

Board of Education Special Meeting

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 12:00 PM

District Administration Building Technology Room, 300 S. Washington St.,
Lexington, NE 68850-0890

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND NOTICE OF MEETING**

2. **FLAG SALUTE**

3. **OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

4. **ROLL CALL**

5. **EXCUSE ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS**

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

7. **APPROVE RESIGNATION OF JOHN HAKONSON EFFECTIVE
JUNE 30, 2026**

Action(s):

Motion to approve resignation. Passed with a motion by Travis Maloley and a second by Cindy Benjamin.

Voting Detail:

Cindy Benjamin:	Yea
Travis Maloley:	Yea
Garth Mins:	Yea
Roger Reutlinger:	Yea
Sandra Reyes:	Yea
Larry Steinberger:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FOR
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH SERVICES**

Action(s):

Motion to approve proposal from NASB for superintendent search services, as presented. Passed with a motion by Travis Maloley and a second by Garth Mins.

Voting Detail:

Cindy Benjamin:	Yea
Travis Maloley:	Yea
Garth Mins:	Yea
Roger Reutlinger:	Yea
Sandra Reyes:	Yea
Larry Steinberger:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9. **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:20 PM.**

Board Secretary

Customer Ad Proof

118-60121596

LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Order Nbr 1266111

Publication Lexington Clipper-Herald

Contact LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Address 1 PO BOX 890

Address 2

City St Zip LEXINGTON NE 68850

Phone 3083244681

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Section Class Legals

SubSection

Category 0099 LEGALS

Ad Key 1266111-1

Keywords Special Mtg Notice Oct. 28

Notes

Ad Proof NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of Education of Lexington Public Schools will meet at 12:00 pm on October 28, 2025, at the District Administration Building located at 300 S. Washington St., Lexington, NE. A copy of the agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent of Schools at 300 S. Washington St., Lexington, NE 68850.
Oct. 25, 2025 ZNEZ

PO Number

Rate LCH CL Legal

Order Price 7.60

Amount Paid 0.00

Amount Due 7.60

Start/End Dates 10/25/2025 - 10/25/2025

Insertions 1

Size 19

Salesperson(s) Michelle Greeley

Taken By Shelly Greeley -MUN

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 identify yourself, including an address and the name of any organization you represent. The board may waive the address requirement to protect the security of the individual.
- **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. Be advised that comments made about individuals during public comments are not protected against claims of libel or defamation arising from those comments.
- **No Board Response or Action.** To ensure there is no violation of the Open Meetings Act, board members will generally not answer, reply to, or engage in any discussion of the questions or comments made at the meeting in which public comments are received. The board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.
- **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.



October 19, 2025

Lexington Board of Education,

We appreciate the opportunity to share information on the NASB Superintendent Search Service with the Board of Education. The Nebraska Association of School Boards provides a multitude of services to our members, including superintendent search services.

My name is Shari Becker, and I am the Director of the Nebraska Association of School Boards Education Leadership Search Service. I have been the Director of the Search Service since April of 2013 and worked for the Service for six years prior to becoming the Director.

Hiring a superintendent is one of the most important decisions a school board will make. The NASB Search Service looks at the process through the eyes of a board member. We ensure a highly professional search process that will attract quality applicants but will also bring credit to the board for the manner in which the search is conducted.

The NASB search process is a cost conscious, comprehensive package which covers all details of the search process including the opportunity for NASB to continue to support the superintendent, board and district after the hire is final.

Please contact me at the number below if you have any questions. The team at NASB would value the opportunity to work with the Lexington board through the search process.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari L. Becker

Shari L. Becker
Director of NASB Education Leadership Search Services
402.416.4483 Cell

Consultant Details



The search for a Superintendent for Lexington Public Schools will be managed by Director of Search Services, Shari Becker as well as Consultants and staff members that specialize in searches and open meetings law.

Shari Becker started with the Association Search Service in 2007 as a Field Consultant and has served as the Director of the Search Service since April 2013. Shari handles recruiting quality educators, facilitating district engagement and board work sessions, and screening applicants. Shari is knowledgeable in Open Meetings Law and tracks all superintendent openings in Nebraska. Shari is active with the National Affiliation of Superintendent Searches (NASS). She is the current Past Chair of the group.

Shari brings a wide range of background experience to her role with the Association. Prior to her employment with NASB she provided recruitment, hiring and training services to a local financial/management company for 13 years. She has her bachelor's degree in Administrative Resource Management as well as a Post-Baccalaureate in Education. Shari is also a Gallup Certified Strengths Coach and an ODR Approved Mediator.



John Neal is currently serving as an adjunct professor for Doane University in its Education Specialist program, preparing current school leaders to be Nebraska's next generation of public-school superintendents. Dr. Neal retired from his position as Associate Superintendent for Civic Engagement with Lincoln Public Schools in July 2024. He held this role in LPS for the last 12 of his 37 years in public education.

Dr. Neal's career in Lincoln Public Schools included extensive work with its school board members. Dr. Neal served as LPS's first Director of Secondary Education. Other previous work included serving in various roles in three different school districts as a high school associate principal and principal, middle school principal, and elementary school administrator.

Dr. Neal is originally from Lincoln. He graduated from Lincoln Northeast High School. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, his master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and his educational specialist's and doctorate degrees from Doane University.



Rex Pfeil recently joined the NASB Leadership Search team as a Search Consultant and has served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal, and superintendent for 35 years. Rex served as Superintendent of Blair Community Schools until his retirement in July 2018. Since that time, he has served as an Interim Superintendent at Nebraska City, Shickley, and Yutan. Rex has worked with a wide variety of school boards and focuses on developing positive superintendent-board relationships, open communication strategies, and leadership development.

Rex graduated from Wayne State College with a bachelor's degree in Education. He received his master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and his specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Wayne State College.

Search Service Protocol

In the following section, you will see a detailed outline of the NASB Search Protocol. We typically conduct three meetings during the search process. These can be with the full board or a combination of a committee and the board.

NASB Preliminary Work

- Distribute board survey to learn about district strengths and challenges from the board perspective
- Begin creation of marketing brochure
- Advertise vacancy on NASB and other applicable sites

Board Work Session

- Collaborate with the board to design a timeline to guide the search process
- Review and discuss board survey results and Leadership Profile document

NOTE: Leadership Profile is developed from input directly from board members. The Board will review the Profile and NASB will alter, as necessary. The Profile is then used to guide the Board in selecting interview questions, selecting interview candidates, and assessing the interview process. The Profile will ultimately guide a board retreat once the superintendent begins.

- Discuss NASB Statewide Superintendent Salary Survey and compensation package
- Discuss interview questions and procedures
- Discuss interview schedule structure including participants and logistics
- Review and discuss superintendent related documents: job description, evaluation tool, and contract

Note: The Association stipulates in the Search agreement that, following discussion of the contract, the board will communicate and work with the district's school attorney to authorize any and all changes as the Board deems appropriate to the contract

NASB Duties

- Recruit to identify quality applicants
- Receive, process, and screen all completed online applications and supporting documentation
- Conduct comprehensive professional and personal reference checks including internet search, criminal background search, adult/child abuse check and credit check

District Staff and Education Partners Survey

- Engage staff, students, parents, patrons and community leaders through an electronic survey
- Compile survey comments and provide for board review prior to final meeting

Final Special Meeting

- NASB presents all applicant names and screening results to the Board of Education for review and consideration (unless board requests otherwise)
- NASB provides a Candidate Assessment document for the board's use during the interview and deliberation process to compare candidate materials and candidate interview

- Finalize interview schedule and questions
- Discuss final interview details and protocol
- Discuss candidate selection and negotiations protocol

Board Final Duties

- Interview candidates for the position
- Negotiate with the candidate of choice (NASB will assist at the board's request)
- Ratify the contract at an advertised meeting of the board

NASB Final Duties

- Handle communications with all applicants and interview candidates
- Coordinate travel arrangements for candidates
- Attend interviews at the request of the board
- Conduct post-interview conference with interview candidates and communicate information to the board

Transition

- Continue communications with board president and incoming superintendent to ensure a smooth transition
- Provide transition document to incoming superintendent to prepare for role
- Arrange mentoring for new superintendent if needed
- Conduct Board Retreat with the board once the new superintendent begins
 - This session fee is included in the search fee except for travel to the district
- Provide a two-year guarantee for boards who complete the Retreat by December of the first contract year
 - If the superintendent leaves during the first year of their contract, NASB will do the search again with no fee. Expenses will be billed back to the district for travel, background checks, and any fee-based advertising.
 - If the superintendent leaves at the end of the 2nd year of their contract, the guarantee is considered fulfilled. NASB will conduct a new search at a negotiated fee.

Applicant Screening Process

It is essential the board understands the experience and qualities each applicant brings to the position. NASB will process and screen all completed applications and supporting documentation. The Association protocol for applicant reference checks and background screenings are qualities that set us apart from competing search consultants.

Our typical screening process involves contacting numerous individuals who have worked with the applicant

in their current and past positions. This is in addition to the references provided on the application materials. Our screeners will personally contact these individuals.

We will complete an internet search for each applicant, a check of their certificate with NDE, and a OneSource background check for finalists, as time allows. The OneSource background check includes adult/child abuse, criminal and credit history.

NASB will take their direction from the board regarding what manner the board would like the applicants presented. Consultants will lead the board through a verbal summary of strengths of the candidates and any areas of growth. We will utilize both open and closed session for this process.

Summary of Screening Process

- Screen all completed applications/supporting documentation
- Contact numerous references per applicant for verbal questionnaire
- Provide verbal summary of all applicant information to the board
- Share strengths and areas of growth
- Utilize open and closed session for this process
- OneSource background check

Engaging District Staff and Education Partners

The Association will engage district staff and education partners in a variety of ways throughout the search process. An electronic survey link will be distributed to staff, administration, community and parents. The participants will be asked to provide feedback through the electronic survey, regarding strengths, challenges and preferred attributes for the new superintendent.

In addition to eliciting feedback through the electronic survey, the board may also want to engage staff and education partners in the interview process. During our planning session with the board, we will discuss the

specifics of the interview schedule. Each interview schedule is unique to the needs of the district. Generally, boards invite a small number of staff members, administrators and community members to meet with the interview candidates. NASB will provide interview questions and training for these interview team members. The groups will then provide feedback to the board, in written format, as to the strengths and potential weaknesses of the interview candidates. The board will review the feedback as they deliberate about the candidates.

Board Member References

Ainsworth Community Schools, Brad Wilkins, Board President, (402) 760-1278

Gretna Public Schools, Rick Hollendieck, Board President, (402) 679-4200

Hemingford Public Schools, Justin Ansley, Board President, (308) 760-7004

HTRS Public Schools, Neal Kanel, Board President, (402) 239-7164

Lewiston Consolidated Schools, Aaron Rule, Board President, (402) 806-6743

Logan View Public Schools, Chad Rebbe, Board President, (402) 380-9104

North Platte Public Schools, Skip Altig, Search Committee Chair, (308) 530-1170

Scribner-Snyder Community Schools, Mike Fischer, Board President, (402) 380-3532

Sterling Public Schools, Mark Horstman, Board President, (402) 239-2622

Sumner-Eddyville Miller Schools, Kirby Burden, Board President, (308) 440-5685

Sutherland Public Schools, Janet Mueller, Board President, (308) 539-4221

Twin River Public Schools, Jennifer Swantek, Board President, (402) 750-7139

NASB Search Fee **\$9,000**

Included in the Search Fee

- All details described in the Search Service Protocol including but not limited to
 - Marketing brochure
 - Advertising options with no fee
 - Recruiting quality candidates
 - Creation of Leadership Profile
 - Interview questions, schedule, procedures and support

- Engagement of district staff and education partners
- Review of superintendent personnel documents
- Collection and screening of all application materials
- OneSource background checks
- Interview assessment document
- Two in person meetings and attendance at interview process if requested by board
- Negotiations support if requested
- Communication with board and applicants throughout the process
- Board Retreat after the new superintendent starts
 - To be held prior to December 31 of the first year of the contract
- Two-year Guarantee on the hire
 - If the board follows through with a board retreat with NASB prior to December 31 of the first year of the contract
- Free access to one year of the NASB online superintendent evaluation tool
- Superintendent transition document
- Superintendent transition assistance/mentor (with a minimal additional fee)
- Ongoing support for the board and superintendent

Expenses to be billed back to the district

Travel expenses for NASB Consultants include mileage and meals (mileage billed at the standard IRS mileage rate i.e. \$.70 for 2025)

NOTE: If additional planning discussion is required during the search process, NASB may arrange for a virtual meeting with the board, or the board may appoint a committee to work through logistical questions that arise.

NOTE: If the board would like to conduct the planning meetings virtually to save travel expenses, this may be arranged.