

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Monday, December 15, 2025 7:00 PM  
Central Office Board Room  
401 South Pine Street  
Valley, NE 68064-0378

1. <b>Call to Order</b>	
2. <b>Public Communications and Correspondence</b>	<b>3</b>
3. <b>Approval of Agenda</b>	
4. <b>Administrative Reports</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1. Superintendent's Report	33
4.2. Financial Report	35
5. <b>Consent Agenda</b>	
5.1. Approve Minutes	42
5.2. Approve Claims for Payment	
5.3. Approve Financial Report	
5.4. Approve Classified Staff	
6. <b>Old Business</b>	
6.1. Committee Updates	
6.2. Final Budget DC West Athletic Complex	45
7. <b>New Business</b>	
7.1. Master Planning Presentation by Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture	
7.2. 2025 Audit Review from BerganKDV	
7.3. Approve and Award Air Handling Unit Contract	46
7.4. DC West 2025 Achievement and AQuESTT Results	48

7.5. Approve the 2026-27 & 2027-28 School District Calendars	61
7.6. Approve Replacement Vehicle Purchases	63
7.7. Superintendent 2025 Goals Presentation	65
<b>8. Executive Session</b>	
8.1. Reconvene to Regular Session	
<b>9. Adjournment</b>	

## 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](mailto: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**

### December 2025 Director of Student Services Board Report

Hello! It's hard to believe that it's December, and we're already wrapping up the first semester. I wanted to include some excerpts from our monthly special education staff newsletter in this month's Board report. Enjoy!



### Staff Members of the Month

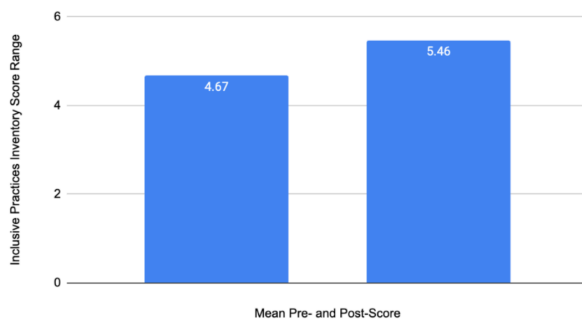
They're neighbors, besties, and they even kind of look alike. 😊 This month's staff members of the month are Megan Nolasco, Elementary Resource/Behavior Skills, and Cassie Seckel, Elementary Life Skills.

Cassie and Megan provide amazing instruction and support to some of our elementary students with significant or complicated needs. They serve with loving compassion, hold the bar high for students, collaborate, and support each other and their team. We are lucky to have both of them on our staff, and our students are so fortunate to have them as teachers. Thanks for all you do, Megan and Cassie!



### All Things Inclusive Practices

IPA Inclusive Practices Inventory Mean Pre- and Post- Scores



#### ***Inclusive Practices Academy Teacher Data***

I wanted to share a little data about the Inclusive Practices Academy with you. Last year, 12 DC West teachers participated in the year-long Inclusive Practices Academy training. After completing the training series, we found meaningful improvement in teachers' understanding and use of inclusive practices. Teachers moved from "Agreeing" to most statements about inclusion to "Strongly Agreeing" with the statements after completing training. And these improvements translated into substantial improvement in student achievement...more on that next month!

#### ***Five Moore Minutes: Backwards Design: A Great Way to Move Forward***

Click on the video to the right to listen to Shelley's tips on how design curriculum to be more responsive to students' needs.

#### Inclusive Leaders Fellowship

As a part of Nebraska's Journey to Inclusion, the NDE's Office of Special Education, in partnership with SPED Strategies, will offer a year-long Fellowship for new and emerging leaders to develop skills in inclusive practices.

<b>Professional Learning</b>	<b>Coaching</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
Join a year-long professional learning sequence covering topics to support authentic compliance.	Attend quarterly coaching meetings and school visits to apply what you are learning to your own context.	Complete a capstone project to set a strategic plan for implementing inclusive practices in your community.

Applications open in December 2025!  
 Email [ndeinclusiveleaders@gmail.com](mailto:ndeinclusiveleaders@gmail.com) for more information.

#### ***Inclusive Leaders Fellowship***

Interested in training about how to be an inclusive leader in your school? Talk to Nicki to find out more about NDE's Inclusive Leaders Fellowship for next year.



SLD Eligibility: DC West Decision-Making Tool						
<small>This tool is intended for use by school teams to organize student referral data and other relevant information in alignment with NDE's Eligibility Guidelines.</small>						
<b>CRITERION 1:</b> Failure to meet age- or grade-level state standards in one or eight areas when provided appropriate instruction and learning experiences ( oral Expression, Learning Comprehension, Written Expression, Basic Reading Skills, Reading Fluency Skills, Reading Comprehension, Mathematics Calculation, Operations Problem Solving). <small>14 items referenced measure MACE to be used in addition to the data sources listed below.</small>						
DATA SOURCES	MEASURES	STUDENT'S SCORES	DATES GIVEN	TARGET GRADE LEVEL/ STANDARD SCORE/ EXPECTED PROFICIENCY	BELOW TARGET	SIGNIFICANT DISCREPANCY (PERCENT)
Income assessment data (LOCAL ACT SLD area)02				On Target: 20-Track or Above/90% Below Target: 20-Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
enchmark data (Grade level assessment) SLD area)03				On Target: Assessment scores equal to, or above, 20-Track and 20-Track/90% Below Target: Assessment scores significantly discrepant (20-Track)	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Re-evaluation screening data (SLD area)04				Target: 1. 20-Track or Above/90% Below Target: 20-Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Progress monitoring data (SLD area)05				Target: 1. 20-Track or Above/90% Below Target: 20-Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Significant assessment (SLD area)06				Target: 1. 20-Track or Above/90% Below Target: 20-Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Standardized norm referenced assessment (SLD area)07				On Target: 20-Track or Above/90% Below Target: 20-Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Has a pattern of low skills been established?					<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
Has a pattern of insufficient progress been established?					<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
<b>CRITERION 2:</b> Lack of progress in response to scientific, research-based intervention						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence-based interventions matched to needs of need (e.g., <a href="#">Response Comprehension Tools WCCU</a>, <a href="#">Data-Driven Decisions</a>)</li> <li>Student demonstrates either:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A lack of response to instruction and intervention, or</li> <li>Response rate that is insufficient to reduce their risk of not meeting age- or grade-level state standards after an appropriate period of time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>						
Parent Participation:	Date parents notified of screening data:	Date parents notified of progress monitoring data:				
Evidence-based interventions which align to the academic areas of concern (those identified) indicates an increase in frequency and/or duration and/or decrease in group size:	Intervention(s) delivered:	Skill Addressed:	Frequency (e.g., 3 days/week, 6 weeks):	Duration (e.g., 20 mins):	Group Size:	
Decision Rules are established and implemented and sound decisions were made using student data:	Decision rules used: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	At least 1 phase change occurred within an intervention or a change to a different intervention, with sufficient time given to be able to demonstrate student response: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N				
Implementation with fidelity:	Staff were trained in intervention and provided materials: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Intervention was delivered on at least 90% of planned days: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Student participated in at least 90% of intervention sessions: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Intervention was observed to be implemented with fidelity for >80% of the intervention components: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N		
Progress Monitoring:						
Established baseline/goal:	List established baseline:				List an established SMART goal:	
ELEMENT:	SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE (For Re-evaluations; SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT DATA)					

## MDTs for Specific Learning Disability

Kristen Phillips and Reagan Rosenberg put a lot of time and effort into developing the DC West Decision-Making Tool for SLD Eligibility. This tool walks the MDT team through the Rule 51 criteria for determining if a student is eligible to receive special education services as a student with a specific learning disability without using a 20-point ability-achievement discrepancy. Bonus: It appears to meet all the requirements the our monitoring team will be focusing on when NDE reviews our files this year! Thanks to Kristen and Reagan for their work on this and start looking for this in your students' MDT evaluation reports!

## Upcoming Events

- 12/5: Elementary SPED Department Meeting @ 8:00 (Please have re-ranking completed for your students)
- 12/8: Middle School SPED Department Meeting @ 3:30 in MS Conference Room ((Please have re-ranking completed for your students)
- 12/12: Elementary SPED Department Meeting @ 8:00
- 12/16: Unified Basketball Game vs. Omaha Bryan @ 1:00
- 12/19: Elementary SPED Department Meeting @ 8:00

*Enjoy your holiday break!*

SEE YOU IN 2026!

Respectfully submitted,  
 Nicki Pechous  
 Director of Student Services



December 2025, Board of Education Report  
Dr. Dawn Marten, Director of Learning

## CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

### DC West College and Career Readiness Skills

DC West staff has identified specific skills that are essential for students' success in both current learning and future academic and workplace settings, referred to as College and Career Readiness Skills. DC West Elementary School is in full implementation of these skills, which are now reported on the elementary report card. DC West Middle School and High School will implement a small-scale pilot during the second semester in which students will engage in self-reflection and recognition of these skills with each of their classroom teachers. Staff and student feedback from this pilot will be collected and used to inform full implementation in the 2026–2027 school year.

Commitment to Learning	Personal Management	Relationship Skills
Actively participates	Follows expectations	Demonstrates effective communication skills
Seeks help and ask questions	Makes good choices	Collaborates effectively
Focuses on tasks	Accepts feedback and consequences	Promotes a culture of respect and understanding
Completes quality work on time	Solves problems productively	Resolves conflict constructively
Uses technology appropriately	Manages emotions	Respects differing viewpoints

### ELA Curriculum Framework

DC West is partnering with ESU 3 to lead a comprehensive English Language Arts curriculum and literacy initiative aligned with Nebraska's updated statutes, the Nebraska Literacy Plan, and the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) goals. This work is centered on implementing a guaranteed and viable curriculum, strengthening evidence-based reading instruction, and supporting the district's strategic plan to ensure rigorous, well-aligned curriculum in all subject areas.

#### State and Nebraska Literacy Alignment

Recent updates to Nebraska statutes require districts to use evidence-based reading instruction, report dyslexia-related data, and participate in a statewide professional learning system for teachers of children ages four through grade three. The Nebraska Literacy Plan and CLSD project set ambitious proficiency targets, including 75% NSCAS ELA proficiency by grade 3 by 2030, and outline tenets focused on professional learning, aligned curriculum and preparation, regional literacy coaches, data collection, and family literacy.

#### DC West Strategic Plan Literacy Alignment

This work directly advances DC West Strategic Plan Strategy 1.2 to implement quality, rigorous curriculum aligned to the DC West Instructional Framework, including ensuring

scope and sequence in all curricula and aligning curriculum guides with formative and summative assessments. District professional learning priorities for 2025–2026 include instructional excellence and comprehensive literacy curriculum maps. Teachers are engaging in a structured Curriculum Toolbox process to analyze standards, construct unit planning organizers and pacing, and deepen understanding of a guaranteed and viable curriculum, which will be incorporated into a comprehensive Curriculum Framework. District professional learning priorities for 2026–2027 will include the continued work on literacy curriculum maps, in addition to Science of Reading and literacy professional learning.

### **Professional Learning and CLSD Supports**

Through the ESU 3 CLSD consortium, DC West benefits from support in four key areas: data-informed decision-making and monitoring, Science of Reading professional learning, literacy implementation and application, and leadership growth and support. Planned Science of Reading training will span from early childhood through secondary ELA classrooms.

## **ASSESSMENT**

### **2025 AQUEST Ratings**

For 2025, DC West Community Schools earned an overall AQuESTT classification of Great, reflecting strong district-level performance in academic proficiency & participation, graduation rate, and student discipline indicators. At the building level, both DC West Elementary and DC West High School received a Great rating.

Special recognition is extended to DC West Middle School staff, students, and families for achieving the highest classification of Excellent for the first time since state AQuESTT designations began in 2015–16, a historic milestone for the building. This distinction highlights their sustained commitment to rigorous instruction, meaningful relationships, and a positive learning culture that supports high levels of academic performance and student engagement.

### **ACT Goal Setting Program**

For the 2025–2026 school year, DC West High School will implement a structured ACT Goal Setting Program for all juniors. Each student will set an individual ACT goal for their English, Math, and Science subscores in collaboration with their English, Math, and Science teachers. These goals will be developed during one-on-one goal-setting conferences held in January, during which each student will complete an ACT Goal Sheet. The sheet will include the student's 9th-grade PreACT subscores, 10th-grade PreACT subscores, and practice ACT composite score to support data-informed goal setting.

To ensure meaningful goal-setting conferences, class coverage will be provided for teachers to meet individually with juniors. The goal-setting conferences will focus on reviewing prior performance, setting realistic growth targets, and identifying specific strategies students can use to improve each subscore. This approach is intended to make ACT preparation explicit, personalized, and connected to classroom instruction.

A student celebration will be held in May for all juniors, with participation expected for every student. The event is designed to recognize students' efforts toward their ACT goals and to foster a positive, goal-focused culture around the ACT, reinforcing that every student can grow their scores through intentional effort and support. Specific details of the celebration will be kept a surprise to help build excitement and motivation.

The ACT will be administered on April 1, 2026. This year marks the first year of administration of in an online format. District and building teams are preparing students and staff for the transition through digital readiness activities, practice sessions, and technology checks to ensure a smooth and successful testing experience.

### **Reach Schools: ACT Prep App**

All juniors will have access to *Reach Schools*, an ACT preparation application, as part of the district's ongoing efforts to support student success. This tool will provide students with targeted practice, instructional resources, and test-taking strategies aligned to the ACT. Providing universal access ensures that every junior has additional support to prepare for the assessment and to work toward their individual ACT goals.

### **NAEP: National Assessment of Educational Progress**

Students in grade 8 have been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in Reading and Math on January 27, 2026. NAEP is a nationally representative assessment of what students in the United States know and can do in core subject areas. It is mandated by Congress and has been administered since 1969 to measure student achievement at the national level, with results reported as the Nation's Report Card. Individual student and school results are not provided to school districts.

## **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

### **New Teacher Induction Program**

Following the New Teacher Induction Orientation in August, the district's induction program has shifted into ongoing, job-embedded support for new teachers throughout the school year. Newly hired teachers have been paired with mentors and participate in regular, purposeful conversations focused on instructional practice, classroom management, and understanding district expectations. These conversations are designed to move beyond initial onboarding and promote meaningful growth in day-to-day teaching.

In addition to mentor support, new teachers also receive ongoing guidance from Mrs. Kelsey Nabity, DC West Induction Program Coordinator. Novice teachers meet quarterly to deepen their understanding of district-wide expectations and engage in continued professional learning centered on instructional best practices. Veteran teachers new to the district will begin engaging in professional learning conversations in January using *What Great Teachers Do Differently* by Todd Whitaker, providing an opportunity to reflect on effective practices and align with district instructional goals.

### **District Continuous Improvement Team**

The District Continuous Improvement Team met on November 10 with the objective to clarify district improvement goals, examine baseline NSCAS and other achievement data, and begin setting 2025–2026 targets aligned to the district's 2030 proficiency goals in ELA. The school teams were engaged in structured root cause analysis of literacy and achievement gaps, then mapped identified causes to current and planned strategies, including the ELA curriculum framework, instructional look-fors, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, the Nebraska Literacy Project (CLSD) work, and the Inclusive Practices Academy. The teams also discussed data sources (NSCAS, ACT, MAP, FastBridge) to monitor progress toward the established goals.

### **NAEYC Conference**

I had the esteemed privilege of presenting at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida alongside leaders from the Buffett Institute and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The presentation highlighted the collaborative leadership efforts surrounding the district's participation in the Superintendent's Early Childhood Plan. Representing the dedicated work of DC West staff, families, and students was a true honor!



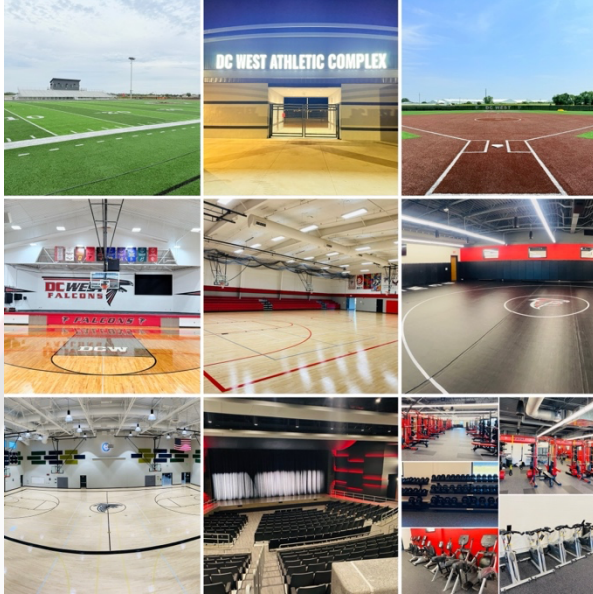
### **Learning Forward Conference**

Mr. Alan Sarka, Elementary Principal, Mrs. Kelsey Nabity, Instructional Coach/Elementary HAL Teacher, and myself attended the Learning Forward Annual Conference, a nationally recognized professional learning event. This opportunity was funded through the Superintendent's Early Childhood Plan and directly aligned to our elementary continuous improvement goals of leadership effectiveness, instructional excellence, and family and community partnership. Sessions I attended focused on:

- Enhancing educational leadership capabilities
- Exploring the use of artificial intelligence to improve school system effectiveness and efficiency
- Designing a comprehensive instructional coaching program that will support high-quality teaching and learning
- Note from Ms. Kelsey Nabity: I am honored to have attended the Learning Forward Conference, where I participated in sessions on integrating coaching into our new teacher induction program, fostering teacher teams that drive student achievement, and cultivating a 'coaching up' mindset that encourages all of us to learn from one another.

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

On November 5, DC West hosted a community engagement event featuring a guest speaker from Smart Gen Society, where families left feeling more confident and empowered to navigate the digital world together. The presentation provided practical strategies and valuable insights to help parents establish healthy boundaries and foster strong digital habits at home, including understanding the developmental, emotional, and psychological impacts of online interactions on children and teens; using age-appropriate approaches to regulating screen time, gaming, and device use; and gaining an in-depth look at trending apps, platforms, and social media risks. Families also learned how to create and implement a Family Digital Plan and how to build open, ongoing communication with their children to promote safer, more balanced technology use.



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

Winter Athletics and Activities are underway here at DC West for both the high school and middle school. We seem to have very good participation and involvement from our students, which is fantastic. The coaches, players, and teams have been putting in the work and it is my hope that it leads to some positive results for them throughout their season. It takes a lot of staff and workers to run and host events and I appreciate everyone's efforts to help create opportunities for our students, coaches, and programs here at DC West.

I want to give a big shout out to our Falcon Pride Booster Club on purchasing and providing Game Day Warm-up Gear for our High School Girls Basketball Team, High School Boys Basketball Team, and our High School Wrestling Team. They will check them in and out just like they do for uniforms but they look great and it really helps unify their programs.

Winter Athletic and Activities are underway!



HS Wrestling



The Wrestling Team is off to a great start to the season placing five individuals at the York Tournament. Hudson Harlow (2<sup>nd</sup>), Hunter Holding (2<sup>nd</sup>), Brayton Holding (3<sup>rd</sup>), Josue Lopez (4<sup>th</sup>), and Vinny White (5<sup>th</sup>). The team is coached by Ryan Braun, Cole Hothan, JD Gagner, Jake Marshall, Pat Wilson, and Charlie Wood.

### HS Girls Basketball



The Varsity Team is off to an (0-1) start to the season with a competitive loss at Gretna. The team is coached by Russ Ninemire, Stan Shaw, and Noah Buchholtz.

### HS Boys Basketball



The Varsity Team is off to a 1-0 start on the season with a 44-23 victory at Gretna. The Team is coached by Chip Daehling, Ben Knobbe, Eric Hanke, Cam Wiese, Vance Janssen, and Alex Knobbe.

### HS One Act Play Production



NCC Runner-Ups with Shrek the Musical. The students and team had a fantastic season. They are directed by Sherry Dill and Jared Weimer.

### HS Band Winter Concert



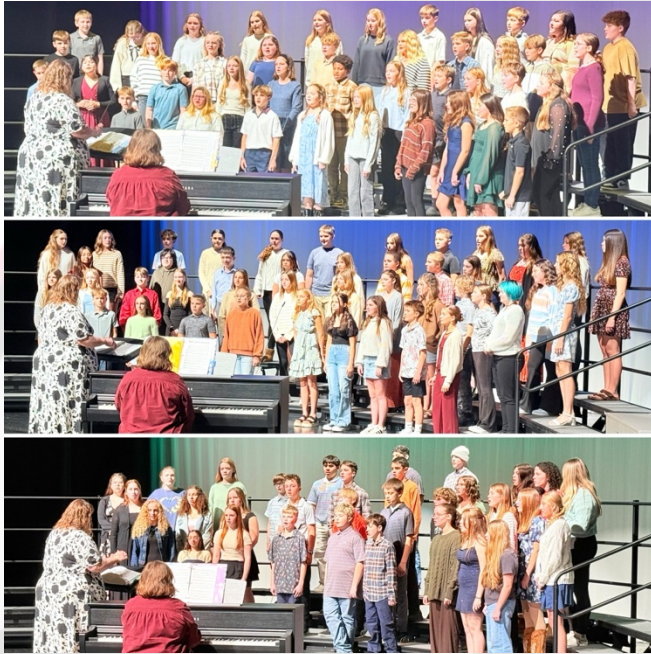
### HS Choir Winter Concert



### MS Band Winter Concert



## MS Choir Winter Concert



## SALT



### MS Boys Basketball



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

- Go to [www.dccwest.org](http://www.dccwest.org)
- Click on the Activities Calendar
- Click on View Schedules
- Select Team
- Click View

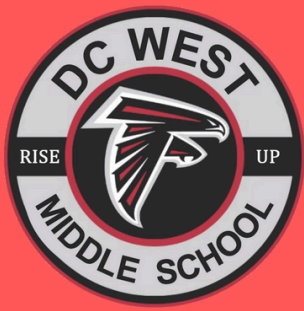
There are a lot of moving parts in athletics and activities but everyone is working together towards the same common goal. I want to Thank everyone that has helped work at an event, supported our school and programs, and that have cheered on our Falcons. We are Better Together and I'm a really proud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

Mr. Travis

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

**DC WEST Community Schools**  
Engage, Prepare, and Empower

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Valley, NE 68064  
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@DCWestFalcons



# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

**2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns**

Dear Board Members,

I am writing sharing preliminary update on essential planning efforts underway in anticipation of a significant increase in middle school enrollment for the upcoming academic year.

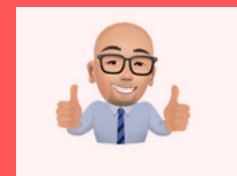
Mr. Hansen and I are actively engaged in reviewing and constructing additional adjustments to the middle school schedule to effectively accommodate the larger numbers of students expected. Our primary goal is to ensure that all students continue to receive a high-quality educational experience with the population increase.

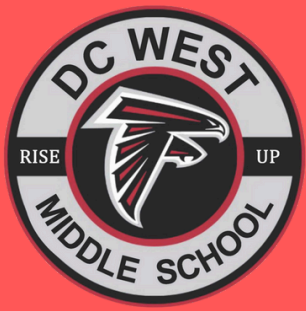
Our current focus is centered on two main strategic areas to enhance both capacity and educational offerings:

- **Optimized Utilization of the Performing Arts Center (PAC):** We are beginning to explore how we can better utilize the PAC center beyond its current uses. This includes investigating the feasibility of scheduling classes in this space to alleviate potential overcrowding in standard classrooms and maximize the investment we have made in our facility and its unique capabilities.
- **Expansion of Exploratory Course Offerings:** We are concurrently researching options to offer more exploratory classes to our students. This expansion aims to provide a broader, more diverse curriculum that caters to varied student interests and aids in preparation for high school pathways, ensuring a richer and more engaging middle school experience for the increased student body.

I understand the complexity of these adjustments and I am committed to developing a comprehensive, well-thought-out plan. I will provide a more detailed proposal outlining specific schedule changes and required resources in a subsequent report.

Dr. Jeffrey Kerns





# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

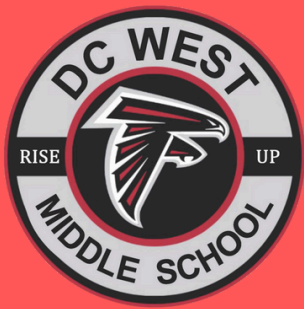
2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

## MS November 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. Lastly, the student of the month demonstrates exemplary character by modeling the Falcon Way expectations.





# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

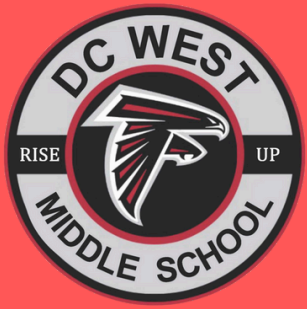


**HUGE Congratulations to the students and staff of DC West Middle School!**

We are incredibly proud to celebrate our **FIRST EVER** “Excellent” School Rating on the state accountability system! This achievement reflects the hard work, dedication, and commitment our students show every day—and the unwavering support, expertise, and heart our staff pour into them.

This is more than a rating... it’s a reflection of a school culture built on relationships, high expectations, and collective effort. Thank you to every teacher, every student, every support staff member, and every family who played a part in this success.

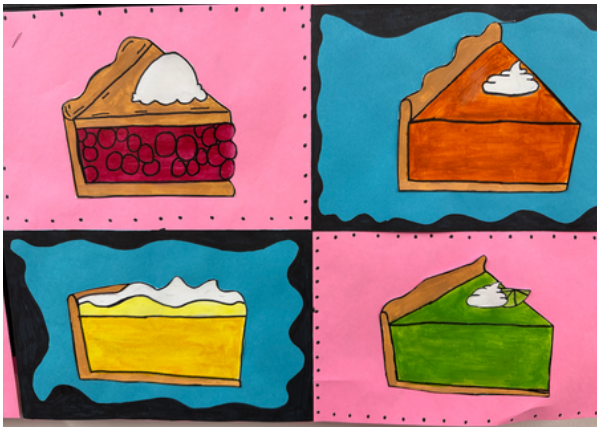
**#RiseUP**

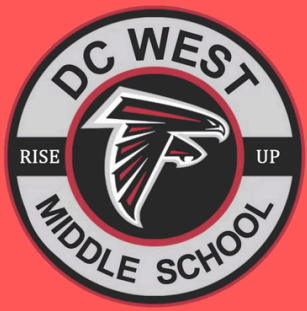


# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

Snapshots from: Art Class



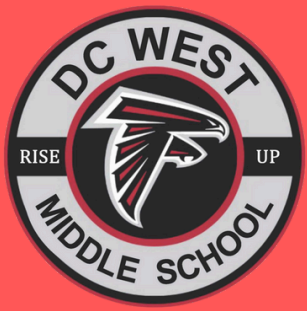


# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

Our Falcons took flight to Lauritzen Gardens! Such a great opportunity to learn, explore, and enjoy the beauty of nature together.





# DC WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025-2026 | From The Desk of Dr. Kerns

November 13<sup>th</sup> our Band and Choir performed to a packed house!



Board Report  
Douglas County West High School

Jim Knott – Principal  
December 15, 2025

With winter break approaching, the end of the first semester will soon be upon us. Final exams/projects will take place for high school students on Thursday and Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Periods will be lengthened to approximately 90 minutes to accommodate longer comprehensive final exams and projects. Periods 1, 3, 5 & 7 will be held on Thursday, December 18, while periods 2, 4, 6, & 8 will be held on Friday, December 19.

John Baylor Test Prep classes will begin on January 22 this year. John and his associates will hold five ACT prep sessions during the school day in January and February to help students prepare for the April 1<sup>st</sup> ACT test. On average, DC West students have improved by two points on the ACT with Test Prep. Baylor Test Prep is free for DC West junior students.

The Valley High School class of 2000 filled a time capsule back in December of 1999 with a sign on the outside that read, "Valley High School Millennium Capsule - Sealed December 22, 1999 - To be opened December, 2025 - Valley Student Council 1999." Although it is hard to believe, it is December 2025 and we have put together a plan to open the time capsule from the class of 2000 as well as pack a new time capsule for the DC West class of 2050. The plan is listed below.

#### **PLAN TO OPEN THE 2025 TIME CAPSULE & PACK A NEW TIME CAPSULE FOR 2050.**

- On Thursday, **December 18 at halftime of the boys basketball game.** The **class of 2000 will be invited back to open the time capsule** (along with our current social studies department and a few current student council members) and display the individual items to the crowd and those watching the online basketball broadcast.
- During the day on **December 18, during Keystone**, our current students will come to the commons area one Keystone at a time to **pack the Time Capsule for the class of 2050**. Mr. Daehling's Sports Media students will record this event and show the video that night on the scoreboards during the halftime time capsule ceremony of the boy's basketball game.

## HOW DO WE ENSURE ALL STUDENTS GET INVOLVED IN PACKING THE 2050 TIME CAPSULE?

- One of the goals of the Social Studies Department is for all students to have an opportunity to participate in packing the 2050 TIME CAPSULE.

\*All Social Studies classes will be participating in activities to brainstorm appropriate items for the 2050 Time Capsule that represent DC West student life as well as wider-reaching, pop culture items representing teen life in 2025.

\*Ms. LaChapelle will be sending out Activities for all Keystones related to the 2050 Time Capsule - These activities are required but student participation is voluntary. Again, our goal is for every high school student to have the opportunity to participate.

EST

2005

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Board Report  
December 15th, 2025

Shawna Younghans- Administrative Facilitator

### School Spirit Activities

**Turkey Hunt** DC West High School hosted a Turkey Hunt to build school spirit and engagement. Staff members hid numbered turkey figurines in common areas, while students searched for them during non-instructional time (passing periods, lunch, before/after school). Students who found turkeys earned prizes, and the staff member whose turkey remained hidden longest received a gift card. The activity promoted positive interaction between staff and students while maintaining academic expectations.

**The Great Gift Hunt** Following the success of the Turkey Hunt, DC West is hosting The Great Gift Hunt in December. Staff members decorated cube-shaped presents and hid them throughout common areas for students to find during non-instructional time. Students who locate presents receive white elephant gifts (donated by staff), while the staff member whose present is found last earns a gift card and bragging rights. This seasonal activity continues to foster school community and student engagement during the holiday season.



Throughout the semester, Journalism students have led a social media campaign highlighting the importance of attendance at DC West. Students create daily Facebook posts showcasing engaging classroom activities and learning experiences from a student perspective, illustrating what peers miss when absent. This student-driven initiative promotes attendance by emphasizing the value and relevance of daily instruction.

Mrs. Shawna Younghans

December 10, 2025

Board Report

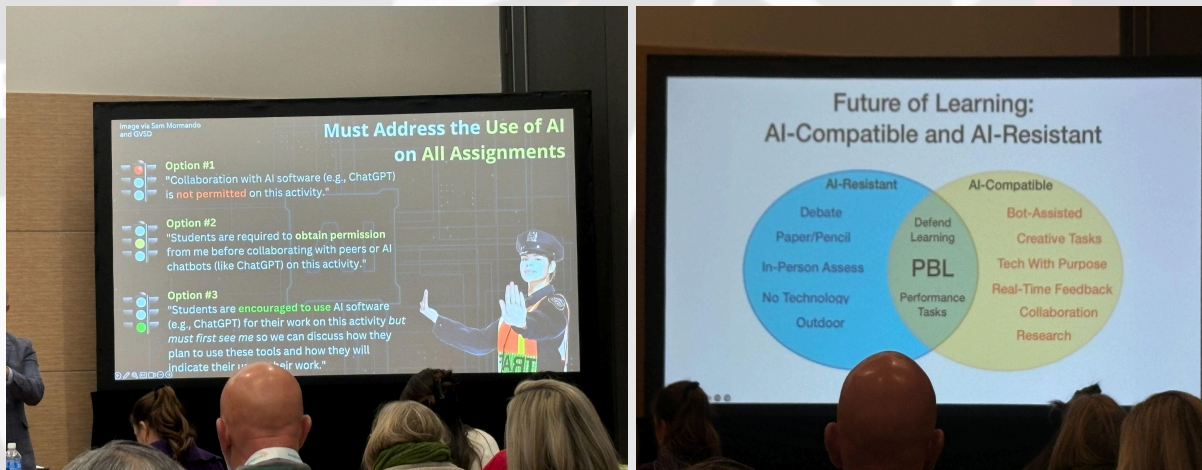
Elementary School (Mr. Sarka & Mrs. Ranslem)

DC West Community Schools

Contents:

1. Conference
2. ELF Program
3. Holiday Baskets
4. December Fun for Staff and Students
5. MAP Testing kickoff!

## 1. Learning Forward Conference in Boston, MA (Alan Sarka)



Mr. Sarka attended the National Learning Forward Conference with Dr. Marten. Sessions content included AI for student engagement, AI for school leadership, Student behavior, and Effective PLCs. Embracing the capabilities of AI in schools will help to level the playing field for DC West

students. AI will provide teachers with an abundance of resources and reteaching assistance. AI must be used with parameters, as a tool, and to assist students when they get stuck.

## **2. ELF Program**

The DC West Community School District offered support to families during the 2025 holiday season through our Elf Program. Families with students in the district who needed assistance submitted requests by November 10th, and the district followed up the same week to gather additional wishlist details. Information about the program was shared in our monthly school newsletter.

Families who wished to help others—by sponsoring a child, a family, or by purchasing gift cards—completed a separate form, and additional guidance for participating “elves” was sent out the week of November 17th.

We have since been welcoming families as they come to pick up their items, and in some cases delivering gifts directly to homes. It has been wonderful to see the joy and gratitude from our families, and we are deeply appreciative of the generosity that made this year’s Elf Program such a success.

## **3. Holiday Baskets: COPE**

The elementary school is partnered with COPE under the leadership of Mr. Jim Tomanek to collect non-perishable foods and to be the distribution site for receiving foods from other

collection sites. All food collected will be packed into Holiday gift baskets and delivered to families in need. We have many DC West volunteers partnering on this service project.

1. DC West Elementary team: Planning, preparation, and logistics with Jim Tomanek
2. Elementary food drive December 6-10th
3. Mr. Presler's class will assist Mrs. Tessendorf in building the boxes 12/17
4. The SALT leadership group will unpack the delivery vehicles and sort the food into categories in the elementary hallway. 12/18
5. Elementary STUCO will sort the elementary collections into categories in the elementary hallway 12/18
6. All DC West staff members will pack the holidays gift baskets and prep them for delivery after dismissal on 12/19

#### **4. December FUN for Staff & Students/Pod & Hallway Holiday Themes**

November and December are long months for teachers and students. There's the anticipation of the holidays and break, assessment season, all the holiday activities, and so much more. The elementary put together a Fun December Calendar for the month of December to interject some holiday cheers into our weeks. The staff is doing dress up days, trivia, food provided by admin, guessing jars, and self care. We also thought it would be fun to include the students on some of those fun holiday themed days as well. Below you will see the calendars for both staff and students.





## 5. MAP Testing Kickoff

We began MAP testing in grades 2–5 and FastBridge assessments in K–1, we’re looking forward to seeing the progress students have made since the fall. Teachers have been meeting individually with students to set MAP growth goals and help them stay focused and motivated. Students have been working hard, and we’re eager to review our schoolwide growth and use the updated data to inform and strengthen our small-group instruction. Thank you for your

continued support.

### Individual student growth and achievement is our goal

- All students taking MAP participated in goal setting to increase student buy-in and intrinsic motivation.
- Students were exposed to practice test questions before the test.
- Optimal testing environment for all students.
- Testing sessions spread out over two days to prevent testing fatigue
- No testing in the afternoons or on Mondays and Fridays.

									
20__ - 20__ MAP Reading Goal: Grades 2-3									
Student:					Teacher:				
MAP RIT Scores		Fall _____		Winter _____		Spring _____			
Instructional Area Scores	Fall	Winter	Spring	Instructional Area Scores	Fall	Winter	Spring		
Informational Text: Characteristics of Text				Literary Text: Characteristics of Text					
Informational Text: Main Idea and Analysis				Literary Text: Theme and Analysis					
					Goal:				
					Action Steps:				
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> <li>●</li> <li>●</li> </ul>				

<b>Potential Challenges</b> What could make it difficult for me to accomplish my goal? What can I do to overcome the challenge?	
<b>Monitor Progress</b> How will I know I'm making progress between assessments? How will I monitor my progress on my action steps?	
<b>Fall Progress Check</b> Which action steps are you doing regularly? What do I need to do more/less of? If you have not started some steps, what can you do to get started?	<b>Winter Progress Check</b> How am I progressing toward my goal? What action steps are working or need revised?
<b>Spring Progress Check</b> Which action steps are you doing regularly? What do I need to do more/less of? If you have not started some steps, what can you do to get started?	<b>End of Year Reflection</b> How did your actions impact your goal? What challenges did you have? What successes did you have?
I agree to try my hardest to do the things I said above to make make me a better learner and I know my family and teacher will always be there to help and support me as I try my best!	
Student Signature: _____	
Parent Signature: _____	
Teacher Signature: _____	



# DC WEST Community Schools

Engage, Prepare, and Empower

## Superintendent's Report December 15, 2025

### NEBA Meeting

A meeting of the Nebraska Educational Building Association took place on Monday, December 1, 2025, 4:00pm at DC West Community Schools. The agenda included approval of minutes, approval of a financing for Hemingford Public Schools, and admission of new members including Hemingford Public Schools, Minden Public Schools, East Butler Public Schools and Walthill Public Schools. All of the association's postings and business are published through the Daily Record.

### Elkhorn Athletic Association Advisory

I was invited to be a member of the new Elkhorn Athletic Community Advisory Committee. The purpose of the committee "is to be a strategic sounding board to the EAA Board of Directors and to advise on community priorities, partnerships and policies." I attended the first meeting on Tuesday, November 18th at the EAA office. I believe the opportunity will provide an avenue for collaboration as the EAA organization continues to develop the organization's athletic complex in our school community.

### One to One Technology Annual Purchase

Technology Director, Sandi Kerkhoff, has planned for a technology replacement cycle moving forward for the next four years to maintain updated technology devices for staff and students and our one-to-one program. The annual purchase was slated in the 2026 Budget approved by the Board in September. We will bring this forward for Board approval in the January meeting.

A summary of the recommended plan provided by Sandi Kerkhoff:

**4 Year Plan** (to save \$\$ → 4-Year Refresh on All Teacher/Staff Devices & Student devices will remain 3-Year Refresh).

Every Year (iPad Refresh) - Grades 1, 4, 7, 10.

Year 1 (2026-2027) - Teacher/Staff iPads.

Year 2 (2027-2028) - Staff/Teacher/Admin MacBook Refresh (HS/MS)

Year 3 (2028-2029) - Staff/Teacher/Admin MacBook Refresh (Elementary)

Year 4 (2029-2030) - HS MacBook Airs & MacMinis (Computer Labs: ~75 Macs)

\*\*Classified Staff Desktop Computers will be split up throughout the 4 years to distribute the refresh budget evenly.

\*\*Each Year, Consider Growth (NEW Staff & Students will need devices).

\*\*Budget for ~\$280,000/Year\*\*

\*\*Keep in mind, if we refresh laptops every 4 years, our recycle \$\$ will be significantly less each year. (~50% less on the laptop recycle years)

\*\*This budget is necessary if we want to continue to be 1 to 1 at all Grades K-12.

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:

[2025-2026 District Calendar](#)

[District Activities Schedule](#)

No School Winter Break~ December 22-January 5

January 12th~ Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

# Financial Recap November 2025

	11/1/2025		Receipts		Expenditures	11/30/2025
<b>General Fund</b>	\$5,782,180.05	\$	336,645.57	\$	1,303,243.58	\$4,815,582.04
<b>Depreciation Fund</b>	\$1,834,243.43	\$	1,885.43	\$	-	\$1,836,128.86
<b>Food Service Fund</b>	\$70,395.40	\$	65,569.36	\$	78,041.04	\$57,923.72
<b>Qualified Capital Fund</b>	\$626,028.62	\$	2,540.72	\$	431,705.00	\$196,864.34
<b>Bond Fund</b>	\$2,036,382.46	\$	8,779.48	\$	484,275.00	\$1,560,886.94
<b>Special Building Fund</b>	\$1,225,147.34	\$	7,625.47	\$	50,196.28	\$1,182,576.53
	<b>\$11,574,377.30</b>		<b>\$423,046.03</b>		<b>\$2,347,460.90</b>	<b>\$9,649,962.43</b>

## General Fund Detail

<u>Expenditures</u>		November		YTD		Budgeted		Revenues		November		YTD
All Instructional Program	\$	658,400.41	\$	1,996,414.53	\$	8,519,107.00		Personal and Prop Taxes	\$	29,814.59	\$	450,391.58
SPED Instructional Program	\$	197,166.57	\$	627,601.73	\$	2,534,928.00		Carline Tax	\$	-	\$	1,258.05
Support Services SPED Related	\$	47,281.99	\$	138,656.58	\$	551,856.00		Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$	140,083.62	\$	404,529.12
Support Services Non-SPED Related	\$	45,551.99	\$	136,829.99	\$	522,058.00		Facility Rental	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,500.00
Support Instructional	\$	50,775.39	\$	224,847.22	\$	785,282.00		Tuition Received from Individuals	\$	4,227.35	\$	34,756.55
Board of Education	\$	4,522.58	\$	38,568.55	\$	111,624.00		Interest	\$	3,368.13	\$	12,720.91
Executive Administration Services	\$	28,544.80	\$	95,586.62	\$	384,046.00		Local License Fees	\$	-	\$	1,480.00
District Legal Services	\$	-	\$	175.00	\$	40,000.00		Grants from Corporations/Private	\$	-	\$	40,370.31
Office of the Principal	\$	79,717.40	\$	249,178.12	\$	971,578.00		Other Local Receipts	\$	-	\$	89.00
General Admin - Business Services	\$	21,492.80	\$	74,075.33	\$	390,055.00		County Fines and License Fees	\$	1,687.10	\$	6,437.24
Maint & Operation of Building & Sit	\$	97,654.70	\$	563,390.39	\$	1,935,494.00		ESU Receipts	\$	-	\$	-
Vehicle Acquisition & Maint	\$	65.00	\$	5,030.35	\$	9,746.00		State Aid	\$	-	\$	539,926.00
Regular Pupil Transportation	\$	13,843.86	\$	142,284.78	\$	658,246.00		Special Education Programs	\$	-	\$	-
SPED Pupil Transportation	\$	5,078.59	\$	37,136.95	\$	172,757.00		Special Education Transportation	\$	-	\$	-
Categorical Grant from Coporation	\$	19,749.93	\$	67,100.07	\$	322,001.00		Homestead Exemption	\$	-	\$	-
State Categorical Programs	\$	778.44	\$	9,241.32	\$	16,376.00		Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	\$	-	\$	1,525.34
Federal Programs	\$	32,619.13	\$	98,351.93	\$	412,275.00		High Ability Learners	\$	-	\$	9,515.00
Transfer Out	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		Early Childhood Grant	\$	-	\$	-
	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,303,243.58</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,504,469.46</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>18,337,429.00</b>		State Apportionment	\$	-	\$	-
								Other State Receipts	\$	-	\$	68,007.00
								Prop & Personal Property Tax Credit	\$	-	\$	-
								Title ESSA Programs	\$	149,703.00	\$	149,703.00
								IDEA Programs	\$	-	\$	-
								Medicaid	\$	6,761.78	\$	11,819.04
								ESSER II & ESSER III	\$	-	\$	-
								Other Federal Categorical Receipts	\$	-	\$	-
								Sale of Property	\$	-	\$	51,421.83
								Insurance Adjustment	\$	-	\$	-
									<b>\$</b>	<b>336,645.57</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,785,449.97</b>

### November 2025 Payroll

Net Payroll	\$ 695,930.20
Payroll Taxes (District)	\$ 72,163.70
Payroll Withholding (Employees)	\$ 179,046.03
Retirement (District)	\$ 74,445.69
Retirement Withholding (Employees)	\$ 73,708.74

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

11/2025 - 11/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 11/2025; Processing Month 11/2025; 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	4,248.26	0.00	124.35	0.00	4,372.61
05 704 1001	ACTIVITY PASSES	31,197.64	0.00	60.00	0.00	31,257.64
05 704 1002	CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS	7,331.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,331.53
05 704 1003	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	1,859.95	70.00	100.00	0.00	1,889.95
05 704 1005	STAFF LOUNGE	2,942.89	0.00	278.28	0.00	3,221.17
05 704 1007	VALLEY WAY	9,133.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,133.80
05 704 1011	PTSA DONATION	4,117.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,117.70
05 704 1023	PROM	2,232.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,232.56
05 704 1102	ARTS & HUMANITIES	550.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	550.62
05 704 1104	ATHLETICS HS	8,667.43	520.00	0.00	0.00	8,147.43
05 704 1106	BASEBALL TEAM	1,199.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,199.55
05 704 1107	BAND	3,311.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,311.25
05 704 1108	CHEER	6,823.76	630.77	0.00	0.00	6,192.99
05 704 1110	SPRING PLAY	1,727.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,727.16
05 704 1111	BBB TEAM	572.05	237.87	4,384.60	0.00	4,718.78
05 704 1112	CONCESSIONS	35,751.72	443.76	796.04	0.00	36,104.00
05 704 1113	CONSTRUCTION TECH	7,106.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,106.79
05 704 1114	DANCE TEAM	2,542.09	472.68	0.00	0.00	2,069.41
05 704 1115	HS MUSICAL	5,857.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,857.55
05 704 1116	ONE ACT	1,930.06	674.82	3,261.61	0.00	4,516.85
05 704 1117	FBLA	2,918.22	0.00	105.00	0.00	3,023.22
05 704 1118	HIGH SCHOOL	917.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	917.51
05 704 1119	DC TECH 1:1	7,979.78	284.05	100.00	0.00	7,795.73
05 704 1120	GBB TEAM	4,267.14	0.00	3,104.79	0.00	7,371.93
05 704 1123	HOSA	3,248.57	435.00	45.00	0.00	2,858.57
05 704 1124	STUCO HS	4,484.07	688.00	39.00	0.00	3,835.07
05 704 1128	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	1,110.37	0.00	399.00	0.00	1,509.37
05 704 1131	FOOTBALL TEAM	9,445.48	99.00	0.00	0.00	9,346.48
05 704 1132	SCIENCE CLUB	446.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	446.69
05 704 1133	SPEECH TEAM	2,897.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,897.17
05 704 1134	VOCAL MUSIC	5,401.56	1,211.75	122.00	0.00	4,311.81
05 704 1136	WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB	687.12	31.60	0.00	0.00	655.52
05 704 1137	ROBOTICS TEAM	4,354.52	600.00	600.00	0.00	4,354.52
05 704 1141	GOLF TEAM	349.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	349.88
05 704 1142	YEARBOOK HS	5,480.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,480.41
05 704 1151	CROSS COUNTRY TEAM	1,975.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,975.43

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

11/2025 - 11/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 11/2025; Processing Month 11/2025; 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 1161	SOFTBALL TEAM	8,099.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,099.43
05 704 1166	BOYS TRACK TEAM	185.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.52
05 704 1167	GIRLS TRACK TEAM	57.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	57.50
05 704 1176	VOLLEYBALL TEAM	7,181.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,181.90
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 1224	STUCO MS	14,959.30	0.00	140.60	0.00	15,099.90
05 704 1225	COFFEE CART - EL SPED	1,576.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,576.40
05 704 1319	DISNEY MUSICAL	15,699.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,699.90
05 704 1320	PRESCHOOL	9,619.93	120.87	0.00	0.00	9,499.06
05 704 2112	MS CONCESSIONS	2,158.27	121.04	562.40	0.00	2,599.63
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	157.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	157.88
05 704 2204	ATHLETICS MS	2,953.81	630.00	588.00	0.00	2,911.81
05 704 2205	UNIFIED SPORTS	2,586.69	31.67	37.00	0.00	2,592.02
05 704 2216	MS DRAMA	109.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	109.67
05 704 2218	MIDDLE SCHOOL	1,111.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,111.29
05 704 2242	MS YEARBOOK	3,394.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,394.48
05 704 3220	ELEM FIELD TRIP	4,560.00	524.25	0.00	0.00	4,035.75
05 704 3221	PBIS/FALCOIN	4,274.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,274.60
05 704 3222	BATTLE OF THE BOOKS	26.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.65
05 704 3318	ELEMENTARY	7,426.54	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	9,926.54
Fund Total: 05		284,054.35	7,827.13	17,347.67	0.00	293,574.89

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

11/2025 - 11/2025

Regular; Beginning Month 11/2025; Processing Month 11/2025; 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	32,130.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,130.07
Fund Total: 12		32,130.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,130.07

12/11/2025 05:48 PM

DECEMBER 15, 2025 BOARD BILLS

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
A-1 FLAGS, POLES & REPAIR		948.20
A1 COMPLETE SERVICES INC		735.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, LLC		2,505.51
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, INC.		74.00
BOOKWORM, INC, THE		2,153.31
BOYS TOWN		5,100.00
BSN SPORTS LLC		728.29
CINTAS CORP		536.05
CLASSIC SPORTSWEAR & AWARDS		770.00
COX BUSINESS		197.89
DAILY RECORD, THE		319.99
DC WEST FOOD SERVICE		1,376.41
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE		625.52
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #2		34,204.17
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3		2,325.00
EGAN SUPPLY CO		1,328.94
ENGINEERED CONTROLS, INC		3,925.00
ESU COORDINATING COUNCIL		1,070.10
FIBER PLATFORM, LLC		558.60
FIREGUARD LLC		1,205.55
FIRST STUDENT		49,992.14
GARAGE DOOR SERVICES INC		835.00
GOODWIN TUCKER		1,105.42
HOMETOWN LEASING		2,522.27
JUST FOR KIDS THERAPY INC		4,260.00
KANSAS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY		5.94
KEYMASTERS OF GREATER OMAHA INC		263.88
LIBRARY STORE INC		62.41
MARKING REFRIGERATION, INC		1,839.50
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC		1,146.62
MENARDS - ELKHORN		859.37
NEBR ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS		388.00
NEBRASKA AIR FILTER, INC		7,612.68
NEBRASKA METHODIST COLLEGE		21.50
NEBRASKA TURF PRODUCTS, INC		1,027.54
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD		2,799.00
ON TO COLLEGE		7,295.00
ONE SOURCE		491.45
P & H ELECTRIC INC		375.00
PERRY GUTHERY HAASE & GESSFORD		72.00
PERRY, SANDY		3.86
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC		96.00
PRAIRIE MECHANICAL CORP		300.00
PUBLICATION PRINTING		14.50
RETIREMENT PLAN CONSULTANTS		400.00
SCHLOSSER ENTERPRISES		700.00
SCHOOL SPECIALTY INC		43.82
SPEECH SQUAD, LLC		14,397.75
STANZEL'S MOW & SNOW LLC		14,245.57
STEVE WEISS MUSIC		603.90
SWEETWATER SOUND, LLC		256.00
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA KEARNEY		125.00
VALLEY ACE HARDWARE		691.96
VERIZON		105.14

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DECEMBER 15, 2025 BOARD BILLS

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
VEX ROBOTICS INC		79.14
WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBR, INC		1,593.87
WATER ENGINEERING INC		317.62
WAYNE STATE COLLEGE		50.00
WINSUPPLY COMMERCIAL CHARGE		494.72
Fund Number 01		<u>178,181.10</u>

Checking Account ID 2	Fund Number 02	DEPRECIATION	
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC			401.90
Fund Number 02			<u>401.90</u>

Checking Account ID 6	Fund Number 06	NUTRITION FUND	
CANTEEN REFRESHMENT SERVICES			152.37
CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING			12,782.73
CHESTERMAN CO			624.88
CINTAS CORP			861.60
HILAND DAIRY			7,989.57
ROTELLA'S ITALIAN BAKERY INC			402.50
SYSCO LINCOLN			5,742.83
US FOOD INC			6,598.11
Fund Number 06			<u>35,154.59</u>

Checking Account ID 8	Fund Number 08	SPECIAL BUILDING FUND	
FIRST CITIZENS BANK			971,105.61
Fund Number 08			<u>971,105.61</u>

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MID MONTH BILLS - NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2025

User ID: CQ

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
ACH BANK FEE		70.25
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, INC.		74.00
AMERICAN VOLLEYBALL COACHES ASSOC		95.00
BENNINGTON HIGH SCHOOL		175.00
BERNINA SEWING CENTER		49.47
BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES INC		31.35
BOYS TOWN		6,600.00
BREAKFIELD, VERNON		325.00
CASEY'S BUSINESS MASTERCARD		8.75
CITI CARD - COSTCO		139.10
CONSORTIUM FOR SCHOOL NETWORKING		25.00
COX BUSINESS		199.11
DIGITAL DOT SYSTEMS, INC.		1,467.00
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3		150.00
EGAN SUPPLY CO		2,270.08
ELECTRONIC SOUND INC		2,390.00
FIRST STUDENT		2,737.43
HAYS, DAN		172.00
HEARTLAND CHAMPIONSHIP, LLC		585.00
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS		389.85
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES		85.70
HY-VEE INC		80.25
IT'S YOUR POTTERY		105.00
JW PEPPER & SONS		97.74
KABES, CHRIS		96.00
LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORE		1,352.55
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO IN		2,877.55
MAGIC WRIGHTER, INC.		273.75
NE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADM		149.00
NEBRASKA COACHES ASSOC		360.00
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT		22,266.01
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD		4,149.00
OVERFIELD, AMANDA		92.00
PUBLICATION PRINTING		63.95
SEDIVY, BRUCE		220.00
USBANK		4,269.52
VERIZON		105.14
VEX ROBOTICS INC		449.66
WATER ENGINEERING INC		36.04
WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC		2,461.11
ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATION, INC.		14.04
Fund Number 01		<u>57,557.40</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, November 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, November 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: Absent  
Jim Tomanek: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

### **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. No correspondence addressed to the Board.

### **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, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

### **4. Administrative Reports**

- 4.1. Superintendent's Report
- 4.2. Financial Report –

There was a correction of the depreciation fund balance in July which resulted in corrections to the fund in August & September. Corrected financial statements were attached and will also be placed with the previous month's financial statements.

## 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, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

5.1. Approve Minutes

Regular Meeting Date:

Special Meeting Date:

5.2. Approve Claims for Payment

5.3. Approve Financial Report

5.4. Approve Classified Staff

Nancy Chalup - Elem Sped Para - Hire 11/6/2025

## 6. New Business

6.1. Master Planning Presentation by BVH Architecture

Cynthia Ray, Mark Shepherd & Andru Meiners from BVH Architecture were attendance to present their proposal for Master Planning services to the Board.

6.2. QCPUF Project Update and Discussion of Finance Options

Dr. Poloncic provided an update on the HVAC replacement project and bidding timeline as well as financing options for consideration. The HVAC project is out to bid. BCDM & Morrissy Engineering will facilitate a pre-bid meeting scheduled for 11/18/25. Bid opening is scheduled for 12/04/25.

Financing options include:

- QCPUF Bond to pay for the project
- QCPUF Bond for the full amount of the .03 cents that we are levying that would pay this and future projects
- Energy Loan available for Nebraska schools

The Board recommended that we move forward looking at all financing options.

6.3. DCWEA Recognition for Exclusive Bargaining 2026-2027 & 2027-2028

As negotiations with DCWEA begin (Douglas County West Education Association), the Board must approve them to represent certificated employees in the bargaining process. A letter of requested recognition was presented from Head Negotiator, Heather Cox. The administration recommended the Board approve this request.

Motion to approve as presented 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, Jim Tomanek: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

6.4. DC West 2025-2026 Enrollment Report.

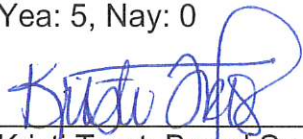
Dr. Poloncic shared with the Board an enrollment report based on various enrollment reporting to the NDE each fall.

**7. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 7:41 Passed with a motion by Kelly Hinrichs and a second by Luke Janke.

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

Yea: 5, Nay: 0



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Kristi Trost, Board Secretary



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Dr. Melissa Polonic, Superintendent

**DC West Sports Complex**

Total Project Budget Summary GMP

December 12, 2025



	Original GMP Budget	8/6/2025	12/15/2025	Donor Budget	Notes
Construction	\$ 12,374,533	\$ 13,174,440	\$ 13,038,839	\$ 135,200	MCL GMP
Contingency	\$ 625,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

<b>Total Construction Costs - GMP</b>	<b>\$ 12,999,533</b>	<b>\$ 13,174,440</b>	<b>\$ 13,038,839</b>	<b>\$ 135,200</b>	<b>Total GMP</b>
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AV Allowance	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 1,968.00	\$ -	Included in GMP
Security	\$ 75,000	\$ 76,662.00	\$ 80,742.24	\$ -	contract SEI
Access Points/Server Equipment	\$ 25,000	\$ 16,555.71	\$ 17,105.72	\$ -	Contract Nile
Owner Equipment	\$ 50,000	\$ 44,194.30	\$ 39,194.00	\$ -	Allowance
Signage	\$ 40,000	\$ 42,320.30	\$ 45,049.03	\$ -	Allowance
Football		\$ 30,325.88	\$ 30,326.00	\$ -	Equipment
Track		\$ 45,316.06	\$ 45,816.00	\$ -	Equipment
Softball/Baseball		\$ 13,407.90	\$ 13,408.00	\$ -	Equipment
Scoreboards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Included in GMP
Sports		\$ 36,000.00	\$ 5,890.00	\$ -	Equipment
Miscellaneous Items		\$ 26,260.00	\$ 40,260.00	\$ -	Equipment
Owner Hard Contingency	\$ 71,557	\$ 50,664.85	\$ 115,716.95	\$ -	Remaining

<b>Total-Hard Cost Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 311,557</b>	<b>\$ 381,707.00</b>	<b>\$ 435,475.94</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
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BCDM	\$ 859,535	\$ 859,535.00	\$ 859,592.64	\$ -	Contract - executed
BCDM - Reimbursables	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,842.05	\$ -	allowance
Rainwood	\$ 219,375	\$ 219,375.00	\$ 219,375.00	\$ -	Contract - executed
Special Inspections	\$ 45,000	\$ 42,089.00	\$ 31,514.00	\$ -	Allowance
Entitlements	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Geotech	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,850.00	\$ 9,850.00	\$ -	Contract - executed
SWPPP	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,600.37	\$ -	allowance
Public Improvement Design	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	hold for utilites
Bank Admin Fees	\$ 60,000	\$ 22,911.00	\$ 22,911.00	\$ -	allowance
Owners Soft Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

<b>Total Soft Cost Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,313,910</b>	<b>\$ 1,243,760.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,150,685.06</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
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<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 14,625,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,799,907</b>	<b>\$ 14,625,000</b>	<b>\$ 135,200</b>
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10 December 2025

Dr. Melissa Poloncic  
DC West Community Schools  
401 S. Pine Street  
Valley, NE 68064

RE: DC West Community Schools – AHU Replacement  
BCDM Project No. 5322-07

Dear Dr. Poloncic:

On December 9, 2025, bids were received for the above referenced project at the DC West Community Schools District Office. Per the attached bid tabulation sheet, three (3) bids were received with a **low bid of \$607,250 from Fluid Mechanical, LLC**. The project construction budget was estimated at **\$875,000**.

Earlier this week we met with DC West Staff in order to review the bids. Following that review, we had a conversation with representatives of Fluid Mechanical, LLC. During this conversation we were able to discuss the bids and also review their proposed approach / schedule for the project. Based upon these conversations we have no reason to believe that this Contractor will not successfully perform on this project. **We would therefore recommend a contract be awarded to Fluid Mechanical, LLC in the amount of \$607,250 for the DC West Community Schools – AHU Replacement.**

Please let me know if you should have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Casey Painter  
Architect, AIA

CP/mmm  
Attachment: Bid Tab

e-copy: File: 5322-07\_5-2



1015 North 98th Street, Suite 300  
Omaha, NE 68114

December 9, 2025

**BID DC WEST COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**TABULATION - AHU REPLACEMENT**

BCDM No. 5322-07

		<b>RASMUSSEN</b>	<b>SOL LEWIS</b>			
		<b>FLUID MECHANICAL, LLC</b>	<b>MECHANICAL SERVICES</b>	<b>ENGINEERING COMPANY</b>		
Lump Sum Base Bid	\$607,250	\$767,589	\$819,000			
Addenda (1)	X	X	X			
Bid Security	X	X	X			

# DC WEST 2025 AQUESTT

# **Accountability for a Quality Education System (AQuESTT)**

**NDE classifies school districts and schools based upon the following categories**

- **Educational Opportunities & Access**
  - Chronic Absenteeism
  - Proficiency toward English Proficiency
- **Transitions**
  - Graduation Rate
- **Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success**
  - Student Discipline Rate
- **Student Achievement & Growth**

# **2025 Classifications**

**District: Great**

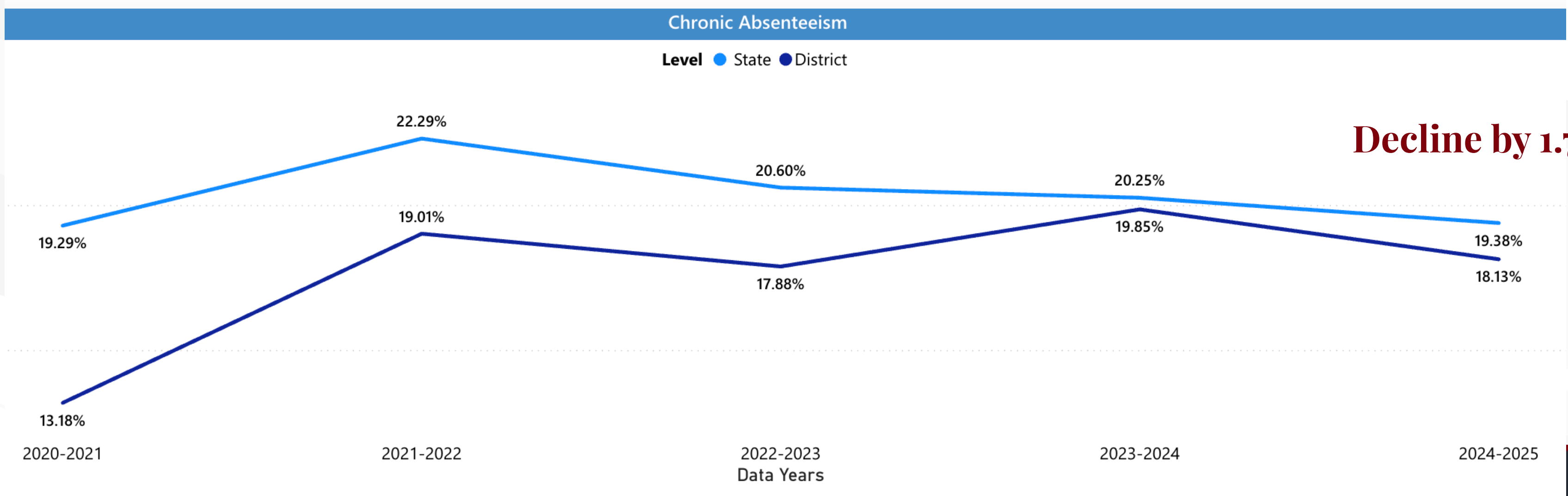
**Elementary: Great**

**Middle School: Excellent**

**High School: Great**

# Chronic Absenteeism

A chronically absent student is defined as absent for 10% or more of the days they were enrolled.



# **NSCAS**

# **Achievement Data**

# Grades 3-5



**ELA  
Proficiency**

**24-25  
62%**  
**State: 59%**

**23-24  
66%**

**22-23  
60%**

**Math  
Proficiency**

**24-25  
64%**  
**State: 58%**

**23-24  
64%**

**22-23  
68%**

**Science  
Proficiency**

**24-25  
82%**  
**State: 80%**

**23-24  
89%**

**22-23  
88%**

# Elementary Continuous Improvement

## Instructional Excellence

- Analysis of student data to drive instructional practices & ensure student growth over time
- Implementing high-leverage literacy practices
- Effective small group instruction
- ELA Curriculum Framework
- Instructional Coaching

# Grades 6-8



**ELA  
Proficiency**

**24-25**  
**75%**  
**State: 59%**

**23-24**  
**61%**

**22-23**  
**59%**

**Math  
Proficiency**

**24-25**  
**72%**  
**State: 58%**

**23-24**  
**62%**

**22-23**  
**71%**

**Science  
Proficiency**

**24-25**  
**94%**  
**State: 80%**

**23-24**  
**77%**

**22-23**  
**69%**

# Middle School Continuous Improvement

## Instructional Excellence

- MTSS Structure within the Master Schedule
- Co-teaching
- Analysis of student data to drive instructional practices & ensure growth over time
- ELA Curriculum Framework

# ACT: Grade 11



ACT Comp  
Score

24-25  
19.5  
**State: 18.2**

23-24  
19.7

22-23  
20.3

# ACT: Grade 11



ELA  
Proficiency

24-25  
52%  
**State: 43%**

23-24  
49%

22-23  
52%

Math  
Proficiency

24-25  
59%  
**State: 41%**

23-24  
55%

22-23  
66%

Science  
Proficiency

24-25  
59%  
**State: 48%**

23-24  
59%

22-23  
66%

# High School Continuous Improvement

## Instructional Excellence

- ELA Support Courses
- Co-teaching
- Adjust MTSS procedures to maximize student supports academically & behaviorally
- PreACT & ACT Trend Data
- ELA Curriculum Framework

# DC WEST

**Engage, Prepare, and Empower**

# DC West Community Schools

## 2026-2027 CALENDAR

### August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Aug. 11-12 New Teacher Professional Development/ Workdays  
 Aug. 13,14,17,18 Teacher Work Days/ Professional Development  
 Aug. 17 Open House  
 Aug. 19 1st Day of Classes: Dismiss @ 11:45 a.m.  
 Afternoon: Teacher Professional Development

Sept. 7 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day  
 Sept. 28 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development

### January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Oct. 7 MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 12 EL Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 14 EL/MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 14 End 1st Quarter (39 days) Student Dismissal @ 2:04  
 Oct. 15 NO SCHOOL- EL/MS/HS Teacher Workday  
 Oct. 16 NO SCHOOL - Conference Comp Day  
 Oct. 19 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development

Nov. 25-27 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

### February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

### September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Dec. 18 End 1st Semester (80 days)  
 Dec. 21 NO SCHOOL- Teacher Work Day  
 Dec. 22-Jan. 1 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

Jan. 4 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development  
 Jan. 5 First Day of Second Semester  
 Jan. 18 NO SCHOOL- MLK Day

### March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mar. 3 MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 8 EL Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 10 EL/MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 10 End 3rd Quarter (45 days) Student Dismissal @ 2:04  
 Mar. 11 NO SCHOOL- EL/MS/HS Teacher Workday  
 Mar. 12 NO SCHOOL- Conference Comp Day  
 Mar. 29-Apr. 2 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

Apr. 19 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development

### April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

### December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

May 16 Graduation Sunday  
 May 27 or earlier End 2nd Semester ( 91 days)  
 May 25-27 Built in Snow Days  
 \*\*Last Day for students: Dismiss @ 11:45 a.m.  
 May 28 or earlier NO SCHOOL -Teacher Workday

### May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

School in Session (170 Days)  
 Draft 11.12.25

- NO SCHOOL - New Staff Professional Development/ Workdays
- NO SCHOOL - Teacher Workday
- NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development
- NO SCHOOL for Staff & Students
- Indicates Friday Early Dismissal
- Parent Teacher Conferences (EL, MS, HS)

# DC West Community Schools

## 2027-2028 CALENDAR

### August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Aug. 10-11 New Teacher Professional Development/ Workdays  
 Aug. 12-13, 16-17 Teacher Work Days/ Professional Development  
 Aug. 16 Open House  
 Aug. 18 1st Day of Classes: Dismiss @ 11:45 a.m.  
 Afternoon: Teacher Professional Development  
 Sept. 6 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day  
 Sept. 27 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development

### January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Oct. 6 MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 11 EL Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 13 EL/MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:45 p.m.  
 Oct. 13 End 1st Quarter (39 days) Student Dismissal @ 2:04  
 Oct. 14 NO SCHOOL- EL/MS/HS Teacher Workday  
 Oct. 15 NO SCHOOL - Conference Comp Day  
 Oct. 18 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development  
 Nov. 24-26 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

### February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

### October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Dec. 17 End 1st Semester (80 days)  
 Dec. 20 NO SCHOOL- Teacher Work Day  
 Dec. 21-Dec. 31 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break  
 Jan. 3 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development  
 Jan. 4 First Day of Second Semester  
 Jan. 17 NO SCHOOL- MLK Day

### March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Mar. 1 MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 6 EL Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 8 EL/MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:45 p.m.  
 Mar. 8 End 3rd Quarter (45 days) Student Dismissal @ 2:04  
 Mar. 9 NO SCHOOL- EL/MS/HS Teacher Workday  
 Mar. 10 NO SCHOOL- Conference Comp Day  
 Mar. 27-Mar. 31 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break  
 Apr. 17 NO SCHOOL- Teacher Professional Development

### April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May 7 Graduation Sunday  
 May 25 or earlier End 2nd Semester ( 91 days)  
 May 23-25 Built in Snow Days  
 \*\*Last Day for students: Dismiss @ 11:45 a.m.  
 May 26 or earlier NO SCHOOL -Teacher Workday

### May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

School in Session (170 Days)

Draft 11.10.25

- NO SCHOOL - New Staff Professional Development/ Workdays
- NO SCHOOL - Teacher Workday
- NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development
- NO SCHOOL for Staff & Students
- Indicates Friday Early Dismissal
- 62 Parent Teacher Conferences (EL, MS, HS)

CALENDAR INCLUDES 3 SNOW DAYS



### H+H Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat

14920 Crest Rd  
Papillion  
NE, 68138  
hhjeepdodgeram.com  
(402) 339 - 3131  
sales@hhjeepdodgeram.com

### Charlie Genovesi

Sales: (402) 339 - 3131  
Direct: (402) 339 - 2222  
cgenovesi@hh.group

Deal#: 229516

**R RAM 2500 WINDOW VAN HIGH ROOF  
(159in WB)**  
Bright White I  
Stock#: J05464

### Douglas County West Community Schools Dcwest Community Schools

+1-(402) 504 - 0615 | +1-(402) 504 - 0615 |  
mpoloncic@dcwest.org  
401 South Pine Street , Valley, NE 68064

#### Cash

Tot. Cash **\$70,016.00**

#### Payment Details

#### Cash

Dealer List Price	\$57,400.00
Total Savings	\$6,500.00
Waldoch School Van conversion	\$18,400.00
Your Price	\$69,300.00
Fees	\$716.00
Taxes	\$0.00
<b>Amount Financed</b>	<b>\$70,016.00</b>

X

Customer Signature & Date

X

Ross Schroder | Manager Signature & Date

\*DEALER LIST PRICE EQUALS MSRP PLUS DEALER INSTALLED ACCESSORIES AND/OR PACKAGES. PLEASE SEE WINDOW STICKERS FOR VEHICLE SPECIFIC DETAILS. ALL PAYMENTS PRESENTED ARE SUBJECT TO FINAL LENDER APPROVAL. PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAXES AND/OR APPLICABLE FEES (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTATED). LEASES MAY REQUIRE A SECURITY DEPOSIT. AT LEASE END, LESSEE MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER MILEAGE FEES AND/OR A DISPOSITION FEE. WEAR AND TEAR GUIDELINES APPLY, ALL PRICES, SPECIFICATIONS, AND AVAILABILTY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS SUBJECT TO 3% FEE.



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**Charlie Genovesi**  
Sales: (402) 339 - 3131  
Direct: (402) 339 - 2222  
cgenovesi@hh.group

Deal#: 229712



#### 2025 Ram ProMaster Cargo Van

Bright White Clear Coat | 17 mi | Tradesman  
VIN: 3C6LRVDG8SE508662 | Stock#: J04846  
fca | Tradesman | Front Wheel Drive | Naturally Aspirated |  
3.6L | 6 | GAS | Full-size Cargo Van | Truck/Van | 3

#### Douglas County West Community Schools Dcwest Community Schools

+1-(402) 504 - 0615 | +1-(402) 504 - 0615 |  
mpoloncic@dcwest.org  
401 South Pine Street , Valley, NE 68064

#### Cash

Tot. Cash

**\$63,139.00**

#### Payment Details

#### Cash

Dealer List Price	\$54,540.00
Discount	\$2,500.00
Total Savings	\$15,000.00
15 passenger	\$22,900.00
Your Price	\$62,440.00
Fees	\$699.00
Taxes	\$0.00
Unpaid Cash Balance	\$63,139.00
Amount Financed	<b>\$63,139.00</b>

X

Customer Signature & Date

X

Ross Schroder | Manager Signature & Date

\*DEALER LIST PRICE EQUALS MSRP PLUS DEALER INSTALLED ACCESSORIES AND/OR PACKAGES. PLEASE SEE WINDOW STICKERS FOR VEHICLE SPECIFIC DETAILS. ALL PAYMENTS PRESENTED ARE SUBJECT TO FINAL LENDER APPROVAL. PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAXES AND/OR APPLICABLE FEES (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTATED). LEASES MAY REQUIRE A SECURITY DEPOSIT. AT LEASE END, LESSEE MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER MILEAGE FEES AND/OR A DISPOSITION FEE. WEAR AND TEAR GUIDELINES APPLY, ALL PRICES, SPECIFICATIONS, AND AVAILABILTY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS SUBJECT TO 3% FEE.

Melissa Polonic



# Superintendent GOALS 2025



# 2025 GOALS

## Goal 1    Goal 2    Goal 3    Goal 4    Goal 5    Goal 6

<p>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.</p>	<p>Complete construction of the new athletic complex opening on time and on budget.</p>	<p>Complete the adoption and implementation of a new administrator evaluation system.</p>	<p>Continue to unify, lead, and empower the entire administrative team to excellence.</p>	<p>Identify with the Board, areas to study &amp; 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.</p>	<p>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)</p>
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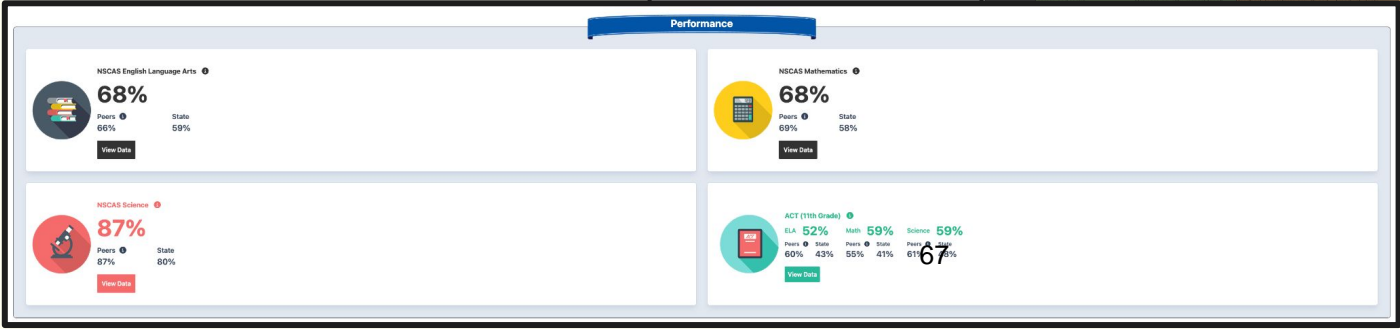
<h3>Areas of Evaluation:</h3>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Educational Leadership</li><li>• Staff Relations</li><li>• Community Leadership</li><li>• Working Relationship with the Board of Education</li><li>• Financial Direction</li><li>• Management of Facilities Grounds and Equipment</li><li>• Personal Qualities</li></ul>

# Goal 1:

- 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.



Strategic Plan 2022-2027						
Reason	DC West Community Schools engages, prepares, and empowers all of our students for the future.					
Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement and growth through students. • We learn through and from inclusive experiences. • We provide educational opportunities that challenge all of us. • Everyone is important and unique with their own set of talents. • The school district is accountable to the community. • Physical and emotional safety is essential for learning. • A culture learning and teaching environment is created through mutual respect for all. • Our educational process prepares everyone to be productive and responsible citizens. • Students, parents and educators share the responsibility for learning. • Public education is the responsibility of the entire community.</li> </ul>					
Guiding Principle	Expanded Student-Centered Learning Experiences	Culture and Cohesion	Personal Effectiveness	Family and Community Partnerships	District Resources	Board Governance
Objectives	To ensure diversified learning experiences prepare and empower students to be engaged through expanded learning opportunities and rigorous curriculum and instruction that accelerates the growth of each student.	To create and sustain a district culture that empowers and models high expectations for all staff and students while supporting the social, emotional, and mental health well-being of students and staff.	To ensure the district provides educational leadership and highly effective staff to support our students academically, personally, and in their individual social priority, as well as building and sustaining cohesion and unity among the staff.	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 assist a positive connection with and among the community at large.	To ensure 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.	To ensure the mission and vision of DC West Community Schools aligns to the goals, community expectations, and outcomes related to measure improved learning for all students.
Priorities	Priority 1 P1 Implement the Skills-Based System of Supports (SBTS) model with fidelity throughout the entire district to accelerate outcomes.	Priority 2 P2 Implement a plan that enables students and staff to connect through culture that embraces consistency in accountability.	Priority 3 P3 Implement a teacher evaluation system aligned to the instructional framework and report data to provide timely and authentic.	Priority 4 P4 Partner with community organizations, village, and businesses to provide the creation of multiple career pathways to diverse communities.	P5 Creation of a comprehensive facilities plan to address both short-term and long-term goals including but not limited to: new construction, renovation, and maintenance of facilities, and acquiring property to meet the future growth needs of the district.	P6 Annually review the district's vision and mission statements and progress toward the district strategic plan.
					P7 Provide the structure and staffing in each school that ensures that every student is personally and professionally developed to build practical knowledge and values connected to the school community and supports the development of students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health well-being.	P8 Continuously monitor the progress of district goals, setting goals to support growth and promote shared accountability, by measuring student achievement.
					P9 Assign district resources to support a quality education system and high-level learning environment by ensuring necessary staffing levels, space allocation, and resource expenditures.	



# Strategic Plan

## Priority Areas 2025:

- MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Academic & Behavioral
- Grading System
- Positive Culture & Environment
- Social-emotional and behavior supports for all students



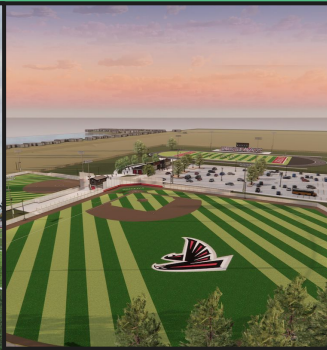
## Superintendent's Goals

### Board Presentations Related to Priorities & Goals:

- Student Achievement
- Humanex Engagement Summary
- Administrative Evaluation System
- Professional Learning Plan
- Buildings & Grounds
- Enrollment & Capacity

## Goal 2:

Complete construction of the new athletic complex opening on time and on budget.



### Accomplished 2025:

- Oversight of the Construction, Budget, and Pay Apps
- Bi-weekly Construction Meetings
- Owner Managed Items
- Management of Change Orders
- City or Outside Organization Collaboration
- Communication of the Process
- Ribbon Cutting

# Goal 3:

## THEMES + NOTES FROM 2.13.25



GROWTH + REFLECTION

### TIMELINE

#### FALL

Personalized Goal(s) Solidified

#### QUARTLERLY

Personalized Goal Check-Ins

#### EARLY SUMMER

Summative Conversation

#### PRIOR TO THE YEAR

Personalized Goal(s) Developed



## COMPONENT ANALYSIS



### INTRODUCTION

The Work Group discussed that the system should emphasize growth over deficiencies, ensuring alignment with DC West's mission and beliefs to foster a positive tone. There should be differentiation between positions and performance deficiencies should be addressed with a clear improvement plan and recommendations for rehire.



### PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Work Group suggested structuring the system with overarching standards followed by specific performance indicators. In addition, DC West standards should be comprehensive in covering S.E.E.D. and leadership domains, and then adapted for different positions.



### EVIDENCE OF PERFORMANCE

The administration defined "evidence" as the narrative component that demonstrates adherence to standards. They considered including an optional feature for uploading artifacts or evidence of progress towards goals. The Work Group dialogue emphasized the importance of reflective questions aligned with standards.



### OVERALL STANDARD RATING

The Work Group agreed that the evaluation ratings should align with the DC West Teacher Evaluation Framework, categorizing performance into 4 levels: *Ineffective*, *Developing*, *Effective*, and *Exemplary*. This alignment aims to provide clear expectations and common language.

Complete the adoption and implementation of a new administrator evaluation system.

- [Administrator Evaluation Handbook](#)
- [Vector Solutions Evaluation & PD](#)



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ADDITIONAL NOTES


PERSONALIZED GOAL STRUCTURE

# Goal 4:

Continue to unify, lead, and empower the entire administrative team to excellence.

**Actions Taken:**

- Creation of Team Expectations
- Book Study, The Culture Code
- Ongoing Check Ins & Individual Goal Setting
- Attending Leadership Opportunities Together
- Team Engagement Surveys

 DC West Leadership Team	
Mission	You are intrinsically motivated to help others. You demonstrate a commitment to serve and derive personal and professional satisfaction from being supportive of others.
Team Builder	You promote a sense of collaboration and camaraderie. By bringing others together to accomplish common objectives and goals, you identify and mobilize talents to make strong work partnerships. You facilitate shared decision-making to empower others and maximize collective performance.
Mediator	You bring about resolution through listening and facilitation of open dialogue between others. Bringing conflicting parties together, you are able to translate differing perspectives to bring about a common understanding.
Discipline	You are well organized and thrive in environments with structured routines. You create plans and systems to efficiently achieve desired outcomes, and methodically prioritize your tasks.
Mastery	You have a lifelong love for learning. You proactively seek out knowledge and acquire skills to become more proficient in your role and industry. You also reflect on lessons learned to improve for the future.
Empathy	You genuinely care and show compassion for others. You naturally pick up on how others are feeling by observing body language and behaviors. You seek to understand the thoughts and feelings of others, and adjust your approach to provide meaningful support.
Focus	You keep sight of short-term targets and make choices aligned with your objectives. You are able to ignore or eliminate distractions to stay on track. Once a task is completed, you shift your focus to the next project.
Activator	You are known for getting things started. Being proactive, you make quick decisions and lead by example by taking action first. In sharing your personal excitement, you rally others to act and achieve results.
Impact Drive	You strive to leave a longer lasting legacy. You are motivated to make contributions which will have the largest impact on others and the organization. You reject mediocrity and thrive on affirmation that you are making a difference.
Orchestrator	You coordinate the right people and non-people resources to effectively execute plans. You align these resources and manage multiple moving parts in a systematic way to ensure objectives can be carried out by your team.
Strategic Agility	You analyze patterns and weigh different options to create the best plan of action. You proactively think ahead in order to take advantage of opportunities and intuitively anticipate different obstacles.



## Goal 5:

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.

ALLEY POYNER  
MACCHIETTO  
ARCHITECTURE

BCDM  
architects

**BVH** ARCHITECTURE

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### Accomplished 2025:

- Recommend & Approve Staffing Structures to Support Growth
- Capacity & Option Enrollment Projections & Guidelines
- Monthly Collaboration Meetings City of Valley
- Maintain & Report Data of Enrollment Trends
- Annual Data & Reports from the City of Valley and Village of Waterloo on Development Outlook
- Interview outside resources to consult in delivering a Master Planning process.

# Goal 6:

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)

### Actions Taken:

- Creation and Implementation of the Administrative Facilitator Position at the High School
- Appointment of the Elementary Assistant Principal to Elementary Principal for 2025
- Hiring of a new to administration Elementary Assistant Principal
- Informal conversations with current administration on future goals and plans

