

**Cozad Community Schools
Board of Education Meeting Following the Tax Hearing at 7:00 pm
Wednesday, September 24, 2025 7:00 PM
Office of the Superintendent**

Mission: Cozad Community Schools, in partnership with family and community, prepares students to be successful lifelong learners through quality education.

Vision: Cozad Creates Success

Values - Guiding Principles

Respect - Trust, appreciate, celebrate, value, act with urgency

Integrity - Do the right thing, deliver highest quality instruction and practice full accountability

Teamwork - Teamwork at all levels districtwide, recognize and celebrate, have fun and enjoy

Innovation - Positive attitude, open to new ideas,

Courage - Embrace change and take calculated risk, encourage others, communicate directly with respect

1. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING FOLLOWING THE TAX REQUEST HEARING AT 7:00 P.M.

1.1. Call to Order, Roll Call

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

1.3. Nebraska Open Meeting Law, Publication of Meeting

This meeting has been preceded by advance notice and is hereby declared to be in open session. A current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the West wall of the meeting room.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance by publication in the Cozad Local and posted on the Cozad Community Schools website and at the District Office, Cozad Post Office and Wilson Public Library. Notice of this meeting was also given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The order of agenda items may be changed when deemed necessary.

The board may choose to enter closed (executive) session to discuss any matter for which closed (executive) session is lawful and appropriate.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Education invites you to offer comments during the public comments portion of the agenda. This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board.

We have _____ speakers who have signed up to speak. We will allow ___ minutes per speaker for a total of _____ minutes.

During the public comment portion of this meeting, those who have signed up need to be allowed to speak without interruption for the time allotted by the Board. We understand that people may have strong feelings about the issues they come to speak about. We ask that you respect the opinions of all who speak and that you refrain from applause, conduct that interferes with the Board meeting, or other outbursts during the presentations. Offensive language, vulgar personal attacks, or hostile conduct will not be tolerated. If the Board President determines any statement or comment constitutes offensive language, a vulgar personal attack, or hostile conduct, then the Board President will rule the person out of order, and the person forfeits any remaining time. You should be further advised that there is no legal protection for any comments that are made, including slanderous comments. Each person should choose their words carefully.

The Board is not obligated to respond to public comments or questions because such dialogue could violate the Open Meetings Act.

During the meeting, including during public comment, comments, outbursts, or interruptions from the audience will not be tolerated. After public comment, the Board will conduct its business. Remember that this is a public meeting, not a meeting of the public. Individuals wishing to speak must do so during public comment. Any attendee who chooses to interrupt Board business will be deemed out of order and may be asked to leave. Refusal to do so may result in removal.

The board needs to be allowed to conduct our business in this public setting uninterrupted. Any questions or concerns that arise from this meeting can be addressed via phone or email to the administration or Board after the meeting has concluded.

If the subject of your public comment is related to a particular student or staff member, we ask that you not mention the student or staff member by name in the public session. The Board has a complaint procedure in policy, and the Board will not respond to or consider any complaints unless and until an individual follows the complaint policy.

As a reminder, under the Open Meetings Act, the Board of Education is legally obligated to require any member of the public desiring to address the Board to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization you may represent. As a result, please state and spell your first and last name, state your current address, and let us know if you are here representing any particular organization before you begin your public comment.

It is now _____ p.m. Our first speaker _____

3. **DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION ON THE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL FUND, BOND FUND, DEPRECIATION FUND, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND, ACTIVITIES FUND, SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND, SPECIAL BUILDING FUND AND QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE UNDERTAKING FUND BUDGETS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR**

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Cozad Community Schools passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Cozad Community Schools resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	\$	9,904,041.00
Bond Fund:	\$	1,919,192.00
Special Building Fund:	\$	398,990.00
Qualified Capital Purpose	\$	282,828.00
Undertaking Fund:		

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 12.14 percent.

3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 1.052757 per \$100 of assessed value.

4. Cozad Community Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 1.142965 per \$100 of assessed value.

5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Cozad Community Schools will increase (decrease) last year's budget by -15.6 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____ to adopt Resolution # _____.

Voting yes were:

Voting no were:

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Cozad Community Schools (24-00011) in Dawson County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 15th day of September, 2025 at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., at District Office Board of Education Room for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2023-2024 <small>(4)</small>	2024-2025 <small>(5)</small>	2025-2026 <small>(6)</small>			
General	\$ 14,001,459.00	\$ 15,502,000.00	\$ 17,848,007.00		\$ 8,043,006.00	\$ 9,904,041.00
Depreciation	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 2,201,755.00		\$ 2,201,755.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ 9,823.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 28,743.00		\$ 28,743.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 533,876.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 998,149.00		\$ 998,149.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 1,041,596.00	\$ 950,000.00	\$ 1,156,704.00		\$ 1,156,704.00	
Bond	\$ 1,527,341.00	\$ 2,136,233.00	\$ 4,917,789.00		\$ 3,017,789.00	\$ 1,919,192.00
Special Building	\$ 11,839,200.00	\$ 3,400,000.00	\$ 696,286.00		\$ 301,286.00	\$ 398,990.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 1,931,953.00	\$ 245,740.00	\$ 304,090.00		\$ 24,090.00	\$ 282,828.00
Cooperative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,807.00		\$ 10,807.00	
TOTALS	\$ 30,885,248.00	\$ 23,325,973.00	\$ 28,162,330.00	\$ -	\$ 15,782,329.00	\$ 12,505,051.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 2,202,020.00	\$ 10,303,031.00	\$ 12,505,051.00

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BUDGET ALTERATIONS

<i>Item/Position</i>	<i>Description</i>
Apps / Tech:	
Reflex Math	Discontinued the App
Education Walkthrough App	Discontinued the App
Nearpod	Discontinued the App
Fiber Optic Run	Postponed until 2026-27 via E-Rate
Furniture / Equipment:	
1st/2nd grade Window Coverings	Went with film vs. shades
1st/2nd grade marker boards	Sent used ones to HS
Tech Furniture	Got free furniture from ESU 10
MS Furniture	Used old Band chairs in Mrs. Higgins' room
Elem Furniture	Used desks in new 4th grade/postponed other orders
PE / Recess Equipment	CEPO Donations
Elem Fridge	Did not replace broken fridge
Elem Tech Room	Fixed cabinetry versus replacing it
HS / Alt Ed Furniture	Did not replace
HS Flex Room	Postponed furniture purchase
Sewing machines	Did not replace
Riding Lawn Mower	Did not replace
Building / Grounds:	
Elem Landscaping	Mulch only for now
STAFFING:	
Elementary Para position	Did not fill this position
SPED Para position	Will fill internally or cut
Ticket Taker by D.O.	Will only use when needed
AZ Teacher Tutor	Eliminated AZ Tutor Time and Pay
D.O. Admin Assistant	Did not fill ths position

4. **DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION ON THE APPROVAL OF THE 2025-26 TAX REQUEST FOR COZAD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IN DAWSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

Cozad Community Schools

District 11



Cozad Creates Success



Cozad Information



Levy Drop

Most taxpayers will see their levy drop from \$1.22 to \$1.14



Total Tax Asking

Total Tax asking for all funds is a 4.6% increase over the previous year.



State Aid

Cozad lost \$800,000 in State Aid due to rising valuations.



Valuations

Valuations rose by 12% last year and exceeded \$1,100,000,000 for the first time in district history.



The Building Fund tax asking relates to an HVAC lease purchase payment and renovation of the auditorium.



Citizens may contact the Superintendent via phone or email listed below for more information.

Contact Us



308-784-2745

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6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____ to adopt Resolution # _____.

Voting yes were:

Voting no were:

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025

5. **DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO MODIFY AUTHORIZED PEOPLE TO BE INCLUDED ON SIGNATURE CARDS**

Cozad Community Schools

Home of the Haymakers

*Dan Endorf, Superintendent of Schools
Corey Fisher, High School Principal
Josh Asche, Middle School Principal
Justin Dowdy, Elementary/CEEC Principal*



*Jeremy Yilk, Activities Director
Patty Wolfe, Director of Technology
Taylor Jenner, Dir. of Teaching & Learning/Elem. A.P
Jackie Anderson and Teresa Schneider, SPED Directors*

9/17/2025

Waypoint Bank
747 Meridian Ave
Cozad, NE 69130

RE: Cozad Community Schools Signature Card for Account #322801, #333020, #310602

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to a recent change in personnel, we would like to update our signature cards on file for the 125 Plan, Hot Lunch and Revolving Account. This request is for accounts #322801, #333020 and #310602.

The people listed below should be on the signature cards:

Dr. Dan Endorf, Superintendent
Haleigh Hendricksen, Administrative Assistant
Karmen Morse, AfterZone Director

Once the new cards are ready, please contact Canda Montgomery at the District Office by phone at 308-784-2745. She will retrieve the new signature cards to obtain the necessary signatures and return to the bank once signed.

If you have any questions or need any further information to process this request, please let me know.

Thank you,

Dr. Dan Endorf
Superintendent

Cozad Community Schools

1710 Meridian Ave
Cozad, NE 69130

308-784-2745

Cozad Community Schools

Home of the Haymakers

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Corey Fisher, High School Principal
Josh Asche, Middle School Principal
Justin Dowdy, Elementary/CEEC Principal*



*Jeremy Yilk, Activities Director
Patty Wolfe, Director of Technology
Taylor Jenner, Dir. of Teaching & Learning/Elem. A.P
Jackie Anderson and Teresa Schneider, SPED Directors*

9/17/2025

Security First Bank
202 W 8th St
Cozad, NE 69130

RE: Cozad Community Schools Signature Card for Account #500121095 and #500126735

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to a recent change in personnel, we would like to update our signature cards on file for our Student Fees and Employee Benefit accounts. This request is for accounts #500121095 and #500126735.


The people listed below should be on the signature cards:

Dr. Dan Endorf, Superintendent
Kiley Goff, Board President
Haleigh Hendricksen, Administrative Assistant

Once the new cards are ready, please contact Canda Montgomery at the District Office by phone at 308-784-2745. She will retrieve the new signature cards to obtain the necessary signatures and return to the bank once signed.

If you have any questions or need any further information to process this request, please let me know.

Thank you,



Dr. Dan Endorf
Superintendent

Cozad Community Schools

Home of the Haymakers

*Dan Endorf, Superintendent of Schools
Corey Fisher, High School Principal
Josh Asche, Middle School Principal
Justin Dowdy, Elementary/CEEC Principal*



*Jeremy Yilk, Activities Director
Patty Wolfe, Director of Technology
Taylor Jenner, Dir. of Teaching & Learning/Elem. A.P.
Jackie Anderson and Teressa Schneider, SPED Directors*

9/17/2025

Homestead Bank
915 Meridian Ave
Cozad, NE 69130

RE: Cozad Community Schools Signature Card for Account #100798017

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to recent change in personnel, we would like to update our signature card on file for our Depreciation account. This request is for account #100798017.

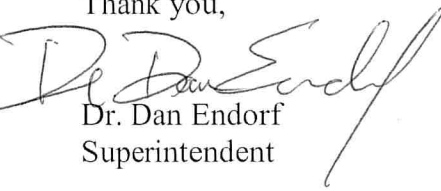
The people listed below should be on the signature cards:

Dr. Dan Endorf, Superintendent
Kiley Goff, Board President
Michele Starman, Board Vice-President
Joel Carlson, Board Secretary
Haleigh Hendricksen, Administrative Assistant

Once the new cards are ready, please contact Canda Montgomery at the District Office by phone at 308-784-2745. She will retrieve the new signature cards to obtain the necessary signatures and return to the bank once signed.

If you have any questions or need any further information to process this request, please let me know.

Thank you,


Dr. Dan Endorf
Superintendent

6. **AGENDA SETTING AND FUTURE MEETINGS**

Labor Relations -- Oct 1 and 2
October Board Meeting -- October 13

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

* **Closed Session:** If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law.

****Sequence of Agenda:** The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the board. Please arrive at the beginning of the meeting.

*****Action Item:** The board reserves the right to take action on any item on the board agenda.