

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

**Kearney Public Schools Board of Education
Wednesday, April 1, 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 5:00 PM.

Amy Barth: Present

Drew Blessing: Present

Niki Deeds: Present

Paul Hazard: Present

John Icenogle: Present

Amanda Smallcomb: Present

5. Approval of Agenda

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

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

6. Public Participation/Comment

7. Agenda

7.A. Approval of the 2026-2027 Transportation Handbook

Move to approve the 2026-2027 Transportation Handbook, as presented. This motion, made by Drew Blessing and seconded by Niki Deeds, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.B. Preview of the April 13, 2026 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Agenda

7.B.I. Public Hearing & Review of American Civics Education Policy & Requirements

7.B.II. Presentation from Megan Schmidt, Principal at Bright Futures Preschool, Celebrating What Makes Bright Futures Special

- 7.B.III. Presentation from Jason Owens, Principal at Hanny Arram Center for Success, about the KidWind STEM Competition
- 7.B.IV. Announcement of Celebration of Excellence
- 7.B.V. Construction Update
- 7.B.VI. Legislative Update
- 7.B.VII. Approval of Kearney High School Boys Wrestling Trip to the Missouri Wrestling Camp, June 20–24, 2026 in Columbia, Missouri
- 7.B.VIII. Acceptance of Resignations and Retirements — Holli Ourada, Britany Lousberg, Allysen Gross, Katheryn Pacheco
- 7.B.IX. Approval of the Employment of Certificated Staff — Jordyn Boehler, Shelbee Burke, Abigail Fong, Rhonda Soto, Keri Troester, Matthew McFarland, Ryan Wetovick, Brent Swift, Jessica Moore, Kris Conner
- 7.B.X. Approval of the Employment of Administrative Staff — Jason Sullivan, Patrick Moore, Christa Anderson
- 7.B.XI. Approval of Classified, Classified Exempt and Administrative Employee Compensation for the 2026-2027 School Year
- 7.B.XII. Approve a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of Buffalo County School District 0007, in the State of Nebraska, in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$16,200,000 for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding indebtedness of the district; prescribing the form of such bonds; fixing in part and providing for the fixing in part of the terms of the bonds; providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds as they become due; and authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith.
- 7.B.XIII. Approve a Permanent Right-of-Way and Utility Easement with the City of Kearney at or near the intersection of 45th Street and N Avenue for the purposes of sidewalk construction and lane expansion for the new traffic light installation at the corner of 45th Street and N Avenue.
- 7.B.XIV. First Reading Approval of the Revised 5000 Section of Board Policies
- 7.B.XV. First Reading Approval of the Revised 6000 Section of Board Policies
- 7.B.XVI. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the Resolution to cancel Molly Brown's teaching contract, effective March 6, 2026
- 7.C. Discuss the cancellation of school for State Basketball
- 7.D. Discuss the KPS-owned painting currently held at MONA
- 7.E. Discuss a VISA bank card program through Exchange Bank in support of Kearney High School activities

7.F. Discuss the potential of random drug testing at Kearney High School for extracurricular participation

8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

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

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Notice of Meeting

This meeting was publicized in the Kearney Hub on March 28, 2026; radio stations KGFW and KKPR; and KSNB and KHGI T.V.

Niki Deeds, Secretary