
DC WEST FOOD SERVICE		59.20
DOUGLAS COUNTY TREASURER		1,290.85
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3		5,696.20
EGAN SUPPLY CO		757.77
ENGINEERED CONTROLS, INC		300.00
FIREGUARD LLC		490.00
FIRST STUDENT		38,026.42
FREMONT ELECTRIC INC		92.06
HOMETOWN LEASING		2,522.27
HUGHES TREE SERVICE		2,857.14
JW PEPPER & SONS		29.98
KIEWIT LUMINARIUM		40.00
MENARDS - ELKHORN		166.38
NEBRASKA RURAL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION		220.00
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD		2,700.00
P & H ELECTRIC INC		50.00
RMD PROMOTIONS LLC		3,600.00
SOFTWARE UNLIMITED, INC.		441.00
STANZEL'S MOW & SNOW LLC		25,438.13
VALLEY ACE HARDWARE		501.31
VALLEY WATERLOO BUSINESS ASSOC		85.00
WINSUPPLY COMMERCIAL CHARGE		232.57
ZONES OF REGULATION, INC, THE		220.00
Fund Number 01		<u>267,228.06</u>

Checking Account ID 6	Fund Number 06 NUTRITION FUND	
CANTEEN REFRESHMENT SERVICES		231.31
CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING		8,919.51
CHESTERMAN CO		515.39
CINTAS CORP		436.41
HILAND DAIRY		3,786.42
ROTELLA'S ITALIAN BAKERY INC		282.22
SYSCO LINCOLN		3,410.23
US FOOD INC		9,098.38
Fund Number 06		<u>26,679.87</u>

03/03/2025 06:13 AM

MID MONTH BILLS - FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
ACKLIE, DEANNA		20.64
ARROW STAGE LINES		1,440.00
BOYS TOWN		6,000.00
CASEY'S BUSINESS MASTERCARD		204.43
CMC NEPTUNE, LLC		2,700.00
COX BUSINESS		191.35
DAVID CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL		91.00
DUNN, LOGAN		18.67
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3		300.00
ELKHORN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION		150.00
GILES, DARBY		80.00
HEARTLAND PEST CONTROL		260.00
JW PEPPER & SONS		31.00
KV CONSTRUCTION INC		1,096.40
LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORE		1,803.72
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO IN		2,914.04
MAGIC WRIGHTER, INC.		236.50
MARKING REFRIGERATION, INC		2,427.50
METHODIST PHYSICIANS CLINIC		0.00
MILLARD WEST HIGH SCHOOL		209.00
MORRISSEY, RICHARD		300.00
NEBRASKA METHODIST COLLEGE		150.00
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT		21,173.70
ON TO COLLEGE		7,295.00
P & H ELECTRIC INC		655.00
PITNEY BOWES BANK, INC PURCHASE POWER		954.80
PRAIRIE MECHANICAL CORP		4,707.00
PREMIER SPORTS OFFICIALS ASSOC		165.00
REMM, KYLIE		80.00
THUNDERBIRDS FORENSICS BOOSTER CLUB		108.00
USBANK		1,764.96
VERIZON		90.12
WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC		15,968.30
ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATION, INC.		2.33
Fund Number 01		<u>73,588.46</u>

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 28-0015,
a/k/a, DOUGLAS COUNTY WEST COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Monday, February 10, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, District #15, in the County of Douglas, in the State of Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on Monday, February 10, 2025 at the Central Office Board Room, 401 South Pine Street, Valley, NE 68064-0378.

Following public notification procedures approved by the Board of Education, February 14, 2011, in adherence to 84-1411, notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting such Notice on the exterior front door of the high school, elementary school, middle school, Valley City Hall, First Nebraska Bank, and Foundation One Bank. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the Board of Education of the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Cole Groteluschen: Present
Kelly Hinrichs: Present
Luke Janke: Present
Jamie Jorgensen: Present
Elizabeth Mayer: Present
Jim Tomanek: Present

Present: 6.

1. Call to Order

The agenda, listing items for consideration by the Board, is on file in the Superintendent's office. Other matters may come before the Board and the Board has the right to modify the agenda before the meeting.

President – “As I call the meeting to order I wish to inform everyone present that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the back wall of the Board Room for your review at any time.”

2. Public Communications and Correspondence

Comments from the audience were accepted at this time.

The Board received communication from the Douglas County Attorney’s office regarding a complaint filed alleging violations of the Open Meetings Act. It was found that there were no substantial violations.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Kelly Hinrichs and a second by Jim Tomanek.

Cole Groteluschen: *Yea*, Kelly Hinrichs: *Yea*, Luke Janke: *Yea*, Jamie Jorgensen: *Yea*, Elizabeth Mayer: *Yea*, Jim Tomanek: *Yea*

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

4. Administrative Reports

4.1. Superintendent's Report

4.2. Financial Report

Board Member Mayer thanked Dr. Marten for the additional information she provided on school achievement data. There was a discussion on how to move forward and work on ways to continue to close the gaps in the achievement data.

5. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Passed with a motion by Jamie Jorgensen and a second by Kelly Hinrichs. Cole Groteluschen: **Yea**, Kelly Hinrichs: **Yea**, Luke Janke: **Yea**, Jamie Jorgensen: **Yea**, Elizabeth Mayer: **Yea**, Jim Tomanek: **Yea**
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.1. Approve Minutes

Regular Meeting Date: 01/13/25

Special Meeting Date:

5.2. Approve Claims for Payment

5.3. Approve Financial Report

5.4. Approve Classified Staff

Amber Woodlee- Custodial Hire

Kara Jennings- Elem Sped Para Hire

Mackenzie Emmons- Preschool Para Exit

6. Old Business

6.1. Committee Updates

Buildings and Grounds:

The committee met on January 13th to discuss facility use agreements and rental as well as upcoming maintenance needs at the sports complex. The committee brought the facility use discussion to the full board under new business in the agenda.

American Civics: No meeting

Negotiations:

The committee needs to schedule an upcoming meeting in February for classified and administrative negotiations.

Finance: No meeting

7. New Business

7.1. Government Students Board Presentation

Senior, Sam Musson, a student of Ms. LaChapelle's High School Government class, presented a concept of a community project to the Board of Education. Ms. LaChapelle's class is in the beginning stages of building a community based "library" on the campus.

7.2. Facility Use Discussion

Considering the investment of many updates to buildings & grounds in the past few years, new spaces being created (such as the Performing Arts Center) and the increased demand of requests for facility use from in and out of district groups, the Buildings & Grounds committee requested a discussion on the current practices of school facility use. The committee began this discussion at their meeting on January 13th.

At this meeting, the administration shared with the committee a review of the current processes, fees, and practices and recommended researching surrounding districts in their processes, fees and practices over the next month. The committee agreed to bring this conversation forward for a whole board discussion on suggested revisions to the current process, fees, and practices for future use.

Some suggestions/concerns brought forward by the board were:

*July 1st target date for updated fees/policies

- *Clause regarding gate revenue
- *Pausing the availability of the new sports complex for 3 to 5 years
- *Security Deposit on the Performing Arts Center
- *Attorney check on wording on facility use form
- *Funds from rentals reinvested in the facility used

Dr. Polonic will update policies and fees on our current facility use form and bring back to the next board meeting for further discussion or to move forward with a vote for approval.

Dr. Polonic also recommended that our Building and Grounds committee meet with the officers of the DC West Youth Organization to update them on the forthcoming changes.

7.3. Approve Annual Technology Purchase

As discussed in the January Board meeting, the recommended technology purchase is for the budgeted annual purchase of our three-year rotation of student and staff technology devices. The administration recommends Board approval of this purchase.

Motion to approve the annual technology purchase as presented in the amount of \$250,070.25 for student and staff devices from Apple Inc. Education Passed with a motion by Jim Tomanek and a second by Kelly Hinrichs.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea
 Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.4. Approve Certificated Staff Resignations

Dalton Tremayne, High School Math Teacher, has resigned effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Danell Brown, Elementary Part-Time High Ability Learner Teacher, has resigned effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Motion to approve the resignations of Dalton Tremayne and Danelle Brown effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year Passed with a motion by Kelly Hinrichs and a second by Jamie Jorgensen.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea
 Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 7:56 Passed with a motion by Luke Janke and a second by Jamie Jorgensen.

Cole Groteluschen: Yea, Kelly Hinrichs: Yea, Luke Janke: Yea, Jamie Jorgensen: Yea, Elizabeth Mayer: Yea, Jim Tomanek: Yea
 Yea: 6, Nay: 0



 Kristi Trost, Board Secretary



 Dr. Melissa Polonic, Superintendent

**DC West Community Schools
Continuous Improvement Visit
March 27-28, 2025**

Thursday, March 27, 2025			
Time	Event	Location	Stakeholders
2:30 - 3:15	External Team Arrives Review of Process	District Office: Board Room	External Team District Administrators
3:15 - 3:45	Parent Interview	District Office: Board Room	Beth Ericson Danielle Beerbohm Mitch Kubicek Parents
3:15-3:45	Classified Staff Interview	Performing Arts Center	Jen Carson Cameron Soester Sean Molloy Classified Staff
4:00 - 5:00	District Continuous Improvement Presentation	Performing Arts Center	External Team Administrative Team Board Members
5:00 - 5:30	Dinner	District Office Foyer	External Team Administrative Team Board Members
5:30 - 5:45	Board Interview	District Office: Board Room	External Team Board Members
6:00 - 7:30	Planning Time	District Office: Board Room	External Team

**DC West Community Schools
Continuous Improvement Visit
March 27-28, 2025**

Friday, March 28			
Time	Event	Location	Stakeholders
7:45-8:00	External Team Arrives	District Office: Board Room	External Team Principals
7:45-8:00	Breakfast: Donuts	District Office: Board Room	External Team Principals
8:15-9:15	School Continuous Improvement Presentation	Elementary Conference Room Middle School Conference Room High School EL Room	Elementary: Danielle Beerbohm & Beth Ericson Middle School: Jen Carson & Mitch Kubicek High School: Cameron Soester & Sean Molloy Principals School Leadership Team
9:15-10:00	School Tour and Classroom Visits	School	Elementary: Danielle Beerbohm & Beth Ericson Middle School: Jen Carson & Mitch Kubicek High School: Cameron Soester & Sean Molloy Principals
10:00-10:20	Student Interviews	Elementary Conference Room Middle School Conference Room High School EL Room	Elementary: Danielle Beerbohm & Beth Ericson Middle School: Jen Carson & Mitch Kubicek High School: Cameron Soester & Sean Molloy Students
10:20-10:40	Principal Follow-Up	Elementary Conference Room Middle School Conference Room High School EL Room	Elementary: Danielle Beerbohm & Beth Ericson Middle School: Jen Carson & Mitch Kubicek High School: Cameron Soester & Sean Molloy Principals
10:40-10:45	Travel to the District Office		External Team Principals
10:45-11:30	External Team Debrief	District Office: Board Room	External Team
11:30-12:00	Lunch	District Office: Board Room	External Team Administrative Team
12:00-2:00	Work Time	District Office: Board Room	External Team
2:00-2:45	External Team Presentation	District Office: Board Room	External Team Administrative Team
2:45	Final Exit Report	Performing Arts Center	External Team Administrative Team Board Members All Staff



DC WEST Community Schools

Engage, Prepare, and Empower

DC West Board of Education,

I am pleased to inform you that on March 27-28, a team of school administrators from districts across the state will visit DC West as part of the state's accreditation process. This visit presents a valuable opportunity to highlight the outstanding work happening in our schools and to receive meaningful feedback that will support our continuous improvement efforts.

During their time here, the accreditation team will review our District Strategic Plan, tour our facilities, meet with various stakeholder groups, and engage in discussions about our district's strengths and areas for growth. Their insights will help us celebrate our successes and refine our practices to best serve our students.

Attached, you will find the schedule for both days. On behalf of the Administrative Team, we invite you to be an integral part of this process by participating in the following events.

Thursday, March 27			
Time	Event	Location	Stakeholders
4:00-5:00	District Continuous Improvement Presentation	Performing Arts Center	External Team Administrative Team Board Members
5:00-5:30	Dinner	District Office Foyer	External Team Administrative Team Board Members
5:30-5:45	Board Interview	Board Room	External Team Board Members
Friday, March 28			
Time	Event	Location	Stakeholders
2:45-3:45	Final Exit Report Presentation: Commendations & Recommendations	Performing Arts Center	External Team Administrative Team Board Members All Staff

Thank you for your commitment to our students. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

In Partnership,
Dr. Dawn Marten
Director of Learning



Facilities Use Form

REQUEST FOR USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Once form is submitted you will be contacted by the District Office for notification of approval or denial of request.

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the DC West Community Schools (hereinafter "the District") and the following organization and/or individual (hereinafter "the User"):

Name *

Organization/Individual

Contact Name

*If Organization

E-mail *

example@example.com

Cell Phone Number *

Area Code Phone Number

Other Phone Number *

Area Code Phone Number

Address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

WHEREAS the User desires to use the following facilities and/or equipment of the District on the date(s) and time(s) and for the purpose(s) noted below:

School Building *

- DC West High School
- DC West Middle School
- DC West Elementary School
- District

Area(s) of Use: *

Date(s) of Use: *

Time(s): *

Submit in 3 hour increments

Purpose of Use: *

Equipment Requested:

Special Requests:

All fees are for the first three hours of use. Additional fees are charged for each extra hour calculated at the fractional rate of the three-hour fee.

	3 hour increments DCW Qualifying Roster	3 hour increments All other Use
Elementary Gym	\$50.00	\$100.00
Competition Gym/North Gym	\$75.00	\$150.00
South Gym	\$25.00	\$50.00
Cafeteria/Multipurpose	\$45.00	\$90.00
Campus Stadium	\$300.00	\$600.00
Classroom	\$30.00	\$60.00
Performing Arts Center	\$200.00	\$400.00
Baseball/Softball Fields	\$50.00	\$100.00
Practice Field	\$25.00	\$50.00
Wrestling Room	\$25.00	\$50.00

Athletic Fields other than Stadiums * Determined on a field-by-field basis

***50% deposit required prior to use**

Facility Rental Fee:

*Office Use Only

Additional Staff Charge:

*Office Use Only

Equipment Charge:

*Office Use Only

Other Charges:

*Office Use Only

Total Fees & Charges

*Office Use Only

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed by and between the parties as follows:

1. That the District will permit the User to use the facilities and/or equipment on the date(s) and time(s) and for the purposes noted above;
2. That the User will pay the District the charges noted above;
3. That this request permits the use of only the area(s) and/or equipment noted, and, that if User uses any areas or equipment not noted above, the User agrees to pay the applicable rate for such use(s) plus an additional twenty-five percent (25%);
4. That the User agrees (a) to comply with all District policies, rules, and regulations that govern use of facilities; (b) to be financially responsible for any damages incurred to facilities, grounds, or equipment during the period of such use; (c) to have the Superintendent of Schools as the final determiner as to whether repair or replacement is the appropriate remedy for any damages; (d) to be wholly responsible for the supervision and control of all persons and activities during such use; and (e) to defend, protect, indemnify, and hold the District harmless for any and all claims, suits, actions, damages, judgments, or causes of action arising out of or in any way related to such use.
5. That, unless waived in writing by the District, the User agrees to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). In addition, the user holds the DC West Community Schools harmless and agrees to indemnify against all injuries to participants and spectators.
6. That this request may be cancelled for any of the following reasons: (a) failure of the User to pay applicable fees or charges for this use or any prior use; (b) failure of the User to reimburse the District for damages incurred during this use or any prior use; (c) evidence satisfactory to the District that User's use of the facility would violate a District policy, rule, or regulation or would be illegal; (d) any violation of the terms and conditions of this request; (e) any change in the school activities that presents a conflict with the use; (f) any snow or ice accumulations that would require additional removal costs for the District; (g) failure of the User to maintain required liability insurance or failure to keep a current Certificate of Liability Insurance on file for the date(s) of use; or (h) any other event or circumstance which, in the opinion of the administration, necessitates cancellation of the use.
7. That in the event this request is cancelled, the District shall not be responsible for any damages (including consequential damages) incurred by the User as a result of such cancellation.
8. That the rental fee shall be used to compensate the District for expenses incurred in providing building access and for other normal overhead expenses, such as heating, air conditioning, lighting, and general maintenance services; and, that such charge does include the assignment of a custodian on duty during the time of use.
9. That the User shall be responsible for providing labor related to setup, cleanup (except mopping, vacuuming, and emptying trash), and conducting of the use unless this request expressly states otherwise under "Special Requests" above;
10. That in situations where no advanced cancellation notice has been received by the District and the User does not appear at the scheduled time, the custodian(s) assigned to such use shall remain available at the facility for one hour before securing the building, and, that a fee may be assessed to the User for such time;
11. When kitchen facilities are requested, a kitchen staff member must be present and overtime wages for the kitchen staff person may be requested at the discretion of the Superintendent.
12. That in the event of significant snowfall (or ice accumulation) prior to a use of District facilities, the District's superintendent or his designee shall make a determination as to whether or not snow (or ice) removal is required, and, if such is required (and if such removal is not necessary for other school-related activities) the scheduled use shall be canceled, or, if mutually agreed to by the User, the snow (or ice) will be removed by District personnel and an additional charge for such will be assessed to the User.
13. That all snow (or ice) removal on school District property must be made by school District personnel or by properly insured independent contractors approved by and working for the District, and that the User will not be permitted to engage in snow (or ice) removal activities nor will the User be permitted to hold activities on school District property without proper snow (or ice) removal;
- 14.

If, on a school day, school is canceled due to inclement weather, activities for that evening will also be canceled at the discretion of the Superintendent.

15. That the User will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that vehicles parking on school grounds as part of this use shall be properly parked, and, that vehicles that are improperly parked shall be subject to towing from school grounds at the owner's expense, and that improper parking shall include, but not be limited to, parking in driveways or throughways, parking over painted stall lines, parking on sidewalks, and parking on grassed areas.
16. That the User will not permit nor acquiesce to any use of tobacco, alcohol, or controlled substances in school buildings or on school grounds.
17. That the User will be responsible for picking up a key prior to use and returning the key on the next school day following use when necessary.
18. That the User will provide a roster of all members of an athletic team using the facilities. A team roster with more than 50% DC West students/residents may use the facility at 50% cost, at the discretion of the Superintendent or his designee. A team roster with less than 50% of DC West residents/students will be charged in full. Such determination will be made by the Superintendent or his designee.
19. At the discretion of the Superintendent, rental fees may be waived as a part of an agreement with a local organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties set their hands on the date(s) indicated below:

Single Selection

Approved

Not Approved

Date

Month Day Year

Date

Month Day Year

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the School Board is required by law to adopt by resolution policies and specific standards for acceptance or rejection of option enrollment applications by October 15th for the following school year; and,

WHEREAS, the School Board has received and reviewed evidence and information submitted by the administration and other sources and made determinations thereon with respect to standards for acceptance or rejection and with respect to the capacity of this school district to accept option enrollment students based upon available staff, available facilities, projected enrollment, and availability of special education programs for the following school year; and,

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that the educational interests of this school district would be best served by adoption of the resolutions, and the policies and specific standards herein contained.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Option Enrollment Policy presented to the School Board as Policy 5006, and Appendix "1" to such Policy 5006, should be and the same are hereby adopted, and any previous policy or interpretation or application of the option enrollment program which is or has been inconsistent with the Policy 5006, and Appendix "1" to such Policy 5006, are repealed effective on the date of the passage of this resolution,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all paragraphs, subparagraphs, and portions of words of this Resolution, of Policy 5006, and Appendix "1" to such Policy 5006 are severable and that in the event any of the same are determined to be invalid for any reason, such determination shall not affect the validity of any of the remainder of the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that policies and specific standards for acceptance or rejection of option enrollment applications should be and are hereby adopted, for applications filed after adoption of this resolution, and are hereinafter set forth:

The above Resolution, having been read in its entirety, member _____ moved for its passage and adoption, member _____ seconded the same. After discussion and on roll call vote, the following members voted in favor of passage and adoption of the above Resolution: _____.
The following members voted against the same: _____.
The following members were absent or not voting: _____.
The Resolution having been consented to and approved by a majority of the members of the School Board, was declared as passed and adopted by the President at a duly held and lawfully convened meeting in full compliance with the Nebraska open meetings law.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 20__.

DC West Community Schools

By: _____
President

Attest: _____
Secretary

**Appendix “1” to Option Enrollment Policy
March 10, 2025**

The following is Appendix “1” to Policy 5006 for the current school year. The Board of Education hereby sets forth the maximum number of option students for the current school year in any program, class, grade level or school building or in any special education programs operated by this school district, based upon available staff, facilities, projected enrollment of resident students, projected number of students with which this school district will contract based on existing contractual arrangements, and availability of appropriate special education programs. Any program, class, grade level, or school building which has “0” as the No. of Option Students is hereby declared unavailable to option students due to lack of capacity.

PROGRAM	IDEAL PROGRAM CAPACITY	PROJECTED ENROLLMENT 2025	NO. OF OPENINGS FOR OPTION STUDENTS
Kindergarten	80	68	12
First	80	60	20
Second	80	85	0
Third	80	60	20
Fourth	66	60	6
Fifth	88	93	0
Building Capacity, Elementary	474	426	58
Sixth	88	79	9
Seventh	88	90	0
Eighth	88	81	7
Building Capacity, Middle School	264	250	16
Ninth	95	62	33
Tenth	95	92	3
Eleventh	95	82	13
Twelfth	95	67	28
Building Capacity, High School	380	303	77
District Capacity	1118	979	151

* Special education capacity will be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with state law and the available resources as determined by the District’s Director of Special Education or designee.

DC West Administration,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that I am resigning from my teaching position for family reasons effective at the end of the 2024/2025 school year.

I have worked with DC West for 7 years and in that time I have been able to learn from multiple leaders and spend my time with amazing teachers, other staff members, and students. I want to thank the leadership team and the school board for allowing me to work for such a great district. Thank you for allowing me to temporarily fill the special education position at the high school. I hope to continue to be involved in other areas of DC West.. I hope that if things change for me in the future, I can return to teaching and once again be part of the Falcon Family.

Thank you again for allowing me to start my career at DC West and I look forward to seeing all the amazing work that the teachers will continue to do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mekenna Haahr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mekenna Haahr

February 25, 2025

Dr. Melissa Polonic,

I have decided to retire at the end of this (2024-2025) school year. I hit my rule of 85 over the summer and feel like it is the perfect time to bow out! I have given it a lot of thought this entire school year, so far, vacillating back and forth about what I want to do. I will have my 4th grandchild born in March. My son and his family live in Omaha so I get to see them quite often, but my daughter and her family live in Raleigh, North Carolina so those trips have to be planned around my school schedule. I really want to spend more time with all of them than I have been able to.

When I first started teaching, I was at Waterloo Public Schools for 12 years, I stayed home with my own children for 9 years and have now been at DC West for 16 years. I didn't think I would stay so long, but a lot of the families that are at DC West were also part of my Waterloo family and it becomes very hard to get away. I love this school and this community and am very proud of the science that we have here! I have really enjoyed each group of kids that I have taught, but this current one really seems to be my favorite! I have felt like it is another factor that points that it is time to move on to the next phase of my life.

Also, the science department is choosing new books next year and I feel like the person who implements those books should be involved in the choosing. Everything seems to point to this being a great time to end my teaching career here!

Thanks for letting me be part of this amazing school district and the DC West family!

LeAnn Siekman