RAYMOND CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS - DISTRICT #55-0161
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 - 5:30 PM
RAYMOND CENTRAL JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL - MUSTANG ROOM
1800 WEST AGNEW ROAD
RAYMOND, NE 68428-9783

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Nebraska Open Meetings Law

3. Motion to Excuse Board Member's Absence

4. District Mission Statement
   The Raymond Central community is committed to providing a positive, challenging learning environment which prepares each individual to be a responsible citizen in an ever-changing society.

5. Consent Agenda

   5.1. Minutes of April 15, 2026 Meeting

Raymond Central Public Schools (District 0161) Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 5:30 PM
Raymond Central Jr-Sr High School - Mustang Room
1800 West Agnew Road
Raymond, NE 68428-9783

Present: Mary Benes, Bernadette Brase, Cathy Burklund, Larry Heyen, Bill Lange, **Absent:** Derek Matulka. Also in attendance were: Bryon Hanson, Superintendent; Troy Lurz, High School Principal; Tony Kobza, Asst Principal/Activities Director; Abby Horbach, Asst Principal; Steve Rose, Valparaiso Elementary Principal; Deb Kruse, Ceresco Elementary Principal; and Amanda Coufal, SpEd Director.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Burklund called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Nebraska Open Meetings Law

The audience was reminded that Open Meeting Laws would be followed.

Motion to Excuse Board Member's Absence

Motion by Benes, second by Brase to excuse the absence of Derek Matulka. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

District Mission Statement

The Raymond Central community is committed to providing a positive, challenging learning environment which prepares each individual to be a responsible citizen in an ever-changing society.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Heyen, second by Lange to approve the consent agenda as presented including the regular meeting minutes of March 5, 2026; workshop minutes of April 8, 2026; February and March financial statements; and February and March monthly bills. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Minutes of March 5, 2026 Meeting and April 8, 2026 Workshop

Financial Statement/Report

Monthly Bills

Policy Review

Correspondence/Recognition

Brianna Benes competed at State Unified Speech.
Mitchell Hellerich and Marissa Jensen both competed at State Speech.
Stella Backer and Perrin McMann received the Elks Teen of The Year award.
Abby Horbach reported on our MTSS and Intervention systems. These structures are supporting both academic progress and student accountability.
Tony Kobza gave an update on coaching/sponsor hires. Cheer and Dance will be combined this year.

Secondary MTSS Report

Athletics and Activities Coaching and Sponsor Report

Public Forum

Reports

Administrative Reports

Submitted by Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High School Principal

The Science Department continues to narrow its instructional resource options they met recently to determine the direction. The team hopes to have a recommendation for consideration soon. Thank you to all those involved in this important selection process.

Walk Through Reports: I continue to visit classrooms regularly with the goal of observing instruction and providing feedback across a variety of areas. Recent efforts have focused on the implementation of our instructional model and the alignment between classroom practices and district expectations. Our staff is doing an excellent job putting systems into practice and implementing resources with fidelity. I am also seeing strong creativity in classrooms, and students continue to demonstrate a willingness to engage in their learning.

ACT Day: PreACT and ACT assessments took place on March 24. Students participating in testing completed their required assessments, while those not testing engaged in structured, off-campus educational and career exploration experiences. This was a full and meaningful day for both students and staff, supporting academic accountability as well as career readiness at RCHS. Kudos to all involved.

NSCAS and MAP Assessments: NSCAS assessments have been administered at the Middle School. MAP and additional testing will continue as we move farther into spring.

Prom was held on March 28 at The Cornhusker. The theme was *A Night in Paradise.* The event was a great success and the students had a great evening full of memories.

Upcoming Events:

- FFA Banquet April 12
- FBLA State Leadership Conference April 16-18
- Teammates Banquet April 20
- National Honor Society Induction April 22
- District Music Contest April 23/24
- Quiz Bowl to Chicago April 24
- RCHS Art Show April 24
- JH Dance April 24
- FBLA Celebration in Mustang Room @ 5:00 PM
- Spring Musical: *Mamma Mia* @ 7:30 PM
- Grade 6-12 Music Concert May 5 @ 7:00 PM
- Graduation: May 9 @ 2:00 PM

Counseling: Tasha and Celia

- Scheduling is underway!
- Dual Enrollment kids started registering this week
- April 13 - NEST 529 parent information session at Valparaiso Elementary 6:30
- May 9 - Graduation

High School Student Council: We are currently planning our next blood drive for May 4 from 2:00-5:00 PM. In an effort to increase participation, particularly among staff, we are considering shifting the drive to this later time window. Additionally, we are proposing a fun, engaging "Star Wars" theme to encourage donor involvement and build school-wide enthusiasm. At this time, we need approximately 11 more units collected in order to qualify for scholarship funds for our students this school year. To account for potential deferrals, we are aiming to secure at least 20 or more donor sign-ups to ensure we meet this

goal.

We are also pleased to share that next year's student class officers have been elected and officially announced by the student body. We look forward to their leadership and involvement in events such as the upcoming blood drive.

JH Student Council: The Middle School Dance has been rescheduled for Friday, April 24 from 7:00-9:00 PM. Students are excited for the middle school event of the year! A portion of our proceeds will go toward the Nebraska Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Mrs. Dowding has been working on nominations and applications for the 2026-27 school year. She will be the sponsor next year!

Principal Transition (April): We continue the leadership transition at the high school. The scaffolded approach has been effective in gradually releasing responsibilities to Mr. Kobza. Staff have been informed of duty shifts and evolving responsibilities through my weekly updates. The April targets are outlined below; they are intentionally flexible and not intended to be all-inclusive.

- **April 2026 - Full Operational Leadership (with coaching)**
  Primary Focus: Acting Principal behaviors
- **Leadership & Operations:** Function as the lead administrator, with Troy Lurz serving in a coaching role. Oversee master calendar adjustments and coordinate end-of-year planning.
- **Achievement & Instruction:** Lead school improvement updates and planning for the upcoming year. Coordinate testing wrap-up, including data review and initial analysis.
- **Evaluation & Staff Observations:** Complete and/or participate in remaining evaluations and improvement plans. Ensure documentation accuracy and adherence to timelines. Teacher evaluations will be discussed with Mr. Lurz serving as a consultant.
- **School Safety & Compliance:** Review and audit safety compliance and documentation for the current year. Plan for summer safety protocols and summer school requirements.
- **Staff Meetings & Culture:** Independently manage staff meetings and communications. Support staff morale during testing and end-of-year stress points.

Submitted by Tony Kobza, Asst Jr-Sr High School Principal/Athletic Director

New Hires

- Kevin Scheef - Business Teacher and Boys Basketball
- Justice Brinkman - Girls Basketball
- Rachel Lambrecht - Vocal Music
- Daisy Mejia - Spanish Teacher, Spanish Club, Assistant Skills USA
- Rachel Lambrecht - Part Time Vocal Music
- Morgan Boesiger - JH Teacher

<u>Activities</u>

Spanish Club - Spain Trip: 6 students, 1 parent, and Sr. Karel will be heading to Spain June 1-10. All fundraisers are completed and all traveler accounts are paid!

FBLA - FBLA State Leadership Conference is April 16-18. Students will compete against 1,996 FBLA members from across the state in objective tests, presentation events, and role play events. Students will also spend the conference networking with HS and JH kids from across the state and attend leadership workshops. The Leadership of Excellence Awards Ceremony will be live streamed, a link will be available on the RC FBLA Facebook page. 17 RC high school and 5 RC junior high students will be attending the conference.

We are still accepting donations to the Business Clothes closet. We are especially looking for dark colored dress pants and dress shoes.

One Act - The Drama Program is gearing up for the Drama Showcase and the Spring Musical (to be

announced), as well as our two planned show experiences coming up during the spring semester: *Hadestown* (based on Greek Mythology) and *Capital City* (based on Mari Sandoz's novel), both at the Lied Center. Beyond being a great deal of fun, experiences like this are invaluable to the students' learning because they can observe the "best of the best" in the performing arts and take inspiration for their own art, strengthening skills they use in and out of rehearsal.

Quiz Bowl - The school qualified a team to attend the National Academic Quiz Bowl Tournament in Chicago again this year. Students who will be attending are: Drew Tice, Sophia Burt, Deacon Christensen, and Marissa Tvrdy.

Band - The following 11 HS students participated in the Nebraska Capital Conference Honor Band on March 9 at DC West:

- Emma Pytlik, Flute
- Izzy Soden, Flute
- Marissa Jensen, Clarinet
- Aliya Chapman, Clarinet
- Matthew Steele, Trumpet
- Connor Tice, Trumpet
- Xander Stenka, Trombone
- Marissa Tvrdy, Trombone
- Evelyn Dickey, Trombone
- Elizabeth Sklenar, Percussion
- Grace Reed, Horn (selected but unable to attend)

The 6th grade and JH bands & choirs also participated in the Malcolm Music Contest on March 19-20, performing the pieces they've worked hard at all semester in front of judges to then receive a rating and feedback. The students were OUTSTANDING in their performances, hard work, and overall representing what it means to be in the RC music program. The results are as follows and be sure to give them a huge Congratulations!!
Ratings are categorized by the following in highest to lowest. Large groups receive no plus or minus: 1+ (superior), 1, 1-, 2+ (excellent), 2, 2-, or Honorable Mention (HM)

- JH Choir - Division 1 Superior
- 6th Grade - Division 1 Superior
- 8th Grade Vocal Duet - Division 1- Superior
- JH Band - Division 1 Superior
- 6th Grade Band - Division 1 Superior
- JH Small Jazz Ensemble - Division 1 Superior
- JH Bucket Drumming Group - Division 1+ Superior
- JH Saxophone Trio - Division 1 Superior

In addition to Malcolm Music Contest, five JH students participated in the Nebraska Wesleyan Junior High Honor Band on March 21 made up of students nominated and selected from middle schools across the area. They practiced all day before performing in an amazing concert that evening. These students were the following:

- Sade Gaines, Trombone
- Kate Field, Alto Saxophone
- Thomas Schulte, Tenor Saxophone
- Dawson Woods, Tenor Saxophone
- Sarah Fisher, Clarinet

On March 28, 17 6th-8th band students participated in the Bishop Neumann Solo / Small Group Contest! They prepared a song or two all semester to perform in front of a judge to get feedback and a rating. Their results are as follows. Way to work hard and go above and beyond! Congratulations!

- Kinsley W, Piano - Division I Superior
- Ruby B, Clarinet - Division I Superior
- Kyler R, Trumpet - Division I Superior
- Sade G, Trombone - Division I Superior
- Perrin M, Trombone - Division I Superior
- Kate F, Alto Sax - Division I Superior
- Emma & Hannah Duet - Division I Superior
- Lexi & Savannah Duet - Division I Superior
- Ruby & Zelda Duet - Division II Excellent
- Nick & Noah Duet - Division I Superior
- Kinsley, Molly, Emmily Trio - Division I Superior
- Hannah, Ruby, Emma, Daniella Quartet - Division I Superior
- Ruby, Zelda, Lexi, Savannah Quartet - Division II Excellent

April 1 the HS band participated in the NSBA Concert Band Festival at Bellevue East. Students watched other high school bands in the morning, then performed in the afternoon. This is a non-competitive event so there is no rating, but students received judges' comments on how to improve and a 25 minute clinic with one of the judges/college directors.

Upcoming Performances

- April 23 - HS Choir District Music Contest @ Milford - 3:20pm
- April 24 - HS Band District Music Contest @ Milford - Jazz - 9:20am, Concert Band - 11:05am
- May 1-3 - RC Musical of *Mamma Mia!*
- May 5 - 6th-8th Band & Choir Concert @ RC Main Gym - 5:30pm
- May 5 - HS Band & Choir Concert / Senior Night @ RC Main Gym - 7:00pm
- May 11 - K-5 Elementary Music Concert

Facilities/MTAF

Field Construction Timeline:

- April 13 starting at 8:00am - Digging of poles for Backstop Net System and Fusion Wall
- April 14 starting at 8:00am - Installation of poles
- Week of April 20 - Empire Fence will install fencing and curb for perimeter of field
- Mid May - Installation of Field Drainage, Base Layer, Turf will begin by Bentley Turf

Needs:

- Finalizing Lighting Quotes and installation
- Finish and flat work around the outside perimeter of the field and entrance areas
- Scoreboards
- In Progress
- Nebraska Septic is installing drainage now.
- Steps from the new parking lot are being installed now.
- Footings have been poured by Tom Rezac for entrance building. He and Brian Caha are going to work with our Construction students to help installation of the building.
- Power will be pulled to main site by Norris Power, Kidwell will install parking and driveway lights in late April/Early May, PowerSource Electric will help with other power needs.

- Met with NRD Forrester as they are helping plan tree needs with the support of grant funding. Great Plains Nursery will assist in planting and planning of tree types and location.

Submitted by Abby Horbach, Asst Jr-Sr High School Principal

April has continued to reflect consistency and steady implementation of our MTSS and Intervention systems. These structures remain in place and are functioning as intended, supporting both academic progress and student accountability.

We have begun NSCAS State Testing, and the process has gone very smoothly. The majority of students have approached testing with a positive and motivated mindset, and staff have done an excellent job maintaining consistency in expectations and procedures. I am currently working to complete testing for students who were absent during initial sessions, and additional information and results will be shared as they become available. MAP testing with start the week of April 13 with grades 6-10 (Math, Reading, & Science).

Attendance continues to be an area of focus. As anticipated, numbers are high this time of year. We have submitted one attendance filing to Saunders County Attorney's office (October 2025) and two attendance filings to the Lancaster County Attorney's Office this year (March & April 2026). All of these cases had previously been placed on Collaborative Plans and were given sufficient time and support for improvement prior to filing. One case has escalated to probation (Saunders), and we are waiting for more information on the other two (Lancaster). We are at 13.9% chronically absent which is down 7.38% from last year!

From a behavioral standpoint, we have conducted two bullying investigations at the middle school, both of which were founded and involved the same student. Consequences have been assigned in accordance with district policy/state statute, and appropriate safety measures have been implemented to support all students involved.

As of April 9, there have been 12 students suspended for a total of 41.5 days. Two of these students are no longer enrolled at Raymond Central. One long-term suspension accounts for 20 of those days. If we were to remove this data, the remaining total is 21.5 days. Incidents leading to suspension have included bullying, theft, vandalism, defiance/insubordination (severe), inappropriate technology use, harassment, and vape/nicotine-related offenses.

Overall, our systems remain consistent, and we will continue to focus on supporting students academically while maintaining clear expectations for behavior and attendance. We appreciate the continued efforts of our staff in creating a structured, supportive environment where students can be successful.

Submitted by Elementary Principals Steve Rose and Deb Kruse

Progress Towards Grade Level Reading Goals

Grade	Beginning of Year Benchmark	End of Year Goal	Projected to meet Goal based on progress monitoring
Kdg	75%	87%	90% (Early Reading)
1st	56%	78%	68% (CBMR)
2nd	64%	82%	80% (CBMR)
3rd	62%	76%	62% (CBMR)
4th	57%	77%	67% (CBMR)
5th	67%	83%	68% (CBMR)
K-5 Goal	63%	80%	73% (CBMR)

Early Reading = Phonics Skills
CBMR = Words per minute

Instructional Practice Guide (IPG) Training

The Teacher Leadership Team has reflected on ways to strengthen our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) in order to increase student achievement. While we have been highly effective in collecting student data, we have identified a need for a more consistent protocol for analyzing and responding to that data.

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, we will implement the use of Instructional Practice Guides (IPGs) alongside student data to inform instructional decision-making. This approach will help ensure that every student is making progress toward grade-level benchmarks.

A team consisting of Deb, Steve, Monica, and Caitlin attended training at ESU2 on March 30 to learn how to effectively use this tool. The IPG allows us to provide content-specific feedback to classroom teachers and PLCs during observation cycles.

The purpose of the IPG is to identify trends in the implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) across grade levels. The tool focuses on:

- Standards alignment and grade-level appropriateness of content
- Instructional practices and teacher actions
- Student ownership and engagement

It is important to note that the IPG is not intended for teacher evaluation and should not replace existing systems used to assess educator effectiveness.

New Hires

- 4th Grade Teacher: Samantha Dey
- Ceresco Administrative Assistant: Melissa Wills

Assessment

- NSCAS testing began the week of March 24. Students in grades 3-5 will take assessments in ELA and mathematics. Fifth-grade students will also take the science assessment.
- This year, we are participating in the Independent Model of testing. This means our students will also take the NWEA MAP Growth assessments and NSCAS General Summative assessments in Reading and Math. Those scores will be suppressed, and the higher of the two assessments will be used for state reporting. This approach also allows for an "apples-to-apples" comparison of student growth from Fall to Spring.
- As part of the Mental Health Grant work at the ESU, we administered the Panorama Student and Staff Survey this year. The survey measures school climate and culture, with an emphasis on social-emotional learning and mental health. A team of teachers and administrators will meet with ESU personnel to evaluate the data and use it to inform decisions related to mental health supports, MTSS-B, and the focus of our social-emotional curriculum for the 2026-2027 school year.

Cool Happenings

- The plant sale pre-sales have wrapped up, and our students and community did a wonderful job once again. Over $20,000 worth of plants have been sold so far. The plants will be delivered on April 28. Pickup and the plant sale will take place on Tuesday, April 28 from 5:00-8:00pm, and Wednesday, April 29 from 8:00am-5:00pm.
- The 5th Grade Student Council hosted a coin war between 3rd-5th grade classrooms. They raised over $1,000 to benefit the Capital Humane Society. With these funds, they purchased items from the CHS Amazon wish list and were able to visit the facility to donate the items in person. While there, students learned about how the organization operates and the needs it serves. It was a great experience for everyone involved.

- Field trips are about to begin. Each class has meaningful learning opportunities planned. A huge thank you to the PTO for sponsoring these experiences and helping extend learning beyond the classroom.
- The HAL Special Ops students participated in an ESU event focused on LEGO-based problem solving. Each group was tasked with solving a future-world problem and designing a LEGO structure to support their solution. They also encountered challenges along the way and had to develop a story and background for their design. Students presented their solutions to peers and other schools in our ESU-our students did an outstanding job.
- Valparaiso hosted its first Intermediate-level Career Fair on April 13. Businesses and professionals presented to our 3rd-5th grade students about their careers and ways students can begin preparing through school and training. A huge thank you to Mrs. White for coordinating this outstanding event. Presenters included representatives from Butler Public Power District, the University of Nebraska Omaha, Operating Room Life, Dr. Varilek, and Shanahan Mechanical & Electrical.

Upcoming Events

- May 1 - DARE Graduation
- May 11 - Vocal / Band Concert
- May 12-13 - Field Days
- May 14 - 5th grade visit to HS

Submitted by Amanda Coufal, Director of Special Education
A lot to celebrate this month in the Special Education World!!!!

Unified State Speech:

On Friday, March 27, Brianna Benes competed at Unified State Speech in Kearney. Brianna proudly represented Raymond Central as our **first-ever unified speech participant**! She delivered an uplifting speech all about elevators. Raymond Central is incredibly proud of Brianna for her hard work, courage, and representation of our school.

Para Appreciation Day:

April 1 was Para Appreciation Day. We truly have the best and we would be lost without them! All of our paraeducators help create a positive and inclusive environment where all students can learn and succeed! They make a difference each and every day and we are truly grateful for everything they do. Please take time to thank our paraeducators when you see them.

- Preschool Paras: Kristy Sears, Cindra Jensen, Robin Wright, Mary Beth Hornung
- Ceresco Paras: Kathy Fredrickson, Laney Enevoldsen, Matt Smith, Cherie Swanson, Rebecca Jacobs, Melanie Jordan
- Valparaiso Paras: Yvonne Brenner, Dorie Dickey, Kristi Meier, Kristen Lovell, Melanie Nelson, Kaycee Lile
- JH/HS Paras: Jody Albecht, Jessica Knopp, Ashley Matulka, Kara Nelson, Teresa Pester, Heather Potter, Maggie Suchy, Jil-Beth Svoboda, Leann Wiese

World Down Syndrome Day and Autism Recognition Day:

World Down Syndrome Day is recognized annually on March 21, but our district celebrated on Friday, March 20 by wearing crazy, mismatched socks. Why socks? Chromosomes look a little like socks so wearing bright or mismatched socks is a fun way to celebrate differences and show support for inclusion! One of our middle school students, with down syndrome, shared a fact during morning announcements and encouraged everyone to "Rock Their Socks". He did an awesome job and was very excited for this opportunity!!!

April is Autism Awareness Month. This month, we recognize and celebrate the diverse ways our students think, learn, and connect with the world. Autism is part of the diversity within our school community and every student deserves understanding, respect, and support. When we lead with compassion and inclusion, we create a stronger, more connected school for all.

Students across all buildings participated in a "Pledge to Include" by signing posters that will be displayed in each school. In addition, all students received bracelets reading "Choose to Include" to reinforce our commitment to an inclusive school environment.

Unified Track & Field:

Speaking of Inclusion, Unified Track and Field is officially underway. We currently have three athletes and 18 partners participating. The first meet was on April 10 in Waverly. Athletes and partners competed in events including the 100-meter dash, 4x100 relay, long jump, and shot put. The next meet will take place in Syracuse on April 16. Coaches are Clair Turman, Paige Mestl, and Stacey Doan.

Student Board Member Report

Superintendent's Report

The last day of the Unicameral is April 17. There is a Zoom meeting on April 20 to go over the new bills that could impact education.

Policy Review - we will wait until May or June to review the 5000 Policies at the same time as the legislative changes.

I would like to move the June Board Meeting to Monday, June 8 because the Administrative Team will be in Des Moines for the Solution Tree PLC at Work Institute from June 9-11.

Classified staff new hires: Kindra Tvrdy, Superintendent's Administrative Assistant; Melissa Wills, Ceresco Administrative Assistant; and Lindsay Homan, Jr-Sr High Cook. Resignation: Mary Beth Hornung, 3-yr-old Preschool Para.

Important Upcoming dates:

- April 17 - Last day of the Legislative Session
- April 22 - Design Firm Interviews
- May 20 - Last day of school

Classified Staff Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s)

NASB Monthly Update

NRCSA Monthly Report

Update on Superintendent Goals

Safety Report

Facilities Report

Important Upcoming Dates

Board Committee Reports

Curriculum & American Civics Committee (Burklund-chair, Lange, Matulka)

Facilities & Transportation Committee (Matulka-chair, Burklund, Lange)

Finance Committee (Burklund-chair, Heyen, Lange)

Negotiations Committee (Benes-chair, Heyen, Matulka)

Policy Committee (Benes-chair, Brase, Heyen)

Old Business

New Business

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve Certificated Staff Hire(s) / Reassignment(s) / Resignation(s) Substitute Teacher(s)

Motion by Brase, second by Benes to approve New Hires: Daisy Mejia, Spanish Teacher/Spanish Club/Asst SkillsUSA; Rachel Kornfeld-Lambrecht, Part-Time Music (3/8); Kevin Scheef, Business Teacher/Boys Basketball Coach; Skyler Cappel, K-5 PE Teacher; Justice Brinkman, Girls Basketball Coach; Morgan Boesiger, 6th Grade Teacher; and Samantha Dey, 4th Grade Teacher; Resignations: Traci Hummel, 6th Grade; Johanna Jackson, MS SpEd; and Darrin Pokorny, 3rd Grade; and Substitute Teachers: Grace Darling, Regan Fickel; and Alexa Orf.
RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Amend the 2025-26 calendar to set the last day as 5/20/2026.

Motion by Brase, second by Heyen to amend the 2025-2026 school calendar to set the last day of school as Wednesday, May 20 because only used two of our three snow days were used. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve the replacement of needed technology infrastructure at Valparaiso, Ceresco, and the Central Site.

Motion by Lange, second by Brase to approve the proposal from Pine Cove Consulting for replacement of needed technology infrastructure at Valparaiso, Ceresco, and the Central Site at a cost of $169,781.33. This is partially covered by E-Rate Funds and includes the replacement of firewalls at all three sites, along with licensing; replacement of routers in halls and classrooms that allow us to connect to Wifi, along with licensing; and replacement of switches that distribute data to each access point, along with licensing. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve payment to Norris Public Power for Contribution of Construction Aid.

Motion by Heyen, second by Brase to approve payment to Norris Public Power for electrical power to poles along driveways and to More Than A Field in the amount of $18,600.53. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve the Purchase of Common Lit School Essentials Pro Secondary ELA Resource.

Motion by Benes, second by Lange to approve the purchase of Common Lit School Essentials PRO Plus secondary ELA resource. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve the proposal to replace the carpet in the Math and Mustang Rooms.

Motion by Brase, second by Heyen to approve the proposal from Midwest Floor Covering to replace carpet in the Math and Mustang Rooms at a cost of $21,142.00. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve the ESU 2 Special Education Contract

Motion by Brase, second by Heyen to approve the 2026-2027 Special Education Services Contract at a cost of $150,918.00. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve upgrades to the fuel tank pumps and system,

Motion by Lange, second by Brase to approve the proposal from Midwest Petroleum for upgrades to the fuel tank system as recommended to meet fire marshal standards at a cost of $26,352.88. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular Board of Education Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

Adjournment

Motion by Benes, second by Brase to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 PM. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

5.2. Financial Statement/Report

Raymond Central Public Schools
General Fund Comparison to Previous Years
April 2026

	4/1/2026 4/30/2026	4/1/2025 4/30/2025	4/1/2024 4/30/2024
Balance - Beginning of Month	$3,237,524.65	$2,599,247.54	$2,618,782.61
Receipts	$1,548,618.70	$1,524,768.20	$2,007,937.48
Dispursements	-$909,698.78	-$838,012.91	-$834,587.60
Certificate of Deposit	$1,080,463.03	$1,011,717.81	
Balance - End of Month	$4,956,907.60	$4,297,720.64	$3,792,132.49

Raymond Central Public Schools
General Fund Receipts April 2026

LANCASTER COUNTY TREASURER		
	TAXES	$1,001,255.82
	MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES	$26,224.02
	FINES & FEES	$1,134.87
	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	$29,507.36
	MOTOR VEHICLE PRO RATE	$5,581.61
SAUNDERS COUNTY TREASURER		
	TAXES	$83,648.30
	MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES	$23,376.58
	FINES & FEES	$1,598.53
	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	$20,223.02
	MOTOR VEHICLE PRO RATE	$4,046.95
SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER		
	MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES	$1,367.14
	FINES & FEES	$51.74
	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	$313.94
	MOTOR VEHICLE PRO RATE	$120.65
BUTLER COUNTY TREASURER		
	MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES	$236.72
	FINES & FEES	$4.41
	MOTOR VEHICLE PRO RATE	$9.45
STATE OF NEBRASKA		
	STATE AID	$119,720.00
	SPECIAL EDUC -SCHOOL AGE	$204,374.00
VILLAGE OF RAYMOND		
	LIQUOR LICENSE FEES	$300.00
PRESCHOOL TUITION		
	TUITION PAYMENTS	$1,925.00
JONES BANK		
	GENERAL FUND INTEREST APRIL	$6,255.55
RCPS HOT LUNCH FUND		
	APRIL HOT LUNCH PAYROLL REIMBURS to GENERAL FUND	$17,343.04
TOTAL		$1,548,618.70

April 2026	Percent of Year Completed		67.00%			
2025-2026 RECEIPTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	ANTICIPATED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	% Received	% Received
ACCOUNT	2025-2026	2025-2026	2025-2026	2024-2025	2025-2026	2024-2025
Property Taxes	$9,026,306.00	$1,084,904.12	$3,131,620.50	$3,364,791.67	34.69%	41.80%
Motor Vehicle Tax	$540,000.00	$51,204.46	$393,557.35	$370,552.95	72.88%	67.37%
Public Power Tax (5% Gross)	$7,400.00	$0.00	$8,643.00	$8,409.69	116.80%	25.48%
Carline Taxes	$2,000.00	$0.00	$292.70	$268.20	14.64%	10.73%
Other Tuition	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Interest	$50,000.00	$6,255.55	$41,877.47	$34,609.89	83.75%	115.37%
Local License Fees	$300.00	$300.00	$2,020.00	$300.00	673.33%	60.00%
Other Local Receipts(Pre-K)	$30,000.00	$1,925.00	$27,087.00	$24,055.00	90.29%	120.28%
Fines & License Fees	$50,000.00	$2,789.55	$33,601.19	$28,965.84	67.20%	72.41%
ESU Receipts	$5,000.00	$0.00	$5,238.24	$4,002.13	104.76%	138.00%
State Aid	$1,197,203.00	$119,720.00	$957,760.00	$990,404.00	80.00%	80.06%
Special Education	$1,000,000.00	$204,374.00	$974,192.00	$860,099.00	97.42%	75.45%
Special Educ. Transportation	$52,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Homestead Exemption	$0.00	$50,044.32	$100,058.59	$91,578.04	0.00%	0.00%
High Ability Learners	$4,000.00	$0.00	$5,675.00	$4,750.00	141.88%	86.36%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	$12,000.00	$9,758.66	$13,449.51	$12,254.25	112.08%	72.08%
State Apportionment	$305,000.00	$0.00	$201,360.13	$308,385.92	0.00%	0.00%
Property Tax Credit	$0.00	$0.00	$1,652,047.87	$1,334,574.05	0.00%	0.00%
Other State Receipts/CTE	$7,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Personal Property Tax Credit	$0.00	$0.00	$38,758.36	$75,359.12	0.00%	100.00%
Title I /II Funds	$56,000.00	$0.00	$80,129.00	$59,632.00	143.09%	79.51%
Other Federal Receipts	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
SPED IDEA Grant PreK	$135,000.00	$0.00	$150,912.00	$149,075.00	111.79%	108.81%
Local Revenue/Private Grants	$150,000.00	$0.00	$1,500.00	$0.00	1.00%	100.00%
Carl Perkins	$2,500.00	$0.00	$4,628.20	$6,399.24	185.13%	213.31%
Other Non-Revenue Receipts	$2,000.00	$0.00	$21,544.68	$2,398.12	1077.23%	100.00%
Ag Land	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$91,382.48	0.00%	100.00%
Sale of Property	$200.00	$0.00	$0.00	$526.25	0.00%	17.54%
MIPS-Medicaid-Public Schools	$22,000.00	$0.00	$24,686.58	$28,609.40	112.21%	71.52%
Insurance Adjustments	$0.00	$0.00	$11,143.24	$0.00	0.00%	100.00%
TOTAL	$12,656,409.00	$1,531,275.66	$7,881,782.61	$7,851,382.24	62.28%	68.52%
2025-2026 DISBUREMENTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	BUDGET	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	% Disbursed	% Disbursed
CATEGORY	2025-2026	2025-2026	2025-2026	2024-2025	2025-2026	2024-2025
Instructional Services	$6,070,000.00	$423,409.64	$3,532,962.50	$3,198,368.11	58.20%	54.21%
Special Education	$2,490,000.00	$162,100.99	$1,431,639.41	$1,389,899.20	57.50%	56.73%
Guidance	$240,000.00	$25,722.54	$231,173.52	$166,065.08	96.32%	83.03%
School Health Nurse	$117,000.00	$7,438.55	$88,134.60	$75,715.69	75.33%	65.27%
Safety & Security	$53,000.00	$0.00	$28,748.81	$39,743.23	54.24%	76.21%
Activities	$90,000.00	$21,691.45	$98,529.01	$75,870.46	109.48%	84.30%
Media, Technology	$820,000.00	$29,823.39	$317,902.19	$334,927.42	38.77%	41.87%
Gen.Admin (Supt/BOE/Legal)	$396,000.00	$26,426.77	$221,213.25	$222,362.98	55.86%	51.71%
School Admin (Principals)	$1,070,000.00	$73,421.92	$596,465.04	$667,982.06	55.74%	77.67%
Business	$190,000.00	$16,463.38	$114,535.05	$107,464.36	60.28%	30.70%
Operation/Maint of Plant	$1,510,000.00	$75,876.47	$642,646.89	$994,919.04	42.56%	83.90%
Pupil Transportation	$570,100.00	$19,903.03	$268,125.80	$427,369.04	47.03%	101.48%
Fed. Grants (Title,Perkins)	$335,000.00	$5,449.93	$83,888.17	$67,147.88	25.04%	23.15%
Transfers	$225,000.00	$4,628.20	$4,628.20	$100,000.00	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL	$14,176,100.00	$892,356.26	$7,660,592.44	$7,867,834.55	54.04%	59.85%

Raymond Central Public Schools
Financial Report 4-30-26

GENERAL FUND

Purpose: Pays day to day expenses for District
Funded by: Local Taxes, State/Fed Reimb. for SPED, State Aid, Title 1, other misc. grants
For RC: Salaries, benefits, educ expenses, technology, building and grounds maintenance, transportation

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$3,237,524.65
April Receipts		$1,548,618.70
April Disbursements		-$909,698.78
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$3,876,444.57
Certificate of Deposit		$1,080,463.03
	Combined Balance - April 30, 2026	$4,956,907.60

LUNCH FUND

Purpose: Pays all expenses for Hot Lunch program including kitchen payroll.
Funded by: Parent/Student/Staff payments for meals and State/Fed Reimb. for meals served.
For RC: Salaries, benefits for HL staff, food, milk, supplies, equipment, repairs associated with HL program.
Note: On 8/2025, the General Fund transferred $100,000.00 to the HL account. No transfers out of HL Fund.

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$173,906.36
April Receipts		$35,271.82
April Disbursements		-$57,512.91
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$151,665.27

BUILDING/SINKING FUND

Purpose: To acquire new sites, improve exisiting buildings, all new building/construction expenses.
Funded by: Local Taxes, sale of property.
For RC: Previoulsy used for HVAC projects, new propane tank HS, pays property taxes on farmland south of HS.
Used for new additions/construction.

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$3,062,928.78
April Receipts		$70,994.88
April Disbursements		-$212,224.95
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$2,921,698.71
Certificate of Deposit		$1,143,770.60
	Combined Balance - April 30, 2026	$4,065,469.31

HIGH SCHOOL BOND FUND

Purpose: Pay principal/interest on loans for new construction and additions.
Funded by: Local Taxes through a bond.
For RC: Used to pay interest/principal payts on 2009 HS Bond

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$209,404.03
April Receipts		$88,051.11
April Disbursements		$0.00
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$297,455.14

DEPRECIATION FUND

Purpose: Pays to 'replace' not add. Fixing a roof, replacing a bus, upgrading systems.
Funded by: General Fund (GF) transfers at YE only with specific purpose identified.

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$152,894.78
April Receipts		$177.14
April Disbursements		-$67,182.00
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$85,889.92
Certificate of Deposit		$1,797,948.91
	Combined Balance - April 30, 2026	$1,883,838.83

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE UNDERTAKING FUND

Purpose: Pays for removal of environmental hazards (mold, asbestos) and reduction/removal of accesiblity barriers in school buildings.
Funded by: Local taxes via tax levy.
For RC: Used for asbestos removal at Val and HS 2025.

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$2,116.58
April Receipts		$0.35
April Disbursements		$0.00
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$2,116.93

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND - UNEMPLOYMENT

Purpose: Part of the General Fund. Can be used to pay unemployment, benefits, early retirement
Funded by: General Fund transfers at YE only with specific purpose identified.
For RC: In 8/2024 $100,000.00 was transferred from the GF earmarked to pay Admin Benefit costs .

Cash Balance - April 1, 2026		$103,210.73
April Receipts		$63.62
April Disbursements		$0.00
	Cash Balance - April 30, 2026	$103,274.35
Certificate of Deposit		$279,392.90
	Combined Balance - April 30, 2026	$382,667.25

Raymond Central Public Schools

Student Activities Fund Balances April 2026

Chart of Account Description	Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenses	Balance
Annual	13,583.97	0.00	460.00	14,043.97
AP Funds	53,378.17	262.63	0.00	53,115.54
APEX	119.05	0.00	0.00	119.05
ART CLUB	596.79	0.00	0.00	596.79
Athletics	74,337.73	26,031.27	2,368.00	50,674.46
Band	339.35	195.70	0.00	143.65
Band Trip	10,669.76	0.00	0.00	10,669.76
Baseball	(862.85)	0.00	0.00	(862.85)
Boys BB	913.41	0.00	380.00	1,293.41
Ceresco Pop	133.39	0.00	22.33	155.72
Cheerleaders	4,330.22	0.00	0.00	4,330.22
Choir	13,516.70	0.00	0.00	13,516.70
Class 2034	3,444.16	0.00	0.00	3,444.16
Class 2023	932.79	0.00	0.00	932.79
Class 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class 2028	4,850.81	0.00	0.00	4,850.81
Class 2029	3,006.38	0.00	0.00	3,006.38
Class 2030	3,245.11	0.00	0.00	3,245.11
Class 2031	6,769.42	0.00	0.00	6,769.42
Class 2032	6,125.55	0.00	0.00	6,125.55
Class 2032 Field Trip Funds V	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class 2033	3,713.13	0.00	0.00	3,713.13
Class 2033 Field Trip Funds 2033	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class 2035	3,137.15	0.00	0.00	3,137.15
Class 2035 Val	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class 2036	1,513.53	0.00	0.00	1,513.53
Class 2036 Val	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class 2037	1,647.88	737.50	0.00	910.38
Class 2038	914.50	0.00	0.00	914.50
Class 3037 V	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class of 2026	(55.99)	0.00	139.00	83.01
Class of 2027	8,850.13	3,793.47	0.00	5,056.66
Class of 2034 V	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
College Access Grant	2,377.08	85.96	0.00	2,291.12
Cow/Calf Herd FFA	10,000.00	0.00	1,050.00	11,050.00
Cross Country	(435.37)	0.00	0.00	(435.37)
Culinary Snack Cart	1,639.50	0.00	0.00	1,639.50
Dance	(1,090.35)	51.30	0.00	(1,141.65)
DI	4,614.68	0.00	0.00	4,614.68
Elem Book Fair	7,021.05	0.00	993.00	8,014.05
Elem Fundraising	51,632.83	1,203.98	8.80	50,437.65
Elem Pictures/Yearbook	4,501.99	0.00	80.00	4,581.99
Elem Student Council	483.85	0.00	0.00	483.85
FBLA Act	1,662.78	480.00	130.00	1,312.78
FFA Act	21,874.22	1,935.81	0.00	19,938.41
Fines	856.30	0.00	0.00	856.30
Football	4,388.81	2,310.24	0.00	2,078.57

Chart of Account Description	Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenses	Balance
Girls BB	1,305.47	1,088.37	125.00	342.10
Girls Wresting	(1,173.31)	0.00	0.00	(1,173.31)
Golf Activity	1,068.91	0.00	0.00	1,068.91
HS Caring Shelves	3,142.00	104.27	0.00	3,037.73
HS Pop	2,111.91	30.00	76.02	2,157.93
HS Quiz Bowl	614.64	183.75	250.00	680.89
JH Boys BB	31.13	0.00	0.00	31.13
JH Boys Wrestling	(171.25)	0.00	0.00	(171.25)
JH Football	424.56	0.00	0.00	424.56
JH Girls BB	1,574.43	0.00	0.00	1,574.43
JH Speech	2,519.30	0.00	0.00	2,519.30
JH Student Council	1,908.98	0.00	20.05	1,929.03
JH Track	1,368.58	67.00	0.00	1,301.58
JH Volleyball	1,339.13	0.00	0.00	1,339.13
JR Achievements	629.57	0.00	0.00	629.57
Library	1,738.77	0.00	0.00	1,738.77
Life Skills	2.41	0.00	0.00	2.41
Mock Trial	380.96	0.00	0.00	380.96
National Honor Society	(791.84)	0.00	0.00	(791.84)
One Act	4,304.85	0.00	0.00	4,304.85
Professional Development	13,579.86	450.74	0.00	13,129.12
PTO	(100.00)	0.00	0.00	(100.00)
RC Backpack	19,994.18	0.00	196.16	20,190.34
RC Blue Crew	42.73	0.00	0.00	42.73
RC Concessions	49,321.69	3,119.94	1,605.00	47,806.75
RC Foundation	4,524.00	0.00	0.00	4,524.00
Restitution	190.00	0.00	0.00	190.00
Score Vision	15,384.93	0.00	0.00	15,384.93
Service Fees (Activity Acct)	18,578.03	0.00	616.10	19,194.13
Skills USA	1,272.11	984.37	0.00	287.74
Social Justice	194.12	0.00	0.00	194.12
Softball	1,777.82	329.56	520.30	1,968.56
Spanish Club	1,305.69	0.00	0.00	1,305.69
Speech	12,014.11	3,111.13	3,423.74	12,326.72
Spring Musical	2,116.54	1,069.82	250.00	1,296.72
'Stang Gang Student Section	(0.01)	0.00	0.00	(0.01)
Stem/ HAL	241.72	0.00	0.00	241.72
Student Council	9,926.15	0.00	34.62	9,960.77
Student Pop	1,978.21	147.00	121.63	1,952.84
Testing	4,673.11	0.00	0.00	4,673.11
Track	1,384.70	0.00	42.00	1,426.70
TShirt Press Acct	(330.47)	0.00	510.00	179.53
Unified Team	609.66	0.00	0.00	609.66
Val Pop	42.70	0.00	5.58	48.28
VolleyBall	6,769.95	0.00	40.00	6,809.95
Weight Room	4,050.00	0.00	0.00	4,050.00
Wrestling	(1,087.70)	0.00	0.00	(1,087.70)

Raymond Central Public Schools

Student Fees Fund Balance April 2026

Activity Name	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
Activity Pass	10,101.00	0.00	0.00	10,101.00
Ag-Ed Labs	2,065.17	0.00	0.00	2,065.17
Art Class	1,384.51	0.00	161.29	1,223.23
Chromebooks	(2,512.10)	100.00	0.00	(2,412.10)
FBLA	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Foods Class	153.79	0.00	153.00	0.79
Service Fees (Student Fees)	453.22	10.24	1,194.29	(730.83)
Skills USA	40.34	0.00	40.34	0.00
Sports Fees	5,905.22	0.00	0.00	5,905.22
Tech Ed	695.78	0.00	690.54	5.24

5.3. Monthly Bills

Raymond Central Public Schools
Bills Paid April 2026

General Fund - Report of Bills Paid April 2026

Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
4/20/2026	RCPS Dist 161	April Payroll	$802,035.74
04/30/2026	CommonLit	ELA Curric. HS	$18,900.00
04/14/2026	Norris Public Power	Electricity HS	$9,693.92
04/23/2026	Foundations Occupational Therapy	SPED Services OT Jan/Feb/March 2026	$6,451.11
04/30/2026	Eakes Office Solutions	Custodial Supplies HS, V, C	$5,579.07
04/13/2026	Continental Fire Sprinkler	Fire Sprinkler Leak Repairs HS	$4,289.00
04/14/2026	Hands of Heartland	SPED Transitional Program March 2026	$3,600.68
04/13/2026	Butler Public Power District	Electricity V	$2,490.53
04/13/2026	Access Systems, Inc	Copiers- Monthly	$2,458.69
04/30/2026	Omaha Public Power Dist	Electricity C-	$2,370.98
04/21/2026	Pine Cove Consulting	Managed Tech Service 4/2026	$2,250.00
04/14/2026	Eakes Office Solutions	Custodial Supplies HS, V, C	$1,865.05
04/30/2026	InCharge Energy, Inc	2 year warranty for elec bus charger	$1,620.00
04/13/2026	Brooke L. Cheleen	March 2026 SPED Physical Therapy	$1,522.83
04/21/2026	Kobza, Anthony	Reimb Mileage 8/30/25 to 2/20/2026	$1,436.95
04/13/2026	Nebraska Dept Of Revenue	Quarterly Fuel Tax Payt 04/09/26	$1,336.00
04/13/2026	Cummins Sales and Service	Repairs/Service to Generator HS	$1,276.03
04/17/2026	US Bank	Repairs on Treadmill	$1,039.82
04/17/2026	US Bank	NETA Registration-SD,AK,AP,CP	$996.00
04/14/2026	Matheson Tri-Gas Inc.	Welding Suplies and take rental	$928.81
04/17/2026	US Bank	Class materials Tech Ed	$758.20
04/14/2026	Glaser Ceramics Inc	Clay & Glaze C, V	$709.84
04/21/2026	Waste Connections Co	Garbage HS, V	$698.33
04/21/2026	Success By Design, Inc.	5th grade Student Planners	$663.84
04/23/2026	Engineered Controls	Heat Pump Service Call C	$635.04
04/21/2026	5T Lawn & Landscape	Fertilizer application 1 HS	$625.00
04/14/2026	Interstate Power Systems	Service Call Generator HS	$595.32
04/17/2026	Windstream	Phone HS, Fax	$575.63
04/21/2026	Village of Ceresco	Utilities C March	$566.26
04/21/2026	Praire Mechanical Corporation	Service Call/Diagnostics Heat Pump V	$560.00
04/14/2026	Nebraska Agricultural Educators	NAEA 26 Registration: Donahue/Oldemeyer	$550.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	Class Items	$532.58
04/13/2026	Colorado/West Equipment, Inc	.Bus 19A replace radio	$494.61
04/17/2026	US Bank	The Crucible Textbooks	$480.00
04/21/2026	Plunkett's Varment Guard	Extermination Service	$465.20
04/30/2026	Crowne Plaza	Hotel for ASD Conference	$464.85
04/21/2026	Partsch, Tammy	Accompanist -Choir	$450.00
04/09/2026	NE FFA	FFA State/National Fees	$425.00
04/13/2026	Demco	Dewey and Fic A-Z Shelf Dividers	$366.30
04/13/2026	Demco	Dewey and Fic A-Z Shelf Dividers	$366.30
04/14/2026	KSB School Law PC LLO	Legal Service	$348.00
04/13/2026	Jackson Services Inc.	Mats/Mops	$311.52
04/17/2026	US Bank	Art classroom supplies HS	$310.32
04/13/2026	Demco	Dewey Shelf Dividers and Fic A-Z Divider	$294.75
04/21/2026	Follett Content Solutions	Golden Sowers 26/27	$272.49
04/21/2026	Follett Content Solutions	Golden Sowers 26/27	$271.48
04/09/2026	Milford High School	District Music Contest Fees	$270.00
04/21/2026	Rivers Metal Products Inc.	Metal Tubing for Welding Class	$263.55
04/21/2026	Oak Valley Lumber Co	Building Maint Supplies	$255.45
04/17/2026	US Bank	NHS Medallions	$248.97
04/21/2026	Silverstrand, Marty	Parent Mileage Reimb 3-2026	$232.00
04/21/2026	Quill Corporation	General Teaching Supplies V	$229.40
04/23/2026	HD Supply FKA Home Depot Pro	Maint.Supplies HS	$225.00
04/30/2026	Access Systems	Staples HS Printer	$215.79
04/14/2026	Intermedia.net, INC	Phone Service 2/22/25-3/22/26	$215.03
04/14/2026	MRG Hauff	Game balls: Baden	$207.07
04/21/2026	Follett Content Solutions	Golden Sowers 26/27	$205.80
04/21/2026	Village of Valparaiso	Utilities V March	$180.90
04/14/2026	LaQuinta Inns & Suites	NAEP Hotel 3/24-3/25/26	$177.16
04/23/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$176.94
04/21/2026	Instrumentalist Awards	Sousa and Jazz Awards- Band	$173.00
04/14/2026	Nebraska Assoc of School Boards	BOE Budget/Finance Workshop Fee	$160.00

Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
04/17/2026	US Bank	online program/SLP services pre k	$158.24
04/13/2026	Coufal, Amanda	Reimb March 2026 Mileage	$150.08
04/30/2026	NCSA	NASES Spring Legislative Conference	$150.00
04/30/2026	John Kliment	SpEd Mileage Reimb 3/23-4/29/26	$145.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	Foods and baking supplies	$134.44
04/14/2026	Shelly Hlavaty	Mileage Reimb March 2026	$127.60
04/21/2026	J.W. Pepper	Marching band music for 2026	$124.99
04/14/2026	Nebraska Assoc of School Boards	NAEP Conference Regist. Fee PB	$120.00
04/30/2026	Neumann Music Booster	Bishop Neumann solo / small group fees	$104.00
04/14/2026	Educational Service Unit #2	Prof Dev ELA training	$100.00
04/21/2026	Oak Valley Lumber Co	2x4's, Wood Student Tech Ed Supplies	$100.00
04/23/2026	HD Supply FKA Home Depot Pro	Maint Supplies	$97.98
04/17/2026	US Bank	NSCA registration	$95.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	testing supplies and batteries	$92.85
04/21/2026	One Source	Employee Background Checks	$92.50
04/13/2026	Dietze Music	Reeds for instruments	$88.20
04/10/2026	Bishop Neumann Speech Team	JH Speech Entry 4/11	$88.00
04/14/2026	Electronic Contracting Company	Quarterly Monitoring Fee- Alarms HS	$87.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	vocal music supplies c/v	$81.96
04/17/2026	US Bank	STEM Curriculum Replacement Parts MS	$81.34
04/23/2026	Educational Service Unit #2	PreK Prof Devel. Paras&Tchrs	$80.00
04/21/2026	Turman, Clair	Mileage Reimb SLP March 2026	$75.40
04/30/2026	NCSA	School Law Update -Supt	$75.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	STEM Supplies	$74.21
04/09/2026	J.W. Pepper	JH Choir spring concert music	$72.74
04/09/2026	J.W. Pepper	6th Grade New Spring concert Music	$72.50
04/17/2026	US Bank	District Office Supplies	$70.63
04/17/2026	US Bank	Classroom Supplies MS	$66.96
04/17/2026	US Bank	Bags for PE	$66.27
04/23/2026	Turman, Clair	SLP Mileage	$64.75
04/17/2026	US Bank	Curr/Instruction Materials V	$60.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	State Testing Motivation	$58.96
04/23/2026	HD Supply FKA Home Depot Pro	Maint.Supplies HS	$53.22
04/13/2026	ASI	Payflex Admin Fees	$50.00
04/09/2026	Fairbury High School	Speech Entry 3/7	$48.00
04/09/2026	J.W. Pepper	6th grade band song for spring concert	$45.00
04/30/2026	RC Softball	Activity worker fee donation	$45.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	OWH monthly fee	$38.99
04/17/2026	US Bank	Vet Science Model Supplies Ag Ed	$38.49
04/23/2026	David City Speech Team	JH Speech Entry 4/18/26	$36.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	Supt Office-Coffee Pot	$34.99
04/30/2026	Millard North	JH Speech Entry	$32.00
04/17/2026	US Bank	Piston Ring Compressor	$29.98
04/17/2026	US Bank	Conc. Candy, ACT Day supplies, hlth off	$28.44
04/09/2026	J.W. Pepper	HS Choir graduation song	$26.50
04/17/2026	US Bank	General teaching supplies V	$25.99
04/14/2026	Educational Service Unit #2	Admin training Q4	$25.00
04/21/2026	Tvrdy`s One Stop	Bus Supply - 2 bulbs	$25.00
04/14/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$20.92
04/14/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$20.35
04/17/2026	US Bank	SPED supplies C	$19.76
04/17/2026	US Bank	Motor Vehicle registration 2026 Honda	$17.45
04/17/2026	US Bank	Solder seal wire connectors	$16.99
04/17/2026	US Bank	track spikes	$16.99
04/17/2026	US Bank	AAC Strap - speech	$14.99
04/17/2026	US Bank	Valedictorian and Salutatorian Medals	$14.44
04/14/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$12.44
04/14/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$12.44
04/23/2026	Column Software PBC	Publications	$12.44
04/17/2026	US Bank	Ag Ed Supplies	$11.78
04/30/2026	Curriculum Associates Inc.	iReady Reading	$8.94

Depreciation Fund - Report of Bills Paid Aprill 2026

Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
04/17/2026	Anderson Ford of Lincoln	2026 Transit Van	$67,182.00

Hot Lunch Fund - Report of Bills Paid April 2026

Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
04/13/2026	Sysco Lincoln	Food and supply	$19,961.21
4/1/2026	RCPS Dist 161	Hot Lunch Staff April Payroll	$17,343.04
04/21/2026	TechMasters Heating & Air	Replace DW & garbage disposal - C	$15,325.54
04/13/2026	Hiland Dairy	Milk	$2,865.74
04/30/2026	TechMasters Heating & Air	Repair Kitchen milk cooler V	$604.50
04/13/2026	TechMasters Heating & Air	Repair Walk in Freezer C	$535.00
04/10/2026	EduTrak Fees	Edutrak fees	$527.03
04/13/2026	Jackson Services Inc.	Rags	$207.60
04/17/2026	US Bank	Ala cart	$158.70

Building/Sinking Fund - Report of Bills Paid April 2026

Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
04/23/2026	04/23/2026	RCCF 2nd payment of 4. Field Turf	$174,342.63
04/27/2026	04/27/2026	RCCF 2nd half of Payt. Drainage for MTAF	$37,882.32

Raymond Central Public Schools

Student Activites Fund Checks April 2026

Activity Name	Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
Spring Musical	04/17/2026	US Bank	Musical Shipping Charge	85.19
Spring Musical	04/17/2026	US Bank	Spring Musical Set Supplies	984.63
Art Club	04/13/2026	Yutan Public Schools	Conference Art Show Fee 2026	50.00
Art Club	04/13/2026	Yutan Public Schools	Conference Art Show Fee 2026	(50.00)
Class 2027	04/17/2026	US Bank	Class 2027	409.21
Class 2028	04/17/2026	US Bank	Flowers for prom	184.89
Class 2029	04/14/2026	Lancaster County Sheriff`s Office	Class 2027	258.35
Class 2030	04/09/2026	Cornhusker Marriot Hotel	Cornhusker Ballroom 2026	2,300.00
Class 2031	04/20/2026	Cornhusker Marriot Hotel	Cornhusker Ballroom 2026	641.02
Athletics	04/14/2026	MRG Hauff	Baseball Uniforms, helmets, game	9,916.86
Athletics	04/14/2026	MRG Hauff	Track Uniforms	5,440.00
Athletics	04/14/2026	MRG Hauff	Track Coach apparel	106.00
Athletics	04/20/2026	MRG Hauff	Pole Vault Poles x5	3,599.96
Athletics	04/30/2026	Black Squirrel Timing	HS Track Meet Timing Services 5/7	1,153.00
Athletics	04/30/2026	Black Squirrel Timing	JH Track Meet Timing Services 5/4	1,153.00
Athletics	04/09/2026	Wahoo Public Schools	Track Entry 4/17/26	200.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	Westerholdt, Trevor	NCC Baseball Ump 4/17/26	80.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	Senters, Todd	NCC Baseball Ump 4/17/26	80.00
Athletics	04/23/2026	Hahn, Derek	Baseball Umpire 4/23	165.00
Athletics	04/23/2026	Hahn, Derek	Baseball Umpire 4/25	165.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	Athletics: Cups and Cutlery	71.47
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	Athletics	117.98
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	wr. hospitality room: hyvee fruit	142.21
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	Hospitality room	41.71
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	Hospitality room	190.72
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	Wr. Hospitality Room	163.63
Athletics	04/17/2026	US Bank	JH Wr. Invite Supplies	142.20
Athletics	04/23/2026	Cooper, Scott	Baseball Umpire 4/25	165.00
Athletics	04/30/2026	Godtel, Shane	HS Track Starter 5/7	300.00
Athletics	04/09/2026	Malcolm Public Schools	Entry Fee HS Track 4/7/2026	180.00
Athletics	04/09/2026	Waverly High School	JH Track Entry Fee 4/9/26	75.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	Schuyler Central High School	HS Track Entry Fee 4/23	200.00
Athletics	04/30/2026	Arlington Public Schools	JH Track Entry 5/8	180.00
Athletics	04/09/2026	Milford High School	JH Track Entry Fee 4/9/26	140.00
Athletics	04/10/2026	Milford High School	HS Track Entry 4/10	150.00
Athletics	04/10/2026	Wilber Clatonia Public Schools	JH Track Entry 4/14	160.00
Athletics	04/10/2026	Sandoval, Carlos	Baseball Umpire 4/13	165.00
Athletics	04/23/2026	Sandoval, Carlos	Baseball Umpire 4/23	165.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	Fort Calhoun Public School	JH Track Entry 4/25	150.00
Athletics	04/13/2026	Awards Unlimited Inc	Bowling Awards	159.25
Athletics	04/20/2026	Awards Unlimited Inc	Football Replacement Record	418.28
Athletics	04/20/2026	North Bend Central High School	HS Track Invite 4/28	150.00
Athletics	04/10/2026	Gianunzio, Christopher	Baseball Umpire 4/13	165.00
Athletics	04/17/2026	Centennial High School	HS Track Entry 4/21	180.00
Football	04/20/2026	MRG Hauff	Football Pants	2,310.24
Girls Basketball	04/17/2026	US Bank	200 chicken fingers for banquet	308.47
Girls Basketball	04/17/2026	US Bank	Gifts for end of year bball	104.90
Girls Basketball	04/23/2026	Boone Central Girls Basketball	Camp Payment for June 12th.	200.00
Girls Basketball	04/23/2026	Concordia Women's Basketball Camp	Payment for girls basketball camp	275.00
Girls Basketball	04/23/2026	Oakland Craig Schools	Girls Basketball OC Camp fee	200.00
Softball	04/20/2026	BSN Sports	8 womens v neck softball jerseys	329.56
Elementary Fundraising	04/17/2026	US Bank	STUCO	1,081.98
Elementary Fundraising	04/14/2026	Shirts 101	Shirts	122.00
Junior High Track	04/17/2026	US Bank	discs	67.00
Skills USA	04/17/2026	US Bank	Supplies	0.37
Skills USA	04/30/2026	Ramada Midtown Conference Center	State Hotel Rooms	984.00
High School Pop	04/23/2026	Gary Elstun Memorial	Memorial - Jeff Elstun father	30.00
High School Caring Shelves	04/17/2026	US Bank	family request food	104.27
AP Funds	04/17/2026	US Bank	ACT Zoo Trip	202.65
AP Funds	04/17/2026	US Bank	ACT Day snacks	29.44
AP Funds	04/17/2026	US Bank	act day food	30.54

Activity Name	Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
College Access Grant	04/17/2026	US Bank	Signing Day Shirts	85.96
Band	04/17/2026	US Bank	Lunch at Bellevue University for the	195.70
Drill Team	04/13/2026	Rebel Athletic Inc	Dance Uniform	51.30
FBLA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Craft Fair Signs	480.00
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Envelopes for Banquet Invites	13.99
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Pencils	12.60
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Dinner at Runza	44.26
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Parking at State FFA Convention	24.04
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Chapter Dinner at State FFA	461.68
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Chapter Dinner at State FFA	293.66
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	State Degree Chain & FFA Tie	25.00
FFA Acct	04/17/2026	US Bank	Pop for March MTG	41.08
FFA Acct	04/20/2026	Rivalry	FFA Act	300.00
FFA Acct	04/13/2026	National FFA Organization	Awards for FFA Banquet	319.50
FFA Acct	04/13/2026	National FFA Organization	Gift Cards for Fruit Sales Incentive	400.00
Speech	04/17/2026	US Bank	Hotels for Fairbury	584.95
Speech	04/17/2026	US Bank	A2/A3 Districts Hospitality	776.66
Speech	04/17/2026	US Bank	B4/D1/D2 Hospitality	747.73
Speech	04/17/2026	US Bank	State Speech Team Dinners--	167.79
Speech	04/20/2026	Best Western Plus	Speech	620.00
Speech	04/09/2026	Casteel, Del	Speech Districts Monday	159.00
Speech	04/09/2026	Johnson, Jael	Had a discrepancy in the mileage	55.00
RC Concessions	04/30/2026	Raymond Central Community	Profit from baseball concessions	93.90
RC Concessions	04/13/2026	Sysco Lincoln	Popcorn and Tortilla Chips	99.68
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	concessions	58.20
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	Concessions Candy	19.62
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	seeds for concessions	52.05
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	pretzels for conc.	129.92
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	Pretzels	129.92
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	Concessions Restock-sams	64.20
RC Concessions	04/17/2026	US Bank	Pretzels	129.92
RC Concessions	04/30/2026	Great Plains Beef LLC	Hamburger and Hot Dogs for Conc.	654.50
RC Concessions	04/20/2026	Pepsi Cola Of Lincoln	concessions restock	454.70
RC Concessions	04/20/2026	Pepsi Cola Of Lincoln	Baseballs/Softballs	542.55
RC Concessions	04/30/2026	Otte Oil & Propane Inc.	RC Concessions	53.28
RC Concessions	04/09/2026	RC Softball	Profit from conc. 3/30	184.20
RC Concessions	04/23/2026	RC Softball	Profit from baseball conc. 4/14	223.20
RC Concessions	04/23/2026	RC Softball	Profit from conc. 4/17/26	72.90
RC Concessions	04/30/2026	RC Softball	profit from conc. 4/23	157.20
Student Pop	04/23/2026	Traci Hummel	Retirement Gifts	147.00
Professional Development	04/17/2026	US Bank	Breakfast for staff meeting	47.92
Professional Development	04/17/2026	US Bank	p/t conf meals: Sams	65.88
Professional Development	04/17/2026	US Bank	p/t conf. meals: Hyvee fruit/veggies	269.11
Professional Development	04/17/2026	US Bank	Conference Meal Supplies	26.96
Professional Development	04/17/2026	US Bank	Professional Development	40.87
Class of 2037	04/20/2026	SAC Museum-Ashland	Class 2037	737.50

Raymond Central Public Schools

Student Fees Fund Checks April 2026

Activity Name	Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
Art Class Stud. Fee	04/17/2026	US Bank	Art Supplies - Secondary	161.28
Foods Student Fees	04/17/2026	US Bank	Foods, Baking and Pastry, 7th	153.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	04/13/2026	RCPS General Fund	Service Fees (Student Fees)	900.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	04/10/2026	EduTrak Fees	Service Fees (Student Fees)	202.29
Service Fees (Student Fees)	04/13/2026	RC Class of 2026	Service Fees (Student Fees)	92.00
Skills USA	04/17/2026	US Bank	Skills USA Stud. Fee	40.34
Tech Ed Class Stud. Fee	04/17/2026	US Bank	Chicken coop	595.68
Tech Ed Class Stud. Fee	04/17/2026	US Bank	Chicken coop	94.86

5.4. Policy Review

6. Correspondence/Recognition

6.1. MAP, Gold, and Fastbridge Growth Report

6.2. Recognition

7. Public Forum

8. Reports

8.1. Administrative Reports

May Board Report
Amanda Coufal
Director of Special Education

National Speech Language Hearing Month:

May is National Speech Language Hearing Month! This month celebrates the critical work that speech-language pathologists and audiologists do. Raymond Central currently has two full-time speech-language pathologists, Clair Turman, MS, CCC-SLP (K-5), and Amanda Smith, MS, CF-SLP (Preschool, 6-21). The speech-language pathology scope of practice includes fluency, speech production (articulation), language (spoken and written), cognition, voice, resonance, feeding/swallowing and aural rehabilitation.

Nearly 1 in 12 U.S. Children ages 3-17 has had a disorder related to voice, speech, or language in the last 12 months. This month stands as a reminder that though communication may come in different forms (gestures, spoken language, facial expressions, augmentative and alternative communication), all are valid and welcome. Please take time to thank Clair Turman and Amanda Smith for all of the work that they do for our students each and every day!

Targeted Improvement Plan:

This year's Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) has been submitted to the state. Our TIP goal: By the 2026-2027 school year, 40% of students with disabilities in grades 2-5 will achieve proficiency (above the 25%ile) on the Winter FastBridge Reading Assessment.

Baseline Data:

- Winter 2022: 30% of identified students met or exceeded proficiency
- Winter 2023: 27% of identified students met or exceeded proficiency
- Winter 2024: 37% of identified students met or exceeded proficiency
- Winter 2025: 10% of identified students met or exceeded proficiency
- Winter 2026: 38% of identified students met or exceeded proficiency

There was a dip in the overall percentage (winter 2025) due to several students moving into the district, which impacted overall consistency as they entered the program at varying stages of readiness. Additionally, the implementation of a three-year instructional model means the program is still in progress. Staffing changes also played a role, as several teachers were either in their first year of teaching or new to the program.

Despite these challenges, students are demonstrating significant growth, indicating the program is moving in a positive direction. By winter 2026, our percentage showed measurable growth.

If anyone would like to read the 32 page document and supporting evidence, please let me know. It took a team to create our plan. Special thanks to Caitlin Roussan, Deb Kruse, Steve Rose, Paige Mestl, Nicole Kliment and Monica Blank.

April 2026 Board Report
Mr. Steve Rose and Mrs. Deb Kruse
Principals | Elementary

K - 2 Data

Percentage of students who met end of year grade level benchmarks
2025 - 2026

Kindergarten	Letter Sounds	Early Reading
Fall	53%	77%
Spring	**85% +28%**	**88% +11%**

1st Grade	Fluency	Early Reading
Fall	52% (Winter)	57%
Spring	**60% +8%**	**64% +7%**

2nd Grade	Fluency	aReading
Fall	64%	55%
Spring	**71% +7%**	**90% +35%**

End-of-Year Benchmark Protocol Meetings

After testing, staff went through end-of-year benchmark protocols. Through this process we:

- Analyzed the effectiveness of Tier One (universal instruction)
- Analyzed the effectiveness of Tier Two and Three supports
- Made a plan for the start of the 2026 - 2027 school year
- Determined professional learning needs for the 2026 - 2027 school year

Celebrated successes!

3-5 Data

Percentage of students who met end of year grade level benchmarks
2025 - 2026

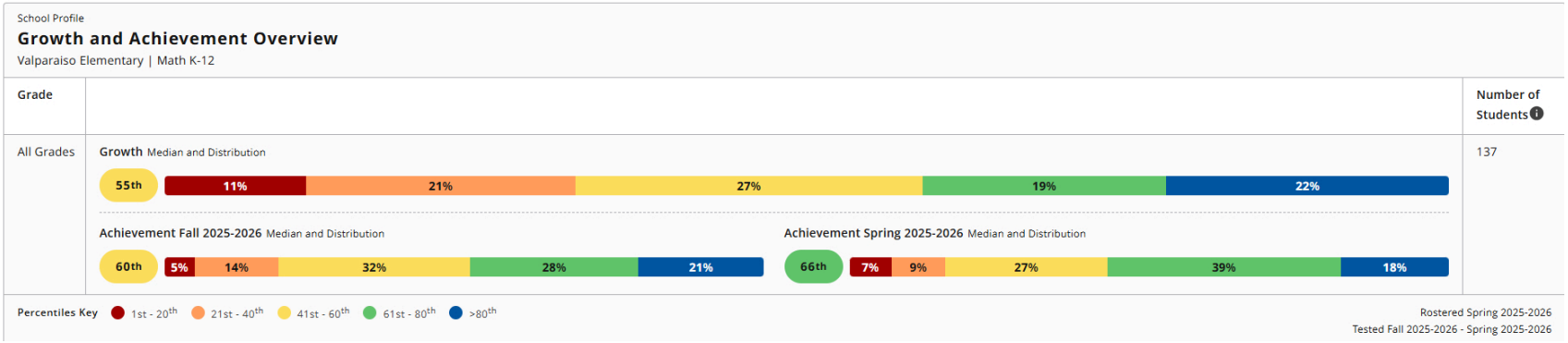
3rd Grade	Fluency	aReading
Fall	62%	69%
Spring	**65% +3%**	**81% +12%**

4th Grade	Fluency	aReading
Fall	58%	61%
Spring	**65% +7%**	**65% +4%**

5th Grade	Fluency	aReading
Fall	58%	70%
Spring	**76% +18%**	**75% +5%**

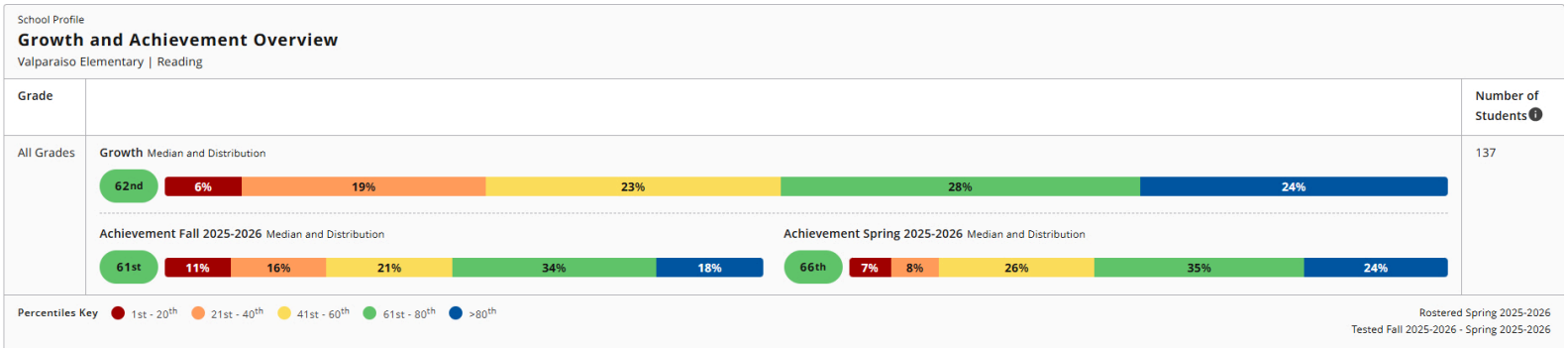
NWEA MAP Growth Data 3-5 (Math and Reading)

Valparaiso Elementary



- **Fall to Spring Growth in Math from 60th - 66th Percentile.**
- **Showed growth slightly below the norm as a school.**
- **3rd & 4th Grade showed High Achievement / High Growth**
- **5th Grade showed High Achievement / Low Growth**

Valparaiso Elementary



- **Fall to Spring Growth in Reading from 61st - 66th Percentile for all grades.**
- **Showed growth above the norm as a school.**
- **All 3 Grades showed High Achievement / High Growth**

Board Report JH/HS: May 2026

Professional Development/Resource Adoption: No additional updates to report.

Walk Through Reports: See Mr. Hanson's report for current numbers.

NSCAS and MAP Assessments: Achievement data is being shared with staff and will become a priority moving forward.

Graduation: Was held on May 9 @ 2:00 PM. We celebrated the advancement of 56 graduates.

Upcoming Events: Not all inclusive

- Graduation: May 9 @ 2:00 PM
- Last Day: May 20 with a 12:00PM dismissal

Counseling: Tasha and Celia

- Scheduling is finished! Students got their schedules Friday May 8th with scheduling changes due by the end of the week.
- May 9th Graduation

High School Student Council: Seniors were awarded scholarships by the Nebraska Community Blood Bank. We will be meeting this month to discuss next year's homecoming theme.

JH Student Council: Voting has concluded for the 2026-2027 school year. The nominated students will be announced by Friday May 15th.

FBLA: Results from SLC 2026:

Middle School

1st Place - Exploring Personal Finance - Perrin McMann
1st Place - Exploring Agribusiness - Kate Field
1st Place - Exploring Accounting - Perrin McMann
1st Place - Exploring Leadership - Kate Field
2nd Place - Exploring Professionalism - Coleman Field
2nd Place - Exploring Economics - Perrin McMann
2nd Place - Local Chapter Activities Presentation - Kate Field & Coleman Field
3rd Place - Exploring FBLA - Perrin McMann
3rd Place - Exploring Digital Video Production - Bella Haake
3rd Place - Exploring Digital Citizenship - Perrin McMann
4th Place - Exploring Agribusiness - Coleman Field
4th Place - Exploring Professionalism - Thomas Schulte
4th Place - Exploring Web Design - Coleman Field &Thomas Schulte
4th Place - MS Interpersonal Communication - Thomas Schulte

HM - Exploring Technology - Coleman Field
HM - Business Communication - Marissa Jensen
HM - Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure - Grace Schulte

High School

1st Place - Local Annual Chapter Business Report - Marissa Jensen & Grace Schulte
3rd Place - Website Coding and Development - Raymond Liu & Hudsen Heerman
5th Place - Computer Problem Solving - Hudsen Heerman
Honorable Mention - Introduction to Business Presentation - Emory Burch, Aliya Chapman, Xander Stenka
HM - Business Communication - Marissa Jensen
HM - Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure - Grace Schulte

Ribbon Projects

High School

Gold Seal Chapter of Merit
Gold Level - Champion Chapter
Alzheimer's Association Ribbon Project
Go Green Ribbon Project
LINK Ribbon Project
NSBEA/NBEA Member Ribbon Project
Spark Your Legacy Ribbon Project
Sweepstakes Award Ribbon Project

Middle School

Alzheimer's Association Ribbon Project
Explore FBLA Ribbon Project
Go Green Ribbon Project
Trail Blazer Award

Five students will be attending the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio this summer.

- Exploring Agribusiness - Kate Field
- Exploring Professionalism - Coleman Field
- Local Chapter Activities Presentation - Kate Field & Coleman Field
- Local Annual Chapter Business Report - Marissa Jensen & Grace Schulte
- Computer Problem Solving - Hudsen Heerman

Abby Horbach-Assistant Principal/MTSS

How is it already May??!! We have successfully completed both MAP and NSCAS testing. Thank you to our staff and students for their efforts in ensuring a smooth and consistent testing environment, as well as their flexibility in accommodating a large number of make-up sessions. (There were over 70 make ups!) We have begun reviewing the data, which will help guide our planning and instructional decisions for next year.

As mentioned at the previous board meeting, we have also started planning for the 2026–2027 school year, with a focus on refining our Advisory/Intervention model. A key priority moving

forward will be incorporating assessment data—including MAP, NSCAS, and PreACT/ACT—along with intentional test preparation throughout the school year. This work will help better support students in building the skills and confidence needed for success on standardized assessments.

Overall, this has been a month centered on maintaining consistency, strengthening our systems, and preparing for continued growth next year.

Principal Transition (May, June and July): We continue the leadership transition at the high school. The scaffolded approach has been effective in gradually releasing responsibilities to Mr. Kobza. Staff continue to be informed of duty shifts and evolving responsibilities through my weekly updates. The May, June, and July targets are outlined below; they are intentionally flexible and not intended to be all-inclusive. (this is my last Board meeting at Raymond Central so I have added June and July targets)

May 2026 – Transition & Culmination
Primary Focus: Closure and ceremonial leadership

- **Leadership & Operations:** Lead graduation planning and execution. Manage end-of-year discipline, staffing needs, and schedules.
- **Achievement & Instruction:** Finalize achievement reports and reflect on progress. Plan summer school and fall instructional priorities.
- **Evaluation & Staff Observations:** Ensure all evaluations are completed and submitted. Communicate expectations for next year. Teacher evaluations* discussed with Troy Lurz as a consultant.
- **School Safety & Compliance:** Complete final required drills and reports. Review summer building access and safety plans. Lurz handed over the file on May 8, 2026.
- **Staff Meetings & Culture:** Lead final staff meetings and celebrations. Communicate vision and priorities for 2026–27.

June 2026 – Contracting, Planning & Onboarding Prep
Primary Focus: Systems, staffing, and future readiness

- **Leadership & Operations:** Finalize administrative contracts. Lead staffing decisions and assignments. Troy Lurz provides input as needed.
- **Achievement & Instruction:** Finalize summer school implementation and oversight. Plan professional development calendar for 2026–27.
- **Evaluation & Staff Observations:** Close out evaluation records and files. Reflect on evaluation process improvements. Teacher evaluations* discussed with Troy Lurz as consultant.
- **School Safety & Compliance:** Submit any end-of-year compliance reports. Update safety plans for the upcoming year.
- **Associate Principal Replacement Planning:** Develop onboarding and training plan for new Associate Principal. Create documentation: role expectations, calendars, systems guides.

- **Create Position and Task Structure:** With the new Associate Principal in place begin the task of delineating who does what. Perhaps using the RACI Ownership matrix?

July 2026 – Handoffs & New Leadership Launch
Primary Focus: Training and continuity

- **Leadership & Operations:** Assume full Principal role. Lead summer administrative work independently.
- **Achievement & Instruction:** Oversee summer school completion and reporting. Finalize fall instructional priorities.
- **School Safety & Compliance:** Ensure summer compliance tasks are completed. Prepare safety training for August staff return.
- **Training the New Associate Principal:** Onboard and train new Associate Principal on building systems, culture, safety, evaluation*, and staff meeting facilitation. Establish regular coaching and check-in structures.

May 2026 AD Board Report
Mr. Tony Kobza
Assistant Principal/AD

AD Newsletter
I will include links to our weekly newsletter laying out the upcoming events as well as the successes from the previous week. Please take a look at them below with more in depth information:

4/13/26

4/19/26

4/26/26

5/3/26

5/10/26

Activities and Athletics Banquet: 5/14/26 at 6:00 PM in the Main Gym

Facilities

We moved and updated the senior pictures screen as well as updated the valedictorian and salutatorian plaques. We will continue to add to the Academic Wall with the help of the Teacher Leadership Team.

We are working to design updated recognition for the banners in the gym as well as CTSO, Activities and Athletics historical recognition.

Facilities/MTAF

Field Construction Timeline:

- Week of 5/11 - Empire is finishing fencing by dugouts. Full perimeter should be complete this week
- 5/14 - Hang Backstop nets
- 5/15 - Finish netting and fusion wall
- Turf is getting delivered this week. Installation will begin in late March. Was hoping next week but there was a delay for the contractor on a previous project due to rain in Kansas.

Needs:

- Finalizing Lighting Quotes and installation
- Finish and flat work around the outside perimeter of the field and entrance areas

- Scoreboards

In Progress

- Nebraska Septic has completed installing drainage.
- Steps from the new parking lot are installed.
- Footings have been poured by Tom Rezac for entrance building. He and Brian Caha are going to work with our Construction students to help installation of the building.
- Power will be pulled to main site by Norris Power, Kidwell will install parking and driveway lights in late April/Early May, PowerSource Electric will help with other power needs.
- Met with NRD Forrester as they are helping plan tree needs with the support of grant funding. Great Plains Nursery will assist in planting and planning of tree types and location.

8.2. Student Board Member Report

8.3. Superintendent's Report

Nebraska Council of School Administrators

NCSA Final Legislative Report

109th Legislature, Second Session
Convened, January 7, 2026
Adjourned Sine Die, April 17, 2026

Prepared by Dr. Mike Dulaney
NCSA Executive Director
April 20, 2026

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I. Legislation Passed and Signed into Law

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LB 596	Sanders	Government	Change requirements for legal publications and notices required by law, provisions of the Open Meetings Act, county inventories, warrants, and discharge records, storage requirements for certain records, petitions to change names, marriage license and record fees, and reports of abandoned property, and eliminate a penalty for certain public officials and provisions relating to the registration of farm, ranch, or home names	7

Bill	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Subject*	*Pg.*
LB 653	Murman	Education	Change provisions relating to acceptance of students under the enrollment option program and discipline of students under the Student Discipline Act	10
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LB 803	Revenue Com	Revenue	Adopt the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act and change provisions relating to the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act, the Property Tax Growth Limitation Act, property tax valuation and levy procedures, homestead exemptions, and income taxes	14
LB 820	Retirement Com	Retirement	Change retirement provisions relating to approved identification documents, participation in certain retirement systems, state contributions, ex officio members of the Nebraska Investment Council, contributions by school districts, computation of tax withholdings, retirement allowances, cost-of-living adjustments, and the Nebraska State Patrol and change the title of the executive director of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems	18
LB 821	Retirement Com	Retirement	Eliminate certain verification requirements performed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and change duties of the board and the Nebraska Investment Council relating to retirement systems	20
LB 824	Lonowski	Retirement	Change provisions relating to termination of employment under the School Employees Retirement Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act	21
LB 834	Kauth	Revenue	Change provisions relating to county assessors, the Property Tax Administrator, real property assessments, taxes levied in counties, delinquent taxes owed to counties, remission of sales and use taxes, and mobile homes	21
LB 847	Kauth	Business and Labor	Adopt the Nebraska Registered Apprenticeship Act, change provisions relating to funds, child labor, the Business Innovation Act, the Contractor Registration Act, the Employee Classification Act, the Employment Security Law, and the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act, and transfer administration of student internships to the Department of Labor	22
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LB 935	Bosn	Judiciary	Provide for the award of costs and attorney's fees in certain actions involving political subdivisions	25
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Bill	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Subject*	*Pg.*
LB 940	Murman	Education	Prohibit certain color additives in school meals	39
LB 966	Cavanaugh, M.	Education	Adopt the Hunger-Free Schools Pilot Program	40
LB 1022	Murman	Education	Eliminate the human relations training requirement for obtaining certificates and permits for teaching, providing special services, or education administration	41
LB 1236	Executive Board	Executive Board	Change provisions relating to publication, printing, and distribution of legislative journals, session laws, and statutes and publication of the Constitution of Nebraska	42

LB 258

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Raybould	Business and Labor	Raybould	Change provisions relating to the minimum wage under the Wage and Hour Act

Approved by Governor: February 9, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: February 5, 2026; 33-16 vote
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

Currently, the minimum wage is set at $13.50 per hour. On January 1, 2026, the rate will be $15 per hour through December 31, 2026. Under LB 258, the minimum wage would be increased on January 1, 2027, and on each January 1st thereafter, by 1.75%.

Youth Minimum Wage

The measure provides that an employer may pay a "youth minimum wage" of $13.50 per hour to an employee who:

(a) is at least 14 years of age but younger than 16 years of age; and
(b) is not an emancipated minor.

Beginning on January 1, 2030, and on January 1st of every 5th year thereafter, the youth minimum wage would increase by 1.5%, rounded to the nearest cent.

Training Wage Rate

LB 258 provides that a "training wage rate" would be:

(a) $13.50 per hour through December 31, 2026; and
(b) beginning on January 1, 2027, and on January 1st of each year thereafter, the training wage rate would increase by 1.5%, rounded to the nearest cent.

LB 304

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
DeBoer	Health	DeBoer	Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program and state intent regarding funding

Approved by Governor:	April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading:	April 10, 2026; 43-6 vote
Effective Date:	July 18, 2026

LB 304 was introduced in the 2025 Session. It was supported by First Five Nebraska and a host of education groups, including NCSA. Senator Prokop was instrumental in promoting the bill to his colleagues.

LB 304 changes provisions of the Child Care Subsidy program, removing the October 1, 2026, sunset on the eligibility cap of 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The bill also removes the October 1, 2026, sunset on eligibility for the transitional Child Care Subsidy of 200% FPL. Currently, the income cap would revert to the threshold of 130% FPL for regular subsidy and 185% for transitional subsidy.

Based on updated analysis provided by DHHS, which analyzes the estimated cost of child care subsidy scenarios, the estimated funds needed to maintain the current subsidy levels in FY2027 are $3,157,170. Assuming the FY2027 cost is 75% of a full year, the cost in FY2028 and beyond is estimated to be $4,209,560.

As amended and passed, the funding source for the additional cost is designated to be the Health Care Cash Fund.

LB 384	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Storer	Revenue	None	Require the county assessor and one voting member of the governing bodies of participating political subdivisions to attend joint public hearings under the Property Tax Request Act

Approved by Governor:	February 9, 2026
Passed on Final Reading:	February 5, 2026; 49-0 vote
Effective Date:	July 18, 2026

LB 384 amends the Property Tax Request Act, which was created in 2021 under LB 644. The original intent behind LB 384 was to revise "Nebraska's 'Truth in Taxation' law by requiring a majority of the governing board members of a property taxing entity exceeding its allowable growth rate to attend the corresponding joint public hearing."[1]

As amended, LB 384 changes the requirements that must be met if any political subdivision seeks to increase its property tax request by more than the allowable growth percentage. The bill amends section 77-1633(3)(b) to require that at least <u>one</u> voting member of the governing body of each participating political subdivision must attend the required joint public hearing. The county assessor of the county hosting the hearing must also attend.

[1] Statement of Intent, LB 384, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session, 2025.

The bill eliminates the current provision that an elected official may be THE designated representative from a participating political subdivision.

LR 422

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Rountree	Education	None	Urge Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Adopted: April 9, 2026; 47-0
Effective Date: April 9, 2026

LR 422 was introduced late in the 2026 Session on March 24. The resolution was referred to the Education Committee for disposition. After a public hearing on April 1, the committee advanced the measure unanimously for floor consideration.

The resolution urges Congress and the President of the United States to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) at the authorized level of 40% of the average per-pupil expenditure. The resolution states that, although Congress has consistently authorized funding at 40%, the federal government has never met this commitment. As a result, states and local school districts have been required to cover the majority of special education costs. The resolution further states that the failure to fully fund IDEA shifts the financial burden to states and school districts, which results in reductions to other educational programs or increased reliance on state and local taxes.

LB 429

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Murman	Education	None	Provide requirements and restrictions for school boards relating to professional employees' organizations

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 47-2
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

From the time this bill was introduced in 2025 until it passed in 2026, LB 429 was the subject of concern for NSEA. As introduced, the bill was meant to open access to teachers for other education membership groups, including and especially as it relates to the Association of American Educators (AAE). The AAE is a nonunion organization that provides liability insurance, life insurance, and professional growth opportunities for its membership.

Charles Zurcher, regional membership director for AAE, testified at the February 18, 2025, public hearing: "The NSEA has access to school districts' teachers' emails, school presentations, teachers' mailboxes, and district bulletin boards in virtually every school in our state. Other

professional associations are severely restricted."[2] "This is fundamentally wrong and creates a monopoly", said Zurcher.[3]

Tim Royers, NSEA President, opposed the legislation, calling it "blatantly unconstitutional" in violation of Article III, Section 18 relating to special legislation.[4]

As the bill advanced from committee, it was not only a threat to NSEA but also a problem for school management. The bill would have created more work for school officials to make sure access was permitted for a range of organizations – not just teacher groups.

NSEA helped to develop a compromise amendment, offered by Senator John Cavanaugh, and, on March 6, 2026, it was adopted by the Legislature.

LB 429, as passed and signed into law, requires school boards to grant access upon a request made by a professional employees' organization to the physical or electronic mailbox of any certificated employee.

> Professional employees' organization is defined as any organization that engages in one or more of the following activities: Providing liability protection or collective bargaining on behalf of certificated employees.

LB 429 permits a professional employees' organization, in an effort to recruit new members, to display information at or send a representative who either is an employee of the school district or represents an employee of the school district to attend a certificated employee meeting or event, including, but not limited to, a certificated employee orientation meeting.[5]

If a professional employees' organization is allowed to create and post signage or materials in a school (such as an information board, a bulletin board, a poster, or a pamphlet), any other professional employees' organization must also be granted permission to create and post signage and materials in an equal manner.

A school board may not designate any day or break in the school calendar by naming or referring to the day or break using the name of any professional employees' organization.

CIR: The new law may not be construed to apply to, modify, supersede, or affect in any way the provisions of the Industrial Relations Act (CIR)[6] or any rights, duties, procedures, or obligations established pursuant to such act or section, including, but not limited to, any matters relating to collective bargaining, industrial disputes, certification of bargaining agents, prohibited practices, or jurisdiction of the CIR.

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[2] Hearing Transcripts, LB 429, Education Committee, February 18, 2025, p. 63.
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*, pp. 68-69.
[5] Certificated employee means and includes all teachers and administrators as defined in section 79-101, other than substitute teachers, who are employed one-half time or more by any class of school district. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-824.
[6] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-842.

LB 596	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Sanders	Government	Government Com	Change requirements for legal publications and notices required by law, provisions of the Open Meetings Act, county inventories, warrants, and discharge records, storage requirements for certain records, petitions to change names, marriage license and record fees, and reports of abandoned property, and eliminate a penalty for certain public officials and provisions relating to the registration of farm, ranch, or home names

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 46-3
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 596 became a package bill for the Government Committee. It will likely be remembered mostly for changes in the Nebraska Hall of Fame laws to allow Tom Osborne to be inducted while still living. For the education community, the measure includes changes to the Open Meetings Act and changes in the requirements for legal publications and notices.

■ **Public Record Preservation** *Effective Date*
(Sections 4, 5 of LB 596) ..... July 18, 2026

Sections 4 and 5 of LB 596 incorporate the provisions of LB 919 (Sanders) relating to preservation of public records.[7] The intent is to modernize public records preservation processes by allowing the use of media other than microfilm or microfiche.[8]

Roll form of microfilm or "other accessible durable medium" may be substituted for the method of filing original documents.

LB 596 provides that a "medium" is accessible if it is able to be retrieved through intellectual, digital, or physical means within institutional or legal parameters.

■ **Legal Newspapers** *Effective Date*
(Section 6 of LB 596) ..... July 18, 2026

Section 6 of LB 596 amends the law (§ 25-523) defining a legal newspaper. This section provides for the use of digital newspapers for purposes of giving public notice under the Open Meetings Act in localities where no print edition or e-edition of a legal newspaper are published.

The measure provides that no newspaper would be considered a legal newspaper for the publication of legal and other official notices unless it has a bona fide circulation:

- of at least 300 paid subscriptions if located in a city of the metropolitan class or a city of the primary class, or

[7] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-1517.01.
[8] Statement of Intent, LB 919, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

- at least 200 paid subscriptions if located in a city of the first class, city of the second class, or village, and
- must have been published within the county or an adjacent county for 52 successive weeks prior to the publication of a notice, and then subsequently at least 50 times per year.

LB 596 defines "digital newspaper" as an Internet website that:

(a) employs staff in the county from which the digital newspaper is published online;

(b) has at least 300 paid subscribers if located in a city of the metropolitan class or city of the primary class;

(c) has at least 200 paid subscribers if located in a city of the first class, city of the second class, or village;

(d) publishes exclusively online;

(e) has updated its news at least once each week for at least one year prior to the publication of a notice; and

(f) reports on events and governmental activities of local interest.

An "e-edition" is defined as a digital facsimile of a newspaper's print edition that is accessible from such newspaper's website and is substantially the same in both format and content as the print edition of such newspaper.

The e-edition of a legal newspaper would be considered a legal newspaper for the publication of legal and other official notices only if:

(a) such notices are contemporaneously published in the print edition of the newspaper or

(b) the newspaper:

(i) has ceased publication of its print edition and
(ii) was considered a legal newspaper when it ceased publication.

If no newspaper considered to be a legal newspaper publishes either a print edition or an e-edition within a county, any legal and other official notices directed to persons or entities in that county may be published in a digital newspaper within the county if available at a rate not to exceed legal notice rates.[9]

Published Legal Notices: LB 596 modifies existing law to provide that all legal publications and notices of whatever kind or character that may by law be required to be published a certain number of days or a certain number of weeks would be legally published when they have been published in a print edition of a daily, weekly, semiweekly, or triweekly newspaper, or in an e-edition or digital newspaper as outlined above.[10]

[9] Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 33-141 to 33-143 (Legal Notices).
[10] *Id.*, § 25-228.

Rates for Legal Notices: In section 10 of the measure, the legal rate for the publication of all legal notices other than those exceptional legal notices[11] would continue to be 50¢ per line, single column, standard newspaper measurements of eight-point type and pica width of eleven for the first insertion and 43.34¢[12] per line, single column, standard newspaper measurements of eight-point type and pica width of eleven for each subsequent insertion.

■ **Open Meetings Act** *Effective Date*
(Sections 15, 16 of LB 596) ..... July 18, 2026

LB 596 includes the provisions of two bills introduced in the 2026 Session relevant to the Open Meetings Act: LB 898 (Lonowski) and LB 1145 (Lonowski). Senator Lonowski believed that existing provisions of the Open Meetings Act have become "confusing and have proven to be problematic for political subdivisions."[13]

The measure amends the Act (§ 84-1411) to state that each public body must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting by a method designated by each public body and recorded in its minutes.

Notice must be given at least four times each year of the regular meeting schedule, the location, and the method designated by the public body to provide reasonable advance publicized notice. The notice must be given by publication in a legal newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction. This would not apply in the case of:

- the governing body of a city of the second class or village,
- any advisory committee of the governing body,
- the governing body of a rural or suburban fire protection district, or
- any public body that only meets intermittently and is not required to hold regular meetings.

The measure provides that failure to comply with the above requirement would not cause any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken at a meeting of the public body to be void or voidable.

For a public body that decides to publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction to meet the notice requirement, in case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to publish the notice, the public body must:

(a) post such notice on its website, if available,

(b) 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

(c) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction.

[11] *Id.*, § 33-142.
[12] Formerly 39.4ç per line.
[13] Statement of Intent, LB 1145, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

The public body must keep a written record of the posting and a written record of the request to the newspaper. The record of the posting would be evidence that the posting was done as required and would be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

Posting the Act: LB 596 eliminates the requirement of posting the Act in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. Public bodies must merely make available at least one current copy of the Act in the meeting room accessible to members of the public.

LB 653	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Murman	Education	None	Change provisions relating to acceptance of students under the enrollment option program and discipline of students under the Student Discipline Act

Approved by Governor: March 4, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: February 27, 2026; 33-15 vote
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 653 was introduced in 2025 and was initially set to be a comprehensive Education Committee package bill last year. The bill stalled during the 2025 Session on General File and then carried over to the 2026 Session. Senator Murman had an opportunity as the 2026 Session began to use the bill as a vehicle for two important issues: changes to the enrollment option program and changes to the Student Discipline Act (specifically as it relates to PK-2 suspensions).

The first issue, option enrollment, did not cause much concern among lawmakers. The proposed changes were readily acceptable during floor debate. The second issue, PK-2 suspensions, was very controversial by comparison. It involved a law passed in 2023 under LB 705, which was supported by Senator Murman and approved by the Governor.[14] In subsequent years, both Senator Murman and Governor Pillen would work to repeal it or at least modify it due to concerns expressed by educators throughout the state.

Repealing the law relevant to PK-2 suspensions would have been politically difficult.[15] The next best option, viewed as a compromise, was to amend the law by adding a new exception to the rule that no PK-2 student may be suspended. Prior to LB 653, as passed, the only exception provided in the law related to a student bringing a deadly weapon on school grounds, a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. The "deadly weapon" exception was part of the law when it passed in 2023.

On January 9, 2026, a white copy amendment was filed on LB 653 containing the proposed changes to the enrollment option program and the Student Discipline Act. The debate was contentious at all three stages of debate. After final passage, reverberations on the student discipline issue were heard throughout the remainder of the session.

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[14] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-265.01.
[15] LB 1053 was introduced on behalf of the Governor to eliminate the prohibition regarding suspending a PK-2 student. The bill would have outright repealed § 79-265.01. The bill was not advanced from committee.

Enrollment Option Program

The proposed change to the Enrollment Option Program was limited to one section of law (§ 79-238) relating to application acceptance and rejection, specifically as it pertains to siblings of option students.

Section 1 of LB 653 states that any option school district that is not a member of a learning community must automatically accept applications for siblings of option students enrolled in the option school district without regard to capacity limitations.

Any option school district that is in a learning community must automatically accept applications for siblings of option students enrolled in the option school district without regard to capacity limitations, then give:

- First priority for enrollment to students who have previously been enrolled in the option school district as an open enrollment student,
- Second priority for enrollment to students who reside in the learning community and who contribute to the socioeconomic diversity of enrollment at the school building to which the student will be assigned, and
- Final priority for enrollment to other students who reside in the learning community.

The option school district would not be required to accept a student meeting the priority criteria if the district is at capacity, except for siblings of option students or as provided in section 79-235.01 or section 79-240.[16]

Student Discipline

LB 653 amends three separate sections of the Student Discipline Act.

Short-term Suspension

Oral and Written Notice: Section 2 of LB 653 amends § 79-265 to provide that before the short-term suspension takes effect, the student and the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker of the student must be given oral and written notice of the charges against the student an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and an opportunity to present the student's version of the events leading to the alleged conduct or violation the principal has determined necessitates a short-term suspension and evidence to support the student's version of such events.

Written Statement: Within twenty-four hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, not to exceed an additional 48 hours, following such suspension, the principal shall send a written statement to the student and his or her parent or guardian describing:

(1) The student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard;

(2) The reasons for the action taken;

[16] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-235.01 (continued attendance), § 79-240 (request for release, rejection, notice, appeal).

(3) The actions made by the school to try to discontinue or alleviate the behavior of the student prior to considering suspension;

(4) Resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and

(5) 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.

Note: The last three items, (3), (4), and (5), were added to the required written statement.

Conference: As with existing law, the principal must make a reasonable effort to hold a conference with the parent or guardian before or at the time the student returns to school and must document the effort in writing.

LB 653 provides that, if the conference has not been held, a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker may submit a written request to the school for a conference with the principal relating to the short-term suspension of the child and the written statement received by the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker.

PK-2 Suspension

Section 3 of LB 653 amends § 79-265.01 relating to PK-2 suspension. A new exception is provided for the rule that no PK-2 student may be suspended. LB 653 provides that a PK-2 student may be suspended if he/she engages in violent behavior capable of causing physical harm to another student or school employee.

Long-term Suspension, Expulsion, or Mandatory Reassignment

Section 4 of LB 653 amends § 79-268 relating to the procedures that must be followed if a principal makes a decision to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Currently, the decision to recommend discipline must be made within two school days after learning of the alleged student misconduct. On the date of the decision, a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting the charge must be filed with the superintendent.

The school must, within two school days after the decision, send written notice by registered or certified mail to the student and his/her parent or guardian informing them of the rights established under the Student Discipline Act. The written notice must 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; and

(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.

Note: The final two items, (c) and (d), for the written notice were added under LB 653.

LB 745

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Juarez	Education	None	Change provisions relating to the requirements for a diploma of high school equivalency

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 49-0
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

At the public hearing for LB 745, Senator Juarez stated that NDE and the Nebraska School Counselor Association supported the legislation. Senator Juarez stated the reason for introducing the bill was that:

> Under current Nebraska statute and policy, students who are 16 and 17 can take the GED test with appropriate documentation and approvals, but cannot receive the GED diploma until after their 18th birthday. This statutory delay creates unnecessary burdens on young people who have met all academic requirements and are ready to move on to the next stage of their lives.[17]

LB 745 changes the requirements to receive a General Educational Development (GED) by removing the 18th birthday requirement, so that the Commissioner of Education can issue the diploma upon completion of the high school equivalency requirements. The measure also removes the requirement that an individual's graduating class has been graduated for at least one year.[18] The measure was supported by the Omaha-based Education Rights Counsel.

LB 748

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Sorrentino	Education	None	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and allow for the use of trust funds for recognized postsecondary credential programs

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 46-3
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 748 conforms Nebraska law to the federal changes regarding "529 Plans" under the College Savings Plan Program that became a part of the One Big Beautiful Bill signed on July 4, 2025.

LB 748 expands the types of elementary or secondary school expenses beyond tuition (e.g., to include books, tutoring, online material), up to $20,000 per year,[19] consistent with federal changes.

[17] Hearing Transcripts, LB 745, Education Committee, January 26, 2026, p. 74.
[18] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-730.
[19] The current limit is $10,000.

The measure also provides that College Savings Plan Program funds may be used for postsecondary credentialing expenses, consistent with federal changes, such as tuition and fees, books, supplies, and equipment necessary for the program, testing fees for exams required to obtain or maintain a recognized credential, and continuing education fees.

Also under the new law, the State Treasurer will have the power to enter into agreements with any recognized postsecondary credential program to implement the Education Savings Plan, except agreements that pertain to the investment of money in the Education Savings Plan administrative fund, expense fund, or program fund. The State Treasurer will also have the power to make payments to recognized postsecondary credential programs pursuant to participation agreements on behalf of beneficiaries.

LB 803	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Revenue Com	Revenue	Revenue Com	Adopt the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act and change provisions relating to the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act, the Property Tax Growth Limitation Act, property tax valuation and levy procedures, homestead exemptions, and income taxes

Approved by Governor: April 16, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 48-1 with E Clause
Effective Date: Sections 14-18 - January 1, 2027

As LB 803 advanced from the Revenue Committee, it included the contents of LB 575 (Hallstrom) relating to property tax levy limits. It's important to note that the property tax levy limit provisions become operative on January 1, 2027.

Notice

Section 14 of LB 803 amends the duties of county assessors (§ 77-1315). By June 1, 2027, and each June 1st thereafter, in addition to the notice of preliminary valuation, the county assessor must create a notice to be delivered to the owner of record as of May 20th of the assessed value of every item of real property not exempt from taxation, which has been assessed at a value different than in the previous year. The notice must be delivered by first-class mail addressed to the owner's last-known address.

It must identify the item of real property and must display a column for the prior tax year and the current tax year. Under the column for the prior tax year, the notice must display:

- the valuation of the parcel in the prior tax year,
- the amount each city, county, and school district levied against such parcel in the prior tax year, and
- the total amount of taxes levied against the parcel in the prior tax year by the city, county, and school district.

Under the column for the current tax year, the notice must display:

- the valuation of the parcel in the current tax year and
- the total amount of taxes that would be levied against the parcel by each city, county, and school district using the previous year's rate of levy.

The notice must state that the tax amounts do not include any homestead exemptions or property tax credits.

The notice must state the following, in a font size larger than any other font appearing on the notice:

> "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: If you believe the valuation of the parcel described in this notice to be in error, you may file a protest of this valuation with the county clerk on or before June 30, and your protest shall be decided by the county board of equalization. Your protest must be accompanied by documentation sufficient to justify the requested valuation; if not, your protest will be dismissed. If you are concerned about the effect your valuation may have on how much tax will be levied against your parcel, you are encouraged to attend any and all of the budget hearings for the political subdivisions listed above. This notice displays the amount of tax which would be levied if the levy rate for each of the listed political subdivisions were unchanged from the prior year. The valuation for your parcel will not be certified to the listed political subdivisions by the county until August 20."

The notice must include the date of convening of the county board of equalization and the dates for filing a protest. The notice must also state the following:

> "The time and place of the budget hearings will be reported to the county assessor by each political subdivision listed above on or before June 1. Such time and place can change based on unforeseen circumstances. You are encouraged to verify with each listed political subdivision that the time and place of the budget hearings has not changed. You will receive a postcard from the state, mailed on or before July 1, which will provide further information."

<u>First Budget Hearing</u>

Section 14 further amends § 77-1315 to state that, by June 1, 2027, and each June 1st thereafter, each political subdivision levying a tax against property <u>must inform the county assessor</u> of every county in which the political subdivision has the authority to levy the tax of the <u>time and place of the political subdivision's first budget hearing</u>. *This particular portion of section 14 applies only to counties, cities, and school districts.*

Failure by a political subdivision to comply would <u>not</u>:

(a) constitute a violation by the county assessor,
(b) invalidate the political subdivision's property tax request, or
(c) constitute an unauthorized levy (under § 77-1606).

By June 1, 2027, and each June 1st thereafter, the county assessor must send the Property Tax Administrator a report that includes:

(a) The name and address of every person receiving the notice (outlined above); and

(b) The county's website address where the following information must be posted:

(i) The time and place of the first budget hearing for the county and each city and school district authorized to levy a tax within the county; and

(ii) The time and place of the joint public hearing (outlined below).

By June 25, 2027, and each June 25th thereafter, the Department of Revenue is required to send each person listed in the report (i.e., those who received the notice) a postcard containing information about the website address (i.e., the county's website).

Two-thirds Majority Vote

Section 17 of LB 803 amends the Property Tax Request Act (§ 77-1632)[20] with regard to how a political subdivision may exceed its property tax request in the prior year.

Under the modified law, the governing body of the political subdivision must pass a resolution or ordinance to set the amount of its property tax request after holding a public hearing. If the governing body of a political subdivision seeks to set its property tax request at an amount that exceeds its property tax request in the prior year, it may do so, subject to the limitations provided in the School District Property Tax Limitation Act and the Property Tax Growth Limitation Act, after holding a public hearing and by passing a resolution or ordinance, by a 2/3s majority vote except for seven-member boards, which would require a 4/7s majority vote.

In this case, "political subdivision" means a county, city, village, school district, learning community, sanitary and improvement district, natural resources district, or community college.

"Property tax request" is defined as the total amount of property taxes requested to be raised for a political subdivision through the levy imposed.[21]

Joint Public Hearing

Section 18 of LB 803 creates a new section of law related to the joint public hearing. The measure requires that each county and each city or school district levying a tax on property within a county must participate in a joint public hearing.

> If a political subdivision includes area in more than one county, the political subdivision would be deemed to be within the county in which the political subdivision's principal headquarters are located.

Designated Representative: Each political subdivision must designate one representative to attend the joint public hearing on behalf of the political subdivision.

Board Member Attendance: At least one voting member of the governing body of each participating political subdivision must attend the joint public hearing.

[20] The Property Tax Request Act was passed in 2021 under LB 644 and resulted in the institution of the "pink postcard."
[21] Pursuant to § 77-1601 (County tax levy).

The presence of a quorum or the participation of elected officials at the joint public hearing would not constitute a meeting under the Open Meetings Act.

County Assessor Attendance: The county assessor of the county in which the joint public hearing is being held must also attend the hearing.

Agenda: At the hearing, the only item on the agenda would a be discussion on each political subdivision's budget process and preliminary information on relevant data that would impact the political subdivision's budget in the current year.

Date of Joint Hearing: The joint public hearing must be held on or after July 1 and prior to July 15,[22] and before any of the participating political subdivisions file their adopted budget statement. The joint public hearing must be held after 6 p.m. local time on the relevant date.

Hearing Organization: The joint public hearing would be organized by the county clerk or his/her designee.

At the joint public hearing, the designated representative of each political subdivision must give a brief presentation on the budget process, how the budget affects the property tax request, information about the prior year's budget and property tax request, and any preliminary information about factors that may affect the current year's budget as may be known to the political subdivision.

Public participation: Any member of the public must be allowed to speak at the joint public hearing and must be given a reasonable amount of time to do so.

Report: After completion of the joint public hearing, the county clerk, or his/her designee, must prepare a report that would include:

(a) The name of each political subdivision that participated in the joint public hearing;

(b) The names of the designated representatives of the political subdivisions participating in the joint public hearing;

(c) The name and address of each individual who spoke at the joint public hearing, unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual, and the name of any organization represented by each such individual; and

(d) The number of individuals who signed in to attend the joint public hearing.

The report must be delivered to the political subdivisions participating in the joint public hearing within 10 days after the hearing.

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[22] Beginning in 2027.

LB 820	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Retirement Com	Retirement	Retirement Com	Change retirement provisions relating to approved identification documents, participation in certain retirement systems, state contributions, ex officio members of the Nebraska Investment Council, contributions by school districts, computation of tax withholdings, retirement allowances, cost-of-living adjustments, and the Nebraska State Patrol and change the title of the executive director of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 49-0 with E Clause
Effective Date: July 18, 2026; except as noted below relating to section 22

LB 820, introduced and prioritized by the Retirement Committee. The bill includes the original provisions of LB 820 along with three other retirement bills: LB 1102, LB 1103, and LB 1166. The measure amends, to one degree or another, the following acts and entities:

- County Employees Retirement Act
- Judges Retirement Act
- Spousal Pension Rights Act
- Nebraska Investment Council
- School Employees Retirement Act
- Class V School Employees Retirement Act
- State Patrol Retirement Act[23]
- State Employees Retirement Act
- Public Employees Retirement Board

LB 820, as introduced, was a technical clean-up bill drafted in coordination with the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERS). The measure also contains some substantive changes.

Technical Cleanup

The technical cleanup portions of the measure include efforts to:

- Consolidate language regarding approved identification documents for state retirement plan purposes;
- Change the title of the NPERS Director to Executive Director;
- Clarify language regarding state contributions to the School Retirement Fund and the Omaha School Employees Retirement System (OSERS) Plan;

[23] Portions of LB 1103 (Ballard) were incorporated into LB 820 and will make two changes to the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act. The bill will increase the mandatory retirement age for members of the Nebraska State Patrol from age 60 to age 65. It would also authorize members who joined the retirement plan after July 1, 2016 to participate in the deferred retirement option plan (DROP). Currently, only members who joined the retirement plan prior to July 1, 2016 may participate in the DROP program.

- Provide for the tax treatment of contributions under the Deferred Compensation Plan in designated Roth IRA accounts under the IRS; and
- Eliminate obsolete provisions.

Class V (OPS) Plan

Portions of LB 1102 (Ballard) were incorporated into LB 820 and will change the adjustment date of cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) under the Class V (OPS) School Employees Retirement Act to align with the beginning of the plan year. Beginning in 2026, COLAs under the Class V plan will be calculated and adjusted on September 1st of each year. The bill would align the annuity payment date under the Class V plan with the School Employees plan by setting payments on the last business day of each month. LB 1102 would also amend the definition of "retirement date" under the Class V plan to align with the corresponding definition of "retirement date" under the School Employees Retirement Act as follows:

> Retirement date means (a) the first day of the month following the date upon which a member's request for retirement is received on a retirement application if the member is eligible for retirement and has terminated employment or (b) the first day of the month following termination of employment if the member is eligible for retirement and has filed an application but has not yet terminated employment.

School Employees Retirement Plan

Portions of LB 1166 (Juarez) were incorporated into LB 820 and pertain to an issue brought forward prior to the passage of LB 645 (2025). LB 645 created a new tiered structure for determining the employee contribution rate based on the current funded ratio of the School Employees Retirement Plan. When LB 645 passed last year, the start date established for each year's contribution rate was July 1, which would be consistent with the state's fiscal year. The problem, of course, is that the school fiscal year and most ESUs' fiscal years begin September 1. LB 1166 addresses this problem. Beginning in 2027, the new employee contribution rate would commence on September 1.

Note: This particular portion of LB 820, contained in section 22 of the measure, became operative on April 15, 2026.

Approved Identification Documents

Another editorial change relates to approved identification documents for persons residing outside of the United States and engaged temporarily as school employees in the State of Nebraska.

The employing public school and the school employee must maintain at least one approved identification document as defined in section 4-108. In both sections 79-915 (School Employees Plan) and 79-9,118 (Class V Plan), the laws are changed to refer to section 4-108 for the list of approved identification documents.

There are no substantive changes to the list of approved identification documents. The list currently includes:

1. A state-issued driver's license;
2. A state-issued identification card;
3. A state-issued motor vehicle learner's permit;
4. A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the U.S.;
5. A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State;
6. A U.S. passport;
7. A foreign passport with a U.S. visa;
8. A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization;
9. A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship;
10. A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar document;
11. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment Authorization Document, Form I-766;
12. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent Resident Card, Form I-551; or
13. Any other document issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services granting employment authorization in the U.S. and approved by the Public Employees Retirement Board.

LB 821	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Retirement Com	Retirement	None	Eliminate certain verification requirements performed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and change duties of the board and the Nebraska Investment Council relating to retirement systems

Approved by Governor: February 24, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: February 20, 2026; 48-0
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 821 amends various statutes to eliminate certain provisions related to verifications performed by the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB), and to provide annual reports from the PERB and the Nebraska Investment Council (NIC).

Under LB 821, the PERB will no longer need to verify that their investments of assets are being invested and reinvested for exclusive purposes and that the assets of the retirement system are not invested with the sole or primary investment objective of economic development or social purposes or objectives.

By March 31 of each year, the NIC must present an independent analysis to the PERB on the investment returns on the assets of each retirement system administered by the PERB and the assets of the Class V (OPS) School Employees Retirement Act.

By April 10 of each year, the NIC must prepare an annual report and must present this report and the analysis noted above to the Retirement Committee at a public hearing.

By April 10 of each year, the PERB must prepare an annual report that includes:

- the board's funding policy,

- the administrative costs and other fees associated with each fund and plan overseen by the board,
- member education and informational programs,
- the director's duties and limitations,
- an organizational structure of the office of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERS), and
- the internal control structure of that office to ensure compliance with state and federal laws.

The PERB present this annual report to the Retirement Committee at a public hearing.

LB 824	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Lonowski	Retirement	None	Change provisions relating to termination of employment under the School Employees Retirement Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act

Approved by Governor: April 7, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 1, 2026; 47-1 with E Clause
Effective Date: May 1, 2026

LB 824 is the result of an interim study (LR 230, 2025), introduced by Senator Lonowski and co-sponsored by 19 other senators.

The bill would eliminate the current 180-day "no work period" immediately following retirement that allows new retirees to volunteer or substitute teach for up to eight days per month during that no work period.

LB 824 would institute a "hard" 120-day no-work period. This means that no volunteer work or substitute teaching would be allowed during that 120-day period.

The bill is applicable to members of the School Employees Retirement Plan, the Class V (OPS) Retirement Plan, and state employees who are members of the School Employees Retirement Plan.

Note: The change proposed in LB 824 would make both school retirement plans consistent with Nebraska's other state public retirement plans, including state employees, county employees, judges, and state patrol.

LB 834	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Kauth	Revenue	None	Change provisions relating to county assessors, the Property Tax Administrator, real property assessments, taxes levied in counties, delinquent taxes owed to counties, remission of sales and use taxes, and mobile homes

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 46-0 vote
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 834 contained both technical cleanup and substantive provisions. It was supported by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). One particular section of LB 834 relates to appointment of deputies by the county assessor.

Section 2 of LB 834 provides that when authorized by the county board, the county assessor may appoint one or more deputies for whose acts he/she will be responsible. The county assessor may not appoint the county treasurer, sheriff, clerk, or surveyor as deputy.

The appointment must be in writing and revocable in writing by the county assessor. Both the appointment and revocation must be filed and kept in the office of the county clerk.

The deputy must take the same oath as the county assessor, which must be endorsed upon and filed with the certificate of appointment. The county assessor may require a bond of the deputy.

In the absence or disability of the county assessor, the deputy will perform the duties of the county assessor pertaining to the office, but when the county assessor is required to act in conjunction with or in place of another officer, the deputy may not act in the place of the county assessor.

LB 847	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Kauth	Business and Labor	Business and Labor	Adopt the Nebraska Registered Apprenticeship Act, change provisions relating to funds, child labor, the Business Innovation Act, the Contractor Registration Act, the Employee Classification Act, the Employment Security Law, and the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act, and transfer administration of student internships to the Department of Labor

Approved by Governor: April 7, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 1, 2026; 44-4
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 847 became a package bill for the Business and Labor Committee and included the contents of a variety of measures within the jurisdiction of the committee.

One of these measures, LB 747 (Sorrentino), was introduced to modernize, strengthen, and create regulatory efficiency in Nebraska's labor and employment laws by establishing uniform enforcement authority across multiple programs managed by the Nebraska Department of Labor. LB 747 proposed to do this by updating youth employment certificate procedures, enhancing wage payment and employee classification enforcement, and improving contractor registration requirements. It was designed to streamline outdated processes, clarify employer responsibilities, and remove duplicative filing requirements, particularly in the administration of employment certificates for minors.

Certificates

Section 8 of LB 847 amends § 48-302 relating to required employment certificates for children under the age of 16. Upon the termination of the employment of a child or when a child reaches the age of 16, the certificate must be retained by the employer for at least 12 months and must be accessible to the school attendance officers and to the Department of Labor and its assistants and employees upon request.

Section 38 of LB 847 outright repeals an existing law (§ 48-307) relating to the filing of duplicate copies of employment certificates with the Department of Labor.

Section 48-307 currently provides that the superintendent of public schools in all cities having a population of more than 1,000 inhabitants (as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the U.S. Bureau of the Census) and the presiding officer of all other school boards must furnish a duplicate copy of all certificates issued under sections 48-302 to 48-313 to the Department of Labor.

Administrative and Operational Support Fee

Section 13 of LB 847 derived from the provisions of LB 1015 (Ibach). During the January 26, 2026, public hearing, Senator Ibach stated:

> This bill is brought at the request of the Nebraska Department of Labor. LB 1015 creates the Business Innovation Cash Fund and establishes a stable, ongoing source of funding for two key areas in Nebraska's economic strategy: workforce development and business innovation.[24]

Under the Employment Security Law (§ 48-648), the Commissioner of Labor may require by rule and regulation that each employer subject to the Employment Security Law must submit to the commissioner quarterly wage reports on forms and in such manner as the commissioner may prescribe.

LB 847 expands this law to permit the Commissioner of Labor to require by rule and regulation an annual "administrative and operational support fee" for such reports for employers eligible for experience rating under section 48-649.03, regardless of their election to be contributory or reimbursable. The annual administrative and operational support fee would be a graduated fee based upon gross wages paid for the prior calendar year. Each employer will be assigned a fee category as provided below:

Gross Wages Paid Previous Calendar Year	*Category*
$0	1
$0.01 to $49,999.99	2
$50,000 to $99,999.99	3
$100,000 to $249,999.99	4
$250,000 to $499,999.99	5

[24] Hearing Transcripts, LB 1015, Business and Labor Committee, January 26, 2026, p. 15.

Gross Wages Paid Previous Calendar Year	*Category*
$500,000 to $999,999.99	6
$1,000,000 to $1,999,999.99	7
$2,000,000 to $2,999,999.99	8
$3,000,000 to $3,999,999.99	9
$4,000,000 to $4,999,999.99	10
$5,000,000 to $5,999,999.99	11
$6,000,000 to $6,999,999.99	12
$7,000,000 to $7,999,999.99	13
$8,000,000 to $8,999,999.99	14
$9,000,000 to $9,999,999.99	15
$10,000,000 or more	16

The commissioner must remit the annual administrative and operational support fee to the State Treasurer for credit to the Contractor, Business, and Professional Employer Organization Registration Cash Fund. If the balance of the Contractor, Business, and Professional Employer Organization Registration Cash Fund reaches or exceeds $15 million at the close of any fiscal year, the commissioner must, by rule and regulation, ratably reduce the annual administrative and operational support fee for the subsequent year in an amount sufficient to maintain the fund balance at or below such amount.

LB 924

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Andersen	Education	None	Change powers of learning community councils and authorized uses of learning community levies

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 47-0
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 924 amends various laws to clarify the authorized uses of the learning community levies. The Learning Community and the Learning Community Coordinating Council will be allowed to utilize their levy for:

- the leasing and/or purchasing of elementary learning center facilities;
- remodeling elementary learning center facilities;
- no more than 10% of the levy authority may now be used for administrative staff of the learning community; and
- partnerships with public and private entities to support increasing high school graduation rates.

LB 935	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Bosn	Judiciary	Judiciary Com	Provide for the award of costs and attorney's fees in certain actions involving political subdivisions

Approved by Governor:	April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading:	April 10, 2026; 38-11 with E Clause
Effective Date:	Sections 3-5 become operative on July 18, 2026

LB 935 became a package bill for the Judiciary Committee and incorporates a variety of measures, including the original contents of LB 935.

Sections 3-5 of LB 935 amend sections 25-824, 25-1802, and 25-1804 relating to frivolous legal actions and the awarding of attorney's fees and costs. LB 935 extended the law's applicability to political subdivisions.

Senator Bosn's intent with LB 935 was to deter frivolous or harassing litigation against a Nebraska political subdivision. "Under LB 935, a political subdivision may request attorney's fees and court costs any time it must defend against a claim that is frivolous or intended primarily to harass the political subdivision or its public officials," she wrote.[25]

"Political subdivision" is defined as any village, city, county, school district, public power district, community college, natural resources district, or other unit of local government.

The measure provides that it is the policy of the state to deter frivolous or harassing litigation, especially when it involves frivolous claims or defenses against a political subdivision that necessitate the wasteful expenditure of scarce taxpayer resources. "Claim" includes a claim, cross-claim, or counter-claim.

A political subdivision may request an award of costs and attorney's fees if:

(i) The political subdivision is a defendant against a claim that is frivolous or intended primarily to harass the political subdivision or its public officials; or

(ii) Another party asserts a defense against a claim of the political subdivision, and such defense is frivolous or intended primarily to harass the political subdivision or its public officials.

Separate Hearing

The political subdivision may make a request as a claim or a motion. When a court has determined that judgment will be entered denying a claim or defense against a political subdivision and the political subdivision has filed a claim or motion, the court must conduct a separate hearing. The hearing must be conducted before entering any order of dismissal or other resolution.

[25] Statement of Intent, LB 935, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

At such hearing, the court must determine whether the other party's claim or defense was frivolous or intended primarily to harass the political subdivision or its public officials.

If the court determines that a claim or defense was frivolous or intended primarily to harass the political subdivision or its public officials, the party asserting the claim or defense will have the burden to rebut that finding or show the claim was otherwise excused. If the party fails to meet its burden, the court must award reasonable attorney's fees and other expenses to the political subdivision. A court may award fees and expenses in addition to any compensation awarded in a judgment.

When a court determines reasonable attorney's fees or costs should be assessed, it must allocate the payment of the fees or costs among the offending attorneys and parties as the court determines most just and may charge the amount or portion thereof to any offending attorney or party.

LB 937	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Education Com	Education	Education Com	Adopt the Prior Learning Act and the K-12 Education Cybersecurity Act and change provisions relating to student transfers, school absences, option enrollment, extracurricular activities, reports, school employment, the improvement grant program, monitoring or providing instruction, deadlines, the Nebraska Teacher Apprenticeship Program, the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act, and the College Pathway Program Act

Approved by Governor: April 16, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 49-0
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

LB 937 was originally introduced as a technical cleanup bill prepared by NDE. This legislation became a package measure containing the original contents along with six other bills:

- LB 1224 (Hunt) to prohibit children from transferring to an exempt school during certain child abuse or neglect investigations;
- LB 1146 (Conrad) relating to reports by a school district relating to absences of a child from school;
- LB 1243 (Murman) to change school board policies relating to part-time enrollment;
- LB 1241 (Murman) to provide requirements relating to applications for employment at a school;
- LB 1164 (Lonowski) to adopt the Prior Learning Act; and
- LB 599 (DeBoer) to adopt the K-12 Education Cybersecurity Act.

■ **Protection of Children** *Effective Date*
(Sections 1, 2, 15 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

These three sections of LB 937 represent a modified version of LB 1224 (Hunt), with the intent "to protect children experiencing abuse or neglect by preventing cases in which abuse is

exacerbated or perpetuated when a child victim is withdrawn from public school, therefore losing regular contact with mandatory reporters and opportunity for intervention from school personnel."[26]

For any report of child abuse or neglect resulting in an active investigation by DHHS where the subject of the report is a parent or legal guardian of a student or an educational decisionmaker for a student, DHHS must notify the superintendent of the student's resident school district and the Commissioner of Education that the student may not be transferred or otherwise disenrolled from the student's current school by a parent, legal guardian, or educational decisionmaker for 14 days after receipt of the notice or until further notice from DHHS, whichever occurs first.

The subject of the report for whom a notice has been provided in accordance with this new law may not transfer or otherwise disenroll the student from the student's current school for 14 days after receipt of the notice or until further notice from DHHS, whichever occurs first. Any new election filed under section 79-1601 for such a student to attend an exempt school would be invalid during such time period.[27]

If an election is filed under section 79-1601 in violation of this new law or if such student's resident school district receives a request to transfer or disenroll the student or a notification of a request to transfer or disenroll from a school that is not operated by the resident school district, the Commissioner of Education or the school district must immediately notify DHHS of the filing or the request and that the notice is being given.

Notices are confidential investigation records and may not contain any information other than the name of the student and whether or not to allow the student to transfer or otherwise disenroll from the school.

DHHS may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations.

Section 15 of LB 937 also amends the home school law (§ 79-1601) to provide that individuals monitoring or providing instruction at a home school may not have been convicted of certain felony offenses.[28]

■ **Absenteeism** *Effective Date*
(Section 3 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

Section 3 of LB 937 incorporates the intent of LB 1146 (Conrad), which amends the compulsory attendance laws.[29] Specifically, LB 1146 relates to when a school may report to the county attorney in cases involving unexcused absences.[30] This section of LB 937 was significantly modified during Select File debate.

[26] Statement of Intent, LB 1224, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.
[27] Section 28-713.01 - Cases of child abuse or neglect; completion of investigation; notice; when; right to amend or expunge information.
[28] Felony offenses under sections 28-319 to 28-322.05 or section 28-316.01, 28-323, 28-703, or 28-707.
[29] Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-209.
[30] The Nebraska County Attorney Association submitted an online public comment in opposition to LB 1146 for its public hearing held on February 2, 2026.

The school may report to the county attorney when the school has documented the efforts it has made and that the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and that the child has accrued 20 days or more of unexcused absences during the school year.

Absences must be excused by a parent, guardian, or educational decision maker of the child for physical or mental illness and as documented by a credentialed health professional, provided the documentation supports the absence. In the instance of chronic illness, documentation must be reviewed each semester.

■ **Technical Cleanup** *Effective Date*
(Sections 4, 6-7, 9-12, 16, 18-19, and 33 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

The originally introduced version of LB 937 amends sections of state law to harmonize education reporting requirements, align statutory deadlines, and remove obsolete provisions. The measure:

- expands option enrollment reporting and notice requirements;
- updates the Nebraska Teacher Apprenticeship Program;
- aligns high-need retention grant eligibility with teachers authorized to teach dual enrollment courses under the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act;
- consolidates reading deficiency reporting into the annual statistical summary;
- adjusts property tax and census reporting deadlines;
- updates College Pathway Program Act terminology and reporting; and
- repeals obsolete provisions relating to educator evaluation grants, solar and wind revenue accounting, and the Junior Mathematics Prognosis Examination.

Section 4 amends the Enrollment Option Program (section 79-239) to expand the annual required data elements of school district option enrollment information for applications received pursuant to section 79-237 to include information on the number of applications approved and learning community disclosures.

Section 6 amends section 79-308 by removing obsolete provisions relating to educator-effectiveness grant programs that applied to the 2016-17 through 2020-21 school years.[31]

Section 7 amends section 79-528 (Annual Census Report) by changing the census reporting deadline from July 20 to October 15, adding superintendent reporting requirements related to option enrollment applications and reading deficiencies, and removing obsolete learning community levy reporting provisions relating to learning communities.

Section 9 amends section 79-816 to revise completion requirements for the Nebraska Teacher Apprenticeship Program by replacing the pedagogy examination requirement with "[S]uccessful completion of a subject-area examination as determined by the Commissioner of Education." This change would mirror current practice.

[31] This statute dates back to 1881 and, as amended, the only remaining provision of the statute requires the Commissioner of Education to organize institutes and conferences as he/she deems practicable. He/she must, as far as practicable, attend such institutes and conferences, provide proper instructors for the same, and in other ways seek to improve the efficiency of teachers and advance the cause of education in the state.

Section 10 amends section 79-8,113 by adding a definition of "dual enrollment" under the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act.

Section 11 amends section 79-8,114 (Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act) to expand eligibility for high-need retention grants to include teachers who teach at least one dual enrollment course during the 2026-27 school year and changes eligibility provisions for a high-need retention grant for a teacher with an endorsement in special education, mathematics, science, or technology. The "dual credit" endorsement language was removed since no such endorsement exists.

Section 12 amends section 79-1035 (School Funds) to remove obsolete provisions requiring separate accounting for income derived from solar or wind agreements on school lands (under supervision of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds).[32]

Section 16 amends section 79-3407 to change the annual deadline for a school district to submit property tax request authority documentation to NDE from September 30 to October 15.

Section 18 amends section 79-3703 to replace references to "a grant" with "funding" under the College Pathway Program Act.[33]

Section 19 amends section 79-3704 to replace references to "grants" with "funding" under the College Pathway Program Act.

Section 33 outright repeals sections 79-309.01 and 79-718, relating to obsolete solar or wind agreements and the Junior Mathematics Prognosis Examination.[34]

■ **Part-time Enrollment** *Effective Date*
(Section 5 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

Section 5 of LB 937 represents a modified version of LB 1243 (Murman). LB 1243 was originally introduced to "increase opportunities for homeschool and non-accredited students by ensuring they are not required to be enrolled in a minimum number of credits to participate in an extracurricular activity not regulated by an athletics or activities association."[35] There were concerns expressed that the bill, as introduced, would hinder certain student organizations and activities that actually required school participation, such as Future Farmers of America (FFA). The bill was amended in an attempt to address these concerns.

Under LB 937, section 79-2,136 (Part-time Enrollment) is amended to state that school board policies and procedures:

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[32] In 2010, the Legislature passed LB 1014 at the request of NSEA to use income from solar or wind energy leases on school lands for teacher performance pay within such districts' local collective-bargaining agreements. The legislation required that 75% of all school districts must agree to the plan before it could be implemented. This requirement was never achieved.
[33] The College Pathway Program Act was created in 2023 under LB 705 and was designed to provide underrepresented and low-income students, educational services that provide materials, and services to help a student graduate from high school, apply for admission to a postsecondary institution, and complete the requirements to receive an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.
[34] The Junior Mathematics Prognosis Exam was created in 1989 (LB 134). However, the ACT is the current statewide examination for all high school students.
[35] Statement of Intent, LB 1243, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

(a) Must require any student desiring to participate in extracurricular activities regulated by the NSAA to which the school is a member to be enrolled in five credit hours offered by the school district in any semester in order to participate in the extracurricular activities, but may not prohibit a student from enrolling in more than five credit hours;[36]

(b) Must require any student desiring to participate in an extracurricular activity that is governed by a national or state organization other than the NSAA to be enrolled only in the minimum number of credit hours offered by the school district as required by the national or state organization in order to participate in the extracurricular activity, but may not prohibit a student from enrolling in more than the minimum credit hours; and

(c) May require any student desiring to participate in an extracurricular activity that is not governed by a national or state organization or the NSAA to be enrolled in up to five credit hours offered by the school district in any semester in order to participate in the extracurricular activity, but may not prohibit a student from enrolling in more than the required number of credit hours.

■ **Applicant Screening** *Effective Date*
(Section 8 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

Section 8 of LB 937 represents the modified provisions of LB 1241 (Murman). The bill was introduced with the intent "to ensure that school employee applicants are screened for ever being disciplined or separated from employment while under pending investigations of child abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct at places of former employment."[37]

> *Notes:* Section 8 applies to both public and private schools and applies to both employees and contracted persons. The entire contents of this section will appear as a single statute in law, which makes for some tedious reading. There appears to be some inconsistencies in the language, which were made known to the introducer of the legislation by NCSA.

Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, the measure prohibits a school board or governing authority from hiring any person to serve in a position that involves regular contact with students unless the school board or governing authority, in addition to any other requirements:

(1) Requires the applicant to provide:

(a) A LIST, including name, address, telephone number, and other relevant contact information for:

(i) The applicant's current employer at the time of the application, if any;

(ii) All former schools that such applicant was employed by within the 7 years[38] preceding the application; and

[36] Subsection (a) is existing law substantively unchanged by LB 937. Subsections (b) and (c) represent new law.
[37] Statement of Intent, LB 1241, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.
[38] The original version of LB 1241 required a 20-year lookback.

(iii) All former employers that the applicant was employed by within the 7 years preceding the application that involved direct contact with children;

(b) A written authorization for the release and disclosure of any records related to the information requested by the applicant's employers (as required above, and as required in the review of the employment history), listed to the school district or school. The written authorization must also release employers from liability that may arise from the disclosure or release of such records; and

(c) A WRITTEN STATEMENT as to whether the applicant:

(i) Has been the subject of a report of child abuse, unless the investigation resulted in a finding that the allegations were false or the alleged incident of child abuse or neglect was not substantiated;

(ii) Has ever been disciplined, discharged, nonrenewed, asked to resign from employment, or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while allegations of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct were pending or under investigation, or due to an adjudication or finding of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct; or

(iii) Has ever had a license, professional license, or certificate suspended, surrendered, or revoked while allegations of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct were pending or under investigation, or due to an adjudication or finding of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct; and

(2) Conducts a review of the employment history of the applicant by contacting the employers listed by the applicant and requesting the following information:

(a) The dates of employment of the applicant; and

(b) A statement as to whether, to the extent the employer has knowledge, the applicant:

(i) Has been the subject of a report of child abuse, unless the investigation resulted in a finding that the allegations were false or the alleged incident of child abuse or neglect was not substantiated;

(ii) Has ever been disciplined, discharged, nonrenewed, asked to resign from employment, or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while allegations of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct were pending or under investigation, or due to an adjudication or finding of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct; or

(iii) Has ever had a license, professional license, or certificate suspended, surrendered, or revoked while allegations of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct were pending or under investigation, or due to an adjudication or finding of child abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct.

The review of an applicant's employment history and background information may be conducted through telephonic, electronic, or written communications. If the review is conducted by telephone, the results of the review must be documented in writing by the prospective employer.

Penalties

An applicant who willfully provides false information or willfully fails to disclose information would be subject to discipline up to, and including:

(a) termination or denial of employment,

(b) reporting to the state agency or other entity with authority to revoke any relevant certificate or license, or

(c) being subject to a civil penalty of not more than $500. Any penalty collected would be distributed pursuant to Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska.[39]

The school board or the governing authority must include a notification of the penalties noted above on all applications for employment for positions that involve regular contact with students.

Right to Terminate or Rescind

The school board or the governing authority would have the right to immediately terminate an individual's employment or rescind an offer of employment if:

(a) The applicant is offered employment or commences employment or contracted services with the school following the effective date of this section of LB 937;

(b) Information regarding the applicant's history of child abuse or sexual misconduct is subsequently discovered or obtained by the employer that the employer determines disqualifies the applicant or employee from employment with the school; and

(c) The termination of employment may not be subject to any grievance or appeals procedures or tenure proceedings pursuant to any collective bargaining or negotiated agreement.

After reviewing the information disclosed in the applicant's LIST and finding an affirmative response to any of the inquiries, the governing body, prior to determining to continue with the applicant's job application process, must make further inquiries of the applicant's current or former employer to ascertain additional details regarding the matter disclosed.[40]

Provisional Basis

A school board or a governing authority may employ or contract with an applicant on a provisional basis for a period not to exceed 90 days pending review by the school board or the governing authority of information received, provided that all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) The applicant has complied with the requirement to provide a LIST;

[39] All such fines, penalties, and license money shall be appropriated exclusively to the use and support of the common schools in the respective subdivisions where the same may accrue, except that all fines and penalties for violation of laws prohibiting the overloading of vehicles used upon the public roads and highways shall be placed as follows: Seventy-five per cent in a fund for state highways and twenty-five per cent to the county general fund where the fine or penalty is paid. Neb. Const. art. VII, sec. 5.

[40] This particular subsection of AM2454 mentions "school board" but does not mention "governing authority".

(b) The school board or the governing authority has no knowledge or information pertaining to the applicant that the applicant is required to disclose in the WRITTEN STATEMENT; and

(c) The school board or the governing authority determines that special or emergent circumstances exist that justify the temporary employment of the applicant.

Public Records and Immunity

Information received by a school board or a governing authority may not be considered a public record subject to disclosure under the Public Records Laws.[41]

A school board or a governing authority that receives a request for information or records regarding an applicant from another school board must provide the information and respond to such inquiries as soon as practicable.

An employer that provides information or records about a current or former employee or applicant shall be immune from criminal and civil liability for the disclosure of the information, unless the information or any record provided was knowingly false. The immunity would be in addition to and not in limitation of any other immunity provided by law.

Pending Investigations

Beginning on the effective date of this section of LB 937, a school board or a governing authority may not enter into an agreement, an employment contract, an agreement for resignation or termination, a severance agreement, or any other contract or agreement, or take any action that:

(a) Has the effect of suppressing or destroying information relating to an investigation related to a report of suspected child abuse or sexual misconduct by a current or former employee;

(b) Affects the ability of the school board or the governing authority to report suspected child abuse or sexual misconduct to the appropriate authorities; or

(c) Requires the school board or the governing authority to expunge information about allegations or findings of suspected child abuse or sexual misconduct from any documents maintained by the school unless, after investigation, the allegations are found to be false, or the alleged incident of child abuse or sexual misconduct has not been substantiated.

Any provision of an employment contract or agreement for resignation or termination or a severance agreement that is entered into, amended, or renewed after the effective date of this section of LB 937 and that is contrary to this section will be void and unenforceable.

Awareness Campaign

NDE is required to establish a public awareness campaign to publicize the provisions of this section of LB 937 and to ensure applicants and employers are aware of their respective rights and responsibilities under this section. The department must post on its website guidance documents

[41] Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-712 to 84-712.09.

and any other informational materials that may assist applicants and employers in the implementation of and compliance with this section.

Definitions

"Child abuse" is defined as an offense committed under section 28-707; and

"Sexual misconduct" is defined as any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication, or any other act directed toward or with a student that is designed to establish a sexual relationship with the student, including a sexual invitation, dating or soliciting a date, engaging in sexual dialogue, making sexually suggestive comments, self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual or erotic nature, and any other sexual, indecent, or erotic contact with a student. Sexual misconduct includes sexual abuse by a school worker under section 28-316.01 or violations of a policy adopted under 79-879 relating to appropriate relationships with students.

- **Prior Learning Act** *Effective Date*
  (Sections 20-25 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

Sections 20-25 of LB 937 represent the modified provisions of LB 1164 (Lonowski). This portion of LB 937 creates the Prior Learning Act. The new law:

> [E]xpands learning opportunities for Nebraska's high school students, reducing unnecessary barriers to degree completion and saving students time and money. It establishes a clear, statewide framework for approving prior learning examinations and cut scores. By requiring transparent, publicly posted policies and consistent reporting, the bill promotes predictability for students and families.[42]

By September 1, 2026, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education must, in consultation with Nebraska public postsecondary institutions, approve a list of prior learning examinations and the cut score for each examination. The list must include commonly recognized prior learning examinations, including, but not limited to:

(a) Prior learning examinations that are associated with participation in high school courses specifically designed to prepare students for such examinations;

(b) Prior learning examinations that are associated with participation in high school courses using international curriculum frameworks;

(c) Prior learning examinations that are not associated with high school courses endorsed by the provider of the prior learning examination; and

(d) Prior learning examinations that assess and certify foundational workplace skills and are not associated with a specific high school course.

Notes: "Cut score" is defined as the minimum score an individual is required to achieve on a prior learning examination to receive postsecondary credit from a Nebraska public postsecondary institution.

[42] Statement of Intent, LB 1164, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

"Prior learning examination" is defined as a postsecondary level examination approved by the Commission to assess whether a student, prior to taking a postsecondary course, has already obtained knowledge and skills at a level substantially similar to what is expected from a student who has successfully completed a postsecondary course on the same subject.

Setting Cut Scores

The Commission must, in consultation with Nebraska public postsecondary institutions, set cut scores in a manner consistent with national practices and must utilize recommendations for cut scores contained in any comprehensive guide maintained by a national organization recognized for expertise on the topic of appropriate cut scores for prior learning examinations in the context of awarding postsecondary academic credit.

The Commission must, in consultation with Nebraska public postsecondary institutions, update the list of prior learning examinations and cut scores as necessary to provide options for students while maintaining the academic integrity of these institutions.

The Commission must post and maintain the list of prior learning examinations and cut scores on the Commission's website in a location accessible to prospective postsecondary students and families.

Awarding Academic Credit

By October 1, 2026, each Nebraska public postsecondary institution must develop and implement written policies and procedures for awarding academic credit based on prior learning examinations. The policies and procedures must:

(a) Except as otherwise noted below, award academic credit to students for each distinct prior learning examination for which the student met or exceeded the cut score;

(b) Prioritize application of credit toward courses that meet general education, major, or degree requirements over application of credit towards courses that are elective for the student;

(c) Establish the process through which credits awarded would be recorded on transcripts and transferred to other Nebraska public postsecondary institutions; and

(d) Ensure that policies and procedures are publicly posted on the institution's website in a location accessible to prospective students and families.

With approval from the Commission, a Nebraska public postsecondary institution may require a higher minimum score than the cut score approved by the Commission if the chief academic officer of the institution determines, based on evidence of student performance or course success rates, that a higher score is necessary for success in a specific course or sequence.

By October 15, 2026, each Nebraska public postsecondary institution must submit its adopted policies and procedures to the Commission. The Commission must compile all policies and procedures and post a statewide summary on the Commission's website, including the justification for any higher minimum score requirements approved by the Commission.

Annual Report

By December 31, 2028, and by December 31st of each even-numbered year thereafter, each Nebraska public postsecondary institution must submit data to the commission, including:

(a) The number of students awarded academic credit based on prior learning examinations during the two preceding academic years; and

(b) The total number of academic credits awarded based on prior learning examinations during the two preceding academic years.

The commission must post the data on the commission's website.

By December 31, 2029, the commission must analyze the prior learning examination cut score policies and procedures of each Nebraska public postsecondary institution and the research used by each Nebraska public postsecondary institution in determining the level of credit and the number of credits provided for each prior learning examination qualifying score and file a report that includes findings and recommendations to the Education Committee of the Legislature.

Each Nebraska public postsecondary institution must provide the commission with the data necessary to conduct the analysis. Data must be provided, analyzed, and posted in a manner that complies with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as the act existed on January 1, 2026. The commission may request the assistance of the Nebraska Statewide Workforce and Education Reporting System for analysis and reporting.

■ **Cybersecurity** *Effective Date*
(Sections 13-14, 26-31 of LB 937) ..... July 18, 2026

LB 937 includes the modified provisions of LB 599, introduced by Senator DeBoer in 2025 on behalf of the ESUCC (council), and creates the K-12 Education Cybersecurity Act (Act).

The council is required to serve as the statewide point of contact for implementation of the Act. The council must facilitate, support, and coordinate cybersecurity initiatives across ESUs and schools (both public and private), with an emphasis on fostering partnerships, aligning statewide strategies, and encouraging the leveraging of multiple funding sources to sustain the initiatives.

Implementation Coordinator

The council must assign an implementation coordinator to support ESUs for the local implementation of the Act. The coordinator must:

(a) serve as a liaison between NDE, ESUs, the Chief Information Officer,[43] and other key partners;

[43] The Chief Information Officer, in partnership with the University of Nebraska, is assigned to develop and maintain a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network to be called Network Nebraska. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-5,100.

(b) facilitate statewide alignment and collaboration on cybersecurity priorities and activities, including partnerships with other governmental entities, higher education institutions, and private sector organizations;

(c) support ESUs in interpreting readiness assessments and translating results into action plans;

(d) provide training and support for cybersecurity tools, cybersecurity frameworks, and cybersecurity best practices tailored to K-12 grade education context;

(e) help organize statewide or regional training opportunities, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing events;

(f) assist in monitoring progress toward statewide cybersecurity goals in order to ensure transparency and accountability; and

(g) identify and promote opportunities to braid state, federal, and private funds to maximize resources.

ESUs would be responsible for the direct implementation of cybersecurity support and services for schools within their service areas, including assisting schools with readiness assessments and tool adoption.

The Program

NDE is required, in coordination with the council and subject to available funding, to develop and administer a program to provide funding for the purchase of cybersecurity products and services for use in schools and ESUs. The program must be designed to:

(a) Address statewide and local cybersecurity priorities identified through readiness assessments;

(b) Encourage cost-effective purchasing through shared procurement models, public-private partnerships, and the leveraging of multiple funding streams; and

(c) Support both immediate cybersecurity needs and long-term cybersecurity capacity building.

The program must include:

(a) The process for application by and requirements for governing boards to obtain funding for the Act, including deadlines for meeting the requirements to receive funding;

(b) The process of (i) application review and scoring by the Commissioner of Education, the coordinating council director, and the Chief Information Officer, and (ii) approval by NDE. Scoring and review of applications must include criteria that prioritizes higher-need applications or proposals that demonstrate regional collaboration;

(c) The creation of distribution methods and requirements for funding disbursement, including (i) the calculation of funding for each school and ESU (as noted below) and (ii) how a

school or ESU may receive or access funding, which may include via a consortium[44] or otherwise, as established in rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the State Board of Education in consultation with the council and the Chief Information Officer;

(d) The creation of consortiums for access to funding under the Act, including, but not limited to, the eligibility requirements and process for a governing board to join a consortium. The program must allow for the creation of as many consortiums as are necessary to facilitate compliance with the Act and to incentivize shared purchasing agreements to maximize buying power;

(e) The requirement that governing boards complete an annual cybersecurity readiness assessment as noted below;

(f) The creation, in consultation with the Chief Information Officer, of a list of approved cybersecurity products and services in a tiered system that (i) aligns with nationally recognized frameworks, (ii) includes cost-effective options for small or rural schools, and (iii) may be updated annually to reflect the emerging threats and technologies; and

(g) Braided funding approaches, allowing schools and ESUs to combine state funding under the Act with federal grants, local resources, and private contributions, as long as the funding is used in compliance with the approved product and service list.

Eligibility

A governing board would be eligible for funding for use on approved cybersecurity products and services in an amount calculated by the Commissioner of Education if the governing board:

(a) submits evidence that the governing board has completed the annual cybersecurity readiness assessment as provided below,

(b) submits evidence that the governing board has adopted a cybersecurity policy and cybersecurity framework consistent with the model policy and framework developed by NDE, and

(c) provides any other additional information required by NDE to demonstrate alignment with the goals of the Act.

Amount of Funding

The Commissioner of Education, in coordination with the coordinating council director, must annually calculate the amount of funding each governing board may receive or access under the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the State Board of Education in consultation with the council. Funding allocations may be adjusted based on readiness assessment results, risk level, and demonstrated financial need. NDE must use funds from the State Department of Education Improvement Grant Fund to carry out the Act.

[44] "Consortium" is defined as a group of schools joined together for purposes of receiving funding pursuant to the K-12 Education Cybersecurity Act for use in purchasing and providing cybersecurity products and services for such schools that is facilitated by an educational service unit.

Model Policy and Framework

NDE must, in consultation with the coordinating council director and the Chief Information Officer, and subject to available funding, develop a model cybersecurity policy and cybersecurity framework[45] based on nationally recognized best practices for K-12 grade education cybersecurity. The policy and framework must (i) define tiered levels of cybersecurity readiness, (ii) include criteria for determining risk levels and priority needs, and (iii) support alignment with both state and federal cybersecurity guidance.

Each governing board must adopt a policy consistent with the model policy and framework in order to be eligible to receive funding under the Act.

Cybersecurity Readiness Assessment

NDE must, in consultation with the coordinating council director and the Chief Information Officer, and subject to available funding, purchase or develop a standardized cybersecurity readiness assessment for use by schools and ESUs. The assessment must be used to (i) determine the school's readiness tier placement in the cybersecurity framework, (ii) provide actionable recommendations for addressing identified vulnerabilities, (iii) inform funding priorities, and (iv) allow aggregation of statewide data to guide strategic planning and resource allocation.

Each governing board must annually complete the cybersecurity readiness assessment to be eligible for funding under the Act. The assessment must be provided at no cost to each school and ESU, and results must be used by the council to measure progress over time and inform continuous improvement efforts.

LB 940	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Murman	Education	None	Prohibit certain color additives in school meals

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 47-0
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

Senator Murman described LB 940 as a "simple bill". At the public hearing held on January 20, 2026, Senator Murman explained that the bill:

> [P]rohibits a small list of petroleum-based artificial food dyes from being used in school-provided meals. … It's important to note that West Virginia, California, Delaware, and Utah have all passed very similar or identical legislation. So, this is a growing movement that has bipartisan support.[46]

[45] "Cybersecurity framework" is defined as a structured set of guidelines or standards that are used by a governing board to identify, assess, and manage such governing board's readiness for cybersecurity threats.
[46] Hearing Transcripts, LB 940, Education Committee, January 20, 2026, p. 79.

LB 940 provides that, by August 1, 2027, no public elementary or secondary school may offer or make available to any student any food served as a part of a school meal that contains any of the following color additives as referred to by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in the federal Regulatory Status of Color Additives as the list existed on January 1, 2026:

- Blue No. 1;
- Blue No. 2;
- Green No. 3;
- Red No. 40;
- Yellow No. 5; and
- Yellow No. 6.

LB 966	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Cavanaugh, M.	Education	Hunt	Adopt the Hunger-Free Schools Pilot Program

Approved by Governor:	April 16, 2026
Passed on Final Reading:	April 10, 2026; 38-11
Effective Date:	July 18, 2026

LB 966 creates the Hunger-Free Schools Pilot Program, which would exist for school years 2026-27 through 2031-32.

Any qualified school may apply to participate in the pilot program. A qualified school is a school that is participating in the school breakfast program, the national school lunch program under the federal Child Nutrition Act, or the federal Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and does not serve free meals to all students under the community eligibility provision.

NDE is required to annually select schools to participate in the pilot program from applicant qualified schools. To receive funding under the pilot program, a participating school must:

(a) Serve eligible meals through any school breakfast program or school lunch program operated by the school during the school day; and

(b) Submit information regarding the number of eligible meals served in a manner prescribed by NDE.

NDE must annually reimburse each participating public school from the Hunger-Free Schools Cash Fund and each participating nonpublic school from the General Fund a portion of the cost of each eligible meal served by the school during the second preceding school fiscal year in an amount equal to the difference between the federal reimbursement rate for a free meal and the federal reimbursement rate for a reduced-price meal for each eligible meal. The calculation of the reimbursement for each eligible meal would be based on the federal reimbursement rates for a school breakfast or a school lunch as applicable to the eligible meal.

NDE is required to study the efficacy of the Hunger- Free Schools Pilot Program and the impact on academic and behavioral performance of students involved in the program. The study must:

(a) Examine the performance of students attending participating schools;

(b) Include data beginning with school year 2026-27 and ending with school year 2031-32; and

(c) Be conducted in a manner that protects the identity of students and complies with state and federal privacy laws.

Note: The Cash Fund will consist of money transferred to the fund by the Legislature, and money donated as gifts, bequests, or other contributions from public or private entities.

LB 1022

Sponsor	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
Murman	Education	None	Eliminate the human relations training requirement for obtaining certificates and permits for teaching, providing special services, or education administration

Approved by Governor: April 16, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 37-12
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

In his opening statement at the public hearing for LB 1022 on January 27, 2026, Senator Murman said that we should "look at ways to knock down barriers to getting into the field."[47] LB 1022 sought to remove barriers to obtaining an educator certificate or permit by eliminating the state's human relations training requirement.

No one appeared in person to oppose the legislation at the public hearing, but a significant movement to oppose the bill occurred during floor debate. The measure narrowly advanced from General File and Select File.[48] The main objection was that the bill eroded the qualifications necessary, or thought necessary, to become a teacher.

A compromise was reached when the measure had already advanced to Final Reading. The bill was returned to Select File for specific amendment, which was adopted, and LB 1022 was re-advanced to Final Reading.

As passed and signed into law, LB 1022 maintains the required human relations training, except as it pertains to:

(a) an applicant for a Nebraska substitute teacher's certificate,

(b) for a military spouse,[49] or

(c) an applicant who holds a certificate or permit from another state.

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[47] Hearing Transcripts, LB 1022, Education Committee, January 27, 2026, p. 91.
[48] LB 1022 advanced to Select File on February 10, 2026 by a 28-7 vote. The bill advanced to Final Reading on February 20, 2026 by a 25-3 vote.
[49] "Military spouse" is defined as the spouse of an active duty service member in the armed forces of the United States. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-118.01.

LB 1236	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Executive Board	Executive Board	Speaker	Change provisions relating to publication, printing, and distribution of legislative journals, session laws, and statutes and publication of the Constitution of Nebraska

Approved by Governor: April 14, 2026
Passed on Final Reading: April 9, 2026; 49-0 with E Clause
Effective Date: January 1, 2027

LB 1236 will harmonize laws governing the compilation, publication, printing, and distribution of the Legislative Journal, session laws, and statutes of Nebraska. Currently, these responsibilities are divided among multiple entities, including the Secretary of State and the Supreme Court, leading to potential inefficiencies in workflow and oversight.

LB 1236 will centralize these duties primarily under the Clerk of the Legislature, who is best positioned to manage legislative documents given their direct role in the legislative process. By consolidating these functions within the legislative branch, the measure aims to improve efficiency, reduce administrative burdens on other branches of government, and ensure timely access to legislative materials for public officials, libraries, and the public.

The bill provides a process for political subdivisions, agencies, and librarians to request up to a certain number of copies of session laws and journals from the Clerk of the Legislature's office.

II. Legislation that Became Law Without the Governor's Signature

LB 1237	*Sponsor*	*Committee*	*Priority*	*Subject*
	Executive Board	Executive Board	Executive Board	Prohibit bringing weapons or prohibited substances into the State Capitol

Passed on Final Reading: April 10, 2026; 45-4
Effective Date: July 18, 2026

On April 16, 2026, Governor Pillen announced in a letter to the Legislature that he would allow LB 1237 and its companion appropriation bill, LB 1237A, to become law without his signature. The letter stated in part:

> Pursuant to Article IV, Section 15 of the Nebraska Constitution, I have allowed LB1237 and LB1237A to become law without my signature. While I believe this bill is a well-intentioned measure to enhance the security of the Nebraska State Capitol, I cannot in good conscience place my signature and approval on a bill which I believe unnecessarily disrupts a long tradition of allowing for the open and secure expression of one of our most important Constitutional rights—the Second Amendment—in the very building in which those rights frequently have come under attack.
>
> I share the Legislature's abiding commitment to ensuring our Capitol is safe and secure, both for the people who work there and the thousands who visit, especially the many young children who brighten the building with their exploration of its vast spaces and history. My team and I will continue to work in partnership with the other branches of state government to be stewards of Capitol security, and I hope that other polices *[sic]* and steps—including, but not limited to, additional well-trained and armed security and State Patrol personnel—will be a focus on future enhancements to our comprehensive security plans.

LB 1237 was the "product of consultations between the legislative, executive, and judicial branch leadership in consultation with the Nebraska State Patrol regarding the need for appropriate security measures to be considered and implemented to ensure that all Nebraska residents are able to enjoy the State Capitol and participate safely and fully in all governmental functions carried out within the building."[50]

LB 1237 prohibits a person from knowingly entering or attempting to enter the State Capitol while in possession of a weapon or prohibited substance. A violation of the new law would constitute a Class III misdemeanor.[51]

(a) "Prohibited substance" is defined as an explosive, incendiary, or other combustible device; hazardous materials; or paint or spray paint; and

(b) "Weapon" means any:

[50] Statement of Intent, LB 1237, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.
[51] Maximum penalty is three months imprisonment, or $500 fine, or both. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-106.

(i) Firearm; or

(ii) Knife with a blade over 3.5" in length and which, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is capable of producing death or serious bodily injury.

Exceptions

The new law would not apply to:

(a) A person who has received prior approval from the Nebraska State Patrol;

(b) The possession of a weapon by a law enforcement officer, who is acting in the course of his/her official duties;

(c) The carrying of a concealed handgun by a qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer pursuant to the federal conceal carry laws;[52] or

(d) The carrying of a concealed handgun by an individual holding a current and valid permit to carry a concealed handgun issued pursuant to the Nebraska Concealed Handgun Permit Act.[53]

Procedures

The Nebraska State Patrol is required to, no later than January 1, 2027, implement procedures to ensure the State Capitol is secure and provide for the detection of weapons and prohibited substances to prevent such things from being brought into the State Capitol.

[52] 18 U.S.C. 926B or 926C, respectively, as such existed on January 1, 2026.
[53] Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 28-1201 to 28-1212.04.

III. Interim Study Resolutions

Business and Labor Committee

LR436 (Kauth) Interim study to review regulations for professional employer organizations

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review regulations for professional employer organizations. The study shall be conducted to meet the requirements of section 84-948 and the Occupational Board Reform Act. The study shall include an examination of the requirements of the Professional Employer Organization Registration Act.

Education Committee

LR389 (Conrad) Interim study to examine educational opportunities and services available to deaf and hard of hearing elementary students in Nebraska

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine educational opportunities and services available to deaf and hard of hearing elementary students in Nebraska.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The availability of teachers trained in deaf education and related support personnel in school districts and educational service units;

(2) Access for elementary students to communication supports and accommodations, including sign language interpretation, captioning services, assistive listening technologies, and language development services;

(3) Early language and literacy development outcomes for deaf and hard of hearing elementary students;

(4) Coordination among school districts, educational service units, early intervention programs, and families to support language acquisition and educational success;

(5) Professional development opportunities for educators serving deaf and hard of hearing students; and

(6) Geographic or regional disparities in the availability of services, particularly in rural areas of the state.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature shall seek input from parents and families of deaf and hard of hearing students, educators, specialists in deaf education, educational service units, and relevant state agencies.

LR406 (Hughes) Interim study to examine the special fund for sites and buildings that public school boards or public boards of education may establish within their school district

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the special fund for sites and buildings, also known as the special building fund, that public school boards or public boards of education may establish within their school district.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) An analysis of the current purposes the funds are used for; and

(2) An analysis of the current tax levy limit for these funds.

LR440 (Hughes) Interim study to examine the identification, evaluation, and effectiveness of reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts, and to examine whether improvements to screening practices should precede consideration of student retention at the third-grade level

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the identification, evaluation, and effectiveness of reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts, and to examine whether improvements to screening practices should precede consideration of student retention at the third-grade level.

The Nebraska Reading Improvement Act requires school districts to administer approved reading assessments to students in kindergarten through grade three to identify reading deficiencies. The State Department of Education currently approves multiple reading screeners for use by school districts, with variation in appropriateness, technical adequacy, and usability.

A January 2026 psychometric review of reading screeners found that many approved or considered screeners only partially met expectations or required additional evidence in key areas such as classification accuracy, reliability, validity, and fairness. Concerns were identified regarding outdated norms, inconsistent cut scores, lack of classification consistency evidence, and variability in how screeners measure foundational reading skills across grade levels.

Accurate and reliable identification of students with reading deficiencies is critical to ensuring appropriate intervention and instructional support. Reading intervention teachers rely on screening data to provide targeted instruction, and the effectiveness of such interventions depends on the quality and precision of the screening tools utilized.

Policymakers are considering strategies related to student retention at the third-grade level based on reading proficiency, which underscores the importance of ensuring that identification systems are valid, reliable, and equitable prior to implementing retention policies. It is in the best interest of the state to ensure that reading screening systems are evidence-based, consistent across districts, and aligned with best practices in literacy assessment and instruction.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Identifying the current reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts across the state;

(2) Examining the appropriateness, technical adequacy, and usability of such screeners, including but not limited to validity, reliability, classification accuracy, fairness, and alignment with Nebraska academic standards;

(3) Evaluating whether alternative or improved reading screening programs or tools are available that may better identify students with reading deficiencies;

(4) Analyzing the extent to which current screening tools provide actionable data for reading intervention teachers and support effective instructional decisionmaking;

(5) Determining whether improvements to reading screening systems and early intervention practices should be implemented prior to the adoption or expansion of third grade reading retention policies;

(6) Reviewing national best practices and evidence-based approaches to early literacy screening and intervention; and

(7) Identifying both statutory and nonstatutory solutions, including potential legislative changes, administrative actions, professional development needs, and resource allocations necessary to improve reading screening and intervention outcomes.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature may confer with stakeholders, including, but not limited to: Elementary and secondary educators and reading intervention teachers; paraeducators; postsecondary educators with expertise in literacy and assessment; staff from the State Department of Education; school administrators; school board members; members of the State Board of Education; and members of the Legislature to identify challenges, evaluate current practices, and develop recommendations.

LR455 (Juarez) Interim study to examine recruitment, retention, and professional recognition of prekindergarten, elementary, and secondary educators

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine recruitment, retention, and professional recognition of prekindergarten, elementary, and secondary educators.

Educators are essential to the academic success, workforce readiness, and civic development of students in the state. Meanwhile, school districts are experiencing ongoing challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified educators, including teachers, faculty, and support staff. Educators have reported feeling undervalued as professionals, citing concerns related to compensation, benefits, workplace conditions, administrative burdens, and the overall respect and recognition afforded to the profession. Increased workloads, emotional demands, student behavioral challenges, and safety concerns contribute to educator burnout and attrition. Contract negotiations and, in some cases, failed negotiations between educators and employers may further impact morale, retention, and the stability of educational environments. State and federal educational mandates, compliance requirements, and administrative expectations may contribute to increased burdens on educators and reduce the

time available for instruction and student engagement. Shortages of qualified educators, including substitute teachers and paraeducators, place additional strain on existing staff and impact the quality of education delivered to students. Improving educator recognition, professional respect, and working conditions is essential to strengthening Nebraska's education system and ensuring long-term student success.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(1) Factors contributing to educator shortages and challenges in recruitment;

(2) Causes of educator demoralization and attrition, including burnout, workload, and workplace conditions;

(3) Compensation structures, including salaries and benefits, and the competitiveness of such salaries and benefits regionally and nationally;

(4) The impact of student behavior, discipline policies, and classroom management challenges on educator retention;

(5) Administrative burdens, educational mandates, and compliance requirements affecting educator workload;

(6) The impact of contract negotiations, including failed negotiations, on educator morale and retention;

(7) School safety concerns and their effect on educator well-being;

(8) Availability of resources, funding structures, and out-of-pocket expenses incurred by educators;

(9) Strategies to improve professional recognition, respect, and public perception of educators;

(10) Evidence-based practices and policies from other states that successfully improve educator recruitment, retention, and job satisfaction; and

(11) Strategies the state and school districts may implement to mitigate educator burnout, improve workplace conditions, and incentivize long-term retention in the profession.

LR463 (Lonowski) Interim study to analyze data from learning community schools to investigate the return on investment

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to analyze data from learning community schools to investigate the return on investment.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Compiling and summarizing statutes related to learning communities;

(2) Identifying funding streams related to learning communities and the amount of money received by the existing learning community and its member school districts;

(3) Identifying how the money received by the existing learning community and its member school districts is being spent and determine if such funding continues to be necessary;

(4) Determining if state aid could be removed so that the rest of the state is not funding learning communities;

(5) Reviewing all community achievement plans approved by the State Board of Education and all reports on the success of the plans and evaluation results;

(6) Identifying existing goals for learning communities and determining if the existing learning community and its member school districts are achieving such goals;

(7) Identifying any required measurable outcomes;

(8) Determining if any measurable progress has been made toward closing the learning gaps by subgroups for achievement equity;

(9) Examining outside accountability mechanisms and how they can be enhanced; and

(10) Analyzing the use of nonprofit organizations by the existing learning community and the contribution of such organizations to the goals of such learning community.

LR465 (Murman) Interim study relating to school policies on student surveys and the involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study relating to school policies on student surveys and the involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers. The study shall include the implementation and effects of Laws 2025, LB428, relating to the administration of mental health surveys to students and the right of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers to remove children from such surveys.

LR466 (McKinney) Interim study to examine the prevalence, causes, and impacts of suspension and other exclusionary discipline practices affecting elementary school students

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the prevalence, causes, and impacts of suspensions and other exclusionary discipline practices affecting elementary school students, and to identify the resources, policies, and supports necessary to reduce or eliminate such practices.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(1) Current state and local policies governing suspensions and expulsions for students in elementary school;

(2) The frequency, demographic breakdown, and geographic distribution of such disciplinary actions;

(3) The short-term and long-term impacts of early exclusionary discipline on student outcomes, including academic achievement, behavioral development, and involvement in the juvenile justice or child welfare systems;

(4) The availability and effectiveness of alternative disciplinary approaches, including restorative practices, behavioral interventions, trauma- informed care, and school-based mental health supports;

(5) The capacity of school districts, educators, and support staff to implement developmentally appropriate behavioral interventions;

(6) What school districts are doing to address the needs of students that may be suspended;

(7) Workforce needs related to this issue, including access to school psychologists, social workers, behavioral specialists, and other support personnel;

(8) Funding structures and resource gaps at the state and local levels;

(9) Best practices from other states that have limited or prohibited suspensions in early elementary grades; and

(10) The feasibility of establishing statewide standards, funding mechanisms, and accountability measures to support schools in reducing reliance on exclusionary discipline for students while maintaining safe and supportive learning environments.

LR472 (Clouse) Interim study to examine federally funded Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs and to provide state policy recommendations in support of such programs

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine federally funded Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs and to provide state policy recommendations in support of such programs. Head Start Preschool provides high-quality early childhood education and wraparound services for preschoolers to promote school readiness and healthy development. Early Head Start provides high-quality early childhood education and wraparound services for infants, toddlers, expectant parents, and families to enhance healthy development, pregnancy, and postpartum recovery.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A comprehensive overview of the services, impact, and access to Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs in Nebraska;

(2) An overview of the federal and state history of Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs;

(3) An overview of the structure and operation of Head Start and Early Head Start programs, including the supporting role of the Nebraska Head Start Collaboration Office and other state governmental bodies and associations;

(4) An inventory of the federal funding sources for Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs;

(5) An examination of staffing challenges affecting Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs and their ability to provide services to young children and families;

(6) An examination of compliance with federal law regarding Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start background checks; and

(7) A review of approaches in other states to support Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programming.

Health Committee

LR381 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine the feasibility, effectiveness, and safeguards associated with implementing universal youth mental health screenings in public schools

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the feasibility, effectiveness, and safeguards associated with implementing universal youth mental health screenings in public schools. Students continue to experience rising rates of anxiety, depression, and behavioral health challenges, and early identification may improve access to timely intervention and support. Implementation of screenings must address workforce capacity, parental consent, student privacy, referral systems, and equitable access to follow-up services.

Universal youth mental health screenings may offer opportunities to identify concerns before they escalate into crisis situations, improve academic engagement, and reduce disciplinary involvement. Ensuring that any screening framework is evidence-based, transparent, and appropriately resourced is critical to protecting students and maximizing positive outcomes.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Assessment of the current landscape of youth mental health supports within Nebraska schools, including the availability of counselors, school psychologists, social workers, and partnerships with community behavioral health providers;

(2) Evaluation of evidence-based mental health screening models, including universal and targeted approaches, and their documented outcomes in comparable states;

(3) Analysis of workforce capacity across urban and rural school districts, including staffing ratios, training needs, and shortages that may impact implementation;

(4) Examination of parental consent procedures, student assent practices, and compliance with state and federal student privacy laws, including protections under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act;

(5) Review of referral pathways and follow-up services to determine whether adequate community-based treatment capacity exists to support students who screen positive for mental health needs;

(6) Evaluation of potential disparities in access, outcomes, and discipline-related consequences to ensure equitable implementation across race, disability status, and geographic region;

(7) Estimation of fiscal impacts, including costs associated with screening tools, training, staffing, data systems, and potential funding sources such as Medicaid reimbursement or state grant programs; and

(8) Identification of best practices, implementation safeguards, and policy options, including pilot programs or voluntary statewide guidelines.

LR382 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine issues related to play therapy access in Nebraska

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues related to play therapy access in Nebraska. Play therapy is a well-established and evidence-based mental health intervention that is particularly effective with young children.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) An examination of the current evidence regarding the efficacy of play therapy, as well as any proven outcomes for children;

(2) An overview of the challenge of access to play therapy for families in need;

(3) A review of current regulations regarding play therapy in the state;

(4) A lookback on difficulties in the state regarding billing for play therapy;

(5) An examination of required education and credentials to offer play therapy;

(6) Research on how other states approach play therapy as a modality;

(7) A review of potential statutory or administrative changes to support play therapy in Nebraska; and

(8) A determination of whether additional state funding is needed to support such changes.

LR404 (Rountree) Interim study to examine Nebraska statutes and the processes relating to the developmental disability and the aged and disabled waivers and the tools used to assess developmental disabilities

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska statutes and the processes relating to the developmental disability and the aged and disabled waivers and the tools used to assess developmental disabilities.

The study shall include, but is not limited to, an examination of:

(1) Recent eligibility requirements and caps placed on the waivers administered by the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) Assessment tools used by the department to determine the level of need for individuals with developmental disabilities and the effects of the change in assessment tools;

(3) The ways in which individuals with disabilities may benefit from transitioning to a section 1634 status under the Social Security Act for medicaid eligibility determinations; and

(4) The use of algorithm-based assessment processes for evaluation of disabilities and other medical needs by the department.

Government Committee

LR429 (Clouse) Interim study to evaluate the compensation of members of the governing bodies of political subdivisions

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to evaluate the compensation of members of the governing bodies of political subdivisions. The study shall focus on how often such members vote to increase their own wages and rules and regulations in place regarding such votes.

Retirement Committee

LR372 (Retirement Committee) Interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, the Nebraska Judges Retirement System, and the retirement system administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. The study shall examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and administration of each retirement system.

LR374 (Retirement Committee) Interim study to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

2026 Legislation

LB 384 - Require the county assessor and one voting member of the governing bodies of participating political subdivisions to attend joint public hearings under the Property Tax Request Act.- Pg 4

LR 422- Urge Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. – Pg 5

LB 429- Provide requirements and restrictions for school boards relating to professional employees' organizations. Pg 5

LB 653-Change provisions relating to acceptance of students under the enrollment option program and discipline of students under the Student Discipline Act. – Pg 10

LB 924-Change powers of learning community councils and authorized uses of learning community levies.- Pg 24

LB 937- Adopt the Prior Learning Act and K-12 Cybersecurity Act, change provisions relating to student transfers, school absences, extracurricular activities, school employment, the improvement grant program, monitoring instruction, deadlines, Teacher Apprenticeship Program, Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act. – Pg 26

LB 940 -Prohibit certain color additives in school meals.- Pg 39

LB 966 - Adopt the Hunger-Free Schools Pilot Program. – Pg 40

LB 1022- Eliminate the human relations training requirement for obtaining certificates and permits for teaching, providing special services, or education administration. – Pg 41

Interim Study Resolutions:

LR 389-(Conrad) Interim study to examine educational opportunities and services available to deaf and hard of hearing elementary students in Nebraska. Pg 45

LR 440- (Hughes) Interim study to examine the identification, evaluation, and effectiveness of reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts, and to examine whether improvements to screening practices should precede consideration of student retention at the third-grade level . Pg 46

LR 465- (Murman) Interim study relating to school policies on student surveys and the involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers. Pg 49

LR 466-(McKinney) Interim study to examine the prevalence, causes, and impacts of suspension and other exclusionary discipline practices affecting elementary school students. Pg 49

LR 381-(Fredrickson) Interim study to examine the feasibility, effectiveness, and safeguards associated with implementing universal youth mental health screenings in public schools. Pg 51

May: 5/13/26

Map and Gold Growth Report- Bryon

Fastbridge Growth Report- Deb

June: 6/8/26

Start of the Year Schedule and Professional Learning Schedule Admin Team

July: 7/15/26

Summer Project Update- Bryon

Website Update- Bryon

August: 8/12/26

Admin Roles and Responsibilities Report- Admin Team

Beginning of the Year Report- Project Completion and Including Testing Dates for the Year- Bryon

Technology Report- Andrew

September: 9/16/26

Teacher Professional Learning Report: Teacher Leaders- TLT Team

Fall Map Score/ Dibbles Baseline Data Presentation Bryon, Tony Steve, Deb, and Amanda

October: 10/14/2026

MTSS Report- Benchmark Protocols- Elementary and Secondary Steve, Deb, and Abby with teachers

Option Enrollment and Enrollment Numbers Report- Bryon

November: 11/11/2026

PLC Report- How is it going in our buildings- Teachers and Admin

December: 12/16/2026

AqUESTT Report- Bryon with Admin Team

January: 1/13/2027

Professional Learning Report- Teacher Leadership Team

Attendance and Behavior Reports for the 1st semester from each building Tony, Steve, Deb

February: 2/10/27

Club and CTSO Report- Students and Teachers

Enrollment Projections and Staffing Report- Bryon

March: 3/10/27

Assessment Dates Reminder- Bryon

MTSS and Benchmark Protocols Steve, Deb, Abby

April: 4/14/2027

Annual Report Presentation- Bryon

May: 5/12/27

Map Growth Report- Bryon. Tony, Steve, Amanda

DIBELS Growth Report- Deb and Amanda

8.3.1. Classified Staff Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s)

8.3.2. NASB Monthly Update

APR 2026

NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

NASB Nebraska Association of SCHOOL BOARDS

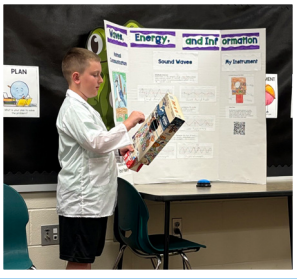
Leadership Innovation Vision Engagement #liveNASB

2,000,000 Nebraskans 329,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

IN THIS MONTH'S EDITION OF BOARD NOTES

This Month In ...	Page 2
Training, Networking, Engagement & Upcoming Events	Page 3
At The Board Table	Page 4
2026 Legislative Session Wrap	Pages 5-9
Join Us Fore Golf!	Page 10
Join Us in June ... At the School Law Seminar	Page 11
Area Membership Meetings: Mark Your Calendars	Page 12
Your 2026 NASB Affiliates	Pages 14-16
Your NASB Board of Directors & Staff	Page 17
... And Much More!	

Snapshots



THIS MONTH IN ...

A quick snapshot of the various programs, services, support and events NASB has planned for its members in the coming month!

Leadership Innovation Vision Engagement

https://members.nasbonline.org/

ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ... The 2026 Legislative Session is complete! See pages 5 through 9 for what passed, what did not, and what's next. Stay engaged in the interim. Call Colby & Matt any time!

ALICAP ... Attention all ALICAP members schools/ESUs: It's RENEWAL TIME! If you haven't already, log in to the ALICAP site, and submit your renewal information for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. If there are questions, please contact Megan Boldt at 402-423-4951.

AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT ... An email reminder will go out in May to check board member points. Thank you for helping us ensure accurate records.

BOARD LEADERSHIP ... Check out "At the Board Table" on Page 4 to learn about all things Board Leadership!

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ... It is not too early to request information on our search process if you have a superintendent retiring in the summer of 2027. Contact us with questions on protocol or procedures, or to get your first meeting on the calendar.

ENERGY PURCHASING ... Both NJUMP and CJUMP purchase natural gas on behalf of participating districts. In a market shaped by significant volatility driven by global events, partnering with industry experts through NASB helps Nebraska schools secure more stable pricing and achieve meaningful cost savings.

GALLUP STRENGTHS ... This month our featured Gallup strength is **Maximizer**. Those with Maximizer high in their Gallup strengths take what works and make it exceptional. They raise the bar of excellence and focus effort where it matters most. Contact Shari to get a date on the calendar for a Gallup retreat.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ... We have been really busy completing the Budget & Finance Workshops, and Amplified Finance Workshop in the last month. It was great to see so many members at those workshops and in San Antonio for the NSBA Annual Conference as well. Many thanks to DA Davidson for hosting the Nebraska Reception again this year.

NEWS & (BOARD) NOTES ... Some recent hires, new roles and introductions. **Lindsey Headrick** is now your Policy Systems and Data Coordinator/ALICAP Associate, **Josh Wall** has joined the Board Leadership team, and **Nick Lamblin** is our new IT Specialist. Did You Know? NASB also has two interns who help out in various areas as needed. **Nick Stefanik** is a Sophomore at UNL majoring in Political Science who helps as our Legislative Intern, and **Marley Helvey** is a Sophomore at Westside High School who has testified twice in front of the Legislature on Cell Phones and Student Board Members, helps with marketing and advocacy.

POLICY SERVICES ... Last month we shared enhancements to our Policy Services that strengthen our capacity to provide high-quality, comprehensive services through new and expanded partnerships. SPARQ Data Solutions will integrate district policy manuals into the SPARQ Online Publishing platform, and Perry Law Firm will provide a comprehensive policy manual and ongoing policy updates. From there, these expanded NASB Policy Services will run through our Board Leadership department. Contact Lindsey Headrick or Marcia Herring for more information!

TECHNOLOGY ... We're still in the process of uploading and validating Negotiated Agreements for the 2026-2027 negotiating season. If you haven't done so already, please send a PDF copy of your approved agreement and anything that has changed to Darion at **dmiller@NASBonline.org**. He will make sure update your Contract Settlement Form for you.

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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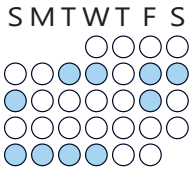
JOIN US!

https://members.nasbonline.org/events

To register for an NASB event, click on the 'My Membership' link, then navigate to the 'Events' dropdown and select 'Register'. If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 402-423-4951 for assistance.



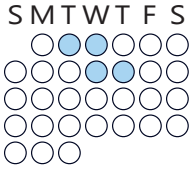
APRIL 2026

APRIL & MAY

2026 NASB Federal Advocacy Fly-In - April 26-29 - Washington, DC

VOTE

Statewide Primary Election - Tuesday, May 12



JUNE 2026

JUNE

NASB Board Candidate Workshops - Tuesday, June 2 - Ainsworth, Hastings, and O'Neill

NASB Board Candidate Workshops - Wednesday, June 3 - Broken Bow, Ogallala, and Wayne

NASB Member Golf Outing - Wednesday, June 10 - Kearney Country Club

School Law Seminar - June 10-11 - Kearney

JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER

ALICAP Summer Workshops - July 7 in Gering; July 8 in Kearney; July 9 in Lincoln

NASB Board Candidate Workshops - Tuesday, August 4 - Alliance and Beatrice

NASB Board Candidate Workshops - Wednesday, August 5 - McCook and Omaha

Area Membership Meetings begin Tuesday, August 18th

Tuesday, August 18 - Cody-Kilgore
Wednesday, August 19 - Gering
Thursday, August 20 - Kearney
Tuesday, August 25 - Nebraska City
Wednesday, August 26 - South Sioux City
Tuesday, September 1 - Omaha
Wednesday, September 2 - North Platte
Wednesday, September 9 - York
Wednesday, September 23 - Fremont

Labor Relations - September 29-30 - Lincoln

NASB Nebraska Association of School Boards

All Dates & Locations Tentative & Subject to Change

AT THE BOARD TABLE

Leadership Innovation Vision Engagement #liveNASB

NASB Nebraska Association of School Boards

2,000,000 Nebraskans 329,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

YOUR NASB BOARD LEADERSHIP UPDATE

https://members.nasbonline.org/board-leadership

2026

MAY BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Board Presidents and Superintendents: Please check your inbox for the **[sample] May Board Meeting Agenda** that was emailed to you on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, from **shiggins@NASBonline.org**. This agenda is aligned with the NASB Annual Board Calendar. If you have any questions or would like the email resent, please contact Stacie at 402-209-1608.

DID YOU KNOW?

NASB 2026 Board Candidate Workshops will be coming to a place near you! NASB will be on the road this Summer providing an informational meeting for board candidates who are seeking election to the board. Check out the upcoming schedule:

- June 2 - Ainsworth, Hastings, and O'Neill
- June 3 - Broken Bow, Ogallala, and Wayne
- August 4 - Alliance and Beatrice
- August 5 - McCook and Omaha

Perfect for non-incumbent board candidates, as well as experienced board members who wish to accompany candidates, and superintendents. These workshops are designed to provide a high-level overview of the role and responsibilities of a board member. If you have questions and/or wish to learn more about the workshop, please feel free to contact Marcia. No pre-registration is needed, the fee to attend is $25 per district, and will be charged after the workshop.

NASB 2026 New Board Member Workshop Schedule

- December 7 - Ainsworth, Alliance, and Broken Bow
- December 8 - O'Neill
- December 9 - Ogallala and Beatrice
- January 5 - McCook and Wayne
- January 6 - Hastings and Omaha

See the Events tab of the NASB website at **https://members.nasbonline.org/events** for more information.

For more information about **NASB Board Leadership Services**, including: Board Retreats, Strategic Planning, Community Engagement and Alignment, Online Survey Services/Superintendent Evaluation, Board Self-Assessment, Board Resources, Communication Support Services or Board Governance publications, please contact:

Marcia Herring - Katie Corfield - Stacie Higgins - Ben Anderjaska

Stephanie Summers - Avary Pansing-Brooks - Becky Erdkamp - Josh Wall

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WRAP - PAGE 1

Leadership Innovation Vision Engagement #liveNASB

https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations

Sixty days done. From cold icy mornings to warmer late nights. The past four months saw it all, with twists and turns almost daily. For those familiar with professional wrestling, or maybe the famous internet meme, it was the clip of the WWE's Undertaker character flat on his back, done and "dead" per se, only to quickly sit back up, revived, with some last-minute life left. (Go ahead, type "Undertaker" into your #images or GIFs section of your phone). At times, that was good, at times it just meant our fight wasn't over.

From our perspective, so much of the Session boils down to two things. Green or Red. Do we like it, support it, and put our weight behind its passage. Or, do we fight, scratch, claw, and strategize on killing it, or hoping the clock runs out. As you'll see below, while we have our bumps and bruises, there is a lot more green and black (still important, but we simply followed closely vs stamping a strong support or oppose) in the "What Passed" section, with a lot of our red items in "What Did Not Pass."

So much of "what did not pass" is because of the work you all put in to help us. From attending LIC and visiting the Capitol to testify or meet with Senators during Advocacy Days, to participating in legislative lunches, meetings, and outreach from home, your efforts to educate and advocate for education made a meaningful difference.

Now … the fight is not over. To go back to the WWE reference, we may have won this time, but something will pop back up in the future. Expect all of the below that did not pass this year to be seen again in some form or fashion. But for now, we can take a step back, a deep breath, and save all of that for another day.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR … WHAT PASSED

THE BUDGET – LB 1071

- Passed with the $3.5 million "scholarship funds" OUT
- Reduction in Special Education was $18.5 million
- Significant transfer of Board of Educational Lands and Funds (BELF) to the Education Future Fund (EFF)

What the bill does and how it impacts districts: The reduction in Special Education appropriations, coupled with the Governor's narrative, is concerning as it signals a potential step back from funding commitments that were hard-fought during the 2023–24 session. From Governor Pillen in the 2025-2027 Mid-Biennium Budget Adjustment, "The rapid growth in special education expenditures over the last two years is not sustainable in the long term, and the excessive costs must be examined to uncover the underlying cause of runaway growth in special education costs."

BELF dollars are to be allocated on a per pupil basis and not to be used to prop up the State's obligation to the EFF. Raiding these funds sets a dangerous precedent. BELF leadership is considering all legal avenues as the Trustees for this fund.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE PACKAGE

LB 937 (Education) Adopt the Prior Learning Act and the K-12 Education Cybersecurity Act and change provisions relating to student transfers, school absences, option enrollment, extracurricular activities, reports, school employment, the improvement grant program, monitoring or providing instruction, deadlines, the Nebraska Teacher Apprenticeship Program, the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act, and the College Pathway Program Act.

What LB 937 does and how/if it impacts districts: As the long title suggests, this bill contains A LOT of other bills. It's important to note that none of the provisions of this bill were requested by the education community, with the exception of the original/underlying clean-up provisions contained in 937. The following bills were added as amendments:

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LB 599 (DeBoer) Cybersecurity: Adds 'cybersecurity' to an improvement grant and duties to the ESUCC to facilitate cybersecurity activities with NDE. Districts will be hearing from their ESUs and the ESUCC.

LB 1146 (Conrad) Change provisions relating to reports by a school district relating to absences of a child from school. Changes made to the definition of excused absences. Will require an examination of your truancy policy for alignment.

LB 1164 (Lonowski) Adopt the Prior Learning Act.

LB 1224 (Hunt) Prohibit children from transferring to an exempt school during certain child abuse or neglect investigations and prohibit persons convicted of certain crimes from monitoring or providing instruction at such schools

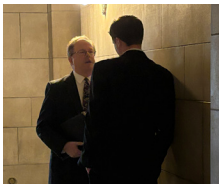
LB 1241 (Murman) Provide requirements relating to applications for employment at a school. Adds additional requirements of applicants and screening procedures.

LB 1243 (Murman) Change school district board policies and procedures relating to part-time enrollment. Allows schools to require up to 5 credit hours for 7th & 8th grade students as a condition for participation in extracurricular activities.

OPTION ENROLLMENT/STUDENT DISCIPLINE

LB 653 (Murman) Change provisions relating to acceptance of students under the enrollment option program and discipline of students under the Student Discipline Act. AM adopted removed mandated option enrollment acceptance. Now mandates acceptance of siblings of option accepted students.

What LB 653 does and how/if it impacts districts: Districts will now be required to accept siblings of option students regardless of capacity. An exception for violent behavior to the K-12 suspension prohibition also was added. Will require a change in student discipline and option policies.



PINK POSTCARDS

LB 384 (Storer) Require the county assessor and one voting member of the governing bodies of participating political subdivisions to attend joint public hearings under the Property Tax Request Act

LB 803 (Revenue) Adopt the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act and change provisions relating to the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act, the Property Tax Growth Limitation Act, the Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Service Providers Tax Credit Act, property tax valuation and levy procedures, homestead exemptions, and income taxes. LB 575 (Hallstrom) Change provisions relating to the Property Tax Request Act and property tax levy limits, was amended into LB 803.

What the bills do and how/if it impacts districts: The are no changes to the "pink postcard" meeting for 2026, other than the requirement that a voting member of the board attend. For 2027, the meeting will be moved to July 1-15 and will be more informational about the budget process. The voting threshold for tax levy increases is two-thirds majority. (No change for a six member board. Seven member boards are exempt from the two-thirds requirement. Look for additional guidance.

Retirement

LB 820 from Retirement. Change retirement provisions relating to approved identification documents, participation in certain retirement systems, state contributions, ex officio members of the Nebraska Investment Council, contributions by school districts, computation of tax withholdings, retirement allowances, cost-of-living adjustments, and the Nebraska State Patrol and change the title of the executive director of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. LB 1102 and LB 1166 are also now within 820 as AM's. LB 1102 (Ballard) Provide requirements for monthly payments of retirement allowances and

change when certain cost-of-living adjustments occur under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. LB 1166 (Juarez) Change applicability of the employee contribution rate under the School Employees Retirement Act

What LB 820 does and how/if it impacts districts: OPS has some changes to their COLA program as a result of the bill. The date of the contribution rate calculation for educators is changing from July 1 to September 1.

LB 824 (Lonowski) Change provisions relating to termination of employment under the School Employees Retirement Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act

What LB 824 does and how/if it impacts districts: "Bona fide separation" period for retiring educators is changing from 180 to 120 days. This means retired educators are able to substitute teach 60 days sooner.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT

LB 596 (Sanders) Change requirements for legal publications and notices required by law, provisions of the Open Meetings Act, county inventories, warrants, and discharge records, storage requirements for certain records, petitions to change names, marriage license and record fees, reports of abandoned property, and the Nebraska Hall of Fame and eliminate a penalty for certain public officials and provisions relating to the registration of farm, ranch, or home names

What LB 596 does and how/if it impacts districts: The Open Meetings Act requires schools/ESUs to publish in a local newspaper the time of the "regular" board meeting, the schedule, the location, and the method designated by the public body to provide reasonable advanced publicized notice four times a year. It shall be given by publication in a legal newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction. Failure to comply with this shall not cause any motion resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of ap public body made or taken at a meeting to be void or voidable. **New method of notice: Reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting by a method designated by each public body and recorded in its minutes. Board will need a policy saying how to provide notice.**

OTHER

LB 304 (DeBoer) Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program and state intent regarding funding. What LB 304 does and how/if it impacts districts: Childcare subsidies are extended which is positive for qualifying families who were using it.

LB 429 (Murman) Provide requirements and restrictions for school boards relating to professional employees' organizations. **What LB 429 does and how/if it impacts districts:** Clarifies definition of professional employees' organizations. A school board shall grant access upon a request to the physical or electronic mailbox of any certified employee. If a professional employees' organization is allowed to create and post signage or materials in a school any other professional employees' organization shall also be granted permission. Will require an examination of policy.

LB 940 (Murman) Prohibit certain color additives in school meals. **What LB 940 does and how/if it impacts districts:** A variety of "dyes" in processed food are now disallowed as a result of the passage of this bill. Nutrition and food service staff will need to be made aware of the banned dyes. Hopefully, the federal government will take action banning the manufacturing of the dyes which will impact manufacturers as opposed to consumers.

LB 966 (Cavanaugh, M.) Adopt the Hunger-Free Schools Act and provide for an appropriation. What LB 966 does and how/if it impacts districts: Amended to be a pilot grant, funded with private dollars, for public and private schools. Schools will have to apply to NDE for grant funds.

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LB 1022 (Murman) Eliminate the human relations training requirement for obtaining a Nebraska substitute teacher's certificate. **What LB 1022 does and how/if it impacts districts:** Passage of this bill will hopefully increase the pool of substitute teachers through the removal of this requirement.

LR 422 (Rountree) Urge Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. What the bill does and how/if it impacts districts: We were pleased to see this pass with broad bi-partisan support and will be sharing it with our federal delegation.

WHAT DIDN'T PASS

As you can see from the list below, this session was largely defined on what DID NOT pass. Some added significant cost to already stretched budgets through mandates. Some reduced the ability of a district to access funds through caps or voting thresholds. Some bills infringed on local control through statewide mandates better left to local districts.

LB 463 (Ballard) ... Debated in 2026. Require school districts to develop a cardiac emergency response plan under the School Safety and Security Reporting Act and provide for grants for such plans from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund

LB 468 (Clements) Change provisions relating to inheritance taxes, change certain fee and tax provisions, and eliminate a sales tax exemption relating to data centers. **We made sure LB 714, which would have reduced the motor vehicle tax to schools by 20% was not amended on.**

LB 507 (Hunt) ... Attempted to amend it to LB 937. Change provisions relating to school transportation expenses for children with disabilities

LB 765 (Holdcroft) Change provisions relating to school district bonds and bonds issued by a joint entity that includes a Nebraska school district or educational service unit

LB 841 (Rountree) ... Attempted to amend it to LB 937. Change provisions relating to special education services, parental consent, and hearings

LB 960 (McKinney) Provide a requirement to include nonvoting student members on school boards

LB 1024 (Murman) Require school districts and the State Board of Education to provide for instruction on the history of communism

LB 1050 (Murman) Provide requirements for dyslexia screening and limit advancement to grade four under the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act

LB 1097 (Conrad) Adopt the State and Political Subdivisions Sexual Abuse Liability Act

LB 1112 (McKinney) Adopt the Statewide Standardized Grading System Act

LB 1182 (Lippincott) Provide for a base salary for certified teachers and state intent relating to changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and a new form of block grant funding

LB 1219 / LR 317 CA (Brandt) Limit the amount of property taxes that may be levied by a political subdivision

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LR 292 CA (Andersen) Constitutional amendment to provide a new method of valuing real property for property tax purposes, provide a limit on property tax increases, provide certain exceptions, provide requirements for declared emergencies, provide for emergency bond levies, and eliminate conflicting constitutional provisions.

The $7 mil / $3.5 mil in the budget for non-public "gap funding"

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS (PARTIAL LIST)

The interim will see some studies referenced to the Education Committee. These will be great opportunities for further engagement on important K-12 issues.

LR 406 (Hughes) Interim study to examine the special fund for sites and buildings that public school boards or public boards of education may establish within their school district

LR 440 (Hughes) Interim study to examine the identification, evaluation, and effectiveness of reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts, and to examine whether improvements to screening practices should precede consideration of student retention at the third-grade level

LR 465 (Murman) Interim study relating to school policies on student surveys and the involvement of parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers

COLBY'S TAKE ...

As you view the few bills that passed and MANY that didn't pass, you might think it was a session of conflict. Some days it felt that way. Attacks on local control and a district's ability to govern itself continue. It would be easy to say, "Well ... it could have been worse!" And you would be right. But I choose to see the wins. **The amount of engagement from our membership this session was a WIN and reflected here.** We saw some low profile, but significant victories. Public notice requirements are more reasonable, substitute teachers will be more accessible, and schools may get some assistance feeding hungry students. Option programs were preserved, bond elections were unchanged, and there is a recognition that cybersecurity is a real issue for districts.

As I look ahead, I remain optimistic and energized by the willingness of school board members to let their voices be heard. I see progress in lowering the temperature on "pink postcards", a focus on literacy, and more partnership with our federal delegation. My attention now shifts to relationship building. Some to be mended, others to be enhanced, and many to be started. 2027 will see at least 13 new faces. The election could usher in as many as 10 more. 2027 advocacy has already started and I look forward to working with all of you.

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12:30 PM - NASB MEMBER GOLF OUTING
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Email **sendorf@NASBonline.org** to register for golf

6:30 to 11:00 PM - Networking Reception & Hospitality Suite
Join us for an evening of networking, a light dinner buffet, and a hospitality suite.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Legislative Update - Colby Coash - NASB
With the wrap up of the 2026 session in April, Colby will review all that passed impacting the board room or the classroom.

10:30 to 11:15 AM - FERPA-cly Clear - David Kramer & Allie Balus - Baird Holm
We'll cut through the legal jargon to provide a plain-language breakdown of FERPA obligations, common compliance pitfalls, and practical steps to safeguard student records with confidence. Navigate student privacy law clearly, without the headache.

11:15 AM to 12:00 PM - Essential Personnel Protocols for Certified & Classified - Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm
In this session, we will examine nuances of the tenure and other employment laws.

12:15 to 1:00 PM - Lunch

1:00 to 1:45 PM - Sports & Title IX – Equal Opportunities and Equal Experiences - Coady Pruett - KSB School Law
In this high-level, fast-paced presentation, we will discuss the opportunities for you to show that you are meeting your obligation to provide your girls and boys equal athletic opportunities. We'll discuss the best way to learn from past Title IX cases, so that your planning for your athletic programs is useful and practical.

2:00 to 2:45 PM - Praying You Get this Right - David Kramer & Allie Balus - Baird Holm
We will provide a timely, practical look at the U.S. Department of Education's February 2026 guidance on constitutionally protected prayer and religious expression in public schools — breaking down what your district must allow, must avoid, and must update in its policies.

2:45 to 3:30 PM - Student Discipline: KSB Style
New procedures? New paperwork? What about suspensions for very violent, very young students? KSB will answer all these questions (and more) with this overview of student discipline issues in light of recent legislation. Bring your questions and your notepads, as we will provide practical pointers to ensure that you start off the 2026 school year ready with the answers.

UP TO 4.5 CLE CREDITS FOR ATTORNEYS ATTENDING THE SEMINAR

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Wednesday, August 19, 2026 - Gering
Thursday, August 20, 2026 - Kearney
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Paul Grieger
Managing Director,
Public Finance
402-392-7986
pgrieger@dadco.com

Cody Wickham
Senior Vice President,
Public Finance
402-392-7989
cwickham@dadco.com

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Senior Vice President,
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Executive Administrative
Assistant

Stephanie Summers
Board Leadership Specialist

Josh Wall
Board Leadership
Engagement Associate

View the full directory of the Board and staff bios at www.NASBonline.org

8.3.3. NRCSA Monthly Report

Nebraska Rural Community

Member Update

Photo Credit: Arlington Public Schools *www.nrcsa.net* *www.twitter.com/NRCSA1980* *www.facebook.com/nrcsahome/*

NRCSA Calendar **NRCSA Events**

NRCSA Golf Tournament
July 28, 2026

Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney
More about this event

NRCSA Superintendent Lunch
July 29, 2026
12:00 PM
Holiday Inn in Kearney

NRCSA Legislative Forum
February 24, 2027
Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln
More about this event

NRCSA Spring Conference
April 1 & 2, 2027
Crowne Plaza & Younes North Convention Center in Kearney
More about this event

Committee Meetings

NRCSA Executive Committee
June 17, 2026
10:00 AM Mountain Time
Ogallala Public Schools

NRCSA Consultant Meeting
June 17-18, 2026
Kearney, NE(Time & Location TBD)

2026-27 NRCSA Executive Committee
July 29, 2026
1:00 PM
Holiday Inn in Kearney

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

NRCSA Search Service

Please let Jack Moles know where superintendent vacancies occur, so that NRCSA Superintendent Search can make direct contact. We need to hear as soon as possible in anticipation of getting promotional materials specific to that board of education ready. It is critical that Board Presidents have the NRCSA contact information so that if they choose to consider a Superintendent Search Service, NRCSA is one they hopefully will consider.

Axtell Community Schools
Search Complete

Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools Search Complete

Blue Hill Community Schools Interim
Search Complete

Hampton Public Schools
Search Complete

Schools Interim Search Complete

Hayes Center Public Schools Search Complete

Sandy Creek Public Schools Search Complete

Newman Grove Public Schools Search Complete

Superior Public Schools Search Complete

Potter-Dix Public Schools Search Complete

Red Cloud Community

Other Vacancies

Thayer Central Community Schools

Elementary Principal (PK–6) – Interim or Permanent

Location: Hebron, Nebraska
Position Type: Full-Time (1-Year Interim or Permanent Contract Available)
Start Date: July 1, 2026 (flexible based on candidate availability)
Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Job Description: Due to Professional advancement Thayer Central Community Schools is seeking a highly effective ed ucational leader to serve as Elementary Principal. Because of the timing of this vacancy, the district is open to both interim (one-year) and permanent candidates, with a preference for individuals who can step into the role quickly and provide immediate leadership and stability. This position requires a leader who can balance instructional leadership, staff develop ment, and building operations while fostering a positive school culture focused on student success.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:
- Provide day-to-day leadership and management of the elementary building
- Lead instructional practices and support student achievement
- Supervise and evaluate staff while maintaining a positive, collaborative culture
- Ensure effective school operations and communication with stakeholders
- Collaborate with district leadership on student services and interventions
- Maintain compliance with all state and federal requirements
- Serve as a visible leader in the community, regularly attending and supporting school activities and community events as an essential component of the role

Qualifications:
- Valid Nebraska Administrative Certificate (or ability to obtain)
- Master's degree in Educational Administration or related field
- Successful teaching experience required
- Strong communication, organizational, and leadership skills

Preferred Qualifications::
- Background in elementary education and instructional leadership
- Experience in rural school settings
- Ability to step into the role with minimal onboarding

Salary/Benefits:
Competitive salary based on experience. Full benefits package available.

Application Instructions:
Submit the following materials via email:

- Letter of interest (please indicate interim or permanent preference)
- Resume
- Copy of Admin Certificate or Credentials
- At least 3 professional references

Contact Information:
Eric Miller, Superintendent
Thayer Central Community Schools
Email: **eric.miller@thayercentral.net**
Phone: 402-768-6117

Access the Members area of **www.nrcsa.net** anytime.
Login: *member* Password: *learning* **NRCSA Leadership**

NRCSA Updates

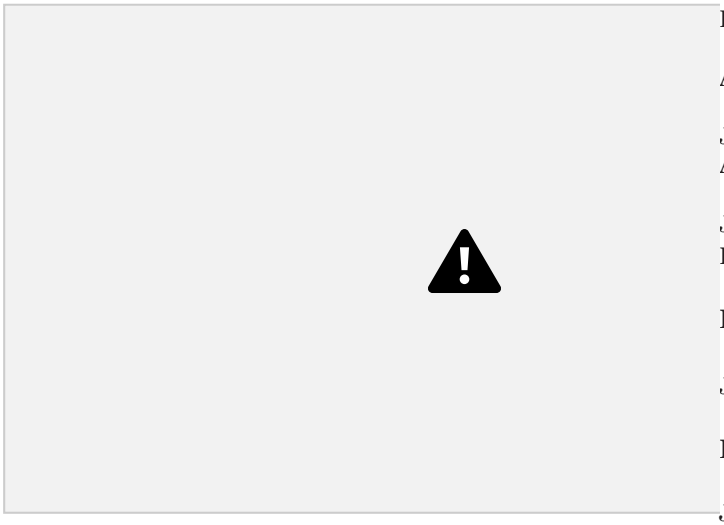
As the school year winds down, please check out this release on a senior prank at Valentine. Well done by everyone involved!

Valentine Twitter Video

Also, as we close out the school year, please remember that this is Teacher Appreciation Week. A message on X from NDE says, "The knowledge & skills educators impart to their students are what drive future success & our future society.

From the 1st day of kindergarten to graduation, education remains one of the most powerful forces shaping opportunity. Thank a teacher today!

I have closed the NRCSA Spring Conference the past few years by challenging those in attendance to do two things: (1) go back to your district and thank one of the teachers on your staff for the impact they are having on kids, and (2) make contact with a teacher from your past who made a difference in YOUR life and tell him/her thank you. I encourage all who are reading this to take such actions this week. Thanks in advance for doing this!



There were a few NRCSA leadership spots available for the 2026-27 school year. President Elect and the North Central District Representative to the Executive Committee were open. Ballots were sent via email on April 2, 2026.

PRESIDENT ELECT–this position is part of a three year Presidency cycle (President-Elect, President, Past-President). This is a state-wide election with each member entity having one vote. Michael Eldridge, Supt. at East Butler and Dale Hafer, Supt. at Ainsworth were the two candidates. Dale Hafer was elected President-Elect.

Chris Kuncl, President.
Mullen Public Schools

Dr. Heather Nebesniak, Past Pres. Ord Public Schools

Stephanie Kaczor, Pres-Elect. Riverside Public Schools

Jeremy Braden, Secretary.
Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schs **District Representatives:**

Ginger Meyer, West
Chadron Public Schools

Dale Hafer, North Central
Ainsworth Community Schools

Daryl Schrunk, Northeast
Randolph Public Schools

Andrew Havelka, Southeast Freeman Public Schools

Jon Davis, South Central
Alma Public Schools

Jane Davis, Southwest
Hershey Public Schools

Executive Director:

Jack Moles

Lobbyists:

Jon Edwards
Scott Moore
Russell Westerhold

Legislative Co- Chairs:

Dr. Jason Dolliver
Pender Public Schools

Bryce Jorgenson
Southern Valley Schools

Scholarship & Recognition Co Chairs:

Jessica Bland,
Oakland-Craig Public Schools

Jim Widdifield
Minden Public Schools

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE–Current North Central District rep Dale Hafer is term-limited, thus the position would be open. The position has a term of three years, with the ability to run for a second term. This position was voted on by member entities in the North Central District. Heather Nebesniak, Supt. at Ord, was the lone candidate and was elected as the North Central District Representative.

There are a few open spots on NRCSA's committees. Executive Director Jack Moles will make

recommendations to the Executive Committee for new members on committees.

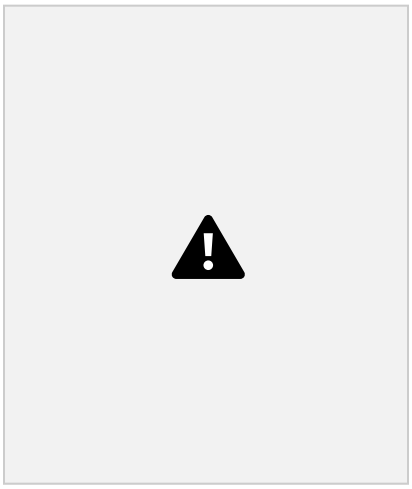
NRCSA has partnered with the Holocaust Learning Experience to provide free curriculum for the teaching of the Holocaust and other genocides. LB888, which was adopted into law in 2022, requires school districts to teach about the Holocaust and other forms of genocide. This has been a growing move in many states. The Holocaust Learning Experience, based out of Florida, developed FREE on-line curriculum, which features interviews with survivors of the Holocaust, for Florida school districts.. The lessons are tiered for 5th and 6th grades, 7th and 8th grades, and high school grades. The group has now made it possible for schools in other states to access the materials for the same price: FREE!.

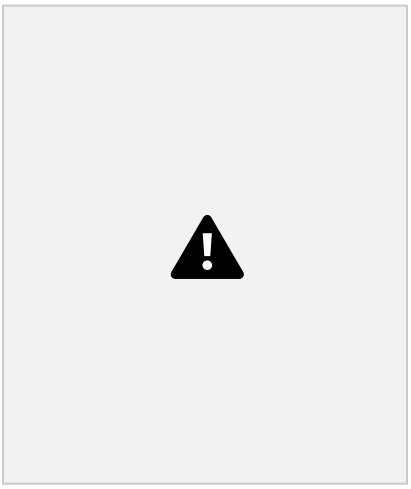
Impactful Lessons from the Holocaust | The Holocaust Learning Experience

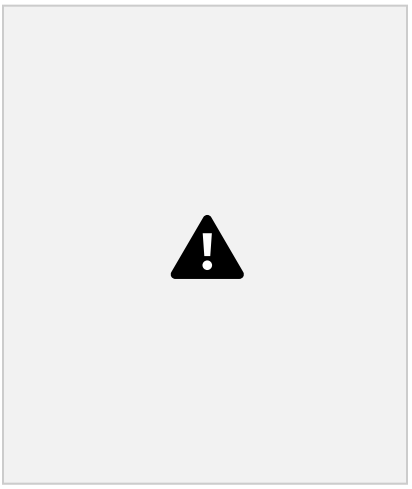
Holocaust Learning Experience | Empowering Classrooms to Combat Hate

Heroes of the Holocaust Demo with Hal_07072025.mov

The NRCSA Spring Conference was another success! The conference, which was held at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney on March 19 & 20, brought together Board members and administrators to reconnect and refresh. The free pre-conference, courtesy of Franklin-Covey, provided NRCSA members with the access to a very valuable experience, centered around the work of Steven Covey. In addition to 35 high-quality breakout sessions of importance to rural education, we also hosted two featured speakers: Adrienne Bulinski and Michelle Oberg. Also in attendance was Dr. Melissa Sadorf, Executive Director of the National Rural Education Association. And, of course, everyone was well fed!

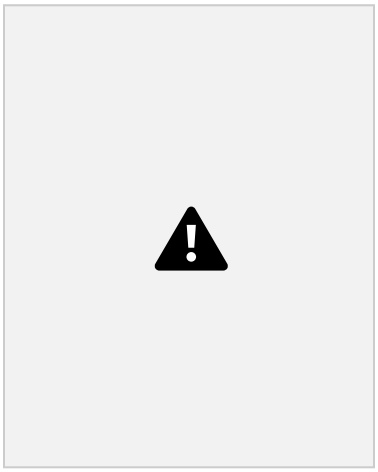




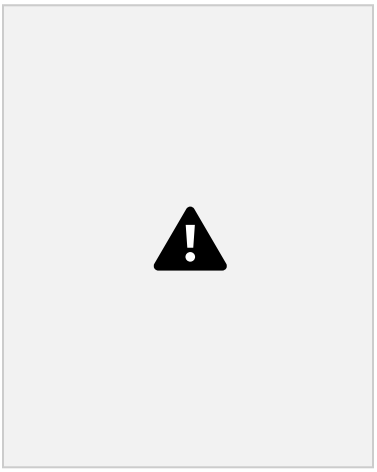


MELISSA OBERG *JACK MOLES WITH NREA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MELISSA SADORF* *COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, DR. BRIAN MAHER*

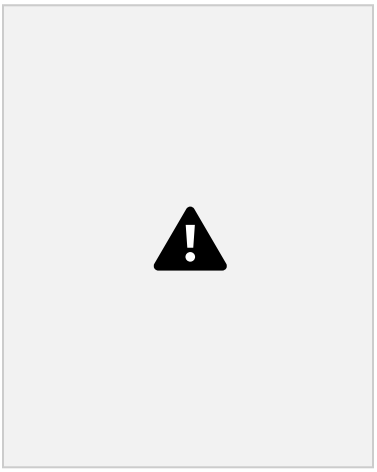
We continue to celebrate our 2026 NRCSA Award winners! They are: **ELEMENTARY TEACHER:** Allie Schliefer, Fort Calhoun, **SECONDARY TEACHER:** Dawn Metschke, Johnson-Brock, **ESU STAFF MEMBER:** Dr. Jean Anderson, ESU 10, **PRINCIPAL:** Jim Crilly, Madison, **CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBER:** Kathy Houser, Meridian, **MUSIC TEACHER:** Kristi Hiles-Smith, Kimball, **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER:**
Rusty Rhynalds, Minden, **SUPERINTENDENT:** Jane Davis, Hershey



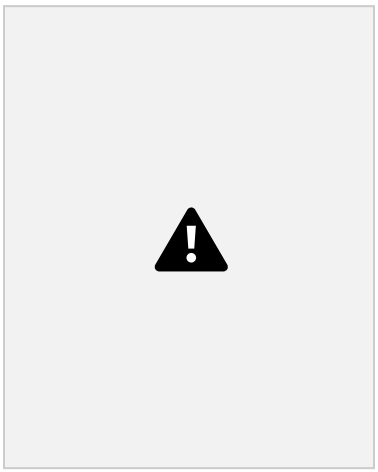
ALLIE SCHLIEFER,
FORT CALHOUN



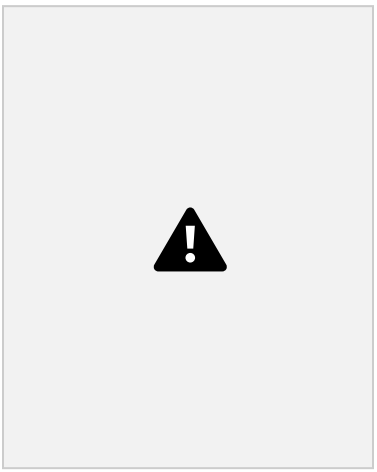
DAWN METSCHKE,
JOHNSON-BROCK



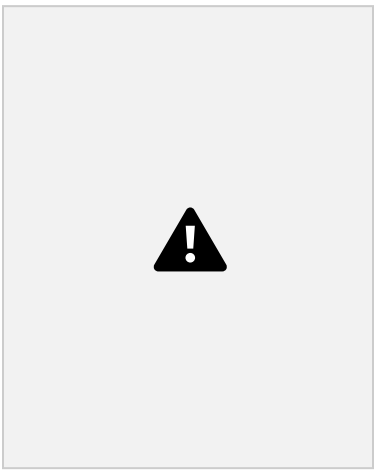
DR. JEAN ANDERSON,
ESU 10



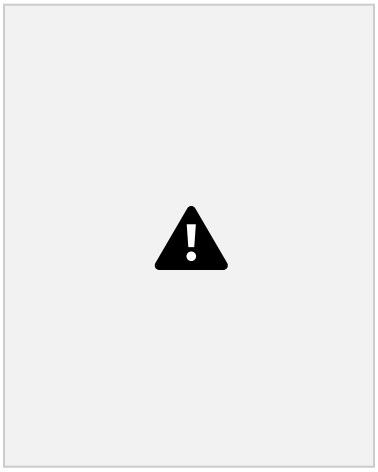
JIM CRILLY, MADISON



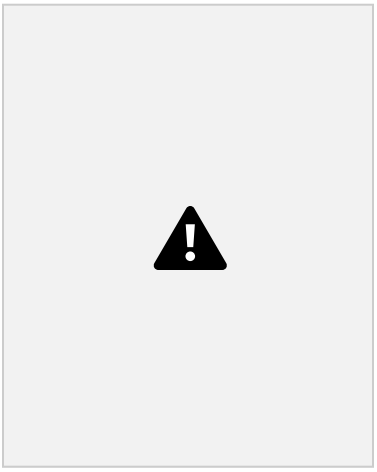
KATHY HOUSER, MERIDIAN



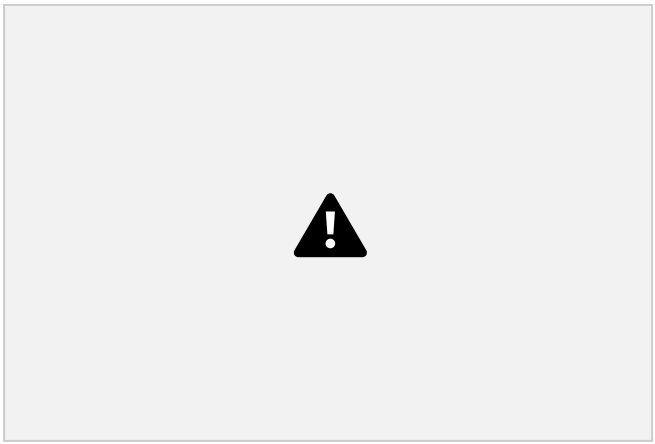
KRISTI HILES-SMITH, KIMBALL



RUSTY RHYNALDS, MINDEN

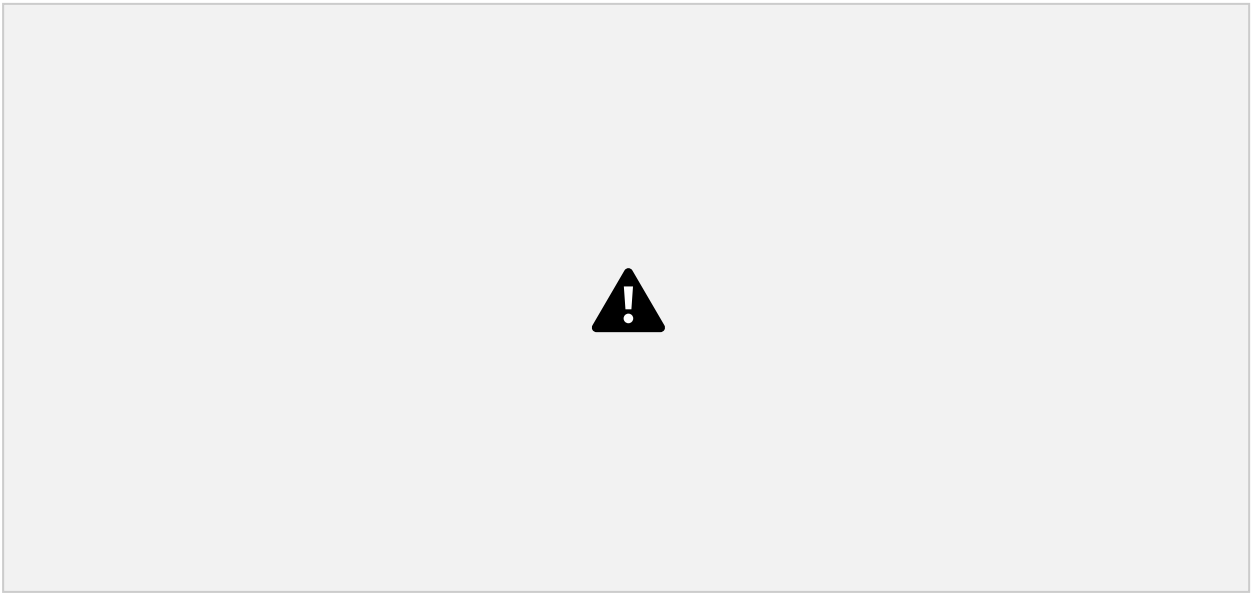


JANE DAVIS, HERSHEY



VIKING JAZZ BAND–BERTRAND GILTNER CHORUS

Dr. Mike Dulaney and the Nebraska Council of School Administrators were presented with NRCSA's Friend of Rural Education Award at the NRCSA Spring Conference. Besides being NRCSA's landlord, Dr. Dulaney and NCSA have been strategic partners with NRCSA in our work with the Legislature. Dr. Dulaney has been instrumental in pulling together groups in Education that work together to address legislative issues, including the Education Coalition and the Management Group. Both groups provide opportunities for leaders from several groups to share with each other what they are hearing and where their individual groups stand on issues. In pulling these groups together, he has provided an opportunity for all sized schools to be represented. NCSA's staff is remarkable in working daily with NRCSA's staff. We are truly partners in the NCSA building. Thank you to Dr. Dulaney and NCSA for being such great partners!



NCSA ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. TROY LOEFFELHIOLZ, NCSA CHAIR CHRIS PROSOSKI, NCSA FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR AMY POGGENKLASS, JACK MOLES, NCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. MICHAEL DULANEY, NRCSA PRESIDENT CHRIS KUNCL

Partnerships to Build Readiness for Implementing Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices for Schools (TIPPS). We seek school partners for a two-phase initiative that includes measurement development and in-person or online personalized training and professional development.

In **PHASE 1**, we will partner with selected rural schools in Michigan and Nebraska to develop and test a

readiness assessment that will determine a school's preparedness to implement the 10 core pillars of the Trauma Informed Programs and Practices for Schools (TIPPS) framework. TIPPS helps schools create safe,

supportive, and inclusive learning environments by building relationships, increasing trauma awareness, and shifting from punitive to restorative discipline. To develop and test the readiness assessment, we will use a structured interview protocol that solicits input on identified priorities and existing strategies within each school that align with TIPPS objectives; determining professionals' knowledge of trauma and trauma supports; and exploring each school's capacity to onboard new trauma-informed strategies relevant to each core pillar.

In **PHASE 2** of the project, we will provide a 4-part professional training series tailored to the learning needs of each school, drawing on materials from our TIPPS toolkit, which includes a comprehensive assessment tool, program guide, implementation guide, and supplementary case materials designed to deepen understanding of trauma-informed principles and strategies. Content experts from the TIPPS team will provide ongoing consultation and coaching to each school at no cost. Pre-post assessments of the training series will document progress toward established learning goals, as well as school professionals' knowledge and confidence in implementing TIPPS strategies.

Program Information: **https://tipps.ssw.umich.edu/**
Project Period/Milestones: 2026-2027 Academic Year
Spring 2026 – Develop school partnerships
Summer 2026 – Prepare for project launch
Fall 2026 – Phase I
Spring 2027 – Phase II

Contact Information:
Alex Mason
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
amason19@unl.edu

Todd Herrenkohl
University of Michigan
tih@umich.edu

NREA Partners with SchoolSims for "Lead Where You Are" Webinar Series

Rural districts are not small versions of big systems. They are different systems with different constraints and different strengths. This three part NREA x SchoolSims webinar series is designed for rural and small district leaders who are building strong people systems with limited capacity. We will focus on practical, rural ready strategies for recruiting and selecting staff, strengthening onboarding and support, improving retention, and building sustainable structures that protect culture and reduce leader burnout. The series is offered at no cost to NREA members. The final webinar in the series is:

Session 3 – May 28, 2026 at 2pm CST

Register here: Political Leadership in the Superintendency

The goal of this Webinar is to help aspiring and sitting superintendents to explore a Political Leadership Framework to hone their skills so that they can more effectively lead change through complexity. We will share the Framework and then engage in a Superintendent level Simulation to challenge participants with various scenarios that require them to engage in the following proactive political leadership skills: visioning, communicating, political mapping, mobilizing and relationships building, while gaining and sustaining public trust and internal support. The central issue in the simulation exercise focuses on a district's discipline policy and its relationship with school safety—an issue that nearly all superintendents will encounter throughout their career.

You can learn more about the SchoolSims experiential learning PD here: SchoolSims | **Simulations for**

School Leaders & Teachers

The Nebraska Unicameral ended its session on Friday, April 17. On the final day, Senators needed to vote on overriding the Governor's vetoes of a few bills. On the whole, education came out fairly well in this year's session (in my opinion). There were a few bills passed that were not what NRCSA may have supported, but for the most part the Education community was effective in helping to kill or soften bills that were opposed.

Four bills that took a lot of our attention over the last couple of weeks of the session were: LB1050, LB 803, LB937, and LB1219. The final standing of those bills:

LB1050: LB1050, the "Nebraska Reading Improvement Act", was introduced as a way to ensure students are reading at grade level. The bill would have required the retention of students at the end of their 3rd grade year if they were not reading at grade level. Many supports and assessments were to be required to help students get to grade level. A few amendments were introduced to try and make the bill better, with one by Sen. Jana Hughes getting quite a bit of discussion. The Education community was against the bill, mainly because of the 3rd grade retention issue and the fact that the bill would create a substantial unfunded mandate. On Wednesday, April 8, the bill failed on a Cloture vote.

LB803 was originally a "shell bill", but was amended by parts from several bills. There are several sections to the bill, but the sections directly relating to schools would deal with "pink postcard" hearings and budget increases. All school districts would be required to participate in the "pink postcard" hearing, which would be held between July 1 and July 15. The County would also advise property owners to the dates and times of each entity's budget hearing. Finally, when voting to increase the property tax request at least a ⅔ majority vote of the members of the Board shall take place. This bill was placed on Final Reading on Wednesday, April 8. The bill passed in the Unicameral and was signed into law by the Governor on April 16.

LB 937 is a "Christmas tree" bill as several other bills were attached to it. Sen. Rountree attempted to attach LB81 to LB 937 through AM2965. This would have given the parent/guardian last say on a possible change in placement or services in an IEP. Currently the parent/guardian is part of the IEP team that makes such decisions. NRCSA, along with the rest of the Education community, was in opposition to the amendment. AM2965 failed to be adopted on Tuesday, April 7. LB937 was then passed by the Unicameral and signed into law by the Governor on April 16.

LB 1219 (Brant, priority bill of Hansen) was a bill that would set a hard cap of 2% increase in property tax request placed on governmental subdivisions, including school districts. There were several changes that were rumored to possibly be introduced to make the bill better, but still not good at all for school districts. There was some thought that it might appear in the Legislature's agenda near the end of the session, but the Education community was relieved when it did not appear on the necessary day. Thus, it did not move forward.

A list of the bills that affect education that were passed this session can be accessed here:

NRCSA Bill Summaries 2026

Ideas on how to deal with cancellations for NRCSA events were shared with the Executive Committee several months ago. After receiving input from the Committee members, a policy was presented at the November meeting of the Executive Committee and adopted. Following is the policy that will be followed moving forward:

POLICY ON CANCELLATIONS FOR NRCSA EVENTS

When planning for a large event (i.e. NRCSA Spring Conference or NRCSA Legislative Forum), NRCSA must

make financial commitments such as facility rental and costs of meals. Weather sometimes causes a decision to be made by NRCSA in the form of a cancellation or postponement of the event, or for registrants to decide whether or not they can attend the event. Sometimes registrants need to make a decision not to attend due to

other reasons. NRCSA has weighed the issues of its financial commitments versus registrants not being able to attend for various reasons. Thus, the following policy has been adopted:

WEATHER CANCELLATION DECISION MADE BY NRCSA:
All registrants, including vendors, will be offered a full refund or to have the registration fee carried forward to the next year's event.

WEATHER POSTPONEMENT DECISION MADE BY NRCSA:
All registrants, including vendors, will be offered a full refund or to have the registration fee carried forward to the re-scheduled event.

DECISION BY A REGISTRANT, INCLUDING VENDORS, TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT AND COMMUNICATED TO NRCSA AT LEAST A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT:
Two options will be provided to the registrant, including vendors: A full refund OR carry the registrant amount forward to the following year.

DECISION BY A REGISTRANT, INCLUDING VENDORS, TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT AND COMMUNICATED TO NRCSA WITHIN A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT:
For members, an option will be provided to have the registration fee carried forward to the next year's event OR a refund minus the costs to NRCSA for meal(s). (NOTE: In 2026, for the Spring Conference this would be $105, for the Legislative Forum the cost is $45.)

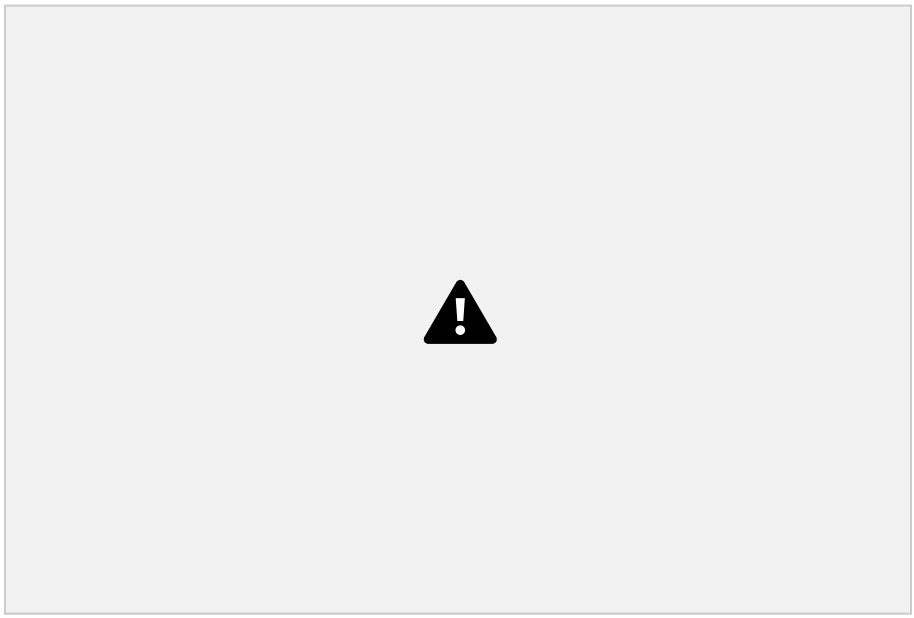
For vendors, the option to carry the registration amount to the following year will be provided.

DECISION BY A REGISTRANT TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT, BUT FAILS TO COMMUNICATE WITH NRCSA PRIOR TO THE EVENT:
No refund will be provided.

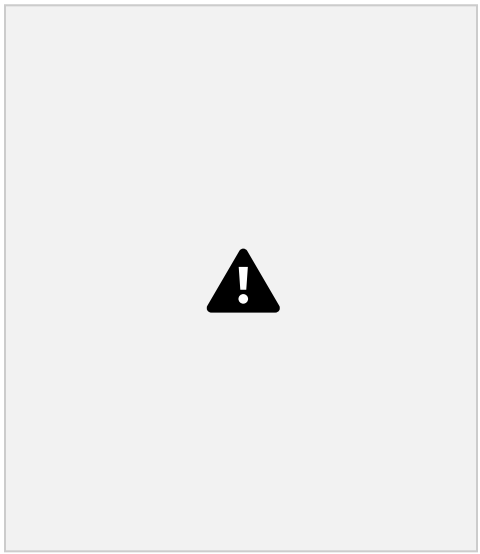
The NRCSA Executive Committee has made a positive move to assist non-traditional educators move toward full teaching certification. As a result of this move, new scholarship opportunities were created for paras who are in a "para to teacher program" and for transitional educators. NRCSA will provide three $1,000 scholarships for the fall semester and three $1,000 scholarships for the spring semester each school year. Applicants for the scholarships must be current employees of a NRCSA-member district or ESU. Applicants must be enrolled for that semester in one of two types of programs: (1) in a recognized "para to teacher" program such as is offered by the three State Colleges (Chadron State, Peru State, or Wayne State), or (2) a transition to teaching program in which a person with a minimum of a bachelor's degree who is employed to teach in a member school while working through a transitional program, such as offered by the University of Nebraska-Kearney. The applicant could currently be teaching under a transitional certificate. Applications for the Summer/Fall Semester were recently forwarded to NRCSA Superintendents and are due on Monday, April 20.

Applications for the Summer/Fall semester were received and the three recipients were selected. They were:

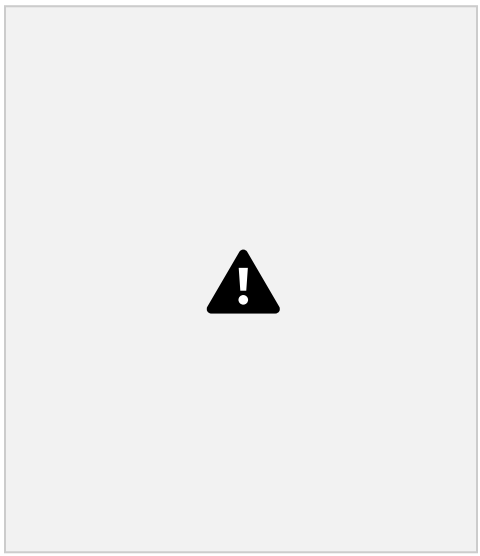
- Jemma DeNaeyer, Thedford
- Veronica Schiffbauer, HTRS
- Chelsey Georges, District OR-1, Palmyra-Bennet



Thedford Principal Adam Kuntz, Brooklyn Denaeyer, Jemma Denaeyer, Kloey Denaeyer, Jack Moles



Director of Student Programs Linde Walter, Dylaney Georges, Justin Georges, Brea Georges, Chelsey Georges, Jack Moles, Logan Georges, Supt. Michael Hart, Elementary Principal Jared Haag



Jack Moles, Veronica Schiffbauer, HTRS Supt. George Griffith

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH & PLANNING

As Boards of Education and Superintendents start to plan for the future, there may be a change in Superintendent approaching your district. We would like to remind you that NRCSA has an outstanding Superintendent Search Service and I would encourage your Board of Education to closely consider these services if you are in need of a Superintendent.

NRCSA has already helped the Axtell, Bancroft-Rosalie, Hampton, Hayes Center, Newman Grove, Potter-Dix, Sandy Creek and Superior Boards of Education identify their next Superintendent. We also assisted Red Cloud and Blue Hill in searches for Interim Superintendents.

One of the more outstanding features of the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service is that the consultants who assist Boards of Education with their searches are all retired rural school Superintendents who experienced great success in their careers. They know what it takes to be successful in a rural school district and community, and how to work closely with a rural school Board of Education. Our current consultants are: Jim Havelka, Fred Helmink, Robin Stevens, Rob Hanger, Caroline Winchester, Curtis Cogswell, Paul Sheffield, Mo Hanks, Mark Norvell, and Jay Bellar.

If your district finds a need to locate your next school leader, please be sure to keep the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service in mind. For more information you can contact Executive Director Jack Moles at **jmoles@nrcsa.net** or by phone at 402-335-7732.

Another service that is offered is a planning service. It is a common practice for Boards of Education and the Superintendent to develop short and long-term plans. We are currently assisting Anselmo-Merna in their planning process. NRCSA does provide a quality service using experienced consultants. If you are interested in more information, please contact Executive Director Jack Moles.

NRCSA Search Service Brochure

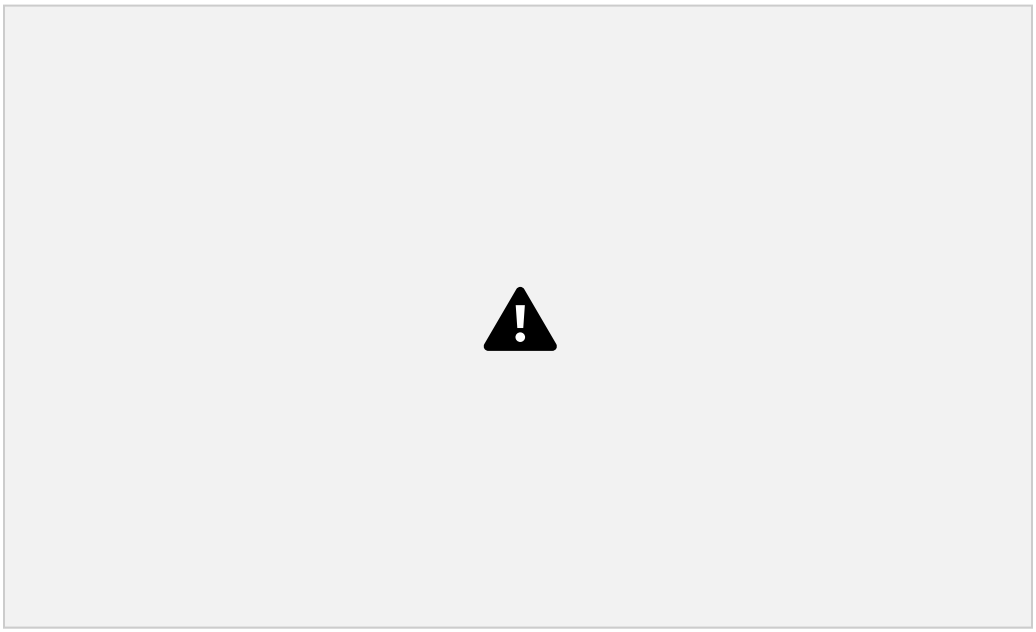
NRCSA Planning Support Brochure

Board of Education meeting visits. Beginning in December, 2019, I started attending Board of Education meetings in member school districts/ESUs. Since then, I have attended 148 such meetings. I most recently attended the Board meeting at Wallace on Monday, April 13..

I am not currently scheduled to attend any Board of Education meeting in the near future, but could work some in if the dates were available to me.

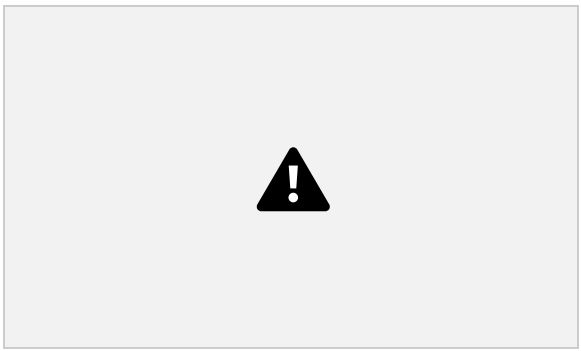
I have really enjoyed this venture and am willing to attend Board meetings when I can. I take a few minutes to cover NRCSA news and offerings, as well as a legislative update. When I am going to be in a specific area on Board meeting days I may send out a notice to near-by Superintendents to make an offer to visit. I'd like to be able to schedule two or three in the same evening if I can.

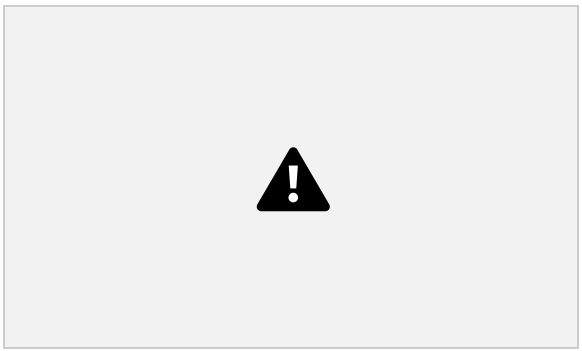
If you would be interested in me attending a future Board meeting, please contact me to start the arrangements. I would also be willing to "attend" your Board meetings via Zoom if you preferred. I would still only do one at a time but would be able to do several in the same evening. Let me know and we will try to make the connection.

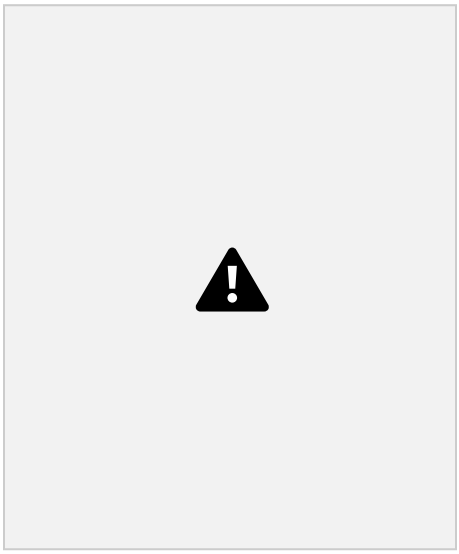


WALLACE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION

NRCSA was well-represented at the National Rural Education Association's Federal Advocary Conference in Washington DC. The Conference was held on March 23-25. Representing NRCSA were Executive Director Jack Moles, Legislative Co-Chair Bryce Jorgenson, and Executive Director-Elect Paul Sheffield.







NREA created documents that outlined our Federal legislative agenda. Those documents may be accessed here:

Download NREA Policy Agenda

The Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS) has released a new research brief examining chronic absenteeism in Nebraska's K–12 schools and its effect on student outcomes, including assessment scores, graduation rates, and college enrollment.

The analysis highlights that chronic absenteeism—defined as missing 10 percent or more of the school year for any reason—has risen sharply in Nebraska since the COVID-19 pandemic and remains persistently high. Rates jumped from 10 percent in 2019–2020 to nearly 24 percent the following school year and have since remained above 20 percent statewide.

Key Findings from the NSWERS brief:

- Nebraska's chronic absenteeism rate has stabilized but remains elevated at more than one in five students. • Disparities exist across student race/ethnicity, with Indigenous/Native American and Black students showing the highest rates of chronic absenteeism.
- Chronically-absent students consistently score lower on statewide assessments (NSCAS and ACT) compared to their peers.
- Chronic absenteeism greatly reduces the likelihood of graduating on time; students with regular attendance are nearly six times more likely to graduate high school than their chronically-absent peers. • College-going rates show a significant divide: nearly 71 percent of non-chronically absent graduates enroll in postsecondary education compared to just 49 percent of chronic absentees.

"These findings underscore the lasting impact of chronic absenteeism on students' academic progress and future opportunities," said Dr. Jay Jeffries, author of the brief. "Addressing absenteeism requires not only monitoring the type of absence but also understanding the characteristics of students who are chronically absent."

The full report, NSWERS Brief on the Impact of Chronic Absenteeism on Academic Outcomes in Nebraska, is available at:

https://insights.nswers.org/briefs/2025-chronic-absenteeism

A year ago, NRCSA introduced a new initiative to assist rural schools in educating their communities about digital citizenship. Our partnership with A.Plum Creative will provide members with ready-to-use, research-based resources designed to help districts promote responsible technology use among students and families.

The program has its origins out of a goal by the Hershey Board of Education and Superintendent Jane Davis to work on digital citizenship in their district. The district worked with A.Plum Creative on the initiative, then shared information on the program with the NRCSA Executive Committee.

This research based, legally vetted campaign includes monthly social media graphics and captions that focus on key topics like online safety, respectful communication, digital wellness and appropriate tech use. All content is designed to engage school communities and support districts in meeting digital citizenship education goals.

We offer a set of tiered service options for NRCSA Member Districts:

- Tier 1 – NRCSA Branded Content ($2,500/school year): Monthly graphics and captions with NRCSA branding, aligned to seasonal themes and events.
- Tier 2 – District-Branded Content ($5,000/school year): Customized graphics and captions tailored to your district's brand and messaging.
- Tier 3 – Custom Content + Consultation ($7,500/school year): District-branded content plus three planning calls per year with A.Plum Creative.
- Tier 4 – Full Social Media Management ($10,000/school year): District-branded content, full posting and scheduling, community engagement and monthly performance reports.

A few more NRCSA-member districts have since started working with A-Plum Creative. This campaign is available exclusively to NRCSA member districts. To learn more or reserve your spot, contact Anna Weber at **anna@a plum.com** or visit **www.a-plum.com**.

Good Life EDU Podcast Featuring Anna Weber & Jane Davis

Expanding the Educator Pipeline through Innovative Nebraska State College Initiatives.

The Nebraska State Colleges (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne) are proactively addressing the growing teacher shortage across the state, particularly in rural communities. With their evolution beginning as Normal Schools to present, and approximately 28% of undergraduate students majoring in teacher education (the largest comprehensive major system-wide), the Colleges have long played a central role in preparing future educators.

However, as Nebraska faces increasingly urgent staffing shortages in K–12 classrooms, especially in high-need areas such as special education, early childhood, and STEM, the State Colleges continue to evolve to meet this challenge through four strategic initiatives.

Nebraska Roots to Teaching (NRT), seeks to offer a high school-to-career educator pathway modeled after Washington State's successful Recruiting Washington Teachers (RWT) program. Anchored in Wayne State College's STEP (Students to Teachers through Educator Pathways) program, NRT is expanding dual credit options in education across the three colleges. High school students (especially first-generation and underrepresented learners) will be able to complete introductory education courses for dual credit, participate in campus-based experiences, and receive mentorship from teacher-mentors and college "navigators" throughout their transition into college and early teaching careers. Flexible modalities, financial incentives, and future paraeducator credentialing further broaden access for rural students.

The **Homegrown Nebraska Educators Apprenticeship Program** seeks to leverage new flexibility under Nebraska Department of Education Rules 20 and 21 to provide an alternative pathway to certification for paraprofessionals and place-bound adults. Building on Chadron State College's pilot model, this initiative allows candidates to remain employed in their local districts while completing a bachelor's degree and teacher certification. Courses are fully online and asynchronous, ensuring flexibility for working adults. The program emphasizes district-identified endorsement areas, such as special education and elementary education, and uses a competency-based credit model to reward relevant experience.

The **Nebraska SMART (Success Made Accessible through Rural Tutoring)** initiative connects teacher education candidates from the three State Colleges with K–12 students in their home districts through virtual tutoring. Focused on supporting rural schools, SMART offers academic help during afternoons and evenings while providing early, meaningful field experience for teacher candidates. By allowing candidates to serve students in their own communities, the program strengthens local ties and broadens access to educational support. SMART not only improves outcomes for K–12 learners but also enhances the preparation of future educators committed to serving Nebraska's rural schools and communities.

Lastly, the **Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)** is a distinct, graduate-level program designed for individuals

who hold a bachelor's degree in a core content area and seek teacher certification in Nebraska. Delivered fully online, the 18-credit core of the program ensures that individuals fully meet certification requirements and provides a flexible path to licensure, while the additional 18 credits of the graduate program provide options to o complete the required content courses to qualify for teaching dual credit courses or work toward specific endorsement requirements. Individuals can choose to complete the core course which lead to certification without committing to the MAT; however, the completion of the MAT graduate program assists individuals in completing elective coursework that moves them toward their career goals. Unlike the Homegrown Nebraska Educators apprenticeship model, which supports paraprofessionals pursuing a bachelor's degree, the MAT serves adult career changers and professionals seeking a direct, advanced entry into the teaching profession.
Together, these initiatives form a comprehensive ecosystem of entry points into the teaching profession. From high school dual credit options and rural tutoring roles to full apprenticeship models and flexible graduate pathways, the Nebraska State Colleges are creating scalable solutions to address Nebraska's critical teacher shortage, ensuring every community has access to well-prepared, locally rooted educators for years to come.

Chris Prososki, formerly the Superintendent at Southern has shared a sample Superintendent Checklist that he has used. I thought this was a great instrument, one that I wished I had available to me when I was in the Superintendency. It can be especially helpful as you head into the new school year! Thanks to Chris for sharing this! You can access the updated checklist here:

Superintendent Check List

NRCSA has had the great privilege to work closely with Open Sky Policy Institute over the years. They provide great information on the fiscal impact of legislation that is very helpful to me in my work as NRCSA's chief lobbyist. I would encourage Superintendents and Board of Education members to sign up to receive Open Sky's email updates.

Open Sky has developed some awesome **Nebraska Public School District Profiles** instruments. The instruments provide much information that can be used to tell the story of your district in comparison to other districts when discussing school finance. The instruments can be accessed at:

https://www.openskypolicy.org/school-district-profile/

The mission of OpenSky Policy Institute is to provide impartial and precise research, analysis, education and leadership on fiscal policy-improving opportunities for all Nebraskans. Subscribe to their email updates at **https://bit.ly/OpenSkyUpdates** or contact Todd Henrichs at **thenrichs@openskypolicy.org**.

As we head into the new legislative session, Open Sky has shared a few more tools that can be especially helpful. A message from Rebecca Firestone, Executive Director for Open Sky shares:

Dear friends,

On behalf of the team at OpenSky, I want to thank you for the work you have done to prepare for the important policy work ahead for all of us this year.

We wanted to take an opportunity to share a few quick reference materials we have developed that we think will be especially useful this session (attached).

1. A one-page guide to TEEOSA, the K-12 public school funding formula. With significant changes promised to the formula in pursuit of property tax relief, we felt it was important to share the current state of play. 2. A guide on the budget process, including a timeline, who is involved, and a breakdown of important components of the state budget. With a significant deficit heading into session, lawmakers will grapple

with complex decisions regarding spending. At OpenSky, we are ready to work towards a budget that

reflects the priorities of Nebraskans and allows everyone a shot at The Good Life, and we look forward to partnering with you in this work.

I also wanted to introduce you to some new members of our team who you may interact with during the upcoming session:
Lillian Butler-Hale joins our team as Outreach and Engagement Director. She replaces Joey Adler Ruane, who will continue to support OpenSky for some time from his new role with the lobbying firm Lindsay Harr MacDonald. Lillian was most recently in the office of Senator Jen Day and will be a great asset to the team during this session. Please make sure to say hello when you see her in the rotunda.

Noah Rhoades just joined us in a new role as Outreach and Engagement Manager. He will support our legislative work as well as community engagement and outreach efforts, including coalition building. We are excited to have him on board.

We are also launching a refreshed website at www.openskypolicy.org, and last, but not least, we have moved! Same building, bigger office. Please make note that our new address is 1325 H Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, NE 68508. We look forward to welcoming you to our new space soon, when we are a little more settled.

We are excited to work alongside all of you this session, and here to be a resource. Don't hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on the team if you need us.

Onward,
Rebecca

Open Sky TEEOSA Guide
Open Sky Budget Process Guide

NRCSA is pleased to be in a partnership with New Leaf Teletherapy. New Leaf provides mental health teletherapy services for both staff and students. I became very interested in this possibility especially in terms of staff services. I know our members are working hard to provide services for their students, but there does not appear to be that same capability when looking at staff services.

I look at this service as helping to bolster what your district is already doing, not to take the place of those efforts. I believe this can be a cost effective means of furthering your efforts.

NRCSA hosted three introductory Zoom meetings with Mark Goldman and Deb Romano of New Leaf to have them explain what the program would look like. Below you can access the slide show from those meetings, as well as a recording of one of the meetings.

New Leaf PowerPoint Presentation

New Leaf Zoom Meeting (recording)

New Leaf Flyer

If you would like to be in contact with Mark Goldman or Deb Romano, please feel free to call or email me and I can help make that happen.

NRCSA has developed a "resource" document to assist members when they want insight on a particular topic. Often we are contacted and asked if we know of a school that has experience in a topic of interest. Many times we can point them in the right direction, but often we need to put out a request for information to the members. We have developed a list to begin from and already have some contact information on some of the topics. The plan is to feature this list in each of our monthly updates. Below is a link to a copy of the list. If you would be willing to be listed as a resource or if you would like to suggest other topics for inclusion, please contact Jack Moles.

NRCSA School Programs

We urge you to consider participation in the NRCSA Partner OneCard program as a tool for you in managing school expenditures, both large and small. Certainly, the card can help reduce/eliminate any issues relative to unverified cash expenditures. You decide who uses it, can get cards for each of those users, keep all cards wherever you wish, determine the amount to load on each individual card, and how long the time frame of use is. It is a terrific management tool and clearly identifies each expenditure/name/date/amount. Whether small purchases or very large purchases, the card is a terrific tool. NRCSA owns the state contract, so liability for misuse falls to NRCSA, not the district user. We have only had three circumstances of fraud and all three have been the theft of the card number information, not any district employee misuse. For 2024-25, over 100 districts/ESUs participated in the program. We currently have **109** entities using the program. In talking with some districts, there is a chance there could be upwards of 112 entities participating. Great job by all participating districts in protecting the card and program! Don't forget, the NRCSA rebate from the transaction fee paid by businesses that choose to accept plastic is used for scholarship, awards, and special needs. For 2024-25, the rebate was over $34,000 to NRCSA, showing that use is increasing, and large purchases are being included. WIN, WIN, WIN! If you are considering joining the program and need more information, please contact Jack Moles (**jmoles@nrcsa.net**) or Jeff Bundy (**jbundy@nrcsa.net**).

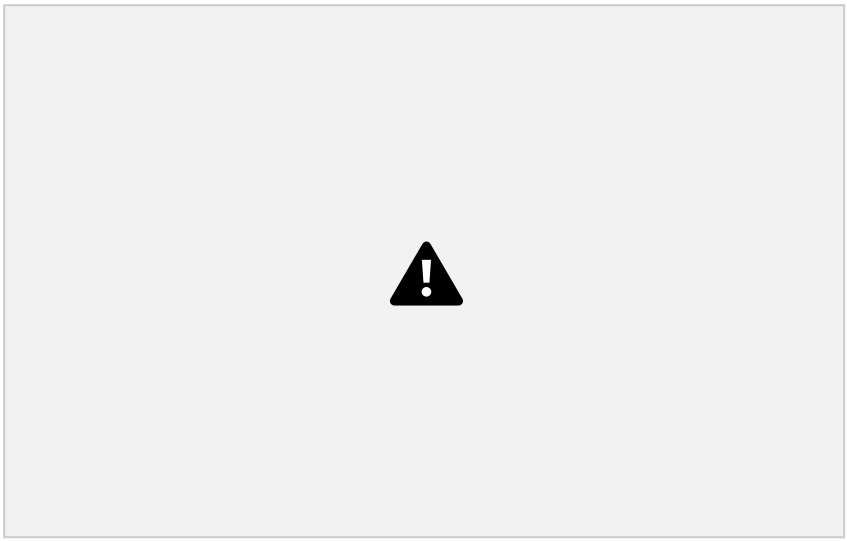
U.S. Bank provided two webinars for those considering using the program or for those who are currently using it, but want to find out more about the program. The slides from the webinar are available below.

U.S. Bank Commercial Card Program

NRCSA wishes to share in the celebration of the special accomplishments and recognitions going on in our member schools and ESUs.

May 2026:

* **The S-E-M FFA organized a "fence drive" to help ranchers after the wildfires.**



* **The NSAA's Above and Beyond program is designed to recognize and celebrate the outstanding individuals who make a meaningful impact within their communities. Whether it's a student, coach, community member, or parent, this award honors those who go the extra mile to support and uplift others. The NSAA recognizes an individual each week. Individuals from NRCSA member school districts who have been recognized recently are:**

- April 15: Danielle Reader of Kimball.
- April 22: Brett Sales of Freeman.
- April 29: Andy Seaman of Brady.
- March 6: John Street of Ponca.

* **Many students from NRCSA-member schools were honored as 1st Team All-State in Basketball by either the Omaha World-Herald (OWH), Lincoln Journal-Star (LJS), or both. Included were:**

- GIRLS SUPER-STATE: Halle Doliver, Malcolm (OWH, LJS), Shayla Rautenberg, Milford (OWH, LJS)
- GIRLS C-1: Halle Dolliver, Malcolm (OWH, LJS), Shayla Rautenberg, Milford (OWH, LJS), Payton Dolliver, Malcolm (OWH, LJS), Zoe Beveridge, Gothenburg (OWH, LJS), Halsey Thomalla, Gothenburg (OWH, LJS)
- GIRLS C-2: Mylee Tichota, Yutan (OWH, LJS), Hadley Walsh, Pender (OWH, LJS), Madalyn Dolliver, Pender (OWH, LJS), Briar Ray Oakland-Craig (OWH, LJS)
- GIRLS D-1: Madyson Mlady, Bloomfield (OWH, LJS), Kylie Brichacek, Howells-Dodge (OWH, LJS), Kennedy Mlady, Bloomfield (OWH, LJS), Kendal Cavanee, Elm Creek (OWH, LJS), Caylie Softley, Maywood-Hayes Center (OWH, LJS)
- GIRLS D-2: Abigail Spargo, Dundy County-Stratton (OWH, LJS), Taryn Arbuthnot, SEM (OWH, LJS), Kenna Oligmueller, Wynot (OWH, LJS), Clara Spargo, Dundy County-Stratton (OWH, LJS), Aiva Rust, Red Cloud (LJS), Josie Faimon, Red Cloud (OWH)
- BOYS SUPER-STATE: Sawyer Smith, Ogallala (OWH, LJS)
- BOYS C-1: Sawyer Smith, Ogallala (OWH, LJS), Jack Poppe, Doniphan-Trumbull (OWH, LJS), Nolan Asher, DC West (OWH, LJS), Brenton Wenzl, Auburn (OWH)
- BOYS C-2: Isaac Cronin, Valentine (OWH, LJS), Drew Siems, Tri County (OWH, LJS), Grady Bresson, EMF (OWH, LJS)
- BOYS D-1: Quin Oberg, Elm Creek (OWH, LJS), Carson McDonald McCool Junction (OWH, LJS), Vahya Harris, Twin Loup (LJS), Kane Wetovick, Fullerton (LJS), Nathan Tomcak, Howells-Dodge (OWH), Andre Martin, Howells-Dodge (OWH)
- BOYS D-2: Brennan Lindener, Pleasanton (OWH, LJS)

* **Nebraska FFA recently announced its state officers for 2026-27. Included from NRCSA-member schools are:**

- PRESIDENT: Carson Reiman (Gothenburg)
- VICE-PRESIDENTS: Megan Macklin (Blue Hill), Logan Bell (Broken Bow), Josette McConnell (Sidney), Levi Othmer (Johnson County Central)
- SECRETARY: Luke Eisenmann (Leigh)

* **The State FFA Convention took place on March 25-27. Many students from NRCSA-member schools placed first in different competitions or tests. They include:**

STATE STAR WINNERS:

- AGRIBUSINESS: Peyton Halvorsen, Lakeview
- PLACEMENT: Trevor Sloup, Lakeview
- PRODUCTION: Jett Johnson, Holdrege

NEBRASKA CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS:

- AG BIOTECHNOLOGY: Noah Seberger, Trey Anthony, Carter Buell, Collin Hagan (Rock County)

• AG COMMUNICATIONS: Noah Seberger, Addie Wiiest, Trevor Keller, Ireland Buell (Rock County)

• AG ISSUES: Hailee Greiner, Hannah Greiner, Katelyn Melvin, Charlotte Metschke, Layla Miller (Johnson Brock)

• AG TECHNOLOGY & MECHANICS: Sam Kahl, Jack O'Brien, Jack Price, Matt Lien (Chadron) •

AGRISCIENCE: Shelby Hemmer, Brenna Wieseler, Emily Preister, Mackenzie Kurtenbach (Humphrey) •

AGRONOMY: Hunter Kugler, Maddie Kugler, Christian Maurer, Malakai White (Eustis-Farnam)

• ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES: Ethan Fries, Aspen Tool, Kole Steiner, Jesse Buck (Elm Creek)

• FARM & AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Luke Eisenmann, Kyle Mcmullin, Brayden Loseke, Carmen Malena (Leigh)

• FLORICULTURE: Addison Howerter, Emma Howerter, Ava Joyce, Mollie Spradlin (Cozad)

• FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: Charlotte Metschke, Vivian Gerdes, Delani Sharples, Addison Grotrian (Johnson-Brock)

• FORESTRY: Ayla Salistean, Sadie Frazier, Chris Wissenburg, Allie Gerdes (Milford)

• LIVESTOCK EVALUATION-JR. DIVISION: Ashlyn Wendell, Adlea Hock, Baylee Kipp, Adrian Sand (Bertrand-Loomis)

• LIVESTOCK EVALUATION-SR. DIVISION: Aiddan Buhrman, Hayden Schroeder, Emerson Bellar, Paislie Burki (Wisner-Pilger)

• LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT: Sydney Brauer, Erika Cruikshank, Caleb Schnuelle, Justus Wehrman, Jacob Wollenburg (Tri County)

• MARKETING PLAN: Tayden Berggren, Aiden Lukasiewicz, Caisen Powell (St. Paul)

• MEATS EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY: Ethan Oberg, Brecken Hecox, Bentley Stubbs, Whitney Page (Eustis-Farnam)

• NURSERY & LANDSCAPE: Berkleigh Dvorak, London Konrad, Elizbeth Olson, Makenna Mitchell (West Holt)

• POULTRY EVALUATION: Jace Rasmussen, Brogan Benes, Cody Andreasen, Bethany Preister (Boone Central)

• VETERINARY SCIENCE: Jackson Blomstedt, Braceton Hauxwell, Reese Gillespie, Parker Nokes (McCook)

LDE:

• SPANISH CREED SPEAKING: David Leone, Lakeview

• COOPERATIVE SPEAKING: Claire Holoubek, Clarkson

• CREED SPEAKING: Maelee Forch, Dundy County-Stratton

• EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING: Matrix Butterfield, Gothenburg

• EMPLOYMENT SKILLS: Hayden Uerling, McCook

• NATURAL RESOURCES SPEAKING: Brayden Wolinski, Hampton

• SENIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING: Carson Reiman, Gothenburg

• AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION: Bruning- Davenport

• CONDUCT OF CHAPTER MEETINGS: West Holt

• MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCOVERY SPEAKING: Trevor Cruikshank (Arlington)

• MIDDLE SCHOOL AG LITERACY SPEAKING: Kirsten Allen (Arthur County)

PROFICIENCY RESULTS:

• AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION: Addy Seamann, Riverside

• AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS DESIGN & FABRICATION: Carter Molt, Riverside

• AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS REPAIR & MAINTENANCE–ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Derek Osten, Bancroft-Rosalie

• AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS REPAIR & MAINTENANCE-PLACEMENT: Kail Fickel, Alliance •

AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING: Peyton Eisenhauer, Bloomfield

• AGRICULTURAL SALES-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Alex Morner, McCool Junction •

AGRICULTURAL SALES-PLACEMENT: Katrina Moyer, West Point

• AGRICULTURAL SERVICES: Jaret Potthoff, Fillmore Central

• AGRISCIENCE RESEARCH-PLANT SYSTEMS: Anel Monasterio, West Holt

• AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY: Dawson Bieghler, Southern Valley

• BEEF PRODUCTION-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Jaelin Wolfinger, SEM

• BEEF PRODUCTION-PLACEMENT: Ericka Larsen, Burwell

• DAIRY PRODUCTION-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Angela Frick, Keya Paha

• DAIRY PRODUCTION-PLACEMENT: Shaylee Heidtbrink, Malcolm

• DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION: Isaac Hemenway, Elgin

• DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Mitchell Kelly, Pender •

DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION-PLACEMENT: Jett Johnson, Holdrege

• DIVERSIFIED HORTICULTURE: Kate Janak, East Butler

• DIVERSIFIED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION: Hannah Beel, Ainsworth

• EQUINE SCIENCE-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Kit Painter, Keya Paha

• EQUINE SCIENCE-PLACEMENT: Ryggin Meyer, Alliance

• FIBER AND/OR OIL CROP PRODUCTION: Ellie Janing, Fillmore Central

• FORAGE PRODUCTION: Kaiden Bode, Elgin

• FOREST MANAGEMENT & PRODUCTS: Maxton Meysenburg, Fullerton

• FRUIT & NUT PRODUCTION: Annie Ludwig, Stuart

• GRAIN PRODUCTION: Preston Beattie, SEM

• HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: James Fletcher, Litchfield

• HOME AND/OR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY PROGRAMMING: Logan Meguire, Northwest

• HOSPITALITY, RESTAURANT, & TOURISM MANAGEMENT: Morgan Menke, Stuart •

LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION: Hunter Swanson, West Point

• NURSERY OPERATIONS: Ava Hoffman, West Holt

• OUTDOOR RECREATION: Jager Leicheiter, Tekamah-Herman

• RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY: Colby Smith, Meridian

• SALES & SERVICES: Taylor Walnofer, West Holt

• SERVICE LEARNING: Brooklyn Burri, Alliance

• SHEEP PRODUCTION: Jordan Musil, Wilber-Clatonia

• SPECIALTY ANIMAL PRODUCTION: Zane Doke, Stuart

• SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION: Landon Peterson, Meridian

• SWINE PRODUCTION-ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Olivia Schafer, Meridian

• TURF & LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE: Peyton Halvorsen, Lakeview

• VEGETABLE PRODUCTION: Carson Reiman, Gothenburg

• VETERINARY SCIENCE: Cameron Berliner, Stapleton

* **The Nebraska School Activities Association recently announced its newest members of the Student Advisory Committee. Students from NRCSA-member schools include Aleigha Negley (Cozad), Jolie Buechler (Minden), Audrey Moorhead (South Platte), Adalyn Bishop (Twin River), and Ethan Samuelson (Wayne).**

* **The recipient of the 2026 NASES Outstanding New Special Education Supervisor is Dr. Susan Lindblad, Special Services Director at Adams Central Public Schools.**

* **The Nebraska Department of Education recently announced students who have received the 2026 Nebraska Seal of Biliteracy. Students from NRCSA-member schools who were recognized, most in Spanish, are:**

• AURORA: Emely Gonzalez Rodriguez

• DESHLER: Danica O'Neal

• GIBBON: Bianca Corona

• KENESAW: Cooper Shurigar

• LEXINGTON: Adriana Solivan, Alexa Cardenas, Andres Perez, Angela G. Ramirez-Ramirez, Ashley Grijalva, Ashley Najera, Ashley Renteria, Aubrey Ackerson, Christopher Hernandez, Cristobal Madrigal

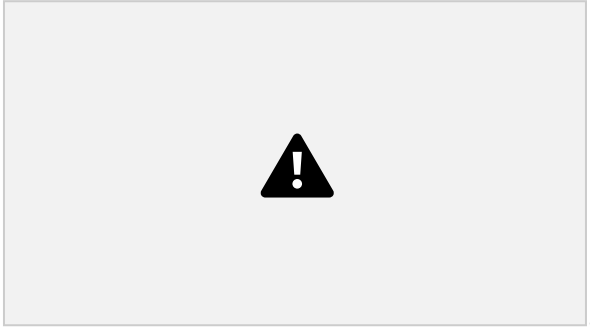
- MALCOLM: Amanda Mendez-Castro
- WISNER-PILGER: Adelynn Sateren, Axton Lantz
- LEXINGTON: Asma Ahmed (Somali)

*** The Nebraska Department of Recognition is recognizing school nutrition programs with an honor entitled "Nebraska School Nutrition Royalty". The food service workers at several NRCSA member schools have been recognized, including:**

- Arcadia
- Aurora
- Banner County
- Bertrand
- Boone Central
- Brady
- Burwell
- Callaway
- Cambridge • Cozad
- Eustis-Farnam • Fullerton
- Harvard
- Howells-Dodge • HTRS

HARVARD FOOD SERVICE TEAM

- Laurel-Concord-Colridge • Logan View
- Loup City
- Loup County
- Neligh-Oakdale
- Newman Grove
- North Bend
- Ogallala
- Ord
- Osceola

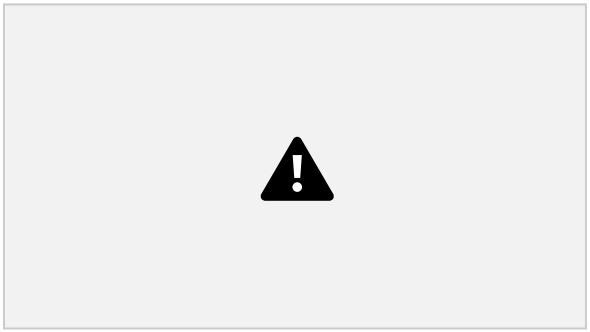


JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL FOOD SERVICE TEAM

OSCEOLA NUTRITION SERVICES TEAM

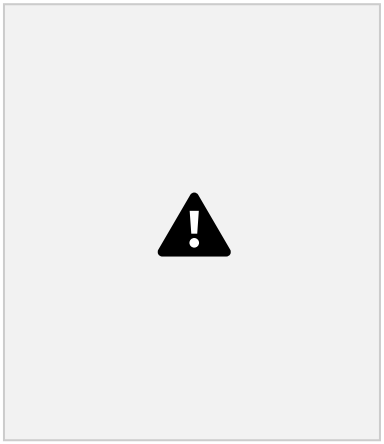
- Johnson County Central • Lakeview

FOOD SERVICE TEAM WAYNE FOOD SERVICE TEAM

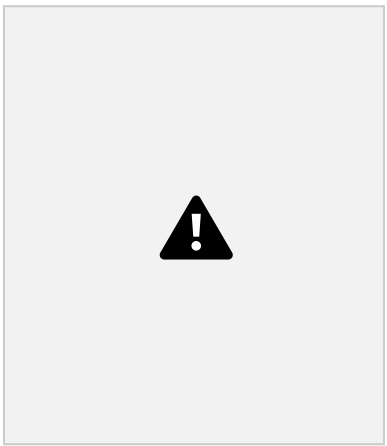


WALTHILL

- Plattsmouth
- Potter-Dix
- Randolph
- Sargent
- Stapleton
- Stuart
- Superior
- Tekamah-Herman • Twin River
- Walthill
- Wayne
- Wynot



BRADY FOOD SERVICE TEAM LOUP COUNTY FOOD SERVICE TEAM



*** Nebraska FBLA recently announced the State Officers for 2026-27. Included from NRCSA member schools are:**

- PRESIDENT: Madilynn Nolan, Boyd County
- TREASURER: Dylan Auten, Blue Hill

*** Nebraska FBLA recently held its State Conference. Students from NRCSA-member schools who won events at the conference include:**

- ADVERTISING: Amity Scwartzendruber (Fillmore Central)
- AGRIBUSINESS: Garrett Smidt (Tri-County)
- BROADCAST JOURNALISM: Caylin Boelhower, Lydia Franklin, Emilia Uhrmacher (Adams Central) •

BUSINESS COMMUNICATION: Isaac Hamilton (Southern Valley)

- BUSINESS ETHICS: Audrey Svoboda (Northwest)
- BUSINESS PLAN: Grace Meister, Macy Nelson (Twin River)
- CAREER PORTFOLIO: Kiersten Jensen (Conestoga)
- CODING & PROGRAMMING: Eduardo Vargas (Schuyler)
- COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT: Elle Cromwell, Tricia Kunkee, Tayla Zarek (Twin River) •

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: Macy Nelson (Twin River)

- COMPUTER GAME & SIMULATION PROGRAMMING: Landon Rutjens, Irelyn Bearinger (Elkhorn Valley)
- COMPUTER PROBLEM SOLVING: Landon Rutjens (Elkhorn Valley)
- DATA SCIENCE AND AI: Isaac Hamilton (Southern Valley)
- DIGITAL VIDEO PRODUCTION: Isaiah Sinachack (Axtell)

- ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Grant Kuta, Edwin Naranjo (Boone Central)
- FINANCIAL PLANNING: Madison May, Kloee Sundermeier (Ravenna)
- FINANCIAL STATEMENT ANALYSIS: Henry Christenson, Landon Danhauer, Ryan Staehr (Aurora) •

FUTURE BUSINESS EDUCATOR: Sarah Payne (Centennial)

- HOSPITALITY & EVENT MANAGEMENT: Malynn Boyles, James Fletcher (Litchfield) •

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING: Edwin Naranjo (Boone Central)

- INTRO TO BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS: Kaycee Lange (Leigh)
- INTRO TO BUSINESS PRESENTATION: Keeley Moninger, Tristan Taylor, Tylee Fenton (Broken Bow) •

INTRO TO FBLA: Lachlan White (Broken Bow)

- INTRO TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Elijah Placke (Centura)

• INTRO TO PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE: Katelyn Melvin (Johnson-Brock)

• INTRO TO PROGRAMMING: Lydia Franklin (Adams Central)

• INTRO TO SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY: Maddie Franzluebbers (Emerson-Hubbard) •

INTRO TO SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT: Isaac Sowards (Tri-County)

• JOB INTERVIEW: Rylen Soundy (Doniphan-Trumbull)

• JOURNALISM: Chili Potmesil (Alliance)

• LOCAL CHAPTER ANNUAL BUSINESS REPORT: Marissa Jensen, Cortni Lovell, Grace Schulte (Raymond Central)

• MOBILE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT: Landon Rutjens (Elkhorn Valley)

• PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE: Malynn Boyles, Caydence Feldman, James Fletcher, Ava Paitz (Litchfield)

• PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: Jayke Krueger, Madelyn Ramaekers, Kendal Wineteer (Aurora) •

SALES PRESENTATION: Jonathan Althouse, Frank Kovacs (Minden)

• SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGIES: Skylar Hurt, Shiloh Smith (Centura)

• VISUAL DESIGN: Sophie Morfield, Kendall Schneider, Rowan Stodola (Clarkson)

*** Students from NRCSA-member schools who placed first in the FBLA Middle School contests include:**

• ANNUAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES: Marissa Blake, Dylan Eddie, Kerrigan Johannes (Arlington) •

CAREER EXPLORATION: Olivia Hake (Leigh)

• CAREER RESEARCH: Corbyn Rasby (Johnson-Brock)

• COMMUNITY SERVICE: Zuri Booth, Layla Borowiak, Lausyn Matthes (Twin River) •

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP: Jameson McBride (Elmwood-Murdock)

• EXPLORING ACCOUNTING & FINANCE: Perrin McMann (Raymond Central)

• EXPLORING AGRIBUSINESS: Kate Field (Raymond Central)

• EXPLORING ANIMATION: Tyler Praus, Teagan Reed (Arlington)

• EXPLORING BUSINESS COMMUNICATION: Marissa Blake (Arlington)

• EXPLORING BUSINESS CONCEPTS: Grayson Owens (Chase County)

• EXPLORING BUSINESS ETHICS: Kellen Nielsen (Elmwood-Murdock)

• EXPLORING BUSINESS ISSUES: Ty Nielsen, Jayden Wilcox (Emerson-Hubbard) •

EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE: Israel Gehring (Twin River)

• EXPLORING CUSTOMER SERVICE: Kerrigan Johannes (Arlington)

• EXPLORING DIGITAL VIDEO PRODUCTION: Mazee Everett, Brylee Ramaekers (Twin River) •

EXPLORING ECONOMICS: Corbyn Rasby (Johnson-Brock)

• EXPLORING FBLA: Rebecca Reeves (Chase County)

- EXPLORING LEADERSHIP: Kate Field (Raymond Central)
- EXPLORING MANAGEMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Dylan Eddie, Eli Hegemann, Marissa Blake (Arlington)
- EXPLORING MARKETING CONCEPTS: Dylan Eddie (Arlington)
- EXPLORING MARKETING STRATEGIES: Taylin Tobias (Sargent)
- EXPLORING PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE: Rebecca Reeves (Chase County) •

EXPLORING PERSONAL FINANCE: Perrin McMann (Raymond Central)

- EXPLORING PROFESSIONALISM: Emmett Zarek (Twin River)
- EXPLORING PUBLIC SPEAKING: Ava Garwood (Boyd County)
- EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY: Jackson Steinmeyer (Fairbury)
- EXPLORING WEBSITE DESIGN: Carly Nolan, Emma Ohri (Boyd County)
- INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: Kerrigan Johannes (Arlington)
- SLIDE DECK APPLICATIONS: Chloe Cartwright (Arlington)
- SPREADSHEET APPLICATIONS): Emmit Jones (Elmwood-Murdock)

* **Three students at the State Colleges have been appointed by Gov. Jim Pillen to serve as Student Trustees on the Nebraska State College System's Board of Trustees. They are:**

- Daniella Akwanamnye, Chadron State College
- Lucas Hrabik, Peru State College. Lucas is a graduate of NRCSA-member Louisville High School. • Mattie Kucera, Wayne State College. Mattie is a graduate of NRCSA-member Raymond Central High School.

* **Several students from NRCSA-member schools placed first at the NSAA's State Journalism Championships. The include:**

CLASS B:

- Samantha Fehrer of West Point-Beemer (Newspaper Sports Feature Writing)
- Kiley Ayres of Adams Central (Info Graphic)
- Kayden Sipp of Adams Central (Newspaper Layout)

• Freya Venteicher of Northwest (Photo/Artistic Illustration)

• Aldan McKnight of Plattsmouth (Feature Photography)

• Kipley Kuecker of Lexington (Yearbook Layout)

• Beatriz Montiel-Carranza of Lexington (Broadcast News Story and Broadcast Feature Story) •

Lydia Franklin and Madelyn Hughes of Adams Central (Broadcast Public Service Announcement)

CLASS C:

• Miranda Spady of Chase County (Advertising)

• Azalea Marshall of Mead (Newspaper Column Writing and Yearbook Theme Copy Writing) •

Shie King of Southwest (Editorial Cartooning)

• Lauryn VanDiest of Doniphan-Trumbull (Editorial Writing)

• Elizabeth Brennan of Mead (Entertainment Review Writing and Feature Photography) •

Mia Sherman of Stanton (Headline Writing)

• Madison Fenn of Yutan (Newspaper Feature Writing)

• Ksenia Bradford of Yutan (Newspaper News Writing)

• Jade Grasiani of Mead (Newspaper Sports Feature Writing)

• Hunter Williams of Mead (Sports News Writing)

• Alivia Dunaway of Mead (Yearbook Feature Writing)

• Max Novak of Dorchester (Yearbook Sports Feature Writing)

• Kylie Krajicek of Yutan (Info Graphic and Action Photography)

• Charlie Christensen, Kilah Pfeifer, Leilani Soto, Bailey Manka, Marissa Schwab, and Khloe Wheeler of Doniphan-Trumbull (In-Depth Newspaper Coverage)

• Brooklyn Espinoza of Stanton (Newspaper Layout)

• Paige Nickless of Chase County (Photo/Artistic Illustration)

• Ashtyn Anderson of Yutan (Yearbook Layout)

• Guadalupe Gabriel-Gomez, Haley Gimpel, and Cohen Reutzel of Harvard (Yearbook Theme Development)

• Camryn Engel of Doniphan-Trumbull (Broadcast News Story)

• Halle Arlt and Nicole Wacker of Yutan (Broadcast Sports Story)

• Owen Littau and Bryer Almgren of Stuart (Broadcast Feature Story)

• Thomas Paxton and Kayde Ramm of Stuart (Broadcast Public Service Announcement)

*** At the State Journalism Competition, the NSAA recognized its Unified Journalists and their partners. Students from NRCSA-member schools were honored.**

CLASS B:

• Christian Arens of Conestoga (Action Photography and Feature Photography)

• Nery Rivera of Lexington (Feature Photography)

• Leyton Parra and Zephyr Mowinkel of Milford (Action Photography)

• Ethan Auwerda and Leon Sybrant of Ogallala (Broadcast News)

• Ethan Auwerda and Paeton Brown of Ogallala (Broadcast Feature)

• Ethan Auwerda of Ogallala (Editorial Writing)

• Tiffany Chaney of Pierce (Newspaper News)

CLASS C:

• Abigail Saunders of Centennial (Yearbook Sports Feature)

• Cali Santifer of Southern Valley (Advertising)

• Paisley Hammond of Southern Valley (Newspaper News)

• Berkley Martin and Sophie Lewis of Southern Valley (Broadcast Feature)

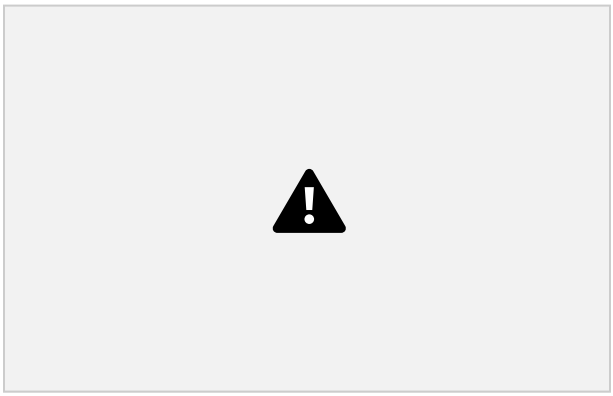
• Rose Bredthauer and Shaylee Meiester-Lomasney of Wood River (Yearbook Sports Feature) •

Rose Bredthauer of Wood River (Action Photography)

* **Yutan was the Class C Journalism State Champion. Mead was the State Runner-up.**

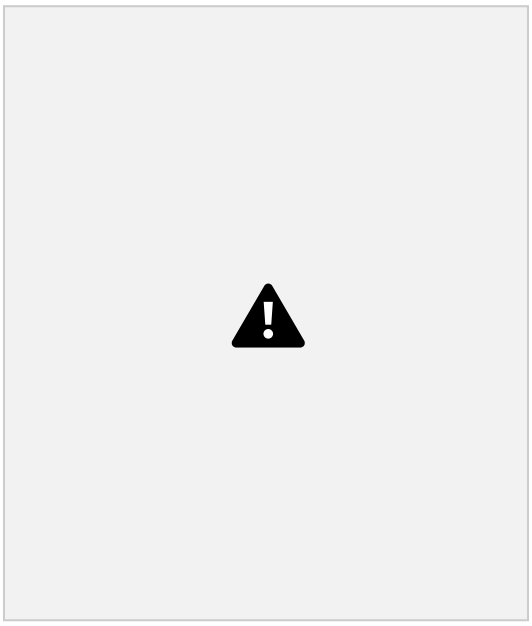
YUTAN JOURNALISM

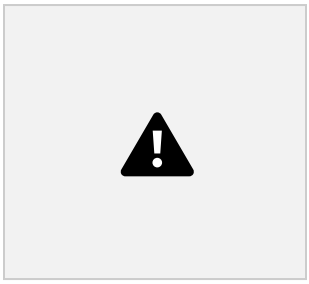
* **Eight of the NSAA's Believers and Achievers honorees were awarded $1,000 Believers and Achievers Scholarships. Those from NRCSA-member schools are: Drew Schmaderer (Stuart), Shayleigh Coleman (Anselmo-Merna), Josie Ley (Wayne), Josey Moore (Ravenna), and Melia Gronemeyer (Tri County).**

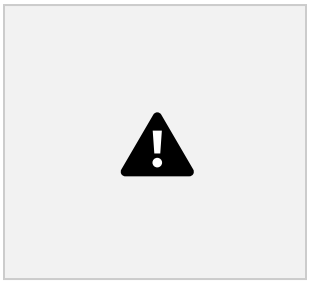


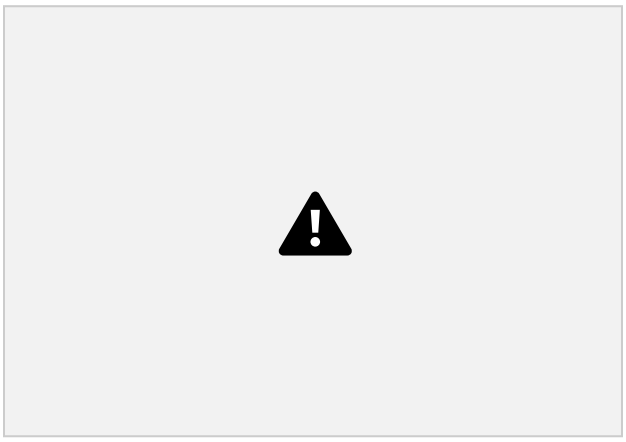
BACK: Drew Schmaderer (2nd from left), Shayleigh Coleman (4th from left)
FRONT: Josie Ley (1st from left), Josey Moore (2nd from left), Melia Gronemeyer (right)

* **Matt Hinkel of Northwest High School was recognized as NETA's Veteran Teacher of the Year.**







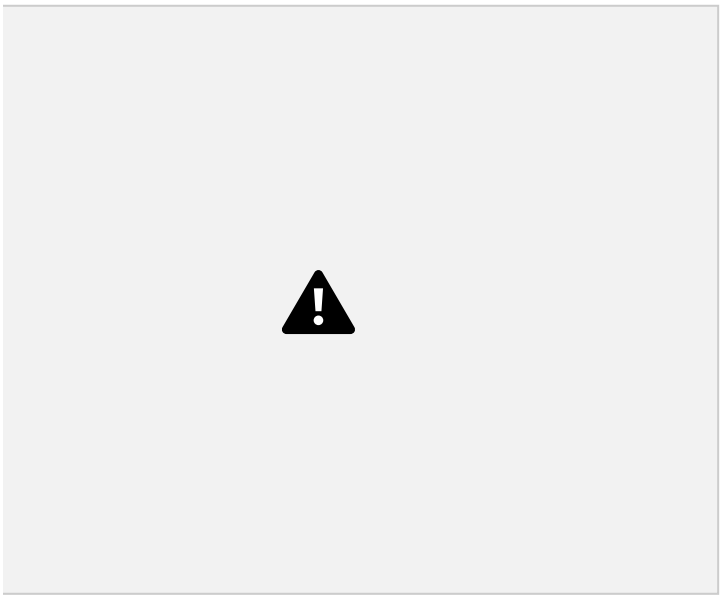


Mascot: Bears & Bobcats

Enrollment: 166 students

Location(s): Callaway, NE

Interesting Fact: In the last 10 years we have recognized 8 teachers for 30 years of service to our school district and we have a handful more that are close to that accomplishment. Callaway has traditionally been a place where teachers move in, put down roots, and raise their families. This longevity is a testament to our school's connection to the community and the commitment of the village of Callaway to foster support and ensure the success of our children.



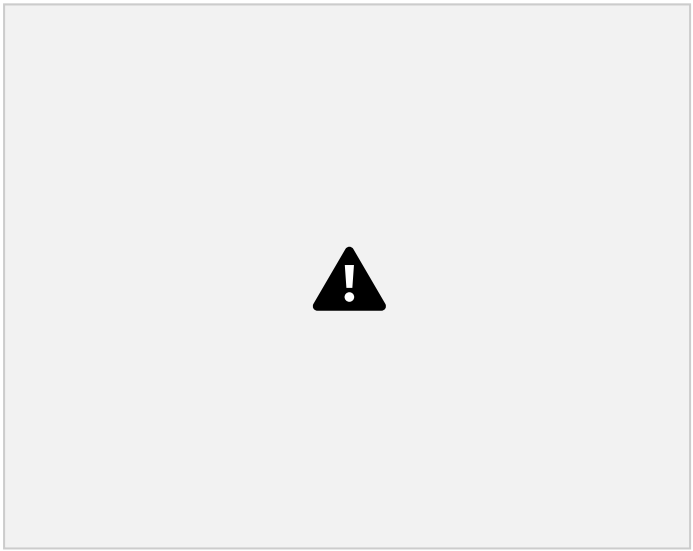
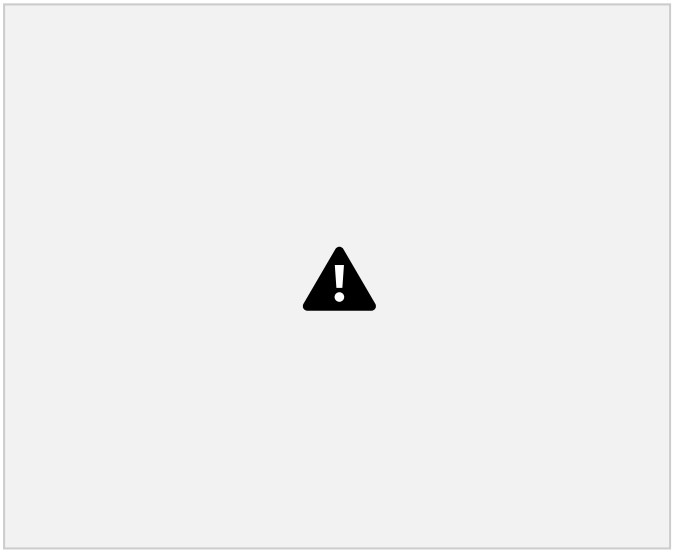
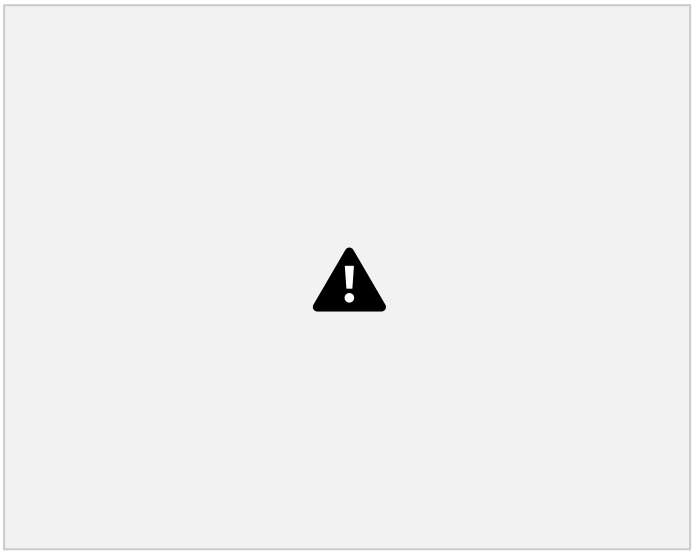
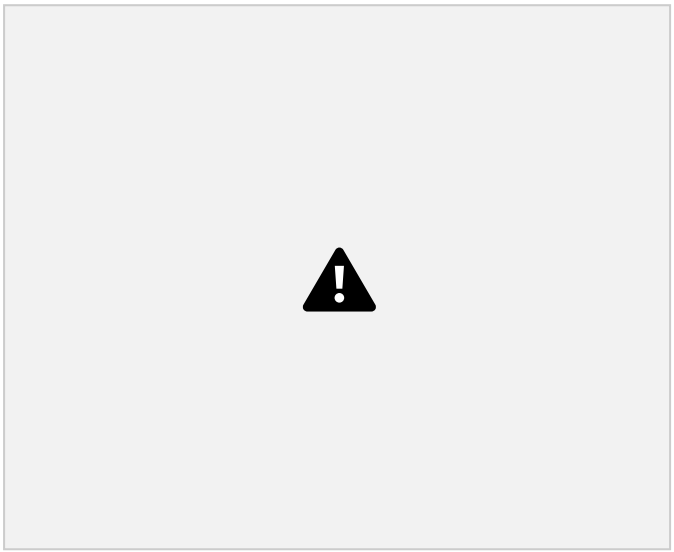
Board of Education: **Jim Phelps**, President; **Rhonda Pandorf**, Vice President; **Rebecca Eggleston**, Secretary; **Mike Reiff**, Treasurer; **TR Anderson**; **Liana Hrupek**

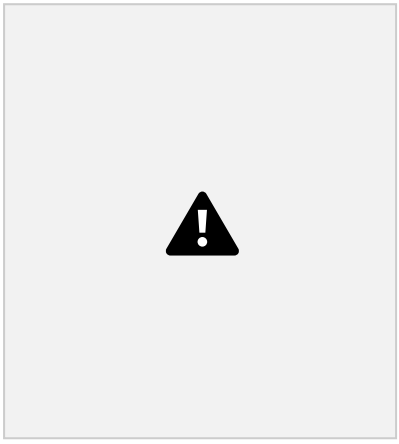
Programs:

Our FCCLA chapter led by Charmayne Popp has grown to national prominence. Last year Ms. Popp took __ kids to Orlando Florida to compete at the national convention with multiple teams winning awards and one team of repurpose/redesign winning national championship. The team of Kaygan Witthuhn, Cheney Dishman, and Angel Johnson presented a reading lamp created from retired books. This summer Ms. Popp will be taking 10 students to compete at the national convention in Washington D.C. Along with the success in competitions, Ms. Popp's students are impacting our community and school with many service activities, and she is building our communities next generation of leaders.

The second program I would highlight is our commitment as a school to social emotional learning and support structures we have put in place to not let kids fall through the cracks because there are no cracks. Mental health has been a big part of our MTSS evolution. We are very proud that our elementary SPED/ SEL teacher, Karen Weverka, and elementary principal, Brittany Jesseph have been recognized by Character Strong. Karen and Brittany have been invited to receive an award for the school and to present at the national Character Strong convention in Seattle, WA this summer. It is very fulfilling to be recognized at such a high level for the work that is happening in our school, but the actual reward is the impact we see in our students.

These programs are just two of the many great things happening at Callaway. We pride ourselves on being a safe and nurturing environment that allows students to become the best version of themselves, inside and out. At Callaway we are "Creating Positive Stories" every day!



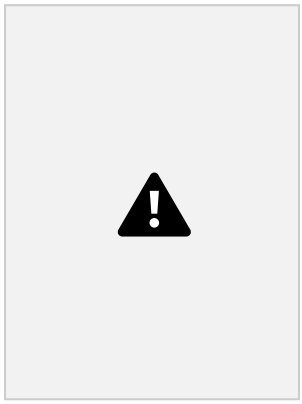
Franklin Public Schools

Mascot: Flyers

Enrollment: 265 students

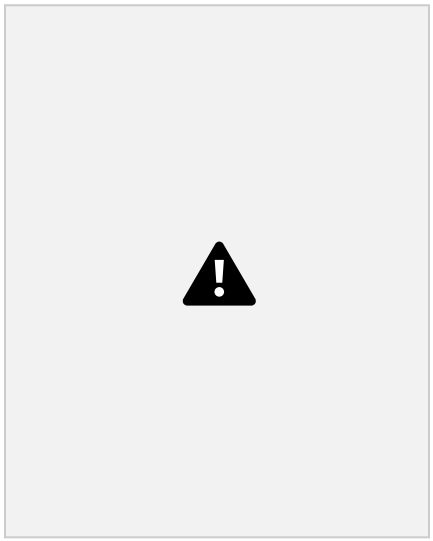
Location(s): Franklin, NE

Interesting Fact: Frank W. Cyr, the “Father of the Yellow School Bus” was born on a farm near Franklin, NE.
Mr. Cyr was instrumental in making the yellow bus with black lettering standard for all school buses. It was determined as easiest to see in the light of early morning and late afternoon. The Franklin County Museum has information on display in honor of Mr. Cyr.

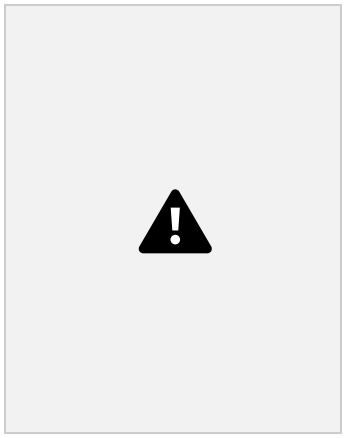


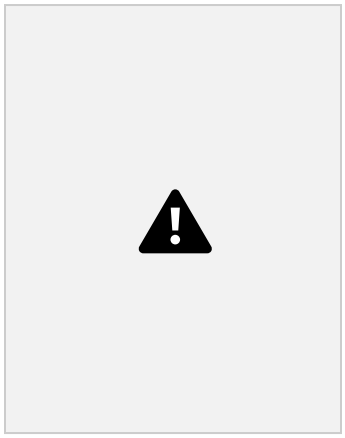
Programs:

Shelley Kahrs is serving her first year as superintendent at Franklin Public Schools, but she has been a consistent and valued member of the district for over 32 years. Having grown from a classroom teacher to an elementary principal and now a superintendent, she leads with a deep understanding of daily school life, ensuring every decision is grounded in what is best for students. Shelley's leadership is best described as "all in." She is deeply committed and focused on building strong, sustainable systems that support success regardless of who is leading them. Her clarity and vision foster an environment where staff feel supported, respected, and heard. Across the district, there is a renewed sense of energy, pride, and direction under her leadership. Behind the scenes, Shelley's dedication and work ethic continue to move Franklin Public Schools forward in meaningful and lasting ways.



The Franklin community faces common rural barriers when connecting families to mental health supports. Franklin Public Schools recognizes this gap and has embraced its role as a trusted hub, providing not only mental health services but also essential resources that promote stability and well-being. To address these needs, the district has intentionally developed a comprehensive, team-based mental health system that supports students and families across all tiers. The addition of Ale' Siel, Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP), has been instrumental in bridging access gaps, allowing students to receive services during the school day while reducing financial and logistical barriers for families. In partnership with the administration and the school counselor, Mercedes Collins, the district has strengthened a collaborative mental health team grounded in consistency, transparency, and shared responsibility. This approach unites multidisciplinary teams—including safety, crisis, and threat assessment—to proactively respond to student and family needs. As a result, Franklin Public Schools have strengthened student outcomes while fostering a deeper sense of connection, support, and resilience across the community.





Updates from Members & Other Entities

From NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles: *NRCSA is backing the work of the Nebraska State College System and the Nebraska SMART program. This is a unique approach to providing free tutoring services to your students. Information on the program is provided below. This program is beneficial on many levels. Among them are:*

- *The program is FREE for kids and families.*
- *The program provides valuable experience for prospective teachers.*
- *The program provides a paying job for prospective teachers.*
- *The program provides another great connection between Chadron State, Peru State, and Wayne State with NRCSA member school districts. All three of the State Colleges are NRCSA members.*
- *The program provides an opportunity to connect prospective teachers with rural schools. Some of the tutors did not attend rural high schools and this provides an opportunity for them to connect with rural.*
- *The program provides an*

opportunity to connect YOUR school with prospective teachers. You may be in the market to hire one of these tutors in the future and this connection could help!

Nebraska SMART Update

Free One-on-One Tutoring Now Available for All Nebraska Students

LAST DAY OF TUTORING: May 7

Monday - Thursday 3:30 to 8:30 PM CT

As we approach the final phase of grant funding for Nebraska SMART, your voice is more important than

ever. YOUR STORY MATTERS:

Help Showcase the Impact of Nebraska SMART

We are asking school administrators, teachers, and counselors to help us capture the true impact of Nebraska SMART by sharing a brief testimonial. Your firsthand experiences provide powerful insight into how the program is shaping classrooms, supporting students, and inspiring future educators across Nebraska.

Your perspective matters. It helps us demonstrate the program's value to decision-makers and advocate for its future.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey here: **Testimonial Form**.

Your responses will help us:

- Show how Nebraska SMART supports student learning and success
- Highlight its role in developing Nebraska's future teachers
- Share meaningful stories and outcomes with decision-makers

We especially encourage you to include specific examples or stories. These personal insights bring the program to life in ways data alone cannot.

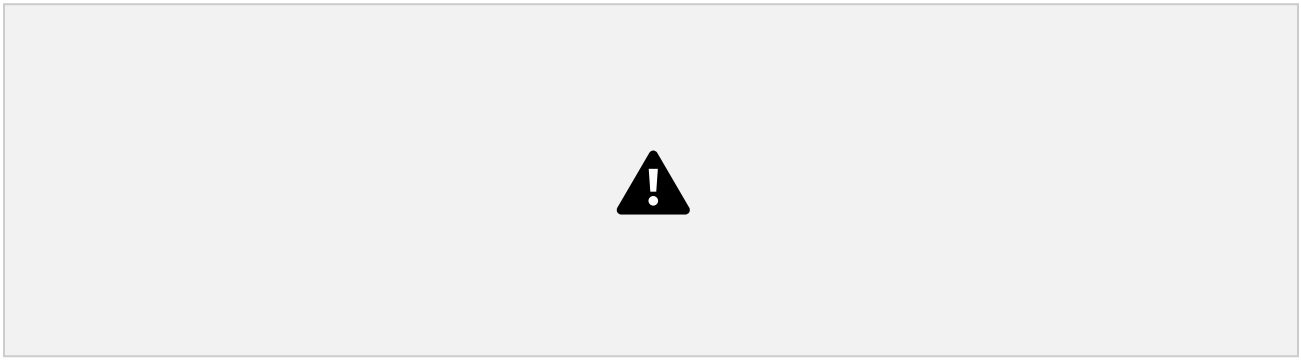
Nebraska SMART's future depends on our ability to clearly show its impact, and that starts with voices like

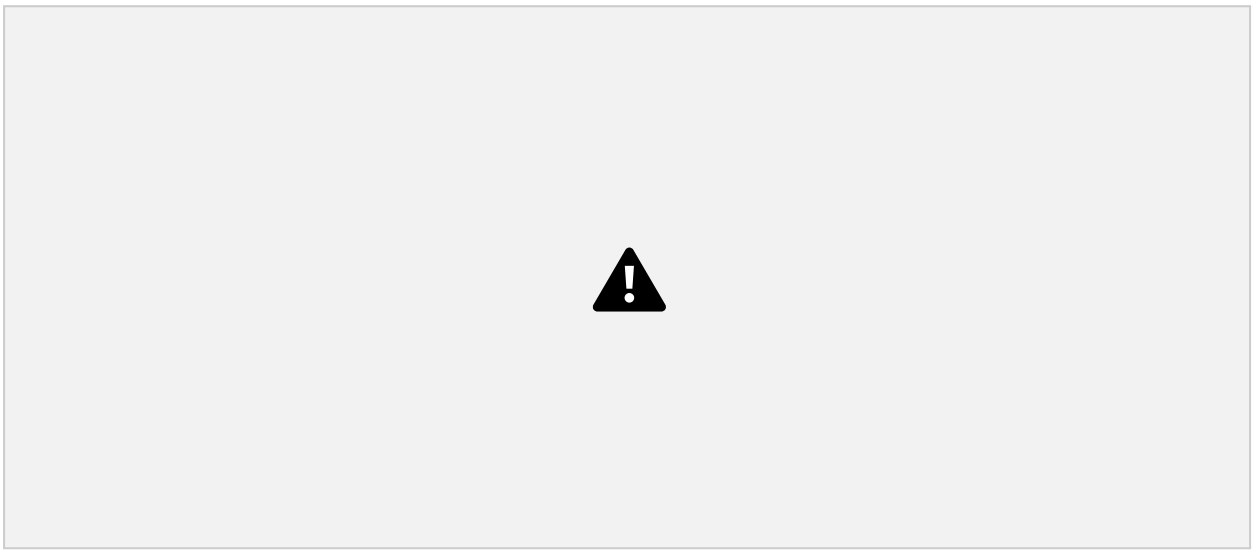
yours. Thank you for your continued commitment to your students and for helping us tell this important story.

By the numbers

Nebraska SMART is helping students across the state reach their full academic potential through free, online tutoring available to all K–12 students. The program connects students with trained college tutors who provide personalized, one-on-one support in core subjects.

To date, Nebraska SMART tutors have completed more than **2,771** tutoring sessions, serving **1,047** students statewide. The program's success is possible thanks to strong partnerships with schools and organizations across Nebraska, like NRCSA. These partnerships ensure that students, no matter where they live, have access to high quality academic support.





Nebraska SMART is helping students across the state reach their full academic potential through free, online tutoring available to all K–12 students. The program connects students with trained college tutors who provide personalized, one-on-one support in core subjects.

To date, Nebraska SMART tutors have completed more than **2,661** tutoring sessions, serving **1,029** students statewide. The program's success is possible thanks to strong partnerships with schools and organizations across Nebraska, like NRCSA. These partnerships ensure that students, no matter where they live, have access to high quality academic support.

To learn more or help your students get started, visit **www.nscs.edu/nebraskasmart** or contact Judi Yorges at **jyorges@nscs.edu**.

As we hear concern from rural districts concerning moves in the national front regarding the Department of Education, the National Rural Education Association (NREA) and the National Education Association (NEA) have combined to share a website outlining the amount of federal funding that goes to public schools. The website can be accessed here:

How Much Funding Does My Public School Get from the Federal Government

Dr. Steven Johnson, a member of the NREA Executive Committee, provided a document entitled, "Strengthening Rural Communities Through Public Education". Many of you had an opportunity to meet Steve at the NRCSA Spring Conference. His article may be accessed here:

Strengthening Rural Communities Through Public Education

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, along with the Food Research and Action Center, has drawn

attention to the possibility that the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) might be substantially altered. This change could have a negative impact on several school districts in Nebraska. The following website provides a great overview of the concern and allows the viewer to go specifically to Nebraska to see how the change could affect districts.

State by State Fact Sheet

The ESUCC and ESU 3 have shared a document which outlines all of the trainings and mandates that are required of districts. The document, "School District Plans, Policies, and Annual Trainings Requirements", is a handy reminder for districts. Thanks to ESUCC Executive Director Kraig Lofquist and ESU 3 Administrator Dan Schnoes for developing and distributing this handy tool. The document may be accessed here:

School District Plans, Policies, & Annual Trainings

Jeremy Braden, Superintendent at Doniphan-Trumbull, has developed a useful agenda for on boarding new Board of Education members. Many of our districts will bring on new Board members in January. Jeremy's instrument could be a nice template for Superintendents and Board Presidents to use in working with new Board members. It may be accessed here:

Board Member Onboarding

From Rebecca Vogt, UNL
Today we are releasing the first of the reports from the 2024 Rural Poll, focusing on the well-being of rural Nebraskans. The report can be accessed online. The press release for this report can be found here.

Well Being of Rural Nebraskans

From Jay Martin, NDE Director of School Safety & Security

Hello All,

Time for the home stretch to the end of another school year! I hope it all goes well with all the events planned this spring.

Below you will find the School Safety Newsletter and information. The main question to look for is a Threat Assessment Survey. We are gaging schools' interest in future Threat Assessment trainings. The last page has a breakdown of the three Threat Assessment trainings offered by UNLPPC. Please take a moment to complete this survey by April 15, 2025.

Remember to apply for your Diamond status Safety Badge to display at your school letting your school community know you "Place School Safety First!"

Thanks for all you do in school safety.

School Safety Newsletter Spring 2025

UNL Extension Center: Embracing Innovation: Exploring the Dynamics of New Partnerships
Developing business & Industry, organizational, and postsecondary partnerships with school districts can play a pivotal role in enriching the educational experience, supporting student achievement, and strengthening connections between schools and their communities. By leveraging external resources, expertise, and support, schools can create a more inclusive, engaging, and supportive learning environment for all students. While partnerships within school districts can bring numerous benefits, there are also challenges that may be encountered. These can be overcome by fostering a culture of collaboration, prioritizing communication and relationship-building, seeking creative funding solutions, and promoting equity and inclusivity in partnership efforts. Additionally, leveraging support from district leadership, community stakeholders, and external resources can help schools overcome obstacles and maximize the benefits of collaborative partnerships.

We in the Institute of Agriculture and National Resources (IANR), specifically the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR) and Nebraska Extension 4-H, believe this strategy for K-12 partnerships will result in a strong learning innovation network of support for every learner and every educator in the state of Nebraska. The world of higher education is evolving, driven by changes in technology, demographics, workforce demands, and societal expectations. To meet the needs of today's learners in the 21st century and prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow, we are embracing innovation, collaboration, and a student-centered approach.

In recent years, CASNR has created two new positions to help in this work. Dr. Tammy Mittelstet (**tmittelstet@ unl.edu**) is serving as the CASNR Statewide Education and Career Pathways Coordinator and Bailey Feit (**bailey.feit@unl.edu**) serves as the LPS/CASNR Early College and Career Pathways Coordinator. They engage in co-creating education and career pathways for students and supporting teachers by:

- creating opportunities and minimizing barriers for all learners in the exploration of education and career pathways,
- investing in and supporting teachers to innovate and integrate cross-curricular concepts of Food, Energy, Water, and Societal Systems (FEWSS) throughout K-12 education,
- encouraging our higher education institutions to share content expertise to build curriculum that will inform best practices in the areas of FEWSS and mentor future systems thinkers for the continuum of learners through our higher education institutions,
- connecting and developing a team of community leaders to build partnerships that combine resources to support student and teacher innovation, and
- building a workforce of tomorrow with the support of the industry of today by developing work-based learning opportunities.

If you would like to get monthly updates, consider signing up for the L.I.N.K.S. newsletter at **https://casnr.unl.edu/k-12-partners**.

Nebraska Extension brings University of Nebraska expertise and research in 8 key areas of impact directly to Nebraskans from all walks of life in each of the state's 93 counties. Nebraskans turn to Nebraska Extension to strengthen their families, inspire their communities, empower young people, conserve and protect natural resources and advance their farms, ranches and businesses. Nebraska 4-H represents one of the eight key areas, and has been a leader in the career and college readiness field by being one of the first in the country to support a statewide educator position and team to provide leadership in program development and delivery.

The National Rural Education Association (NREA) is proud to release Why Rural Matters 2025— the 11th edition in a long-standing series of reports that examine the contexts and conditions of rural education across all 50 states. This report continues the critical mission of drawing attention to the urgent need for policymakers, educators, and communities to address rural education challenges and opportunities within their own states.

Since its inception, the Why Rural Matters series has sought to make publicly available data more accessible and actionable. The overarching goal remains clear: to promote informed, civil dialogue about our shared civic responsibility to ensure that every student—rural or urban—has access to high-quality educational opportunities.

New in this year's edition is the inclusion of Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. In his topical essay, Alex Red Corn provides critical insights into the significance of BIE schools, which educate students from multiple tribes and nations with unique histories and cultures. The report carefully distinguishes between "states" proper and BIE schools while underscoring their shared place in the broader rural education landscape. The analyses and data presented in Why Rural Matters 2025 are intended to inform policy discussions, guide decision making, and inspire action. The report highlights states that have demonstrated measurable progress over time, highlighting examples where thoughtful policy interventions have led to improved outcomes for rural students. These stories of progress offer valuable lessons and serve as evidence that strategic, context-sensitive policies can make a tangible difference in the lives of rural learners.

Data used in Why Rural Matters 2025 come from public sources: the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the United States Department of Education, the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

The National Rural Education Association is proud to launch the 2025 Why Rural Matters report, a project with a more than 20-year history of shaping the conversation about rural education. First conceptualized by the Rural Schools and Community Trust, the report has evolved into a vital resource for policymakers, educators, and communities. Today, NREA carries this important work forward, ensuring that the voices, needs, and strengths of rural schools and students remain at the forefront of education policy and practice nationwide. We are also grateful to the Rural Schools Collaborative, whose continued support strengthens NREA's work on behalf of rural schools, educators, and students across the country.

I would encourage you to take a look at WHY RURAL MATTERS, which can be accessed here:

Why Rural Matters 2025

The National Rural Education Association (NREA) partnered with AASA in producing a report on REAP. REAP is a program that benefits many of our smaller districts. The report can be accessed here:

https://www.aasa.org/docs/default-source/resources/reports/rural-education-achievement program-survey-report.pdf

Understanding REAP

NEBRASKA COACHES ASSOCIATION **500 Charleston St, Ste 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 402-310-5472 | darin@ncacoach.org**

After the Game/Event

Official Association Endorsements as of September

1 41

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

Nebraska School Administrators & School Board Members,

The Nebraska Coaches Association (NCA) is excited to announce a partnership with Proactive Coaching to bring Coach Bruce Brown's legendary insights about **"The Role of Parents in Education-Based Athletics"** to your school and community. Please see the attached flyer for highlights/focus of the in-person

presentation.

NCA Executive Director, Darin Boysen, will begin travel across Nebraska multiple times throughout the 2024-2025 school year to deliver this powerful and passionate message. The NCA, Proactive Coaching and Darin are partnering to bring this message to your school at a **50% discounted rate from the standard Proactive Coaching in-person booking fee.**

Presentation Details:
45-Minute Parent Presentation with One School or Combined Schools
- Single school presentations are recommended but not required
- One presentation = one fee (no additional fee for schools merging)

Audio/Visual Requirements from the Host School:
- Overhead Projector with HDMI Connection
- Screen or Scoreboard Display
- Microphone

Cost – Payable the Day of Presentation:
- Within 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
  - $750 flat rate
- Beyond 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
  - $750 flat rate
  - 50 Cents per mile Round-Trip -OR- Cost of a Rental Vehicle/Gas
  - In some cases, a rental car may be cheaper for longer distances
  - Hotel Expense – if needed
- ***Please Note:*** *Working together with other area schools to book separately on consecutive days of the week can greatly save travel and lodging expenses*

The following booklets authored by Bruce Brown will be available for purchase for $5 each (15% discount) after the presentation or ordered by the school in advance:
- *The Role of Parents in Athletics*
- *Playing with Confidence*
- *Life Lessons for Athletes*

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the presentation or booking a date. All the best,

Darin Boysen
Nebraska Coaches Association

The National Rural Education Association, of which NRCSA is a member, works closely with the the Committee for Education Funding (CEF) on federal policy issues. Following is an update on education issues on the federal level from CEF:

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

Department of Education's website is periodically offline – The Department of Education's (ED's) website (**www.ed.gov**) has been repeatedly offline today, with some of the career and technical education and adult education sites down since last night. I asked the education authorizing committee and Appropriations Committee staffers if this is related to the government shutdown and having no staff there to fix a technical problem or is this a statement of the Administration's intention to close ED; apparently it is an inadvertent technical issue. I

wouldn't normally assume nefarious intentions, but this year has demonstrated that the Administration is working to dismantle ED from within. The website glitches serve to as a reminder that if there is information on the ED website that you regularly use, you should download it and save it elsewhere.

Judge extends order halting layoffs of federal employees during the shutdown – Yesterday a federal judge extended her original order that temporarily stopped the Administration from firing federal employees during the shutdown, which had included about 465 employees at ED. The Administration is now prohibited from making a reduction in force (RIF) during the government shutdown. So those employees given RIF notices in early October now likely have their jobs for the time being but most are furloughed and not being paid. See **CNBC article** for details.

Government shutdown continues – The government has been mostly shut down for more than four weeks now, with apparently no high-level talks about how to resolve the conflicts; the House has been in recess since mid-September. Proposals to pay specific groups of federal employees – those still working, or those at specific agencies – and to continue funding specific programs – such as SNAP benefits – have not passed the Senate. The impacts of the shutdown will be felt more widely this week as federal employees except for troops get no October paycheck, the Administration is not using a contingency fund to pay SNAP benefits on November 1 so 42 million beneficiaries will be without income for food, some federally supported programs that had been kept open this month with leftover funds will shut down, and Obamacare health care premiums for 2026 get posted that do not include a subsidy that is expiring. These actions result from choices that Congress and the Administration are making. When there is a will to spend federal funds – for instance, for billions of dollars of tax breaks in Republicans' bill this summer, for an emergency response or financial bailout – or to cut funds – for instance, for student loans, for research, for SNAP benefits or Medicaid - Congress can pass legislation that spends more or cuts funding, or that provides a tax break or tax increase.

Fact sheets from House Appropriations Committee Republicans and Democrats – Yesterday both House Appropriations Committee Democrats and Republicans posted material that bolster their opposing positions:

Republican press release listing 300+ groups supporting the House-passed funding bill to reopen the government – The **press release** lists hundreds of organizations that support the House-passed bill, including many representing agricultural and business interests, the airline industry, chambers of commerce, veterans groups, and conservative interest organizations.

Democratic **fact sheet** about how Administration actions "make their shutdown more painful" – The Democratic fact sheet lists three ways that the Administration's actions are making the shutdown more painful for Americans: the mass layoffs announced in early October (now paused due to the District Court judge mentioned above, but I'd expect the Administration to appeal); executive orders to cancel funding to specific cities or state led by Democrats; and delaying or withholding funding for programs that have a source of funding available, like SNAP and some emergency assistance programs.

Three years ago, NRCSA began a Principal Search Service. This service is patterned after our successful Superintendent Search Service. Two options are available. Both options will involve NRCSA consultants recruiting candidates for the position. One option will involve the NRCSA consultant making background calls, while the reduced version of the service will place that role with the Superintendent. If you are interested in getting more information about the service now, please contact Jack. Here is a brochure outlining the service.

NRCSA Principal Search Brochure

Chadron State College Special Education Para to-Teacher Program Initiative.

Purpose: This **"Grow Your Own"** Special Education Teacher program is designed to provide school districts with the opportunity to cultivate and participate in the training of their para-professionals who wish to continue their education to become special education teachers.

Who: Any individual who holds a minimum of an

Associate's Degree (or equivalent credit hours) from an accredited higher education institution, and who is employed as a para-professional within a school district. What: Chadron State will provide required course work and enrichment activities via online, face-to-face (via Zoom), and on the job experiential learning, leading to a Bachelor's in Education Degree, and a Nebraska Teaching Certificate with an endorsement in Special Education (grades PK-12). With administrator input, program course work will be tailored to best fit your district practices and expectations. Each course will be offered in an 8-week format, with 12-13 credit hours to be completed each 16 week semester.

How: Program participants will be advised, monitored, and supported by CSC faculty/staff, and a CSC Education Program liaison is specifically assigned to facilitate their progress. District para-professionals may enter the program at any time in the academic year.

When: once participants reach their senior academic year they will embark on completing their capstone course work, via online and Zoom class sessions. This course work has been pared down considerably with the understanding and assumption that these student teachers will be learning "on-the-job". For example, one section covers classroom management practices. Clearly, one can argue and attest that these student teacher interns are learning more about managing a classroom from being mentored by veteran teachers within your school, and observing them in action. This is the belief and learning approach embraced during this senior year. However, to ensure and assess concept learning, Chadron State faculty will be meeting with your student teacher cohort twice per week for 1.5 hours, via Zoom conferencing technology.

Graduation: At the completion of this program students/candidates graduate from Chadron State College, and apply for teaching licensure resulting in a valid initial teaching certificate with and endorsement in PK-12 Special Education. Chadron State's education program in nationally and State accredited. As such, interstate certification reciprocity is not a problem.

Things for your consideration:

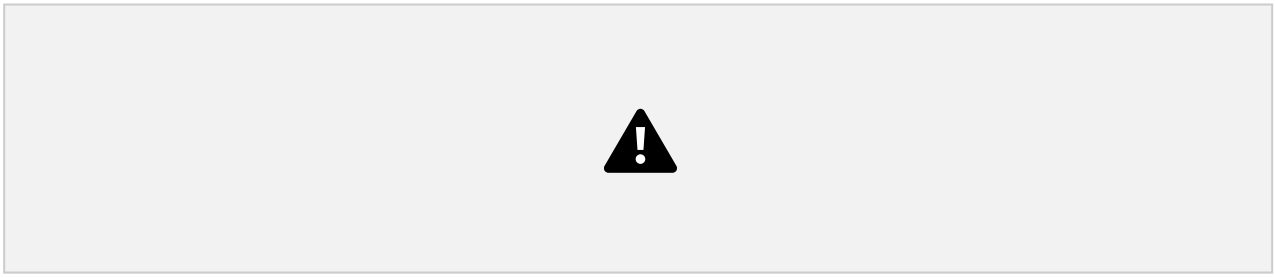
1) To qualify for this program participants must hold at least an Associate's Degree or the equivalent in college credit hours. *(CSC will work with those applicants to provide them with the needed coursework leading up to program entry).*

2) Districts must agree to maintain para-professional employment throughout the course of the program—including during the student teaching experience.

Please contact Dr. Adam Fette for more program information, at **afette@csc.edu.**

NRCSA developed a corporate sponsorship/ partnership program. The program is designed to provide our corporate partners with more opportunities for contact with the decision makers in our member school districts, ESUs, and the colleges through increased exposure. Corporate partners are able to choose among three levels of sponsorship: Purple Ribbon Partners, Blue Ribbon Friends, and Red Ribbon Sponsors. Different forms of contact with our members are made available in each of the three levels.

We are very pleased to partner with our corporate sponsors, and NRCSA is so very thankful that each of you has chosen to partner with us.



Whether on the turf or the hardwood, the modern high school sports experience is evolving far beyond the final score. Today, athletic departments are recognizing that a truly immersive environment, one that captivates a digital-native student body, is essential for building lasting school spirit.

While mascots and music have long been the pillars of game-day atmosphere, a new technological frontier has emerged: advanced LED field lighting and indoor on-court color mapping. This transition from static, industrial yellow light to dynamic, high-definition color is fundamentally changing how communities experience "Friday Night Lights" as well as create new revenue opportunities through sponsorship and advertising.

By synchronizing stadium lighting with player introductions, key momentum shifts, and halftime shows, schools are creating a professional-grade spectacle that rivals collegiate arenas. This technology does more than just wow the crowd; it fosters a psychological home-team advantage, creating an intimidating, high-energy environment that energizes athletes and keeps families engaged in the stands.

Furthermore, the shift toward modern LED systems serves a dual purpose for school districts. Beyond the aesthetic "wow factor," these systems provide a significantly safer, glare-free playing environment that reduces shadows and improves visual clarity for student-athletes. In addition to these safety improvements, the system’s high energy efficiency and low maintenance requirements provide a secondary benefit: significant long-term savings that can be reinvested back into the students and programs that need it most.

Purple Ribbon Partners

Apptegy
Alex Brownstein
2201 Brookwood Dr, Suite 115 Little Rock, AR 72202
Phone: (832) 722.3053
conferenceteam@apptegy.com

Cornhusker International Trucks Russ Folts
3131 Cornhusker Hwy
Lincoln, NE 68504
Phone: (402) 304-4016
russ.folts@cornhuskerinternational.com

Cheever Construction Doug Klute
3425 N 44th St
Lincoln, NE 68504
Phone: (402) 477-6745
dklute@cheeverconstruction.com

DA Davidson
Paul Grieger
450 Regency Parkway, Suite 400 Omaha, NE 68114
Phone: (402) 392-7984
pgrieger@dadco.com

Clark Enersen Partners
Steve Miller
1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 430-3803
steve.miller@clarkenersen.com

DLR Group
Emily O'keeffe
6457 Frances St, Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68106
Phone: (402) 393-4100
eokeeffe@dlrgroup.com

CMBA Architects
Troy Keilig
208 N Pine ST, Ste 301
Grand Island, NE 68801
Phone: (308) 384-4444
keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com

Facility Advocates
Dave Raymond
3738 S 149th St, Suite 102
Omaha, NE 68144
Phone: (402) 206-8777
draymond@facilityadvocates.com

Purple Ribbon Partners

MCL Construction
Travis Justice
14558 Portal Circle
Omaha, NE 68138
Phone: (402) 339-2221
tkj@mclconstruction.com

Network For Educator Effectiveness (NEE) Marc Doss
288 Maguire Blvd
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: (844) 793-4357
dossm@missouri.edu

Tremco Roofing
Jim Wolfsohn
3735 Green Road
Beachwood, OH 44122
Phone: (909) 302-0617
jim jwolfsohn@tremcoinc.com

Voss Lighting
Mike Little
4624 S 140th St
Omaha, NE 68137
Phone; (402) 850-9789
mike.little@vosslighting.com

Wilkins Architecture, Design, Planning
Jacob Sertich
2204 University Dr, Suite 130
Kearney, NE 68845
Phone: (308) 237-5787
jsertich@wilkinsadp.com

Blue Ribbon Supporters

Albireo Energy

Navitas

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska

Northland Securities

Hausmann Construction

Piper Sandler

Johnson Controls

Rasmussen Mechanical Services

Kearney Visitors Bureau

Sparq Data

K 12 Coalition

US Bank

Red Ribbon Friends

On to College

BD Construction

Boyd Jones Construction

RMV Construction

BVH Architects

Sampson Construction

Cariina

Student Assurance Services

Chief Construction

Franklin Covey Education

Mid - West Roofing & Sheet Metal

Trane Technologies

NRCSA

Jack Moles, Executive Director (402) 335-7732
jmoles@nrcsa.net

Jeff Bundy, Office Manager (402) 202-6028
jbundy@nrcsa.net

Legislative Contacts

U.S. Senators

Deb Fischer

Pete Ricketts

U.S. House of Representatives Don Bacon

Mike Flood

Adrian Smith

Nebraska Governor

Jim Pillen

NE State Senators

Bob Andersen, Dist 49

John Arch, Dist 14

Christy Armendariz, Dist 18 Beau Ballard, Dist 21

Carolyn Bosn, Dist 25

Eliot Bostar, Dist 29

Tom Brandt, Dist 32

Tom Brewer, Dist 43

John Cavanaugh, Dist 9

Machaela Cavanaugh, Dist 6 Robert Clements, Dist 2

Stan Clouse. Dist 37

Danielle Conrad, Dist 46

Wendy DeBoer, Dist 10

Barry DeKay, Dist 40

Myron Dorn, Dist 30

Robert Dover, Dist 19

George Dugan, Dist 26

John Fredrickson, Dist 20 Dunixi Guereca, Dist 7

Bob Hallstrom, Dist 1 Ben Hansen, Dist 16 Brian Hardin, Dist 48 Rick Holdcroft, Dist 36 Jana Hughes, Dist 24 Megan Hunt, Dist 8

Teresa Ibach, Dist 44

Mike Jacobson, Dist 42

Margo Juarez, Dist 5

Kathleen Kauth, Dist 31

Loren Lippincott, Dist 34 Dan Lonowski, Dist 33 Dan McKeon, Dist 41

Terrell McKinney, Dist 11 Glen Meyer, Dist 17

Mike Moser, Dist 22

Dave Murman, Dist 38 Jason Prokop, Dist 27 Dan Quick, Dist 35

Jane Raybould, Dist 28 Merv, Riepe, Dist 12

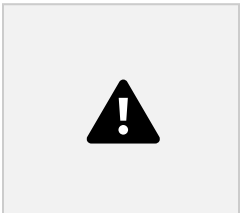
Victor Roundtree, Dist 3 Rita Sanders, Dist 45

Tony Sorrentino, Dist 39

Ashlei Spivey, Dist 13

Tonya Storer, Dist 43

Jared, Storm, Dist 23 Paul Strommen, Dist 47 Brad Von Gillern, Dist 4 Dave Wordekemper, Dist 15



8.3.4. Update on Superintendent Goals

8.3.5. Safety Report

8.3.6. Facilities Report

8.3.7. Important Upcoming Dates

8.4. Board Committee Reports

8.4.1. Curriculum & American Civics Committee (Burklund-chair, Lange, Matulka)

8.4.2. Facilities & Transportation Committee (Matulka-chair, Burklund, Lange)

8.4.3. Finance Committee (Burklund-chair, Heyen, Lange)

8.4.4. Negotiations Committee (Benes-chair, Heyen, Matulka)

8.4.5. Policy Committee (Benes-chair, Brase, Heyen)

9. Old Business

10. New Business

10.1. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve the Network for Educator Effectiveness as Raymond Central School District Evaluation Platform

10.2. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve the addition of Carrie Masek and Kindra Tvrdy to the bank accounts at Jones Bank, Ceresco Bank, and First National Bank.

10.3. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve the removal of Peggy Breitkreutz effective May 26, 2026 and Cheryl Rieck effective July 1 2026, from the bank accounts at Jones Bank, Ceresco Bank, and First National Bank.

10.4. Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve Summer Construction Projects as Presented.

Wolfe Construction Inc.
21255 NW 27TH ST
Valparaiso, NE 68065
+14024507636
wolfeconstructioninc@windstream.net

Estimate

ADDRESS
RAYMOND CENTRAL SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

ESTIMATE #	DATE
1048	05/11/2026

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	Services	REMOVE COUNTERTOP ON SECTION WITH WATER DAMAGE. REMOVE CABINET IN HOMEEC ROOM IN SAME AREA. REMOVE DRYWALL, CHECK FOR AND KILL ANY MOLD. NEW DRYWALL AND PAINT ON DAMAGED SECTION. RE-INSTALL CABINETS AND NEW COUNTERTOP. ANY DAMAGED CABINETS THAT NEED REPAINTED WILL BE DONE AT COST PLUS.			5,311.00
	Services	FRAME 40' DIVIDER WALL IN #408 BAND ROOM. METAL STUD WALL, SOUND INSULATION AND 5/8" DRYWALL BOTH SIDES. PAINTING OF NEW WALL ONLY. NO VINYL BASE INSTALLED			13,110.00
		TOTAL			**$18,421.00**

Accepted By

Accepted Date

10.5. Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve Certificated Staff Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s)

11. Next Regular Board Meeting - Monday, June 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM

12. Adjournment