

Agenda

1. Osceola Public Schools Board of Education Information
2. Opening Procedures
 - 2.1. Call the Meeting to Order
 - 2.2. Roll Call
 - 2.3. Excuse Board Members Who Are Absent
3. Recognition of Visitors/Communications from the Public
4. Reports
 - 4.1. Superintendent's Report
5. Action Items
 - 5.1. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1.1. Approval of the Previous Meeting's Minutes
 - 5.1.2. Treasurer's Report
 - 5.1.3. Payment of general fund claims in the amount of \$404,353.75

Payment of bond fund claims in the amount of \$429,568.75
 - 5.2. Consider, discuss and take all necessary action on
 - 5.2.1. Consider, discuss and take all necessary action to approve student accident and catastrophic insurance policies.
 - 5.2.2. First reading of updated Policies 2008 Meetings, 3003 Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Site Improvements, 3003.1 Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair or related Projects Financed with Federal Funds, 3004.1 Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, 3048 Communicable Disease, 4017 Relations with Employee Collective Bargaining Associations, 4019 Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee, 4056 Resignation of Certificated Staff, 5001 Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism, 5003 Admission of Part Time Students, 5004 Option Enrollment, 5035 Student Discipline, 5048 Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions, 6009 Grade Placement and Academic Credit of Transfer Students and new policies 3061 ACH Originator, 4065 Staff use of AI Tools, 6038 Student use of AI Tools, 6046 Right to Access to School Library Materials.
 - 5.2.3. Approve updates to Policy 3040 School Safety and Security and 3012 School Meal Program and Meal Charges
 - 5.2.4. Consider, discuss, and take all necessary action to review the following School Board Policies for the 2026-2027 school year: 5018 Parent Involvement in Education Practices, 5045 Student Fees Policy, 5054 Bullying, 5057 District Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy,
 - 5.2.5. Second reading and adoption of updated policies 2008 Meetings, 3003 Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Site Improvements, 3003.1

Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair or related Projects Financed with Federal Funds, 3004.1 Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, 4019 Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee, 4056 Resignation of Certificated Staff, 5048 Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions

6. Next Meeting Dates and Times

6.1. Regular meeting July 13, 2026, 6:00 PM at the Osceola Middle/High School Media Center.

7. Adjournment

AD REPORT (6-8-26)

Weights:

Weights started last Monday and Coach Ericson is running them. We have had 24 high school boys, 9 high school girls, and 12 JH kids show up so far.

Camps:

The girls and boys little kids basketball camp started today and runs until Wednesday. There are 81 kids signed up for camp.

One Act:

One Act has come out with their summer workshops and audition date. We have posted that information on our Facebook and other social media platforms.

Board Report - Monthly
GENERAL FUND
Posted - During Check Cycle; Processing Month 06/2026

| Check # | Vendor Name | Description | Amount |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 36790 | Awards Unlimited | Awards/Plaques | 148.32 |
| 36791 | City of Osceola | Water/Sewer/Compactor | 4,205.30 |
| 36792 | Control Services, Inc. | Service Contract/Repairs | 4,485.66 |
| 36793 | Crowne Plaza Kearney | NETA Hotel Rooms | 671.80 |
| 36794 | Educational Service Unit #7 | Onto College Prep | 1,383.00 |
| 36795 | Ehlers, Tori | Reimb. NDE Application Fee | 55.00 |
| 36796 | Engel, Ronnie | Computer Parts Reimb. | 481.36 |
| 36797 | ESU #7 | Maintenance | 208.75 |
| 36798 | ESU #7 Production Department | Supplies | 1,198.23 |
| 36799 | ESU # Special Education Dept. | Sped Services | 17,717.44 |
| 36800 | Frontier Cooperative | Fuel | 3,689.06 |
| 36801 | Go Physical Therapy | OT/PT Services | 3,983.90 |
| 36802 | Hometown Leasing | Copier Lease | 413.97 |
| 36803 | IXL Learning | Software | 2,025.00 |
| 36804 | Jackson Services, Inc | Rug Service | 203.19 |
| 36805 | Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP | Fire System Contract | 1,681.03 |
| 36806 | Johnson Sand & Gravel Co. | Gravel | 1,418.88 |
| 36807 | KSB School Law | Legal Services | 1,775.00 |
| 36808 | Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc. | Supplies | 109.39 |
| 36809 | Midland Irrigation | Sprinkler System | 241.00 |
| 36810 | Morris Printing Group, Inc | Elementary Planners | 425.50 |
| 36811 | Mystery Science, Inc. | Software License | 499.00 |
| 36812 | Osceola Food Mart | Supplies | 139.39 |
| 36813 | Osceola Implement & Supply, Inc. | Supplies | 478.69 |
| 36814 | Osceola Public Schools | Preschool Milk | 166.65 |
| 36815 | Ostmeyer Lawn Service | Fertilizer | 900.00 |
| 36816 | Pinnacle Bank | Supplies | 264.63 |
| 36817 | Pinnacle Bank | Supplies | 588.21 |
| 36818 | Polk County Health Department | Fees | 1,210.00 |
| 36819 | Polk County RPPD | Electricity | 10,874.92 |
| 36820 | Postmaster | Box Rent | 162.00 |
| 36821 | Shelby Lumber Co., Inc | Supplies | 219.00 |
| 36822 | Siemens Industry, Inc. | Fire System Repairs | 2,199.10 |
| 36823 | Sparrow Publications, LLC | Printing | 97.75 |
| 36824 | Trane U.S., Inc. | Heating Repairs | 4,387.50 |
| 36825 | University of Missouri System | NEE | 1,770.00 |
| 36826 | White, April | Supplies | 138.03 |
| Checking Account Total: | | | 70,615.65 |
| Checking 1 | | | |
| 784 | Optum | Flex Plan Funding | 150.00 |
| 785 | Farm Bureau Financial Services | Term Life Insurance | 13.81 |
| 786 | MG Trust Company | Annuities Payable | 535.00 |
| 787 | PLIC - SBD Grand Island | LTD Insurance | 1,127.64 |
| 788 | WoodRiver Energy LLC | Natural Gas | 2761.83 |
| 789 | Essential Screens | Background Checks | 71.11 |
| 790 | Estech Systems | Phone Services | 94.45 |
| Checking Account Total: | | | 4,753.84 |
| Checking 4 | | | |
| 2341 | Windstream | State Internet Contact | 254.00 |
| Checking Account Total: | | | 254.00 |
| Checking 7 | | | |
| 18 | Bok Financial | Bond Payment | 429,568.75 |
| Checking Account Total: | | | 429,568.75 |
| Total Checks & Prepays: | | | 505,192.24 |
| Total Payroll: | | | 328,730.26 |
| Grand Total: | | | 833,922.50 |



Osceola Public Schools - 2026-2027 Renewal: Voluntary Student Accident & Catastrophic Insurance

Enclosed is your school district's renewal packet for the 2026-27 school year. For the voluntary student accident insurance, all coverage options, medical benefits & rates will remain the same. Please refer to the voluntary coverage document enclosed for additional information.

Why offer Voluntary Student Accident Insurance:

- ❖ Certain parents can be unforgiving, especially when their student is injured under the school's supervision or participating in sports. Offering this coverage before an injury occurs can assist administrators/coaches when handling these difficult situations.
- ❖ Due to affordability, many families have a high-deductible health plan. Should their student sustain an injury, their out-of-pocket cost could be significant and become a financial strain. When enrolled, a student accident policy can assist with those out-of-pocket medical expenses when their claim doesn't reach their health plan deductible.
- ❖ Some families are self-employed or for whatever reason have their student uninsured. For the best interest of the school district and the families involved, having accident coverage in place should be required/strongly considered especially if these students are participating in school sports.

Please note: What's mentioned above is only accomplished if the school district is directly notifying all PK-12 families about the coverage opportunity at the beginning of the school year and prior to each sports season beginning. Student Assurance Services will provide resources to use once the renewal application is received and processed in our office.

Catastrophic Insurance:

The catastrophic insurance renewal is also enclosed. The medical benefits associated with this policy will remain the same. Coverage for student athletes (Class 1) while practicing/competing in sports will remain \$3.25 per student. Coverage for all other school activities (Class 2) will remain \$1.20 per student.

- ❖ Catastrophic injuries are never easy to deal with and usually entail a major surgery, an accidental death, dismemberment or felonious assault. With the rising cost of medical treatment and the unpredictability with students, the importance of a school district having a catastrophic policy is at an all-time high.

DUE DATE for Signed Renewal Applications/Payment:

Enclosed you will find your school district's 2026-2027 renewal applications. Please complete the renewal applications by **June 26th, 2026**. Emailing or mailing the signed applications is acceptable. As a reference, copies of last year's applications are included.

An estimated billing invoice is also enclosed. The catastrophic payment will need to be received by Student Assurance Services prior to the start of the new policy year - **August 1st, 2026**.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

David Wamberg, Sales Representative
Student Assurance Services, Inc.
Phone: (308) 550-1122
E-mail: davidwamberg@gmail.com

Sonny Heinrich, Director of K-12 Operations
Student Assurance Services, Inc.
Phone: (800) 328-2739
E-mail: sonnyh@sas-mn.com

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APPLICATION



Application is hereby made for a Catastrophic Student Accident Insurance Plan based on the following statements and representations.

Applicant (Name of School/District): **Osceola Public Schools**
 Street Address: **P.O. Box 198**
 City, State, Zip: **Osceola, NE 68651**

Taxpayer ID# (if applicable): _____

If the Applicant is a School District, please attach the list of schools to be insured. (ON BACK SIDE IF ADDT'L SPACE IS NEEDED)

It is agreed the insurance applied for will not become effective unless: a) this Application is received and approved by the Insurance Company based on current rules and requirements; b) the Policy is accepted by the Applicant; and c) the required premium is paid when due.

Policy Term: August 1, 2026 to August 1, 2027

Requested Policy Term, if other than August 1, 2026 to August 1, 2027: _____

Class (es) of Eligible Persons

The Applicant named above elects to provide coverage to the Class(es) of Eligible Persons checked below. Do not elect Class 3, if Class 2 is elected.

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- CLASS 1: All student athletes, student managers, student trainers, student coaches, cheerleaders and band members who participate in school sponsored and supervised interscholastic athletic activities.
- CLASS 2: All students, from pre-kindergarten through the twelfth grade, while they are attending regularly scheduled classes and taking part in all school-sponsored and supervised activities including off-season athletic training and conditioning, except interscholastic athletics. (Includes Class 3 students, if Class 2 students are covered under the Policy)
- CLASS 3: All students who participate in all school-sponsored and supervised extracurricular non-athletic activities and clubs.

| <u>Premium Rates:</u> | <u>Number of Insureds</u> | X | <u>Rate</u> | = | <u>Premium</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------|---|------------------|
| Class 1 | 65 | X | \$3.25 | = | \$ <u>211.25</u> |
| Please list grades to be covered | <u>7</u> - <u>8</u> | | | | |
| Class 2 | 242 | X | \$1.20 | = | \$ <u>290.40</u> |
| Please list grades to be covered | <u>PK</u> - <u>12</u> | | | | |
| Class 3 | _____ | X | \$0.40 | = | \$ _____ |

Please list Class 3 activities and clubs to be covered _____

 _____ (ADDT'L SPACE OTHER SIDE)

TOTAL PREMIUM \$ 501.65
 (Subject to minimum premium of \$500)

Please include premium check with this Application, mail and make payable to: **STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC.**

FRAUD STATEMENT
 Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person, files an application for insurance or a statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime, and shall also be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars and the stated value of the claim for each such violation.

Signature of Authorized Person: _____ Title: _____

Please Print Name: _____ email: _____

Telephone: _____

Signed at: _____ Date: _____
City State

Signed by Licensed Resident Agent _____
 (Where Required by Law)

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The signed application declares that:

All information provided in this application and any attachments hereto is true and correct. The undersigned understands that all information provided in this application and any attachments hereto is material to Great American Insurance Company's decision to provide this insurance, and that insurance will be provided, at Great American Insurance Company's sole discretion, in reliance upon the truth of such information.

It is hereby understood and agreed that:

1. this insurance is provided by Great American Insurance Company in consideration of payment of the required premium;
2. the insurance under the policy begins on the Policy Effective Date 8/1/26-8/1/27, except as noted on front of this form; and
3. the acceptance of the policy terminates any prior policy of the same policy number, effective with the inception of the policy.

Please list Class 3 activities and clubs to be covered (ADD'L) _____

Description of Coverage

Accidental Death & Dismemberment Benefits

| <u>Covered Loss</u> | <u>Benefit Amount</u> | <u>Covered Loss</u> | <u>Benefit Amount</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Death | \$10,000 | One Hand; One Foot; or Sight of One Eye | \$10,000 |
| Both Hands or Both Feet | \$20,000 | Speech and Hearing | \$20,000 |
| One Hand or One Foot plus the loss of Sight of One Eye | \$20,000 | Speech or Hearing | \$10,000 |
| Sight of Both Eyes | \$20,000 | Thumb and Index Finger of the same Hand | \$ 5,000 |
| | | Hearing in One Ear | \$ 5,000 |

Accident Medical Expense Benefits

Scope of Coverage:.....**Full Excess**
Benefit Maximum:.....**\$5,000,000**
Deductible:.....**\$25,000**
Deductible Incurral Period:.....**2 years from date of the Covered Accident**
Maximum Benefit Period:.....**520 weeks after the date of the Covered Accident**

ADD'L INFORMATION SPACE - _____

Coverage is summarized. Coverage features and product availability may vary by state. Please contact us for additional information, and refer to the actual policy for a full description of applicable terms, conditions, limits and exclusions. Policies are underwritten by Great American Insurance Company. The Great American Insurance Group eagle logo and the word marks Great American ® are registered service marks of Great American Insurance Company. © 2016 Great American Insurance Company. Great American Insurance Group, 301 E. Fourth St., Cincinnati, OH 45202. All rights reserved.

Please send all correspondence and payments to:
 Student Assurance Services, Inc.
 P.O. Box 196
 Stillwater, MN 55082



APPLICATION FOR STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Osceola Public Schools
 P.O. Box 198
 Osceola, NE 68651

1. What is the first day of authorized sports practice? _____
2. What is the first day of the regular school term? _____ Last Day of School _____
3. Select the PLAN desired below. Complete the Enrollment and Premium sections.
 Effective Date: 08/01/2026 Termination Date: 07/31/2027

SCHOOLS THAT PROVIDE COVERAGE ON A GROUP BASIS

- Group Athletic Coverage: Plan :** _____
 Senior High Enrollment _____ Grades _____ \$ _____
 Junior High Enrollment _____ Grades _____ \$ _____
- Additional Coverage Plan:** _____ \$ _____
- Additional Coverage Plan:** _____ \$ _____
- All-Pupil Coverages: Plan:** _____
 Total Enrollment of all Grades (PK-12): _____ @ \$ _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL PREMIUM = \$ _____

(All premiums are due prior to the effective date of the policy. If the full premium is not received within 60 days of the effective date, the policy will be cancelled and no coverage will be inforce, unless otherwise agreed)

SCHOOLS THAT OFFER COVERAGE ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS

Directions: Please review each statement below and initial if you agree to the terms required. Student Assurance Services will provide voluntary student accident forms via email after the completed application is received in our office.

1. Voluntary Coverage for Student Athletes (Grades 7-12): Plan: L - 1513 (Voluntary)
 I agree that my Athletic Department(s) will directly notify all families of student athletes about the voluntary student accident coverage available prior to the start of each sports season (fall, winter, spring). _____ (Initial Here in Agreement)

2. Voluntary Coverage for All Students (Grades PK-12): Plan: L - 1513 (Voluntary)
 I agree that all schools within my school district will directly notify all families about the voluntary student accident coverage available at the beginning of the school year. _____ (Initial Here in Agreement)

Estimated Total Enrollment within School District (Required) _____

- When initial above, it's agreed and understood that: **(applies only to voluntary coverages)**
- a. The school will offer coverage to all students in the school system.
 - b. Football/Sports Coverage is available only if the school installs the Voluntary Student Coverage.
 - c. A school official will complete the school's section of each claim form for school related injuries.
 - d. If an enrollment form is returned to the school: Premium must be sent to the agent within 30 days of receipt; and a school official must date the premium envelope on the date received.
 - e. **Only one student accident insurance plan will be offered by the school.**

WEBSITE ACCESS AGREEMENT

By signing this form you will be given an access code to view the Master Policy, enrolled roster, and claim status information on our website. This code should only be shared with school administration. An email that explains how to access your school's information will be provided after the application is received and reviewed.

Applied for by: _____
 Print Name of School Official Telephone Number E-Mail Address

 Signature of School Official Title Date

Administrator of Policy/Claims: _____
 If different than above Print Name Telephone Number E-Mail Address

Agent: _____
 Print Name Telephone Number E-Mail Address

Administered by and Mail to: _____
 Agent Mailing Address
 Student Assurance Services, Inc.
 P.O. Box 196
 Stillwater, MN 55082

Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a loss or benefit or knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison.

SAS Admin. Use Only

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVERAGE
POLICY GA-2200Ed.11-16(ID)(KS)(LA)(MN)(MT)(NC)(ND)(OH)

Premiums & Coverage Options

One Time Policy Year Premiums

| | |
|---|-------|
| School Time Coverage Grades PK-12 (Does NOT Include Interscholastic Sports Coverage grades 7-12) Protects the student while: a) attending regular school sessions, b) participating in or attending school-sponsored and supervised extracurricular activities, c) traveling directly to and from school for regular school sessions, and while traveling to and from school-sponsored and supervised extracurricular activities in school provided transportation. DOES NOT cover participation in interscholastic sports for students in grades 7-12. | \$16 |
| Full Time Coverage Grades PK-12 (Does NOT Include Interscholastic Sports Coverage grades 7-12) Covers the student 24 hours a day until school starts next year. Includes coverage while at home and school, on weekends and during summer vacation. DOES NOT cover participation in interscholastic sports for students in grades 7-12. | \$99 |
| School Time Coverage Grades PK-12 AND Interscholastic Sports Coverage Grades 7-12 (does not include Football grades 9-12) In addition to School-Time Coverage shown above, includes All Interscholastic Sports Coverage that protects the student while practicing for or competing in school-sponsored and supervised interscholastic sports including travel in school provided transportation for grades 7-12. DOES NOT cover Football for grades 9-12. | \$91 |
| Full Time Coverage Grades PK-12 AND Interscholastic Sports Coverage Grades 7-12 (does not include Football grades 9-12) In addition to the Full-Time Coverage shown above, includes All Interscholastic Sports Coverage that protects the student while practicing or competing in school-sponsored and supervised interscholastic sports including travel in school-provided transportation for grades 7-12. DOES NOT cover Football for grades 9-12. | \$174 |
| Football Coverage Grades 9 - 12 Protects the student while practicing for or competing in school-sponsored and supervised interscholastic football including travel in school-provided transportation for grades 9-12. | \$250 |
| Extended Dental Coverage Grades PK-12 Provides benefits up to a maximum of \$5,000 for any dental injury. Covers the student 24 hours a day until school starts next year. Treatment must begin within 60 days from the date of the Injury and must be performed within one year from the date of Injury. However, if within the one year period following the date of Injury the student's attending dentist certifies that dental treatment and/or replacement must be deferred beyond one year, the policy pays the estimated cost of such deferred treatment, but not to exceed \$200 for each tooth. Benefits for prostheses are limited to \$500 per injury, including procedures performed to install them. Dental prostheses include, but are not limited to: crowns, dentures, bridges, and implants. Extended Dental does not cover treatment for orthodontics, dental disease, or expenses that exceed the dental prosthesis maximum benefit limit. | \$9 |

The Medical Benefits and Exclusions below apply to the Coverage Options listed above.

MEDICAL BENEFITS (What the Insurance Plan Pays) - When injury covered by the policy results in treatment by a Licensed Physician within 60 days from the date of accident, the Company will pay the Usual and Customary Charges (U&C) incurred for covered services as listed below, for charges actually incurred within one year from the date of injury up to the specified Maximum Medical Benefit of \$50,000 per injury. (In MT and NC benefits are payable after the deductible per injury is satisfied, the deductible is the amount paid or payable for the same injury by Other Valid Coverage)
This policy will pay benefits regardless of Other Valid Coverage if the covered claim expense is less than \$200. If the covered claim expense exceeds \$200, benefits shall be paid first by Other Valid Coverage. (This coverage is excess in KS, and this coverage is primary in MT and NC after deductible, and in ID, IL)

All Amounts Listed Below are Per Injury

- PHYSICIAN'S SERVICES**
- a) **Surgical Care** (surgeon, assistant surgeon, and anesthesia)80% U&C, up to \$2,500
 - b) **Nonsurgical Care** (includes physiotherapy performed other than in a hospital, 1 visit per day).....U&C, up to \$50 per visit, maximum 6 visits
- HOSPITAL CARE**
- a) **Inpatient Care**
 - 1) **Hospital Semi-Private Room**U&C, up to \$500 per day
 - 2) **Hospital Miscellaneous Services**80% U&C, up to \$2,500
 - b) **Outpatient Care**
 - 1) **Facility Charges for Day Surgery**U&C, up to \$2,500
 - 2) **Emergency Room**80% U&C, up to \$500
- Note: Benefits for hospital miscellaneous and outpatient care charges are limited to services not scheduled under Medical Benefits.**
- X-RAY SERVICES** (includes charges for reading)U&C, up to \$250
 - LABORATORY SERVICES**U&C, up to \$250
 - DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING** (includes MRI, CT scan, bone scan and charges for reading)U&C, up to \$500
 - DENTAL TREATMENT** (in lieu of all other medical benefits; for repair and/or replacement of each sound and natural tooth)U&C, up to \$250 per tooth (In SD, sound and natural is deleted)
 - AMBULANCE SERVICES**U&C, up to \$500
 - ORTHOPEDIC APPLIANCES** (when prescribed by a physician for healing)U&C, up to \$250
 - PRESCRIPTION DRUGS** (take home)U&C, up to \$250
 - REPLACEMENT EYEGLASSES, CONTACT LENSES, HEARING AIDS** (when medical treatment is required for covered injury)U&C, up to \$250
 - MOTOR VEHICLE INJURY**Same as any injury, up to \$2,500 (In KS, \$2,500 limit does not apply)

ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT

When injury covered by this policy results in Accidental Death or Disemberment within 180 days from the date of accident, the following benefits will be payable.
Loss of Life \$2,500 Loss of an Eye \$2,500 Double Disemberment \$10,000 Single Disemberment \$2,500

The policy contains a provision limiting coverage to the usual and customary charges. This limitation may result in additional out-of-pocket expenses for the insured.
L-1511/1513(2026)



ENROLLMENT FORM FOR STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

COVERAGE PLANS

One Time Policy Year Premiums

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| | Full Time Coverage (Does NOT include Interscholastic Sports Coverage) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 99 |
| | Full Time Coverage AND Interscholastic Sports Coverage (Does not include Football Grades 9-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$174 |
| | School Time Coverage (Does NOT include Interscholastic Sports Coverage) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 16 |
| | School Time Coverage AND Interscholastic Sports Coverage (Does not include Football Grades 9-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 91 |
| | Football Coverage (Grades 9-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 |
| | Extended Dental Coverage (Grades PK-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 9 |

DO NOT SEND CASH

TOTAL PREMIUM

Make Checks payable to: **STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC.**
*Please write student's name on the front of check. **NO REFUNDS**

↑ STUDENT'S LAST NAME ↑ (one letter in each box)

STUDENT'S FIRST NAME M.I.
Please Print
Address _____ (Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Email Address _____
Name of School _____
Name of District _____
Student's Age _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

X _____
GAA-2203Ed.11-16 (Signature of Parent or Guardian) (Date)

EXCLUSIONS (What the Plan DOES NOT Pay)

1. Any sickness, disease, infection (unless caused by an open cut or wound), including but not limited to: aggravation of a congenital condition, blisters, headaches, hernia of any kind, mental or physical infirmity, Osgood-Schlatter disease, osteochondritis, osteochondritis dissecans, osteomyelitis, spondylolysis, slipped femoral capital epiphysis, orthodontics.
2. Injuries for which benefits are paid under Workers' Compensation or Employer's Liability Laws. (In NC, benefits are excluded if the employee, employer, or carrier is responsible or liable according to final adjudication or settlement order under state law)
3. Any Injury involving a two or three-wheeled motor vehicle or snowmobile or any motorized or engine driven vehicle not designed primarily for use on public streets and highways, unless the insured is participating in an activity sponsored by the Policyholder. (In ID, Insured must be participating as a professional)
4. The practice or play of interscholastic sports including travel to or from such activity, practice, or play for students in grades 7-12, unless such premium is paid.
5. In Kansas - No benefits are payable for accidental bodily Injuries arising out of a motor vehicle accident to the extent such benefits are payable under any medical expense payment provision (by whatever terminology used including such benefits mandated by law) of any automobile policy.
6. In Ohio - Reinjury if the insured participated in a covered activity against medical advice.

IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE POLICY TO PROVIDE BENEFITS FOR AN EXISTING MEDICAL PROBLEM. A re-injury will not be covered if the insured has received treatment within a period of 180 days prior to the effective date of the policy. (In OH, this provision does not apply)

WHAT KIND OF INSURANCE IS THIS?

This is accidental bodily injury insurance; it covers accidental bodily injury occurring while the coverage is in force. Medical illnesses such as ear infections or sore throats are not covered.

WHO SHOULD CONSIDER BUYING THIS INSURANCE?

1. All families with no other health coverage.
2. Families with other medical or dental coverage having deductibles, copays or coinsurance. Our policy applies benefits toward your other health coverage out-of-pocket expenses. (This coverage is primary in MT and NC after deductible, and in ID, IL)

HOW TO ENROLL

1. Select the desired coverage(s) from the options listed above. Premium cannot be prorated. There are two enrollment and payment options.
2. Complete the Enrollment Form and enclose the premium (check made payable to: STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC. or credit card payment information). Please write the name of the student on the check. Return the premium payment with the requested enrollment information in an envelope and mail to: Student Assurance Services, Inc. P.O. Box 196, Stillwater, MN 55082-0196; OR
3. Complete enrollment form online at the Student Assurance Services, Inc. website www.sas-mn.com. The online form is available under the K-12 School Look-up.
4. Be sure to retain this brochure and a copy of the premium payment as proof of insurance. You will not receive a policy or ID card. The master policy is issued to the school.

EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES

Coverage becomes effective the later of: the Master Policy Effective Date; or 12:01A.M. following the date the envelope containing the enrollment form and premium payment is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service; or for online enrollment 12:01A.M. following the date the proper premium is received by the Plan Administrator. Interscholastic sports coverage expires on the last day of the authorized season of the current school year. School-Time and Full-Time coverage expire on the selected expiration date of the annual term policy.

HOW TO FILE A CLAIM

1. Notify the school and obtain a claim form immediately. The school will fill out Part A of the claim form if it's a school injury.
2. Parents complete Part B of the claim form. **Answer all questions.**
3. Submit copies of the student's *itemized bills* to the student's family medical and dental coverage first, even if there is a large deductible. The other insurance plan will send a report called an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). This plan is supplemental to all other valid coverage. The claim must be filed with the other coverage first! (Coverage is excess in KS, primary in MT and NC after deductible, and in ID, IL) This Plan **DOES NOT** cover penalties imposed for failure to use providers preferred or designated by the primary coverage. (In KS, penalty does not apply)
4. Send the completed claim form, copies of student's itemized bills and EOB to:
STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
PO BOX 196 • STILLWATER, MN 55082
5. No claim can be completed until **all of the above documents** have been provided.

NOTE: Student must be treated by a Licensed Physician within 60 days of the date of the injury. Proof of claim should be submitted within 90 days from the date of accident, or a reasonable time thereafter not to exceed one year. Itemized bills should be submitted within 90 days from the date of treatment or reasonable time thereafter not to exceed one year. The policy is responsible only for expenses incurred within one year. (In NC, itemized bills must be submitted within 180 days from the date of treatment, not to exceed one year)

This provides a very brief description of some of the important features of the insurance policy. It is not the insurance policy and does not represent it. A full explanation of benefits, exceptions and limitations is contained in the Group Accident Insurance Policy Form GA-2200Ed.11-16 (and any state specific), and any applicable endorsement(s). This policy is considered term accident insurance (except in ID) and is non-renewable. This product may not be available in all states and is subject to individual state regulations. The Master Policy is issued to the School District/School. A copy of the Privacy Notice and Certificate of Coverage (where applicable) may be obtained on the website www.sas-mn.com.
L-1511/1513(2026)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Administered by |  | Underwritten by |
| STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC. PO Box 196 • Stillwater MN 55082-0196 Toll Free 800-328-2739 - (651) 439-7098 www.sas-mn.com | <p>HAVE QUESTIONS? CALL US TOLL FREE AT (800) 328-2739 OR (651) 439-7098</p> |  Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. Lincoln, Nebraska |

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

INDICATE PREMIUM SELECTED AND COMPLETE THE REQUESTED ENROLLMENT INFORMATION FOUND ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.
There is a \$5.00 Processing Fee added to ALL Credit Card Transactions (does not apply to IN, NC residents)

Please charge \$ _____ + \$5.00 Processing Fee = \$ _____ to the following credit card: VISA®, MasterCard®, or Discover®

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Credit Card Number | Security Code (on back of card, 3 digits) | Card Expiration Date | Credit card billing will state: |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | (Month) <input type="text"/> (Year) <input type="text"/> | "Student Assurance Services, Inc." |

Print Cardholder Name _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Cardholder Signature _____

Cardholder Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone Number (_____) _____ - _____

CATASTROPHIC ACCIDENT INSURANCE

2026 – 2027 School Year



BENEFIT SUMMARY

- Provides Accident Medical Expense Benefits with a maximum benefit of \$5,000,000 per Insured per Covered Accident. Accident Expense Benefits are payable:
 - (a) after \$25,000 of covered expenses have been incurred within two years after the date of the Covered Accident; and
 - (b) after benefits have been paid under other Health Care Plans; and
 - (c) for Covered Expenses incurred within 10 years from the date of the Covered Accident.
- Provides an Accidental Death benefit of \$10,000, and a Dismemberment benefit of up to \$20,000.

CLASS DESCRIPTION & COVERAGE

- CLASS 1: All student athletes, student managers, student trainers, student coaches, cheerleaders and band members who participate in school sponsored and supervised interscholastic athletic activities.
- CLASS 2: All students, from pre-kindergarten through the twelfth grade, while they are attending regularly scheduled classes and taking part in all school-sponsored and supervised activities including off-season athletic training and conditioning, except interscholastic athletics. (Includes Class 3 students, if Class 2 students are covered under the Policy)
- CLASS 3: All students who participate in all school-sponsored and supervised extracurricular non-athletic activities and clubs.

PREMIUM

- CLASS 1: \$3.25 per student
- CLASS 2: \$1.20 per student
- CLASS 3: \$0.40 per student

100% participation is required - Minimum Policy Premium - \$500.00

HOW TO ENROLL

- Please complete the attached APPLICATION
- Include your check with the APPLICATION made payable to Student Assurance Services, Inc.
- Please send the APPLICATION and check to:

STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
P.O. BOX 196
STILLWATER, MN 55082-0196

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Marketed by: Student Assurance Services, Inc.
333 North Main Street
P.O. Box 196
Stillwater, MN 55082-0196
Phone (651) 439-7098 – Toll Free 1-800-328-2739
- Underwritten by: Great American Insurance Group
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

This brochure provides a summary of the coverage to be provided and is not intended to substitute for or duplicate policy provisions. It is subject to the provisions of the policy of insurance to be issued by Great American Insurance Company. You will need to contact us for exact policy language, as well as for any limitations and restrictions that may be applicable. The policy is the only contract between the Policyholder and us. It contains the actual terms, conditions and limits of the coverage to be provided. If there is any conflict between this quote and the policy, the policy will govern in all cases. Acceptance of this quote is contingent upon and subject to the actual terms and conditions of the policy as issued.

- **Description of Coverage**
This plan provides benefits for Covered Expenses incurred for treatment of injuries resulting directly, and independently of all other causes, from a Covered Accident. The Covered Accident must occur while the student is taking part in the activity described in the Covered Activity(ies), or while traveling, via transportation provided by the school, directly to or from an activity as a member of a group supervised by the school.
- **General Limitations**
Benefits are payable only for Covered Losses incurred as a result of participation in Covered Activities.
LIMITATION ON MULTIPLE COVERED ACTIVITIES: If an Insured suffers a Covered Loss while participating in more than one Covered Activity, We will pay only one benefit, the largest benefit unless there is a specific written exception in this Policy. **LIMITATION ON MULTIPLE BENEFITS:** If an Insured can recover benefits under more than one of the Benefits stated in the Schedule, as a result of the same Accident, We will pay only one benefit, the largest benefit.

• **Accident Medical Expense Benefits**

If, as a result of a covered Injury, the Insured, requires care and treatment rendered by a doctor, the Company will pay the Usual and customary charges which are deemed medically necessary provided the first expense is incurred no later than 180 days after the date of the Covered Accident. This Benefit is payable subject to the Benefit Maximum per Covered Accident, the Deductible, and the Maximum Benefit Period shown in the Application.

The benefit amount for this benefit is payable in excess of any In Force Policy and its applicable deductible. In the event and only in the event of the reduction or exhaustion of the limit of insurance of the In Force Policy solely as the result of actual payment of benefits covered thereunder, this Policy shall pay excess of the reduced limit of insurance of the In Force Policy and its applicable deductible. This Policy shall only pay pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Policy and no other policy. We will pay the Usual and Customary amount, reduced by the payment by any other insurance plan. This Policy will recognize payment by any other insurance plan as reducing or satisfying the deductible amount of this Policy.

• **Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit**

If an Insured suffers a loss of life as a result of a Covered Injury, We will pay the applicable amount shown in the Schedule. The death must occur within 365 days of the Covered Injury.

• **Accidental Dismemberment Benefit**

If a Covered Injury to an Insured results in any of the following Covered Losses, We will pay the percentage shown below. The Covered Loss must occur within 365 days of the Covered Accident. The benefit amount is based on the maximum amount shown in the Schedule for the person suffering the Covered Loss.

| Covered Loss | Percentage of Maximum Amount | Covered Loss | Percentage of Maximum Amount |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Both Hands or Both Feet | 100% | Sight of Both Eyes | 100% |
| One Hand or One Foot plus the loss of Sight of One Eye | 100% | Speech and Hearing | 100% |
| One Hand; One Foot; or Sight of One Eye | 50% | Hearing in One Ear | 25% |
| Thumb and Index Finger of the same Hand | 25% | | |

• For purposes of this Benefit, DEFINITIONS is amended to include the following: Covered Loss means:

1. For a foot or hand, actual severance through or above the ankle or wrist joint;
2. For thumb and index finger, complete severance through or above the metacarpophalangeal joint of Both digits;
3. Total and permanent loss of sight;
4. Total and permanent loss of speech; or
5. Total and permanent loss of hearing.

• **General Exclusions** - A loss will not be a Covered Loss if it is caused by, contributed to, or results from:

1. Sickness, disease, mental infirmity, emotional or psychological trauma, or bacterial or viral infection, or medical or surgical treatment thereof, except for any bacterial infection resulting from an accidental external cut or wound or accidental ingestion of contaminated food;
2. Suicide, self-destruction, attempted suicide or self-destruction, or intentional self-inflicted injury, while sane or insane;
3. War or any act of war, whether declared or not;
4. Commission of, or attempt to commit, a felony, an assault, or other illegal activity;
5. The covered person being legally intoxicated as determined according to the laws of the jurisdiction in which the injury occurred
6. The covered person being intoxicated or under the influence of any drugs or narcotics unless administered by or upon the advice of a physician.
7. Any loss arising out of terrorism or terrorist acts.
8. Injury covered by workers' compensation, employer's liability laws, or similar occupational benefits, or while engaging in activity for monetary gain from sources other than the Policyholder;
9. A covered accident that occurs while on active duty service in the military, naval or air force of any country or international organization. Upon our receipt of proof of service, we will refund any premium paid for this time. Reserve or National Guard active duty training is not excluded, unless it extends beyond 31 days;
10. Travel in any aircraft owned, leased, or controlled by the Policyholder, or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. An aircraft will be deemed to be "controlled" by the Policyholder if the aircraft may be used as the Policyholder wishes for more than 10 straight days, or more than 15 days in any year;
11. Practice or play in any sports activity, including travel to and from the activity and practice, except as specifically provided in the policy;
12. Aggravation, during a covered activity, of an injury the covered person suffered before participating in that covered activity, unless we receive a written medical release from the covered person's physician;
13. Participation in covered activities not sponsored by or under the supervision of the Policyholder.
14. The covered person riding or driving in any kind of race.

• **Accident Medical Exclusions:** In addition to the General Exclusions stated in the Policy, We will not cover expenses under this additional benefit for:

1. Pre-existing conditions occurring within the first 12 months of coverage (except as specifically provided by the policy);
2. Treatment by persons employed or retained by a Policyholder, or by any immediate family member or member of the covered person's household;
3. Pregnancy, childbirth, or miscarriage;
4. Elective abortion, an abortion for any reason other than to preserve the life of the female upon whom the abortion is performed;
5. Mental and nervous disorders (except as specifically provided in the policy);
6. Damage to or loss of dentures or bridges, or damage to existing orthodontic equipment (except as specifically covered by the policy);
7. Elective or cosmetic surgery, except for reconstructive surgery needed as the result of an injury;
8. Eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, wheelchairs, braces, appliances, examinations or prescriptions for them, or repair or replacement of artificial limbs, orthopedic braces, or orthotic devices (except as specifically provided in the policy);
9. Expenses for which the covered person would not be responsible for in the absence of this policy;
10. Treatment of injuries that result over a period of time (such as blisters, tennis elbow, etc.), and that are a normal, foreseeable result of participation in the covered activity;
11. Treatment or service provided by a private duty nurse (except as specifically provided in the policy);
12. Replacement of artificial limbs, eyes, or other prosthetic appliances;
13. Routine physicals, check-ups, routine ob-gyn visits, pap smears, or wellness visits;
14. Overuse symptoms including, but not limited to, bursitis, tendonitis, shin splints, stress fractures, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, heat prostration, malfunctions of the heart, embolism, reinjures or the aggravation thereof, sprains, hernia, strains, muscle tears, or repetitive motion injury, except as specifically provided in the policy;
15. Expenses due to an aggravation or re-injury of a pre-existing condition (except as specifically provided in the policy);
16. Repair or replacement of existing dentures, partial dentures, braces, fixed or removable bridges, or other artificial dental restoration (except as specifically provided in the policy);
17. Repair, replacement, examinations for prescriptions, or the fitting of eyeglasses or contact lenses;
18. Medical expenses and disability for which the covered person is entitled to benefits under any Worker's Compensation Act;
19. Expenses incurred that are in excess of reasonable charges, or expenses that are not medically necessary; or
20. Dental treatment necessitated by sickness, deterioration or disease, for cosmetic, preventive, diagnostic or orthodontic purposes, or by any reason other than an injury.

• **Definitions**

Accident means a sudden, abrupt, and unexpected event. **Covered Accident** means an accident that occurs directly and independently of all other causes while coverage is in effect for a covered person resulting in a covered loss or injury under the policy for which benefits are payable. **Contributory** means the Insured is required to pay all or a portion of the premium. Whether the benefits are Contributory or Non-Contributory is stated in the Schedule. **Covered Activity** means those activities set out in the Covered Activities section of the schedule of benefits, with respect to which covered persons are provided accident insurance under the policy. **Covered Loss** or **Covered Losses** means an accidental death, dismemberment or other injury covered under the policy. **Covered Person** means an eligible person, who enrolls for coverage, if required, and for whom the required premium is paid. **Eligible Person** means a person in a Class of Eligible Persons, as shown in the schedule of benefits. **Injury** means bodily injury sustained by a covered person caused by a covered accident that:

1. Occurs while this policy is in effect as to the person whose injury is the basis of claim;
2. Occurs while the covered person is participating in a covered activity; and
3. Results directly and independently of all other causes in a covered loss.

Physician means a provider or practitioner who:

1. Is properly licensed or certified to provide care or treatment under the laws of the state where he or she practices;
2. Provides services that are within the scope of his or her license or certificate; and
3. Is neither the covered person nor a member of the covered person's household or an immediate family member.

Schedule of Benefits means the benefits, benefit amounts, terms, limitations and provisions of coverage selected by the Policyholder which is attached to and made a part of this policy. **Spouse** means an adult person with whom the covered person enters into a marriage, civil union, or comparable relationship in a state or nation in which the marriage, civil union or comparable relationship is sanctioned by law and legally valid at the time it is entered into by the parties. **Policy** means the contract issued by us to the Policyholder for the benefit of a covered person.



STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
PO BOX 196
STILLWATER, MN 55082-0196

2026-2027 BILLING INVOICE

**Osceola Public Schools
P.O. Box 198
Osceola, NE 68651**

CATASTROPHIC COVERAGE:

| | | | |
|----------|--|---|----------|
| Class 1: | | | |
| | (*65 Students Grades 7-8) x <u>\$3.25</u> | = | \$211.25 |
| Class 2: | | | |
| | (*242 Students Grades PK-12) x <u>\$1.20</u> | = | \$290.40 |

TOTAL PREMIUM DUE = **\$501.05**
(\$500 Minimum Required)

*Invoice is determined by last year's provided enrollment number.
If the enrollment is incorrect, please make the correction.

The premium is due prior to the effective date of the policy (August 1st).

THANK YOU

GUARANTEE TRUST LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Glenview, Illinois

Application For Student Accident Insurance

Name of

Policyholder: Osceola School District #19

Address: 565 South Kimmel Street Osceola NE 68651
Street City State Zip County

Junior/Middle High Schools consist of grades 6-8 Senior High Schools consist of grades 9-12

Total District enrollment _____ Please attach a list of all schools in the District.

Policy Number: 264-125-075-J

STUDENT ACCIDENT COVERAGE

Coverage shall become effective on the date that premium is received by the Company or its representative, but in no event prior to the first day of school, which is _____ The termination date shall be _____, which is the opening day of the following fall term of the Policyholder. Termination of each individual's insurance will be as outlined in the Master Policy.

For interscholastic sports which begin prior to the first day of school, coverage begins on the first day of the earliest practice, which is _____. Coverage for each individual sport terminates at the end of its season, as determined by the State High School Athletic Association.

FOOTBALL ONLY ACCIDENT COVERAGE **IN EFFECT** **NOT IN EFFECT**

Interscholastic Football Only Accident Coverage becomes effective on _____ and terminates at the end of its season, as determined by the State High School Athletic Association. Spring Practice begins on _____. Each individual's football coverage shall become effective on the date the premium is paid, provided the Company receives the name and premium in an envelope postmarked not later than three days after coverage is to be effective. In the event that the name and premium are received at a later date, coverage shall be effective on the day after the date of postmark.

It is understood and agreed that Interscholastic Football Only Accident Coverage will be null and void unless Student Accident Coverage is offered by the school authorities to all students in all schools of the Policyholder.

| The Student Accident Insurance Policy will cover those students who pay the required premium as shown below: | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------------------|----------|--------|-------------------|
| COVERAGE | GRADES | PREMIUMS | COVERAGE | GRADES | PREMIUMS |
| 24-Hour | PK-12 | \$180.00/\$365.00 | Football | 9-12 | \$250.00/\$500.00 |
| School-Tim | PK-8 | \$50.00/\$100.00 | | | |
| School-Time | 9-12 | \$75.00/\$150.00 | | | |

It is agreed that any claim form presented by the Policyholder will certify that the claimant was actually injured while attending, playing, or practicing, or attending school as a student of the Policyholder.

The following notices are applicable where stated:

ALL OTHER STATES, except NEW HAMPSHIRE: Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure, defraud or deceive any insurer files a statement of claim containing any false, incomplete, or misleading information may be guilty of insurance fraud and subject to criminal and civil penalties.

All documents that form our insurance relationship will be provided to you in electronic format, unless otherwise requested.

Authorized Signature: K Date: _____

Agent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please provide an email address to receive supplies electronically: _____

2008 Meetings

The formation of policy is public business and will be conducted openly in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

1. Types of Meetings

- a. The board shall hold its regular meetings on or before the third Monday of each month.
- b. Special and emergency meetings may be called as provided by law.
- c. The board may schedule work sessions and retreats in order to provide board members and administrators with the opportunity to plan, research, and engage in discussion.

2. Notice

~~The board shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each of its meetings, which generally will be 48 hours or more in advance of the meeting. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the board and to the public.~~

Method of Publishing Notice of Meetings. The board will publish reasonable advanced notice of all meetings on its website. The notice will contain a statement that the current agenda is available for inspection at the Superintendent's office during normal business hours. The Superintendent or designee may but is not required to provide information about meetings in other ways, such as social media or posting notices in physical locations in the district.

Publication of Notice Method and Regular Meeting Schedule. Four times per year, in a newspaper of general circulation, the board will publish its regular meeting schedule, location of regular meetings, and the designated method of publishing meeting notices.

~~Publication Procedure if the Newspaper Will Be Finalized for Printing Prior to the Time and Date of the Meeting.~~ Notice of regular and special meetings shall be (1) published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (2) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (3) posting on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers.

~~**Publication Procedure if the Newspaper Will Not Be Finalized for Printing Prior to the Time and Date of the Meeting.** Notice of regular and special meetings shall be (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the school district's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting.~~

~~Newspapers of general circulation in the district include the . Such notice shall contain a statement that the agenda shall be readily available for public inspection at the administration office of the school during the normal business hours. In addition, the superintendent is authorized, but not required, to publish the notice of any meeting on the school district's website, posting in three prominent places within the school district, or by any other appropriate method designated by the board.~~

~~In case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to timely publish the notice, the school district will (1) post the notice on its website, if available, (2) request the newspaper submit a post on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, and (3) post the notice in a conspicuous public place in the school district's jurisdiction. The school district will keep a written record of the posting and the written request to the newspaper.~~

When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes of the meeting, and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public no later than the end of the next regular business day.

~~3. Weather Delays~~

~~In the event of inclement weather which makes it dangerous or unreasonable for board members or members of the public to attend a meeting for which notice has already been given, such meeting may be postponed by the board president. The board will communicate the delay to members of the public by posting it on the district's website and by following the same communication protocol that the district follows when student attendance at school is called off due to inclement weather. When possible, the board president and superintendent will attempt to communicate the information to local media~~

~~members and business owners to assist in notifying the public of the delay. Notice of the date, time, and location of the postponed meeting will be advertised as required in the "Notice" section above.~~

4.3. Minutes

- a. The board shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, the method(s) and date(s) of the meeting notice, and the substance of all matters discussed.
- b. Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the board in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted, or if the member was absent or not voting.
- c. ~~The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public record~~The andmeeting minutes shall be published on the school district's website within ten working days of the last meeting or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier. The minutes shall be available on the website for at least six months.

The Superintendent will make a copy of the Open Meetings Act available at all meetings.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3003

Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Site Improvement

I. Applicability of this policy.

Construction and contracts undertaken with federal funds, whether those funds are derived directly from the federal government (e.g. award of a federal grant) or are derived by pass-through awards from the Nebraska Department of Education (e.g. special education funds, school lunch funds, Title I funds) are subject to the policy on Construction with Federal Funds, which is found elsewhere in this section.

This policy applies to all other purchases and contracts made by the school district for construction, remodeling, repair and other site improvements.

II. Projects with an Estimated Cost of Less than \$109136,000

- A. The school district will solicit quotes and/or estimates for all projects with an estimated cost of less than \$109136,000.
- B. Prior to solicitation of the quotes and/or estimates, the superintendent will determine whether the district will accept oral submissions.
- C. Quotes and/or estimates may be solicited by the superintendent or his/her designee without board action.
- D. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.
- E. The district may use a Nebraska state-wide cooperative purchasing program in lieu of obtaining quotes or bids under this policy to the extent such a bid or quote is not otherwise independently required by law.
- F. Nothing in this subsection prohibits or requires the use of the formal bidding procedures. If the district is going to solicit formal bids for projects of less than \$109136,000 they must follow the formal procedures outlined in this policy.

III. Formal Bidding for Major Purchases and Construction

- A. Pursuant to section 73-106 of the Nebraska statutes, the board will advertise for bids when the contemplated expenditure of the project

exceeds \$~~109~~136,000 for the construction, remodeling or repair of a school-owned building or for site improvement.

B. In projects that involve professional engineering or architecture, the board will have a registered professional engineer or architect prepare the plans, specifications, and estimates when the anticipated cost of the project exceeds \$144,000.

C. Advertising for Bids

1. The superintendent or designee will arrange to advertise for bids under this section by publishing notice in any newspaper of general circulation within the school district at least 7 calendar days prior to the date on which bids are due.
2. Nothing in this policy shall prevent the superintendent or designee from advertising in additional media outlets or for a longer period of time.

D. Bid Documents

1. The bid documents shall identify the day upon which the bids shall be returned, received or opened and shall identify the hour at which the bids will close or be received or opened.
2. The invitation for bids will be sufficiently certain and specific, will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, and will define the items or services in order to allow the bidder to properly respond.
3. The bid documents shall also provide that such bids shall be opened simultaneously in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.
4. Bids received after the date and time specified in the bid documents shall be returned to the bidder unopened.
5. If bids are being opened on more than one contract, the board, in its discretion, may award each contract as the bids are opened.
6. Sealed bids will be opened in a place and at the specific time

stated in the bid form. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.

7. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications.

E. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason

F. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3003.1
Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects
Financed with Federal Funds

I. Applicability of the Policy

This policy applies only to construction and contracts undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

The District will also comply with the requirements of the public lettings laws (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 73-101 through 73-106) when the contemplated expenditure for the complete project exceeds \$~~109~~136,000, the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 13-2901 through 13-2914), energy financing contracts (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 66-1062 through 66-1066), other applicable state laws, and the board's general policy on Bidding for Construction and Related Projects. In addition, all procurement and construction shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR part 200.317 through 200.~~326~~327 and 34 CFR sections 75.601 through 75.615. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

II. All projects undertaken pursuant to this policy will be subject to the following bond requirements

- A. A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.
- B. A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.
- C. A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with

a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

III. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost of Under \$250350,000

A. Methods of Bidding/Soliciting Quotations or Estimates

The type of procedures required depends on the anticipated cost of the project.

1. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of up to \$10,00015,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means an individual procurement transaction for supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed \$10,00015,000. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing.

2. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of between \$10,00015,000 and \$250350,000 (Simplified Acquisition Procedures)

For construction projects subject to this policy, simplified acquisitions are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, is more than \$10,00015,000 and less than \$250350,000 annually. For simplified acquisitions, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts.

- B. Construction Projects with an estimated cost of between \$109136,000 and \$2349,999 will be made pursuant to the District's Policy on Bid Letting and Contracts.

Pursuant to Nebraska law, construction projects which have an anticipated aggregate cost of \$109136,000 or more are subject to state public lettings laws (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 73-101 through 73-106). The board will follow its standard policy on bid letting and contracts for construction projects financed with federal funds which have an anticipated aggregate cost of between \$109136,000 and \$250350,000.

IV. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost Over \$250350,000

A. Sealed Bids: All constructions projects subject to this policy with an anticipated cost of \$250350,000 or more will be publicly solicited using the sealed bid method

1. Bids must be solicited from an adequate number of known suppliers, providing them sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening the bids, for state, local, and tribal governments, the invitation for bids must be publicly advertised;
2. The invitation for bids, which will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond;
3. Sealed bids will be publicly opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.
4. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - a) Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest.
 - b) Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of.
 - c) Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.
5. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the

amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

6. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

B. Advertising for Bids.

1. The superintendent or designee will arrange to advertise for bids by publishing notice in any newspaper of general circulation within the school district at least 7 calendar days prior to the date on which bids are due.

2. Nothing shall prevent the superintendent or designee from advertising in additional media outlets or for a longer period of time.

C. Bid Documents

1. The bid documents shall identify the day upon which the bids shall be returned, received, or opened and shall identify the hour at which the bids will close or be received or opened.

2. The bid documents shall also provide that such bids shall be opened simultaneously in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

3. Bids received after the date and time specified in the bid documents shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

4. If bids are being opened on more than one contract, the board, in its discretion, may award each contract as the bids are opened.

5. Sealed bids will be opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.

6. Bids will be reviewed by the Superintendent and/or designee and submitted to the board for approval.

7. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the

lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

8. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

D. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.

V. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.322327 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards. This includes a "Buy American" provision that provides that as appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the District and contractor should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of the Buy American provision must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible and consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in the U.S. or processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities produced in the U.S.

C. Full and Open Competition

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

D. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, public policy compliance, proper classification of employees (see the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201, chapter 8), record of past performance, and financial and technical resources when conducting a procurement transaction.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by ~~revising~~ reviewing the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

E. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Contract

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

F. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

- a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an

effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

- b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding construction projects for a minimum of five (5) years after the sale or demolition of the building. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.[333334](#).
- c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Construction Records for Projects Financed with Federal Funds

- a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all construction projects financed with federal funds. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of construction, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.
- b) Retention of construction records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

VI. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

- A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.
- B. Contracts covered by this policy are subject to the following additional provisions.
 - 1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.
 - 2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
 - 3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

An employee, officer, agent, and board member of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, with the limited exception of unsolicited items of nominal value.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, board members, or agents of the District at the board's discretion.

VII. Financial Management

A. Identification.

The District will identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and award identification include, as applicable, the CFDA title and

number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and, if applicable, name of the pass-through entity.

B. Financial Reporting

The District will make an accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program in accordance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

C. Accounting Records

The District maintains records which adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for federally-assisted activities. These records must contain information pertaining to grant or subgrant awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest and be supported by source documentation.

D. Internal Controls

The Superintendent or his/her designee must maintain effective control and accountability for all funds, real and personal property, and other assets through board review and approval of claims, an annual audit of the district's finances pursuant to the applicable Nebraska Department of Education and federal rules and regulations, and comparison of expenditures and outlays to budgeted amounts. The District adequately safeguards all such property and assures that it is used solely for authorized purposes.

E. Budget Control

Actual expenditures or outlays will be compared with budgeted amounts for each federal award at least annually and more often as required by law or deemed prudent by the board or administrative staff.

F. Payment Methods

The District will comply with applicable methods and procedures for payment that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the District, in accordance with the Cash Management Improvement Act at 31 CFR Part 205. Generally, the District receives payment from the Nebraska Department of Education on a reimbursement basis. 2 CFR § 200.305. However, if the District receives an advance in federal grant funds, the District will remit interest earned on the advanced payment quarterly to the federal agency. The District may retain interest amounts up

to \$500 per year for administrative expenses. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9).

Consistent with state and federal requirements, the District will maintain source documentation supporting the federal expenditures (invoices, time sheets, payroll stubs, etc.) and will make such documentation available for the Nebraska Department of Education to review upon request.

G. Allowability of Costs

Expenditures must be aligned with approved budgeted items. Any changes or variations from the state-approved budget and grant application need prior approval.

When determining how the District will spend its grant funds, the Superintendent or his/her designee will review the proposed cost to determine whether it is an allowable use of federal grant funds before obligating and spending those funds on the proposed good or service. All costs supported by federal education funds must meet the standards outlined in EDGAR, 2 CFR Part 3474 and 2 CFR Part [200, Subpart E](#). The Superintendent or his/her designee must consider these factors when making an allowability determination.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will consider Part 200's cost guidelines when federal grant funds are expended. The Superintendent or his/her designee will also consider whether all state - and District-level requirements and policies regarding expenditures have been followed.

H. Use of Program Income – Deduction, Addition, or Cost Sharing or Matching

The default method for the use of program income for the District is the deduction method. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e). Under the deduction method, program income is deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income will only be used for current costs unless the District is otherwise directed by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(1). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the addition method. Under the addition method, program income may be added to the Federal award by the Federal agency and the non-Federal entity. The program income must then be used for the purposes and under the conditions of the Federal award. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(2). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the cost sharing or matching method.

While the deduction method is the default method, the District always refers

to the grant award notice prior to determining the appropriate use of program income.

I. Cost Sharing or Matching

For all Federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity's records;
- (2) Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- (3) Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- (4) Are allowable under [subpart E \(Cost Principles\) of this part](#);
- (5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;
- (6) Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and
- (7) Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

J. Documentation of Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VIII. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.~~326~~-327 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus

area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in US or processed in US substantially using agricultural commodities produced in US.

C. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding federal awards for a minimum of six (6) years. Consequently, the District shall retain records for a minimum of six (6) years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, unless otherwise notified in writing to extend the retention period by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, or cognizant agency for indirect costs. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.

c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Procurement Records

a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

b) Retention of procurement records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

D. Privacy

The District has protections in place to ensure that the personal information of both students and employees is protected. These include the use of passwords that are changed on a regular basis; staff training on the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State confidentiality requirements; and training on identifying whether an individual requesting access to records has the right to the documentation.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3004.1

Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds

I. Applicability of Policy

This policy applies only to non-construction related purchases undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

All other non-construction purchases will be governed by the Board's general purchasing policy, which can be found earlier in this subsection. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

This procurement policy shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The district's goal is to fully implement all required procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 2 CFR 200, 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019, and by the Nebraska Department of Education.

II. Procurement System

The District maintains the following purchasing procedures.

A. Responsibility for Purchasing

The authority to make purchases shall be governed by the District's purchasing policy, which can be found elsewhere in this section. Except as otherwise provided in the District's purchasing policy, the acquisition of services, equipment, and supplies shall be centralized in the administration office under the supervision of the superintendent of schools, who shall be responsible for developing and administering the purchasing program of the school district. Purchases or commitments of district funds that are not authorized by this policy will be the responsibility of the person making the commitment.

B. Methods of Purchasing

The type of purchase procedures required depends on the cost of the item(s) being purchased.

1. Purchases up to ~~\$10,000~~15,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means an individual procurement transaction for supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed ~~\$10,000~~15,000. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

2. Purchases between ~~\$10,000~~15,000 and ~~\$250,000~~350,000 (Simplified Acquisition Procedures)

Simplified acquisitions are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, are more than ~~\$10,000~~15,000 and less than ~~\$250,000~~350,000 annually. For simplified acquisitions, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

3. Purchases Over ~~\$250,000~~350,000

a) Sealed Bids (Formal Advertising)

For purchases over ~~\$250,000~~350,000, the district will generally follow the bidding process outlined in the board's policy on Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair or Site Improvement. If sealed bids are not accepted for a purchase of over ~~\$250,000~~350,000, the district will retain an explanation for that decision.

b) Contract/Price Analysis

The District performs a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of ~~\$250,000~~350,000, including contract

modifications. The district will make an independent estimate of costs prior to receiving bids or proposals.

4. **Noncompetitive Proposals (Sole Sourcing)**

- a) Procurement by noncompetitive proposals is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source and may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
 - 1) The procurement transaction can only be fulfilled by a single source;
 - 2) The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from providing public notice of a competitive solicitation;
 - 3) The federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes written approval of noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the District; or
 - 4) After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.
- b) Noncompetitive proposals may only be solicited with the approval of the superintendent or the board. Sufficient and appropriate documentation that justifies the sole sourcing decision must be maintained by the superintendent or designee.
- c) A cost or price analysis will be performed for noncompetitive proposals when the price exceeds ~~\$250,000~~\$350,000.

5. **Competitive Proposals.**

- a) The technique of competitive proposals is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. It is generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

- 1) Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered;
 - 2) Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources; and
 - 3) Contracts must be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.
- b) The District may use competitive proposal procedures for qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method, where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used to procure A/E professional services. The method may not be used to purchase other services provided by A/E firms are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.
- c) The District may select a proposal that offers the best value and that is based upon the proposer's responsiveness to the proposal, experience, reputation, staff qualifications, ability and capacity to carry on the work, price, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors. The evaluation may be conducted by the school board, a designated committee, or another designee of the school board.

C. Use of Purchase (Debit & Credit) Cards

District use of purchase cards is subject to the policy on purchase cards which can be found elsewhere in this subsection.

D. Federal Procurement System Standards

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

The District will maintain and follow general procurement standards consistent with 2 C.F.R. §200.318.

E. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, public policy compliance, proper classification of employees (see the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201, chapter 8), record of past performance, and financial and technical resources when conducting a procurement transaction.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by revising the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

F. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Procurements

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

III. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.

B. Purchases covered by this policy are subject to the following additional provisions.

1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.
2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

An employee, officer, agent, and board member of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, except that this provision does not prohibit the receipt of unsolicited items of nominal value. For purposes of this policy, "nominal value" means a fair market value of \$25 or less.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions including, but not limited to, counseling, oral reprimand, written reprimand, suspensions without pay, or termination of employment, will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, board members, or agents of the District.

IV. Property Management Systems

A. Property Classifications

1. Equipment means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000.
2. Supplies means all tangible personal property other than those described in §200.33 Equipment. A computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is less than the lesser of the

capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes or \$10,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. 2 C.F.R. §200.94.

3. Computing Devices means machines that acquire, store, analyze, process, and publish data and other information electronically, including accessories (or “peripherals”) for printing, transmitting and receiving, or storing electronic information. 2 C.F.R. §200.20.
4. Capital Assets means tangible or intangible assets used in operations having a useful life of more than one year which are capitalized in accordance with GAAP. Capital assets include:
 - a) Land, buildings (facilities), equipment, and intellectual property (including software) whether acquired by purchase, construction, manufacture, lease-purchase, exchange, or through capital leases; and
 - b) Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life (not ordinary repairs and maintenance). 2 C.F.R. §200.12.

B. Inventory Procedure

Newly purchased property shall be received and inspected by the staff member who ordered it to ensure that that it matches the purchase order, invoice, or contract and that it is in acceptable condition.

Equipment, Computing Devices, and Capital Assets must be tagged with an identification number, manufacturer, model, name of individual who tagged the item, and date tagged).

C. Inventory Records

For equipment, computing devices, and capital assets purchased with federal funds, the following information is maintained in the property management system:

1. Serial number;
2. District identification number;
3. Manufacturer;

4. Model;
5. Date tagged and individual who tagged it;
6. Source of funding for the property;
7. Who holds title;
8. Acquisition date and cost of the property;
9. Percentage of federal participation in the project costs for the federal award under which the property was acquired;
10. Location, use and condition of the property; and
11. Any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property.

The inventory list shall be adjusted by the superintendent of schools or his/her designee for property that is sold, lost, stolen, cannot be repaired, or that cannot be located.

D. Physical Inventory

1. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two years.
2. The Superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that the physical inventory is performed. The physical inventory will generally occur during the months of June or July, but may be conducted during other time periods with the approval of the superintendent.

E. Maintenance

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. 313(d)(4), the District maintains adequate maintenance procedures to ensure that property is kept in good condition.

F. Lost or Stolen Items

The District maintains a control system that ensures adequate safeguards are in place to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. The District will notify the Federal agency or pass-through entity of any loss, damage, or theft of equipment that will have an impact on the program.

G. Use of Equipment

Equipment must be used in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by the federal award, and the District will not encumber the

property for any non-federal program use without prior approval of the federal awarding agency and the pass-through entity.

H. Disposal of Equipment

When it is determined that equipment acquired under a federal award is no longer needed for the original project or program or for other activities currently or previously supported by a federal awarding agency, the Superintendent or his/her designee will contact the awarding agency (or pass-through for a state-administered grant) for disposition instructions.

If the item has a current fair market value of \$10,000 or less, it may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. The Superintendent or his/her designee will utilize sales procedures which ensure the highest possible return on the disposal of the equipment.

I. Equipment Retention

When included in the terms and conditions of the Federal award, the Federal agency may permit the recipient to retain equipment, or authorize a pass-through entity to permit the recipient to retain equipment, with no further obligation to the Federal Government unless prohibited by Federal statute or regulation.

J. Equipment and Capital Expenditures

All equipment and capital expenditures shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.439.

K. Depreciation

All depreciation shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.436.

L. Reporting and Recording Federal Property Interest

The district will comply with federal interest reporting and submit annual reports, if required, regarding a real property interest due to a renovation, major remodeling, construction, or real property project funded by federal grant funds.

V. Financial Management

A. Identification

The District will identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and award identification include, as applicable, the CFDA title and number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and, if applicable, name of the pass-through entity.

B. Financial Reporting

The District will make an accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program in accordance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

C. Accounting Records

The District maintains records which adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for federally-assisted activities. These records must contain information pertaining to grant or subgrant awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest and be supported by source documentation.

D. Internal Controls

The Superintendent or his/her designee must maintain effective control and accountability for all funds, real and personal property, and other assets through board review and approval of claims, an annual audit of the district's finances pursuant to the applicable Nebraska Department of Education and federal rules and regulations, and comparison of expenditures and outlays to budgeted amounts. The District adequately safeguards all such property and assures that it is used solely for authorized purposes. The District takes reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard information including protected personally identifiable information.

E. Budget Control

Actual expenditures or outlays will be compared with budgeted amounts for each federal award at least annually and more often as required by law or deemed prudent by the board or administrative staff.

F. Payment Methods

The District will comply with applicable methods and procedures for payment that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the District, in accordance with the Cash Management Improvement Act at 31 CFR Part 205. Generally, the District receives payment from the Nebraska Department of Education on a reimbursement basis. 2 CFR § 200.305. However, if the District receives an advance in federal grant funds, the District will remit interest earned on the advanced payment quarterly to the federal agency. The District may retain interest amounts up to \$500 per year for administrative expenses. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9).

Consistent with state and federal requirements, the District will maintain source documentation supporting the federal expenditures (invoices, time sheets, payroll stubs, etc.) and will make such documentation available for the Nebraska Department of Education to review upon request.

G. Allowability of Costs

Expenditures must be aligned with approved budgeted items. Any changes or variations from the state-approved budget and grant application need prior approval.

When determining how the District will spend its grant funds, the Superintendent or his/her designee will review the proposed cost to determine whether it is an allowable use of federal grant funds before obligating and spending those funds on the proposed good or service. All costs supported by federal education funds must meet the standards outlined in EDGAR, 2 CFR Part 3474 and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E. The Superintendent or his/her designee must consider these factors when making an allowability determination.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will consider Part 200's cost guidelines when federal grant funds are expended. The Superintendent or his/her designee will also consider whether all state - and District-level requirements and policies regarding expenditures have been followed.

H. Use of Program Income – Deduction, Addition, or Cost Sharing or Matching

The default method for the use of program income for the District is the deduction method. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e). Under the deduction method, program income is deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income will only be used for current costs unless the District is otherwise directed by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(1). The District may also request prior

approval from the federal awarding agency to use the addition method. Under the addition method, program income may be added to the Federal award by the Federal agency and the non-Federal entity. The program income must then be used for the purposes and under the conditions of the Federal award. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(2). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the cost sharing or matching method.

While the deduction method is the default method, the District always refers to the grant award notice prior to determining the appropriate use of program income.

I. Cost Sharing or Matching

For all Federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity's records;
- (2) Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- (3) Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- (4) Are allowable under subpart E (Cost Principles) of this part;
- (5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;
- (6) Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and
- (7) Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

J. Documentation of Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VI. Written Compensation Policies

A. Time and Effort Standards

All employees who are paid in full or in part with federal funds must keep specific documents to demonstrate the amount of time they spent on grant activities. This includes an employee whose salary is paid with state or local

funds but is used to meet a required “match” in a federal program. These documents, known as time and effort records, are maintained in order to charge the costs of personnel compensation to federal grants. Charges to federal awards for salaries and wages must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. These records must:

- (1) Be supported by a system of internal controls which provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
- (2) Be incorporated into official records;
- (3) Reasonably reflect total activity for which the employee is compensated, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities;
- (4) Encompass both federally assisted and all other activities compensated by the District on an integrated basis;
- (5) Comply with the established accounting policies and practices of the District and
- (6) Support the distribution of the employee’s salary or wages among specific activities or costs objectives.

B. Time and Effort Procedures

Time and effort procedures will follow and comply with 2 CFR 200.430(i).

C. Fringe Benefits

Except as provided otherwise by federal law, the costs of fringe benefits will be allowable provided that the benefits are reasonable and required by law, a district-employee agreement, or another policy of the District.

D. Leave

The cost of fringe benefits in the form of regular compensation paid to employees during periods of authorized absences from the job, such as for annual leave, family-related leave, sick leave, holidays, court leave, military leave, administrative leave, and other similar benefits, are allowable if they are provided under established written District leave policies.

E. Unexpected or Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of a pandemic or other unexpected or extraordinary circumstance, the District may close school or individual buildings. In such case, the District may compensate federally funded or other employees during such closure to ensure the return of staff to employment after the closure as allowed by state or federal law.

F. Documentation for Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VII. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.326 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

Buy American. The District participates in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and is required to use the nonprofit food service funds, to the maximum extent practicable, to buy domestic commodities or products for Program meals. A “domestic commodity or product” is defined as one that is either produced in the U.S. or is processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the U.S. as provided in 7 CFR 210.21(d). The District may deviate from this general requirement only if:

- The product is not produced or manufactured in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of a satisfactory quality; or
- Competitive bids reveal the costs of a U.S. product are significantly higher than the non-domestic product.

C. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

- a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show

compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

- b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding federal awards for a minimum of six (6) years. Consequently, the District shall retain records for a minimum of six (6) years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, unless otherwise notified in writing to extend the retention period by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, or cognizant agency for indirect costs. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.
- c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Procurement Records

- a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

- b) Retention of procurement records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

D. Privacy

The District has protections in place to ensure that the personal information of both students and employees is protected. These include the use of passwords that are changed on a regular basis; staff training on the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State confidentiality requirements; and training on identifying whether an individual requesting access to records has the right to the documentation.

E. Travel Costs

All travel expenses paid with federal grant funds shall meet the federal requirements such as:

- (1) All travel costs must be reasonable and necessary;
- (2) All travel costs must be consistent with District policy; and
- (3) All travel costs must be directly related to the grant award.

In addition, all travel expenses funded with federal grant funds must be preapproved by the Superintendent or designee. The state per diem rates for lodging shall be used to determine that maximum amount charged to a federal grant. For reimbursement of meals, the per diem rate and rules set by the State of Nebraska through the Nebraska Department of Administrative Service's Expense Reimbursement Document "ERD" Guidelines will apply. There will be no reimbursement for breakfast if the staff member's lodging provides continental breakfast at no cost. For reimbursement for mileage or fuel, the State of Nebraska mileage rate will apply. If a District-owned vehicle is available for travel, the District-owned vehicle must be utilized unless preapproved by the Superintendent or designee. All expenditures claimed by staff must include receipts and a completed voucher.

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

3048 Communicable Disease

The ~~school~~ district strives to provide a safe environment for both students and staff while safeguarding the rights of all students and employees, including those with communicable diseases. [The district complies with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-217 to 79-223 and Title 173 Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 3.](#)

~~**Communicable Diseases.**—Communicable diseases are defined by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in Title 173 Nebraska Administrative Code Chapter 1 and include HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis (A, B, and E), Measles, Mumps, and Tuberculosis.~~

~~**School Attendance and Participation in School Sponsored Activities.** A student who has been~~**Definitions.** [Terms used in this policy have the meanings given in 173 NAC 3-002. A "reportable communicable disease" means a disease that must be reported under 173 NAC, Chapter 1.](#)

~~**Signs and Symptoms; Sending Students Home.** Staff will watch for signs and symptoms of contagious or infectious disease. These signs and symptoms include fever, flushed face, headache, body aches, unexplained tiredness, loss of appetite, stomach ache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, sore throat, nasal congestion or discharge, unexplained skin eruption, and sore or inflamed eyes. The district will notify the parent or guardian of the student's signs or symptoms. Upon notice, the parent or guardian must immediately cooperate with the district to arrange safe transportation home or another appropriate caregiver for the student. The district will report any failure to reasonably cooperate with the district to the Department of Health and Human Services or local law enforcement as appropriate.~~

~~**Notice to School Authority.** When the district sends a student home for a suspected contagious or infectious disease, the principal or school nurse will notify the superintendent or designee without delay.~~

~~**Reports to Public Health.** The school nurse, or a person acting in the capacity of a school nurse, will report each case or suspected case of a reportable communicable disease. The report must go to the local public health department or the Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health as provided in 173 NAC 1-007.04.~~

~~**Exclusion From School.** The district will exclude a student with a confirmed communicable disease for at least the minimum isolation period in Attachment 1 to 173 NAC, Chapter 3. The student must be free of acute signs and~~

symptoms. The student must be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school.

School Attendance and Participation in School Sponsored Activities.

The district will provide educational services to a student diagnosed with a communicable disease shall be provided with educational services in accordance with state law and board policy. Generally, individuals with a communicable disease will be restricted only to the extent necessary as required by law. The district will restrict the student as needed to prevent the transmissionspread of the disease, to protect theirthe student's health and rights of privacy, and to protect the health and safety of others. The decision regarding a student's education program and placement shall be made on an individual basis in light of current medical and educational information and recommendations. These will be determined by the superintendent, the student's Section 504 or Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, or the district's Crisis Team. In addition, participation in Nebraska School AthleticParticipation in Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) events will beis subject to itsNSAA rules and procedures, if anythe provisions of the district activity handbook.

Infection and Exposure Control Procedures/Universal Precautions.

The district will monitor the information available through the Federal Centers for Disease Control, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. This policy and any procedures, universal precautions, or exposure control planplans will be modified, if appropriate, based upon the best new medical information provided by the above sources.

The superintendent will take appropriate measures if there is an **Outbreaks.** In an outbreak or epidemic or outbreak of a communicable disease which may include, but is not limited to, the emergency exclusion or alternative placement of superintendent may exclude students, reassign students, or close one or more schools. The superintendent will coordinate with the closure of a school building or the entire school district. local health department and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services as needed.

Confidentiality. The existence of an individual'sdistrict will keep information about a person's communicable disease shall be treated as confidential and will be limited to school. The district will share information only with staff on a "need-to-know" basis. If it is necessary toWhen the district must inform a person of another'sabout another person's condition (due to exposure, for instance), the person will be notified of, the confidentiality ofdistrict will inform that disclosure. In addition, any communicationperson of the duty to keep the information confidential. The district will communicate about a student's

communicable disease ~~shall be~~ consistent with ~~that~~the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan, if any.

Staff Training. Staff will receive training regarding communicable diseases and the requirements of this policy and any adopted procedures as part of the training received under the Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee policy.

~~**Reporting.** School staff who learn that an individual has a communicable disease will report it to the proper authority as required by Title 173 Nebraska Administrative Code Chapter 1~~

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3061 ACH Originator

The District sends electronic payments through the ACH (Automated Clearing House) Network such as payroll direct deposits and/or vendor payments. Because of these payments, the District is classified as an ACH Originator. As an ACH Originator, the District complies with the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) Operating Rules which govern the ACH Network. The District's bank requires compliance with the Rules as a condition of the District's ability to send ACH Payments.

Responsibilities. The District follows all terms of its Originating Depository Financial Institution/Oriinator Agreement with its bank. The District obtains a written authorization before sending any ACH payment. The District meets all processing deadlines set by the bank and NACHA. The District gives authorization records to the bank upon request within NACHA's required timeframes. The District keeps all sensitive banking information secure. When the District receives a Notification of Change, it updates the payment record before the next ACH transaction. When the District receives a return due to an error or unauthorized activity, it stops all related subsequent payments until instructions are received from the Bank. The District keeps its computer systems and network secure in line with its bank agreement. The District uses procedures to spot unauthorized payments. All employees with ACH duties will complete training, if required by the Bank or NACHA, and respond to audit requests. The District will implement internal controls and procedures to mitigate errors and risk of unauthorized ACH entries.

Fraud Monitoring. The District reviews ACH transactions for unusual patterns or amounts before submitting each file. If the District suspects an error or unauthorized ACH transaction, the District will: determine whether the problem is fraud, a scam, or an internal error; notify the bank right away; contact law enforcement if needed; and stop all related future ACH transactions.

Employee Training. All employees with ACH duties will complete any ACH origination training required by the District's designated bank(s).

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

4017

Relations with Employee Collective Bargaining Associations

The board of education recognizes the right of staff members to belong to professional employee organizations for bargaining purposes pursuant to state statutes. The board will negotiate with employee associations organizations that have been established certified or recognized in accordance with public employee bargaining statutes ~~and will negotiate with local collective bargaining unit representatives at mutually agreeable times~~. The board or administration will coordinate with certified or recognized organizations for purposes of collective bargaining.

~~To facilitate an amicable relationship between the district and any local employee associations, the~~ The district will allow professional employee associations organizations to make reasonable use of district facilities for meetings outside the school's district's and the employees' work hours. With administrative approval, associations organizations may use district resources, post notices of meetings, and provide other information on bulletin boards designated for this purpose, and use district e-mail and mail boxes mailboxes for delivery of employment-related information specific to the organization. Associations Organizations must pay for all supplies used, damage caused, or the loss or theft of borrowed property.

For purposes of recruiting new members, organizations may host or attend certain meetings of certificated staff outside the district's and the employees' work hours. Attendance at any staff meetings does not include all-staff, building-level, committee, or other meetings called by the district, unless those meetings are open to other organizations or if required by law.

Unless otherwise specified in this policy or permitted law, organizations will be treated equally, and the district will not designate any day or break by reference to any specific organization.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

4019 Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee

The school district is committed to providing and maintaining a safe work environment, and to taking reasonable precautions for the safety of the students, employees, visitors, and all others having business with this school district. Every employee should show concern for the safety of fellow employees, students, and members of the public. The district shall have a safety committee as required by Nebraska law. Members of the safety committee ~~shall~~may be established through the collective bargaining process.

The committee ~~shall~~will adopt and maintain a written injury prevention program. The committee ~~shall~~will participate in the development of safety education, training, and the establishment of safety rules, policies and procedures pursuant to this policy, the district's written injury prevention program, or as otherwise provided by law. Training for employees ~~shall~~will be conducted annually.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee ~~shall~~will maintain minutes of all meetings and file them in the district office. The committee ~~shall~~will implement accident investigation, record keeping procedures, safety rules, safety and health training, and policies. The district ~~shall~~will maintain records for at least three years, or longer if directed by the Department of Labor.

The committee ~~shall~~will meet at least once every three months or more frequently in the event of an employee complaint or of a job-related injury or death. The workplace injury prevention and safety committee ~~shall~~will keep written minutes of all meetings, and provide a copy to the superintendent or designee who ~~shall~~will maintain the minutes in the district's administrative offices for a period of at least three years, unless otherwise instructed by the Department of Labor.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee ~~shall~~will develop an injury prevention plan and present it to the board. The plan should be developed and presented in the spirit of employees working together in a cooperative, non-adversarial effort to promote safety at the work sites within the district.

The superintendent or designee ~~shall~~will assure that the safety training for employees is reviewed annually or more frequently, if needed. He or she ~~shall~~will provide the following, as set forth in the initial written Employer's Injury Prevention Plan:

1. Initial safety orientation on rules, policies, and job specific procedures for new employees or employees who are assuming new and different duties within the school district, if appropriate.
2. Job specific training for employees before they perform potential hazardous work.
3. Periodic refresher training and dissemination of information on an annual basis, or more frequently if so designated by the administrator, for employees regarding the injury prevention plan of the unit and safety rules, policies, and procedures pertaining to safety within the school district.

In the event of a death in the workplace, the workplace injury prevention and safety committee ~~shall~~will forward to the Department of Labor within 15 working days a copy of any review of the matter made by the workplace injury prevention and safety committee.

The superintendent or designee ~~shall~~will establish or cause to be established record-keeping procedures to control and maintain all accident and injury records pertaining to accidents and injuries within the district or activities under the control of the district. Such records ~~shall~~will be kept for at least three years, or longer if so advised by the Department of Labor.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee will confer with the district's crisis team and ~~shall~~will review the district's All-Hazard School Safety Plan upon its adoption by the crisis team.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

4056
Resignation of Certificated Staff

Certificated staff members who know they will not be returning to employment at the school district for the following school year are encouraged to submit their resignations as early as possible, to enable the board to find suitable replacements. Unless otherwise required by law or contract, the following resignation requirements apply.

SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS

Staff members who submit their resignations to the board of education by the earlier of (a) April 15th or (b) the date designated in a written request of the school board or the administrators to accept employment for the next school year pursuant to section 79-829 (provided that such acceptance date may not be earlier than March 15th of each year) will be released from the next school year's contract. Staff members who refuse to fulfill their contractual obligations will be reported to the ~~Commissioner of Education Professional Practices Committee of the Nebraska Department of Education.~~

OR

Staff members who submit their resignations to the board of education after _____ but before _____ **[insert whatever date your district uses]** will be released from the next school year's contract so long as the board is able to obtain the services of a suitable replacement. Suitability determinations will be made solely by the district and will be based upon, but not limited to, experience, quality, availability of adequate candidates, effect on extracurricular programs, class offerings, and effect on students. Staff members who refuse to fulfill their contractual obligations will be reported to the ~~Commissioner of Education Professional Practices Committee of the Nebraska Department of Education.~~

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

4065 Staff Use of AI Tools

As used in this policy, artificial intelligence tools (“AI Tools”) means machine-based resources that use computer science, algorithms, large language models, and/or machine learning to perform tasks, answer questions, collect information, and respond to human-directed tasks, queries, and objectives. AI Tools include, but are not necessarily limited to, commercially-available resources like ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, and similar technologies. The board wants to encourage staff to use AI tools to support student learning in safe and lawful ways.

This policy works together with the district’s policies on Student Use of AI Tools, Staff Internet and Computer Use, and Staff and District Social Media Use.

Tool Approval. Staff may not use an AI Tool with students or with student information unless a member of the district’s administration has approved it. To use a new tool, staff must request approval from his/her supervising administrator first. Before approving a tool, the district will review the vendor’s privacy and security practices, the kind of student information the tool would use, and whether a written data-sharing agreement with the vendor is required. The district will keep a list of approved AI Tools and the allowed uses for each.

I. Staff Expectations for Use of AI Tools in Education

A. Acceptable Use of AI Tools. Staff members must use their own professional oversight for any task they use AI Tools to complete and must carefully review the outputs of all AI Tools. Staff may use approved AI Tools to help with things like:

1. Drafting lesson plans, learning goals, and activities;
2. Assisting in initial review and feedback of student work;
3. Making reading passages or practice problems at different levels;
4. Drafting general messages like newsletters or announcements;
5. Finding resources or summarizing public information;
6. Drafting routine communications.

B. Protecting Student Information. Staff may upload student information into an AI Tool only when (a) the tool is district-approved, and (b) the vendor is bound by a written data-sharing agreement with terms that meet FERPA, COPPA, PPRA, and applicable state student data privacy laws. For this purpose, student information includes student names, ID numbers, education records, IEPs, Section 504 plans, evaluations, health records, and discipline records. This rule applies whether the staff member uses a district account, a personal account, a free version, or a paid version.

C. Recording and Transcription Tools. Staff may use AI recording or transcription tools only if:

1. The transcription tool has been approved by an administrator for use in the school context; and
2. All participants to the meeting are informed that the staff member is recording or transcribing the meeting.

The resulting recording or transcript may be subject to the district's retention and confidentiality policies.

D. Unacceptable Use of AI Tools in Education. Staff may never use AI tools to:

1. Upload FERPA-protected information about students without the express, written authorization from administrators who have assured themselves that such disclosure is lawful;
2. Relying solely on an AI Tool to grade student work that counts toward a grade or transcript or otherwise evaluate student academic progress;
3. Make or share deepfakes or fake images, audio, or video of any real person.
4. Make or share sexual or intimate images of any real person—even if the image is AI-generated;
5. Use AI to harass, bully, threaten, or impersonate any student, staff member, parent, board member, or community member;
6. Use AI to watch, track, or scan faces of students or staff outside of systems the board has approved;
7. Upload materials to AI if the copyright or license does not allow it;

8. Share district AI accounts or passwords with students or others;
9. Use district AI accounts for personal or business reasons; or
10. Use AI to bypass district network security, content filters, or device controls.

If any staff member is uncertain about the application of this policy to any AI Tool use, the staff member will check with a supervising administrator before use.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5001 Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism

Required Attendance

Every person residing in the school district who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is of mandatory attendance age shall cause that child to attend a public or private school regularly unless the child has graduated from high school or has been allowed to disenroll pursuant to this policy.

Mandatory Attendance Age

All children who are or will turn six years old before January 1 of the current school year are of mandatory attendance age. Children who have not turned eighteen years of age are of mandatory attendance age.

Exceptions

This policy does not apply when attendance is made impossible or impracticable by severe weather conditions or by the mental or physical illness of the student or a child whom the student is parenting.

A child who will not reach age 7 before January 1 of the current school year may be excused from mandatory attendance if the child's parent or guardian completes an affidavit affirming that alternative educational arrangements have been made for the child. A copy of the required affidavit is attached to this policy.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 5 Year Old Students

The person seeking to discontinue the enrollment of a student who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year shall submit a signed, written request to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The school district may request written verification or documentation that the person signing the form has legal or actual charge or control of the student. The school district shall discontinue the enrollment of any student who satisfies these requirements. Any student whose enrollment is discontinued under this subsection shall not be eligible to reenroll in this school district until the beginning of the following school year unless otherwise required by law.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be disenrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The district will follow the procedures outlined on the attached form in considering requests to disenroll.

Only children disenrolling to attend ~~a~~exempt school may be exempt from this policy. The person with legal or actual charge or control of the child must provide the superintendent with a copy of the signed request submitted to the State Department of Education for attending exempt schools. The superintendent may confirm the validity of the submission with the State Department of Education.

Prohibition on Discontinuing Enrollment – Abuse or Neglect Investigation

Upon notice from the Department of Health and Human Services, the District shall not facilitate the transfer or disenrollment of a student whose parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker is subject to an active investigation by the Department for fourteen days or until further notice from the Department, whichever occurs first.

Attendance Officer

Each building principal is designated as an attendance officer for the district. Each building principal, at his or her discretion, may delegate these responsibilities to any other qualified individual. The attendance officer is responsible for enforcing the provisions of state law relating to compulsory attendance. This responsibility includes but is not limited to filing a report with the county attorney of the county in which a student resides. Compensation for the duties of attendance officer is included in the salary for the superintendent or designee.

Excused Absences – Physical or Mental Illness

Absences shall be excused by a parent, guardian, or educational decision maker, as defined in section 79-530, of the child for physical or mental illness and as documented by a credentialed health professional, provided the

documentation supports such absence. In the instance of chronic illness, documentation shall be reviewed each semester.

Excused Absences – Others

The following additional absences will be considered excused if they are confirmed by communication to the school from the student's parent/guardian:

~~1. Physical or mental illness of the student (a physician's verification is required after four (4) consecutive days of absence for illness)~~

2.1. Severe weather

3.2. Medical appointments for the student

4.3. Death or serious illness of the student's family member

5.4. Attending a funeral, wedding or graduation

6.5. Appearance at court or for other legal matters

7.6. Observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith

8.7. College planning visits

9.8. Personal or family vacations

Excessive Absenteeism

When a student receives 5 unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent in any semester, the Attendance Officer may send written notification of the student's total absences to the student's parent or guardian. When a student receives **10** unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent in any school year, the Attendance Officer will send written notification of the student's total absences to the student's parent or guardian and offer to meet with the student's parents or guardians to discuss any barriers to the student's attendance. When a student receives **15** unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent in any school year, the Attendance Officer will send written notification of the student's total absences to the student's parent or guardian and shall schedule a meeting with relevant stakeholders to discuss and address any barriers to the student's attendance, unless the Attendance

Officer determines that such a meeting would not be productive in facilitating the student's regular attendance.

When a student is absent more than twenty days per year or the hourly equivalent and any portion of the absences is unexcused, the Attendance Officer may file a report with the appropriate county attorney.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5003 Admission of Part-Time Students

A student may be permitted to enroll on a part-time basis pursuant to this policy and applicable curricular practices when enrollment is appropriate for reasons that include but are not limited to the following: the student attends another education institution on a primary basis; is enrolled for a limited number of credit hours needed to graduate; has a modified schedule because of a disability or as part of an individualized education plan; or is a student who attends a private, denominational, or parochial school or a school that elects not to meet accreditation or approval requirements (referred to herein as an exempt school student or an exempt school, respectively).

Eligibility and Application for Enrollment. A student may be eligible for part-time enrollment if the student:

1. is of appropriate age to attend school;
2. is a resident of this school district;
- 2.3. ~~is or~~ a resident of another school district attending a private, denominational, parochial, or exempt school, ~~but only. For residents of another school district, the student is only eligible to part-time enroll~~ if
 - a. this school district is the closest to the student's residence that offers the extracurricular sport or activity they desire to participate in, and their resident school district does not offer that sport or activity; ~~or~~
 - b. the school building the student would attend if accepted for part-time enrollment is closer than the school building the student attends or would attend at the resident district;
- 3.4. has not graduated from high school; and
- 4.5. has not received a graduate equivalency diploma.

The parent or guardian must meet all of the district's admission requirements and file an application for enrollment on forms provided by the school district by [redacted] prior to the year of enrollment. For second semester high school courses, the application must be filed by [redacted]. For students who move into the district mid-semester, the application must be filed within 20 days of moving into the district. The administration shall review the application, determine whether to approve or deny it, notify the parent or guardian, and schedule enrollment at an educationally appropriate time in the building or attendance center of the administration's choice. Enrollment does not carry over from one school year to the next, and the parent or guardian must apply for enrollment each school year.

Limitations Based on Resources. The part-time enrollment of students is subject to limitations for grades, classes, courses, and programs based on the limited resources available to the school district. Full-time students shall be given priority for enrollment in grades, classes, courses, and programs.

Placement of Students. Students accepted for part-time enrollment shall be placed in courses for which they have adequate preparation and which are determined to be educationally appropriate based on criteria that include, but are not limited to the student's age, achievement test scores, academic record, evaluation by school personnel and any other standards used by the district for the placement of students.

Grades and Academic Honors. Students accepted for part-time enrollment shall receive grades, report cards, and transcripts, but shall not be eligible to graduate, receive a diploma or qualify for class ranking unless they meet all district requirements including earning a sufficient number of credit hours and semesters of attendance.

Applicability of School Rules. Students accepted for part-time enrollment are subject to all rules and standards of the board of education and administration as set forth in policy, handbooks or other communications, as well as the rules and directives of the building administration and staff. They must remain on the school campus during scheduled classes but must leave the school campus when not engaged in a course, course-related activity, or an extracurricular activity or sport, unless the building principal approves their presence. Students who violate school policies, rules, or directives shall be subject to disciplinary procedures up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Extracurricular Sports and Activities. [OPTION 1: accredited private school students can't participate] Students who are enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school may not participate in extracurricular sports and activities sponsored by the school district.

[OPTION 2: accredited private school students can participate]. Students who are enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school may not participate in extracurricular sports and activities sponsored by the school district if they participate in extracurricular sports and activities at any other public, private, denominational, or parochial school. Any such students who desire to participate in extracurricular sports and activities at the school district must enroll in the following number of credit hours from the school district:

1. -For extracurricular sports and activities regulated by an athletics or activities association in which this school district is a member: 5 credit hours.
2. For extracurricular sports and activities governed by a national or state organization other than an athletics or activities association, such as FFA: the minimum number of credit hours offered by the school district as required by that national or state organization.
3. -For extracurricular sports and activities not regulated or governed by any such entity: [INSERT NUMBER 0-5 credit hours]. ~~must be enrolled in 5 credit hours in this school district to participate. [Choice A: let them participate in non-regulated activities without enrolling in classes]~~ Students seeking to participate in extracurricular sports and activities not regulated by such an entity may participate without enrolling in any classes at the school district but must still fill out the application form. [Choice B: require some number of credit hours from the district to participate in non-regulated activities]. ~~Students seeking to participate in extracurricular sports and activities not regulated by such an entity may only participate if they enroll in at least [insert your number here] credit hours on a part-time basis.~~

Exempt school students may only participate in extracurricular sports and activities if they are enrolled in at least 20 total credit hours per semester, when combining the exempt school credit hours and credit hours taken on a part-time basis at the school district. ~~and enrolled in the number of credit hours at this school district set out below.~~ Exempt school students are not eligible to participate in extracurricular sports and activities sponsored by the school district if they participate in any sport or activity sponsored by any other public, private, denominational, or parochial school. Any such students who desire to participate in extracurricular sports and activities at the school district must enroll in the following number of credit hours from the school district:

1. For extracurricular sports and activities regulated by an athletics or activities association in which this school district is a member: 5 credit hours.
- ~~1.2.~~ For extracurricular sports and activities governed by a national or state organization other than an athletics or activities association, such as FFA: the minimum number of credit hours offered by the school district as required by that national or state organization.
- ~~2.3.~~ For extracurricular sports and activities not regulated or governed by any such entity: [INSERT NUMBER 0-5 credit hours] ~~Any such students who desire to participate in extracurricular sports and activities regulated by an athletics or activities association in which this school district is a member must be enrolled in 5 credit hours in this school district to participate. [Choice A: let them participate non-~~

~~regulated activities without enrolling in classes]. Students seeking to participate in extracurricular sports and activities not regulated by such an entity may participate without enrolling in any classes at the school district but must still fill out the application form. [Choice B: require some number of credit hours from the district to participate in non-regulated activities]. Students seeking to participate in extracurricular sports and activities not regulated by such an entity may only participate if they enroll in at least [insert your number here] credit hours on a part-time basis.~~

All students permitted to participate in extracurricular sports and activities under this policy must also meet all other eligibility requirements set by the board, administration, and coach/sponsor prior to participating and for continued participation in the sport or activity. This includes but is not limited to rules for completing courses; up/down lists for deficient grades and/or incompletes; and all eligibility and other requirements of the Nebraska School Activities Association and any other governing bodies for the activity or sport.

Transportation. Part-time school students are not entitled to transportation or reimbursement for transportation to and from the school for class attendance purposes, unless required by law. Eligible part-time students are entitled to transportation to and from practices and extracurricular events to the same extent as the school district's full-time students, but part-time students must arrange their own transportation and arrive timely to the designated pick-up point for such transportation.

Option Enrollment. Students may not enroll on a part-time basis pursuant to the school's option enrollment program.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5004 Option Enrollment

The board of education supports the concept embodied in the Enrollment Option Program that parents and legal guardians have the primary responsibility for ensuring that their children receive the best education possible. Accordingly, the school district will participate in the option enrollment program and receive option students as provided herein.

1. Definitions

- a. **Option Student Defined.** Option student means a nonresident student who has chosen to attend the school district under the provisions of the option enrollment program.
- b. **Resident School District Defined.** Resident school district means the school district in which a student resides or in which the student is admitted as a resident of the school district pursuant to state law.
- c. **Option School District Defined.** Option school district means the school district that a student chooses to attend other than his or her resident school district.
- d. **Elementary School Defined.** Elementary school means grades K - [redacted].
- e. **Middle School Defined.** Middle school means grades [redacted] - [redacted].
- f. **High School Defined.** High school means grades [redacted] through 12.
- g. **Individual Student Defined.** Individual Student means the individual person seeking to begin attendance as an option student in the school district and who such person's parent or legal guardian has identified in a written application for option enrollment submitted to the school board.
- h. **Applicants Defined.** Applicants means the Individual Student together with all siblings of the Individual Student.
- i. **Siblings Defined.** Siblings means all children residing in the same household on a permanent basis who have the same mother

or father or who are stepbrother or stepsister to each other who have not received a high school diploma or its equivalent.

2. Persons Entitled to Apply for Option Enrollment of Students. Only parents and legal guardians may apply for option enrollment of students. Applications filed by foster parents and adults acting *in loco parentis* are not authorized and will be automatically denied.

3. Duties, Entitlements and Rights of Option Students. Except as otherwise provided herein, once an option student's option enrollment application has been accepted he/she shall be treated as a resident student of the school district.

4. Automatic Acceptance. The option school district must automatically accept applications of Individual Students under the following circumstances:

a. The Individual Student relocates in a different school district but wants to continue attending his or her original resident school district and the Individual Student has been enrolled in his or her original resident school district for the immediately preceding two years (in which case the time deadlines are waived);

b. The Individual Student relocates in a different school district but wants to continue attending the option school district (in which case the time deadlines are waived); or

3.c. The Individual Student is a sibling of an option student enrolled in the option school district.

4.5. Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of All Other Option Students. For Individual Students not entitled to automatic acceptance as described in the preceding section, no application for option enrollment may be accepted if enrollment in the school district if any of the Applicants would exceed the school district's capacity as described in this section.

a. Special Education Capacity. Capacity for special education services will be determined on a case-by-case basis. If an application for option enrollment received by the school district indicates that any of the studentApplicants has an individualized education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., or has been identified as a student with a disability as defined in section 79-1118.01, the

application will be evaluated by the director of special education services or the director's designee who must determine if the school district and the appropriate class, grade level, or school building has the capacity to provide all of the applicantApplicants the appropriate services and accommodations. The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Rights Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g) permits the release of education records when a student seeks or intends to enroll in a different school district.

- b. Numeric Capacity.** The board of education may set the numeric capacity of programs, classes, grade levels, or school buildings by operation of this policy or through freestanding action by the board. Numeric Capacity will be determined based upon available staff, facilities, projected enrollment of resident students, and projected number of students with which the option school district will contract based on existing contractual arrangements. Individuals seeking information about the numeric capacity set by the board may contact the superintendent for a copy of that resolution.
- c. Programmatic Capacity.** In addition to the numeric capacity standards referred to above, the board may, by resolution, prior to October 15 of each school year, declare a program, a class, or a school unavailable for the next school year to option students due to lack of capacity. Individuals seeking information about the programs that have been declared to be unavailable due to lack of capacity may contact the superintendent for a copy of the board's resolution.
- d. Other Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of Option Enrollment Applications.** In addition to the numeric and programmatic capacity standards outlined above, the school district shall not accept any application for option studentenrollment when acceptanceenrollment of any of the studentApplicants:

 - i. Would increase the operating costs of the school district, such as by requiring the hiring of new staff or contracting with outside entities to provide services to any of the studentApplicants;
 - ii. Would require the procurement of new equipment, technology, or furnishings;
 - iii. Would cause or require the rearrangement of caseloads for staff and contracted professionals;

- iv. Is reasonably deemed by appropriate school staff to pose a potential risk to the health or safety of students or staff;
- v. May pose a risk of adversely affecting the quality of educational services being provided to resident students, as determined by appropriate school staff.

e. Prohibited Standards. The school district shall not base the decision to accept or reject ~~an option student on the student's~~the application of the Individual Student on any of the Applicants' previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, disabling condition(s), proficiency in the English language, or previous disciplinary proceedings.

f. Order of Acceptance. If there are more option student applicants for any program, class, grade level or school building than can be accepted into such program, class, grade level or school building, applicants shall be accepted ~~in the following order:~~

~~i. students with brothers or sisters attending the school district, either as resident students or as option students, shall be granted first priority;~~

~~ii. thereafter, option students shall be accepted into such program, class, grade level or school building in the order in which written applications were received by the school district.~~

g. Maximum Capacity Report. The school district will annually establish, publish, and report the capacity for each school building under the district's control pursuant to procedures, criteria, and deadlines established by the Nebraska Department of Education.

5.6. False or Misleading Option Applications. If, prior to the ~~student's~~Individual Student's attendance as an option student, the school district discovers that a previously accepted option application contained false or substantively misleading information about any of the Applicants, the option application will be rejected.

6.7. Academic Credits and Graduation. The school district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another school district, and shall award a diploma to an option student if the student meets the graduation requirements of the school district.

7.8. Information Regarding Schools, Programs, Policies and Procedures. The school district, its officers and employees, shall make information about the school district and its schools, programs, policies and procedures available to all interested people.

8.9. Procedure for Students Optioning Into or Out of the School District.

- a. The parent or legal guardian of any student desiring to option into or out of the school district shall submit a proper and timely application to the board of education and the other affected school district for enrollment during the following and subsequent school years. Any application requiring the approval of the school district shall be deemed submitted when the application is actually received in the school district's business office.
- b. On or before April 1st, the school district shall notify the parent or legal guardian of any ~~student~~Individual Student who has submitted an application to option into the school district and the resident school district, in writing, whether the application is accepted or rejected. If an application is rejected, the reason for such rejection shall be stated in the notification. This written notice shall be sent via certified mail to the address listed on the option application.

9.10. Late Applications and Requests for Release

- a. The board of education may refuse a request of a student seeking to option out of the school district when the option application is submitted after March 15th under the following conditions:
 - i. When the district has already entered into contracts with teaching staff for the following school year;
 - ii. When the district has already contracted for the performance of specific services for the student;
 - iii. When the release of the student would have a negative financial impact or loss of revenue for the district.
- b. The board of education will approve late applications to option into the district under the following conditions:

- i. When the resident district has released the student, or if the student is an option student at the time of such application and applying to become an option student at a subsequent option school district, a release approval from the option school district the student is attending at the time of such application;
- ii. When the student's late enrollment into the district meets the standards for acceptance or rejection of option students contained elsewhere in this policy;

OR

- b. The board of education will deny all applications to option into the district that are received by the district after March 15 of the school year prior to the student's requested enrollment.
- c. The superintendent will notify parents or guardians who have submitted properly completed option applications after March 15th no later than 60 days following submission of the application of the board's acceptance or rejection of the application.

10.11. Students Who Do Not Need a Release from the Resident District

- a. A student does not need to be released from his/her resident district or the option school district the student is attending at the time of application under the following circumstances:
 - i. When the student has relocated to a different resident school district after February 1
 - ii. When a student's option school district merges with another district effective after February 1
- b. The school district shall accept or reject an application from a student under this paragraph using the criteria set forth in this policy and will accept or reject the application within forty-five days.

11. Cancellation of Option.

Students who option either into or out of the school district shall:

- a. Attend the option school district until graduation or relocation/re-option in a different resident school district unless the student chooses to return to the resident school district, in which case the student's parent or legal guardian shall timely submit a cancellation form to the school board or board of education of the option school district and the resident school district for approval for the following year.
- b. Attend an option school district for not less than one school year unless the student relocates to a different resident school district, completes requirements for graduation prior to the end the school year, transfers to a parochial or private school, or upon mutual agreement of the resident and option school districts cancels the enrollment option and returns to the resident school district.

12. Authority of Superintendent.

The board of education authorizes the superintendent of schools to make decisions on its behalf pursuant to and to apply the criteria articulated by this policy in determining whether to grant or deny option enrollment applications.

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

5035 Student Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than those specifically provided in this policy and the Student Discipline Act, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, referral to restorative justice practices or services, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a ~~parent or guardian~~Parent to such counseling or evaluation. Disciplinary consequences may also include in-school suspension, Saturday School, and any other consequence authorized by law. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

Any disciplinary action taken by staff must be consistent with the requirements of other applicable laws, including but not limited to the IDEA, Section 504, and Title IX.

In this policy, references to "Principal" shall include building principals, the principal's designee, or other appropriate school district administrators.

"Parent" means parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker of the student. "Educational decisionmaker" means a person designated or ordered by a court to make educational decisions on behalf of a child.

Any statement, notice, recommendation, determination, or similar action specified in this policy shall be effectively given at the time written evidence thereof is delivered personally to or upon receipt of certified or registered mail or upon actual knowledge by a student or his or her ~~parent or guardian~~Parent.

Any student who is suspended or expelled from school pursuant to this policy may not participate in any school activity during the duration of that exclusion including adjacent school holidays and weekends. The student activity eligibility of a student who is mandatorily reassigned shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the principal of the building to which the student is reassigned.

Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade Students

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, an elementary school shall not suspend a student in pre-kindergarten through second grade unless the student:

1. ~~B~~brings a deadly weapon as defined in section 28-109 onto school grounds, into a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or into a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event; or
2. Engages in violent behavior capable of causing physical harm to another student or school employee.

As an alternative to suspension, the school district may take any action authorized by law, including those provided in section 79-258.

Makeup Work for Suspended Students

Any student who is suspended must be given an opportunity to complete any classwork and homework missed during the period of suspension, including, but not limited to, examinations ("makeup work"). Any makeup work must be completed and turned in within 2 school days after completion of the suspension. This makeup guideline shall be provided to the student and a ~~parent or guardian~~Parent at the time of suspension. Suspended students may not be required to attend the school's alternative program for expelled students in order to complete classwork or homework.

Short-Term Suspension

The Principal may exclude students from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or,
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, that occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a connection between such conduct and school.

The following process applies to short-term suspension:

1. The Principal shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. Short-term suspension shall be imposed only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to

further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.

2. ~~Prior~~ After the principal has determined that a short-term suspension is necessary, but prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student and the Parent will be given oral ~~or~~ and written notice of the charges against the student. They ~~student~~ will be advised of what ~~he~~ ~~or she~~ the student is accused of having done, be given an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be given an opportunity to ~~explain and present evidence of~~ the student's version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, not to exceed an additional 48 hours, following the suspension, the Principal will send a written statement to the student, and the student's ~~parent or guardian~~ Parent, describing:
 - a. ~~The~~ student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard ~~and~~;
 - b. ~~The~~ reasons for the action taken;
 - c. The actions made by the school to try to discontinue or alleviate the behavior of the student prior to considering suspension;
 - d. Resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and
 - e. How the school plans to handle such behavior in the future, including an actionable plan aimed at maximizing strategies to keep the student in school.
- 3.4. ~~An~~ opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's ~~parent or guardian~~ Parent, to have a conference with the Principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school and shall document such effort in writing. The Principal shall determine who, in addition to the ~~parent or guardian~~ Parent, is to attend the conference. If no conference has been held, a Parent may submit a written request to the suspending principal before the student returns to school.
- 4.5. Students who are short-term suspended must be given the opportunity to complete classwork and homework missed during the period of suspension, including but not limited to examinations, as provided herein.

Emergency Exclusion

Students may be emergency excluded from school pursuant to the board's separate policy on emergency exclusion or state law.

Weapons and/or Firearms

Weapons. No student may possess, handle, or transmit any weapon while on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or at any school activity or event off school grounds except as permitted by this policy. **Definition of Weapon.** The term "weapon" means any object, device, instrument, material, or substance which is capable of causing injury in the manner it is used or intended to be used.

Firearms. No student may bring, possess, handle or transmit a firearm on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school activity or event off school grounds, except as permitted by this policy. **Definition of Firearm.** The term "firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, means any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or firearm silencer, or any destructive device (excluding an antique firearm).

Exceptions Regarding Firearms and Weapons. The only exceptions for a student to bring or possess a weapon, including a firearm, are as follows:

1. The issuance of firearms to or possession of firearms by members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps when training or
2. Firearms which may lawfully be possessed by the person receiving instruction under the immediate supervision of an adult instructor who may lawfully possess firearms.

Consequences - Firearm. Any student who brings a firearm, as that term is defined in 18 United States Code 921, to school will be expelled from school for one calendar year. The superintendent of schools and the board of education shall have the authority to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

Consequences – Weapon. State law and this policy provide that any student who violates this policy by knowingly bringing, possessing, handling or transmitting a weapon, other than a firearm, on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school activity or event off school grounds may be suspended on a long-term basis, mandatorily reassigned, or expelled for the remainder of the school year in which the expulsion takes effect (if the misconduct occurs during the first semester) or the remainder of the second semester, summer school, and the first semester of the following school year (if the misconduct occurs during the second semester).

Confiscation of Firearms and Weapons. Administrative and teaching personnel are statutorily authorized, without a warrant, to confiscate any firearm or weapon possessed in violation of this policy. Any firearm that is

confiscated by school personnel shall be delivered to a peace officer as soon as practicable. Such firearms are subject to being destroyed by law enforcement authorities.

Report to Law Enforcement Authorities. All school personnel are required to report any violation of this policy to a principal or the superintendent of schools. Pursuant to state and federal law, school personnel are required to report to law enforcement authorities when a student brings a firearm to school.

Long-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the Principal from school or any school function for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days (long-term suspension) for any conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth. The process for long-term suspension is set forth below.

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the Superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's ~~parent or guardian~~Parent. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted

for the upcoming school year. If the school board or board of education or a committee of such board took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the board. Otherwise the student may be readmitted by action of the Superintendent.

3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.
4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures.** The school shall either provide an alternative school, class or educational program for expelled students, or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in NEB. REV. STAT. 79-266.
5. **Conclusion of Expulsion.** At the conclusion of an expulsion, the school district will reinstate the student and accept nonduplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the term of expulsion from any Nebraska accredited institution or institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States.

Grounds for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment:

The following conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act, NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 through 79-296, when such activity occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes. The board has determined that the use of synthetic media such as deepfakes may constitute "similar conduct";
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;

4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (*see also board policy on weapons and firearms*);
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor (*note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant*);
7. Public indecency as defined in section 28-806, except that this prohibition shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137 and in these policies;
9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in section 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in section 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in section 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;
10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
11. A repeated violation of any of the following rules if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes:
 - a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion;
 - b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health

- and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
- c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
 - d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, an electronic nicotine delivery system, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco, tobacco derivative product or imitation or electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
 - e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
 - f. Possession of pornography, including creation, possession, dissemination, accessing, sale, or any other use of synthetic media, such as deepfakes;
 - g. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically), including creation, possession, dissemination, accessing, sale, or any other use of synthetic media, such as deepfakes;
 - h. Engaging in hazing, defined as any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating and include but are not limited to the following: personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/newcomers; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; branding; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault;
 - i. Bullying which shall include cyberbullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and

posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;

- j. Violations of the district's acceptable computer use policy;
- k. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a simulated or "look-a-like" weapon;
- l. Using any object to simulate possession of a weapon;
- m. Knowingly making a false statement or knowingly submitting false information during the Title IX grievance process or any other school investigation or making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a Title IX grievance proceeding or any other school investigation;
- n. Violation of the school's audio and video recording policy; and
- o. Any other violation of any board policy, handbook provision, or rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board.

Due Process Afforded to Students Facing Long-term Suspension or Expulsion

The following procedures shall be followed regarding any long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment:

1. The decision to recommend discipline shall be made within two school days after learning of the alleged student misconduct. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's ~~parents or guardian~~Parent with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;

- b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. Resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student;
 - b.d. How the school plans to handle such behavior in the future, including an actionable plan aimed at maximizing strategies to keep the student in school;
 - c.e. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, and that if the student is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, the student may complete classwork and homework, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension pursuant to district guidelines which shall not require the student to attend the school district's alternative programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork or;
 - d.f. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e.g. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's ~~parent~~Parent, or the student's representative ~~or guardian~~ has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and
 - f.h. A form on which the student, the student's ~~parent, or the student's guardian~~Parent may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail to the address provided on the form.
- 3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect, if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.
- 4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, the student's ~~parents,~~ guardianParent, or representative from discussing and settling the

- matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the time the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect.
5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall recommend appointment of a hearing examiner within two school days after receipt of the hearing request. The student or the student's ~~parent or guardian~~Parent may request designation of a hearing examiner other than the hearing examiner recommended by the superintendent if notice of the request is given to the superintendent within two school days after receipt of the superintendent's recommended appointment. Upon receiving such request, the superintendent must provide one alternative hearing examiner who is not an employee of the school district or otherwise currently under contract with the school district and whose impartiality may not otherwise be reasonably questioned. The student or the student's ~~parent or guardian~~Parent must, within five school days, select a hearing examiner to conduct the hearing who was recommended or provided as an alternative hearing examiner, and shall notify the superintendent in writing of the selection. The superintendent must appoint the selected hearing examiner upon receipt of such notice.
 6. The hearing examiner must, within two school days after being appointed, give written notice to the principal, the student, and the student's ~~parent or guardian~~Parent of the time and place for the hearing.
 7. The hearing shall be held within a period of five school days after appointment of the hearing examiner, but such time may be changed by the hearing examiner for good cause with consent of the parties. No hearing shall be held upon less than two school days' actual notice to the principal, the student, and the student's ~~parent or guardian~~Parent, except with the consent of all the parties.
 8. The principal or legal counsel for the school, the student, ~~and the student's parent, guardian, Parent,~~ or representative have the right to receive a copy of all records and written statements referred to in the Student Discipline Act as well as the statement of any witness in the possession of the school board or board of education no later than forty-eight hours prior to the hearing.
 9. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing examiner. The hearing will be held according to the requirements of section 79-269. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.
 10. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 to 79-294).

Reporting Requirement to Law Enforcement

Violations of this section will result in a report to law enforcement if:

1. The violation includes possession of a firearm;
2. The violation results in child abuse;
3. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that the administration believes cannot be adequately addressed solely by discipline from the school district;
4. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that endangers the health and welfare of staff or students;
5. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that interferes with school purposes;
6. The report is required or requested by law enforcement or the county attorney.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5048
Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)

School employees will comply with the requirements of the NDE Rule 59 "Protocol: protocol entitled, "Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)" (Protocol) to address incidents of anaphylaxis involving students at school when those students do not have existing response plans. For students with individual self-management plans, Section 504 plans, or Individualized Education Programs (IEP) addressing asthma or anaphylaxis responses, school employees will comply with those plans. The district shall procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary to implement the ~~protocol~~Protocol.

The superintendent shall obtain the required signature(s) of one or more ~~physicians~~ Prescribing Health Care Practitioners licensed to practice medicine in Nebraska on the Protocol form ~~entitled "Protocol: Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)" ("Protocol")~~. The superintendent shall publish this policy and Protocol in each student and employee handbook.

The superintendent shall arrange to have a qualified medical ~~person~~ professional train employees, and for training updates as necessary. This may be a medical doctor, qualified school nurse, or other person qualified to train staff on the medication of students.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

6009

Grade Placement and Academic Credits of Transfer Students

~~Subject to a determination on grade placement based on the criteria set forth below, a~~The district will use the criteria outlined below to determine both the grade-level placement and the academic credit awarded to transfer students. The administration is the final decision-maker and decisions made pursuant to this policy may not be appealed to the board of education.

Transfer from an Accredited School District.

A student transferring from an accredited school generally will be placed at the grade level that is comparable to the placement in the school from which the student is transferring. Temporary placement may be made until a student's records are received to verify the placement.

Elementary Level Students

~~The appropriate level of placement for elementary level students may be determined by, but not limited to,~~consideration of student's building principal may place a student into a grade level that is different from the accredited school from which the student is transferring after considering the following information:

Chronological

- Student's chronological age
- Previous public school or private school experience
- ~~Diagnostic test data~~
- ~~Achievement test data~~
- ~~Criterion-referenced test data~~

Secondary Level Students

~~The appropriate level of placement for secondary students may be determined by, but not limited to,~~consideration of the following information:

- ~~Chronological age~~
 - ~~Previous public school or private school experience and Academic transcript received from the accredited school of origin~~
- ~~Standardized Testing data from the accredited school of origin, including but not limited to, standardized achievement test data~~
 - ~~Criterion, criterion-referenced test data, classroom testing data, and diagnostic test data~~
- ~~Final examination test Testing data~~
- ~~Diagnostic test data~~

- ~~The district will accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by an accredited school district and which, in the professional judgment of the administrative team, are sufficiently rigorous and comparable to the district's offered courses of study. A student transferring into from any tests or assessments conducted by the school district in grades 9-12 will be responsible for meeting all graduation requirement in order to be awarded a diploma from the district.~~

~~Students who transfer from All credits awarded to a student by an exempt (home) school and/or a non-accredited school may be awarded credits to institution will be counted toward high school towards applicable graduation requirements at for the transferring student.~~

Transfer From a Non-Accredited School.

~~A student or a parent/guardian of a student who is transferring into the discretion of the building principal in consultation district from a non-accredited school must provide the district with copies of all materials that have been used to provide instruction to the superintendent of schools. The student that the family would like the district to consider in determining the appropriate grade level at which to place the student and credits to be awarded to the student. The student's building principal will consider all of the factors listed above and will also then consider the student's performance on the district's internal benchmark tests. those materials and the following factors in determining the grade level placement for the student:~~

Commented [1]: Do we need to define what we mean by accredited? I could see (and I think we have had) a parent say, "No, really. This online program has been accredited by the national associate of fake virtual schools. You HAVE to recognize these credits!!"

- Student's chronological age
- Previous school experience
- Materials submitted by the student or family pursuant to this policy
- Testing data from any tests or assessments conducted by the school district

The district will only award credit toward graduation from courses while the student was in a non-accredited school if the student can demonstrate mastery of the concepts required for completion of that course. Mastery will be assessed by standard and nonstandardized testing, at the discretion of the administration.

Multiple Enrollments and Re-enrollments In the Same Semester

Students from non-accredited schools who disenroll and then re-enroll in the district multiple times during the same semester will be permitted to resume the grade placement that the student was in at the time of the prior enrollment. However, students who fail to attend the total number of days per semester required of enrolled students will not be eligible to receive credit for the partial semester of enrollment.

The district will not retroactively award credit for time spent in exempt or non-accredited status.

A student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities upon re-entry is subject to all eligibility rules and the district's policies governing extracurricular eligibility.

Placement of International Students.

The district administration, in conjunction with the building principal, will determine the appropriate grade level/credit status of a student transferring from a ~~foreign~~ country, other than the US.

Graduation Requirements

Regardless of the school(s) previously attended, a student transferring into the school district in grades 9-12 will be responsible for meeting all graduation requirements to be awarded a diploma from the district.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

6038 Student Use of AI Tools

As used in this policy, artificial intelligence tools (“AI Tools”) mean machine-based resources that use computer science, algorithms, large language models, and/or machine learning to perform tasks, answer questions, collect information, and respond to human-directed tasks, queries, and objectives. AI Tools include, but are not necessarily limited to, commercially-available resources like ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude and similar programs.

AI Tools may be useful to student learning. However, students and staff must ensure that student use of AI Tools should focus on using such tools as a resource and for background material, rather than using the AI Tools to complete the assignment. Therefore, AI Tools may only be used by students in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Students may not use AI tools on any assignment, test, or project unless the staff member has given express permission for the student to do so. Staff Member permission to use an AI tool on one assignment does not carry over to other assignments. Individual staff members will decide for each individual assignment the extent to which students may use AI Tools.
2. If a student uses any AI Tools in connection with a school assignment, the student must:
 - a. Give proper attribution to the specific AI Tool(s) used to the same extent that students are expected to give proper attribution to other sources of information such as books, texts, encyclopedias, secondary sources, and other traditional media. Such attribution may include, but is not necessarily limited to, accurate quotations, citations, footnotes, endnotes, and/or bibliography entries.
 - b. Never copy and paste the output from the AI Tool into the student’s work as if the student wrote such section himself or herself.
3. Students may never use AI Tools to:
 - a. Cheat on any assignment, test, or quiz;
 - b. Help answer questions on a test or quiz without staff member permission;
 - c. Make or share deepfakes or fake images, audio, or video of any real person;

- d. Make or share sexual, nude, or intimate images of any real person—even if the image is fake or AI-made;
 - e. Bully, harass, threaten, intimidate or impersonate any person;
 - f. Place another student or staff member name, photo, voice, or personal information into an AI Tool without staff member authorization;
 - g. Use AI Tools to bypass accommodations, content filters, or school security.
4. A student may use AI Tools as an accommodation if his/her IEP team or Section 504 committee has approved use of the tool. The student must disclose the use of AI Tools to the staff member grading the assignment.
5. A student’s failure to meet the requirements stated in this policy will constitute a violation of the district’s prohibitions against cheating plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty, including but not necessarily limited to such prohibitions stated in the Student Handbook, which violation will subject the student to discipline up to and including expulsion.
6. The student requirements stated above are the minimum requirements for any student assignment. An individual teacher may impose more stringent requirements for any specific academic assignment or coursework.

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

6046
Right to Access to School Library Materials

Definitions. As used in this policy,

- “Parent” means the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker of any student currently attending the school district; and
- “Educational decisionmaker” means a person designated or ordered by a court to make educational decisions on behalf of a child.

Catalog of Library Books. The superintendent or designee shall create and maintain a catalog of all books in the school district’s library, categorized by school building, that shall be accessible by a Parent.

Opportunity for Notification. A Parent shall have the opportunity to be notified when the Parent’s student checks out a book from the school library, which notification shall include the title of the book, the author(s) of the book, and the date the book is due to be returned to the school library. The administration may elect to allow a Parent to exercise the opportunity to receive such notifications by means of a website, application notification, or by opting into email notifications.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to create any rights of access or rights to notification in favor of any person that does not meet the definition of Parent stated above.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3040 School Safety and Security

In order to fulfill its obligation to provide a safe and secure learning environment, the Board of Education has adopted this School Safety and Security Policy. Although the district will take reasonable steps to protect students and staff, no entity can provide complete safety and security at all times. This policy does not make the district a guarantor of the safety of students, staff or patrons.

I. General Safety and Security

a. NDE Rubric

The District will meet at least the minimum requirement for each school safety and security standard indicator adopted by the Nebraska Department of Education.

b. School Hours

- i. During a crisis situation, the administration will maintain established school hours and proceed with all co-curricular activities as scheduled whenever possible.
- ii. If, during a crisis situation, the parent(s) or guardian of a student decide that the student needs to be absent, this absence will be excused.

c. Access to School Facilities

- i. The school's facilities may not be used for funeral or memorial services during the school day.
- ii. This policy does not discourage the presentation of traditional American Legion memorial services which promote patriotism.

d. Memorials

- i. Memorials often create a visual reminder of a particular crisis that may reintroduce feelings of grief for students. Therefore, memorials are generally not allowed anywhere on school premises.

- ii. Individuals who wish to seek a waiver of the general prohibition against memorials must follow the steps outlined below:
 - a. The individual must first meet with the Superintendent or his/her designee to discuss the request for a memorial.
 - b. If the Superintendent determines that additional review is appropriate, he/she will refer the request for consideration by the crisis team.
 - c. The crisis team will consider:
 - i. The current research regarding the potential psychological harm that could be caused by a memorial;
 - ii. The potential disruption to the school's learning environment;
 - iii. The cost to the district of erecting and/or maintaining a memorial;
 - iv. Whether prior tragedies have been commemorated by a memorial;
 - v. The potential for future tragedies which could necessitate a similar memorial; and
 - vi. Any other factor which the crisis team deems relevant to its recommendation.
 - vii. The requested memorial has to be something of need to the school district (ex. scoreboard, bench, building, etc.)
 - viii. A memorial plaque may be placed on the donation, but it must align with memorials placed on the property. The memorial plaque may be no larger than 5"x 8" in size.

- d. After consideration of the factors outlined above, the crisis team will make a recommendation as to whether the prohibition against memorials should be waived.
 - e. The Superintendent will communicate the crisis team's recommendation to the individual requesting the memorial.
 - f. If the crisis team recommends waiver of the prohibition against memorials, the individual who made the initial request must inform the Superintendent if he/she wishes to ask the board to approve the memorial.
 - g. Memorials may only be approved by the board and only after completion of the process outlined in this policy.
- iii. This policy is not intended to discourage the acceptance of memorial funds or specific items.

II. Superintendent's Duties Related to Safety and Security

a. Appointment of Crisis Team

The Superintendent shall appoint members to serve on the school district's crisis team. The superintendent may, but is not required, to include representatives from the following groups on the crisis team:

- Administrators
- Teachers
- Health/mental health
- Facilities staff
- Transportation staff
- Food service staff member
- Information technology staff
- Students
- Parents
- Staff member with expertise on the needs of students with disabilities
- Organizations that serve the disabled

- Organizations that serve the needs of minority populations (ELL, race, etc.)
- Representatives from local early responders (law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, railroad, factories, etc.)

b. Compliance with Fire and Safety Codes

The Superintendent will ensure that the school district meets all current fire and life safety codes or is in the process of coming into compliance.

c. Annual Safety Audits

The Superintendent will arrange for the performance of an annual safety audits using an external consultants utilizing the standardized audit protocol adopted by the Nebraska Department of Education.

d. Mutual Aid Agreements

The Superintendent will enter into mutual aid agreements to address the academic, physical, operational, psychological, and emotional recovery areas when possible with appropriate local entities.

III. Building Principals' Duties Related to Safety and Security

a. Positive and Safe Learning Environment

Each building principal shall implement a school-wide behavior process to create a positive and safe learning environment.

Each building principal shall conduct training on and require enforcement of the district's anti-bullying and dating violence policies.

Each building principal shall ensure that staff complete the required suicide prevention training as required by board policy.

Each building principal shall require staff to engage in active supervision of students at all times

b. Visitor Protocol.

Each building principal shall adopt a protocol for visitors to his/her school building to sign in upon arrival and departure and to be identified as a visitor while they are in the building during the school day. The protocol must also address visitors in specialized areas of the school such as playgrounds, gyms, cafeterias and the like.

This protocol may be written or unwritten but must be clearly communicated to and enforced by all staff.

The building principal will report individuals who repeatedly violate the visitor protocol to the superintendent for possible exclusion from school facilities pursuant to board policy.

c. Emergency Drills

Each building principal must ensure that the following drills are conducted in his/her building:

- i. Fire drills (evacuation): One fire drill conducted monthly with one additional drill being conducted during the first 30 days of school.
- ii. Tornado drills (shelter): One drill during the first two weeks of school and the second drill during the month of March.
- iii. Bus evacuation drills: Two drills during the school year involving all students and appropriate staff. Recommended that one drill occur during the first month of school.

Each building principal must also conduct any non-required drills recommended by crisis team.

Each building principal shall conduct a performance review of each of the drills conducted pursuant to this policy. This review does not have to be in writing.

Adopted on: December 9, 2019

Revised on:

Reviewed on:

3012

School Meal Program and Meal Charges

Meal Program. The school district will make a school meal program available to students. The cost of the program will be determined by the board of education so as to make the program as nearly self-supporting as possible. With board approval, the district may contract with a private company or corporation for the management and/or provision of the program.

The district will notify the families with children attending school of the current guidelines for free or reduced-price school meals. A copy of the complete regulations and procedures regarding reduced-price and free meals shall be available in the office of the superintendent, are available on the school website, and sent home annually.

Meal Charge Policy. The district will notify students and their families of the policy for **Charged Meals**, meaning meals received by a student when the student does not have money in hand or in his or her food account. This policy applies to students who receive meals at the free, reduced, or full rates.

Notice of this policy must be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households that transfer to the school during the school year. Notice may be provided through the student handbook, student registration materials, online portal used to access student accounts, direct mailing or e-mail, newsletter, the district website, and/or any other appropriate means. Notice of this policy will also be provided all school staff responsible for the enforcement of it, including food service professionals responsible for collecting payment for meals at the point of service, staff involved in notifying families of low or negative balances, and other staff involved in enforcing any aspect of this policy.

The district's policy on charged meals is:

If a student has no funds available to pay for a meal, the student will be provided and charged for up to five limited reimbursable "courtesy meals". Thereafter, if a student has no funds available to pay for a meal, no food will be provided.

Students who qualify for free meals will not be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from other food purchases. School staff may prohibit any students from charging a la carte or extra items if they do not have cash in hand or their account has a negative

balance.

If a student repeatedly lacks funds to purchase a meal, has not brought a meal from home, and is not enrolled in a free meal program, the district will use its resources and contacts to protect the health and safety of the student. Failure or refusal of parents or guardians to provide meals for students may require mandatory reporting to child protection agencies as required by law.

Collection of Delinquent Meal Charge Debt

The school district is required to make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges. The building principal or his or her designee will contact households about unpaid meal charges and notify them again of the availability of the free and reduced meal program and/or establish payment plans and due dates by telephone, e-mail, or other written or oral communication. If these collection efforts are unsuccessful, the school district may pursue any other methods to collect delinquent debt as allowed by law.

Collection efforts may continue into a new school year.

In the event that the Nebraska Department of Education develops a state-level meal charge policy, it shall supersede that portion of this policy.

Adopted on: December 9, 2019

Revised on:

Reviewed on:

2008 Meetings

The formation of policy is public business and will be conducted openly in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

1. Types of Meetings

- a. The board shall hold its regular meetings on or before the third Monday of each month.
- b. Special and emergency meetings may be called as provided by law.
- c. The board may schedule work sessions and retreats in order to provide board members and administrators with the opportunity to plan, research, and engage in discussion.

2. Notice

Method of Publishing Notice of Meetings. The board will publish reasonable advanced notice of all meetings on its website. The notice will contain a statement that the current agenda is available for inspection at the Superintendent's office during normal business hours. The Superintendent or designee may but is not required to provide information about meetings in other ways, such as social media or posting notices in physical locations in the district.

Publication of Notice Method and Regular Meeting Schedule. Four times per year, in a newspaper of general circulation, the board will publish its regular meeting schedule, location of regular meetings, and the designated method of publishing meeting notices.

When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes of the meeting, and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public no later than the end of the next regular business day.

3. Minutes

- a. The board shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, the method(s) and date(s) of the meeting notice, and the substance of all matters discussed.
- b. Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the board in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted, or if the member was absent or not voting.
- c. The meeting minutes shall be published on the school district's website within ten working days of the last meeting or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier. The minutes shall be available on the website for at least six months.

The Superintendent will make a copy of the Open Meetings Act available at all meetings.

Adopted on: November 11, 2019

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____

3003

Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Site Improvement

I. Applicability of this policy.

Construction and contracts undertaken with federal funds, whether those funds are derived directly from the federal government (e.g. award of a federal grant) or are derived by pass-through awards from the Nebraska Department of Education (e.g. special education funds, school lunch funds, Title I funds) are subject to the policy on Construction with Federal Funds, which is found elsewhere in this section.

This policy applies to all other purchases and contracts made by the school district for construction, remodeling, repair and other site improvements.

II. Projects with an Estimated Cost of Less than \$136,000

- A. The school district will solicit quotes and/or estimates for all projects with an estimated cost of less than \$136,000.
- B. Prior to solicitation of the quotes and/or estimates, the superintendent will determine whether the district will accept oral submissions.
- C. Quotes and/or estimates may be solicited by the superintendent or his/her designee without board action.
- D. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.
- E. The district may use a Nebraska state-wide cooperative purchasing program in lieu of obtaining quotes or bids under this policy to the extent such a bid or quote is not otherwise independently required by law.
- F. Nothing in this subsection prohibits or requires the use of the formal bidding procedures. If the district is going to solicit formal bids for projects of less than \$136,000 they must follow the formal procedures outlined in this policy.

III. Formal Bidding for Major Purchases and Construction

- A. Pursuant to section 73-106 of the Nebraska statutes, the board will advertise for bids when the contemplated expenditure of the project

exceeds \$136,000 for the construction, remodeling or repair of a school-owned building or for site improvement.

B. In projects that involve professional engineering or architecture, the board will have a registered professional engineer or architect prepare the plans, specifications, and estimates when the anticipated cost of the project exceeds \$144,000.

C. Advertising for Bids

1. The superintendent or designee will arrange to advertise for bids under this section by publishing notice in any newspaper of general circulation within the school district at least 7 calendar days prior to the date on which bids are due.
2. Nothing in this policy shall prevent the superintendent or designee from advertising in additional media outlets or for a longer period of time.

D. Bid Documents

1. The bid documents shall identify the day upon which the bids shall be returned, received or opened and shall identify the hour at which the bids will close or be received or opened.
2. The invitation for bids will be sufficiently certain and specific, will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, and will define the items or services in order to allow the bidder to properly respond.
3. The bid documents shall also provide that such bids shall be opened simultaneously in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.
4. Bids received after the date and time specified in the bid documents shall be returned to the bidder unopened.
5. If bids are being opened on more than one contract, the board, in its discretion, may award each contract as the bids are opened.
6. Sealed bids will be opened in a place and at the specific time

stated in the bid form. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.

7. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications.

E. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason

F. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.

Adopted on: December 9, 2019

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____

3003.1
Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects
Financed with Federal Funds

I. Applicability of the Policy

This policy applies only to construction and contracts undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

The District will also comply with the requirements of the public lettings laws (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 73-101 through 73-106) when the contemplated expenditure for the complete project exceeds \$136,000, the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 13-2901 through 13-2914), energy financing contracts (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 66-1062 through 66-1066), other applicable state laws, and the board's general policy on Bidding for Construction and Related Projects. In addition, all procurement and construction shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR part 200.317 through 200.327 and 34 CFR sections 75.601 through 75.615. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

II. All projects undertaken pursuant to this policy will be subject to the following bond requirements

- A. A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.
- B. A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.
- C. A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with

a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

III. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost of Under \$350,000

A. Methods of Bidding/Soliciting Quotations or Estimates

The type of procedures required depends on the anticipated cost of the project.

1. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of up to \$15,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means an individual procurement transaction for supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed \$15,000. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing.

2. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of between \$15,000 and \$350,000 (Simplified Acquisition Procedures)

For construction projects subject to this policy, simplified acquisitions are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, is more than \$15,000 and less than \$350,000 annually. For simplified acquisitions, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts.

B. Construction Projects with an estimated cost of between \$136,000 and \$349,999 will be made pursuant to the District's Policy on Bid Letting and Contracts.

Pursuant to Nebraska law, construction projects which have an

anticipated aggregate cost of \$136,000 or more are subject to state public lettings laws (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 73-101 through 73-106). The board will follow its standard policy on bid letting and contracts for construction projects financed with federal funds which have an anticipated aggregate cost of between \$136,000 and \$350,000.

IV. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost Over \$350,000

A. Sealed Bids: All constructions projects subject to this policy with an anticipated cost of \$350,000 or more will be publicly solicited using the sealed bid method

1. Bids must be solicited from an adequate number of known suppliers, providing them sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening the bids, for state, local, and tribal governments, the invitation for bids must be publicly advertised;
2. The invitation for bids, which will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond;
3. Sealed bids will be publicly opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.
4. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - a) Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest.
 - b) Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of.
 - c) Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.
5. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills,

business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

6. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

B. Advertising for Bids.

1. The superintendent or designee will arrange to advertise for bids by publishing notice in any newspaper of general circulation within the school district at least 7 calendar days prior to the date on which bids are due.

2. Nothing shall prevent the superintendent or designee from advertising in additional media outlets or for a longer period of time.

C. Bid Documents

1. The bid documents shall identify the day upon which the bids shall be returned, received, or opened and shall identify the hour at which the bids will close or be received or opened.

2. The bid documents shall also provide that such bids shall be opened simultaneously in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

3. Bids received after the date and time specified in the bid documents shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

4. If bids are being opened on more than one contract, the board, in its discretion, may award each contract as the bids are opened.

5. Sealed bids will be opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.

6. Bids will be reviewed by the Superintendent and/or designee and submitted to the board for approval.

7. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid

that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

8. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

D. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.

V. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.327 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards. This includes a "Buy American" provision that provides that as appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the District and contractor should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of the Buy American provision must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible and consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in the U.S. or processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities produced in the U.S.

C. Full and Open Competition

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

D. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, public policy compliance, proper classification of employees (see the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201, chapter 8), record of past performance, and financial and technical resources when conducting a procurement transaction.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by reviewing the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

E. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Contract

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

F. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

- a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and

§§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

- b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding construction projects for a minimum of five (5) years after the sale or demolition of the building. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.334.
 - c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.
2. Maintenance of Construction Records for Projects Financed with Federal Funds
- a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all construction projects financed with federal funds. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of construction, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.
 - b) Retention of construction records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

VI. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

- A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.
- B. Contracts covered by this policy are subject to the following additional provisions.
 - 1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.
 - 2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
 - 3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

An employee, officer, agent, and board member of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, with the limited exception of unsolicited items of nominal value.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, board members, or agents of the District at the board's discretion.

VII. Financial Management

A. Identification.

The District will identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and award identification include, as applicable, the CFDA title and

number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and, if applicable, name of the pass-through entity.

B. Financial Reporting

The District will make an accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program in accordance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

C. Accounting Records

The District maintains records which adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for federally-assisted activities. These records must contain information pertaining to grant or subgrant awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest and be supported by source documentation.

D. Internal Controls

The Superintendent or his/her designee must maintain effective control and accountability for all funds, real and personal property, and other assets through board review and approval of claims, an annual audit of the district's finances pursuant to the applicable Nebraska Department of Education and federal rules and regulations, and comparison of expenditures and outlays to budgeted amounts. The District adequately safeguards all such property and assures that it is used solely for authorized purposes.

E. Budget Control

Actual expenditures or outlays will be compared with budgeted amounts for each federal award at least annually and more often as required by law or deemed prudent by the board or administrative staff.

F. Payment Methods

The District will comply with applicable methods and procedures for payment that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the District, in accordance with the Cash Management Improvement Act at 31 CFR Part 205. Generally, the District receives payment from the Nebraska Department of Education on a reimbursement basis. 2 CFR § 200.305. However, if the District receives an advance in federal grant funds, the District will remit interest earned on the advanced payment quarterly to the federal agency. The District may retain interest amounts up

to \$500 per year for administrative expenses. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9).

Consistent with state and federal requirements, the District will maintain source documentation supporting the federal expenditures (invoices, time sheets, payroll stubs, etc.) and will make such documentation available for the Nebraska Department of Education to review upon request.

G. Allowability of Costs

Expenditures must be aligned with approved budgeted items. Any changes or variations from the state-approved budget and grant application need prior approval.

When determining how the District will spend its grant funds, the Superintendent or his/her designee will review the proposed cost to determine whether it is an allowable use of federal grant funds before obligating and spending those funds on the proposed good or service. All costs supported by federal education funds must meet the standards outlined in EDGAR, 2 CFR Part 3474 and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E. The Superintendent or his/her designee must consider these factors when making an allowability determination.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will consider Part 200's cost guidelines when federal grant funds are expended. The Superintendent or his/her designee will also consider whether all state - and District-level requirements and policies regarding expenditures have been followed.

H. Use of Program Income – Deduction, Addition, or Cost Sharing or Matching

The default method for the use of program income for the District is the deduction method. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e). Under the deduction method, program income is deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income will only be used for current costs unless the District is otherwise directed by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(1). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the addition method. Under the addition method, program income may be added to the Federal award by the Federal agency and the non-Federal entity. The program income must then be used for the purposes and under the conditions of the Federal award. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(2). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the cost sharing or matching method.

While the deduction method is the default method, the District always refers

to the grant award notice prior to determining the appropriate use of program income.

I. Cost Sharing or Matching

For all Federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity's records;
- (2) Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- (3) Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- (4) Are allowable under [subpart E \(Cost Principles\) of this part](#);
- (5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;
- (6) Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and
- (7) Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

J. Documentation of Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VIII. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.327 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus

area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in US or processed in US substantially using agricultural commodities produced in US.

C. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding federal awards for a minimum of six (6) years. Consequently, the District shall retain records for a minimum of six (6) years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, unless otherwise notified in writing to extend the retention period by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, or cognizant agency for indirect costs. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.

c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Procurement Records

a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

b) Retention of procurement records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

D. Privacy

The District has protections in place to ensure that the personal information of both students and employees is protected. These include the use of passwords that are changed on a regular basis; staff training on the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State confidentiality requirements; and training on identifying whether an individual requesting access to records has the right to the documentation.

Adopted on: December 9, 2019

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____

3004.1

Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds

I. Applicability of Policy

This policy applies only to non-construction related purchases undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

All other non-construction purchases will be governed by the Board's general purchasing policy, which can be found earlier in this subsection. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

This procurement policy shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The district's goal is to fully implement all required procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 2 CFR 200, 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019, and by the Nebraska Department of Education.

II. Procurement System

The District maintains the following purchasing procedures.

A. Responsibility for Purchasing

The authority to make purchases shall be governed by the District's purchasing policy, which can be found elsewhere in this section. Except as otherwise provided in the District's purchasing policy, the acquisition of services, equipment, and supplies shall be centralized in the administration office under the supervision of the superintendent of schools, who shall be responsible for developing and administering the purchasing program of the school district. Purchases or commitments of district funds that are not authorized by this policy will be the responsibility of the person making the commitment.

B. Methods of Purchasing

The type of purchase procedures required depends on the cost of the item(s) being purchased.

1. Purchases up to \$15,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means an individual procurement transaction for supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed \$15,000. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

2. Purchases between \$15,000 and \$350,000 (Simplified Acquisition Procedures)

Simplified acquisitions are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, are more than \$15,000 and less than \$350,000 annually. For simplified acquisitions, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

3. Purchases Over \$350,000

a) Sealed Bids (Formal Advertising)

For purchases over \$350,000, the district will generally follow the bidding process outlined in the board's policy on Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair or Site Improvement. If sealed bids are not accepted for a purchase of over \$350,000, the district will retain an explanation for that decision.

b) Contract/Price Analysis

The District performs a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$350,000, including contract modifications. The district will make an independent estimate of costs prior to receiving bids or proposals.

4. Noncompetitive Proposals (Sole Sourcing)

- a) Procurement by noncompetitive proposals is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source and may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
 - 1) The procurement transaction can only be fulfilled by a single source;
 - 2) The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from providing public notice of a competitive solicitation;
 - 3) The federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes written approval of noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the District; or
 - 4) After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.
- b) Noncompetitive proposals may only be solicited with the approval of the superintendent or the board. Sufficient and appropriate documentation that justifies the sole sourcing decision must be maintained by the superintendent or designee.
- c) A cost or price analysis will be performed for noncompetitive proposals when the price exceeds \$350,000.

5. Competitive Proposals.

- a) The technique of competitive proposals is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. It is generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

- 1) Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered;
 - 2) Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources; and
 - 3) Contracts must be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.
- b) The District may use competitive proposal procedures for qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method, where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used to procure A/E professional services. The method may not be used to purchase other services provided by A/E firms are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.
- c) The District may select a proposal that offers the best value and that is based upon the proposer's responsiveness to the proposal, experience, reputation, staff qualifications, ability and capacity to carry on the work, price, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors. The evaluation may be conducted by the school board, a designated committee, or another designee of the school board.

C. Use of Purchase (Debit & Credit) Cards

District use of purchase cards is subject to the policy on purchase cards which can be found elsewhere in this subsection.

D. Federal Procurement System Standards

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

The District will maintain and follow general procurement standards consistent with 2 C.F.R. §200.318.

E. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, public policy compliance, proper classification of employees (see the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201, chapter 8), record of past performance, and financial and technical resources when conducting a procurement transaction.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by revising the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

F. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Procurements

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

III. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.

B. Purchases covered by this policy are subject to the following additional provisions.

1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.
2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

An employee, officer, agent, and board member of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, except that this provision does not prohibit the receipt of unsolicited items of nominal value. For purposes of this policy, "nominal value" means a fair market value of \$25 or less.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions including, but not limited to, counseling, oral reprimand, written reprimand, suspensions without pay, or termination of employment, will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, board members, or agents of the District.

IV. Property Management Systems

A. Property Classifications

1. Equipment means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000.
2. Supplies means all tangible personal property other than those described in §200.33 Equipment. A computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is less than the lesser of the

capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes or \$10,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. 2 C.F.R. §200.94.

3. Computing Devices means machines that acquire, store, analyze, process, and publish data and other information electronically, including accessories (or “peripherals”) for printing, transmitting and receiving, or storing electronic information. 2 C.F.R. §200.20.
4. Capital Assets means tangible or intangible assets used in operations having a useful life of more than one year which are capitalized in accordance with GAAP. Capital assets include:
 - a) Land, buildings (facilities), equipment, and intellectual property (including software) whether acquired by purchase, construction, manufacture, lease-purchase, exchange, or through capital leases; and
 - b) Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life (not ordinary repairs and maintenance). 2 C.F.R. §200.12.

B. Inventory Procedure

Newly purchased property shall be received and inspected by the staff member who ordered it to ensure that that it matches the purchase order, invoice, or contract and that it is in acceptable condition.

Equipment, Computing Devices, and Capital Assets must be tagged with an identification number, manufacturer, model, name of individual who tagged the item, and date tagged).

C. Inventory Records

For equipment, computing devices, and capital assets purchased with federal funds, the following information is maintained in the property management system:

1. Serial number;
2. District identification number;
3. Manufacturer;

4. Model;
5. Date tagged and individual who tagged it;
6. Source of funding for the property;
7. Who holds title;
8. Acquisition date and cost of the property;
9. Percentage of federal participation in the project costs for the federal award under which the property was acquired;
10. Location, use and condition of the property; and
11. Any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property.

The inventory list shall be adjusted by the superintendent of schools or his/her designee for property that is sold, lost, stolen, cannot be repaired, or that cannot be located.

D. Physical Inventory

1. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two years.
2. The Superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that the physical inventory is performed. The physical inventory will generally occur during the months of June or July, but may be conducted during other time periods with the approval of the superintendent.

E. Maintenance

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. 313(d)(4), the District maintains adequate maintenance procedures to ensure that property is kept in good condition.

F. Lost or Stolen Items

The District maintains a control system that ensures adequate safeguards are in place to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. The District will notify the Federal agency or pass-through entity of any loss, damage, or theft of equipment that will have an impact on the program.

G. Use of Equipment

Equipment must be used in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by the federal award, and the District will not encumber the

property for any non-federal program use without prior approval of the federal awarding agency and the pass-through entity.

H. Disposal of Equipment

When it is determined that equipment acquired under a federal award is no longer needed for the original project or program or for other activities currently or previously supported by a federal awarding agency, the Superintendent or his/her designee will contact the awarding agency (or pass-through for a state-administered grant) for disposition instructions.

If the item has a current fair market value of \$10,000 or less, it may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. The Superintendent or his/her designee will utilize sales procedures which ensure the highest possible return on the disposal of the equipment.

I. Equipment Retention

When included in the terms and conditions of the Federal award, the Federal agency may permit the recipient to retain equipment, or authorize a pass-through entity to permit the recipient to retain equipment, with no further obligation to the Federal Government unless prohibited by Federal statute or regulation.

J. Equipment and Capital Expenditures

All equipment and capital expenditures shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.439.

K. Depreciation

All depreciation shall comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.436.

L. Reporting and Recording Federal Property Interest

The district will comply with federal interest reporting and submit annual reports, if required, regarding a real property interest due to a renovation, major remodeling, construction, or real property project funded by federal grant funds.

V. Financial Management

A. Identification

The District will identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and award identification include, as applicable, the CFDA title and number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and, if applicable, name of the pass-through entity.

B. Financial Reporting

The District will make an accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program in accordance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

C. Accounting Records

The District maintains records which adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for federally-assisted activities. These records must contain information pertaining to grant or subgrant awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest and be supported by source documentation.

D. Internal Controls

The Superintendent or his/her designee must maintain effective control and accountability for all funds, real and personal property, and other assets through board review and approval of claims, an annual audit of the district's finances pursuant to the applicable Nebraska Department of Education and federal rules and regulations, and comparison of expenditures and outlays to budgeted amounts. The District adequately safeguards all such property and assures that it is used solely for authorized purposes. The District takes reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard information including protected personally identifiable information.

E. Budget Control

Actual expenditures or outlays will be compared with budgeted amounts for each federal award at least annually and more often as required by law or deemed prudent by the board or administrative staff.

F. Payment Methods

The District will comply with applicable methods and procedures for payment that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the District, in accordance with the Cash Management Improvement Act at 31 CFR Part 205. Generally, the District receives payment from the Nebraska Department of Education on a reimbursement basis. 2 CFR § 200.305. However, if the District receives an advance in federal grant funds, the District will remit interest earned on the advanced payment quarterly to the federal agency. The District may retain interest amounts up to \$500 per year for administrative expenses. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9).

Consistent with state and federal requirements, the District will maintain source documentation supporting the federal expenditures (invoices, time sheets, payroll stubs, etc.) and will make such documentation available for the Nebraska Department of Education to review upon request.

G. Allowability of Costs

Expenditures must be aligned with approved budgeted items. Any changes or variations from the state-approved budget and grant application need prior approval.

When determining how the District will spend its grant funds, the Superintendent or his/her designee will review the proposed cost to determine whether it is an allowable use of federal grant funds before obligating and spending those funds on the proposed good or service. All costs supported by federal education funds must meet the standards outlined in EDGAR, 2 CFR Part 3474 and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E. The Superintendent or his/her designee must consider these factors when making an allowability determination.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will consider Part 200's cost guidelines when federal grant funds are expended. The Superintendent or his/her designee will also consider whether all state - and District-level requirements and policies regarding expenditures have been followed.

H. Use of Program Income – Deduction, Addition, or Cost Sharing or Matching

The default method for the use of program income for the District is the deduction method. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e). Under the deduction method, program income is deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income will only be used for current costs unless the District is otherwise directed by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(1). The District may also request prior

approval from the federal awarding agency to use the addition method. Under the addition method, program income may be added to the Federal award by the Federal agency and the non-Federal entity. The program income must then be used for the purposes and under the conditions of the Federal award. 2 C.F.R. § 200.307(e)(2). The District may also request prior approval from the federal awarding agency to use the cost sharing or matching method.

While the deduction method is the default method, the District always refers to the grant award notice prior to determining the appropriate use of program income.

I. Cost Sharing or Matching

For all Federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity's records;
- (2) Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- (3) Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- (4) Are allowable under subpart E (Cost Principles) of this part;
- (5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;
- (6) Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and
- (7) Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

J. Documentation of Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VI. Written Compensation Policies

A. Time and Effort Standards

All employees who are paid in full or in part with federal funds must keep specific documents to demonstrate the amount of time they spent on grant activities. This includes an employee whose salary is paid with state or local

funds but is used to meet a required “match” in a federal program. These documents, known as time and effort records, are maintained in order to charge the costs of personnel compensation to federal grants. Charges to federal awards for salaries and wages must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. These records must:

- (1) Be supported by a system of internal controls which provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
- (2) Be incorporated into official records;
- (3) Reasonably reflect total activity for which the employee is compensated, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities;
- (4) Encompass both federally assisted and all other activities compensated by the District on an integrated basis;
- (5) Comply with the established accounting policies and practices of the District and
- (6) Support the distribution of the employee’s salary or wages among specific activities or costs objectives.

B. Time and Effort Procedures

Time and effort procedures will follow and comply with 2 CFR 200.430(i).

C. Fringe Benefits

Except as provided otherwise by federal law, the costs of fringe benefits will be allowable provided that the benefits are reasonable and required by law, a district-employee agreement, or another policy of the District.

D. Leave

The cost of fringe benefits in the form of regular compensation paid to employees during periods of authorized absences from the job, such as for annual leave, family-related leave, sick leave, holidays, court leave, military leave, administrative leave, and other similar benefits, are allowable if they are provided under established written District leave policies.

E. Unexpected or Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of a pandemic or other unexpected or extraordinary circumstance, the District may close school or individual buildings. In such case, the District may compensate federally funded or other employees during such closure to ensure the return of staff to employment after the closure as allowed by state or federal law.

F. Documentation for Personnel Expenses

Records that reflect charges to federal awards for salaries and wages will comply with the rules and requirements of 2 CFR 200.430.

VII. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.326 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

Buy American. The District participates in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and is required to use the nonprofit food service funds, to the maximum extent practicable, to buy domestic commodities or products for Program meals. A “domestic commodity or product” is defined as one that is either produced in the U.S. or is processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the U.S. as provided in 7 CFR 210.21(d). The District may deviate from this general requirement only if:

- The product is not produced or manufactured in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of a satisfactory quality; or
- Competitive bids reveal the costs of a U.S. product are significantly higher than the non-domestic product.

C. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

- a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show

compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

- b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding federal awards for a minimum of six (6) years. Consequently, the District shall retain records for a minimum of six (6) years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, unless otherwise notified in writing to extend the retention period by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, or cognizant agency for indirect costs. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.
- c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Procurement Records

- a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

- b) Retention of procurement records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

D. Privacy

The District has protections in place to ensure that the personal information of both students and employees is protected. These include the use of passwords that are changed on a regular basis; staff training on the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State confidentiality requirements; and training on identifying whether an individual requesting access to records has the right to the documentation.

E. Travel Costs

All travel expenses paid with federal grant funds shall meet the federal requirements such as:

- (1) All travel costs must be reasonable and necessary;
- (2) All travel costs must be consistent with District policy; and
- (3) All travel costs must be directly related to the grant award.

In addition, all travel expenses funded with federal grant funds must be preapproved by the Superintendent or designee. The state per diem rates for lodging shall be used to determine that maximum amount charged to a federal grant. For reimbursement of meals, the per diem rate and rules set by the State of Nebraska through the Nebraska Department of Administrative Service's Expense Reimbursement Document "ERD" Guidelines will apply. There will be no reimbursement for breakfast if the staff member's lodging provides continental breakfast at no cost. For reimbursement for mileage or fuel, the State of Nebraska mileage rate will apply. If a District-owned vehicle is available for travel, the District-owned vehicle must be utilized unless preapproved by the Superintendent or designee. All expenditures claimed by staff must include receipts and a completed voucher.

Adopted on: December 9, 2019

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____

4019
Workplace Injury Prevention and Safety Committee

The school district is committed to providing and maintaining a safe work environment, and to taking reasonable precautions for the safety of the students, employees, visitors, and all others having business with this school district. Every employee should show concern for the safety of fellow employees, students, and members of the public. The district shall have a safety committee as required by Nebraska law. Members of the safety committee may be established through the collective bargaining process.

The committee will adopt and maintain a written injury prevention program. The committee will participate in the development of safety education, training, and the establishment of safety rules, policies and procedures pursuant to this policy, the district's written injury prevention program, or as otherwise provided by law. Training for employees will be conducted annually.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee will maintain minutes of all meetings and file them in the district office. The committee will implement accident investigation, record keeping procedures, safety rules, safety and health training, and policies. The district will maintain records for at least three years, or longer if directed by the Department of Labor.

The committee will meet at least once every three months or more frequently in the event of an employee complaint or of a job-related injury or death. The workplace injury prevention and safety committee will keep written minutes of all meetings and provide a copy to the superintendent or designee who will maintain the minutes in the district's administrative offices for a period of at least three years, unless otherwise instructed by the Department of Labor.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee will develop an injury prevention plan and present it to the board. The plan should be developed and presented in the spirit of employees working together in a cooperative, non-adversarial effort to promote safety at the work sites within the district.

The superintendent or designee will assure that the safety training for employees is reviewed annually or more frequently, if needed. He or she will provide the following, as set forth in the initial written Employer's Injury Prevention Plan:

1. Initial safety orientation on rules, policies, and job specific procedures for new employees or employees who are assuming new and different duties within the school district, if appropriate.
2. Job specific training for employees before they perform potential hazardous work.
3. Periodic refresher training and dissemination of information on an annual basis, or more frequently if so designated by the administrator, for employees regarding the injury prevention plan of the unit and safety rules, policies, and procedures pertaining to safety within the school district.

In the event of a death in the workplace, the workplace injury prevention and safety committee will forward to the Department of Labor within 15 working days a copy of any review of the matter made by the workplace injury prevention and safety committee.

The superintendent or designee will establish or cause to be established record-keeping procedures to control and maintain all accident and injury records pertaining to accidents and injuries within the district or activities under the control of the district. Such records will be kept for at least three years, or longer if so advised by the Department of Labor.

The workplace injury prevention and safety committee will confer with the district's crisis team and will review the district's All-Hazard School Safety Plan upon its adoption by the crisis team.

Adopted on: January 13, 2020
Revised on: July 13, 2026
Reviewed on: _____

4056
Resignation of Certificated Staff

Certificated staff members who know they will not be returning to employment at the school district for the following school year are encouraged to submit their resignations as early as possible, to enable the board to find suitable replacements. Unless otherwise required by law or contract, the following resignation requirements apply.

Staff members who submit their resignations to the board of education after March 15 but before April 8 will be released from the next school year's contract so long as the board is able to obtain the services of a suitable replacement. Suitability determinations will be made solely by the district and will be based upon, but not limited to, experience, quality, availability of adequate candidates, effect on extracurricular programs, class offerings, and effect on students. Staff members who refuse to fulfill their contractual obligations will be reported to the Commissioner of Education.

Adopted on: January 13, 2020

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____

5048
Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)

School employees will comply with the requirements of the NDE Rule 59 protocol entitled, "Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)" (Protocol) to address incidents of anaphylaxis involving students at school when those students do not have existing response plans. For students with individual self-management plans, Section 504 plans, or Individualized Education Programs (IEP) addressing asthma or anaphylaxis responses, school employees will comply with those plans. The district shall procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary to implement the Protocol.

The superintendent shall obtain the required signature(s) of one or more Prescribing Health Care Practitioners on the Protocol form. The superintendent shall publish this policy and Protocol in each student and employee handbook.

The superintendent shall arrange to have a qualified medical professional train employees, and for training updates as necessary. This may be a medical doctor, qualified school nurse, or other person qualified to train staff on the medication of students.

Adopted on: February 10, 2020

Revised on: July 13, 2026

Reviewed on: _____