

Regular Monthly Meeting (HS)
Tuesday, August 12, 2025 7:00 PM

BOARDROOM @ LAUREL LIBRARY
502 Wakefield Street
Laurel, NE 68745-0008

Agenda

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CHANGES TO AGENDA
- III. CONSENT AGENDA
- IV. EXCUSE ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT
- VI. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS
 - VI.1. DIRECTOR OF ACTIVITIES & TRANSPORTATION REPORT
 - VI.2. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS
 - VI.3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
 - VI.4. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - VI.4.1. TRANSPORTATION, BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING - TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025
- VII. ACTION ITEMS
 - VII.1. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS
 - VII.2. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO BOARD POLICY REVIEW - 2000 SERIES (ADMINISTRATION) ON SECOND READING
 - VII.3. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO RESOLUTION APPROVING STAFF TRAINING
 - VII.4. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO TEACHER CONTRACTS
 - VII.5. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO RESIGNATIONS
- VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - VIII.1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- IX. CORRESPONDENCE AND BOARD BULLETINS
- X. UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS
 - X.1. NASB AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025 (4:30 PM - NECC LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER - NORFOLK)
 - X.2. SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND BUDGET WORKSHOP - THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 (3:00 PM - LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM - LAUREL CAMPUS)
 - X.3. BUDGET HEARING - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 (7:00 PM - LCC MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD ROOM - COLERIDGE)
 - X.4. HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BUDGET HEARING - LCC MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD ROOM - COLERIDGE)

X.5. REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HEARING TO SET
FINAL TAX REQUEST - LCC MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD ROOM -
COLERIDGE)

XI. ADJOURN

Fund 01 GENERAL FUND CHECKING

7/1/25 \$2,498,818.98

Receipts

Cedar County Local Taxes	\$25,473.70
Cedar County Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$26,890.24
Cedar County Fines/Licenses	\$1,151.92
Cedar County Homestead Exemption	\$6,451.14
Dixon County Local Taxes	\$5,923.95
Dixon County Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$2,904.31
Dixon County Fines/Licenses	\$310.09
Dixon County Homestead Exemption	\$1,791.56
Dixon County ProRate MV Taxes	\$560.06
Wayne County ProRate MV Taxes	\$78.54
Wayne County Homestead Exemption	\$170.91
Wayne County Fines/Licenses	\$28.83
Wayne County Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$0.68
ESU #1 - NCE Conference Reimbursement	\$1,274.75
State of Nebraska - State Aid	\$0.00
State of Nebraska - Title	\$19,372.00
LCC School Lunch Fund - July 2025 Payroll Reimbursement	\$1,729.39
LCC School Cooperative Fund - July 2025 Payroll Reimbursement	\$4,382.22
Miscellaneous receipts	\$25.00
Board member - insurance premium	\$2,031.50
Interest earned	\$1,925.74
Total Receipts:	\$102,476.53

Disbursements

July Payroll (all funds)	\$520,413.66
July General Fund Bills	\$384,667.68
RevTrak fee	\$0.00
Total Disbursements:	(\$905,081.34)

General Fund Checking Balance 7/31/2025

\$1,696,214.17

GENERAL FUND SAVINGS

Beginning Balance	\$703.86
Receipts: Interest earned	\$0.60
Disbursements:	\$0.00

Ending Savings Account Balance 7/31/2025 \$704.46

GENERAL FUND PETTY CASH \$5,000.00

GENERAL FUND BALANCE 7/31/2025 **\$1,701,918.63**

AUGUST PROJECTED PAYROLL

General Fund	\$522,987.48
Lunch Fund	\$569.40
Cooperative Fund	\$4,671.99
Total Payroll:	\$528,228.87

AUGUST PROJECTED BILLS

General Fund	\$184,850.77
Depreciation Fund	\$0.00
Employee Benefit Fund	\$4,392.17
Bond Fund	\$0.00
Special Building Fund - Original Account	\$525.14
Special Building Fund - Bond Account	\$0.00
Special Building Fund - Lease Purchase Account	\$70,485.32
QCPUF	\$15,000.00
Cooperative Fund	\$2,344.27
Student Fees Fund	\$0.00
Total Bills:	\$277,597.67

Fund 02 DEPRECIATION FUND

Beginning Balance	\$136,973.23
Receipts: Interest earned	\$145.32
Disbursements:	\$0.00
Ending Balance 7/31/2025	\$137,118.55

Fund 03 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND

Beginning Balance	\$14,272.71
Receipts: Interest earned	\$0.28
Staff contributions to flex plans	\$4,794.94
Disbursements: Ameriflex	(\$4,380.18)
Ending Balance 7/31/2025	\$14,687.75

Fund 06 SCHOOL LUNCH/MILK FUND

Beginning Balance	\$35,134.99
Receipts: Lunch/Milk/Reimbursement	\$1,166.95
Interest earned	\$30.25
Disbursements: Food/Supplies/Equipment Purchases	(\$353.75)
July 2025 Payroll	(\$1,729.39)
Ending Balance 7/31/2025	\$34,249.05

Fund 07 BOND FUND

Beginning Balance	\$122,982.65	
Receipts: Cedar County Taxes	\$5,780.49	
Dixon County Taxes	\$1,433.79	
Wayne County Taxes	\$33.93	
Interest earned	\$107.31	
Disbursements:	\$0.00	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$130,338.17

Fund 08 SPECIAL BUILDING FUND**SPECIAL BUILDING FUND - Original Account**

Beginning Balance	\$91,898.12	
Receipts: interest earned	\$93.84	
Disbursements:	(\$525.14)	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$91,466.82

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND - Bond Account

Beginning Balance	\$356.19	
Receipts: interest earned	\$0.30	
Disbursements:	\$0.00	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$356.49

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND - Lease-Purchase Account

Beginning Balance	\$928,423.26	
Receipts: Cedar County Taxes	\$4,864.92	
Dixon County Taxes	\$1,260.33	
Wayne County Taxes	\$37.99	
Interest earned	\$797.95	
Disbursements:	\$0.00	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$935,384.45

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND TOTAL: \$1,027,207.76**Fund 09 QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE UNDERTAKING FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$137,466.01	
Receipts: Cedar County Taxes	\$781.29	
Dixon County Taxes	\$205.17	
Wayne County Taxes	\$0.00	
Interest earned	\$84.52	
Disbursements:	-\$121,584.48	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		QCPUF TOTAL: \$16,952.51

Fund 10 COOPERATIVE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$13,138.17	
Receipts: Interest earned	\$9.79	
Building Blocks	\$0.00	
Disbursements:		
July Payroll-LCC General Fund	(\$4,382.22)	
Building Blocks charges	(\$1,722.73)	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$7,043.01

Fund 12 STUDENT FEE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$11,071.13	
Receipts: Interest earned	\$9.44	
Disbursements: Summer Explorers	(\$253.16)	
Ending Balance 7/31/2025		\$10,827.41

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #54
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2025 7:18 p.m.
Boardroom @ LCC School, Coleridge, NE 68727

Attendance taken at 7:18 p.m.

Garry Anderson: Present
Carol Erwin: Present
Jon Graham: Present
Jay Hall: Present
Bryan Pippitt: Absent
Grant Settje: Present
Scott Taylor: Present
Present: 6. Absent: 1.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting was convened at 7:18 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Said notice stated agenda is readily available for public inspection at the Superintendent's office during normal business hours. Board members were emailed notice. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting was duly called to order by President Hall at 7:18 p.m. Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Attention was directed to a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act posted in the room.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as provided passed with a motion by Carol Erwin and a second by Scott Taylor.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea, Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda items including minutes of the June 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting; Treasurer reports; the General Fund bills in the amount of \$384,667.68; the Employee Benefit Fund bill in the amount of \$4,380.18; the Special Building Fund-Original Account bill in the amount of \$525.14; the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund bill in the amount of \$121,584.48; the Cooperative Fund bills in the amount of \$1,722.73; the Student Fees Fund bills in the amount of \$253.16; the June 2025 Activity Fund bills in the amount of \$16,880.56; and the projected payroll in the amount of \$520,413.66 passed with a motion by Grant Settje and a second by Scott Taylor.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea, Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

IV. EXCUSE ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS

Motion to excuse the absence of Bryan Pippitt passed with a motion by Scott Taylor and a second by Grant Settje.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea, Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No member of the public signed in to address the Board.

VI. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

VI.1. DIRECTOR OF ACTIVITIES & TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Quin Conner's written report was available for the Board's review.

VI.2. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

No written reports were expected for the July meeting.

VI.3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Christiansen presented his report to the Board. He provided personnel updates to the Board. The State Board of Education has approved and accredited the school district for the 2025-2026 school year.

VI.4. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee meetings held.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

VII.1. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR 2024-2025.

Motion to approve the amended budget for the Cooperative Fund for the 2024-2025 fiscal school year as presented passed with a motion by Grant Settje and a second by Scott Taylor.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea, Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VII.2. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO NRCSA MEMBERSHIP.

Motion to approve the NRCSA membership renewal for the 2025-2026 school year passed with a motion by Scott Taylor and a second by Grant Settje.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea, Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VII. 3. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO ANNUAL POLICY UPDATES ON SECOND READING.

Motion to approve the following annual policy updates on Second Reading and in accordance with recent state and federal legislative action and updates:

1200 - Anti-harassment Policy;
4003 - Employee Anti-discrimination;
4003a - Notice of Nondiscrimination;
4003b - Complaint Form/Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation;
5401 - Equal Opportunity;
5401z - Complaint Form/Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation;
3131 - Procurement Plan;
3132 - Internal Controls;
3410 - Safe Driving Record Policy;
4009 - Drug and Substance Use and Abuse;
4009 Form A - Applicant Consent to Obtain Past Alcohol and Drug Test Results;
5001 - Student Admissions and Student Admissions Forms;
5004 - Part Time Enrollment;
5101 - Student Discipline Policy;
5103 - Extracurricular Discipline Policy;
5201 - Promotion & Retention;
5201x - (NEW) Request to Repeat Grade Form;
5202z - FERPA Annual Notice;
5301 - Association Activities;
5414 - Identification of Learners with High Ability;
5507 (NEW) - Foster Care Student Transportation;
6113 - (NEW) Electronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones;
6400 - Parent Involvement;
and 6931 - (NEW) Behavioral Intervention and Classroom Management
passed with a motion by Scott Taylor and a second by Grant Settje.
Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea,
Taylor: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VII.4. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO BOARD POLICY REVIEW – 2000 SERIES (ADMINISTRATION) ON FIRST READING.

Motion to approve the following 2000 Series (Administration) Board Policies on First Reading: 2000 - Functional Principles of Administration; 2010 - Election of Administrative Personnel; 2100 - Superintendent; 2110 - Duties of the Superintendent; 2110A - Superintendent Job Description; 2200 - The Principalship; 2210 - Duties of Principal; 2210AR - Principal Job Description; 2230 Certificated Administrator Evaluation Policy; 2231 - Superintendent's Appraisal Process; 2231AR - Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument; 2232AR - Principal Evaluation Form; 2400 - Line of Authority; 2410 - Administrative Action in Emergencies; 2420 - Staff Handbooks; 2430 - Attendance at Professional Growth Meetings; and 2440 -

Administrative Action in Absence of Policy passed with a motion by Grant Settje and a second by Scott Taylor.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea,
Taylor: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VII.5. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE 2025-2026 HANDBOOKS (STUDENT & FAMILY, FACULTY, CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES, ACTIVITY).

Motion to approve the Student and Family Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, the Classified Employees Handbook, and the Activity Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year passed with a motion by Grant Settje and a second by Jon Graham.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea,
Taylor: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VII.6. CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION WITH REGARD TO SCHOOL AUDIT SERVICES.

Motion to approve the agreement with Dana F. Cole & Company for annual audit services for the 2024-2025 fiscal year passed with a motion by Scott Taylor and a second by Grant Settje.

Anderson: Yea, Erwin: Yea, Graham: Yea, Hall: Yea, Pippitt: Absent, Settje: Yea,
Taylor: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

VIII.1. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

IX. CORRESPONDENCE AND BULLETINS

Updates from NASB and NRCSA were available for the Board's review.

X. UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS

Board members were reminded of upcoming meetings and workshops.

X.1. REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025 (7:00 P.M. – LCC BOARD ROOM-LAUREL)

X.2. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AND BUDGET WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 (3:00 P.M. – LCC BOARD ROOM-LAUREL)

X.3. NASB AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETING – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025 (4:30 P.M. – NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE-NORFOLK)

XI. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Cedar County School District #54

Submitted by:

Megan Greiner
Recording Secretary

Attested by:

Grant Settje
Secretary of the Board

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #54
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Committee Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2025 7:11 p.m.
Boardroom @ LCC School, Coleridge, NE 68727

I. COMMITTEE MEETING – COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN CIVICS

I.1. Call Meeting to Order

Scott Taylor called the Committee on American Civics Meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

I.2. Review, discuss, consider, receive input, and hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of district patrons relating to the school district's implementation of the American Civics Education Act.

LCC Administration has examined and ensures that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned to the social studies standards and teaches foundational knowledge in civics, government, history (local, state, national, world), economics, and geography. The Board of Education previously approved the social studies curriculum that stresses the services of the men and women who achieved our national independence, established our constitutional government, and preserved our union and includes the incorporation of multicultural education to develop a pride and respect for our institutions and not be a mere recital of events and dates.

I.3. Adjourn Committee Meeting

After discussion, the Committee on American Civics Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Cedar County School District #54

Submitted by:

Megan Greiner
Recording Secretary

Attested by:

Grant Settje
Secretary of the Board

**LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #54
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Special Hearings

Monday, July 14, 2025 6:53 p.m.

Boardroom @ LCC School, Coleridge, NE 68727

I. SPECIAL HEARING: PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY

I.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the Parent Engagement Policy Hearing to order at 6:53 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

I.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input regarding the district's Parent Engagement policy.

I.3. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the Parent Engagement Policy Hearing adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

II. SPECIAL HEARING: CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION POLICY

II.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the Children's Internet Protection Policy Hearing to order at 6:56 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

II.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input regarding the district's Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) policy.

II.3. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the Children's Internet Protection Policy (CIPA) Hearing adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

III. SPECIAL HEARING: STUDENT FEES POLICY AND 2024-2025 REPORT

III.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the Student Fees Policy and 2024-2025 Report Hearing to order at 6:58 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

III.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input on the district's Student Fees policy.

III.3. Review funds collected from students pursuant to the Student Fees Policy requirements for the 2024-2025 school year.

The report of funds collected from students for the 2024-2025 school year was reviewed.

III.4. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the Student Fees Policy Hearing and Review of the 2024-2025 Student Fees Report adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

IV. SPECIAL HEARING: SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY

IV.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the School Wellness Policy Hearing to order at 7:05 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

IV.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input regarding the district's School Wellness policy.

IV.3. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the School Wellness Policy Hearing adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

V. SPECIAL HEARING: DISTRICT ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

V.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the District Anti-Bullying Policy Hearing to order at 7:06 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

V.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input regarding the district's Anti-Bullying policy.

V.3. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the Anti-Bullying Policy Hearing adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

VI. SPECIAL HEARING: DISTRICT CELL PHONE POLICY

VI.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the District Cell Phone Policy Hearing to order at 7:08 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the LCC Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

VI.2. Review, discuss, consider, and receive input regarding the district's Electronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones policy.

VI.3. Adjourn Special Hearing

After discussion and hearing no suggestions for amending the policy, the Cell Phone Policy Hearing adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Cedar County School District #54

Submitted by:

Megan Greiner
Recording Secretary

Attested by:

Grant Settje
Secretary of the Board

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT #54
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Budget Amendment Hearing
Monday, July 14, 2025 6:50 p.m.
Boardroom @ LCC School, Coleridge, NE 68727

I. BUDGET AMENDMENT HEARING

I.1. Call Hearing to Order

President Hall called the Budget Amendment Hearing to order at 6:50 p.m. on July 14, 2025 in the Board Room at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, Coleridge, Nebraska. In addition to board members, the following were present: Superintendent Jeremy Christiansen, Middle School Principal Mark Leonard, and Elementary Principal Keri Hart. Members of the public were present and welcomed. The meeting notice was published in the July 9, 2025 issue of the Laurel Advocate, posted at the LCC Elementary/High School- Laurel and LCC Middle School- Coleridge, posted at U.S. Post Office- Coleridge, U.S. Post Office- Laurel, Security Bank- Coleridge, Security Bank- Laurel, Citizens State Bank- Laurel, and posted on the school web site. Board members were emailed notice.

I.2. Review, discuss, consider, receive input, and hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to amending the 2024-2025 budget.

I.3. Adjourn Budget Amendment Hearing

After discussion, the Budget Amendment Hearing adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Cedar County School District #54

Submitted by:

Megan Greiner
Recording Secretary

Attested by:

Grant Settje
Secretary of the Board

**Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School
District #54**

General Fund Local Tax Receipts from County Treasurers

MONTH	2019-20	%	MONTH	2020-21	%	MONTH	2021-22	%	MONTH	2022-23	%	MONTH	2023-24	%	MONTH	2024-25	%
September	\$1,025,064.25	17.39%	September	\$1,267,440.50	20.53%	September	\$1,316,943.83	20.22%	September	\$1,212,647.51	17.70%	September	\$1,377,030.70	20.79%	September	\$1,263,877.72	17.91%
October	\$340,229.37	23.16%	October	\$267,036.63	24.86%	October	\$274,521.59	24.44%	October	\$326,676.74	22.47%	October	\$212,159.84	23.99%	October	\$403,165.75	23.62%
November	\$67,225.53	24.30%	November	\$107,292.10	26.60%	November	\$50,377.32	25.21%	November	\$37,093.86	23.01%	November	\$83,790.06	25.25%	November	\$42,195.30	24.21%
December	\$11,570.84	24.50%	December	\$11,181.75	26.78%	December	\$9,567.77	25.36%	December	\$14,660.24	23.23%	December	\$18,909.75	25.54%	December	\$5,887.76	24.30%
January	\$955,391.96	40.71%	January	\$1,102,368.99	44.63%	January	\$1,478,946.16	48.07%	January	\$1,606,320.61	46.68%	January	\$1,326,410.86	45.56%	January	\$932,308.61	37.51%
February	\$325,440.60	46.23%	February	\$303,631.95	49.55%	February	\$275,073.54	52.29%	February	\$173,100.02	49.20%	February	\$212,567.44	48.77%	February	\$191,750.25	40.22%
March	\$94,744.09	47.84%	March	\$116,615.58	51.44%	March	\$102,118.58	53.86%	March	\$145,490.31	51.33%	March	\$114,857.70	50.50%	March	\$53,955.12	40.99%
April	\$293,093.56	52.81%	April	\$307,474.39	56.42%	April	\$376,384.02	59.64%	April	\$350,242.48	56.44%	April	\$310,514.51	55.19%	April	\$226,302.02	44.19%
May	\$1,558,392.28	79.25%	May	\$1,843,789.04	86.29%	May	\$1,733,363.02	86.25%	May	\$1,831,312.48	83.18%	May	\$1,939,467.72	84.46%	May	\$1,509,515.99	65.58%
June	\$321,314.81	84.70%	June	\$175,315.55	89.13%	June	\$311,451.51	91.04%	June	\$370,144.70	88.58%	June	\$258,257.40	88.36%	June	\$199,209.50	68.40%
July	\$22,776.64	85.09%	July	\$40,561.56	89.79%	July	\$19,427.41	91.33%	July	\$29,566.00	89.01%	July	\$40,730.96	88.98%	July	\$31,397.65	68.85%
August	\$35,236.94	85.69%	August	\$31,145.75	90.29%	August	\$33,129.22	91.84%	August	\$32,985.32	89.49%	August	\$43,846.84	89.64%	August		68.85%
Adjustment		85.69%	Adjustment		90.29%	Adjustment		91.84%	Adjustment		89.49%	Adjustment		89.64%	Adjustment		68.85%
Total	\$5,050,480.87		Total	\$5,573,853.79		Total	\$5,981,303.97		Total	\$6,130,240.27		Total	\$5,938,543.78		Total	\$4,859,565.67	
Budgeted	\$5,894,069.00		Budgeted	\$6,173,080.00		Budgeted	\$6,512,599.00		Budgeted	\$6,850,000.00		Budgeted	\$6,625,000.00		Budgeted	\$7,058,605.00	
over/under	(\$843,588.13)		over/under	(\$599,226.21)		over/under	(\$531,295.03)		over/under	(\$719,759.73)		over/under	(\$686,456.22)		over/under	(\$2,199,039.33)	

General Fund Expenditures

MONTH	2019-20	%	MONTH	2020-21	%	MONTH	2021-22	%	MONTH	2022-23	%	MONTH	2023-24	%	MONTH	2024-25	%
September	\$707,628.51	8.41%	September	\$746,449.58	8.67%	September	\$726,108.97	7.05%	September	\$843,013.71	8.02%	September	\$975,269.83	9.21%	September	\$1,001,176.78	9.41%
October	\$730,251.14	17.10%	October	\$599,815.74	15.64%	October	\$782,381.18	14.65%	October	\$700,149.06	14.68%	October	\$796,362.90	16.73%	October	\$1,032,630.75	19.11%
November	\$744,292.53	25.95%	November	\$669,115.03	23.42%	November	\$761,895.24	22.04%	November	\$817,958.94	22.46%	November	\$730,846.86	23.63%	November	\$756,832.64	26.22%
December	\$622,756.74	33.35%	December	\$609,195.12	30.49%	December	\$725,284.02	29.09%	December	\$666,779.51	28.80%	December	\$799,262.02	31.18%	December	\$706,040.78	32.85%
January	\$554,686.89	39.95%	January	\$575,402.26	37.18%	January	\$591,318.96	34.83%	January	\$673,716.31	35.21%	January	\$656,336.17	37.37%	January	\$825,573.75	40.61%
February	\$679,048.37	48.02%	February	\$647,073.32	44.70%	February	\$678,884.50	41.42%	February	\$707,913.94	41.95%	February	\$781,177.25	44.75%	February	\$781,008.28	47.95%
March	\$550,129.69	54.56%	March	\$629,563.71	52.01%	March	\$561,377.67	46.87%	March	\$588,417.50	47.55%	March	\$697,586.96	51.34%	March	\$681,419.17	54.35%
April	\$832,492.26	64.46%	April	\$695,494.90	60.09%	April	\$642,188.70	53.11%	April	\$671,609.00	53.94%	April	\$851,254.57	59.37%	April	\$861,691.01	62.44%
May	\$524,134.43	70.69%	May	\$585,344.98	66.90%	May	\$654,934.92	59.46%	May	\$738,326.94	60.96%	May	\$774,884.34	66.69%	May	\$717,138.02	69.18%
June	\$632,978.93	78.22%	June	\$709,884.86	75.14%	June	\$691,562.05	66.18%	June	\$768,940.09	68.27%	June	\$764,684.10	73.91%	June	\$796,923.41	76.67%
July	\$596,192.71	85.31%	July	\$668,214.85	82.91%	July	\$638,535.09	72.38%	July	\$659,578.02	74.55%	July	\$989,364.57	83.25%	July	\$896,838.23	85.10%
August	\$634,969.51	92.86%	August	\$706,801.30	91.12%	August	\$635,707.67	78.55%	August	\$835,531.07	82.50%	August	\$701,509.46	89.88%	August		85.10%
Adjustment		92.86%	Adjustment		91.12%	Adjustment		78.55%	Adjustment		82.50%	Adjustment		89.88%	Adjustment		85.10%
Total Spent	\$7,809,561.71		Total Spent	\$7,842,355.65		Total Spent	\$8,090,178.97		Total Spent	\$8,671,934.09		Total Spent	\$9,518,539.03		Total Spent	\$9,057,272.82	
Budgeted	\$8,410,000.00		Budgeted	\$8,606,700.00		Budgeted	\$10,299,211.00		Budgeted	\$10,511,738.00		Budgeted	\$10,590,631.00		Budgeted	\$10,643,613.00	
over/under	(\$600,438.29)		over/under	(\$764,344.35)		over/under	(\$2,209,032.03)		over/under	(\$1,839,803.91)		over/under	(\$1,072,091.97)		over/under	(\$1,586,340.18)	

9000 program costs are not included in "total spent"

Checking Account ID: 1

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
111212	08/12/2025				ELANFINANC	ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	6,303.88
111213	08/12/2025				ABBUSINESS	A & B BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	5,609.92
111214	08/12/2025				A1	A-1 PREFERRED AIR DUCT CLEANING	3,509.00
111215	08/12/2025				AMAZCAPITA	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	3,638.31
111216	08/12/2025				AMAZCAPITA	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	768.67
111217	08/12/2025				AMPLIFY	AMPLIFY EDUCATION, INC	4,980.00
111218	08/12/2025				ANDERCONST	DENNIS ANDERSON	3,765.00
111219	08/12/2025				APPTEGY	APPTEGY INC	14,833.03
111220	08/12/2025				ATT	AT&T	70.47
111221	08/12/2025				ATTMOBILIT	AT&T MOBILITY	633.92
111222	08/12/2025				BARCO	BARCO PRODUCTS COMPANY	1,793.25
111223	08/12/2025				BERMJEFF	JEFF BERMEL	440.16
111224	08/12/2025				BLACKHILLS	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	6,714.00
111225	08/12/2025				BLUECROSS	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	2,031.50
111226	08/12/2025				BOYSKIMB	KIMBERLY BOYSEN	33.60
111227	08/12/2025				BULLSEYE	BULLSEYE FIRE SPRINKLER INC	550.00
111228	08/12/2025				CAPSAN	CAPITAL SANITARY SUPPLY	597.00
111229	08/12/2025				CDWGOV	CDW GOVERNMENT, INC.	16,977.90
111230	08/12/2025				CEDARTRANS	CEDAR COUNTY TRANSIT	746.90
111231	08/12/2025				CEDARKNOX	CEDAR-KNOX PPD	9,526.53
111232	08/12/2025				CHEMSEARCH	CHEMSEARCH	234.08
111233	08/12/2025				CHRIJERE	JEREMY CHRISTIANSEN	1,022.80
111234	08/12/2025				CITYLAUREL	CITY OF LAUREL	951.36
111235	08/12/2025				COLEDETAIL	JACKSON HALL	1,320.00
111236	08/12/2025				COLEWELD	COLERIDGE WELDING, INC.	514.20
111237	08/12/2025				COURTFLOOR	COURT FLOORS, LLC	8,350.00
111238	08/12/2025				ESUONE	EDUCATION SERVICE UNIT ONE	36,130.05
111239	08/12/2025				ESU1	EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #1	410.00
111240	08/12/2025				ESUCOO	ESU COORDINATING COUNCIL	973.00
111241	08/12/2025				FAIRFKEARN	FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT	1,679.40
111242	08/12/2025				FAITHREGIO	FAITH REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES	300.00
111243	08/12/2025				FASTWYRE	FASTWYRE BROADBAND	206.98
111244	08/12/2025				GREIMEGA	MEGAN GREINER	280.70
111245	08/12/2025				H2O	H2O 4 U	45.50
111246	08/12/2025				HARTINGACE	HARTINGTON ACE HARDWARE	106.99
111247	08/12/2025				HOMEDEPROA	HD SUPPLY FORMERLY THE HOME DEPOT PRO	328.70
111248	08/12/2025				HOMEDEPROD	HD SUPPLY FORMERLY THE HOME DEPOT PRO	187.04
111249	08/12/2025				HEARTFIRE	HEARTLAND FIRE PROTECTION, INC	334.75
111250	08/12/2025				HEFNEROIL	HEFNER OIL & FEED CO. INC	236.54
111251	08/12/2025				INNOVATIVE	INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, LLC	1,702.09
111252	08/12/2025				JOHNSONCON	JOHNSON CONTROLS	1,753.49
111253	08/12/2025				KARDELLS	DAVID KARDELL	1,045.91
111254	08/12/2025				LAKESHORE	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS, LLC	3,246.33
111255	08/12/2025				LAURELACE	LAUREL ACE HARDWARE	1,619.87
111256	08/12/2025				LAURELHOME	LAUREL'S HOMETOWN MARKET	40.96
111257	08/12/2025				LEONMARK	MARK LEONARD	13.06
111258	08/12/2025				LUNDSHER	SHERIE LUNDAHL	45.23
111259	08/12/2025				MACKIN	MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES	232.27
111260	08/12/2025				MATHESON	MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	348.99
111261	08/12/2025				MCGRAW	MCGRAW-HILL SCHOOL EDUCATION LLC	1,562.46
111262	08/12/2025				MENARDSC	MENARD'S - SIOUX CITY	1,059.25
111263	08/12/2025				MRGHAUFF	MRG HAUFF	26.97
111264	08/12/2025				NASCO	NASCO - FORT ATKINSON	472.97
111265	08/12/2025				NCSADM	NEBR COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMIN	1,300.00
111266	08/12/2025				NEBRSAFETY	NEBRASKA SAFETY CENTER	635.00
111267	08/12/2025				NNNEWS	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA NEWS COMPANY	2,560.45

Checking Account ID: 1

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
111268	08/12/2025				NNTC	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE CO.	295.01
111269	08/12/2025				ORKIN	ORKIN	242.15
111270	08/12/2025				PEARSONED	PEARSON EDUCATION INC.	667.00
111271	08/12/2025				PERRY	PERRY, GUTHERY, HAASE & GESSFORD PC LLO	327.60
111272	08/12/2025				PITNEYFINA	PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC	221.46
111273	08/12/2025				PLANSE	PLAN SERVICES	200.00
111274	08/12/2025				RAYSMIDBEL	RAY'S MID-BELL MUSIC, INC	909.89
111275	08/12/2025				REMEDIA PUB	REMEDIA PUBLICATIONS, INC.	211.16
111276	08/12/2025				SAVVAS	SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY LLC	2,142.72
111277	08/12/2025				VECTOR	SCENARIO LEARNING, LLC	2,038.91
111278	08/12/2025				SCHMITT	SCHMITT CONSTRUCTION	150.00
111279	08/12/2025				SCHOLARBUY	SCHOLARBUYS LLC	2,760.00
111280	08/12/2025				SCHOLASTIC	SCHOLASTIC	1,095.66
111281	08/12/2025				SCHOOLNURS	SCHOOL NURSE SUPPLY, INC.	137.50
111282	08/12/2025				SCHOOLSPEC	SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC	947.42
111283	08/12/2025				SMARTPASS	SMARTPASS INC	995.00
111284	08/12/2025				STAPLE	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	41.40
111285	08/12/2025				THIEMAN	THIEMAN PLUMBING LLC	8,634.53
111286	08/12/2025				TMS	TIME MANAGMENT SYSTEMS	410.00
111287	08/12/2025				TRIPPLINES	TRIPP LINES	2,444.86
111288	08/12/2025				USCELL	U.S. CELLULAR	76.46
111289	08/12/2025				VANMJENN	JENNIFER VAN METER	353.53
111290	08/12/2025				VERIZON	VERIZON	389.88
111291	08/12/2025				WASTECONN	WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBRASKA, INC.	275.21
111292	08/12/2025				WATTIERTV	WATTIER TRUE VALUE	44.99
111293	08/12/2025				WAYNEHERAL	WAYNE HERALD	2,588.00
111294	08/12/2025				WPS	WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	1,350.00
111295	08/12/2025				YYLAWN	Y AND Y LAWN SERVICE LLC	100.00
Check Type Total:			Check		Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 184,850.77
Checking Account Total:		1			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 184,850.77

Checking Account ID: 10

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
3456	08/12/2025				LAURELHOME	LAUREL'S HOMETOWN MARKET	39.67
3457	08/12/2025				LAURELHOME	LAUREL'S HOMETOWN MARKET	28.92
3458	08/12/2025				SYSCO	SYSCO - LINCOLN	2,275.68
Check Type Total:			Check		Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 2,344.27
Checking Account Total:		10			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 2,344.27

Checking Account ID: 3

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
3064	08/12/2025				AMERICCLAIM	AMERIFLEX	2,264.10
3065	08/12/2025				NEBRUCFUND	NEBRASKA U.C. FUNDS	2,128.07
Check Type Total:			Check		Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 4,392.17
Checking Account Total:		3			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 4,392.17

Checking Account ID: 365157

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
2079	08/12/2025				HAUSMANN	HAUSMANN CONSTRUCTION, INC.	70,485.32
Check Type Total:			Check		Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 70,485.32
Checking Account Total:		365157			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 70,485.32

Checking Account ID: 8

Check Type: Check

Check Number	Check Date	Cleared	Void	Void Date	Entity ID	Entity Name	Amount
8311	08/12/2025				MOBILEMINI	WILLIAMS SCOTSMAN, INC.	525.14

Check Register by Checking Account

Checking Account ID: 8 Check Type: Check

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Cleared</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>Void Date</u>	<u>Entity ID</u>	<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>		
Check Type Total:			Check			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids:	<u>525.14</u>
Checking Account Total:		8				Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids:	<u>525.14</u>

Checking Account ID: 9 Check Type: Check

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Cleared</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>Void Date</u>	<u>Entity ID</u>	<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>		
1044	08/12/2025				HAUSMANN	HAUSMANN CONSTRUCTION, INC.	<u>15,000.00</u>		
Check Type Total:			Check			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids:	<u>15,000.00</u>
Checking Account Total:		9				Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids:	<u>15,000.00</u>
			Grand Total:			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids:	<u>277,597.67</u>

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School District 54
08/08/2025 9:55 PM

Invoice Listing - Summary

AUGUST 2025 CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
ADOBE CREATIVE CLOUD/ACROPRO	07/12/2025	08/12/2025	111212	21.29
AMAZON.COM	07/24/2025	08/12/2025	111212	437.73
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION	07/29/2025	08/12/2025	111212	314.50
APPLE.COM	07/31/2025	08/12/2025	111212	14.62
BEST WESTERN	07/06/2025	08/12/2025	111212	315.00
BUFFALO WILD WINGS	07/23/2025	08/12/2025	111212	68.83
CANVA.COM	07/29/2025	08/12/2025	111212	120.00
CASEY'S	07/25/2025	08/12/2025	111212	55.25
CASTLE HOTEL	07/05/2025	08/12/2025	111212	2,108.60
CHICK-FIL-A	07/10/2025	08/12/2025	111212	10.43
CMT ORLANDO	07/10/2025	08/12/2025	111212	51.69
CUNNINGHAM'S JOURNAL ON THE LAKE	07/24/2025	08/12/2025	111212	131.96
DELTA AIRLINES	07/05/2025	08/12/2025	111212	140.00
DENNY'S	07/07/2025	08/12/2025	111212	85.58
EVERYDAY SPEECH.COM	07/03/2025	08/12/2025	111212	299.99
GREAT WRAPS	07/10/2025	08/12/2025	111212	12.46
I-RIDE TROLLEY	07/05/2025	08/12/2025	111212	24.00
JUST IN TIME	07/05/2025	08/12/2025	111212	69.95
KYOTO STEAKHOUSE KEARNEY	07/22/2025	08/12/2025	111212	126.57
MARGARITAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT	07/23/2025	08/12/2025	111212	81.88
MEL'S	07/08/2025	08/12/2025	111212	30.64
MIA'S ITALIAN KITCHEN	07/06/2025	08/12/2025	111212	68.36
NEBRASKA ALEWORKS	07/24/2025	08/12/2025	111212	98.20
OLIVE GARDEN	07/08/2025	08/12/2025	111212	48.37
OPENAI.COM	07/27/2025	08/12/2025	111212	20.00
ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER	07/08/2025	08/12/2025	111212	60.71
OTC BRANDS, INC.	07/28/2025	08/12/2025	111212	3.42
RATH'S MINI MART	08/01/2025	08/12/2025	111212	923.42
RUNZA RESTAURANT	07/25/2025	08/12/2025	111212	48.58
SAMS CLUB	08/01/2025	08/12/2025	111212	151.14
SMARTSIGN	07/29/2025	08/12/2025	111212	265.00
TARGET.COM	07/10/2025	08/12/2025	111212	(99.74)
USA CLEAN BY JON DON	07/03/2025	08/12/2025	111212	45.95
USPS 68727	07/29/2025	08/12/2025	111212	7.81
WALGREENS	07/23/2025	08/12/2025	111212	57.48
WALMART.COM	07/23/2025	08/12/2025	111212	84.21

TOTAL GENERAL FUND: 6,303.88

ACTIVITY FUND: 3401.81
LUNCH FUND: 378.38

Regular; Beginning Month 09/2024; Processing Month 07/2025; Fund Number 05

Fund: 05 ACTIVITIES FUND

		<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Current Assets					
05 101	CASH	93,239.28	323,852.47	401,563.73	15,528.02
	Total: Current Assets	93,239.28	323,852.47	401,563.73	15,528.02
Fund Balance					
05 704	FUND BALANCE	162,194.22	2.71	50,597.03	212,788.54
05 704 1008	ACTIVITY DIRECTOR ACCT.	(4,426.59)	1,592.77	0.00	(6,019.36)
05 704 1009	TRACK	1,252.15	0.00	90.36	1,342.51
05 704 1010	HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK	921.77	1,445.75	812.00	288.02
05 704 1015	MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK	(23.83)	0.00	0.00	(23.83)
05 704 1020	ART CLUB	5,681.18	382.00	304.00	5,603.18
05 704 1025	HIGH SCHOOL BAND	11,109.55	17,933.07	2,048.93	(4,774.59)
05 704 1030	MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND	2,945.81	2,945.81	0.00	0.00
05 704 1034	CHEERLEADING	2,715.48	2,895.72	2,246.91	2,066.67
05 704 1035	HIGH SCHOOL DANCE	1,245.75	3,047.24	2,180.00	378.51
05 704 1040	CLASS OF 2028	7.48	0.00	400.00	407.48
05 704 1045	CLASS OF 2026	1,239.25	3,691.79	2,187.51	(265.03)
05 704 1050	CLASS OF 2027	198.08	198.09	0.00	(0.01)
05 704 1055	CLASS OF 2024	214.02	214.02	0.00	0.00
05 704 1060	CLASS OF 2025	371.53	2,628.58	2,571.81	314.76
05 704 1065	CLASS OF 2020	257.94	0.00	0.00	257.94
05 704 1070	BOYS GOLF	991.36	0.00	253.00	1,244.36
05 704 1075	HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS	15,500.23	5,250.57	3,009.04	13,258.70
05 704 1080	CONCESSIONS	22,402.25	15,936.71	21,860.34	28,325.88
05 704 1085	MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	846.54	5,125.76	8,622.93	4,343.71
05 704 1090	ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND	801.25	481.11	15.00	335.14
05 704 1092	ELEMENTARY PBIS	(270.78)	253.19	0.00	(523.97)
05 704 1095	ELEMENTARY POP	3,188.15	0.00	0.00	3,188.15
05 704 1100	ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL	4,417.79	3,231.32	2,557.94	3,744.41
05 704 1101	PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES	525.00	0.00	0.00	525.00
05 704 1102	DIGITAL MEDIA	1,753.70	0.00	311.00	2,064.70
05 704 1105	FBLA	663.92	7,990.31	7,365.00	38.61
05 704 1110	FCCLA	(3,477.95)	3,038.17	977.00	(5,539.12)
05 704 1115	FFA	18,011.58	30,899.75	25,028.34	12,140.17
05 704 1120	FACILITY USE	241.54	0.00	0.00	241.54
05 704 1124	COLERIDGE FITNESS CENTER	(8,688.28)	1,678.88	2,225.90	(8,141.26)
05 704 1125	LAUREL FITNESS CENTER	(24,874.70)	2,752.64	8,465.00	(19,162.34)
05 704 1130	MIDDLE SCHOOL FFA	713.63	0.00	0.00	713.63
05 704 1140	GENERAL ACTIVITIES	(189,893.91)	143,094.36	63,381.21	(269,607.06)
05 704 1145	INDUSTRIAL ARTS	(19,080.99)	318.08	179.00	(19,220.07)
05 704 1151	HOMECOMING	(4,022.43)	1,979.17	0.00	(6,001.60)
05 704 1152	PROM	(8,905.32)	1,500.00	750.00	(9,655.32)
05 704 1155	LEO	557.44	0.00	0.00	557.44
05 704 1156	MIDDLE SCHOOL PBIS	(1,196.64)	122.35	100.00	(1,218.99)
05 704 1160	LIBRARY	6,468.32	7,621.01	7,650.14	6,497.45
05 704 1161	MAKERSPACE	0.00	707.88	3,947.00	3,239.12
05 704 1163	MATH CLUB	1,321.32	340.48	75.21	1,056.05
05 704 1165	MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	12,688.92	1,972.88	2,150.00	12,866.04
05 704 1170	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	1,997.73	1,361.46	748.00	1,384.27
05 704 1175	FOOTBALL	1,334.27	776.85	1,069.90	1,627.32
05 704 1180	CROSS COUNTRY	2,494.88	1,270.08	1,370.00	2,594.80
05 704 1185	GIRLS GOLF	1,288.68	127.24	0.00	1,161.44
05 704 1190	QUIZ BOWL	(201.63)	260.19	168.00	(293.82)
05 704 1195	HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB	12,809.26	252.06	0.00	12,557.20
05 704 1200	SPANISH CLUB	662.80	1,030.00	481.00	113.80

Regular; Beginning Month 09/2024; Processing Month 07/2025; Fund Number 05

Fund: 05	ACTIVITIES FUND	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
05 704 1205	ONE ACTS	3,697.83	2,573.49	2,639.00	3,763.34
05 704 1210	SPEECH	759.92	63.05	400.00	1,096.87
05 704 1215	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	811.36	988.00	1,278.00	1,101.36
05 704 1220	FCA	960.81	471.00	0.00	489.81
05 704 1225	SKILLS USA	(30,025.45)	14,198.49	3,483.75	(40,740.19)
05 704 1230	VOCAL MUSIC	557.01	2,748.46	2,231.22	39.77
05 704 1235	VOLLEYBALL	1,226.05	6,461.57	4,850.00	(385.52)
05 704 1240	GIRLS BASKETBALL	271.82	1,756.77	3,292.50	1,807.55
05 704 1245	BOYS BASKETBALL	2,588.43	4,964.25	3,629.50	1,253.68
05 704 1250	WRESTLING	727.01	0.00	0.00	727.01
05 704 1255	E-SPORTS	(7,314.79)	650.26	800.00	(7,165.05)
05 704 1260	SCHOOL PICTURES	3,213.75	0.00	0.00	3,213.75
05 704 1305	AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP	9,614.36	2,000.00	0.00	7,614.36
05 704 1310	COLLEGE ACCESS GRANT	880.11	1,131.83	0.00	(251.72)
05 704 1320	STUDENT BOARD MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP	(1,000.00)	0.00	0.00	(1,000.00)
05 704 1400	EDUCATION QUEST FOUNDATION	4,250.00	0.00	0.00	4,250.00
05 704 1500	SECURITY BANK SPONSORSHIP	50,733.54	0.00	0.00	50,733.54
05 704 1550	CLOVER	(3,957.20)	4,383.51	0.00	(8,340.71)
05 704 1600	VIDEO BOARD	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
05 704 1705	GREENHOUSE	15,773.00	82,823.00	67,050.00	0.00
05 704 1710	BELL PLAZA	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Total: Fund Balance		93,239.28	401,563.73	323,852.47	15,528.02

Revenue

05 1510 0000	INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	0.00	0.00	527.01	527.01
05 1790 1009	TRACK	0.00	0.00	90.36	90.36
05 1790 1010	HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK	0.00	0.00	812.00	812.00
05 1790 1020	ART CLUB	0.00	0.00	304.00	304.00
05 1790 1025	HIGH SCHOOL BAND	0.00	0.00	2,048.93	2,048.93
05 1790 1034	CHEERLEADING	0.00	0.00	1,921.91	1,921.91
05 1790 1035	HIGH SCHOOL DANCE	0.00	0.00	1,910.00	1,910.00
05 1790 1040	CLASS OF 2028	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
05 1790 1045	CLASS OF 2026	0.00	0.00	2,187.51	2,187.51
05 1790 1060	CLASS OF 2025	0.00	0.00	2,571.81	2,571.81
05 1790 1070	BOYS GOLF	0.00	0.00	253.00	253.00
05 1790 1075	HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS	0.00	0.00	1,590.00	1,590.00
05 1790 1080	CONCESSIONS	0.00	0.00	21,236.35	21,236.35
05 1790 1085	MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	0.00	8,552.70	8,552.70
05 1790 1090	ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND	0.00	0.00	15.00	15.00
05 1790 1100	ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	0.00	2,557.94	2,557.94
05 1790 1102	DIGITAL MEDIA	0.00	0.00	311.00	311.00
05 1790 1105	FBLA	0.00	0.00	7,365.00	7,365.00
05 1790 1110	FCCLA	0.00	0.00	977.00	977.00
05 1790 1115	FFA	0.00	0.00	25,028.34	25,028.34
05 1790 1124	COLERIDGE FITNESS CENTER	0.00	0.00	2,225.90	2,225.90
05 1790 1125	LAUREL FITNESS CENTER	0.00	0.00	8,465.00	8,465.00
05 1790 1140	GENERAL ACTIVITIES	0.00	75.00	61,037.26	60,962.26
05 1790 1145	INDUSTRIAL ARTS	0.00	0.00	179.00	179.00
05 1790 1156	MIDDLE SCHOOL PBIS	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
05 1790 1160	LIBRARY	0.00	0.00	7,553.01	7,553.01
05 1790 1161	MAKERSPACE	0.00	0.00	3,947.00	3,947.00
05 1790 1163	MATH CLUB	0.00	0.00	75.21	75.21
05 1790 1165	MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	0.00	0.00	2,150.00	2,150.00
05 1790 1170	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	0.00	0.00	748.00	748.00

Regular; Beginning Month 09/2024; Processing Month 07/2025; Fund Number 05

Fund: 05 ACTIVITIES FUND

		<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
05 1790 1175	FOOTBALL	0.00	0.00	1,069.90	1,069.90
05 1790 1180	CROSS COUNTRY	0.00	0.00	1,370.00	1,370.00
05 1790 1190	QUIZ BOWL	0.00	0.00	168.00	168.00
05 1790 1200	SPANISH CLUB	0.00	0.00	481.00	481.00
05 1790 1205	ONE ACTS	0.00	0.00	2,639.00	2,639.00
05 1790 1210	SPEECH	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
05 1790 1215	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	0.00	1,278.00	1,278.00
05 1790 1225	SKILLS USA	0.00	0.00	3,483.75	3,483.75
05 1790 1230	VOCAL MUSIC	0.00	0.00	1,486.22	1,486.22
05 1790 1235	VOLLEYBALL	0.00	0.00	4,850.00	4,850.00
05 1790 1240	GIRLS BASKETBALL	0.00	0.00	3,292.50	3,292.50
05 1790 1245	BOYS BASKETBALL	0.00	0.00	3,629.50	3,629.50
05 1790 1255	E-SPORTS	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
05 1790 1705	GREENHOUSE	0.00	0.00	67,050.00	67,050.00
05 1790 1710	BELL PLAZA	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
05 1990 0000	OTHER MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL RECEIPTS	0.00	2.71	70.02	67.31
05 5200 0000	TRANSFERS FROM OTHER FUNDS	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Total: Revenue		0.00	77.71	317,208.13	317,130.42

Expenditure

05 2900 610 0 000 008	ACTIVITY DIRECTOR ACCOUNT	0.00	1,592.77	0.00	1,592.77
05 2900 610 0 000 020	ART CLUB	0.00	382.00	0.00	382.00
05 2900 610 0 000 075	HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS	0.00	5,250.57	1,419.04	3,831.53
05 2900 610 0 000 124	COLERIDGE FITNESS CENTER	0.00	1,678.88	0.00	1,678.88
05 2900 610 0 000 125	LAUREL FITNESS CENTER	0.00	2,752.64	0.00	2,752.64
05 2900 610 0 000 160	LIBRARY	0.00	7,621.01	97.13	7,523.88
05 2900 610 0 000 165	MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT	0.00	1,972.88	0.00	1,972.88
05 2900 610 0 000 175	FOOTBALL	0.00	776.85	0.00	776.85
05 2900 610 0 000 180	CROSS COUNTRY	0.00	1,270.08	0.00	1,270.08
05 2900 610 0 000 185	GIRLS GOLF	0.00	127.24	0.00	127.24
05 2900 610 0 000 230	VOCAL MUSIC	0.00	2,748.46	745.00	2,003.46
05 2900 610 0 000 235	VOLLEYBALL	0.00	6,461.57	0.00	6,461.57
05 2900 610 0 000 240	GIRLS BASKETBALL	0.00	1,756.77	0.00	1,756.77
05 2900 610 0 000 245	BOYS BASKETBALL	0.00	4,964.25	0.00	4,964.25
05 2900 610 0 000 550	CLOVER	0.00	4,383.51	0.00	4,383.51
05 2900 610 0 000 705	GREENHOUSE	0.00	82,823.00	0.00	82,823.00
05 2900 610 1 000 010	HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK	0.00	1,445.75	0.00	1,445.75
05 2900 610 1 000 025	HIGH SCHOOL BAND	0.00	17,933.07	0.00	17,933.07
05 2900 610 1 000 034	CHEERLEADING	0.00	2,895.72	325.00	2,570.72
05 2900 610 1 000 035	HIGH SCHOOL DANCE	0.00	3,047.24	270.00	2,777.24
05 2900 610 1 000 045	CLASS OF 2026	0.00	3,691.79	0.00	3,691.79
05 2900 610 1 000 050	CLASS OF 2027	0.00	198.09	0.00	198.09
05 2900 610 1 000 055	CLASS OF 2024	0.00	214.02	0.00	214.02
05 2900 610 1 000 060	CLASS OF 2025	0.00	2,628.58	0.00	2,628.58
05 2900 610 1 000 080	CONCESSIONS	0.00	15,936.71	623.99	15,312.72
05 2900 610 1 000 105	FBLA	0.00	7,990.31	0.00	7,990.31
05 2900 610 1 000 110	FCCLA	0.00	3,038.17	0.00	3,038.17
05 2900 610 1 000 115	FFA	0.00	30,899.75	0.00	30,899.75
05 2900 610 1 000 140	GENERAL ACTIVITIES	0.00	143,019.36	2,343.95	140,675.41
05 2900 610 1 000 145	INDUSTRIAL ARTS	0.00	318.08	0.00	318.08
05 2900 610 1 000 151	HOMECOMING	0.00	1,979.17	0.00	1,979.17
05 2900 610 1 000 152	PROM	0.00	1,500.00	750.00	750.00
05 2900 610 1 000 163	MATH CLUB	0.00	340.48	0.00	340.48
05 2900 610 1 000 170	NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	0.00	1,361.46	0.00	1,361.46

Regular; Beginning Month 09/2024; Processing Month 07/2025; Fund Number 05

Fund: 05 ACTIVITIES FUND

		<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
05 2900 610 1 000 190	QUIZ BOWL	0.00	260.19	0.00	260.19
05 2900 610 1 000 195	HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB	0.00	252.06	0.00	252.06
05 2900 610 1 000 200	SPANISH CLUB	0.00	1,030.00	0.00	1,030.00
05 2900 610 1 000 205	ONE ACTS	0.00	2,573.49	0.00	2,573.49
05 2900 610 1 000 210	SPEECH	0.00	63.05	0.00	63.05
05 2900 610 1 000 215	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	988.00	0.00	988.00
05 2900 610 1 000 220	FCA	0.00	471.00	0.00	471.00
05 2900 610 1 000 225	SKILLS USA	0.00	14,198.49	0.00	14,198.49
05 2900 610 1 000 255	E-SPORTS	0.00	650.26	0.00	650.26
05 2900 610 1 000 305	AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
05 2900 610 1 000 310	COLLEGE ACCESS GRANT	0.00	1,131.83	0.00	1,131.83
05 2900 610 2 000 090	ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND	0.00	481.11	0.00	481.11
05 2900 610 2 000 092	ELEMENTARY PBIS	0.00	253.19	0.00	253.19
05 2900 610 2 000 100	ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	3,231.32	0.00	3,231.32
05 2900 610 3 000 030	MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND	0.00	2,945.81	0.00	2,945.81
05 2900 610 3 000 085	MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL	0.00	5,125.76	70.23	5,055.53
05 2900 610 3 000 156	MIDDLE SCHOOL PBIS	0.00	122.35	0.00	122.35
05 2900 610 3 000 161	MAKERSPACE	0.00	707.88	0.00	707.88
	Total: Expenditure	0.00	401,486.02	6,644.34	394,841.68
	Total: 05	186,478.56	1,126,979.93	1,049,268.67	743,028.14

Checking Account ID: 5

Check Type: Check

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Cleared</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>Void Date</u>	<u>Entity ID</u>	<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11073	07/02/2025	X			AMAZCAPITA	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	36.95
11074	07/02/2025	X			AMBAND	AMERICAN BAND ACCESSORIES LLC	401.55
11075	07/02/2025	X			ARBITERSPO	ARBITER SPORTS LLC	345.00
11076	07/02/2025	X			BSNSPORTS	BSN SPORTS	304.88
11077	07/02/2025	X			GOLFBALLS	GOLFBALLS.COM	2,779.35
11078	07/02/2025	X			GOPHER	GOPHER	672.65
11079	07/02/2025				HOLCOMBB	BRYCE HOLCOMB	40.17
11080	07/02/2025	X			HOLIDAYGRA	HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES GRAND ISLAND	6,546.30
11081	07/02/2025	X			LAURELACE	LAUREL ACE HARDWARE	75.77
11082	07/02/2025	X			LAURELHOME	LAUREL'S HOMETOWN MARKET	271.73
11083	07/02/2025	X			MENARDSC	MENARD'S - SIOUX CITY	259.38
11084	07/02/2025	X			NEFFA	NEBRASKA FFA ASSOCIATION	2,224.00
11085	07/02/2025	X			DENNISN	NICOLE DENNIS	1,870.00
11086	07/02/2025	X			PYRAMIDSCH	PYRAMID SCHOOL PRODUCTS	443.09
11087	07/02/2025	X			STADSPORTS	STADIUM SPORTS	11,037.50
11088	07/02/2025	X			SETTBRAN	BRANDI URWILER-SETTJE	25.54
11089	07/17/2025				BARNHI	BARNHILL PIANO SERVICE	580.00
11090	07/17/2025	X			HEALY	HEALY AWARDS, INC.	36.58
11091	07/17/2025				HOMER	HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL	630.00
11092	07/17/2025	X			NCA	NCA	145.00
11093	07/17/2025	X			PONPUB	PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOLS	571.44
11094	07/17/2025	X			SCHOOLHEAL	SCHOOL HEALTH CORPORATION	120.10
11095	07/17/2025	X			STADSPORTS	STADIUM SPORTS	1,881.98
11096	07/30/2025				ELANFINANC	ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	1,269.35
11097	07/31/2025	X			CLOVER	CLOVER	232.95
Check Type Total:			Check		Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 32,801.26
Checking Account Total:		5			Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 32,801.26
Grand Total:					Void Total:	0.00	Total without Voids: 32,801.26



LCC ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT
HOME OF THE BEARS
502 WAKEFIELD ST.
LAUREL, NE 68745
402-256-3133

Superintendent
Jeremy Christiansen

Principal
Jennifer Van Meter

Activities Director
Quin Conner

Girls Golf
Christina Patefield

Cross Country
Brandi Settje

Football
Izac Reifenrath

Volleyball
Julie Kvols

Boys Basketball
Quin Conner

Girls Basketball
Blake Brown

Track & Field
Shannon Benson

Boys Golf
Pat Harrington

August '25 Board Report

Athletics

- **Summer Weights**
 - Summer weights/open gyms wrapped up last week, and by all accounts they were very well attended for girls and boys.
- **Fall Sports**
 - Official Practice for High School Fall sports began yesterday (August 11).
 - Fall sports kickoff, August 14th.
 - Chance to see volleyball, football, XC, and Girls Golf in early season action.
 - Fall Sports Pictures
 - August 20th (HS FALL + JH XC)
 - August 28th (JH VB/FB)
 - **Girls Golf:** August 21st @ Beemer
 - **XC:** August 28th @ Hartington
 - **HS Football:** August 29th vs. GACC
 - **HS Volleyball:** August 21st vs. GACC
 - Will have participation numbers for JH and HS Fall sports at the September meeting for your reference.
 - Homecoming Week is set for **September 28th-October 5th.**
- **Bank Calendars**
 - Not 100% accurate, always use the school website calendar as final reference, or get a hold of me for final confirmation. (i.e Girls golf Triangular 9/16)

Activities

- **Dance Update**
 - Very similar to the last update I gave on our Cheer squad, we will not have a dance team this year as well.
 - Simply, there weren't enough girls that showed interest for this school year.
 - I will meet with the dance coaches early in the 2nd semester and put together a plan of action to recruit and promote the dance team going into the 26-27 school year.

Transportation



**LCC ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT
HOME OF THE BEARS
502 WAKEFIELD ST.
LAUREL, NE 68745
402-256-3133**

- Quarterly bus inspections are complete and buses are ready to go for the start of the year.
- Heartland extinguisher was here last week and recertified/replaced fire extinguishers in all of the vehicles and buses.
- Yearly bus driver training was completed today.



Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School
Principal's Report - August 2025

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

- Independent Science Research is a new course being offered by Meaghan Vollers. For this year, it will run concurrently with one period of Environmental Science. Next year, we hope to expand it and see students competing in local and regional science fairs.
- Bryce Holcomb is teaching Information Technology Applications, which is another new class. It will fulfill the state requirement of 5 computer science credits. It covers the Microsoft Office Suite which is important for students entering college/university (UNK, UNL, Northeast utilize it).

New Staff

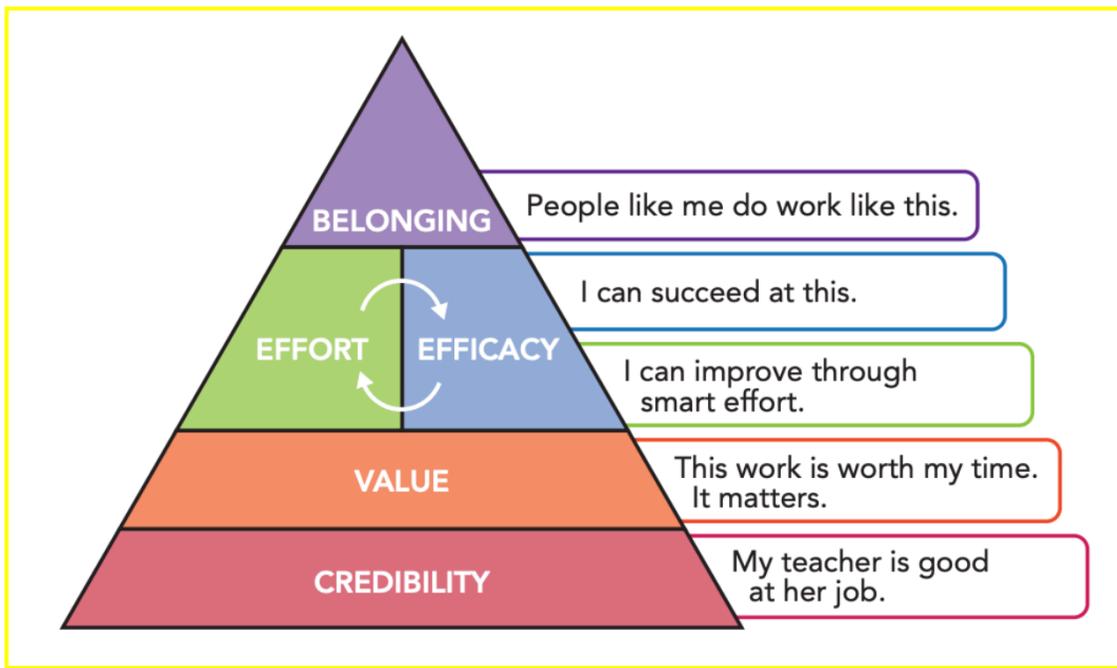
- Allison Claussen - Ag, FFA
- Emily Duerst - Spanish, Spanish Club
- Bryce Holcomb - Business, assistant cross country coach, FBLA
- Claire Krepel - English, color guard sponsor
- Paras: Brandy Maxon, Carol Potts

Community Relations

- Freshmen Orientation was held August 6th. Of our 24 students, 16 came with parents.
- We're adding some traditions to Homecoming this year by inviting past royalty to be recognized from any of our consolidated schools. This will take place during the Sunday night pep rally.
- A HS Parent Advisory Team has been formed. We will meet for the first time in September.
- I'm still seeking loans/donations of jerseys from any sport or activity for our high school office wall. We have Dixon represented.

Other

- ESU #1 Leadership Cadre for New Principals - very helpful day of learning this summer; three more in person meetings; 2 days of onsite collaboration
- Administrator Days - great days of learning and networking with other new principals
- New Teacher Orientation was held on August 8.
- Our focus this year at the high school is on building positive relationships with students using moments of genuine connection (MGCs) and on student engagement - looking at Five Key Beliefs. We are beginning with credibility - demonstrating care, competence, and passion. Teachers have been asked to track MGCs for the first quarter and then provide feedback. They're quick 30-60 second conversations meant to help students feel valued, known, and respected as learners and people.



Upcoming Activities & Events

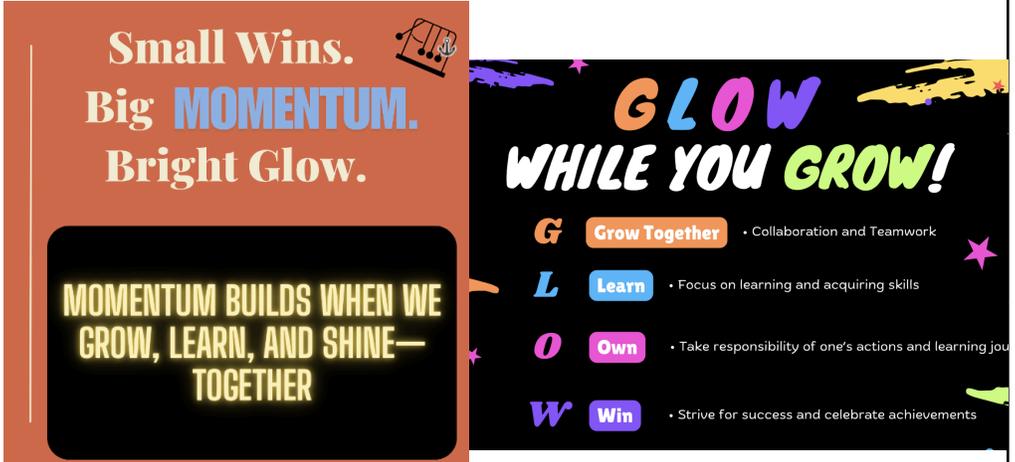
- Aug 11: Sports Practices Begin
- Aug 14: First Day of School
- Aug 15: Business After Hours

Board Report - August 2025

Keri Hart

Laurel - Concord - Coleridge Elementary

Strengthening Communities  Inspiring Excellence  Shaping the Future

<p>Monthly Spotlight</p>	<p>Theme for our elementary staff this year is MOMENTUM</p>  <p>We're excited to continue to build on the momentum built last year and the four areas we focused on: Grow Together, Learn Own, and Win!</p> <p>"You create momentum by starting to take small actions."</p> <p>New Staff Members/Reassignments!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sheri Christiansen - Interim Title 1 Teacher● Jayden Leonard - Paraprofessional <p>Addy Hoepfner - HS para for preschool Laney Folkers - HS para for elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● We have enjoyed partnering with the HS. The high school students enjoy it, do an amazing job, and it is great job experience for them!
<p>Curriculum & Assessment</p>	<p>Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Standards-Based Grading - information will be shared again at Back to School Night, at Parent-Teacher Conferences, and when report cards are sent<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ All subject areas will be assessed using standards based grading. Proficiency scales will be used consistently across grade levels to promote consistency in grading

	<p>Reading Plans (K-3rd) / Fall Benchmark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will participate in the fall benchmark screener in the first 2 weeks of school. ● Reading plans will be sent once students are identified that fall below the threshold ● Intervention groups are created using this data <p>Collaborative Plan Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We will continue weekly collaborative plan time after seeing the positive impact on instruction!
<p>PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade Level Meetings with Mrs. Hart <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each grade level will meet with me to quickly review expectations and kick off the school year! ● Changes in recess routines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We're excited to have a sidewalk from the north gymnasium doors that goes to the playground! ○ This year the gates will be closed during school hours ○ A STOP sign will be in the alley where students will cross ○ This change in overall procedure will further enhance safety
<p>Handbook Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaborative Attendance Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flyer shared at Back to School Night ○ Flyer and a quick reminder will be shared via SeeSaw in my weekly announcements ○ Weekly charting of attendance, weekly grade level winners, and individual winners to recognize and promote attendance
<p>PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will meet Monday, August 18th ● Lots of great events planned! ● PTO is leading fundraising efforts for the wall graphics in the elementary
<p>Communication</p>	<p>Back to School Handout with Information</p> <p>Attendance Handout</p> <p>Parent Handout - Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Weekly Activities - student of the month communication and next week events ● Seesaw ● LCC Facebook Page
<p>Parent Advisory Team</p>	<p>The elementary parent advisory team met in June and July this summer. There were great conversations, discussions, and input from the parent team! I'm excited to continue to partner with this team this school year. Here is a summary of topics discussed:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Things Going Well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1) New ELA curriculum - the background knowledge students are learning and the increase in writing 2) Grading System - Seeing student progress with standards based grading 3) Partnering with the Older Students - HS paras, 5th graders helping PK, big group activities, HS helpers, etc. 4) SeeSaw - Good communication with the school both with activities and from teachers ● Areas of Discussion for Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1) Lunchroom Procedures 2) Entrances - learning where to go for events 3) Dismissal - HS students driving fast and making the pick-up line efficient 4) Getting storage units out of the church parking lot ● Gathered Input that impacted procedures this year on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lunchroom Procedures ○ Ipad Usage ○ Communication - Report card changes and change to attendance collaborative plan at the beginning of the year ○ Class Parties ● Next Meeting: September 22nd ● Parents hope other parents reach out with ideas, concerns, or feedback to continue to bring back to this team. The members of the team are: Paul Garcia, Allison Curry, Sasha Nelson, Sara Kossler, Tiffany Ebberson, Kyla Spahr
<p style="text-align: center;">Elementary Leadership Team</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Met prior to school starting to discuss any minor changes, such as recognizing positive student behavior, attendance initiatives, grading procedures, problem solving meetings, etc. ● This team continues to be so valuable as they provide feedback, expertise, and share ideas to help us all work together to continue to learn and grow and provide positive schooling experiences for all students.
<p style="text-align: center;">Community Relations</p>	<p>LCC Security Bank Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We will continue our school bank partnership this year with Security Bank - First day of deposit will be September 17th
<p style="text-align: center;">Activities & Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers Report - Monday, August 11th ● Student First Day - Thursday, August 14th ● Preschool First Day - Monday, August 18th ● Picture Day - Tuesday, August 19th ● No School - Labor Day - Monday, September 1st ● Security Bank School Branch 1st Day to Deposit - Tuesday, September 9th ● Hearing Screenings - Thursday, September 4th



Middle School Principal Report
Mark Leonard
August Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment/School Improvement
Updates for the 25-26 School Year

Proposed Amendment for 26-27 Student/Family Handbook

As a middle school besides the Algebra I course (students can receive HS credit by taking this course and passing), students are lacking an accountability piece for passing their core subject classes (English Language Arts/Literature, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science). Proposed amendment to the 26-27 Student/Family Handbook:

If a student is failing one (or more) of their middle school core classes (English Language Arts/Literature, Mathematics, Social Studies, and/or Science, the student will be required to complete a PLP summer course for remediation and to advance to the next grade level. Students will be required to complete units of study in which they received a failing mark, which will be determined by the classroom teacher and the building administrator.

Data will be accumulated for a period of time to determine if there are students who earned a failing grade in one (or more) of these core subjects over a 3-year period of time and were advanced onto the next grade level.

WIN Period – All our students will receive additional support/instruction with reading and mathematics during our WIN (Whatever Is Needed) period. During this period, our students will receive specific reading and mathematics supports and/or instruction based on their various diagnostic tests such as NSCAS Growth Assessment (Spring, 2025), NWEA MAP Assessments, and the AIMS Web + Assessment, which will be completed during the first two weeks of school, and teacher recommendations. We will no longer have General Music, Quiz Bowl, or 6th Grade Band during this time as important instructional supports were being missed by several of our students. Our WIN period is designed to better reach all our students with whatever specific academic needs they may have to enhance their academic skills and abilities.

Middle School Makerspace – Over the summer, we received a \$750 grant/donation from Walmart, which was used to buy additional supplies for construction projects. Our future goals are to equip our Makerspace with additional Glowforge technology and construction supplies and make our Makerspace mobile. Our Makerspace will also be open during our student's study hall period as well as by appointment for any faculty member who wishes to use this space during the school day.

Procedural Updates – We will no longer operate our Academic After-School Support Time for our students who are failing one or more classes. Each month we will have a Student Problem Solving Focus Time where we will examine student data such as student grades, attendance, office referrals, etc. and determine if additional student supports need to be applied. Our 6th graders now have the option to choose Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, or Both. All middle school students will be involved together in either Instrumental Music (Tuesday/Thursday/Every Other Wednesday), Vocal Music (Monday/Friday/Every Other Wednesday), or General Music (Monday/Friday/Every Other Wednesday). Our new school counselor, Mrs. Sarah Beckwith, will be providing guidance/career instruction during our 1st period Exploratory Period (6th Grade – Monday, 7th Grade – Tuesday, 8th Grade – Thursday).

Smart Pass (Digital Hall Pass System) – We will continue with Smart Pass at both our middle school and high school for the 25-26 school year. All teachers, staff, and students have an account to Smart Pass, which is our digital hall pass system. Smart Pass will help our teachers and staff better monitor our students when they leave and where they go when they are away from a classroom. With the implementation of the Smart Pass system, student time will be reduced in our hallways, and safety measures will be enhanced with stronger accountability procedures for our students.

AIMS Web + Assessment, NSCAS Growth Assessment & ELPA 21 Screener – The AIMS Web + assessment is scheduled to be completed during August 18-29 for reading and mathematics with our 6th-8th grade students to effectively group students to receive the proper supports and/or instruction during their WIN time. AIMS Web + screens and monitors the reading and math skills of our students, is proven to uncover learning gaps quickly, identifies at-risk students, and assesses individual and classroom growth. The AIMS Web + assessment provides benchmarking and progress monitoring for K-8 foundational reading and math skills, as well as screeners for dyslexia and behavior. This assessment will also be administered during the Winter and Spring. This Fall we will be conducting the NWEA MAP Growth Assessment, which will be administered to students in grades 3-8 during the period of September 8-19. NWEA MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive assessment designed to measure student achievement and growth in math, reading, language usage, and science. It helps educators understand where students are on their learning journey, track their progress over time, and identify strengths and areas for improvement. The test adjusts to each student's ability, providing a personalized assessment experience. Our school is mandated by the state to administer the Spring NSCAS Growth Assessment for grades 3-8 to measure growth and proficiency in ELA, Math, and Science (grades 5-8). The CCRA (College and Career Readiness Assessment) for grade 9 (Fall) and grade 12 (Spring) to measure their college and career readiness skills of critical thinking, problem solving, and effective written communication, the NSCAS Pre-ACT for grade 10, and the NSCAS ACT for grade 11. The ELPA 21 Screener is administered to students who have identified another language other than English as their first language and who have not taken the ELPA Screener in the past. Currently, all our ELL students have taken the ELPA Screener and will be required to complete the ELPA Summative Assessment in February-March.

Activities/Events

Administrator Days (Kearney) – This summer Administrator Days was held in Kearney from July 23rd through July 25th. Around a thousand of administrators come to this event to learn more about the administrative role and to reconnect with colleagues. On Wednesday, we listened to Dr. Brian Maher giving a state of address as to education in Nebraska and the emphasis that is being placed on reading and the mission to have 75% of our 3rd graders proficient in reading by the year 2030. On Wednesday, the informative sessions I attended dealt with the changes and developments to the NSCAS Growth Assessments for grades 3-8, including adapting a new testing model that will incorporate the NWEA Map Growth Assessment into the testing model. Adviser, the portal we use to add student ID numbers to NDE/PowerSchool, rostering students for assessments, and configuring reports for auditing purposes, is coming out with a new, updated portal that will change the landscape of reporting to NDE and PowerSchool. The third session of the day I attended focused on the Literacy Success for Advanced Readers grouping students based on phonological awareness, decoding, and sight recognition, not on age. The next session I attended was titled *Opportunity Makers for All Learners*. The session centered around forming our school into what is known as a ‘Trajectory School’, which centered around belonging, consistency, and coherence. The last session I attended on Wednesday was the ABC of Addressing Chronic Absenteeism and ways to effectively combat this issue in our school system. On Thursday, the day opened with keynote speaker, Erin King, whose presentation focused on energy and transformative leadership. For sessions on Thursday, I attended sessions on *Knowing and Living Your Purpose – Your Why!*, which centered around knowing your purpose and why in leading the way in making your decisions as an administrator, *Middle School Rodeo Roundtable* where middle school administrators shared stories and tactics in how to effectively handle various middle school

issues, and *Student Leadership Teams* where the presenter discussed how student leadership teams have transformed how her school runs and how invested students are in their school's success. On Friday, we had one keynote speaker/presentation, Thomas Murray, who talked about creating a culture of innovation, empathy, and joy. Overall, Administrator Days was highly informational and provided some great ideas as we look forward for the upcoming 25-26 school year.

Personnel

The middle school will have a few new faces that will be working at the school this year. Blake Brown will be teaching our 6th grade English/Language Arts as well as one of the sections of our 7th grade English/Language Arts. Sarah Beckwith is our new school counselor and will be provide guidance/career instruction during our exploratory period. Allison Claussen will be teaching our middle school Agriculture exploratory class for the 25-26 school year. Emily Duerst will be teaching our middle school Spanish exploratory class for the 25-26 school year. Kim Boysen will be our middle school library aide as well as assist with point-of-sale duties. Cori Reifenrath was reassigned and will now be serving as a middle school paraprofessional.

Meetings/Activities (July/August)

Monday, July 21st - Wednesday, July 23rd – NSAA Coaches' Clinic (Lincoln)

Monday, July 21st - Monday, August 4th – Online Student Registration

Tuesday, July 22nd - Sunday, July 27th – Laurel Gyms Closed for Refinishing

Wednesday, July 23rd - Friday, July 25th – Administrator Days (Kearney)

Tuesday, July 29th – PowerSchool Appointment (Sarah Baden – New PowerSchool Representative)

Wednesday, July 30th – In Person Student Registration (HS/Middle/Elementary School); Playground Webinar: How Rural Schools are Funding Inclusive Playgrounds

Thursday, July 31st – PowerSchool Appointment (Sarah Baden – New PowerSchool Representative)

Saturday, August 2nd – Ribfest (Coleridge Park)

Monday, August 4th – HS Fall Sports Conditioning Begins

Tuesday, August 5th – GNAC Conference Coaches/Sponsors Meeting (High School Commons)

Wednesday, August 6th – Freshmen Orientation Night (High School Commons)

Friday, August 8th – New Teacher Orientation Meeting/Activities (HS Conference Room); LCC Booster Club Golf Tournament (Cedar View Country Club)

Monday, August 11th – First Day of HS Fall Practices; Professional Development Day: LCC All Staff In-Service (HS Commons); Building-Level Meetings, Concession Sign-Up Meeting, & Activities Coaches/Sponsors Meeting

Tuesday, August 12th – Professional Development Day: Driver Capacity Evaluation Station; CPI Refresher Training for Designated Staff; Common Curriculum Tips & Tricks Zoom Session; MS MTSS Meeting; District Safety Team Meeting; MS PBIS Leadership Team Meeting; Back-to-School Night; School Board of Education Meeting (Laurel Library Conference Room)

Upcoming Activities/Meetings Scheduled (August/September)

Wednesday, August 13th – Professional Development Day: CPR Skills Assessments (7:00-9:30 AM, Designated Staff Only); Driver Capacity Evaluation Station (9:15-9:45 AM); Annual Health & Safety Trainings (10:00 AM-12:00 PM); United Benefits Insurance Updates/Representatives (12:30-1:30 PM); All-Staff School Safety Training (1:00 PM, ALICE & SRP); Driver Capacity Evaluation Station (3:45-5:00 PM)

Thursday, August 14th – First Day of School (Elementary/Middle School/High School); Start of JH Fall Practices (Football & Cross Country); Building-Level Staff Meeting (1:15 PM); Laurel Cruise Night (5:00 PM, Downtown Laurel)

Friday, August 15th – LCC School "Business After Hours" Event (5:00-7:30 PM, Laurel Community Center)

Monday, August 18th – First Day of Level III Program & Pre-School; Administrative Team Meeting (9:00-10:30 AM, HS Conference Room); TeamMates Board Meeting (12:00 PM, Middle School Boardroom); Start of JH Fall Practices (Volleyball)

Tuesday, August 19th – School Picture Day

Wednesday, August 20th – PowerSchool Bi-Weekly Meeting (9:15 AM, via Zoom); Fall Sports/Activities Media Day (1:00 PM – HS FB, VB, GG, XC, Band, Color Guard; JH – XC); Early Dismissal (2:00 PM – Professional Development, Beginning of Year Topics & Student Health Updates with Mrs. Conley)

Thursday, August 21st – HS Girls Golf @ West Point-Beemer Invite (9:00 AM, Beemer); Mental Health Meeting with Mrs. Settje (11:00 AM); HS Volleyball Triangular vs. GACC/Battle Creek (6:00 PM)

Friday, August 22nd – FIRE DRILL (9:00 AM)

Monday, August 25th – Administrative Team Meeting (9:00-10:30 AM, Elementary Conference Room); SEVERE WEATHER DRILL (2:45 PM)

Tuesday, August 26th – ESU 1 Principal's Meeting (9:00 AM-3:00 PM); High School Girls Golf @ Hartington Triangular (4:00 PM, Wayne & Hartington CC)

Wednesday, August 27th – FIRE DRILL (1:00 PM); Early Dismissal (2:00 PM – Professional Development, School Safety ALICE Demonstrations – Trainers Led Sessions & Student Health Updates with Mrs. Conley)

Thursday, August 28th – JH/HS Cross Country @ Hartington-Newcastle Invite (9:00 AM); Mental Health Meeting with Mrs. Settje (11:00 AM); Fall Sports Media Day (1:00 PM – JH FB, VB @ Middle School Campus); Special Board of Education Meeting & Budget Workshop (3:00 PM - Laurel); HS Girls JV/V Volleyball Triangular @ Battle Creek (West Holt, 5:30 PM)

Friday, August 29th – HS Girls Golf @ Wayne Invite (9:00 AM); LCC Zoom – Social Studies Materials Review (1:30 PM, LCC Administration with Derek Lahm); HS Varsity Football vs. GACC (7:00 PM, Chamber Tailgate)

Saturday, August 30th – LCC JV Volleyball Quad Tournament (9:00 AM, Laurel Main Gym)

Monday, September 1st – NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)

Tuesday, September 2nd – JH/JV Football @ Hartington-Newcastle (4:00/6:00 PM); HS Volleyball (V/JV/C) vs. Ponca (5:30 PM)

Wednesday, September 3rd – WSC Education Fair (9:00 AM, Wayne State College); Early Dismissal (2:00 PM – Professional Development, District-Level – Core Beliefs Survey, Rationale/Purpose (Jeremy), UDL - Common Understanding, Research around Rigor, Research behind grade-level access (Brooke and Sarah)

Thursday, September 4th – LCC Hearing Screenings; HS Girls Golf @ Stanton Invite (9:00 AM); Mental Health Meeting with Mrs. Settje (11:00 AM); JH/HS Cross Country @ Wisner-Pilger Invite (5:00 PM, Beemer); HS Volleyball (V/JV/C) @ Elkhorn Valley (5:30 PM)

Friday, September 5th – HS Varsity Football @ Pender (7:00 PM)

Monday, September 8th – Administrative Team Meeting (9:00-10:30 AM, Middle School Boardroom); JH Football/Volleyball @ Summerland (4:00 PM); JV Football/Volleyball @ Summerland (5:30 PM); School Board of Education Meeting (7:00 PM, Middle School Boardroom)



LCC New Teacher Orientation
Friday, August 8, 2025
High School Office Conference Room



- 8:15** **Welcome & Introductions**
- 🎸🎵☕ = Teacher, loves music, can't live without coffee
 - 🏕️📖🐕 = Camped this summer, loves reading, has a dog
- 8:20** **General Information**
Instruction
Assessment
Communication
Safety
Behavior and Social Emotional Behavioral Learning
- 9:20** **BREAK**
- 9:30** **Department Leadership**
- Quin Conner - Transportation and Activities
 - Pix Schmit - Nutrition Services
 - Jeff Bermel - Facilities and Maintenance
- 9:45** **Technology**
- ESU 1 and In-House Support
 - Jesse Titiml, Bob Parsons, Eric DePew
 - Help Desk (helpdesk@lccschool.org)
 - PowerSchool
 - Telephone System
 - Other Tech Needs
- 10:00** **District and Campus Tours**
- 12:00** **LUNCH (Catered - Jimmy John's)**
- 12:30** **Payroll, Benefits, Paperwork (Megan Greiner, Business Manager)**
- 1:00** **Common Curriculum (Lesson Plan Tool)**

1:30 **Thrillshare/Rooms Set Up**

2:00 **Take Care of Your Needs**

- Additional Tech Needs/Questions
- Time to check on paperwork or fill out paperwork
- Work in your classroom
- Questions for administrators or other staff members

Upcoming Dates!

- ★ August 11th – 13th – All Staff Professional Development
- ★ Tuesday, August 12th - Back to School Night – 5:00-7:00
- ★ Thursday, August 14th – First Day of School – 1:00 Dismissal
 - Building Level Meetings at 1:15
- ★ Friday, August 15th – Business After Hours/Staff Get Together – 5:00-7:30

Date: July 31, 2025
To: LCC Faculty and Staff Members
From: Jeremy Christiansen, Superintendent
Re: School Year 2025-2026



Dear LCC Staff,

Welcome back! As we begin the 2025-2026 school year, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for each of you and the role you play in strengthening our schools, inspiring our students, and shaping the future of our communities.

Our district vision reminds us that *together, we build a stronger future*—a future rooted in unity, inspired by our educators, and driven by student excellence. We are more than a collection of classrooms; we are a legacy in motion—fueled by achievement, integrity, resilience, and respect.

This year, let's hold tight to an essential truth: *When we become more concerned about what we teach (though vitally important) than who we teach, we have lost the purpose of the work.* Every child who walks through our doors deserves to be seen, known, and uplifted. Relationships aren't just a strategy—they are the foundation of our culture. And culture begins with trust, built each day as we model expectations with consistency and care.

Please join me in living and modeling our mission: *Strengthening Communities. Inspiring Excellence. Shaping the Future.* Whether it's in a classroom, on a bus, in an office, in the lunchroom, or on a stage, court or field—your work matters! Your example matters!

So as we write this next chapter for LCC School together, I encourage you to lead with boldness, teach with pride, and serve with authenticity.

Be Bold. Be Fearless. Be Proud. Be You.

Our story is not yet finished!

WELCOMING NEW STAFF

Please join me in welcoming these new colleagues to our LCC School team. Each of these individuals brings unique talents, background and perspective that will surely enhance our commitment to students and families. Please take a moment to introduce yourself, and thank you for helping each and every person feel valued and welcomed at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School.

- **New Certified Staff**

- Blake Brown - English Language Arts Teacher (Middle School)
- Sheri Christiansen - Title I Program Teacher (Elementary/Middle School)
- Allison Claussen - Agriculture Education Teacher (Middle School/High School)
- Emily Duerst - Spanish Teacher (Middle School/High School)
- Bryce Holcomb - Business Education Teacher (High School/Elementary)
- Claire Krepel - English Language Arts Teacher (High School)
- Jessica Recob - Early Childhood/Preschool Teacher/Part-time (Elementary)

We wish Jean Granquist the very best as she has decided to transition into “retirement” from teaching and begins her journey as part of the Wayne State College team in the Registrar's Office! Jean will be missed dearly!

- **New Classified Staff**

- Eryn Gustman - Permanent Substitute (District Wide)
- Chad Koch - Community Coach (Wrestling Head)
- Katie Kvols - Community Coach (Volleyball Asst)
- Jayden Leonard - Paraprofessional (Elementary)
- Riley Lund - Community Coach (Wrestling Asst)
- Brandy Maxon - Paraprofessional (High School)
- Carol Potts - Paraprofessional (High School)
- Lindsay Rager - Nutrition Services (HS/EL Campus)
- Carter Siem - Community Coach (Football Asst)
- Dustin Thompson - Community Coach (Football Asst)
- Travis Wright - Community Coach (Wrestling Asst)

- **Staff Reassignments**

- Sarah Beckwith - PK-12 School Counselor (District Wide)
- Kim Boysen - K-12 Library Paraprofessional (District Wide)
- Ashley Promes - School Psychologist/Part-time (District Wide)
- Cori Reifenrath - Paraprofessional (Middle School)
- Katie Smith - Paraprofessional (Elementary School)
- Jennifer Van Meter - High School Principal

Please note that as of today our school district has one paraprofessional position at the Elementary School that remains unfilled as we approach the new school year. Please continue to promote and recruit candidates!!

Technology Support

We are also excited to announce our partnership with ESU 1 for technology support for the upcoming school year. Our primary contact with the ESU will be Jesse Titiml. Jesse will be onsite in the district once or more each week, but will also be available remotely as needed. In addition, we have secured the services and support of Bob Parsons and Eric DePew to provide site-based technology support in close collaboration with the ESU team.

PLANNING AHEAD

An outline schedule is provided below to assist as you plan your inevitable “To Do” lists throughout the coming days.

Tuesday, August 5th

- **GNAC Conference Coaches/Sponsors Meeting**
 - 5:30 pm (High School Commons)

Wednesday, August 6th

- **Freshman Orientation Night**
 - 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm (High School Commons)

Friday, August 8th

- **New Teacher Orientation Meeting and Activities**
 - 8:15 am - 2:00 pm (High School Conference Room)
- **LCC Booster Club Golf Tournament Fundraiser**
 - 5:00 pm - Shotgun Start (Cedar View Country Club)

Monday, August 11th

- **LCC All Staff In-Service - High School Commons (HS/EL Campus)**
 - 7:45 am - Breakfast Refreshments Available
 - 8:15 am - **All Staff Assembly**
- **Building Level Staff Meetings**
 - 9:30 am - **Elementary All Staff Meeting**
 - Library Conference Room
 - 9:30 am - **Middle School All Staff Meeting**
 - Mr. Holcomb's Classroom
 - 9:30 am - **High School All Staff Meeting**
 - Mrs. Claussen's Classroom
- **Lunch on Your Own**
- **Time to Work in Classrooms/Program Area**
 - 1:00 pm - 3:45 pm
- **Concessions Sign Up Meeting**
 - 2:15 pm (Mr. Holcomb's Classroom)
- **Activities Coaches/Sponsors Meeting**
 - 2:45 pm (Mr. Holcomb's Classroom)
- **Fall Sports Practices Begin**

Tuesday, August 12th

- **Driver Capacity Evaluation Stations (Opportunity #1 of 3)**
 - 7:30 am - 8:30 am - Both Campuses
 - HS/EL Campus - North Parking
 - MS Campus - Southwest Staff Parking Lot
- **All Staff Report to Assigned Buildings - 7:45 am**
- **Time to Work in Classrooms/Program Area**
 - 7:45 am - 3:45 pm
- **CPI Refresher Training (Designated Staff Only)**
 - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (HS Commons)
- **Common Curriculum Tips & Tricks (Optional; Zoom Only)**
 - 10:30 am - Option #1 (Zoom Link to be provided)
 - 2:30 pm - Option #2 (Zoom Link to be provided)
- **District Safety Team Meeting**
 - 1:00 pm (High School Conference Room)
- **Building Level Meetings**
 - Announced by Principals
- **Lunch On Your Own**
- **Back to School Night**
 - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- **Board of Education Regular Meeting**
 - 7:00 pm - Board Conference Room (HS/EL Campus)

Wednesday, August 13th

- **CPR Skills Assessments (Designated Staff Only)**
 - 7:00 am - 9:30 am (High School Conference Room)
- **All Staff Report to Assigned Buildings**
 - **10:00 am** (in lieu of Comp Time for Back to School Night)
- **Driver Capacity Evaluation Stations (Opportunity #2 of 3)**
 - 9:15 am - 9:45 am - Both Campuses
 - HS/EL Campus - North Parking
 - MS Campus - Southwest Staff Parking Lot

- **Annual Health & Safety Training - ALL Staff Members**
 - **10:00 am - 12:00 pm (High School Commons)**
 - Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Topics *Brandi Settje
 - Health Topics/First Aid *Arianne Conley
- **ALL STAFF LUNCHEON - Catered by Hometown Market**
 - 12:00 pm - High School Commons
- **United Benefits Insurance Updates**
 - 12:30 pm - High School Commons
 - 1:30 pm - Representatives Available to Meet (High School Conference Room)
- **ALL STAFF School Safety Training (ALICE and SRP)**
 - 1:00 pm (High School Commons)
- **Time to Work in Classrooms/Program Area**
 - 1:30 pm - 3:45 pm
- **Driver Capacity Evaluation Stations (Opportunity #3 of 3)**
 - 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm (HS/EL Campus Only)
 - HS/EL Campus - North Parking

Thursday, August 14th

- **First Day of School (K-12)**
 - Early Dismissal - 1:00 pm
- **Building Level Staff Meetings**
 - 1:15 pm
- **Laurel Cruise Night (Downtown Laurel)**
 - 5:00 pm

Friday, August 15th

- **LCC School “Business After Hours” Event**
 - 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm (Laurel Community Center)
 - 6:00 pm - All Staff Recognition and New Staff Introductions
 - Appetizers and Snacks Provided
 - All Staff Invited and Encouraged to Attend

Monday, August 18th

- **First Day of School - PreK Program and Level 3 Program**

Tuesday, August 19th

- **School Picture Day**

Wednesday, August 20th

- **Early Dismissal**
 - 2:00 pm (Professional Development)
- **Fall Sports/Activities Media Day**
 - 1:00 pm (HS - FB, VB, GG, XC, Band, Color Guard; JH - XC)
 - Note: August 28th - 1:00 pm (JH - FB, VB at MS Campus)

ANNUAL REQUIRED TRAINING

Vector Solutions (Safe Schools) Online Training Module Information

We once again have the opportunity to complete some of our required annual training through the Vector Solutions Safe Schools online module system. There are specific training courses assigned for each employee classification (e.g., teacher, paraprofessional, cook, custodian, etc.).

- **Title IX Training is now included in Vector Solutions** - All school district staff are required to participate in an annual training to develop and maintain awareness of expectations and responsibilities as related to the prevention of sexual harassment and federal Title IX regulations. This training will also provide an overview of expectations related to professional boundaries between school employees and students. Our school district's designated Title IX Coordinator is Jennifer Van Meter, High School Principal.
- **Safe Schools Website: <https://lccschool-ne.safeschools.com/login>**
 - Username: Your LCC email address (e.g., jane.doe@lccschool.org)
 - Password: lccbears OR first five letters of your Username
 - If your password does not work, there is an option to reset it.
 - The link is also available on the Staff Portal which is accessible on the school district website - www.lccschool.org
- **Please complete all Safe Schools online modules ON OR BEFORE Friday, August 29, 2025.**

Epilepsy Foundation's Seizure Training for School Personnel

All school district staff are required by NDE to participate in the Seizure Training for School Personnel every 2 years. Our district offered and required this training during the 2024-2025 school year.

- **ONLY NEW STAFF to LCC School** need to complete this online module training by accessing the link provided.
 - [Link to Seizure Training for School Personnel](#) (Click this underlined link.)
 - The link is also available on the Staff Portal which is accessible on the school district website - www.lccschool.org
- **Please complete the Seizure Training online module ON OR BEFORE Friday, August 29, 2025.**
 - The training module requires you to create an account or to sign in to an existing account. Returning staff may very well already have a training account. The module will also prompt you to create a certificate upon completion. Please generate, print and submit your completed certificate to your building principal.

School Transportation Requirements

Nebraska continues to have requirements for individuals (school personnel, volunteers, and parents) who may transport students in school-owned small vehicles. At LCC, all teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, and office staff are required to annually complete the Student Transportation modules, as well as meet a few other requirements:

- Safe Schools Training Modules
- Driver Certification
- DMV and Criminal Background Checks
- Driver Capacity Evaluation (In-Person; 3 Opportunities Provided)

Back to School Night

For our annual Back to School Night we welcome students and parents to visit our schools on **Tuesday, August 12th (5:00 pm - 7:00 pm)**. This year's event continues to include an "Open House" format, with students and families visiting classrooms and meeting teachers prior to the start of school. Paraprofessionals who may be available are encouraged to stay and help during each event!

Please know that we understand and appreciate how very busy you are preparing your classrooms and our school for the beginning of the new school year. Thank you for your continued dedication and extensive efforts – doing whatever it takes to start the new school year successfully!

Our Vision for LCC School

Together, we build a stronger future

where communities unite, educators inspire, and students excel.

We shape a legacy of excellence, leadership, and opportunity for all
through achievement, integrity, resilience, and respect.

#LCCStrongerTogether



Memo to: Board of Education
From: Jeremy Christiansen
Re: Superintendent's Report
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Superintendent's Report

Teacher and Staff Professional Development Days

- I have shared my communication with LCC staff members welcoming them to the new school year. The principals and I have been excited to engage in our new school year activities with staff. The document includes notations related to New Teacher Orientation, professional development and beginning of the school year preparations, as well as staff and personnel updates.

First Days of School

- Thursday, August 14th - First Day of School for K-12 Students (1:00 Dismissal)
- Monday, August 18th - First Day of School for PreK and Level 3 Programs

Business After Hours Honoring LCC School Staff and Board of Education (Friday, August 15, 2025)

- Please plan to join us for a special *Business After Hours* event on Friday, August 15th (5:00 pm to 7:30 pm) in recognition of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, proudly sponsored by the Laurel Chamber Community Club, the Coleridge Community Club, and several local businesses.
- This community gathering is a great way to celebrate the start of the new school year in a relaxed, social atmosphere. Enjoy appetizers and snacks while connecting with LCC staff, local business leaders, and fellow community members.
- A highlight of the evening will be the public recognition of LCC staff in attendance, including a special introduction of new teachers and staff joining the district this year.
- School board members are especially encouraged to attend as we come together to show appreciation and support for the people who help make LCC a great place to learn and grow.

Finance Systems and Budget Development

- I am continuing work on budget development and am anticipating receipt of our property valuations on August 20th. At that time I will be able to more precisely calculate and adjust the various budget funds in relation to the proposed tax-asking and corresponding tax levies.
- I would like to schedule a meeting with the Finance Committee (Jay, Grant, Jon) to discuss budget development and to share recommendations in advance of the Budget Workshop.
- We previously scheduled our Special Board Meeting/Budget Workshop for Thursday, August 28th at 3:00 pm (Library Board Conference Room in Laurel). At this meeting we will pay year-end bills, make any necessary fund transfers, and have our Budget Workshop presentation and discussion.

Annual School Audit Date Set for 2024-2025

- We have confirmed the date for our 2024-2025 school audit conducted by Dana F. Cole & Co. to be Tuesday, September 30, 2025.

Action Items

- Interlocal Agreement with Randolph Public Schools for Special Education Services
 - The Board is considering approval of a continuing Interlocal Agreement with Randolph Public Schools for the provision of special education services during the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. This agreement represents a contracted 3rd grade student who will continue to attend the Level 3 program on our Coleridge campus. With this student, our enrollment in the Level 3 program is 3 students (2 residents, 1 contracted).
- Board Policy Review - 2000 Series (Administration) on Second Reading
 - As part of the Board's Policy Review Schedule, we are reviewing the 2000 Series (Administration). At the June meeting, Board members had the opportunity to discuss or share questions or suggestions. The Policy Committee also met in June to review and consider the 2000 Series policies. At the July meeting, the Board approved the policies on First Reading. No updates or recommendations are provided.
 - Here is the link to these policies for your review - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cAJE5Yy40cT3lsOQaWjZoBQkLEI3M9ry?usp=drive_link
- Resolution to Approve Staff Trainings
 - In the 2024 legislative session, LB 1329 was passed as an attempt to ease some of the statutory staff training requirements. In the past, some mandatory requirements were identified in the law for a set length of time. LB 1329 softened these mandates to "a reasonable amount as determined by each school board." This change in the law allows for more flexibility and local control. However, after the Governor signed the bill into law, the question quickly arose: how should each board "determine" the reasonableness of the numerous training requirements? As a result, to comply with the new laws, each school board presumably needs to annually determine that the district's intended training is reasonable in length.
 - Our school's legal counsel developed a Board Resolution that addresses the training identified in LB 1329 along with all other legally required training. This resolution allows all training to be Board approved.
 - While there is no legal requirement to adopt this resolution, however, our Board needs to somehow approve the reasonableness of the training included in LB 1329. As such, I am recommending that the Board consider the Resolution to Approve Staff Trainings included in the Board meeting materials.
- Teacher Contract for Consideration
 - Following the late request for acceptance of resignation by Jean Granquist (Title I Teacher/Interventionist), Mrs. Hart considered several options for continuity and continuation of instructional support related to this position. She ultimately recommended that the district extend a temporary teaching position offer to Sheri Christiansen for the upcoming school year. Sheri has worked closely with Jean Granquist and the Title I program during the past 7 school years. She has a valid

teaching certificate and brings 19 years of teaching experience, including time in a Title I role similar to the current vacancy. It is notable that Mrs. Christiansen was not and has not been actively seeking employment in the district as a certified teacher. She has agreed to fulfill the duty expectations during the school year in support of the district's needs.

- Contract Resignations for Consideration
 - The Board is considering accepting Sheri Christiansen's resignation of her one-year teaching position effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
 - The Board is considering accepting Jean Granquist's resignation of her teaching position effective August 8, 2025. Jean Granquist has accepted a new position at Wayne State College in the Office of the Registrar.

Discussion Items

- Stakeholder Engagement
 - I will be presenting updates related to Board-established goals and action plans.

Correspondence

- Regular communication and updates from NASB and NRCSA have been included in monthly materials.

Upcoming Meetings

- NASB Area Membership Meeting
 - Wednesday, August 27, 2025 (4:30 pm - Northeast Community College/Norfolk)
- Special Board Meeting and Budget Workshop
 - Thursday, August 28, 2025 (3:00 pm - Laurel Public Library Board Conference Room/Laurel)
- Budget Hearing
 - Monday, September 8, 2025 (7:00 pm - LCC Middle School Board Room/Coleridge)
- Hearing to Set Final Tax Request
 - Monday, September 8, 2025 (Immediately following the Budget Hearing - LCC Middle School Board Room/Coleridge)
- Regular Board of Education Meeting
 - Monday, September 8, 2025 (Immediately following the Hearing to Set Final Tax Request - LCC Middle School Board Room/Coleridge)



Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School

**Board of Education
Committee Meeting Agenda/Minutes**

Board Committee: Transportation/Buildings/Grounds	Meeting Date: August 12, 2025
Meeting Location: EL/HS Campus	Meeting Start Time: 5:30 pm End Time:
Participants: Grant Settje (Chair), Scott Taylor, Jon Graham, Jeremy Christiansen Absent:	
Agenda 1. Surplus Vehicle Sales and Bid Progression a. 2015 Chevrolet Impala Limited (\$6,000) - \$7501.00 b. 2012 GMC Yukon (\$10,000) c. 2012 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Regular Cab (\$5,000) d. 2011 Ford E350 Super Duty Passenger Van (\$3,000) 2. Vehicle Replacement Schedule Review a. Consider purchase of a Minivan b. Consider disposal of two (2) Impala cars 3. Campus Grounds Updates and Discussion a. Side Walk and Playground Gates - HS/EL Campus** b. Bike Rack Surface - HS/EL Campus c. Access Drive to Practice Field - HS/EL Campus d. Fence Screen - HS/EL Campus** e. Playground Surface - HS/EL Campus f. Playground Surface - MS Campus** g. Speed Bumps and Signage - HS/EL Campus** h. Water Fountain/Bottle Filler - HS/EL Campus** i. Gym Fans - MS Campus** j. Shop Floor Resurface - MS Campus** k. Central Office - Flooring, Paint, Furniture** l. Trophy Case - HS/EL Campus 4. Elementary School Branding Proposal a. Community Fundraising Support	

5. Bus Barn Updates

- a. Cleaning
- b. Trench Filled/Capped
- c. Window
- d. Office Renovation

6. Transportation Updates and Discussion

- a. Drivers for 2025-2026
- b. Bus Routes for 2025-2026
 - i. AM/PM Routes
 - ii. Mid-day Preschool Route(s)
- c. Student Transportation Guidelines
 - i. Proposed Updates

7. CWP Architects Study

- a. Main Gym Locker Rooms
- b. Bus Barn

8. Legacy Gym HVAC Project

- a. Project Updates
- b. Project Costs to Date

9. Capital Improvement Discussion

- a. Locker Rooms (Main Gym; Legacy Gym)
- b. Stage (Curtains, Lights, Sound System)
- c. Bus Barn
 - i. Siding
 - ii. Addition
- d. Track Visitor Bleachers
- e. Future Track Repair
 - i. Resurface (est. \$600k)
 - ii. Replace Concrete Base (est. \$1.3 million)
- f. Laurel Campus Roof Replacement
 - i. Main Gym
 - ii. Legacy Gym
- g. Flag/Bell Plaza (\$8,000 Pledge Received)
- h. Highway Sign (\$75,000 Pledged)
- i. Library Sign (Partnership with Library Board and City of Laurel)
- j. MS HVAC System
- k. MS Roof Repair/Replacement

10. Other Items for Discussion

- a. Insurance Premium Increase (Value of Buildings; Workman's Comp)

Discussion (Topics and Notes)	Follow Up (Who's Responsible/Timeline)
1. Surplus Vehicle Sales and Bid Progression	

2. Vehicle Replacement Schedule Review	
3. Campus Grounds Updates and Discussion	
4. Elementary School Branding Proposal	
5. Bus Barn Updates	
6. Transportation Updates and Discussion	
7. CWP Architects Study	
8. Legacy Gym HVAC Project	
9. Capital Improvement Discussion	
10. Other Items for Discussion	

Recorded by: Jeremy Christiansen



TOPIC: Special Education Transportation –Rule 51, Section 14

“When is special education transportation required to be provided to children with disabilities?”

Nebraska Administrative Code 92 NAC 51 requires that special education transportation be provided to children with disabilities according to the child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). The IEP or IFSP Team, which includes the child’s parent(s), must follow the requirements below.

The district responsibility is:

014.01 *The board of education shall furnish one of the following types of services to children with disabilities who are residents of the school district:*

014.01A *Provide transportation for any child with a disability who is forced to leave the school district temporarily because of lack of educational services; and*

014.01B *Provide transportation within the school district for any child with a disability who is enrolled in a special education program of the district when either:*

014.01B1 *The child is required to attend a facility other than what would be the normal school of attendance of the child to receive appropriate special education services; or*

014.01B2 *The nature of the child’s disability is such that special education transportation is required.*

014.01C *The board of education shall provide transportation for all children with disabilities birth to age five including children birth to age five who are wards of the court.*

Special education transportation is provided as a related service to ensure that the child with a disability has access to a free, appropriate public education.

Nebraska Administrative Code 92 NAC 51-003.54 definition of related services, which includes transportation, *“are required to assist the child with a disability to benefit from special education”*.



TOPIC: Special Education Transportation –Rule 51, Section 14

“If a district does not provide regular transportation services, are they required to provide special education transportation services to children with disabilities?”

YES, special education transportation is an IDEA related service. Determination of the need for special education transportation is made by the IEP Team, which includes the parent(s), and must be provided by the district, according to 92 NAC 51-014.

014.02 *Responsibility for Transportation*

014.02A *The board of education shall be responsible to provide for the transportation expenses of children with disabilities who are residents of the school district under Neb. Rev. Stat. 79-1129 by:*

014.02A1 *Paying a parent for transporting his or her child for actual miles traveled and claimed; or*

014.02A2 *Operating vehicles for the purpose of transporting children with disabilities; or*

014.02A3 *Contracting for transportation services for children with disabilities; or*

014.02A4 *Purchasing services from a common carrier; or*

014.02A5 *Arranging for such other transportation as is proper and necessary to transport children with disabilities.*

014.03B *The school district or approved cooperative shall not be relieved of the obligation to provide transportation for an eligible child with a disability because of the inability or unwillingness of the child’s parents to provide transportation. No eligible child with a disability may be denied or have limitations placed on the child’s receipt of special education services required by an IEP or IFSP as a result of the inability or unwillingness of parents to provide transportation.*

79-611. Students; transportation; transportation allowance; when authorized; limitations; board; authorize service.

(1) The school board of any school district shall provide free transportation, partially provide free transportation, or pay an allowance for transportation in lieu of free transportation as follows:

(a) When a student attends an elementary school in his or her own school district and lives more than four miles from such elementary school as measured by the shortest route that must actually and necessarily be traveled by motor vehicle to reach the student's residence;

(b) When a student is required to attend an elementary school outside of his or her own school district and lives more than four miles from such elementary school as measured by the shortest route that must actually and necessarily be traveled by motor vehicle to reach the student's residence;

(c) When a student attends a secondary school in his or her own Class I, II, or III school district and lives more than four miles from such secondary school as measured by the shortest route that must actually and necessarily be traveled by motor vehicle to reach the student's residence. This subdivision does not apply to any elementary-only school district that merged with a high-school-only school district to form a new Class I, II, or III school district on or after January 1, 1997, and before June 16, 2006; and

(d) When a student, other than a student in grades ten through twelve in a Class V school district, attends an elementary or junior high school in his or her own Class V school district and lives more than four miles from such elementary or junior high school as measured by the shortest route that must actually and necessarily be traveled by motor vehicle to reach the student's residence.

(2)(a) For school years prior to school year 2017-18 and as required pursuant to subsection (3) of section 79-241, the school board of any school district that is a member of a learning community shall provide free transportation for a student who resides in such learning community and attends school in such school district if (i) the student is transferring pursuant to the open enrollment provisions of section 79-2110, qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches, lives more than one mile from the school to which he or she transfers, and is not otherwise disqualified under subdivision (2)(c) of this section, (ii) the student is transferring pursuant to the open enrollment provisions of section 79-2110, is a student who contributes to the socioeconomic diversity of enrollment at the school building he or she attends, lives more than one mile from the school to which he or she transfers, and is not otherwise disqualified under subdivision (2)(c) of this section, (iii) the student is attending a focus school or program and lives more than one mile from the school building housing the focus school or program, or (iv) the student is attending a

magnet school or program and lives more than one mile from the magnet school or the school housing the magnet program.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, student who contributes to the socioeconomic diversity of enrollment at the school building he or she attends has the definition found in section 79-2110. This subsection does not prohibit a school district that is a member of a learning community from providing transportation to any intradistrict student.

(c) For any student who resides within a learning community and transfers to another school building pursuant to the open enrollment provisions of section 79-2110 and who had not been accepted for open enrollment into any school building within such school district prior to September 6, 2013, the school board is exempt from the requirement of subdivision (2)(a) of this section if (i) the student is transferring to another school building within his or her home school district or (ii) the student is transferring to a school building in a school district that does not share a common border with his or her home school district.

(3) The transportation allowance which may be paid to the parent, custodial parent, or guardian of students qualifying for free transportation pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall equal two hundred eighty-five percent of the mileage rate provided in section 81-1176, multiplied by each mile actually and necessarily traveled, on each day of attendance, beyond which the one-way distance from the residence of the student to the school exceeds three miles. Such transportation allowance does not apply to students residing in a learning community who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

(4) Whenever students from more than one family travel to school in the same vehicle, the transportation allowance prescribed in subsection (3) of this section shall be payable as follows:

(a) To the parent, custodial parent, or guardian providing transportation for students from other families, one hundred percent of the amount prescribed in subsection (3) of this section for the transportation of students of such parent's, custodial parent's, or guardian's own family and an additional five percent for students of each other family not to exceed a maximum of one hundred twenty-five percent of the amount determined pursuant to subsection (3) of this section; and

(b) To the parent, custodial parent, or guardian not providing transportation for students of other families, two hundred eighty-five percent of the mileage rate provided in section 81-1176 multiplied by each mile actually and necessarily traveled, on each day of attendance, from the residence of the student to the pick-up point at which students transfer to the vehicle of a parent, custodial parent, or guardian described in subdivision (a) of this subsection.

(5) When a student who qualifies under the mileage requirements of subsection (1) of this section lives more than three miles from the location where the student must be picked up and dropped off in order to access school-provided free transportation, as measured by the shortest route that must actually and necessarily be traveled by motor vehicle between his or her residence and such location, such school-provided transportation shall be deemed partially provided free transportation. School districts partially providing free transportation shall pay an allowance to the student's parent or guardian equal to two hundred eighty-five percent of the mileage rate provided in section 81-1176 multiplied by each mile actually and necessarily traveled, on each day of attendance, beyond which the one-way distance from the residence of the student to the location where the student must be picked up and dropped off exceeds three miles.

(6) The board may authorize school-provided transportation to any student who does not qualify under the mileage requirements of subsection (1) of this section and may charge a fee to the parent or guardian of the student for such service. No transportation payments shall be made to a family for mileage not actually traveled by such family. The number of days the student has attended school shall be reported monthly by the teacher to the board of such public school district.

(7) No more than one allowance shall be made to a family irrespective of the number of students in a family being transported to school.

(8) No student shall be exempt from school attendance on account of distance from the school.

Source: Laws 1927, c. 84, § 1, p. 251; Laws 1929, c. 92, § 1, p. 348; C.S.1929, § 79-1902; Laws 1931, c. 149, § 1, p. 405; Laws 1941, c. 163, § 1, p. 650; C.S.Supp.,1941, § 79-1902; R.S.1943, § 79-1907; Laws 1949, c. 256, § 128, p. 735; Laws 1951, c. 276, § 6, p. 930; Laws 1955, c. 315, § 9, p. 979; Laws 1963, c. 483, § 1, p. 1553; Laws 1969, c. 717, § 1, p. 2743; Laws 1969, c. 718, § 1, p. 2744; Laws 1969, c. 719, § 1, p. 2746; Laws 1976, LB 852, § 1; Laws 1977, LB 117, § 1; Laws 1977, LB 33, § 10; Laws 1979, LB 425, § 1; Laws 1980, LB 867, § 2; Laws 1981, LB 204, § 156; Laws 1981, LB 316, § 3; Laws 1986, LB 419, § 1; Laws 1987, LB 200, § 1; Laws 1990, LB 259, § 22; Laws 1990, LB 1059, § 38; Laws 1993, LB 348, § 21; Laws 1994, LB 1311, § 1; R.S.1943, (1994), § 79-490; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 372; Laws 1997, LB 710, § 4; Laws 1997, LB 806, § 28; Laws 1999, LB 272, § 84; Laws 2003, LB 394, § 7; Laws 2005, LB 126, § 42; Laws 2006, LB 1024, § 56; Referendum 2006, No. 422; Laws 2007, LB641, § 10; Laws 2008, LB1154, § 8; Laws 2009, LB549, § 25; Laws 2013, LB410, § 8; Laws 2013, LB585, § 2; Laws 2016, LB1067, § 29; Laws 2018, LB377, § 58; Laws 2021, LB528, § 27; Laws 2024, LB1329, § 67.

Annotations

Subsection (4) of this section grants affiliated school districts the authority to provide free transportation to high school students residing in an affiliated Class I district, but neither creates any mandatory legal duty nor provides for the enforcement of any duty. "May" in subsection (4) is to be interpreted as

discretionary. Subsection (1) of this section provides that a school district must provide either free transportation or reimbursement at the statutory rate to high school students residing within that district. *State ex rel. Fick v. Miller*, 255 Neb. 387, 584 N.W.2d 809 (1998).

Implicit in this section is a school board's authority to provide free transportation to students if it chooses. *School Dist. of Waterloo v. Hutchinson*, 244 Neb. 665, 508 N.W.2d 832 (1993).

Section constitutional and not in violation of equal protection clause. *Warren v. Papillion School Dist. No. 27*, 199 Neb. 410, 259 N.W.2d 281 (1977).

Transportation allowance will be provided if child attending school resides more than specified distance from school. *Galstan v. School Dist. of Omaha*, 177 Neb. 319, 128 N.W.2d 790 (1964).

This section does not apply to the transportation of a physically handicapped child to a special school outside of school district. *Schutte v. Decker*, 164 Neb. 582, 83 N.W.2d 69 (1957).

Claim for transportation allowance must be filed monthly. *George v. School Dist. No. 24 of Red Willow County*, 157 Neb. 791, 61 N.W.2d 401 (1953).

In absence of authorization by electors to require transportation, school board can pay mileage. *Bender v. Palmer*, 154 Neb. 350, 48 N.W.2d 65 (1951).

This section does not control allowance for transportation when school board closes school. *Batterman v. Bronderslev*, 150 Neb. 875, 36 N.W.2d 284 (1949).

Early Childhood Preschool Transportation Notes

- It is a local school board's discretion to offer or financially support transportation for preschool-age children attending qualifying programs.
- State statutes do not specify that the transportation pickup or drop-off location must be a licensed provider.
- Historically, LCC School has not provided transportation for preschool students except under two specific circumstances:
 - When a child qualified under early childhood special education services (required by Rule 51), or
 - When a family resided more than three miles from their school consistent with transportation policies for K–12 students.
- The district expanded its transportation services for preschool students as part of a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Building Blocks Early Childhood and Family Development Center (January 2025).
 - This expansion includes transportation to and from the center-based program for students enrolled in LCC's preschool program, as well as for those participating in the before-and after-school program.
- The district considered broader transportation access for preschool-aged children, and recognized the complexity of trying to serve all types of daycare arrangements, including informal care (such as grandparents or neighbors).
 - To ensure consistency and promote quality assurance, the district determined that transportation may be provided to licensed in-home providers, if the location is on or near an established bus route.
 - This was done in an effort to balance accessibility with operational feasibility and safety.
- The district has also explored a parent-pay option for preschool transportation. However, given the limited number of drivers, number of students, and the high cost of driver compensation, fuel, and vehicle maintenance, this model would have been cost-prohibitive for families and financially inefficient for the district.
- While we greatly value the role of all our community's child care providers—licensed or not—we do consider licensure to be a formal and documented indicator of quality that aligns with the standards the school district promotes in its early childhood partnerships.
- We appreciate the feedback from families and will continue to review transportation practices as our programs grow and evolve.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School

Student Transportation Guidelines

Legal References

- [Nebraska Revised Statute 79-611](#) (Student Transportation)
- [Nebraska Rule 51, Section 14](#) (Special Education)

Board Policy References

- [Policy 5501 - Bus Transportation](#)
- [Policy 5503 - Use of School Buses](#)
- [Policy 5504 - Special Education Transportation](#)
- [Policy 5505 - Safe Pupil Transportation Plan \(Development of Plan\)](#)
- [Policy 5506 - Safe Pupil Transportation Plan](#)

Student & Family Handbook Reference

- [Student & Family Handbook - Article 6 Support Services - Section 5 Transportation \(p.44\)](#)

Student Transportation Eligibility Guidelines (Kdg to Grade 12)

- School transportation services are provided before and after the established school day.
- School transportation services are provided for a student at no cost when the student resides outside of the city limits of their school attendance center location.
- Families eligible for school transportation services (residing outside of the city limits of their school attendance center location) may identify one (1) alternate drop off address during each school year. Such alternate drop off addresses must be located outside of the city limits of the school attendance center location, and must be on or near an established bus route (within 1 mile of an existing route).
- Students of families not eligible for school transportation services may be permitted, with prior administrative approval, to be transported to or from school to a residence that is eligible for school transportation services, and from where an eligible student receives transportation services.
 - Arrangements for this type of transportation must be made through a request to the Principal's office, with consent from both parties (the non-eligible student's parent/guardian and the parent/guardian at the eligible residence). (Updated August 2025)

- Student transportation services are provided to/from eligible families' residence addresses. The school district does not establish community or neighborhood pick up or drop off points. (Updated July 2022)
- The school district does not provide student transportation services on a carrier for hire basis. (Policy 5503)
- Before and After School Program - The school district provides student transportation before and after school hours for students enrolled in and attending the before and after school program established through contracted services with Building Blocks Early Childhood and Family Development Center. Student enrollment in the before and after school program is at family discretion and expense. (Updated January 2025)
- Option Enrollment Students and Families - Students of families who have been approved for option enrollment into the school district from their resident district will be eligible for student transportation services when the family's residence is located no greater than three (3) miles from the school district's established boundary. (Updated July 2019)

Special Education Student Transportation (Birth to Age 21)

- Special education transportation is provided to children with disabilities according to Nebraska Rule 51, and specifically, the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
- The school district provides student transportation services to children with disabilities who are residents of the school district as follows:
 - Provide transportation for any child with a disability who is forced to leave the school district temporarily because of lack of educational services; and
 - Provide transportation within the school district for any child with a disability who is enrolled in a special education program of the district when either:
 - The child is required to attend a facility other than what would be the normal school of attendance of the child to receive appropriate special education services; or
 - The nature of the child's disability is such that special education transportation is required.
- Siblings of a student with a disability who is determined eligible for special education transportation may be permitted to participate in school transportation to/from the eligible student's residence using the same transportation schedule as the eligible student. Siblings may be transported when the eligible student is absent or not being transported due to illness, medical appointment, etc.

Early Childhood/Preschool Transportation (Birth to Age 5)

- The school district provides transportation for all children with disabilities birth to age five including children born to age five who are wards of the court.
- School transportation services are provided for a birth to age 5 student at no cost when the student resides outside of the city limits of the LCC Preschool Program attendance center location.
- Families eligible for early childhood/preschool transportation (residing outside of the city limits of their school attendance center location or having a child with a disability) may identify one (1) alternate drop off address during each school year. Such alternate drop off addresses must be located outside of the city limits of the school attendance center location, and must be on or near an established bus route (within 1 mile of an existing route).
- Early childhood/preschool students of families not eligible for school transportation services may be permitted, with prior administrative approval, to be transported to or from the Preschool program to a residence that is eligible for school transportation services and from where an eligible student receives transportation services.
 - Arrangements for such transportation are made through request to the Principal's office with consent notification required by both parties (non-eligible student's parent/guardian and eligible residence parent/guardian). (Updated August 2025)
- The school district provides early childhood/preschool transportation to and from in-home and center-based childcare programs located within the school district boundaries that are licensed through the State of Nebraska. (Updated January 2025)

Transportation Between Campuses

- The school district operates a shuttle bus system for students between the school campus locations in Laurel (PK-5, 9-12) and Coleridge (6-8). The schedule for the shuttle routes before and after school, as well as for activities, will be established by school administration each school year.

2025-2026 Interlocal Agreement for Special Education Services

Cedar County District #14-0045, hereinafter referred to as Randolph Public Schools, and Cedar County District #14-0054, hereinafter referred to as Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School agree to the following terms and conditions for the 2025-2026 school year. The rates established for Special Education services, for the 2025-2026 school year are outlined below.

Programs	Service Costs or Fees	Paraprofessional Costs
Speech Therapy (LCC School)	Billed Directly to Randolph by LCC	
Audiological (ESU 1)	Billed Directly to Randolph by ESU 1	
Psychology (ESU 1)	Billed Directly to Randolph by ESU 1	
Physical Therapy (ESU 1)	Billed Directly to Randolph by ESU 1	
Occupational Therapy (ESU 1)	Billed Directly to Randolph by ESU 1	
Nursing Services (LCC or Agency)	Billed Directly to Randolph by LCC or Agency	
Autism and S&P Programs @ LCC Middle School	215 Day Program: \$17,600.00 (Per Student)	\$43,850.00 (Per Student)
Transportation	<i>Randolph Responsible for Transportation</i>	

1-Student Enrolled = \$17,600.00
 1-Paraprofessional = \$43,850.00
 Total = \$61,450.00

S&P Program Student(s)	Payment To	1st Quarter		3rd Quarter	
		2nd Quarter	4th Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Jackson Graham	Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School PO Box 8 Laurel, NE 68745	\$15,362.50	\$15,362.50	\$15,362.50	\$15,362.50
Total Due to Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School				\$61,450.00	

(Plus other services billed directly.)

Dated: August 11, 2025

By: 
 Superintendent
 Cedar County District #14-0045
 Randolph Public Schools

Dated: _____, 2025

By: _____
 Superintendent
 Cedar County District #14-0054
 Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School

RESOLUTION APPROVING STAFF TRAININGS

WHEREAS, the School District is required by various state and federal laws to train staff on numerous topics; and,

WHEREAS, during the 2024 legislative session, the Legislature enacted LB 1329; and,

WHEREAS, LB 1329 defers to each Board of Education to determine the reasonable length of time for certain staff training requirements; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the District’s planned training requirements for the 2024-2025 school year comply with LB 1329’s requirements, and to ensure the Board of Education is aware of and approves of other required staff trainings during the 2025-2026 school year, the Board of Education adopts this Resolution to find and determine that the following training requirements are reasonable in scope and length.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby determines as follows:

1. The following trainings are reasonable in both length and scope and the Superintendent or designee shall identify the District staff who shall be trained as follows:

Subject	Required by	Source of Training	Approximate Length of Training
Behavioral Awareness	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-3603	ESU 1; Ashley Promes Sarah Beckwith	ESU 1 – 1 hour CPI – 3 to 8 hrs
Dating Violence Prevention	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,141	Vector Solutions (online)	34 mins
Suicide Prevention	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,146	Brandi Settje/LMHP	20 mins
Concussion Awareness	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-9104	Arianne Conley Quin Conner	20 mins
Fire Drills	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-527; (https://sfm.nebraska.gov/fire-prevention/school-fire-drills)	Building Principals; School Safety Team	10 mins
Tornado Drills	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2,144(8)	Building Principals; School Safety Team	10 mins
Intruder Drills	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,144(5); NDE Rule 10.011.01B	Building Principals; School Safety Team	30 mins (staff); 8 hours (Safety Team)
Anti-Bullying	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,137; NDE Rule 10.011.01F; NDE Guidance	Vector Solutions (online)	25 mins

	(https://www.education.ne.gov/safety/staff-development-and-resources-for-teachers/)		
Pupil Transportation Drivers	NDE Rule 91.003.02	UNK Safety Center; Vector Solutions (online); Director of Transportation	2 hours (bus drivers); 115 mins (staff)
Anti-Harassment and Discrimination Requirements for Designated Title IX Positions	Title IX, 20 U.S. Code § 1681	ESU 3 Title IX Training; NCSA; School Legal Counsel	25 mins (staff); 3 hours (admin)
Safe Seizure Schools	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-3204	Epilepsy Foundation	30 mins
District Assessment Contact - State Assessments	NDE Guidance (https://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/district-assessment-contact-dac/#1661275806368-95d87496-3109)	District Administration	20 mins
Seclusion & Restraints	Rule 10, Code Section 011: School Environment (011.01E)	Ashley Promes	CPI – 3 to 8 hrs
Blood Born Pathogens	Department of Labor: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030	Arianne Conley/Nurse	25 mins (identified staff)
Medication Administration		Arianne Conley/Nurse	25 mins (identified staff)
Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting	State Statute 28-711	District Administration	15 mins

2. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to implement additional training requirements for staff if the Superintendent or designee determines that additional training would be in the best interest of the District and/or is otherwise required by law.

3. The Superintendent or designee is further authorized to deviate from the source of these training requirements if any unexpected circumstances arise and the Superintendent or designee determines that it is in the best interests of the District to require a different training(s).

4. All District staff who are directed to attend or participate in any training requirement(s) must complete such training(s) in good faith and in accordance with this Resolution and the directives of the Superintendent or designee.

This Resolution shall continue until or unless modified by a vote of the majority of a quorum of the Board of Education.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

_____ PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BY: _____
President

ATTEST:

Secretary



School District Plans, Policies, and Annual Trainings' Requirements

**Important or Highlighted - May Not Be An All-Inclusive List*

 Date Completed:	<p><u>Behavioral Intervention Training and Teacher Support Act</u></p> <p>Neb. §§ 79-3602 & 79-3603</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required - Neb. §§ 79-3602 & 79-3603: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) ensures training is available statewide with a system of support for teachers in place (2024-25 school year) ○ School districts ensure that each administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, school nurse, and counselor receives behavioral awareness training (beginning in school year 2026-27) and have behavioral awareness review training at least once every 3 years thereafter ○ On or before July 1, 2025, and on or before July 1 of each year thereafter, each school district shall submit a behavioral awareness training report to the ESUCC ● Required - Neb. §§ 79-3602 & 79-3603: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each school district designates one or more school employees as a behavioral awareness point of contact for each school building or other division as determined by such school district (2023-24 school year) ○ Each point of contact must be trained in behavioral awareness and have knowledge of community service providers and other resources that are available for the students and families in their school district ○ Each school district lists their point of contact(s) on the district website and in any school directory for the school(s) the contact serves ● Required Training: Behavioral Awareness Training for administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, school nurses, and counselors; Behavioral Awareness Training for the district "Point of Contact(s)" ● <i>See Mandated Times for Training section below</i> ● Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council: Training Flyer with Options, FAQ, Links ○ Nebraska Department of Education: NDE Learning Network ○ Record District Data on the ESUCC Behavior Intervention Training Reporting Tool (BIRT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>Access to the BIRT is through the Nebraska Cloud. Follow the prompts on the site. If you are unable to access, please contact your ESU or contact the ESUCC Tech Support team directly via the "Help" button at the bottom of the BIRT site</i> ● Reference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neb. §§ 79-3602 & 79-3603
 Date Completed:	<p><u>Bullying</u></p> <p>Statute: 79-2, 137; Rule 10, Code Section 011: School Environment (011.01F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy and Comprehensive Training/Education Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training and instruction of all groups (<i>certified, non-certified staff, students, parents/community, volunteers, etc.</i>) with a comprehensive training/education plan that should be updated annually



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required Training: Introductory staff development provides awareness of bullying and can be conducted through direct presentations, meetings, role plays, video resources, literature, etc. ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rule 10, page 3 ○ Nebraska Department of Education: CSSS: Staff Development & Resources for Teachers
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Concussion Awareness</u> Concussion Awareness Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Protocols and Practice for <i>Removal from Play, Return to Plan, and Return-to-Learn</i> ● Required Training: All coaches, youth athletes, and their parents or guardians must be provided with education about the risks and symptoms ● Reference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Health and Human Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Dating Violence Prevention</u> See also: Title IX as dating violence is included in the definition of sexual harassment State Statute 79-2, 141 Rule 10, Code Section 011: School Environment (011.01G)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy, Published policy in School District Handbook or similar manual or publication ● Required Training: <i>Staff that are deemed appropriate by a school district's administration</i> and shall include, but not be limited to, basic awareness of dating violence, warning signs of dating violence, and the school district's dating violence policy ● <i>See Mandated Times for Training section below</i> ● Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nebraska Department of Education: CSSS: Dating Violence Prevention ○ Nebraska Department of Education Model Policies (MP 1, p. 3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Driver Qualifications and Operational Procedures</u> Title 92, Chapter 91</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: To be a Pupil Transportation Driver (003.02) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eligibility (003.02A, A1, A2, A3, A4) ○ Specific Vehicle Operator's License (003.02B) ○ Initial Training Requirements for Qualification (003.02C, C1, C2, C3) ○ <i>Requirements</i> for an individual to Maintain Status (003.02D) ● Required: Employer Responsibilities (003.03) and Procedures & Safety (004 & 005) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must include having a valid Medical Examiner's Certificate, driving records annually obtained from the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles, and a criminal history record that includes information from the Nebraska State Patrol for all individuals that are to be employed as pupil transportation vehicle drivers ○ Procedures & operating regulations are in place & followed (004.01-004.07M / 005.01-005.03A) ● Required Training: Employers shall annually provide a minimum of two (2) hours of inservice training for all pupil transportation vehicle drivers that, at a minimum, include emergency evacuations, loading/unloading, student management, vehicle inspections and the school's Safe Pupil Transportation Plan (003.02E) ● Reference: Title 92, Chapter 91
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><u>School Safety and Security Plan</u> Statute: 79-2, 144; Rule 10, Code Section 011: School Environment (011.01B, C, and D)</p>



<p>Date Completed:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: A Plan, a Committee, and an Annual Review and Site Visit ● Required Training: Fire Drills, Tornado Drills, Intruder Drill ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rule 10, page 3 ○ Nebraska Department of Education: Nebraska School Safety Vision
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>School Safety and Security Reporting System</u> Nebraska Statute 79-2, 144</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: The Nebraska Department of Education must undertake certain efforts (<i>e.g., establish a Safe2HelpNE report line statewide, track and evaluate the effectiveness and usage of the Safe2HelpNE report line, appoint state school security director, adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the School Safety and Security Reporting System Act</i>) ● Required Training: NDE must provide training for the members of any threat assessment team serving a public or nonpublic school. ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-2, 144
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Seclusion and Restraints</u> Rule 10, Code Section 011: School Environment (011.01E)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy ● Required Training: Identified key educators utilizing restraints
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Seizures Safe Schools Act</u> Nebraska Statutes 79-3203 & 79-3204</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: The State Board of Education must adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this Act and includes training requirements for school employees, procedures for developing seizure action plans, and the content of a seizure action plan. ● Required Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 79-3203(1): One school employee at each school who has met the training requirements necessary to administer or assist with the self-administration of a seizure rescue medication or medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms as approved by the United States FDA. ○ 79-3204: In addition to any other professional development and collegial planning activities for certificated school employees, each certificated school employee shall participate in a minimum of one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials at least once in every two school years. ● Resources: Nebraska Department of Education: School Health Services ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nebraska Statutes 79-3203 & 79-3204 ○ The Nebraska Department of Education: School Health Services
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>SRO Training</u> State Statute 79-2704 / LB1377</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required Training: (2) <i>Require a minimum of one administrator in each elementary or secondary school where a school resource officer or security guard is assigned to attend a reasonable amount of training, as determined by each school board, (change for 2024-2025 school year from minimum of twenty hours) focused on school-based law enforcement, including, but not limited to, coursework focused on school law, student rights, understanding special needs students and students with disabilities, conflict de-escalation techniques, ethics for school resource officers and security guards, teenage brain development, adolescent behavior, implicit bias training,</i>



	<p><i>diversity and cultural awareness, trauma-informed responses, and preventing violence in school settings.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State Statute 79-2704 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Important: Memorandum of Understanding and Training Requirements ○ Nebraska Department of Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Model MOU for SRO ■ Model MOU for Security Agency ○ LB1377
<p></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>State Assessments</u> Standards, Assessment, and Accountability (SAA) <i>Updated each year by NDE and located on DAC page</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify a District Assessment Contact (DAC) each year ○ Prevent Assessment Irregularities (e.g., maintaining security of test materials, proper test preparation guidelines and administration procedures, incident reporting procedures, etc.) ○ ESSA - Alternate Assessment guidelines are followed ● Required Training: Annual training at the district and school level for all individuals involved in test administration
<p></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Suicide Prevention</u> State Statute 79-2, 145-146</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>“Beginning in school year 2023-24, all public school employees who interact with students and any other appropriate personnel, as determined by the school superintendent, shall receive at least one hour of behavioral and mental health training with a focus on suicide awareness and prevention training each year.</i> ○ <i>Such training may include, but need not be limited to, topics such as identification of early warning signs and symptoms of behavioral and mental health issues in students, appropriate and effective responses for educators to student behavioral and mental health issues, trauma-informed care, and procedures for making students and parents and guardians aware of services and supports for behavioral and mental health issues.</i> ○ <i>This training shall be provided within the framework of existing inservice training programs offered by the State Department of Education or as part of required professional development activities.”</i> ○ <i>See Mandated Times for Training section below</i> ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CSSS: Suicide Prevention & Response ○ State Statute 79-2, 146
<p>Required Policies and Practices with “highly recommended” trainings</p>	
<p></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Bloodborne Pathogens</u> Department of Labor: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Employers safeguard employees who face potential occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials ● Training: NOT Required, but recommended as a way to protect employees and reduce the risk of exposure.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference: Nebraska Safety Council
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Child Abuse Reporting</u> State Statute 28-711</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required: District Policy and Prodecures for Mandatory Reporting; State Law, <i>“When any school employee has reasonable cause to believe a child has been subjected to child abuse or neglect or observes such child being subjected to...”</i> Training: NOT Required, but recommended to train staff on this law requirement and the district’s mandatory reporting policy and procedures Reference: Revised State Statute 28-711
District Requirements	
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Behavioral Intervention and Management</u> Nebraska Statute 79-262.01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“On or before July 1, 2025, the State Department of Education shall develop and adopt a model policy relating to behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school. The model policy shall include appropriate training for school employees on behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in schools and how frequently such training shall be required. The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by each school board.</i> <i>“On or before August 1, 2025, each school district shall develop and adopt a policy consistent with or comparable to the model policy developed by the State Department of Education pursuant to subsection of this section, which shall be a requirement for accreditation in accordance with section 79-703. Such policy shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education. The policy developed and adopted by a school district pursuant to this subsection shall be included with any notifications required under the Student Discipline Act.”</i> <i>“Beginning in school year 2026-27, each school district shall ensure that any school employee who has behavioral management responsibilities participates in behavioral awareness and intervention training consistent with the school district policy developed and adopted in accordance with subsection (2) of this section. Such training shall be provided by the school district or such school district’s educational service unit. The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by the school board.”</i> Resources: Nebraska Department of Education Model Policies (MP 5, p. 19) Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-262.01
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Cell Phones</u> LB 140</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each public school board must develop and adopt a policy relating to use of <i>“any device which transmits by electronic means any writing, sound, visual image, or data of any nature to another electronic communication device”</i> (which includes cell phones) by students as prescribed Reference: LB 140



<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Dress Codes for Students</u> 79-2,158</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>“On or before July 1, 2025, the school board of each school district shall adopt a written dress code and grooming policy to be implemented at the start of the 2025-26 school year that is consistent with the model policy developed by the State Department of Education in accordance with 79-2,158 of this act and may include any other procedures and provisions the school board deems appropriate.”</i> ● Resources: Nebraska Department of Education Model Policies (MP 3, p. 9) ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-2.158
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Dyslexia</u> Nebraska Statute § 79-11,157.01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Districts collect and maintain data as identified in the statute beginning in the 2023-2024 school year with guidance provided by the Nebraska Department of Education ● NOTE: This supplements the Nebraska Legislatures previous Nebraska Reading Improvement Act intended to remove barriers to students’ progress in reading ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nebraska Statute § 79-11,157.01 ○ Nebraska Department of Education: Nebraska Reads
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Financial Aid for Students</u> State Statute 79-729</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <i>“Beginning in school year 2024-25, each public high school student shall complete and submit to the United States Department of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid prior to graduating from such high school except as otherwise provided in this subsection.”</i> ● NOTE: There are exceptions in this statute (79-729(3)(i)-(iii)) ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-729
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Financial Literacy Act</u> Nebraska Statute 79-729</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: For students attending public schools – “beginning in school year 2023-24, at least five of the minimum credit hours shall be a high school course in personal finance or financial literacy.” ● Reference: Nebraska Statute 79-729
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Firearm at School</u> 28-1204.04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For Class I and II School Districts and Private, Denominational, or Parochial ● Does not apply to a public elementary or secondary school in a Class III, IV, or V school district. ● Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Written policy shall, at a minimum, include requirements for personal qualifications, training, appropriate firearms and ammunition, and appropriate use of force.</i> ● Resources: Nebraska Department of Education Model Policies (MP 4, p. 14) ● Reference: 28-1204.04
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><u>Grade Retention (Promotion and Retention)</u> Statute 79-2, 161</p>



<p>Date Completed:</p>	<p>Grade Retention LB71</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A parent may require their student repeat a grade if the student meets one of the identified reasons. For kindergarten through fourth grade students, a parent may retain their student for (i) academic needs, (ii) illness, or (iii) excessive absenteeism. For students in fifth through twelfth grade, a parent may retain their student for excessive absenteeism. ○ Create Policy 5201 to meet the requirement allowing parents to require their student to repeat a grade if statutory criteria is met ● References: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LB 71, Section 11 ○ Statute 79-2, 161
<p> Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Harassment and Discrimination</u> Statute: 79-2, 137; Title IX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policies (Nondiscrimination, Harassment, Complaint/Grievance Procedures, etc.) ● Schools are highly encouraged to post the following information on their school websites: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The contact information for the school's Title IX Coordinator; and</i> 2. <i>The school's non-discrimination policy.</i> ● Training: Training for the Title IX Coordinator is highly recommended ● References: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nebraska Sexual Harassment Training b. NE Equal Opportunity Commission c. U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights
<p> Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Lobbying and Membership Fees</u> LB 304</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>“Each political subdivision shall publicly disclose the following on its website:</i> ○ <i>(a) Membership dues paid annually to any association or organization, identifying each such association or organization and the dues amounts paid; and</i> ○ <i>(b) Fees paid to any individual lobbyist or lobbying firm other than any fees paid for lobbying services that may be included in the membership dues described in subdivision (2)(a) of this section.”</i> ● Reference: LB 304, Section 2
<p> Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Option Enrollment</u> State Statute 79-238</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ By October 15th of each school year and for the purpose of option enrollment, school districts must adopt by resolution specific capacity standards for acceptance and ejection of applications for the following school year. ○ This is inclusive of the district having a plan, process, and individualized communication related to the “capacity for special education services operated by an option school district shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.” ○ Keep records of option enrollment applications and data to report to the Nebraska Department of Education by July 1st each year ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-238
<p></p>	<p><u>Pregnant and Parenting Students</u> LB 427 (2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy



<p>Date Completed:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Related to pregnancy and child care for pregnant and parenting students ● Resources: Nebraska Department of Education Model Policies (MP 2, p. 5) ● Reference: LB 427
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Property Tax Request Joint Hearing</u></p> <p>Nebraska Statutes 77-1630 through 77-1634</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Districts need to prepare for and review the joint public hearing and the budget and tax request process and timelines. ● If the district participates in the hearing, <i>at least one elected official (board member) from each participating political subdivision shall attend the joint public hearing</i> ● Districts need to sufficiently plan to ensure that they meet the new law's very specific and condensed time frame. ● Of note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is a tab on the auditor's budget document to calculate the allowable growth percentage and related requirements. ○ A school district will only have <u>one</u> certified allowable growth percentage to represent total growth across all counties. Districts that land in multiple counties will need to make sure that they take this into consideration. ● Districts are strongly encouraged to work with their counties over the summer to plan for this joint hearing to avoid any last-minute confusion or delays. ● Reference: Nebraska State Statutes 77-1630, et seq
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>School Board Policies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Check with your school attorney for Annual vs. Time Frame (i.e., "every 3 years") reviews
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>State Reporting Requirements</u></p> <p>ADVISER, Consolidated Data Collection, Grants Management, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact NDE for guidance, utilize NDE Weekly Digest/NDE Bulletin for timelines and reporting updates
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Student Discipline Act Updates</u></p> <p>State Statute 79-256</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School Board Policies and Student Handbook(s) reflective of the changes in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ suspensions, expulsions, mandatory reassignments, access to education and completing school work, and reporting and process requirements (timelines and communication) ● Reference: Nebraska's Student Discipline Act
<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Date Completed:</p>	<p><u>Suspensions for PreKindergarten - 2nd Grade Student</u></p> <p>Nebraska Statute 79-265.01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy stating <i>"an elementary school shall not suspend a student in pre-kindergarten through second grade. Each school district shall develop a policy to implement this section which shall include disciplinary measures inside the school as an alternative to suspension."</i>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NOTE: “An elementary school may suspend a student in pre-kindergarten through second grade if such student brings a deadly weapon on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.” ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-265.01
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Youth Organizations</u> Nebraska Statute 79-297</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each school district shall, upon request, allow a representative of any youth organization to provide (i) oral or written information to the students of such school district regarding the youth organization and how such youth organization furthers the educational interests and civic involvement of students in a manner consistent with good citizenship and (ii) services and activities to any student of such school district who is a member of such youth organization. ○ NOTE: Groups are limited to those youth organizations with a corporation chartered by Congress and listed in 36 U.S.C. Subtitle II, Part B, as of January 1, 2023. ● Reference: Nebraska Statute 79-297
Legislation Impacting Future Requirements	
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Anaphylaxis</u> LB 457</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Require the Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with the State Department of Education to develop model policies relating to anaphylaxis for use in school districts and licensed child care programs as prescribed; to require school districts to adopt a policy relating to anaphylaxis as prescribed.” ○ “On or before July 1, 2026, the school board of each school 16 district shall adopt a written policy to address incidents of anaphylaxis 17 involving students at school. A school board may use the model policy for 18 use in school districts developed pursuant to section 1 of this act as a 19 guide. Such policy shall not conflict with or hinder the implementation 20 of an individualized anaphylaxis plan of a student and shall be 21 consistent with section 79-224 relating to self-management by a student.” ● Reference: LB 457
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Computer Science and Technology Education Act</u> State Statute 79-729</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For students attending public schools – “Beginning in school year 2027-28 at least five of the minimum credit hours shall include computer science and technology education as required under section 79-3304.” ● Reference: Nebraska State Statute 79-729
<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed:	<p><u>Library Directory</u> LB 390</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beginning of the 2026-27 school year, school districts must adopt a policy “relating to access by a parent, guardian, or educational decision maker to certain school library information.”



- Reference: [LB 390](#)

Mandated Times for Training

LB 1377

- **Required:** This provision provides flexibility related to previously set time requirements for various education-related statutes (noted below) through the phrase, “The length of such training shall be a reasonable amount as determined by each school board.” In many cases, the statutes prescribe one hour or a specific time requirement. This new training provision has school boards determine a reasonable amount of time(s) applying to the following:
 - Training for school employees on behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in schools (§ 79262.01);
 - Dating violence training (§ 79-2,141)
 - Mental health training with a focus on suicide awareness and prevention training (§ 792,146)
 - Training for the members to conduct threat assessments, engage in crisis intervention, increase awareness of concerning behavior among school staff, students, and the public, and interrupt violence in the planning stage to thwart potential harm to persons and property (§ 79-3105)
 - Beginning in school year 2026-27, training to ensure that each administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, school nurse, and counselor receives behavioral awareness training (§ 79-3602)
 - Behavioral awareness point of contact training, including knowledge of community service providers and other resources available for the students and families in the school district (§ 79-3603)
- Reference: [LB 1377, Sections 21-24, 87, 93-94](#)



Date
Completed:



TEACHER'S CONTRACT

For Class II, III, & VI Schools

THIS CONTRACT made by and between the School District of LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE No. 54 in the county of CEDAR in the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "District" and Sheri Christiansen, a legally qualified teacher, hereinafter referred to as "Teacher".

WITNESSETH: That the Board of Education of the District hereby agrees to employ the Teacher above named in the schools of the district for a school year, which shall begin on or about 8/8/2025, and end on or about 5/18/2026, and shall consist of 186 days of service and that the Teacher hereby agrees to accept such employment at the salary specified in the negotiated agreement between the board of education and the LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE Education Association for the 2025-2026 school year and under the following conditions.

Experience allowed: 20 (19 Outside + 1 Inside)

FTE: 1.0

Position: Duties Assigned by Supt.

Education Step: BA + 18

Factor: 1.42

FIRST: The salary of the Teacher shall be payable in 12 equal installments. The first installment shall be payable on the 20th day of September, 2025 and the remaining installments shall be payable on the 20th day of each month thereafter.

SECOND: The teacher hereby agrees to be governed by the policies of the Board of Education of the District and that the teaching duties to be performed by him/her under this contract shall be subject to assignment of the Superintendent of the District with the approval of the Board of Education of the District; and further agrees to devote full time, during the days of school, to his/her position in all respects, to diligently and faithfully perform the assigned duties as Teacher to the best of his/her professional ability.

THIRD: In addition to the teaching duties set forth herein, the Teacher may be assigned such "extra duty" assignments as defined from time to time by the parties of this agreement which shall be upon such terms and conditions and such additional stated rate of compensation as the Teacher and the District may from time to time agree upon.

FOURTH: This contract may be cancelled or amended by a majority of the members of the school board during the school year for any of the following reasons: (a) upon cancellation, termination, revocation or suspension of the teacher's certificate by the State Board of Education; (b) breach of any of the material provisions of this contract; (c) for any reason set forth in this contract; (d) incompetency; (e) neglect of duty; (f) unprofessional conduct; (g) insubordination; (h) immorality, or (i) physical or mental incapacity. Cancellation or amendment under this contract shall be governed by the provisions of 79-12, 110, R.R.S.

FIFTH: That upon termination of this contract for just cause, or upon the release of the Teacher from this contract, the compensation paid or to be paid hereunder shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the yearly salary herein specified as the number of days of service to the date of such termination bears to 185 days of service. Any unearned fractional portion of an installment paid but not earned prior to termination of the contract shall be refunded by the Teacher.

SIXTH: There shall be no penalty for release or resignation by the Teacher from this contract; provided no resignation shall become effective until the close of the school year unless accepted by the Board of Education of the district and the Board shall fix the time at which the resignation is to take effect.

SEVENTH: This contract shall conform to the regulations governing deductions from the above stated compensation with reference to withholding tax, Social Security and teacher's retirement. Other deductions may be withheld as agreed to by the parties to this contract.

EIGHTH: The Teacher hereby affirms that he/she is not under contract with another School Board or Board of Education within this state covering a part or all of the same time of performance as is contemplated by this agreement. The teacher further affirms that at the beginning of the term of this contract and throughout the term of this contract he/she holds or will hold a valid Nebraska Teaching Certificate. It is understood and agreed that this contract is not valid until the teacher's certificate, as herein listed, is registered in the office of the superintendent of schools and that the Teacher shall not be compensated for any services performed prior to the date of registration of this certificate.

NINTH: Terms and conditions set forth in this agreement shall be subject to such wages and conditions of employment as may, from time to time, be mutually agreed upon by and between the board and teachers or a duly recognized collective bargaining agent for said teachers, and said agreement, when reduced to writing and executed by the parties, shall be deemed to be included herein by reference and shall become a part hereof.

TENTH: Hereafter, this contract may be continued by a separate, annual written, "Renewal Agreement" which shall incorporate all the provisions hereof by reference, except as stated on such Renewal Agreement. Renewal Agreements or renewal contracts must be executed by the Teacher and delivered to the Superintendent of Schools or the Secretary of the Board of Education of the District within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt thereof from the district. Contract renewal, amendment, termination or cancellation shall also be subject to the requirements of Sections 79-12-111 through 79-12, 114 R.R.S. and any other applicable state statutes.

ELEVENTH: The failure to return a signed copy of the contract or renewal agreement to the Superintendent of Schools or Secretary of the Board of Education of the District on or before 8/12/2025 shall constitute a rejection by the Teacher of the offer of employment.

TWELFTH: Other Contract Terms:

Executed: 8/6/25
Date

Sheri R. Christiansen
Teacher

Executed: 8/12/2025
Date

School District of LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE

Attest: _____
Secretary

No. 54

County of CEDAR

By: _____
President

Sheri Christiansen
501 Oak Street
Laurel, NE 68745

August 6, 2025

LCC Board of Education,

Please accept my resignation from the Title I teacher position effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Sheri L. Christiansen

Jean Granquist
304 Oak Street
Laurel, NE 68745
jeangranquist@gmail.com
402-518-0047

7-28-2025

Jeremy Christiansen, Supt.
Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School
502 Wakefield Street
Laurel, NE 68745

Dear Mr. Christiansen,

I am writing to formally resign from my position as Title 1 Coordinator/ Elementary Teacher effective August 8, 2025. It has been a very difficult decision to make, and a lot of thought and prayer has gone into this decision as I know the timing is not ideal. It has been an honor to work at Laurel- Concord-Coleridge Schools, and I have truly enjoyed working with the students, faculty, and parents of LCC for the last 30 years. I wish everyone at Laurel- Concord- Coleridge much success in the future.

Sincerely,



Jean Granquist



Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

Member Update

August 7, 2025



Photo Credit: Plattsmouth Community Schools



www.nrcsa.net



www.twitter.com/NRCSA1980



www.facebook.com/nrcsahome/



NRCSA Calendar

NRCSA Events

NRCSA District Meetings

September 2025

South Central

September 2, 2025

ESU 11 in Holdrege (time TBD)

West

September 9, 2025

In Bridgeport (time and location TBD)

Southwest

September 10, 2025 (tentative)

Hershey High School (time TBD)

North Central

10:30 AM September 11, 2025

Jubilee Catering in Ord

Northeast

11:00 AM September 22, 2025

At Wayne State College

Southeast

10:00 AM September 30, 2025

At the NCSA office in Lincoln

NRCSA Legislative Forum

February 26, 2026

Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Spring Conference

March 18 & 20, 2026

Crowne Plaza & Younes North Convention Center in

Kearney

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Golf Tournament

July 28, 2026

Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney

[More about this event](#)

Committee Meetings

NRCSA Executive Committee

9:00 AM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)

NRCSA Scholarship & Recognition Committee

10:00 AM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)

NRCSA Closing the Achievement Gap Research Team

11:00 AM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)

NRCSA Leaders Lunch

12:00 PM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)

NRCSA Legislative Committee

1:00 PM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)

NRCSA Rural Teacher Committee

3:00 PM November 19, 2025

At the CHI Center in Omaha (room TBD)



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.

Vacancies will appear once the application period for them is open.

Access the Members area of www.nrcsa.net anytime.

Login: member Password: learning

NRCSA Updates

Welcome back to the start of a new school year! At NRCSA, we also plan for the start of the year. We are preparing for our Fall District meetings, all of which will be in September this year. Dates and locations are located elsewhere in this Member Update. We hope to have our largest numbers yet for the District meetings. The Superintendent search season has started earlier than in the past and we are working toward helping some of our member districts in their searches. We will be preparing for another round of “Non-Traditional” Scholarships for teacher candidates that will go out later in the fall. We also involved in discussions with various groups on Legislative issues. We will prepare for all of the NRCSA committees to meet in conjunction with the NASB/NASA Fall Education Conference in Omaha. Very soon we will start preparing for this year’s Spring Conference, as well as the NRCSA Legislative Forum. Also, preparations are being made for members of the Executive Committee to attend the National Rural Education Conference in Salt Lake City. So, while we are not as deep into “getting ready” for the start of the school year as most of you are, we do still have our attention facing forward. Here’s hoping all of you have your best year yet! If there is anything we can do to help you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The School Financing Review Commission, which was created this Spring by the Unicameral, has its first meeting on Tuesday, August 12. Information on the meeting can be found in the following communication from NDE. If you click on “School Financing Review Commission” in the next paragraph, you will find access to links to the live broadcast of the meeting.

From Brian Leisy, Executive Assistant in the Commissioner’s office: The first meeting of the [School Financing Review Commission](#) will be held Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 8:00am, at the Nebraska Department of Education Office Building (500 S 84th St., Lincoln, NE 68510), in the State Board Room. Use the following link to receive the agenda: [Commission Agenda](#) (also attached).

A map for parking and entry to the building is also attached.

[SFRC Agenda](#)

[NDE Building Map](#)

NRCSA’s annual membership drive began on July 1. Annual Dues remain at \$850. Notices were sent in time for your July board meetings. You are welcome to pay your dues in this fiscal year or the next. Last year we had 224 school districts, ESU’s, and State colleges and we expect to continue our annual growth. Thanks to you for being a member. This energizes our representation and advocacy for rural Nebraska, no matter who we are engaged with on education, legislation, or community issues. Without your support, there is less rural advocacy. Whether we like it or not, the outstate and rural population

NRCSA Leadership

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

does not create a legislative majority anymore. In fact, rural Nebraska lost another seat in the Unicameral in the most recent redistricting. Finding success, whether that be by passing, amending, or stopping legislation, comes from membership, relationships, and focus. Thanks to your membership in NRCSA, rural is “at the table” and making a difference on behalf of our rural students, schools, and communities.

NRCSA is excited to introduce 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.

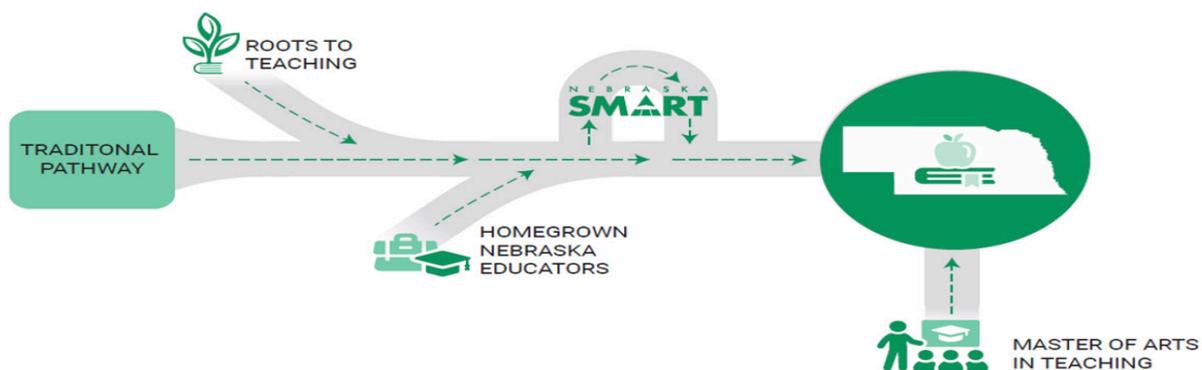
We offer a set of tiered service options for NRCSA Member Districts:

- 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.

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.

Expanding the Educator Pipeline through Innovative Nebraska State College Initiatives.

Educator Preparation Pathways



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 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 and now at Hastings, has shared a sample Superintendent Checklist that he uses. 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 SPRING CONFERENCE

We continue to celebrate the recipients of the NRCSA “Outstanding Awards” who were recognized at the NRCSA Spring Conference. They were:

- OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY TEACHER: Kari Schroeder, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca
- OUTSTANDING SECONDARY TEACHER: Kimberly Bender, Humphrey
- OUTSTANDING MUSIC TEACHER: Kim Hammer, Weeping Water
- OUTSTANDING ESU STAFF MEMBER: Scott Jones, ESU 16
- OUTSTANDING CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBER: Juli Klingelhofer, Amherst
- OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL: Keri Homan, Crawford
- OUTSTANDING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER: Mike Stracke, Stuart
- OUTSTANDING SUPERINTENDENT: Dale Hafer, Ainsworth



DALE HAFER



KERI HOMAN



SCOTT JONES



JULI KLINGELHOEFER

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association



KIM HAMMER



*KARI SCHROEDER (ALSO GARY ANDERSON,
2000 NRCSA OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL)*



KIMBERLY BENDER



MIKE STRACKE

Also at the NRCSA Spring Conference, KSB School Law and the Perry Law Firm were honored as the 2025 NRCSA Friend of Rural Education Award recipients.



REPRESENTATIVES OF KSB SCHOOL LAW & PERRY LAW FIRM—RECIPIENTS OF THE FRIEND OF RURAL EDUCATION AWARD

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.

Last year, NRCSA assisted the Boards of Education at Lawrence-Nelson, Boyd County, Pawnee City, and Shelton

in their Superintendent searches.

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.

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@nrca.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](#)

2025 NRCSA Joe Toczek Golf Tournament

The 2025 NRCSA Joe Toczek Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, July 22, 2025 at Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney. The event was a great success, with 188 golfers taking part. The top three teams in each flight are as follows:

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Dave Raymond + Larry Cihal + Kent Vitols + Byron Copeland 59
Craig Jones + Derrick Joel + Sean Mallory + Jeff Schneider 59
Bobby Truhe + Steve Williams + Coady Pruett + Karen Haase 59

FIRST FLIGHT

Colin Martin + Matt Hodgson + Steve Dike + Ben Wright 63
Jay Spearman + Darren Soucie + Jake Luhr + Curtis Childers 63
Tobin Buchanan + Mark Wragge + Mark Otten + Jeff Gross 63

SECOND FLIGHT

Troy Keilig + Andy Cronin + Mike Halley + Blake Beebout 66
Ryan Terry + Steve Spurgeon + Beau McConnell + Adam Lambert 66
Blake Brumbaugh + Freddy Lopez + Josh Nutt + Sean Dougherty 66

NRCSA thanks all who participated. This tournament helps to fund the NRCSA Scholarship program.

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](#)

One of the more outstanding student academic activities that I've had the pleasure of working with is Academic Decathlon. The nation-wide program provides a prescribed course of study each year. Teams are made up of students of different academic abilities. Students with an "A" average compete against other students with an "A" average, students with a "B" average compete against other students with a "B" average,

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

and students with a “C” average compete against other students with a “C” average. Schools can choose how they prepare for competitions. Some teams meet after school or in the evenings, while some schools offer a class.

There is a regional competition in January, with the State Championships being held in February. Students compete for medals at both events. Scholarships are awarded to members of teams who are successful in the competitions. Three of my four children competed in Academic Decathlon and between them were awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships.

This past year, two NRCSA-member schools qualified for the State Championship: Amherst and Johnson County Central.

Each year there is a central theme for the Academic Decathlon curriculum. For the 2025-25 school year, the theme is “The Roaring 20’s”. Music, art, and literature will cover the Jazz Age.

If you would like get more information on the Nebraska Academic Decathlon, please contact NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles of one of the Nebraska Academic Decathlon Co-Executive Directors:

Ardis Moody ardis.moody@gmail.com

Cris Hay-Merchant chaymerchant@bellevue.edu



JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM



AMHERST ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM



The 2025 regular session of the Unicameral is now completed. The legislature adjourned sine die on Monday, June 2. While there were passed bills still needing the Governor’s signature, he indicated he would not veto any of the remaining adopted bills. NRCSA’s final summary may be accessed here:

NRCSA’s bill summary page may be accessed here:

[NRCSA Bill Summaries](#)

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

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

three \$1,000 scholarships for the fall semester and three \$1,000 scholarships for the spring semester for the 2024-25 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. Application materials for Spring scholarships were distributed to member Superintendents and ESU Administrators, who were then asked to share with potential candidates in their buildings. The NRCSA Scholarship and Recognitions Committee selected the three Spring semester scholarship winners.

Applications for the 2026 Spring semester scholarships will be open in the fall, at a date to be determined.

NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles visited Fairbury, Harvard, and Summerland to make the scholarship presentations of the Fall scholarships. The three recipients are Mary LeFave of Fairbury, Ryan Kile of Harvard, and Shayna Strobe of Summerland.

Ryan Kile is currently a paraeducator at Harvard High School. He is working on a teaching certificate in Secondary Business Education through Chadron State College.

Mary LeFave is currently a paraeducator at Fairbury High School. She is working on a teaching certificate in 7-12 Biology through the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Shayna Strobe is currently a paraeducator at Summerland Elementary School. She is working on a teaching certificate in Elementary Education through Chadron State College.



FAIRBURY SUPT DEVIN EMBRAY, MARY LEFAVE, JACK MOLES



HARVARD SUPT MICHAEL DERR, RYAN KILE, JACK MOLES



SUMMERLANDE SUPT. MOLLY ASCHOFF, ELEM PRINCIPAL CATHY COOPER, SHAYNA STROPE, JACK MOLES

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 this “early” 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. 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@nrcca.net) or Jeff Bundy (jbundy@nrcca.net).

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 131 such meetings. I most recently attended the Board meeting at Wakefield and Allen on May 12 and Emerson-Hubbard on June 11.

I am scheduled to attend the following Board of Education meetings in the near future:

Monday, August 11: Wauneta-Palisade and Hayes Center

Monday, September 8: Mullen

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.

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association



WAKEFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



ALLEN BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



EMERSON-HUBBARD BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



NRCSA wishes to share in the celebration of the special accomplishments and recognitions going on in our member schools and ESUs.

August 2025:

*** The National Merit Scholarship Corporation recently announced its scholarship recipients. Students from NRCSA-member districts recipients, including:**

NMS Scholarship: Michael Tophoj, Ogallala

College Sponsored Winners:

- Elliott Balcom, Northwest (Wichita State)
- Austin Schmidt, Heartland (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- Noah Armstrong, Wayne (Belmont University)

*** The Omaha World-Herald announced its All Sports Rankings. NRCSA-member schools were recognized, including:**

CLASS D COMBINED (BOYS & GIRLS)

- CHAMPION–Central Valley
- RUNNER-UP–Johnson-Brock
- 5TH PLACE–Howells-Dodge

CLASS D BOYS

- RUNNER-UP–Central Valley
- 4TH PLACE–Stuart
- 5TH PLACE–Riverside

CLASS D GIRLS

- CHAMPION–Shelton
- RUNNER-UP–Johnson-Brock
- 3RD PLACE–Central Valley
- 4TH PLACE–Southwest

CLASS C COMBINED (BOYS & GIRLS)

- RUNNER-UP–Minden
- 5TH PLACE–Battle Creek

CLASS C BOYS

- CHAMPION–Central City
- RUNNER-UP–Battle Creek

CLASS C GIRLS

- CHAMPION–Minden
- 3RD PLACE–Gothenburg
- 5TH PLACE–Oakland-Craig

*** The Nebraska Women’s Athletic Leadership Alliance recently released its inaugural slate of award winners. Recognized from NRCSA-member districts were:**

- ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR–Paige Goetzinger, Plainview
- ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR: Jenny Wagner, Centennial
- UNDER 30/TRAILBLAZER AWARD: Madalynn Fousek, Exeter-Milligan-Friend Volleyball

*** Josie Floyd, Elementary Principal in Gothenburg, received the NCSA Distinguished Service Award during Administrator Days.**



*** Students from NRCSA-member schools who placed in the Top 5 in events at the FBLA National Conference include:**

HIGH SCHOOL

- Austin Schmidt, Heartland–4th place in Business Law
- August Burns, Joe Burns, Arlington–3rd place in Business Management
- Patrick Bursaw, Ravenna–5th place in Human Resource Management

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Maria Adle, Chase County–1st place in Business Etiquette
- Petra Homan, Elmwood-Murdock–3rd place in Exploring Leadership

COLLEGIATE

- Georgia Ramsey, Heidi Taylor, Wayne State College–3rd place in Community Service Project
- Braxton Dalton, Wayne State College–4th place in Foundation of Entrepreneurship
- Braxton Dalton, Wayne State College–2nd place in Foundations of Selling

Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

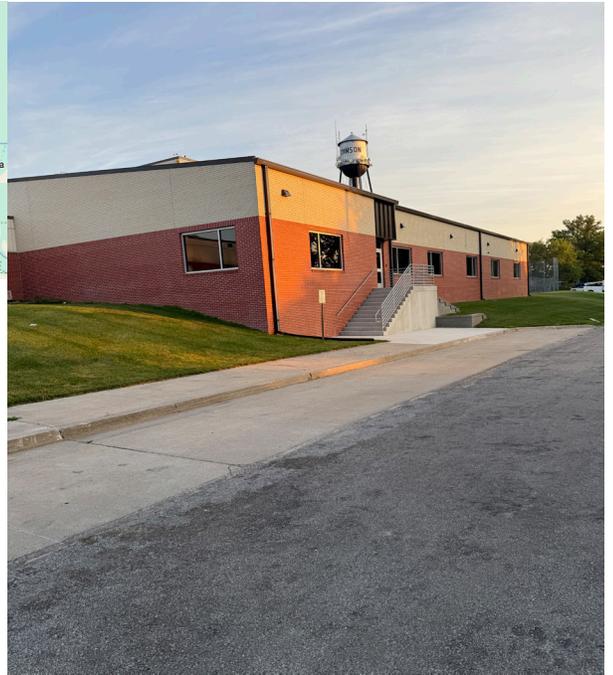
- Mekenna Fisher, Chadron State College–2nd place in Impromptu Speaking
- Lander Imbimbo, Peru State College–Retail Management

*** The Gilder-Lehrman Institute has named Mr. James Hulstein, of Bancroft-Rosalie, as the 2025 Nebraska History Teacher of the Year. As Nebraska's awardee, Mr. Hulstein is now one of 53 finalists for the National History Teacher of the Year, selected from over 7,000 nominations submitted each year across the country.**



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Johnson-Brock Public Schools



Superintendent: **Jeffrey Koehler**

Principal: **Lucus Dalinghaus**

Mascot: Eagles

Enrollment: 356

Location(s): Johnson, NE

Interesting Fact: On November 2, 1925, tragedy struck, and the Brock schoolhouse burned, just as students were coming to school in the morning. Some of them helped to save some materials from the school. Before the smoke had cleared, Superintendent M. A. Sams had classes set up in makeshift quarters all over town, and the school became known as the “Main Street Campus.”

The high school met in the Methodist Church basement; chemistry class shared space with the coal supply in the fuel room. Other classes met in the other churches, meeting rooms, all over town. Plays and activities were held at Bennet’s Theater. Music and debate had their programs in the Methodist Sanctuary. With no gym, no lunchroom, no recreation area, free time was spent strolling up and down Main Street. Nebraska’s Governor, Adam McMullen came to Brock for the Graduation Exercises that year - May, 1926, that was held in the Methodist Church.



Board of Education: **Keith Bohling**, President; **Chester Bohling**, Vice President; **Blayne Behrends**; **Brian Meyer**; **Mitch Neddenriep**; & **Bryan Wakinlinski**

Programs

Program 1. FFA – Our FFA program started in 2017 and immediately had interest from our students. In 2020 we hired a second FFA instructor and now our participation rate is over 70 kids in the program. The FFA program has had several state champions, and several represent the school at the national convention each year. The Johnson-Brock FFA was recognized as the Outstanding Secondary Agricultural Program of the Year in 2025 by the Nebraska Agricultural Educators Association.

Program 2. Blue Ribbon School – In 2022 the district celebrated the Blue Ribbon Awarded by the Federal Government. This was the second Blue Ribbon award in 8 years. We believe one of the key reasons for our schools success is the impact of the TeamMates mentoring program. When students have consistent, trusted adult mentors in their lives, they build confidence, stay engaged and more likely to set and reach goals. It can create a ripple effect, strengthening our school culture, support mental well-being and build a foundation for long term success.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Cedar Bluffs Public Schools



Mascots: Wildcats

Enrollment: 486

Location(s): Cedar Bluffs, NE

Superintendent: Harlan Ptomey



Principals: Kristina Headid, Secondary Principal; Curtis Carlson, Elementary Principal; & Thomas Brinkman, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS



Jeremy Pleskac



Tim Shanahan



Todd Thiesen



Grant Fitzgerald



Garlyn Grosse



Amanda Timmerman

Cedar Bluffs Public Schools

Programs:

Cedar Bluffs Career Academy: The Cedar Bluffs Class of 2025 has a total of 21 students, achieving academic, career, and personal milestones that set them apart. As a group, they've earned over 120 college credits through partnerships with Southeast Community College, Doane University, and Metropolitan Community College. Several students went even further, earning certifications that will launch them directly into high-demand careers, including Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Commercial Driver's License (CDL), and Welding. Many also completed multiple OSHA certifications, preparing them for success in the workplace. This group has also been offered over 1 million dollars in scholarships, not including the full-tuition scholarships awarded to several seniors. These awards reflect not only their hard work, but also their potential for future success.

Daycare and Pre-School Program: Cedar Bluffs offers a convenient, high-quality daycare program located on-site, serving both staff members and families in the community. The daycare is open Monday through Friday year-round, including during the summer months, providing reliable care and a nurturing environment for children. In addition to daycare, Cedar Bluffs also offers a full-day preschool program. The preschool runs Monday through Friday and is completely free of charge. Designed to support early learning and school readiness, the program provides young children with engaging, age-appropriate education in a supportive setting.



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!*



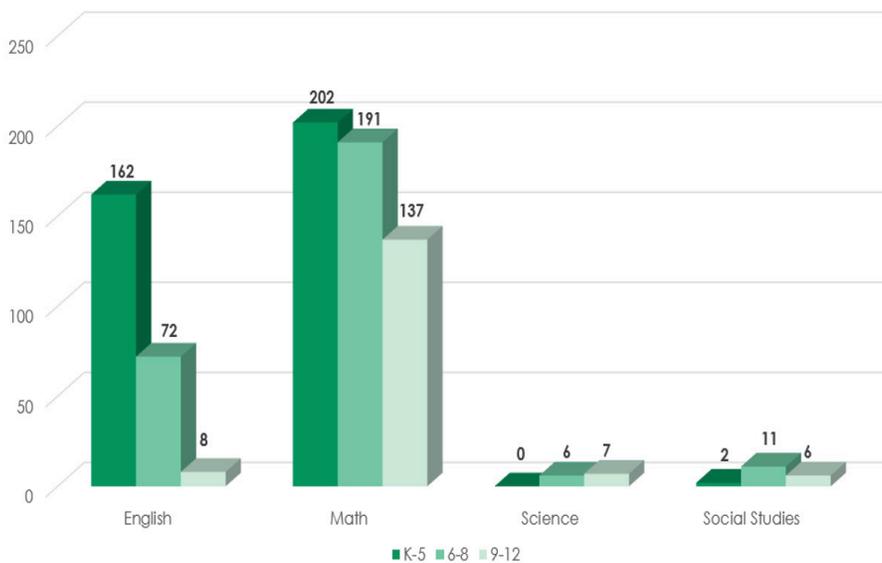
Nebraska SMART Free Online Tutoring for K-12 Students.

Tutoring will resume in **August**.
Stay tuned for updates throughout the summer about Nebraska SMART.

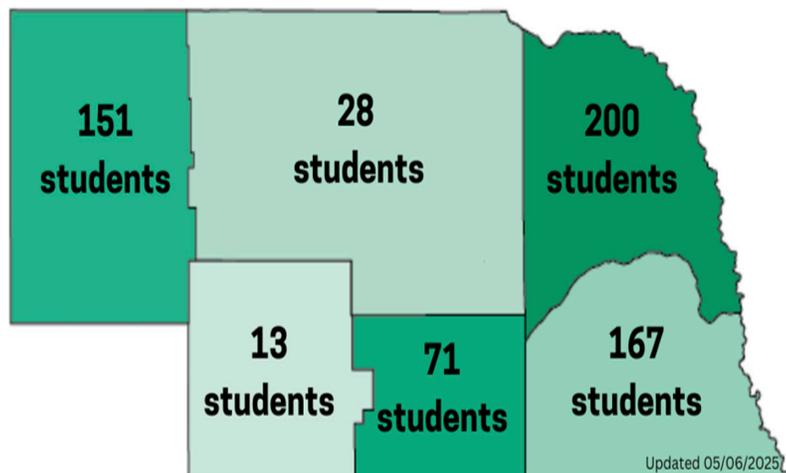
Spring 2025 Semester Impact

Tutoring for the Spring 2025 semester has concluded, with over 810 sessions and 450+ hours of support provided to K–12 students in rural Nebraska—an increase from Fall 2024’s 735 sessions and 405 hours. Notably, **75% of sessions served students from NRCSA member districts.**

The graph below shows a breakdown of tutoring sessions by subject and grade level.



630 students have registered since February 2024, with 74% attending an NRCSA member school district. The map below shows the NRCSA districts where each student is registered.



What parents are saying

Parents have shared their experiences about the impact the tutoring program:

Families across rural Nebraska are seeing the difference Nebraska SMART tutoring is making in their children's learning. Here's what a few had to say:

- *"My son scored 49 points higher on his NSCAS test for the spring. He's started working with [a Tutor] right around Christmas time! He was so proud of that growth and so am I!!!"*
- *"My daughter's comprehension at school has improved a lot and also her math scores went up!"*
- *"His tutor has such patience as he works through word decoding and reading. His tutor is very good at motivating him and keeping him engaged."*
- *"Being able to have one-on-one teaching and tutoring. My son was able to actually understand the information that he could not learn at school. He was able to master and actually understand the concept when working for 15 minutes 1-on-1 with [the Tutor]."*
- *"Repetition is key. Reassurance and patience, kindness and camaraderie. NSCAS Math score went up!! My student said, 'because of my tutor.'"*
- *"[The Tutor] was able to connect with [my son] and keep [my son] engaged while helping him to catch up in math. He was able to introduce new skills and go back and work with [my son] on not only his current homework but skills he was behind on. [My son's] grades and confidence have gone up in all subjects at school since he began this tutoring program."*

How can school districts help?

New promotional posters will be mailed to each school district this summer for use in the upcoming school year. To request additional materials, such as bookmarks, please complete the Nebraska SMART [Promotional Material Request Form](#).

Your help in reaching out to parents within your district is essential to increasing awareness of this program. Here are a few ways you can assist:

Share about Nebraska SMART

- In school, district, or classroom newsletters for parents
- With Teachers, Counselors, Parent/Teacher Associations, and district staff
- Add [Nebraska SMART](#) as a student resource on school district websites

- Connect with Nebraska SMART on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X \(Twitter\)](#)
- Share with district technology team the domain [allowlist guide](#)

For more information, visit:

www.nscs.edu/nebraskasmart

Email for inquiries or to request promotional supplies: nebraskasmart@nscs.edu

Thank you for your support in raising awareness of Nebraska SMART!

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 onboarding 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 Natural 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 College & Career Success Team is led by Dr. Dawn Lindsley (dawn.lindsley@unl.edu) at the State 4-H Office and Jacie Milius (jacie.milius@unl.edu) in Gage County. In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. With nearly six million members nationwide and 140,000 in Nebraska, we empower youth to lead for a lifetime. In a rapidly changing world, it's crucial for young people to be equipped with the right mix of knowledge, skills, and experiences for their transition from education to the workforce. Through our programming, we provide developmentally appropriate, experiential learning opportunities to help youth and adults explore postsecondary education and career options, preparing them to reach their fullest potential in today's dynamic job market. If you would like to learn more, please visit <https://4h.unl.edu/programs-priorities-career-college-success>.

Nebraska students are the leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers of tomorrow. Through collaboration with business & industry, organizational, and postsecondary partners, school districts can provide students with invaluable real-world experiences, access to resources, and insights into the demands of the workforce. We can bridge the gap between education and employment, equipping students with the skills, knowledge, and connections they need to thrive in the competitive global economy. Together, we can create a brighter future for our students and our communities.

The National Rural Education Association, in partnership with the Rural Schools Collaborative, has issued a study entitled WHY RURAL MATTERS. The report "looks critically at how educational supports and resources for student well-being are being distributed, casting light on which of our rural children are in need of additional support". The study is well done and shows Nebraska in a pretty positive light. I would encourage you to take a look at WHY RURAL MATTERS, which can be accessed here:

[Why Rural Matters](#)

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](#)

NRCSA is pleased to announce 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 recently 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)



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.



[Read the Full Blog](#)

The American Heart Association is committed to partnering with schools in rural Nebraska to improve the health of their communities. A few of these opportunities include:

Tobacco Free Schools. Unfortunately, recent data reveals the ongoing challenges of youth tobacco use. The 2021 National Youth Tobacco Survey showed that: Approximately 2 million MS/HS students reported using e-cigarettes during the pandemic; nearly 85% of them used flavored tobacco products. More than 4 in 10 HS students and nearly 2 in 10 MS students who used e-cigarettes did so 2 out of 3 days and youth showed a strong brand preference.

Many schools have struggled to keep up with the continued innovation of the tobacco industry. To help address that, the American Heart Association created our Tobacco Free Schools Toolkit. The toolkit is designed to help schools update their policies so that now – and in the future – they will cover all products, people, and places while providing mechanisms that support students who are battling tobacco addiction. More information/resources are here.

Improving Cardiac Response in Schools. Did you know that the odds of surviving a cardiac arrest in rural areas is only about half of that in an urban area? In the aftermath of a cardiac emergency - minutes matter. The Chain of Survival starts with those who are present and requires everyone to do their part. The American Heart Association is committed to building a Nation of Lifesavers to and to helping school districts and other entities develop [Cardiac Emergency Response Plans](#). These plans consider: access to functioning AED's, a strong

base of CPR knowledge and training, as well as the identification of a response team and the annual practice of a cardiac emergency. Tim Nikolai, Sr. Rural Health Director at the American Heart Association can help. Please reach out to: Tim.Nikolai@heart.org.

[Learn CPR in 60 Seconds](#)

A note from Mr. Nikolai:

*For those I have not met previously, I am the **American Heart Association's** lead for rural health in the Midwest Region, inclusive of your states. My role allows me to work collaboratively with all manner of organizations that are in a position to impact health in their communities – and schools are certainly near the top of that list.*

*There are many ways our organization has worked to collaborate with schools – supporting access to nutritious, affordable food, helping to address the ongoing challenges of vaping/tobacco use, and more. Today, though I'm focusing primarily on our resources to assist with cardiac readiness / cardiac emergency response planning. Much of the country was watching – or has followed since – the **collapse of Buffalo Bills' safety, Damar Hamlin, on Monday Night Football**. Fortunately, Damar's story had a happy ending. Our goal is to maximize the opportunity for everyone to have a similar outcome should they experience a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Most organizations will not have the resources that the NFL does to ensure player safety, but there is much that can be done, especially with proper planning.*

*Some data suggests that **nearly 1% of schools will be the site for an out of hospital cardiac arrest annually**. For a variety of reasons, rural areas are disproportionately impacted by both rates of cardiac arrest and poor outcomes. We know that prepared and equipped schools mean better outcomes for staff, students, visitors, and the communities that so often gather in school spaces.*

We have recently built out/updated a variety of tools to assist schools – and other organizations – with their cardiac readiness. These include:

- *Sample Cardiac Emergency Response Guidelines and Plans.*
- *A toolkit to maximize the impact of AED placement and implementation.*
- *Training and awareness tools to help with Hands-Only CPR knowledge for staff and students.*
- *A revamped, training site search feature, for coaches, nurses, and others who need CPR certification.*
- *In some cases, we may have – or be able to help secure – financial resources to help schools with purchasing/maintaining AEDs, CPR mannequins, etc. Hearing the scope of that need can help us secure additional resources, so please let us know!*

Please let me know if you see an opportunity or need to dialogue about these resources further or share them with your member districts. I'm happy to assist with newsletter copy, join or host webinars, or other ideas that fit your standard means of communication.

Finally, at the risk of sharing too much – a few other notes I wanted to highlight.

- *I've attached an invitation for our **Fall Educator Series**. Administrators/Educators from all districts are welcome to attend the sessions they are interested in. You'll see the one in November is on Cardiac Emergency Response Planning.*
- *Last year some 1300+ rural schools in the Midwest participated in our Kids Heart Challenge program. They raised life-saving money for our mission, earned PE equipment for their schools, and helped improve health knowledge in their community. Last year, tens of thousands of families learned Hands-Only CPR through the program.*
- *Thanks to the **Missouri Rural Health Association** for sharing our HeartCorps program on their home page. That opportunity exists for IA, KS, KY, MN, MO, NE, OH, and WI. Happy to chat more!*

[American Heart Association Service Summary](#)



The NCA & Proactive Coaching partner to bring Coach Bruce Brown's legendary insights about the parent's role in education-based athletics to your school & community.

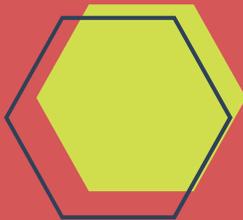
Book your School's Presentation

Parent Meetings or Special Events

THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION-BASED ATHLETICS

PRESENTED BY DARIN BOYSEN, NCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Outstanding information, well delivered. There were times I thought he was talking directly to me, which is a sign of a great communicator. I personally feel I'm better today than yesterday as a sports parent because I was able to listen to this message." – Parent & School Board Member

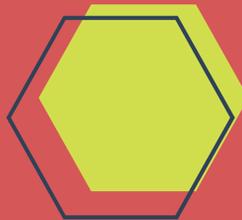


Before the Season

What do Athletes/Kids Really Want?

Releasing Your Son/Daughter to the Experience

Parental Red Flags

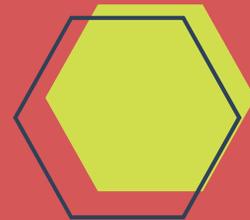


During the Game/Event

Modeling Appropriate Behavior

Big Picture

One Instructional Voice



After the Game/Event

Time & Space

Confidence Building

Relationship Building

Six Powerful Words

NEBRASKA COACHES ASSOCIATION

500 Charleston St, Ste 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

402-310-5472 | darin@ncacoach.org

Official Association Endorsements as of September 1





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

Darin Boysen
Nebraska Coaches Association

Official Association Endorsements – as of September 1



The National Rural Education Association's Legislative Committee (of which NRCSA is a member) continues to represent rural education on the Federal level. NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles and NRCSA Legislative Committee Co-Chair Bryce Jorgenson (Supt. at Southern Valley) attended the NREA Federal Legislative Summit in Washington DC on April 6-8.



JACK MOLES AND BRYCE JORGENSEN AT THE U.S. CAPITOL



NRCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JACK MOLES & SOUTHERN VALLEY SUPT. BRYCE JORGENSEN WITH NEBRASKA SENATOR DEB FISCHER (1999 NRCSA Outstanding Board of Education Member)

Bryce and Jack met with the offices of each of Nebraska's contingency in Congress. They specifically shared three points of emphasis with them:

- Maintaining funding promises via programs such as REAP, Title I, and e-Rate in light of the changes being made to the US Department of Education.
- Full funding of IDEA was stressed. This would bring about \$171 million more to Nebraska public schools in support of Special Education services.
- Passage of the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2023. This would bring almost \$200,000 to school districts surrounded by tax-exempt public lands.

NREAs Legislative Agenda for 2025 is as follows:

One in five students attends a rural school. Rural schools provide education critical to future productive citizenship for children and youth in rural communities. Rural schools and higher education institutions play important roles beyond teaching and learning as the economic and social hearts of the communities they serve. America can thrive when rural communities thrive, and rural communities cannot succeed without strong preK-12 and postsecondary learning opportunities. As the oldest (1907) education association representing rural educators, the National Rural Education Association (NREA) supports education opportunities for students from early childhood through postsecondary education to include federal support for early childhood education, K-12 education, and a wide range of postsecondary education opportunities.

1. **RURALSCHOOL FUNDING** • NREA urges Congress to sustain and, where possible, increase funding to Title V, Part B of ESSA, the Rural Education Achievement Program, with a specific increase to the Rural Low-Income School program. • NREA supports investments in the Secure Rural Schools Programs (SRS) that provides critical funding for districts impacted by federal lands. NREA supports long-term dedicated SRS funding for 5-10 years and retroactive appropriations to ensure no disruption in funding. • NREA requests that Congress fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). To honor the commitment to support the education of students with disabilities, Congress should act immediately to restore full funding to IDEA. • NREA opposes efforts to privatize or redirect federal funds to privatize education such as voucher programs, attempts to incentivize federal tax credits for donations to private schools, and proposals to create educational savings accounts for K-12 students.
2. **RURAL EDUCATION DATA AND RESEARCH** • NREA expresses strong support for continuation of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). This will ensure collection and reporting of data about all schools including low-income and rural schools (including locale codes). NREA believes that accurate identification of rural schools is necessary to guide federal investments in rural schools and communities. • Data is essential to understand those practices that support rural students and advance rural education. • NREA supports continuing and increasing federal investment in data-driven rural education research.
3. **RURAL TEACHER EDUCATION AND**

WORKFORCE INVESTMENTS • NREA supports increased access and funding to career and technical education (CTE) programs in high school and post-secondary education to ensure a healthy rural workforce. • NREA supports the reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the National Apprenticeship Act. WIOA increases the availability of services and supports in schools so students have access to youth apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs. • NREA supports the preservation and expansion of federal grant and loan forgiveness programs that support the preparation of teachers and other school personnel, especially those that encourage individuals to work in rural districts and communities.

The Committee for Education Funding (CEF) is a group that the NREA Legislative Committee works with.

Sarah Abernathy, CEF's Executive Director, provided an update following in November's elections. She does provide a decent overview of what the national landscape might look like moving forward. (Please note that all of CEF's views do not necessarily reflect all of the views of NREA or NRCSA.)

FROM SARAH:

I. The election and CEF's mission to support investments in education

Dear CEF Members:

As we digest the results of yesterday's election and wait to find out which party will lead the House in the 119th Congress, I imagine many of you are focused on what this means for governing in general and for education funding and policy in particular. We will certainly be facing a more challenging environment for investing in education and for ensuring that the federal government supports and protects students, educators, and education institutions as the country continues to educate students of all ages. CEF's mission to increase the federal investment in education will not change, but we'll have to focus more on defense against funding cuts. We will continue to point out the results of education investments – for students immediately and for economic growth in the long term. We will need to communicate well, broaden our community of advocates, and target our efforts so they are as effective as possible.

Things to keep in mind – I generally hope for the best but try to prepare for the worst. I wasn't prepared for last night, but just made a list of some things I expect from a Trump Administration's education agenda, and

how likely they are to happen. Key things to keep in mind:

Congress did not enact past Trump budgets that cut education funding – In fact, Congress ignored the Trump Administration's requested steep cuts and increased education funding. I don't expect education funding increases now but do know that Members of Congress do not want to vote for bills that will cost jobs in their district or harm their constituents. One of our jobs will be to continue to highlight why investments in education are so important to those who need to be convinced.

It is hard to make big changes in government quickly – Some Republicans want to eliminate the Department of Education, while continuing many programs at lower funding but in either the Department of Labor or in Health and Human Services. This type of change is hard to enact. There do appear to be some executive actions that would eliminate civil servant positions, and it's easy to shrink a government agency by not hiring behind staff who leave. If Republicans keep control of the House next Congress, they could use the budget reconciliation process to fast-track passage of tax cuts and cuts to entitlements, since reconciliation bills need only a majority in the Senate, not the customary 60-vote margin to pass.

Administrative/regulatory agendas change with each Administration – Since recent presidents have not been able to enact much of their agendas because they often split power with Congress, each successive administration has made changes with executive action, which are then reversed by the next administration. A Trump administration is likely to reverse Biden Administration student loan debt relief executive actions and impose new ones that support their agenda, such as limiting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion requirements, limiting transgender student participation in sports or protections at the school level, and changes in interpretation of student civil rights protections.

Possible Republican policy agenda focused on the private sector (except for IHEs) – Conservative theory tends to support the private sector as a more efficient than the public sector for accomplishing goals, and I'd expect to see a renewed focus on support for private school vouchers that families could use toward private school education, more tax policy supporting private school tuition, and "local control" for public schools. At the higher education level, Republicans are likely to sharpen their attention to college admission

policies, protections for freedom of speech, policies regarding civil rights, and taxation of endowments. This can occur through appropriations and tax policy (forbidding federal funding if a recipient does a certain thing or requiring a certain action to receive federal funding), and through oversight hearings and federal administrative actions, among other actions.

What's next?

Changes in House and Senate party and committee leadership – We'll know more after all House races are called. The Washington Post has a handy list of the current Republican and Democratic seats most likely to change party, and ACG Advocacy is updating its own list of seats still to call, which I'll share. Meanwhile, I've attached a document that ACG prepared on Friday showing who is in line to head each Senate and House committee for each party depending upon who is in the majority, and who is in line for party leadership positions. Republicans plan to hold leadership elections next week, although the House could push its schedule back depending on what is known about all the remaining elections still to be called.

FY 2025 appropriations likely not finalized in December – The government is operating on an extension of fiscal year (FY) 2024 funding that expires on December 20. I think it is now likely that Congress will not finalize FY 2025 appropriations bills by then and will instead extend funding into next Spring (this is what House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) supported when the current 3-month extension was enacted in September), giving the new Republican Administration and Senate more say in the outcome. That outcome does not bode well for investments in education; the current bipartisan appropriations bill approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee includes \$12 billion more for the Department of Education programs than the Republican bill approved by the House Appropriations Committee.

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](#)

UNL Tuition Discount & GOLD Grant

We have a new tuition discount program aimed at better serving folks from rural districts who are seeking school leadership degrees (MEd – principalship, EdD – superintendency)– or endorsements. The program provides a 15% tuition discount for educators who serve in NRCSA member districts or are in an area classified by NCEES as rural or town. We think this is a small but important step toward helping rural schools be intentional about growing their own leaders. If interested, please contact Dr. Nick Pace at nick.pace@unl.edu

Big Red Leader Website

Big Red Leadership Flyer

Chadron State College Special Education Para-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 is 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.

The UNL Department of Educational Psychology has received a grant from the Swanson Foundation which allows them to offer mental health services to rural schools.

From Dr. Michael Scheel, Chair of the UNL Department of Educational Psychology:

The UNL Department of Educational Psychology would like to offer counseling and psychological services, as well as consultation services to the schools and communities of Southeast Nebraska. We run a mental health counseling and therapy clinic and we are offering counseling and consultation services to teachers, administrators, students, and community members of Southeast Nebraska. Services will be provided through remote and confidential means (i.e., Zoom conferencing). We are hoping that schools, families, and individuals contact us to schedule an

appointment for a telehealth counseling or consultation session.

We have recently learned that a donor will support our work with individuals living in rural Southeast NE by paying all fees for services. Thus, whoever seeks out our services will simply have to indicate they live in Southeast Nebraska, and any services we provide will be paid for through the UNL Foundation. Individual, couple, and family counseling will be provided without financial expense. Additionally, we can provide teachers, school administrators, school counselors, and school social workers consultation services for students of their schools without charge.

We are very excited to enter a partnership with schools and communities of SE Nebraska to promote mental health and well-being. We are aware of the mental health counseling disparities that exist in Nebraska rural areas, and our department, our College of Education and Human Sciences, and UNL are highly interested in offering our expertise and resources with the goal of enhancing the well-being of SE Nebraska individuals, schools, and communities. We are a group comprised of licensed psychologists and psychology graduate students who regularly provide services through our clinic to the Lincoln community. We are seeking to reach beyond Lincoln to connect more with surrounding rural areas. We also are acutely aware of the importance of addressing mental health concerns right now as we all are experiencing the stress of going through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Counseling and School Psychology Clinic is a training clinic in which graduate students in counseling and school psychology work with clients under the supervision of licensed psychologists. Services are available to all on a sliding scale. For clients from SE Nebraska communities, services will be paid for through UNL Foundation funds supplied by a donor who cares deeply about the welfare of schools and communities in SE Nebraska. Counseling services are offered to improve well-being, improve academic and behavioral issues, stabilize mood, manage stress, and improve life-adjustment issues.

For more information, please visit our clinic website:

<https://cehs.unl.edu/edpsych/clinic/>

A common theme from some of the decision makers on the state level is that “out of control” local spending is to blame for the property tax

problem. NRCSA, along with many other educational entities, maintains that we do not have a school spending issue, but instead have a school funding issue. Attached are two reports, one from NRCSA, the other from Open Sky, that discuss the myth of “out of control” school spending. It is my hope that administrators and Board of Education members will read, then use these reports to counter those claims. When you do please tell your district’s story as that is the most powerful way to get this message across.

[NRCSA Spending Study](#)

[A Look at School Spending in NE from Open Sky](#)

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.

Cornhusker International Trucks



Cornhusker International- By Russ Folts, General Manager

It's certainly a privilege to provide an insert into this month's NRCSA Newsletter. As Nebraska's leading school bus distributor, we're pleased to team up with Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association, and proud to be a Purple-Ribbon Sponsor! Rural schools are pretty special to me, having grown up in a rural Nebraska district myself. Make sure to read here about our exclusive discount for all NRCSA member districts!

Alternative Energy Sources for School Buses.

Electric School Buses

Today's news certainly seems focused on alternative energy, especially electric vehicles, or "EVs" as they're often referred to. In fact, you may own an electric or hybrid/electric car yourself. If so, you've likely experienced both the positive, as well as the negative traits of this technology. To be sure, there's plenty of both!

As a company doing business with a large number of Nebraska rural schools, we offer the latest technology, including EV as it becomes available to the school bus industry. While it may be tempting to want to invest in what's perceived as the latest and greatest technology, as a locally owned dealership, we're inclined to fully understand all of the important details before we recommend it to schools. Certainly, we all enjoy clean air, and clean water, but electric school buses do offer some limitations which may not be very palatable to your student transportation services.

- Acquisition cost of \$385,000 - \$450,000 per bus, depending on optional equipment.
- Driving range of around 120-150 miles, less if operated on gravel roads, less if heaters or air conditioners are in use. This is a severe limit if your EV bus is an activity bus!
- Driving range can be limited if the batteries are out of temperature, either extreme heat or cold.

- Limited infrastructure for charging stations. Not all communities have the electric grid to support EV charging stations.
- Clean and safe disposal of expired battery cells. This seems to be an unknown at this time.

Again, we are optimistic to see where EV technology goes, and we're not "anti-electric", however I think our recommendation and endorsement of electric school buses for rural Nebraska schools will need to wait until the technology progresses considerably. Even with the federal monies being thrown around right now, it may not be in your districts best interest at this time.

Propane

Propane is a clean burning fuel that works well in some applications, particularly for shorter routes. Propane engines often times start up easier and produce heat quicker than diesel engines. Routine maintenance costs can also be lower, as far as oil changes, etc. IC Bus offers an 8.8 liter propane engine which has proven itself to be extremely reliable, and is a top performer developing peak torque at much lower engine speeds than competitive propane engines. Here's a couple things to keep in mind as you consider propane:

- Propane buses typically cost close to \$20,000 more than a comparable diesel-fueled bus.
- Many times your local cooperative or fuel supplier will install a fueling station right on your premises.
- If you use the propane bus for out of town trips, refueling can be tougher logistically, as often times propane isn't available at truck stops or fuel stations.
- Propane costs considerably less than diesel, though this savings can be at least partially offset by the lower fuel economy of a propane bus. Customers report to us that their propane bus typically achieves about 5-6 mpg, compared to a diesel getting 9 mpg. Keep in mind the fuel range of a propane bus, and how this might change the way your activity trips are handled.
- Propane engines do not require the exhaust after-treatment systems found on modern diesel engines. As propane is cleaner burning, there are less emissions components required.

Clean Diesel

By far, the most common fuel source for school buses remains diesel. Diesel engine are well built, and have a long life-cycle. They provide more horsepower and torque than either propane or gasoline, and boast fuel economy simply unmatched by either. The diesel fueled buses we provide at Cornhusker International, feature

a top-quality Cummins engine. This engine has been great for our customers, and rarely do we see one in the shop needing repairs. The Cummins diesel is available in a number of configurations. We spec' our buses with the top-performing 250HP, 660 lb/ft rating. This high performance rating allows us to spec' the buses out with a taller rear axle ratio, providing excellent fuel economy, and the power to hold highway speeds and climb hills very well.

- SCR technology (requires Diesel Exhaust Fluid) has helped clean up the exhaust emissions an incredible
- amount, especially when compared to previous generations of diesel engines! You will virtually never see black smoke emitted from the tailpipe of a modern diesel engine.
- Today's diesel exhaust after-treatment systems have proven to be more reliable, requiring less maintenance than engines built even just a couple years ago!
- Today's ultra-low sulfur fuel, particularly when blended with bio-fuels, can pose some cold weather gelling issues. Fuel additives make a world of difference in combatting these problems, and we offer several brands of additives that do a great job and keep your fleet up and running in the cold!

Hydrogen

Recently, we've seen some major advances in the development of hydrogen used as a motor vehicle fuel. At this time, the technology is just in the early stages, and it will be some time before hydrogen will offer a real-life solution. That said, it will be exciting to watch, as the preliminary expectations are quite promising. We're optimistic to see what hydrogen has to offer!

NRCSA Discount

Rural schools face many challenges, everything from tight budgets to opportunities of scale. They also help produce some of the finest young men and women in society today. The common sense and work ethic that's instilled in your students today, cannot be minimized or taken for granted. We appreciate what you do, and to show our commitment to Nebraska Rural Schools, we offer an exclusive incentive to NRCSA member districts. We're pleased to provide your school with a \$1,000 discount on any new or used bus purchased from Cornhusker International! This can be taken as a discount off the cost of the bus, or as a parts and service credit, whichever works best for you.

We look forward to working with you! Please reach out to us by calling 1-888-466-8461 ext 206 or email at bus@cornhuskerinternational.com



Purple Ribbon Partners



Apptegy

Emily Milnamow
2201 Brookwood Dr, Suite 115
Little Rock, AR 72202
Phone: (317) 219-8686
conferenceteam@apptegy.com



CORNHUSKER
INTERNATIONAL
TRUCKS

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



FARRIS ENGINEERING

Farris Engineering

Kate Breitenfeld
12700 W Dodge Road
Omaha, NE 68154
Phone: (402) 330-5900
kbreitenfeld@farris-usa.com



construction | the people you build with

MCL Construction

Travis Justice
14558 Portal Circle
Omaha, NE 68138
Phone: (402) 339-2221
tkj@mcconstruction.com



Network For Educator Effectiveness (NEE)

Marc Doss
288 Maguire Blvd
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: (844) 793-4357
dossm@missouri.edu

PIPER | SANDLER

Piper Sandler & Co

Scott Keene
2900 S 70th St, Suite 310
Lincoln, NE 68506
Phone: (402) 440-7734
scott.keene@psc.com



RMV Construction

Curtis Baetz
1515 E 11th St
Kearney, NE 68847
Phone: (308) 893-2010
curtis@rmvconst.com



TRANE

TRANE
TECHNOLOGIES

Trane Technologies

Jonathan Hoesch
11937 Portal Rd
La Vista, NE 68128
Phone: (402) 499-8468
jonathan.hoesch@trane.com



Roofing and Building Maintenance

Tremco Roofing

Tyler Petersen
3735 Green Road
Beachwood, OH 44122
Phone: (909) 302-0617
tpetersen@tremcoinc.com



Voss Lighting

Randy Herrick
4624 S 140th St
Omaha, NE 68137
Phone: (402) 850-9789
randy.herrick@vosslighting.com



WILKINS

ARCHITECTURE | DESIGN | PLANNING

Wilkins Architecture, Design, Planning

Jacob Sertich
2204 University Dr, Suite 130
Kearney, NE 68845
Phone: (308) 237-5787
jsertich@wilkinsadp.com

Contact Information

NRCSA

Jack Moles, Executive Director
(402) 335-7732
jmoles@nrcea.net

Jeff Bundy, Office Manager
(402) 202-6028
jbundy@nrcea.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 Holderoft, 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](#)

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[Jared, Storm, Dist 23](#)

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NRCSA Rural Community Schools Association
440 S 13th St, Suite B
Lincoln, NE 68508



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