

Student Fee Hearing

Monday, July 13, 2026 5:50 PM

1. OPEN THE MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Publication of the Meeting

1.3. Nebraska Open Meetings Law

1.4. Board Member Roll Call

Motion was made to excuse Board President Alicia Beavers for this meeting. This motion, made by Cole Brodine and seconded by Ryan Martin, Passed.

Cole Brodine: Yea, Hannah Hild: Yea, Jacob Kringle: Yea, Ryan Martin: Yea, Lynette Mitchell: Yea

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (agenda item specific)

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1. *Suggested Meal Prices*

3.2. Review Student Fees

3.3. *Review Student Fees Policy (5045)*

4. CLOSE HEARING & ADJOURN

Motion was made to close the public hearing on student fees and adjourn the hearing at 5:58pm. This motion, made by Hannah Hild and seconded by Jacob Kringle, Passed.

Cole Brodine: Yea, Hannah Hild: Yea, Jacob Kringle: Yea, Ryan Martin: Yea, Lynette Mitchell: Yea

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

6. *SEQUENCE OF AGENDA: The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the board.

2009

Public Participation at Board Meetings

The board of education shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

The board shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussions and testimony presented at its meetings. The board shall make available at the meeting, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed in open session of the meeting.

Except for closed sessions, the board will allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting. The board may make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, photographing, or recording its meetings.

The board shall not require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting, nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. However, the board shall require members of the public desiring to address the board to identify themselves, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

Adopted on: December 16, 2020

Revised on: September 29, 2022, July 8, 2024

Reviewed on: October 13, 2025; Jan. 12, 2026

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK:
This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board about matters of public concern.

- **Getting Started:** When you have been recognized, please stand and state your name.
- **Time Limit:** The board will generally allow a total of 30 minutes for the presentation of all public comments. Individuals may speak only one time, and must limit comments to around 5 minutes. If there are more than 6 individuals who wish to address the board, the 30 minutes will be divided equally between the number of speakers. These time limits may be changed by a majority vote of the board members in attendance to extend the time for a specific item or speaker.
- **Personnel or Student Topic:** If you are planning to speak about a personnel or a student matter involving an individual, please understand that the district has a complaint policy and/or procedures to resolve such complaints and concerns. The Board requests that you follow the policy and procedures before addressing these matters with the Board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments about individual staff members or students.
- **General Rules:** This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Lewd, obscene, profane, slanderous, threatening and hostile conduct or statements and fighting words (words whose mere utterance entails a call to violence) will not be tolerated.
- **No Action by the Board:** The board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.

Adopted on: 7/8/24

Revised on:

Reviewed on: 1/12/26

** 2026-2027 Meal Prices						
<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Price</u>				
	PK-12	\$2.20				
	Reduced	\$0.30	*Waiting on state required amount, not confirmed yet.			
	Adult	\$2.70				
<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Price</u>				
	PK-6th	\$3.50				
	7th-12th	\$3.65				
	Reduced	\$0.40	*Waiting on state required amount, not confirmed yet.			
	Adult	\$4.60				
	<u>Extra Meal:</u>	\$1.75				
	<u>Extra Milk:</u>	\$0.50	*Cost not confirmed yet.			

Elm Creek Student Fees Summary

Activity	Amount of Fee	Notes
Student Activity Cards	\$ 25.00	Not required to purchase
FFA Dues	\$ 25.00	Only for Ag students joining FFA
FFA Jackets	\$ 66.00	Only for Ag students joining FFA
Cheer	Varied	Does not exceed \$2000 out of pocket
Shop Fees	Varied	Only for individual chosen projects
Preschool Tuition	\$ 960.00	Stays the same for 2026-27

5045
Student Fees

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

A. Definitions.

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District

1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire.

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

4. Materials Required for Course Projects.

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. In courses where students choose to produce a project that requires materials beyond the basic materials provided by the district, the students will furnish the materials, purchase the materials from the school, or purchase the materials from an outside vendor with an order form provided by the school.

5. Technological Devices

The district will provide students with the technological devices necessary to complete all basic curricular projects.

6. Extracurricular Activities.

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

- Student Activity Card: \$25
 - Covers admission to all extracurricular events.
- Student Participation Fee: No Fee
 - Required of all students who participate in athletics and/or other extracurricular activities.
- National Honor Society: No Fee
- Cheerleading, Drill Team, Flag Corps:
 - Students must purchase uniforms and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$2000 per year.

Football:

- Students must provide their own football shoes, undergarments, and mouthguards and all other equipment will be furnished.

- Golf:

- Students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs.

Track, Volleyball, and Wrestling:

- Students must provide their own shoes and undergarment other equipment will be provided

Future Farmers of America: \$25 for dues

- Students must purchase their own jackets and pay dues. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$2000 per year.

7. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who choose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution. The costs of these items will naturally vary, but the maximum dollar amount of the fee is anticipated to be \$3,000 per course.

8. Transportation Costs.

The district may charge students reasonable fees for transportation services provided by the district to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

9. Copies of Student Files or Records.

The district may charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student.

10. Participation in Pre-Kindergarten Services

The district may charge reasonable fees for participation in pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to

statute. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$2000 per year.

11. Participation in Summer School or Night School.

The district may charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school or night school and may charge reasonable fees for correspondence courses.

12. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

Breakfast and lunch charges will be listed in the school handbook and updated annually.

13. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided the use of a musical instrument for use in band.

Band:

- Students must provide their own instruments. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$2000 per year.

14. Contributions for Extracurricular Activities.

Students are eligible to participate in a number of unique extracurricular activities during high school, including prom, various senior recognitions, and graduation. In order to fund these extracurricular activities, the school district may ask each student to make a contribution to their class's fund. This contribution is completely voluntary. Students who chose not to contribute to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities.

C. Waiver Policy.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in band. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

D. Distribution of Policy.

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.

E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

The district will, when appropriate, request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements and staff members of the district are directed to clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund.

The Activity fund will serve as a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

Adopted on: December 14, 2020

Revised on: September 11, 2023; July 8, 2024

Reviewed on: March 10, 2025; July 14, 2025