

Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Kearney Public Schools Board of Education

Kearney Public Schools Board of Education

Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 5:00 PM

1st floor Administration Building Conference Room

320 W 24th Street

Kearney, NE 68845

1. Call to Order

President Hazard called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Open Meetings Act Announcement

This is an open, public meeting of the Kearney Public Schools Board of Education, and a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in this room.

3. Board Meeting Decorum Expectations

4. Roll Call

Attendance Taken at 5:02 PM.

Niki Deeds: Absent

John Icenogle: Absent

Amy Barth: Present

Drew Blessing: Present

Paul Hazard: Present

Amanda Smallcomb: Present

5. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the agenda of the meeting, as presented. This motion, made by Amy Barth and seconded by Amanda Smallcomb, Passed.

Niki Deeds: Absent, John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

6. Public Participation/Comment

7. Agenda

7.A. Preview of the February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda

7.A.I. Presentation from Stacie Blackmore, Music Teacher at Sunrise Middle School about the Sunrise Honor Choir Students Singing at the State Capitol

7.A.II. Construction Update

7.A.III. Legislative Update

7.A.IV. Approval of Kearney High School Jazz Band Trip to the Greeley Jazz Festival, April 23–25, 2026 in Greeley, Colorado

7.A.V. Approval of Kearney High School Band Trip to the Quad State Marching Contest, October 17, 2026 in Vermillion, South Dakota

7.A.VI. Acceptance of Resignations and Retirements - Andrew Chadek, Jon Wegner, Audra Haas, Kati Burns, Chelsey Jacobitz, Kellee Vornhagen, Ranee Borowski

7.A.VII. Approval of the Employment of Certificated Staff - Matthew Dahlke, Tatum Smith, Kinley Johnson, Morgan Semerad

7.A.VIII. Approval of Bid for Chromebooks

7.A.IX. First Reading Approval of the Revised 4000 Section of Board Policies

7.A.X. Approval of the Naming Rights Agreement between Kearney Public Schools and Roger A. Mathiesen for Naming the Kearney High School Track as Mathiesen Track

7.B. NSAA Transfer Policies and Happenings

Attendance Update Taken at 6:00 PM.

John Icenogle: Present

7.C. Discussion and Potential Upgrades to the Kearney High School CHAT for the Theatre Production Program

7.D. Review of the Kearney Public Schools HAL Programming

7.E. Infrastructure Project Discussion

7.F. Closed Session

- The Board moved to closed session at 8:01 PM.

Move to enter into a closed session for the purpose of conducting a strategy session in regard to negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by John Icenogle and seconded by Drew Blessing, Passed.

Niki Deeds: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, John Icenogle: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

7.G. Return to Open Session

- The Board returned to open session at 8:30 PM.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Move to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by John Icenogle and seconded by Amy Barth, Passed.

Niki Deeds: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, John Icenogle: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Notice of Meeting

This meeting was publicized in the Kearney Hub on January 31, 2026; radio stations KGFW and KKPR; and KSNB and KHGI T.V.

Niki Deeds, Secretary
