

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, May 12, 2025 7:00 PM

Blair Central Office
1326 Park Street
Blair, NE 68008

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda.

Mrs. Kari Loseke, Board President, will call the Board of Education Regular meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

The Board Secretary will conduct roll call attendance.

2.1. Approval of Absent Board Members

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Students from Arbor Park Elementary and Deerfield Elementary will lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda

5. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items

6. Approval of the Consent Agenda

6.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting

6.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published

• April 14, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

6.3. Receipt of Communications

6.4. Treasurer's Report

• General Fund

• Building Fund and Savings & Depreciation

6.5. Audit of Claims

- Activity Fund
- General Fund

7. Business

7.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda

7.2. Recognitions

7.3. Acceptance of Gifts

7.3.1. Sid Dillon Chevrolet - Blair

Sid Dillon Chevrolet - Blair would like to donate \$6,000 for two ATV (All-Terrain Vehicle) lifts to further strengthen the small engine program.

7.3.2. Rehlko

Rehiko (formerly Koher Engines) would like to donate 10 engines to the small engine program with an estimated value of \$3,500.

7.3.3. Blair Community Schools Foundation

The Blair Community Schools Foundation would like to donate \$1,000 for the purchase of flags for the High School Marching Band.

7.4. Consideration of Communications

7.4.1. 2025 FBLA State Leadership Conference

A request has been received from Ms. Vicki Schrick, FBLA Advisor, regarding the 2025 FBLA National Leadership Conference. Ms. Schrick is requesting permission to accompany the six (6) national qualifiers to the FBLA National Leadership Conference that will be held in Anaheim, CA from June 27-July 3, 2025.

The administration recommends approving this request, and per Board policy 607.05-Student Field Trips, Excursions, and National Conventions, students are responsible for their own expenses, with the district funding the sponsor's transportation, lodging, meals, registration fees and other expenses associated with the event.

7.5. Comments From The Public

This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may address the board about matters of public concern.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

- Getting started: When you have been recognized, please stand and state your name.
- Time Limit: The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation and unless stated otherwise, will employ a time limit of 5 minutes or less.
- Personnel or Student Topic: If you are planning to speak about a personnel or student matter involving an individual, please understand that our policies require you to follow the district's complaint procedure before addressing the board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions or comments you make about individual staff members or students. Please remember that slanderous comments will not be tolerated.
- General Rules: This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from within the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Offensive language, personal attacks, and hostile conduct will not be tolerated.
- No action by the Board: The Board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.

7.6. Committee Reports

7.6.1. Policy/Curriculum Committee

The Policy Committee met on Monday, April 21, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

7.6.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Monday, April 28, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

7.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, May 6, 2025. Meeting minutes are attached.

7.7. Approval of New Teachers

- Jessica Koehn - Special Education/Language Resource Teacher, Arbor Park Elementary
- Sarah Boseck - Preschool Teacher, South Early Childhood Center

- Christina Bradley - Preschool Teacher, South Early Childhood Center
- Victoria Cocannouer - K- 5 Music Teacher, Arbor Park Elementary
- Amanda Melcher - School Counselor, Otte Middle School

7.8. Acceptance of Resignations

7.9. Superintendent Report

7.10. Informational Items

Monthly Board Reports

- Student Services
- Blair High School
- Otte Middle School
- Arbor Park Elementary
- Deerfield Elementary

8. Adjournment

THE NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT
NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414

A. BASIC PROVISION. The basic statement of our state policy on public meetings is found at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1408. That statute provides, “[i]t is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret. Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.”

1. **History.** Section 84-1408 was passed as a part of LB 325 in 1975. That bill repealed previously existing public meetings provisions and substituted new provisions which were intended to preserve the features of the previous law and strengthen and expand their authority. Government Committee Statement on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975). LB 325 was passed to ensure that all meetings of public bodies would be open to the public, except when protection of the public interest clearly called for a closed session concerning specific matters. *Id.* 2004 Neb. Laws LB 821, § 34 formally established the name of §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414 as the “Open Meetings Act.”

2. **Purpose.** The Nebraska open meetings laws are a statutory commitment to openness in government. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002); *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994); *Grein v. Board of Education of the School District of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984). Their purpose is to ensure that public policy is formulated at open meetings of the bodies to which the law is applicable. *Dossett v. First State Bank, Loomis, NE*, 261 Neb. 959, 627 N.W.2d 131 (2001); *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Commission for Judge of the County Court of the 20th Judicial District*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990); *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979). In Nebraska, the formation of public policy is public business, which may not be conducted in secret. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993).

3. **Construction.** The open meetings laws should be broadly interpreted and liberally construed to obtain their objective of openness in favor of the public. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007); *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007); *Alderman v. County of Antelope*, 11 Neb. App. 412, 653 N.W.2d 1 (Neb. Ct. App. 2002); *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996); *Grein, supra*. The beneficiaries of the openness sought by the Open Meetings Act include citizens, members of the general public, and reporters or other representatives of the news media. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007).

4. **Exceptions.** Section 84-1408 requires open meetings except “as otherwise provided by the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.” The Attorney General has concluded that the Nebraska Legislature is not covered under the open meetings statutes because the Nebraska Constitution separately provides for public access to that body. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 120 (July 25, 1985).

5. **Subsequent Legislative Limitations.** The Legislature holds the power to decide the scope of citizen access to governmental meetings. As a result, the Legislature has the right to limit access to public meetings and the effect of the Open Meetings Act through later statutory provisions which provide that certain information in the possession of government should remain confidential without exception or limitation. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).

B. PUBLIC BODIES COVERED UNDER THE ACT. Under § 84-1409(1), public bodies covered by the Open Meetings Act include: (1) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State; (2) governing bodies of all agencies of the executive department of state government created by law; (3) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created pursuant to law; (4) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the state whether of continuing or limited existence; (5) advisory committees of the governing bodies of political subdivisions, of the governing bodies of agencies of the executive branch of state

government, or of independent boards, commissions, etc.; and (6) “instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions.”

1. **History.** The initial portion of § 84-1409(1) defining public bodies was originally part of LB 325 passed in 1975. It has been amended several times to add additional entities to the list of bodies covered, and the Certificate of Need Review Committee was removed in 1997. See 1997 Neb. Laws LB 798; 1989 Neb. Laws LB 429 and LB 311; 1983 Neb. Laws LB 43. The language concerning “instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions” was added in 1989 to reach entities such as the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority. Floor Debate on LB 311, 91st Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 9, 1989, at 6039, 6040.

2. **Cases and Opinions.** A number of cases and opinions of the Attorney General deal with various aspects of the definitions of public body found in § 84-1409(1).

a. “Political subdivision” is not defined within the public meetings statutes. However, the Attorney General has indicated that generally the term denotes any subdivision of a state which has as its purpose carrying out functions of the state which are inherent necessities of government and which have always been regarded as such by the public. 1979-80 Rep. Att’y Gen. 140 (Opinion No. 98, dated April 25, 1979). Presumably, this term includes cities, counties, villages, etc., and their governing boards are covered by the open meetings statutes.

b. In *Nixon v. Madison County Agricultural Society*, 217 Neb. 37, 348 N.W.2d 119 (1984), the Court held that a county agricultural society, organized under the Nebraska statutes, was subject to the provisions of the open meetings law. The Court noted that, although the society at issue resembled a private corporation in some respects, the fact that it had the right to receive support from the public revenue gave it a public character. The agricultural society apparently was an “independent board . . . created by constitution, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law.” Based upon the *Nixon* case, the Attorney General concluded that county extension services which have the right to receive support from public revenues are subject to the open meetings law. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 219 (July 24, 1984). Also based upon the *Nixon* case, the Attorney General has indicated that county agricultural societies are subject to the

open meetings statutes. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 91007 (January 28, 1991). In addition, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-238 requires that result.

c. In *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Commission for Judge of the County Court of the 20th Judicial District*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990), the Court held that the open meetings statutes do not apply to the activities of a judicial nominating commission which is meeting to select nominees for judicial vacancies. Such a nomination procedure does not involve the formulation of public policy subject to the Act.

d. The Nebraska Court of Appeals, in *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), held that the open meetings statutes apply to the governing bodies of all agencies of the executive branch of government, including the Nebraska Environmental Control Council.

e. In *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007), the Nebraska Court of Appeals concluded that the electors of a Nebraska township, when assembled at the township’s annual meeting, constitute a governing body of the township which is subject to the Open Meetings Act and its provisions concerning notice and preparation of an agenda.

f. The Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated in *Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009), that a county board of equalization is a public body as defined in § 84-1409. The court also held in that case that when two boards are made up of the same members, the duties and functions of the two boards, rather than their membership, determine if they are the same or separate and distinct bodies.

g. Committees of faculty, administration and students created by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska to advise the Chancellor of the University in his administrative/management function with respect to budget cuts were part of the management structure of the University and not public bodies subject to the open meetings statutes. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 92020 (February 12, 1992).

h. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 11 (January 20, 1983), the Attorney General indicated that the Environmental Control Council is a public body subject to the open

meetings law. On the other hand, the Department of Environmental Control is not. Section 84-1409 applies to governing bodies of state agencies, not the agencies themselves.

i. An employee grievance appeal hearing conducted by a hearing officer is not a meeting of a public body since the word “body” is commonly understood to refer to a group or number of persons, and thus does not include an individual conducting a hearing. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 210 (May 16, 1984).

j. In 1989, the Attorney General indicated that the Central Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission was not subject to the Nebraska open meetings law because it was a multi-state body which was not created by constitution or statute and which was not a governing body of a Nebraska state agency. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 89008 (February 14, 1989). However, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-3521 (the Waste Compact agreement itself) provided that meetings of the Compact Commission must be open to the public with reasonable advance publicized notice, and that the Compact Commission must adopt by-laws consistent in scope and principle with the open meetings law of the host state. Section 71-3521 was repealed by 1999 Neb. Laws LB 530, § 2, and Nebraska withdrew from the Central Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact.

k. A county welfare board is subject to the open meetings law as an independent board created by statute. 1979-80 Rep. Att’y Gen. 351 (Opinion No. 244, dated March 4, 1980).

l. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 95014 (February 22, 1995), the Attorney General indicated that the Mayor’s Citizen Review Board, appointed by the Mayor of Omaha to advise the Mayor with respect to alleged misconduct of police officers, was not subject to the open meetings statutes because it did not fall under the definition found in § 84-1409(1), and because the board was essentially an administrative body which was part of the management structure of the City.

m. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 93065 (July 27, 1993), the Attorney General concluded that parole reviews under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 83-1,111 may be closed, and are not subject to open meetings requirements.

n. The Excellence in Education Council created to make recommendations to the Governor regarding selection of projects for Education Innovation grants is a public body which is subject to the open meetings statutes, and its decisions concerning specific recommendations must be done in open session. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 94092 (November 22, 1994).

o. The Quality Jobs Board created under the Quality Jobs Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-4901 through 77-4935 is a public body subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 96071 (October 28, 1996).

p. A County Hospital Authority formed under the Hospital Authorities Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 23-3579 through 23-35,120 is a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 97012 (February 14, 1997).

q. The Nebraska State Board of Agriculture (the State Fair Board) is not a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, primarily because it has no statutory right to public revenue and also because of case law which indicates that it is a private corporation. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 01038 (November 27, 2001).

r. A county clerk, county attorney and county treasurer acting as a group under § 32-567(3) to make an appointment to fill a vacancy on a county board constitute a public body which is subject to the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 97050 (September 18, 1997).

s. The Attorney General has indicated informally that the Nebraska Board of Pardons and the Board of Inquiry and Review created under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 80-317 through 80-319 to receive and act upon applications submitted for membership in Nebraska Veterans Homes are subject to the state’s open meetings statutes.

t. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 15016 (October 29, 2015), the Attorney General concluded that the Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority (MECA) constituted a hybrid public/private entity subject to the Open Meetings Act. The Attorney General based his conclusion on the fact that MECA was a creation of city ordinance and was responsible for managing and controlling the City of Omaha’s public events facilities.

3. **Other Statutes.** Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-238 requires county agricultural societies and county fair boards to comply with the open meetings statutes. Previously, under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1502 all coordination activities conducted by the association of community college area boards were subject to the open meetings statutes. This provision was repealed in 2013 Neb. Laws LB 211, § 3.

4. **Exceptions.** Section § 84-1409(1)(b) exempts two types of entities and the Judicial Resources Commission from the provisions of the Open Meetings Act:

a. **Subcommittees.** Subcommittees of the various bodies described earlier in § 84-1409 are not public bodies under the Open Meetings Act unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting, or unless those subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy or taking formal action on behalf of the parent body. For example, in *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the court indicated that meetings of an executive subcommittee of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents with the University President to discuss his tenure were not subject to the open meetings laws because of that portion of the statute. Section 84-1409(1) was also amended by 2011 Neb. Laws LB 366 to specifically provide that all meetings of subcommittees of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board established to rate grant applications under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act.

- i. In *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 880-881, 725 N.W.2d 792, 805-806 (2007), the court indicated that while “subcommittee” is not defined in the Open Meetings Act, a subcommittee is generally a “group within a committee to which the committee may refer business.” In addition, “making policy,” which subjects a subcommittee to the Open Meetings Act under § 84-1409, apparently includes “receiving background information about a policy issue to be decided.” *Id.* In contrast, “nonquorum gatherings” of members of a public body “intended to obtain information or voice opinions” do not seem to involve violations of the Act. *Id.* See also *Koch v. Lower Loup Natural Resources District*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (Neb. Ct. App. 2019) (Notwithstanding statements from staff and/or committee members that committee meetings were open to the public, the Nebraska Court of Appeals found that the committee was a

subcommittee of the NRD board and, therefore, not subject to the Open Meetings Act.).

ii. The language applying the open meetings statutes to certain subcommittee meetings when there is a quorum of the public body present was added to § 84-1409(1) as a result of LB 1019 passed by the Legislature during the 1992 regular session.

b. **Entities Conducting Judicial Proceedings.** Entities conducting judicial proceedings are not public bodies under the Open Meetings Act unless the court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders. LB 325, the original open meetings statute of 1975, was directed strictly at policy making bodies which were legislative or quasi-legislative. Floor Debate on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14, 1975, at 4618.

- i. In *McQuinn v. Douglas County School District No. 66*, 259 Neb. 720, 612 N.W.2d 198 (2000), the Nebraska Supreme Court held that a hearing before a school board on the question of the nonrenewal of a probationary certificated teacher's contract where the matters before the board pertained solely to disputed adjudicative facts involved a judicial function, and on that basis, the hearing was not subject to the open meetings statutes. In that context, a school board exercises a judicial function if it decides a dispute of adjudicative fact or if a statute requires it to act in a judicial manner. Adjudicative facts are those ascertained from proof adduced at an evidentiary hearing which relate to a specific party. The *McQuinn* case is discussed further in *Bligh v. Douglas County School District No. 0017*, 2008 WL 2231063, 2008 Neb. App. LEXIS 106 (Neb. Ct. App. 2008) (Not approved for publication).

ii. The Attorney General has determined that hearings before various agencies are judicial and not subject to the open meetings law: 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 127 (Opinion No. 105, dated July 14, 1975) (hearing before a County Board of Mental Health); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 184 (January 31, 1984) (hearing before the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 210 (May 16, 1984) (hearing before a hearing officer appointed by the State Personnel Board); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 02016 (May 21, 2002) (contested case hearing

before the Power Review Board on application of electricity suppliers for construction or acquisition of generation facilities); Op. Att’y Gen. No. 05014 (October 19, 2005) (appeal hearing regarding the Nebraska Veterans’ Aid Fund before the Nebraska Veterans’ Advisory Commission). But, the Attorney General has concluded that a hearing before the Certificate of Need Review Committee is covered by the open meetings statutes. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 87019 (February 13, 1987).

iii. Parole hearings conducted by the Board of Parole are judicial in nature and not subject to the open meetings statutes. However, other statutes specifically pertaining to operation of the Board of Parole require that such parole hearings be conducted with elements of notice and in a manner open to the public. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 93065 (July 27, 1993).

iv. When the State Board of Education holds hearings in contested cases under the state Administrative Procedure Act, such hearings are not subject to the Open Meetings Act. The Board is not required to give notice of such hearings to the public under those statutes, and it may conduct its deliberations and decision-making process for such hearings by a telephone conference call. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 99046 (November 15, 1999).

c. **Judicial Resources Commission**. During the 2022 legislative session, language was added to § 84-1409(1)(b) excluding “the Judicial Resources Commission or subcommittees or subgroups of the commission” from the list of public bodies subject to the Act. See 2022 Neb. Laws LB 922, § 12.

C. MEETING DEFINED. Under § 84-1409(2), meetings, for purposes of the open meetings statutes, are defined as "all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body." Section 84-1410(5) also provides that the open meetings statutes shall not apply to "chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power."

1. The legislative history of LB 325, from 1975, indicates that meetings of a public body do not include social meetings or meetings which were not called

by the body. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 2-3.

2. However, § 84-1409 was amended by LB 43 in 1983 to include "formal or informal" meetings. The legislative history of that bill indicates that a meeting between a state senator and the members of a local school board to discuss legislation would constitute an "informal called meeting." Government, Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 5-8.

3. The provision of § 84-1410(5) pertaining to "chance" meetings, etc., was added by LB 43 in 1983.

4. The legislative history of LB 43 from 1983 indicates that a "meeting" does not occur absent a quorum. Government Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 19. In addition, the Attorney General has concluded that the presence of a majority of the members of a public body is necessary for a meeting to occur. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975). In *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated that "private quorum conferences" are an evasion of the law. The Nebraska Supreme Court also indicated that subgroups of the Omaha City Council constituting less than a quorum of that body were not public bodies on that ground. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).

5. Even when a quorum of public body is present in one location, there is no meeting under the Open Meetings Act if there is no interaction or discussion among members of the body regarding policymaking for the public body. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010). The secret formation of public policy forbidden by the Open Meetings Act is the formation of public policy as a group. *Id.* As a result, there is no meeting of a public body based upon the unspoken thoughts of its members who happen to be sitting in the same room. *Id.* The Open Meetings Act is not so broad and sweeping as to require public access to any gathering of any sort that is attended by a quorum of a public body. *Id.* See also *Salem Grain Company, Inc. v. City of Falls City*, 362 Neb. 548, 924 N.W.2d 678 (2019), in which the Nebraska Supreme Court found that a dinner attended by members of the Falls City Community Redevelopment Authority and emails exchanged

between authority members did not constitute a “meeting” as defined in § 84-1409(2) of the Act.

6. In *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993), the Court of Appeals held that informational sessions where the Council heard reports from staff of the Department of Environmental Control were briefings which were subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes. The Court stated that listening and exposing itself to facts, arguments and statements constitutes a crucial part of a governmental body’s decision making. As a result, receiving information triggers the requirements of the statutes, and the open meetings law applies to meetings at which briefing or the formation of tentative policy takes place, as well as to meetings where action is contemplated or taken.

7. *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996), involved allegations by the plaintiff that a quorum of the defendant school board met in the office of the superintendent of schools on a regular basis for “clandestine” meetings before the beginning of most scheduled board meetings where business was discussed and decided and checks were signed to pay claims which had not been approved in public session. The board then allegedly moved and voted on business at its public meeting with little or no discussion in order to deprive the public of the right to be fully informed. The Supreme Court held that the District Court properly failed to find a violation of the Open Meetings Act with respect to those allegations in the absence of any evidence as to the specific dates and details of the alleged “clandestine” meetings.

8. In *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010), the Nebraska Supreme Court considered the propriety of a situation where two separate groups of a city council, neither of which constituted a quorum of that body, toured an ethanol facility for informational purposes. The court ultimately concluded that there was no meeting of the city council as a result of the tours—there was no quorum of the council present, the small groups were merely acquiring information, and there was no evidence that the council was, through the tour, attempting to reach a consensus and form public policy in secret.

9. In *Schauer*, the court also noted that the Open Meetings Act does not require policymakers to remain ignorant of the issues they must decide until

the moment the public is invited to comment on a proposed policy. Moreover, the public would be ill served by restricting policymakers from reflecting on and preparing to consider proposals, or from privately suggesting alternatives. As a result, the court indicated that the Legislature, by excluding nonquorum subgroups from the definition of a public body, balanced the public's need to be heard on matters of public policy with a practical accommodation for a public body's need for information to conduct business. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010) (citing *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007)); *Koch v. Lower Loup Natural Resources District*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (Neb. Ct. App. 2019).

10. The Attorney General has indicated that an "emergency meeting" may be conducted by electronic and telecommunications equipment including radio and telephone conferences. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975). On the other hand, the open meetings statutes do not generally authorize the use of telephone conference calls for non-emergency meetings of a public body, and absent members of a public body may not be counted to achieve a quorum through the use of a conference call. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 92019 (February 11, 1992). [Section 84-1411 has been amended a number of times to allow specified public bodies including the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the board of an educational service unit, the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, a community college board of governors, the governing body of public power district, the governing body of a public power and irrigation district, or the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council to meet by telephone conference call in certain circumstances. See 1999 Neb. Laws LB 461; 2000 Neb. Laws LB 968; 2007 Neb. Laws LB 199; 2009 Neb. Laws LB 36, 2012 Neb. Laws LB 735, 2013 Neb. Laws LB 510 and Section D.2. below.]

11. An "informational and educational" meeting of a public body governing a political subdivision where members generally discuss matters pertaining to their subdivision, hear reports from various department heads of the subdivision as to their duties and learn the workings of the subdivision is a meeting of the public body for "briefing" purposes which is subject to the open meetings statutes. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 92043 (March 17, 1992). In

addition, the Attorney General has also indicated informally that a meeting of a public body “for the purpose of receiving training or doing planning (such as a retreat)” should probably be treated as subject to the Open Meetings Act.

12. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 94035 (May 11, 1994), the Attorney General indicated that discussions and deliberations by the State Board of Education in connection with the selection of a Commissioner of Education were subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes. In addition, that opinion indicated that interviews with individual candidates for the Commissioner position were also subject to the requirements of the open meetings statutes, if a quorum of the Board was present for those interviews. However, in the latter interview situation, a brief closed session (as discussed below) might be warranted for a candid discussion by the Board and the candidate which might potentially elicit responses injurious to the reputation of an individual.

13. A workshop held by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska with a professional facilitator to discuss communication practices and the roles of the Board and the University President was not subject to the Open Meetings Act on the basis of § 84-1410(5) which exempts chance meetings or attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops. The University also asserted that there would be no briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, vote, or taking of other action at the workshop. Op. Att’y Gen. No. 04027 (October 20, 2004).

D. PUBLIC MEETINGS; NOTICE AND AGENDA REQUIRED. Section 84-1411(1)(a) and (2)(a) require that (1) each public body must give **reasonable advance publicized notice** of the time and place of each meeting; (2) the notice must be transmitted to all members of the body and to the public; and (3) the notice must contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice, or a statement that such an agenda, which must be kept continually current, is readily available for inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours.

1. **Notice.** 2024 Neb. Laws LB 287, § 74 amended § 84-1411 to authorize public bodies to publish notice on newspaper websites and “a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers” (i.e., nepublicnotices.com) to satisfy publication requirements in instances when publication in a

newspaper is not feasible. These provisions became operative on April 17, 2024.

a. Until January 1, 2025:

- i. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees must publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's website. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(i).
- ii. Governing bodies of cities of the second class or villages and their advisory committees or governing bodies of rural or suburban fire protection districts must either publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's website, or post written notice in three conspicuous public places in the city, village or district. The posting locations must remain the same for each meeting. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(ii)(A)-(B).
- iii. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(iii).
- iv. In case of the newspaper's refusal, neglect, or inability to timely publish the notice, the public body shall (1) post the notice on its website, if available, and (2) post the notice in a conspicuous public place within the body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting, which shall be evidence that posting occurred and fulfilled the publication requirement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(1)(b)(iv).
- v. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees may also provide notice of their meetings by any other

appropriate method designated by the public body. Section 84-1411(1)(c). Section 84-1411(1)(d) requires each public body to record the method(s) and date(s) of such notice in its minutes.

b. Beginning January 1, 2025:

- i. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees must give notice by (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (2) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (3) posting on nepublicnotices.com. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(i)(A).

OR

Give notice by (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting on nepublicnotices.com if no edition of a newspaper will be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(i)(B).

- ii. Governing bodies of cities of the second class and villages, and their advisory committees, or governing bodies of rural or suburban fire protection districts must give notice by (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (2) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (3) posting on nepublicnotices.com. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(A).

OR

Give notice by (1) posting on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) posting on nepublicnotices.com if no edition of the newspaper will be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. The newspaper shall place the notice in the newspaper and on the websites. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(B).

OR

Give notice by posting written notice in three conspicuous places in the city, village or district. Notice must be posted in the same three places for each meeting. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(ii)(C).

- iii. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(iii).

 - iv. In case of the newspaper's refusal, neglect, or inability to publish the notice, the public body shall (a) post the notice on its website, if available, (2) submit a post on nepublicnotices.com, and (3) post the notice in a conspicuous public place within the public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting, which shall be evidence that posting occurred and fulfilled the publication requirement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(2)(b)(iv).
2. **Agenda.** Under § 84-1411(1)(e), an agenda maintained at the office of a public body for public inspection must be kept continually current and may not be altered later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the public meeting (or 48 hours before commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board if that meeting is noticed outside the corporate limits of the municipality). A public body may modify an agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

a. New language was added to § 84-1413 in 2021 requiring the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a metropolitan class, primary

class, or first class city, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and school boards to make available on their websites the agenda [and minutes] of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda must be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting. The public body shall make the agenda available on the website for at least six months. This requirement became effective July 31, 2022. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 14.

3. **Specificity of the Agenda.** LB 898 from 2006 added language to § 84-1411(1) which states that agenda items shall be “sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting.” That statutory change arose out of a sense that lack of specificity in meeting agendas was a major issue of concern around the state. Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session (2006) at 19. The intent of the change was to require public bodies to include sufficient detail in their agendas regarding issues to be discussed or acted upon so as to provide information and notice to the public. Floor Debate on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, March 28, 2006 at 11701 (Statement of Senator Preister). The change was also intended to require sufficient detail in an agenda so that members of the public are not forced to look at past agendas in order to understand the issue to be discussed and/or the action to be taken. *Id.*

4. **Circumvention of Open Meetings Act.** Under § 84-1411(3), virtual conferencing may not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established by the Open Meetings Act. Neither may emails, faxes, or other electronic communication be used for such purposes.

5. **News Media.** Section 84-1411(4) requires that the secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to that list of media of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

6. **Virtual Appearance.** Under § 84-1411(7), a public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

7. **History.**

- a. The provision of § 84-1411 which prohibits altering an agenda within 24 hours of a meeting was added in 1983 to prevent addition of last-minute matters to an agenda which did not really represent emergencies. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 22, 1983, at 1896.

- b. In *Rauert v. School District I-R of Hall County*, 251 Neb. 135, 555 N.W.2d 763 (1996), the court stated that the Open Meetings Act requires public bodies to give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of their meetings, in part so that the public may attend and speak at those meetings.

- c. The Legislature has imposed only two conditions on public bodies regarding the method of notification for their meetings: 1. the public body must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting, and 2. the method of notification must be recorded in the public body's minutes. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007). There is no minimum time period for public notification of a special meeting, and an agenda for a public meeting can be created (not altered) later than 24 hours before the scheduled meeting. *Id.* In the *City of Elkhorn* case, the court held that notice of a meeting of the Omaha City Council posted and placed on the city's website at 10:15 a.m. for a meeting at 10:00 p.m. the same day was sufficient under the facts of the case where the local newspaper

printed an article about the meeting in its afternoon edition and four television broadcasters were present at the meeting. The court also indicated that any defect in notice intended for the benefit of council members would not invalidate a council meeting when all of the members of the council attended without objection.

- d. The purpose of the agenda requirement is to give some notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting so that persons who are interested will know which matters are under consideration. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010); *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979); *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007). In *Pokorny*, the agenda at issue, considered with all the previous records of the city council involved, was sufficient to satisfy the open meetings statutes. *Pokorny* also indicates that posting notice at 10 p.m. on March 15 before a meeting at 10:30 a.m. on March 16 does not constitute reasonable notice. Posting notice one week ahead does.

- e. In *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999), the Court of Appeals considered whether an agenda item which simply stated "Work Order Reports" was sufficient to give adequate public notice of a decision to approve a work order which involved expenditure of over \$47 million for the construction of a 96-mile power transmission line across privately held property to connect two power substations. The court held that the agenda item was insufficient under the Open Meetings Act. The court also seemed to suggest, based upon the *Pokorny* case, that the sufficiency of an agenda item might be measured, at least to some degree, in the context of the other meetings of the public body immediately prior to the public meeting in question.

- f. A member of the public should not be required to hunt up and read the documents underlying an agenda of a public body to determine what is actually on that agenda. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6

Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

- g. If a public body uses or publishes its agenda to give the required notice for a particular meeting, then the notice contained in the agenda must comport with the law for giving notice of what is to be considered at the meeting. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

- h. A notice of a hearing, given by a school board, which stated that a hearing would be held, and that an agenda would be available for inspection, once established, is not proper notice. An agenda must be available. *Allen v. Greeley County School District No 501*, 1994 WL 272223, 1994 Neb. App. LEXIS 186 (Neb. Ct. App. 1994) (Not approved for publication).

- i. When governmental subdivisions which hold annual meetings, such as townships, conduct their annual meetings, electors who participate in the annual meeting must place matters which they wish to discuss on the agenda for the annual meeting. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Board*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (Neb. Ct. App. 2007). Electors under those circumstances may not simply appear at the annual meeting and bring up any subject falling within the broad powers of electors if that subject is not on the agenda. *Id.*

- j. Two separate public bodies may publish notice of their meetings on the same sheet of paper and need not use separate sheets when the notices contain only the time and place of their meetings, and when the notices direct interested citizens to the place where agendas for each body may be found. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009). In addition, two separate public bodies may combine their agendas when the combined agendas make it clear which

items are to be addressed by each body. *Id.* The same rule applies to combined minutes. *Id.* The *Wolf* case involved a situation where a county board met both as a county board and as a county board of equalization.

- k. Placing notice of future meetings in minutes of a prior meeting does not give sufficient notice under the Open Meetings Act. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009).
- Notice of recessed or reconvened meetings of a public body must be given in the same fashion as notice of the original meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009).
- m. In *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010), the Nebraska Supreme Court seemed to indicate that the requirement to formally record the method of notice in the meeting minutes may be met by a public body if it is possible, through the minutes of past meetings, to discern a customary and consistent method used by the public body to notify the public of its meetings. It does not appear that the choice of method for giving notice of meetings must be formally set forth in the minutes of the public body as such. *See also Robinson v. Morrill County School District #63*, 299 Neb. 740, 910 N.W.2d 752 (2018) (Failure to record the particular method of notice used by the school board in the meeting minutes does not nullify actual notice properly given. The record showed that Robinson and members of the public received reasonable advanced notice and attended the meeting. The record further showed that the method of notice for the meeting at issue was used by the school board and recorded in its minutes at least 21 times during the preceding two years.).
- The Attorney General has concluded that “advance publicized notice” means a separate, specific advance notice must be given for each

meeting. 1971-72 Rep. Att’y Gen. 314 (Opinion No. 137, dated August 8, 1972).

- o The Attorney General has also determined that (1) an agenda may not be used as the minutes of a meeting, (2) reasonable notice under the statute means notice reasonably calculated to give appropriate notice to citizens of the time and place of a meeting and notice which complies with the formal requirements of the statute. 1975-76 Rep. Att’y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

- p. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 96071 (October 28, 1996), the Attorney General indicated that the Quality Jobs Board should give its normal 10-day published notice of meeting rather than an “informal’ notice where the Board had recessed a previous meeting on a tax credit application pending a renewed meeting call from the Governor after issuance of an opinion from the Attorney General.

E. PUBLIC MEETINGS BY VIRTUAL CONFERENCING. Section 84-1411(3) allows certain public bodies to meet by virtual conferencing. Virtual conferencing was added to the Open Meetings Act in 2021 with the enactment of LB 83. Virtual conferencing is defined as “conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1409(3), amended 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 11. Provisions relating to videoconferencing and telephone conference calls were struck.

1. **Public Bodies Eligible.** In 1993, § 84-1411 was amended by LB 635 to allow certain public bodies to meet by means of videoconferencing. Under the current version of § 84-1411(2), the public bodies allowed to meet by virtual conferencing include: (1) various bodies of state government including state agencies, boards, commissions, councils and committees, together with their advisory committees; (2) organizations created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act; (3) the governing body of a public power district with a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (4) the governing

body of a public power and irrigation district with a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (5) boards of educational service units; (6) the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council; (7) an organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act; (8) a community college board of governors; (9) the Nebraska Brand Committee; (10) a local public health department; (11) a metropolitan utilities district; (12) a regional metropolitan transit authority; and (13) a natural resources district.

a. The Judicial Resources Commission was removed from the list by 2022 Neb. Laws LB 922, § 13.

2. **Requirements.** The public bodies listed above may hold meetings by virtual conferencing if the following requirements are met:

a. Reasonable advance publicized notice is given pursuant to § 84-1411(1) and (2). The notice must include a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference.

b. There must be at least one physical site open to the public and identified in the notice.

c. The public body must make reasonable arrangements to accommodate the public's right to attend and participate as provided in § 84-1412, including reasonable seating.

d. The physical site must have at least one member of the public body or designee in attendance.

e. The virtual conference is recorded by audio or visual recording devices.

f. Members of the public are provided a reasonable opportunity to provide input, including public comment or questions, to the same extent if virtual conferencing was not used.

g. The physical site must have at least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting.

h. The public body must provide links to the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Act.

See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(3)(b)(i)-(iii).

3. Limitation on Number of Virtual Meetings. Except as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 70-1014(1), 70-1014.02(2) or 79-2204(4), public bodies authorized to conduct virtual conferencing can hold no more than one-half of their meetings by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. The following entities may hold more than one-half of their meetings by virtual conferencing if at least one meeting in a calendar year is not virtual: An organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the governing body of a risk management pool and any advisory committee of the governing body, and any advisory committee of any state entity created in response to the Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act. See § 84-1411(3)(b)(iv). Amended by 2024 Neb. Laws LB 287, § 74 and LB 399, § 4.

4. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(9) (enacted 2022 Neb. Laws LB 908) authorizes public bodies not listed in § 84-1411(3)(a) to hold meetings by virtual conferencing if the following requirements are met: (a) the purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted on at a subsequent in-person meeting of the public body; (b) no action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and (c) the public body complies with subdivisions § 84-1411(3)(b)(i) and (ii) (see E.2.a.-f. above).

5. Hybrid Meetings Not Allowed. Following the enactment of 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, the Attorney General considered whether one or more members of a public body could attend and participate virtually at an in-person meeting. The Attorney General informally concluded that § 84-1411 authorizes virtual attendance by members of the public body only at meetings that satisfy the requirements pertaining to virtual conferencing.

6. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 does not apply to meetings subject to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 70-1034 conducted by the Nebraska Power Review Board or a public power district, a public power and irrigation district, an electric membership association, an electric cooperative company, a municipality having a generation and distribution system, or a registered group of

municipalities. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(10), added as a result of 2024 Neb. Laws LB 1370, § 8.

F. EMERGENCY MEETINGS. Section 84-1411 allows public bodies to hold emergency meetings without reasonable advance public notice under two statutory schemes.

1. **Emergency Meetings Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(6).** In order to hold an emergency meeting under § 84-1411(6), a public body must meet the following requirements: (1) the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes, and any formal action taken shall pertain only to the emergency; (2) the provisions of § 84-1411(5) dealing with notice to the media shall be complied with in connection with an emergency meeting; and (3) complete minutes of the emergency meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public no later than the end of the next regular business day.

a. Emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

b. In *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994), the Court indicated, in a case involving allegations of a violation of the open meetings statutes, that an emergency is defined as “any event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition.” In that case, the Court held that a township board meeting to consider the job status of a township employee, convened as an emergency meeting because of a snowstorm, was not a proper emergency meeting because the employee was given two weeks’ notice of his resultant termination, and because the reasons given for the employee’s termination were based upon his past performance.

c. In *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009), the Court of Appeals considered whether a number of items taken up at meetings of a county board without any listing on the board’s agenda were “emergency” items. In making that determination in each case, the court

focused upon whether there was anything in the record which indicated that a particular item required immediate action or involved pressing necessity.

d. The Attorney General has also stated that an item of an emergency nature is one that requires immediate resolution by the public body, and one which has arisen in circumstances impossible to anticipate at a time sufficient to place on the agenda of a regular, called, or special meeting of the body. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

e. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 95063 (August 9, 1995), the Attorney General indicated that action taken during a meeting of the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission by a telephone conference call which did not comply with the requirements of the open meetings statutes for emergency meetings was void.

2. **Emergency Meetings Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411(8)**. Section 84-1411(8) allows any public body in the state to meet by virtual conferencing if an emergency is declared by the Governor under the Emergency Management Act, and the territorial jurisdiction of the public body falls within the declaration. Unlike emergency meetings authorized under § 84-1411(6), public bodies may do any of the things set out in the definition of public meeting in § 84-1409(2): "Briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action" This provision was added to § 84-1411 by 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 12.

- a. **Requirements.** Public bodies must meet several requirements when holding meetings under § 84-1411(8): (i) reasonable advance publicized notice must be provided pursuant to § 84-1411(1) and (2); (ii) the notice must include information regarding meeting access for the public and news media; (iii) access to the meeting must be provided via a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference; (iv) the public body must provide links to the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; (v) reasonable arrangements must be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting; (vi) notice to the media under § 84-1411(5) must be provided; (vii) the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes; and (viii) complete minutes of the meeting specifying the nature of the

emergency and any formal action taken by the public body shall be made available in accordance with § 84-1413(5).

G. PUBLIC MEETINGS; RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING. Section 84-1412 establishes the rights of members of the public attending a meeting of a public body.

1. Members of the public have the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a public meeting except closed sessions under § 84-1410, may be videotaped, recorded, televised, broadcast, photographed, etc. by any person.

2. With the enactment of 2024 Neb. Laws LB 43, § 21, **public bodies must allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting, except for closed sessions.** This provision became operative on July 19, 2024.

3. Public bodies may make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, or recording their meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing.

4. Members of the public cannot be required to identify themselves as a condition for admission to a public meeting. In 2021, § 84-1412(3) was amended to require public bodies to have any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including providing an address and the name of any organization represented by such person. The public body may waive the address requirement to protect the security of the individual. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

4. No public body shall, to circumvent the open meetings laws, hold its meeting in a place known to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience. However, a public body shall not be in violation of this prohibition if it meets in its traditional meeting place in this state.

5. LB 898 from 2006 added language to § 84-1412 which provides that public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the

public. At the beginning of any meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information. The legislative history of LB 898 indicates that “posting” a copy of the Open Meetings Act means putting it up in some fashion, including attaching it to a bulletin board, hanging it by a chain or fastening it to a wall. Floor Debate on LB 898, 99th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, March 28, 2006, at 11697 (Statement of Senator Preister). “Posting” does not include placing the Act on a table as a loose document which can be removed and therefore might not be available throughout the meeting. *Id.* If a meeting of a public body is moved to another location to accommodate a larger audience, then the posted copy of the Act should be moved and posted in the new location. *Id.*

6. In 2008, LB 962 amended § 84-1412 to provide that public bodies may not require that “the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to . . . [a] meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda.” That change was made so that members of the public are not required to place themselves on the agenda of a public body prior to a meeting in order to speak on agenda items during the times at that meeting set aside for public comment. Floor Debate on LB 962, 100th Nebraska Legislature, Second Session, February 28, 2008 at 2 (Statement of Senator Preister). That change in statutory language was not intended to affect the right of a public body to make reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, or recording its meetings. *Id.*

7. A public body may hold a meeting outside the State of Nebraska only if all the following conditions are met: a. a member entity of the public body is located outside of the state and the meeting is in that member’s jurisdiction; b. all out-of-state locations identified in the notice of meeting are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience; c. reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public’s rights to attend, hear and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance; d. no more than 25% of the public body’s meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state; e. out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established by the Open Meetings Act; and f. the public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least 21 days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation. These requirements for out-of-state meetings were added to

§ 84-1412 by 2001 Neb. Laws LB 250, § 2, and amended to add meetings by virtual conferencing in 2021. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

9. A public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear discussion and testimony at a public meeting.

10. Public bodies shall make at least one copy of reproducible written material discussed at an open meeting available at the meeting or at the in-state location for virtual conferencing provided in § 84-1412(6)(c) for examination and copying by members of the public. The materials may be provided in paper or electronic form. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 13.

11. **History.** Many of the initial provisions in § 84-1412 dealing with the rights of the public were added as a result of LB 43 in 1983.

a. The language requiring a reasonable effort to allow all parties to hear a public meeting does not involve an absolute requirement that all persons present shall be able to hear. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 21, 1983, at 1794-1795.

H. PUBLIC MEETINGS; MINUTES AND VOTING PROCEDURES. Section 84-1413 contains several provisions regarding the minutes which are to be maintained by public bodies and the voting procedures for public bodies.

1. **Minutes.** Every public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed. The minutes of all meetings and evidence or documentation received or disclosed during open session shall be public records, open to public inspection during normal business hours. Minutes shall be written or kept as an electronic record and available for inspection within 10 working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional 10 working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

- a. 2015 Neb. Laws LB 365, § 2 amended § 84-1413 to provide that minutes of the meetings of school boards and educational service units may be kept as an electronic record. In 2022, the Legislature extended the ability to keep minutes electronically to all public bodies. 2022 Neb. Laws LB 742, § 2.

- b. As noted in D.2.a. above, beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city councils of metropolitan class, primary class, and first class cities, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and school boards shall place their agenda and minutes on their websites. Minutes shall be posted once they are available for inspection as provided in § 84-1413(5). The information shall be available on the website for at least six months. 2021 Neb. Laws LB 83, § 14.

2. **Voting Procedures.** Any action taken on any question or motion duly made and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

a. **Electronic Voting Devices.** The roll call or viva voce vote requirements of the Open Meetings Act may be satisfied by a public body which uses an electronic voting device which allows the vote of each member of the governing body to be readily seen. 2016 Neb. Laws LB 876, § 1. Prior to the enactment of LB 876, only certain public bodies, e.g., a municipality, a county, a learning community, a joint entity created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, a joint public agency created pursuant to the Joint Public Agency Act or an agency formed under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, were authorized to use electronic voting devices under the Act.

3. In *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1984), the Supreme Court held that the requirement of § 84-1413(2) that the record shall state how each member of a body voted could not be satisfied by a nunc pro

tunc amendment to the body's minutes showing that the recording of the vote in the minutes was performed prior to the time the actual recording in the minutes took place. However, when the same case was before the court a second time, the court held that, as a general rule, a public body may, if no intervening rights of a third person have arisen, order the minutes of its own proceedings at a previous meeting to be corrected according to the facts to make them speak the truth. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 214 Neb. 85, 333 N.W.2d 652 (1983).

4. Section 84-1413 is violated by a failure to make or take a vote in accordance with the statute rather than a failure to record a properly taken vote. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1983), *supra*.

5. Section 84-1413(2) dealing with roll call votes does not require the record to state that the vote was by roll call but only requires that the record show if and how each member voted. Neither does that statute set a time limit for recording the results of a vote. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1983), *supra*.

6. The statutory requirements here dealing with voting and minutes are mandatory since the Legislature provided that action taken in violation of this statute is void. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar* (1981), *supra*.

7. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) seems to indicate that the Open Meetings Act does not require that minutes of meetings be "published," but only that they be written and available for inspection within 10 working days or prior to the next convened meeting of the public body.

8. The legislative history of the original open meetings statutes, LB 325 from 1975, indicates that the requirement of a roll call vote was directed at votes on questions that would bind the particular public body. Other procedural questions were not covered. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 10.

9. The Attorney General has stated that nothing in the open meetings statutes requires approval of the minutes of a public body prior to their publication. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 162 (December 28, 1981).

10. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 98045 (November 4, 1998), the Attorney General indicated that detailed minutes of all matters discussed need not be maintained when a public body is meeting in closed or executive session, so long as the requirements of § 84-1410 pertaining specifically to the minute entries necessary for a closed session are met.

I. CLOSED SESSIONS OF A PUBLIC BODY. Section 84-1410, pertaining to closed sessions of public body, has generated the most controversy of all the portions of the open meetings statutes. Section 84-1410(1) provides that any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary (1) for the protection of the public interest, or (2) for the prevention of needless injury to an individual, if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Closed meetings may not be held for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body. Nothing in § 84-1410 should be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public.

1. Under § 84-1410(1), examples of reasons for a closed session include:

a. Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body.

b. Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices.

c. Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

d. Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting.

e. For a Community Trust created under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster. [Amended into § 84-1410(1) by 2011 Neb. Laws LB 390.]

f. For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional

negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arm's length. [Amended into § 84-1410(1) by 2012 Neb. Laws LB 995.]

These examples are not exclusive; they are merely examples, and other reasons may exist. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at page 3; 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 65 (April 17, 1985).

2. LB 898 from 2006 amended some of the provisions of § 84-1410 pertaining to the mechanics of holding a closed session. The subject matter of the closed session and reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to hold a closed session. The vote to hold a closed session must be taken in open session, and the entire closed session motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commences and ends must be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer shall restate on the record immediately prior to the closed session the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed session to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting must be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken, and "formal action" in that context is defined in § 84-1410(2) to mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy. Under an amendment to § 84-1410(2) effected by LB 621 in 1994, formal action by the body in that context does **not** include, "negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in a closed [strategy] session authorized [for collective bargaining, real estate purchases, etc.] under subdivision 1(a) of [Section 84-1410]."

3. Any member of the public body can challenge the continuation of a closed session if he or she determines that the session has exceeded the original reason for the closed session, or if he or she contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such a challenge can only be overruled by a majority vote of the members of the

public body. The challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

4. **History.** One of the purposes for the initial open meetings statute, LB 325 from 1975, was to tighten restrictions on closed or executive sessions of public bodies. Introducer's Statement of Purpose for LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975). The fourth example of reasons for closed meetings was added by LB 43 in 1983. The provisions dealing with pending or imminent litigation and defining formal action in a closed session were added as a part of LB 1019 in 1992.

5. It is not entirely clear what vote of the public body is necessary to go into closed session. The statute states that "an affirmative vote of a majority of [the body's] voting members" is necessary for a closed session. On its face, the normal meaning of this language would presumably be a majority of those members present and voting. This is particularly true since the later subsection (3) of § 84-1410 requires a "majority vote of the members of the public body" to overrule a challenge to the continuation of the closed session. However, the legislative history of LB 325 makes it quite clear that the legislators intended to make the requirement for a closed session a vote of the majority of the body rather than a vote of the majority of those present and voting. Floor Debate on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14 and May 20, 1975, at 4616, 5015. Moreover, there is some indication that "voting" members in § 84-1410(1) refers to particular members of bodies such as the Board of Regents which has both voting and non-voting members. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 27-28. The safer approach is to authorize a closed session of the public body by a majority vote of the members of the body rather than by a majority vote of just those members present.

6. The landmark case for what is permissible in a closed session is *Grein v. Board of Education of the School District of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984). *Grein* involved a closed session by a school board for discussion of the low bid on a construction project. The Nebraska Supreme Court held that the closed session was improper. That case indicates:

a. Provisions of the statute permitting closed sessions must be narrowly and strictly construed. *See also State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources*

District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007).

b. The public interest which is protected in § 84-1410(1) is “that shared by citizens in general and by the community at large concerning pecuniary or legal rights and liabilities.” 216 Neb. at 165, 343 N.W.2d at 723. *See also Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).

c. Good faith motivation for a closed session is not a cure for non-compliance with the public meetings laws.

d. The prohibition against decisions or formal actions in a closed session proscribes crystallization of a secret decision and then ceremonial acceptance in open session.

e. There is a guiding principle with respect to closed sessions: “If a public body is uncertain about the type of session to be conducted, open or closed, bear in mind the policy of openness promoted by the Public Meetings Laws and opt for a meeting in the presence of the public.” 216 Neb. at 168, 343 N.W.2d at 724.

7. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler, supra*, indicates that there is nothing in the open meetings statutes which requires that negotiations for the purchase of land be conducted in open meeting, but deliberations of a public body as to whether an offer to purchase should be made must be done in an open meeting.

8. In a case involving the revocation of a land surveyor’s license, the supreme court held that a closed session was improper since there was no showing of either necessity or of the reasons set out in § 84-1410(1). *Simonds v. Board of Examiners of Land Surveyors*, 213 Neb. 259, 329 N.W.2d 92 (1983).

9. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-832 (1996), dealing with hearings involving cancellation, amendment or termination of a teacher’s contract mandates a closed hearing upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the school board’s members present and voting and upon specific request of the certificated employee or the certificated employee’s representative. However, under that section, formal action by the school board requires that the school board reconvene in open

session. *Stephens v. Board of Education of School District No. 5, Pierce County*, 230 Neb. 38, 429 N.W.2d 722 (1988).

10. The provisions of the open meetings statutes dealing with closed sessions, in part, reflect the Legislature's judgment of the appropriate balance between the public's interest in open discussion of governmental issues and the rights of individuals, such as state employees, to have their performance as employees considered in private if they so choose. *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993).

11. If the primary purpose for a closed session of a public body is authorized under the open meetings statutes, then any necessary discussion of incidental matters is also authorized. *Meyer v. Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (Neb. Ct. App. 1993). In the *Meyer* case, the Nebraska Court of Appeals indicated that the University Board of Regents could properly discuss the appointment of an interim president for the University during a closed session called to evaluate and consider the employment status of the president.

12. In *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002), the court held that if a person who is present at a meeting of a public body observes an alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, then that person waives his or her right to object to the closed session at a later date. However, that case appears to be legislatively overruled by LB 898 from 2006 which provides that it shall not be a defense to a citizen lawsuit under § 84-1414(3) that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at that time.

13. There is no absolute evidentiary privilege which applies to all communications made during a closed session of a public body, and communications made during such closed sessions are discoverable. *State ex rel. Upper Republican Natural Resources District v. District Judges of the District Court for Chase County*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007). However, to the extent that communications made during a closed session implicate other recognized privileges such as the attorney-client privilege, those communications are protected. *Id.*

14. The statutory provision allowing public bodies to hold closed sessions for strategy sessions regarding litigation or threatened litigation by necessity encompasses discussions and decisions regarding whether to make or reject a settlement offer. Such decisions regarding litigation strategy should not have to be discussed publicly, during an open session, in front of the body's opponent. *Becker v. Allen*, 1996 WL 106217, 1996 Neb. App. LEXIS 73 (Neb. Ct. App. 1996) (Not approved for publication). In addition, the strategic meetings which a public body has with its attorney when threatened with or engaged in litigation, in which the public body may give direction to its attorney, are protected by the attorney-client privilege. *Id.*

15. **Opinions of the Attorney General:**

a. A closed session is not proper simply because matters permitting a closed session might arise. Such a closed session is permitted only when such matters do arise and must be dealt with. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 94035 (May 11, 1994); Op. Att'y Gen. No. 11 (January 20, 1983).

b. Discussions of legal matters between a county board and a county attorney involving pending litigation or legal consequences of specific action are suitable for a closed session. 1975-76 Rep. Att'y Gen. 150 (Opinion No. 116, dated August 29, 1975).

c. A public body can go into a proper closed session for discussion of personnel matters and then reconvene for a public vote with no lengthy explanation of the rationale underlying the decision. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 89063 (October 12, 1989).

d. The closed session exception for prevention of needless injury to reputation is for the protection of individual employees and not for the protection of governmental officers on the public body. *Id.*

e. In Op. Att'y Gen. No. 98045 (November 4, 1998), the Attorney General indicated that detailed minutes of all matters discussed need not be maintained when a public body is meeting in closed or executive session, so long as the requirements of § 84-1410 pertaining specifically to the minute entries necessary for a closed session are met.

f. A county clerk, county attorney and county treasurer acting as a group under § 32-567(3) to make an appointment to fill a vacancy on a county board may not go into closed session for evaluation of the merits of the candidates based upon the express language of § 84-1410(1). Op. Att’y Gen. No. 97050 (September 18, 1997).

g. In Op. Att’y Gen. No. 17-004 (June 5, 2017), the Attorney General indicated that the Public Service Commission may not discuss management and operational issues outside of a duly convened meeting which satisfies all requirements of the Open Meetings Act, except when conducting judicial proceedings. Alternatively, the commission could discuss these issues in closed sessions under limited circumstances or form subcommittees of less than a quorum, which are generally excluded from the act.

h. The Attorney General has indicated informally that developing testimony for an upcoming Legislative hearing is not a proper reason for a state agency to go into closed session. On the other hand, the Attorney General has also indicated informally that discussion of “sensitive medical and financial information” pertaining to specific individuals who applied for admission to a state home could be conducted in a closed session so long as the actual vote on admission was done in an open meeting.

J. CIRCUMVENTION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT. Section 84-1410(4) prohibits a person or a public body from circumventing the purpose of the open meetings statutes by failing to invite a portion of its members to a meeting or by designating itself as a subcommittee of the whole body. That section also prohibits the use of any closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax or other electronic communication for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the open meetings statutes.

1. This provision was added to the open meetings statutes by LB 43 in 1983. This section was directed at the intentional circumvention of the open meetings statutes rather than inadvertent acts. Government, Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee Hearing on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1983) at 5.

2. 2004 Neb. Laws LB 1179 added emails, faxes and other electronic communications to the list of mediums which could not be used to circumvent the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

3. Similar language prohibiting the use of virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communications to circumvent any of the public government purposes of the Open Meetings Act is contained in § 84-1411(3).

4. The Attorney General has indicated that intent is a necessary element of the conduct prohibited by § 84-1410(4), and that members of a public body can communicate with other members of that body by electronic means, even if that communication is directed to a quorum of the body, so long as there is no course of communication which becomes sufficiently involved so as to evidence an intent or purpose to circumvent the Open Meetings Act. Op. Att'y Gen. No. 04007 (March 8, 2004).

K. ACTIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT. Section 84-1414 sets out various enforcement options available to individuals who believe that the open meetings statutes have been violated.

1. Any motion, resolution, rule, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the public meetings statutes shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within 120 days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any such motion or other action taken in substantial violation of the public meeting statutes shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced after more than 120 days but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

2. Under § 84-1414(3), any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the open meetings statutes, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the open meetings statutes to discussions or decisions of the public body. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007). The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under

§ 84-1414(3). Under LB 898 from 2006, it shall not be a defense to such a suit that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object to violations at such time.

3. The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the provisions of the open meetings statutes.

4. **History.** The original version of § 84-1414(1), which was a part of LB 325 passed in 1975, simply provided that actions taken in violation of the public meetings statutes should be void. The void/voidable distinction was added by LB 43 in 1983. The apparent intent of that later language was to allow a court to void an action by a public body taken when there was any violation of the open meetings statutes if the action was filed within four months of the meeting in question. After four months, the violation of the open meetings statutes would have to be substantial to allow a court to void the action of the public body. In any event, no action could be brought after one year of the public meeting in question. Floor Debate on LB 43, 88th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, March 22, 1983, at 1892.

5. The legislative history of LB 325 from 1975 indicates that the initial intent of that statute was to have the county attorney responsible for enforcement proceedings involving public bodies at a local level. The Attorney General would be responsible for enforcement against state entities. Floor Debate on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session, May 14, 1975, at 4620.

6. The Nebraska Supreme Court has indicated that action by a public body which is proper under the open meetings statutes may cure defects in actions previously taken by the same public body. In such an instance, an action by a public body which previously might have been declared void will be declared proper. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler, supra*. On the other hand, under those circumstances, the original improper meeting itself is still void. *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Board*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994). *Pokorny* also indicates that the effect of an invalid public meeting under the open meetings laws is the same as if the meeting had never occurred.

7. A county lacks capacity to maintain an action to declare its official conduct void for noncompliance with the open meetings statutes. *County of York v. Johnson*, 230 Neb. 403, 432 N.W.2d 215 (1988).

8. Reading of a city ordinance in accordance with a city charter constitutes “formal action” of a city council which may be voided in a lawsuit under § 84-1414(1). *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).

9. A number of Nebraska cases deal with waiver of rights under the Open Meetings Act by a failure to make a timely objection to violations of the Act. *Stoetzel & Sons, Inc. v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003) (if a person who attends a meeting of a public body believes that copies of documents discussed by the body should be made available to the public at the meeting, a timely objection should be made, or that person waives his or her right to object); *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Board*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002); *Otey v. State*, 240 Neb. 813, 485 N.W.2d 153 (1992); *Witt v. School District No. 70, Frontier County*, 202 Neb. 63, 273 N.W. 2d 669 (1979) (any person who has notice of a meeting and attends the meeting is required to object specifically to a lack of public notice at the meeting or waive his rights to object on that ground under the open meetings statutes); *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002) (if a person present at a meeting observes and fails to object to an alleged open meetings violation in the form of a failure to conduct roll call votes before taking action on questions or motions pending, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date); *Alexander v. School District No. 17 of Thurston County*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976) (where teachers had notice of a termination hearing, appeared, and no objection was made to a failure of the school board to give proper notice under the open meetings statutes, those teachers waived any objection they might have had to violations of the open meetings law). Those cases appear to be legislatively overruled by LB 898 from 2006 which provides that it shall not be a defense to a citizen lawsuit under § 84-1414(3) that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at that time.

10. In *Robinson v. Morrill County School District #63*, 299 Neb. 740, 910 N.W.2d 752 (2018), the Nebraska Supreme Court declined to consider the propriety of the school board's closed session to deliberate on the cancellation of Robinson's teaching contract following an evidentiary hearing since Robinson failed to object to the closed session or the process followed by the school board in closing the meeting.

11. Actions for relief under the open meetings statutes are tried as equitable cases, given the fact that the relief sought is in the nature of a declaration that particular action taken in violation of the laws is void or voidable. Such cases are also considered as equitable cases on appeal. *Stoetzel & Sons, Inc. v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003); *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002); *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009); *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999).

12. The *Hansmeyer* case also discusses the distinction between "void" and "voidable" under § 84-1414. "Void" means ineffectual and having no legal force or binding effect, while "voidable" means that which may be avoided or declared void, not absolutely void. In *Hansmeyer*, the court considered factors such as whether any purpose would be served or whether decisions were made in secret without public discussion in determining whether a voidable vote by the Nebraska Public Power District should, in fact, be voided.

13. Once a meeting has been declared void pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, the members of the public body involved are prohibited from considering any information which they obtained at the illegal meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009); *Alderman v. County of Antelope*, 11 Neb. App. 412, 653 N.W.2d 1 (2002).

14. The decision to award attorney's fees to a "successful plaintiff" in an action under § 84-1414 is discretionary with the trial court. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Public Power District*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998), *aff'd*, 256 Neb. 1, 588 N.W.2d 589 (1999). The court in *Hansmeyer* also held that the plaintiffs in that case were "successful plaintiffs" who could recover attorney's fees under

§ 84-1414 because there was a finding that a substantial violation of the open meetings statutes had occurred, and because the public body involved amended its practices to prepare proper agendas after the plaintiffs filed their action. The court reached that conclusion even though it ultimately determined that the improper action of the public body at issue should not be voided. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) also contains a discussion regarding the basis for an award of attorney's fees in that case, including the court's analysis of why it reduced a fee award on appeal.

15. Voiding an entire meeting is a proper remedy for violations of the Open Meetings Act. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009). The court in the *Wolf* case also specifically considered whether violations of the Open Meetings Act were "substantial" violations in determining whether it was appropriate to void actions of a county board when the enforcement lawsuit was filed more than 120 days after the meetings in question.

16. In *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (Neb. Ct. App. 2009) there was no evidence in the record which established that a county board had published notice of its meetings anywhere. The Court of Appeals held that in the absence of contrary evidence, it may be presumed that public officers faithfully performed their official duties. *Id.* In addition, absent evidence showing misconduct or disregard for the law, the regularity of official acts is also presumed. *Id.* In *Wolf*, the court also indicated that the plaintiffs had the burden at all times to show that it was more probable that notices of meetings were not posted than probable that they were.

17. The United States District Court for the District of Nebraska has indicated that it has supplemental jurisdiction over claims under § 84-1414 based upon 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a). *Buzek v. Pawnee County Nebraska*, 207 F. Supp. 2d 961 (D. Neb. 2002).

18. "Citizens," as well as members of the general public and reporters or other representatives of the news media, are the intended beneficiaries of the Open Meetings Act, and have standing to bring an action under that Act. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010). This is true even though individual citizens may not be able to allege a particularized injury as a result of action by a public body or the pecuniary interest in the public body's action

which might be necessary for common law standing. *Id.* An action under § 84-1414 is permissible when the ultimate result of the questionable meetings of the public body is annexation. *Id.*

19. The plaintiffs in *Pierce v. Drobny*, 279 Neb. 251, 777 N.W.2d 322 (2010), contended that a local school board held a number of secret meetings without notice or public participation to plan for a special election for the issuance of bonds for a new school. A resolution authorizing the special election was subsequently passed by the board at a public meeting, and at the special election, voters approved the school bond issue. The plaintiffs sought to void the board's resolution for the special election under the Open Meetings Act rather than filing an election contest. The Nebraska Supreme Court held that an election contest was the exclusive remedy under such circumstances, and that a separate challenge under the Open Meetings Act did not exist once the bond issue was voted upon by the public.

L. CRIMINAL SANCTIONS. Section 84-1414(4) provides that any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate the Open Meetings Act, or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of that Act, shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense, and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

1. The legislative history of LB 325 from 1975 indicates that the criminal sanctions included in this section were originally directed at intentional behavior rather than at inadvertence. Government Committee Hearing on LB 325, 84th Nebraska Legislature, First Session (1975) at 16.

2. The criminal sanctions for violation of the open meetings statutes were first increased as a result of LB 1019 passed in 1992. Also, that same bill in 1992 added language which made knowingly remaining at or attending a meeting in violation of the open meetings statutes a crime. The present language which applies criminal sanctions to those members of a public body who remain at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of the open meetings statutes was added by LB 621 in 1994.

3. Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-106 (2016), a Class IV misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of \$100 to \$500 and no imprisonment. In addition, a

Class III misdemeanor is punishable by up to 3 months imprisonment or up to a \$500 fine, or both. A Class III misdemeanor has no minimum penalty.

Rev. 7/2024

Board of Education Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2025

Blair Central Office

1326 Park Street, Blair NE 68008

Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda. The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Courtney Tabor, Vice President, called the Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Denise Cada, Steve Callaghan, Ginger Fredericksen, Nate Larsen, Kari Loseke, Bob Schoby, and Courtney Tabor

2.1 Approval of Absent Board Member(s)

Motion Passed: I move to approve the absence of Board Member(s): Melaini Sturm passed with a motion by Kari Loseke and a second by Bob Schoby.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Members of the Otte Blair Middle School's Student Senate led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda – None

5. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items - None

6. Consent Agenda

Motion Passed: I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Kari Loseke and a second by Nate Larsen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

- 6.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting**
- 6.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published**
- 6.3. Receipt of Communications**
- 6.4. Treasurer's Report**
- 6.5. Audit of Claims**

7. Business

- 7.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda - None**
- 7.2. Recognitions**
- 7.3. Acceptance of Gifts**

7.3.1. Future Farmers of America (FFA)

The Washington County Cattlemen's Association has donated \$5,000 to the Blair FFA Chapter to help cover expenses for the upcoming State FFA Convention, which will take place in Lincoln from April 2-4, 2025. The Chapter appreciates their continued support.

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation, gifted to the Blair FFA Chapter, from the Washington County Cattlemen's Association in the amount of \$5,000 passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Nate Larsen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.4. Consideration of Communications

7.5. Comments from The Public – There were no public comments.

7.6. Committee Reports

7.6.1. Policy/Curriculum Committee

The Policy/Curriculum Committee met on Monday, March 17, 2025. A report from the committee was given by Denise Cada.

7.6.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Monday, March 31, 2025. A report from the committee was given by Steve Callaghan.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the quote from Alberio in the amount of \$19,961.00 for 10 new heat pump controllers for Deerfield Elementary passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase and installation of new carpet at Otte Middle School in the amount of \$14,095.00 passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Kari Loseke.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.6.3. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Courtney Tabor.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the addition of one full-time Early Childhood Preschool teacher beginning the 2025-26 school year passed with a motion by Bob Schoby and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Failed: I move to approve the recommendation to forgive seven contract days for certified staff for the 2024-25 school year passed with a motion by Bob Schoby and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	No
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	No
Nate Larsen	Yes

Kari Loseke	No
Bob Schoby	No
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	No

Motion Passed: I move to authorize Superintendent, Dr. Randy Gilson and representative of Blair Board of Education to meet with the Blair Education Association (BEA) to discuss and approve the last certified teachers' workday for the 2024-25 contract year on behalf of the Board of Education passed with a motion by Bob Schoby and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Motion Passed: I move to approve the renewal contract as presented from Taher to continue as the food service manager company for Blair Community Schools for the 2025-26 school year passed with a motion by Bob Schoby and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Absent
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.7. Approval of New Teacher(s)

- Katrina Yale - Otte Blair Middle School Principal
- Erin Field - Director of Curriculum and Assessment
- Avery Michalski - Grade 7 Science Teacher, Otte Blair Middle School
- Kerrie Riley - Preschool Teacher, South Early Childhood Center
- Lisa Leinen - Grade 4 Classroom Teacher, Deerfield Elementary
- Briana Reinig - Kindergarten Teacher, Deerfield Elementary
- Patrick Mallette - Grade 2 Classroom Teacher, Arbor Park Elementary
- Nicholas Konen - Special Education Teacher, Deerfield Elementary
- Neenah Lindner - Grade 4 Classroom Teacher, Deerfield Elementary
- Brett LeGrand - Assistant Principal, Otte Middle School

Motion Passed: I move to approve new certified staff members Katrina Yale, Erin Field, Avery Michalski, Kerrie Riley, Lisa Leinen, Briana Reinig, Patrick Mallette, Nicholas Konen, Neenah Lindner, and Brett LeGrand, as presented passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.8. Acceptance of Resignation & Retirements

- Taylor Santos - Business/Computer Science Teacher, Blair High School
- Layne Lueders - School Counselor, Otte Blair Middle School
- Mariah Henry - Special Education Teacher, Deerfield Elementary
- Kaitlyn Filer - Music Teacher, Arbor Park Elementary
- Dr. Cindy Page - School Psychologist

Motion Passed: I move to accept the resignations of Taylor Santos, Layne Lueders, Mariah Henry, Kaitlyn Filer, and Dr. Cindy Page upon the conclusion of the 204-26 school year with a motion by Bob Schoby and a second by Kari Loseke.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

7.9. Superintendent Report

7.10. Informational Item

8. Adjournment

Motion Passed: I move to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Kari Loseke.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes

Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Absent
Courtney Tabor	Yes

Angie Conety
Secretary Board of Education

Randall Gilson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Cash-Bank Reconciliation
 April 30, 2025

4/01/2025 through 4/30/25

Book Balance

Beginning Balance		\$8,746,179.53
Total Receipts		\$1,843,958.50
Total Disbursements		-\$2,226,901.58
Reconciled Book Balance-Ending Balance		\$8,363,236.45

Bank Balance

Beginning Balance		\$3,940,752.63
Deposits	\$1,826,684.94	
Interest	\$414.42	
Total Receipts		\$1,827,099.36
Total Disbursements		-\$4,499,014.43
Bank Balance Ending Balance		\$1,268,837.56
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires		-\$44,240.02
Reconciled Bank Balance-Ending Balance		\$1,224,597.54

Reconciled Balance		\$1,224,597.54
Total Investments		\$7,138,638.91
Total General Fund Balance		\$8,363,236.45

Leslie Watts

 Leslie Watts, Board of Education Treasurer

5/1/25

 Date

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Building Fund
 April 30, 2025

4/01/2025 through 4/30/25

Beginning Balance	\$3,673,494.92
Total Receipts	\$105,351.16
Total Disbursements	-\$104,350.00
Building Fund Balance	<u><u>\$3,674,496.08</u></u>

Bank Balance

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$401,873.50
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	\$0.00
Reconciled Bank Balance	<u>\$401,873.50</u>
Total Investments	<u>\$3,272,622.58</u>
Total Building Fund Balance	<u><u>\$3,674,496.08</u></u>

Blair Community Schools
 Financial Report to the Board of Education
 Savings Depreciation
 April 30, 2025

4/01/2025 through 4/30/25

Beginning Balance	\$1,921,601.55
Total Receipts	\$4,690.00
Total Disbursements	-\$199,310.61
Savings Depreciation Fund Balance	<u><u>\$1,726,980.94</u></u>

Bank Balance

Bank Balance Ending Balance	\$1,726,980.94
Less Outstanding Checks/Wires	\$0.00
Total Savings Depreciation Fund Balance	<u><u>\$1,726,980.94</u></u>

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS - 5/12/2025

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
ABE'S TRASH SERVICE INC	\$3,856.15	TRASH SERVICES
ACELLUS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES LLC	\$2,686.00	ACELLUS EDUCUATIONAL SOFTWARE LICENSES
ACTIVE INTERNET TECHNOLOGIES LLC	\$18,200.00	ANNUAL SCHOOL MESSENGER & WEBSITE & APP SERVICES
ADAMS PIANO SERVICE	\$375.00	PIANO TUNING
AJ'S SERVICE AND REPAIR INC	\$3,049.55	BUS REPAIRS & INSPECTIONS
ALBIREO ENERGY	\$7,108.86	HVAC REPAIRS (DF,OMS,N)
ALLIED APPLIANCE	\$675.16	NEW DRYER FOR BHS FCS ROOM
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$4,765.83	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES, LIBRARY BOOKS & SUPPLIES, CUSTODIAL & SAFETY SUPPLIES, SPED SUPPLIES, OFFICE SUPPLIES, GRANT SUPPLIES
AMY TESSENDORF	\$98.00	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
APPLE INC	\$387.00	APPLE TV (BHS)
ARBOR FAMILY COUNSELING	\$1,179.00	COUNSELING ONSITE SERVICES IN APRIL25
BALLS OUT MOTORS LLC	\$412.96	GROUNDS MOWER REPAIRS
BIL-DEN GLASS	\$1,498.80	DOOR INSTALLATION (DF)
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	\$317.58	MAINTENANCE AND GROUNDS SUPPLIES
BLAIR POST OFFICE	\$2,000.00	POSTAGE FOR CENSUS MAILINGS
BOMGAARS	\$255.87	GROUNDS SUPPLIES
BOYS TOWN	\$5,400.00	SPED STUDENT TUTION- APRIL25
BRIDGETTE OLSON	\$21.07	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
CAMELOT TRANSPORTATION INC	\$2,392.50	SPED STUDENT TRANSPORTATION- FEB & MAR25
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	\$2,520.96	COPIER SERVICES
CHAZ FONDA	\$85.00	EMPLOYEE REIMB- BUS DRIVER PHYSICAL
CINDY PAGE	\$25.90	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
CISSY JENNINGS	\$1,236.20	PARENT MILEAGE
CITY OF BLAIR	\$4,359.25	UTILITY - WATER/SEWER
CONTROL SERVICES INC	\$1,033.20	AP HVAC REPAIRS
CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL	\$39.34	BUS 6 REPAIRS
CPI TELECOM	\$6,682.54	PHONE SYSTEM SERVICES & REPAIRS
CROWNE PLAZA KEARNEY	\$144.95	SPED CONFERENCE LODGING
DAIKIN APPLIED	\$1,110.00	AP HVAC REPAIRS
DICK'S ELECTRIC	\$1,149.38	ELECTRICAL REPAIRS (S,DF,AP)
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	\$117.13	FAX SERVICES - APR25
ECHO GROUP INC.	\$89.69	ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES
ED MILLS	\$69.91	EMPLOYEE REIMB- SUBURBAN GAS
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #3	\$51,081.42	SPED- BROOKE VALLEY, SLP, VISION, EC COORD /TRAINING/HAL FEES, PRESCHOOL STAY FIELD TRIP
ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO INC	\$284.35	LEGAL NOTICES
FAIRWAY OIL CO	\$8,702.09	BUS AND VEHICLE FUEL- APRIL 25
FASTWYRE BROADBAND CABLE	\$2,171.38	TELEPHONE & INTERNET SERVICES
FBLA PBLA INC	\$125.00	FBLA NATIONALS ADVISOR REGISTRATION
FEIRER ENTERPRISES INC	\$420.00	BHS BAND LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP
FIREGUARD LLC	\$620.90	FIRE ALARM SERVICES (DF)
FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	\$3,102.95	K-5 LIBRARY BOOKS
FORT CALHOUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	\$17,000.00	SPED-PIONEER LEARNING CENTER/LIFE SKILLS
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES INC	\$21,425.00	SPED WORK EXPERIENCE MAR & APRIL 2025
GREENWAY YARD AND LANDSCAPE	\$2,965.00	GROUNDS SPRINKLER REPAIRS (S,BHS)
GRUNWALD MECHANICAL	\$7,157.60	PLUMBING REPAIRS (AP,OMS,BHS)
HEARTLAND FOUNDATION	\$7,922.00	SPED STUDENT TUITION
HEARTLAND TIRES & TREADS INC	\$539.90	BUS 7 REPAIRS
IDEAL PURE WATER	\$783.49	PURIFIED WATER SUPPLIES
INSPIRA FINANCIAL	\$187.05	FLEX PLAN FEE - APR25
J W PEPPER & SON INC.	\$68.40	OMS VOCAL MUSIC
JAMES BILSLEND	\$30.00	EMPLOYEE REIMBURSE- SUBURBAN FUEL
JENNIFER FOWLER	\$280.00	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
JOSEPH NORTON	\$60.00	EMPLOYEE REIMB- BUS DRIVER LICENSING
JOSTENS	\$1,573.05	GRADUATION DIPLOMA COVERS
LARRY'S BOILER SERVICE	\$1,876.12	FIXED LEAKING BOILER (BHS)
LAURA SCHLACHTER	\$27.72	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
LESLEY WARD	\$245.21	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
LONG'S OK TIRE	\$123.90	MOWER REPAIRS
MACGILL & CO	\$32.90	DF HEALTH OFFICE SUPPLIES
MARCIE REED	\$1,411.20	PARENT MILEAGE
MARY YEATON	\$9.49	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE- FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
MCKINNIS ROOFING INC	\$2,662.54	DF ROOF REPAIRS
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS INC	\$27,643.41	HVAC REPAIRS (S,DF,AP,OMS,BHS,N)
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	\$70.00	BUS DRIVER PHYSICAL
MENARDS	\$519.98	STORAGE SHED RAMPS AND GARAGE DOOR ROLL UP

NANNEN PHYSICAL THERAPY	\$20,964.16	OCCUPATIONAL & PHYSICAL THERAPY CONTRACTED SERVICES
NCSA	\$1,070.00	NASBO & NASES CONFERENCES, NCSA MEMBERSHIPS 25-26
NEBRASKA CENTRAL EQUIPMENT INC	\$69.68	BUS 13 REPAIRS
OFFICE DEPOT	\$2,372.48	PRESCHOOL, CLASSROOM, DISTRICT PAPER SUPPLIES
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$25,998.06	UTILITY - ELECTRICITY
ONESOURCE THE BACKGROUND CK CO	\$312.50	BACKGROUND CHECKS
PAINTIN PLACE CERAMICS INC	\$1,260.00	BHS ART CLAY SUPPLIES
PERRY GUTHERY HAASE GESSFORD	\$1,646.00	LEGAL SERVICES
PEST SOLUTIONS 365	\$1,200.00	PEST CONTROL (S,DF,AP,BHS,ADMIN, BUS BARN)
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$82.00	B-3 PRESCHOOL HOME VISIT FORMS
QUADIENT LEASING USA INC	\$398.94	POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE
REBECCA MATHIESEN	\$74.71	EMPLOYEE REIMB- SUBURBAN GAS
RIVERSIDE INSIGHTS	\$2,692.80	HAL ONLINE TESTING SOFTWARE
ROCHESTER MIDLAND CORPORATION	\$1,307.18	BOILER CHEMICALS
SAPP BROTHERS	\$683.82	GROUNDS FUEL
SCHMIDT SPEECH LANG PATHOLOGY LLC	\$8,565.56	SPEECH THERAPY SLP CONTRACTED SERVICES
SECURITY EQUIPMENT INC	\$798.41	SECURITY SYSTEM REPAIRS (DF,OMS)
SHOTWELL GLASS	\$249.98	WINDSHIELD REPAIRS
SMITTY'S AUTO SERVICE	\$204.71	SUBURBAN REPAIRS
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$309.82	FCS, SPED, AG ED SUPPLIES
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	\$1,974.34	PRINT CENTER SUPPLIES, OFFICE SUPPLIES & FURNITURE, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
STRATUS BUILDING SOLUTIONS	\$20,236.00	CUSTODIAL CONTRACTED CLEANING- AP & BHS-MAY25
TAHER INC	\$438.75	SIXPENCE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS
THE HOME DEPOT PRO	\$9,058.39	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES
THE OMNI GROUP	\$15.00	403B FEE- APR25
TOM SHEARER	\$203.00	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
TYLER SIECKE	\$102.76	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS LLC	\$838.67	DISTRICT NETWORK SVCS
US CELLULAR	\$218.95	STUDENT MIFIS- INTERNET ACCESS
USI ED & GOVERNMENT SALES	\$103.37	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
VERIZON	\$130.05	WIRELESS SERVICES
WILD ROOTS GREENHOUSE	\$2,117.26	AG ED- GREENHOUSE PLANTS
WOODRIVER ENERGY LLC	\$6,111.46	UTILITY - GAS
ZIMCO SUPPLY	\$1,808.50	GROUNDS - GRASS SEED/FERTILIZER
Summary	\$348,082.14	

GENERAL FUND-CHECKS ISSUED TO BE RATIFIED 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
OVERDRIVE INC	\$1,000.00	OMS LIBRARY E-BOOKS
VISA	\$3,901.69	TRAVEL, DUES, TRAINING & INSERVICE, SUPPLIES, MISC, REPAIRS, MEETINGS, EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY NEEDS, PRESCHOOL SNACKS, SIXPENCE GRANT
Summary	\$3,901.69	

GENERAL FUND-APRIL 2025 PAYROLL & BENEFITS TO BE RATIFIED 5/12/2025

GROSS PAYROLL	\$1,389,156.74	GROSS SALARY & WAGES
NET PAYROLL - DIRECT DEPOSITS	\$967,242.67	NET PAY CHECKS- DIRECT DEPOSIT TOTALS
NET PAYROLL - MANUAL CHECKS	\$0.00	NET PAY CHECKS - MANUAL CHECK TOTALS
NEBRASKA REVENUE NEB EPAY.	\$48,109.53	NE STATE W/H
OMNI FINANCIAL1 CORP COLL	\$6,808.66	P/R DEDUCTION - 403(B) INVESTMENTS
OUTGOING WIRE TO US TREASURY	\$326,320.87	FEDERAL W/H, FICA W/H & FICA TAXES
RETIREMENT	\$256,937.90	RETIREMENT DEDUCTION & BENEFIT
VISION SERVICE PLAN INSURANCE CO	\$1,539.83	P/R DEDUCTION - VISION INSURANCE
NATIONAL INSURANCE SERVICES OF WI	\$5,837.55	EMPLOYEE LTD & LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS
SECTION 125	\$8,341.51	P/R DEDUCTION - FLEX PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	\$275,995.24	EMPLOYEE HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE
REVCO SOLUTIONS	\$643.01	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	\$150.00	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
ERIN MCCARTNEY	\$185.00	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT
DISTRICT COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY	\$546.98	P/R DEDUCTION - GARNISHMENT

BONDFUND CLAIMS 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
BOK FINANCIAL	\$839,365.00	BOND DEBT SERVICE- PRINCIPAL & INTEREST
Summary	\$839,365.00	

LUNCH FUND CLAIMS 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
HOMETOWN REPAIR SERVICES	\$5,054.25	GARBAGE DISPOSAL & MILK COOLER REPAIRS (DF, AP)
KRISTI STUTHEIT	\$56.55	STUDENT LUNCH ACCOUNT REFUND
O'FLAHERTY SERVICES	\$598.69	WALK IN FREEZER REPAIRS (BHS)
S & S PUMPING SERVICE	\$200.00	PUMP GREASE TRAP (BHS)
Summary	\$5,909.49	

BUILDING FUND CLAIMS 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
AMERICAN FENCE COMPANY	\$2,015.00	FENCE IMPROVEMENTS (DF)
Summary	\$2,015.00	

SAVINGS/DEPRECIATION FUND CLAIMS 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
95 PERCENT GROUP	\$953.90	PHONICS CORE PROGRAM TEACHERS GUIDE (AP/DF)
INGERSOLL RAND	\$3,519.69	NEW DRYER (BHS)
ELECTRONIC SOUND	\$20,000.00	TELECENTER ALL PAGE SYSTEM (BHS)
Summary	\$24,473.59	

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND CLAIMS 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	\$1,280.00	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
Summary	\$1,280.00	

ACTIVITY FUND & STUDENT FEE FUND-CHECKS ISSUED IN APRIL 2025 TO BE RATIFIED 5/12/2025

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$52.52	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SUPPLIES
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$16.12	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SUPPLIES
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$49.69	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$289.98	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	SUPPLIES
HEATHER ENGLISH	\$466.00	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL TSHIRTS
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$13.90	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SUPPLIES
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$22.40	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SHIRTS
ISABELLA JETENSKY	\$37.66	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	MUSICAL SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$10.99	DF/W ADV COUNCIL	BOOKS
VISA	\$332.24	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	BUTCHS ROCK N DELI
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$264.88	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	TEXBOOKS
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS-8	\$4,249.53	AP ADVISORY COUNCIL	AP BOOK FAIR
VISA	\$78.81	JR. HIGH WRESTLING	FAMILY FARE
VISA	\$187.33	JR. HIGH WRESTLING	JIMMY JOHNS
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$1,216.00	JR HIGH BAND FESTIVAL	BAND CERTIFICATES
VISA	\$27.09	JR HIGH BAND FESTIVAL	PLATTEVIEW HS
VISA	\$58.85	JR HIGH BAND FESTIVAL	SCOOTERS COFFEE
BRETT LEGRAND	\$300.00	8TH GRADE DANCE	DJ
BRETT LEGRAND	\$350.00	8TH GRADE DANCE	DJ
PEPSI CO	\$446.46	8TH GRADE DANCE	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
ROGUE FITNESS	\$4,010.00	8TH GRADE DANCE	QUOTE 178299 (SEE ATTACHE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$199.92	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	SUPPLIES
KRISTI RASMUSSEN	\$51.47	OBMS STUDENT SENATE	STUDNT SENATE FOOD
ROGUE FITNESS	\$2,863.33	6TH GRADE ACTIVITIES	QUOTE 178299 (SEE ATTACHE
WALSWORTH PUBL CO INC	\$704.58	JR HIGH YEARBOOK	2025 YEARBOOK 2ND DEP
JANA KRAJCIOVA MANNING	\$200.00	8TH GRADE SHOW CHOIR	PIANIST
MIA MCCLAIN	\$20.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
ALAYNA WELTE	\$40.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORT WORKER
KATE FAUE	\$40.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
KERSTEN SCHISSEL	\$73.62	TENNIS	TENNIS SUPPLIES
VISA	\$10.00	BOYS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
VISA	\$10.00	BOYS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
VISA	\$25.00	BOYS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
ROBERT MARTIN	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
JAMES HOPKINS	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
TY ORWIG	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
NICHOLAS REINEKE	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
TY ORWIG	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
JASON TAYLOR	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
CHRIS GAHN	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
KYLE SEGGERMAN	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
JASON TAYLOR	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
NICHOLAS WALTER	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
TY ORWIG	\$96.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
JAMES HOUSTON	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
TY ORWIG	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
TROY BROWN	\$90.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
TY ORWIG	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
ROBERT MARTIN	\$170.00	BOYS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
BLACK SQUIRREL TIMING	\$1,056.72	TRACK-BHS	MIKE LEHL TRACK MEET
HAUFF SPORTS	\$1,973.90	TRACK-BHS	TRACK UNIFORMS
TEKAMAH-HERMAN HIGH SCHOOL	\$65.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY FEE
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TRACK & FIEL	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$50.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY FEE
PLATTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL	\$100.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
PLATTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY
LINCOLN NORTHWEST HS	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
WAVERLY HIGH SCHOOL	\$200.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
TYLER SIECKE	\$25.90	GIRLS BASKETBALL	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
VISA	\$26.74	GIRLS BASKETBALL	WALGREENS
VISA	\$242.16	GIRLS BASKETBALL	COSTCO
VISA	\$10.00	GIRLS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
VISA	\$10.00	GIRLS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
VISA	\$25.00	GIRLS BASKETBALL	GO FAN TIX- NSAA
4 SEASON AWARDS	\$64.95	GIRLS BASKETBALL	GBB AWARDS
WILLIAM ANDERSON	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
PETER MANRIQUE	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
BRIAN ANDERSON	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
ROBERT MARTIN	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
CURTIS WEES	\$170.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
KYLE SEGGERMAN	\$170.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
ROBERT FISHER	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
BRIAN COTNER	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
NICHOLAS REINEKE	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
LORI HILL	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
ROBERT FISHER	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
DAVID WEILL IV	\$96.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
LORI HILL	\$90.00	GIRLS SOCCER	OFFICIAL
CISHIRTS	\$528.00	GIRLS SOCCER	GIRLS SOCCER SHIRTS
BLACK SQUIRREL TIMING	\$1,056.72	TRACK-BHS	MIKE LEHL TRACK MEET
HAUFF SPORTS	\$1,973.90	TRACK-BHS	TRACK UNIFORMS
TEKAMAH-HERMAN HIGH SCHOOL	\$65.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY FEE
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TRACK & FIEL	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$50.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY FEE
PLATTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL	\$100.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
PLATTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	TRACK ENTRY
LINCOLN NORTHWEST HS	\$125.00	TRACK-BHS	ENTRY FEE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$149.90	BOYS GOLF	SUPPLIES
RIVER WILDS GOLF CLUB	\$2,000.00	BOYS GOLF	BOYS GOLF MEMBERSHIP
TEKAMAH-HERMAN HIGH SCHOOL	\$50.00	BOYS GOLF	ENTRY FEE
ASHLAND-GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHO	\$100.00	BOYS GOLF	GOLF ENTRY FEE
ASHLAND-GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHO	\$110.00	BOYS GOLF	ENTRY FEE
SKUTT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL	\$150.00	BOYS GOLF	ENTRY FEE
4 SEASON AWARDS	\$322.50	BOYS GOLF	GOLF PLAQUES
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$140.44	WRESTLING	WRESTLING FOOD

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
MATBOSS LLC	\$299.50	WRESTLING	WRESTLING SOFTWARE
NSAA	\$650.88	WRESTLING	FINANCIAL REPORT
ELKHORN HIGH SCHOOL	\$150.00	WRESTLING	WR ENTRY FEE
4 SEASON AWARDS	\$147.00	WRESTLING	WRESTLING SUPPLIES
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$390.00	BEAR TRACKS	BEAR TRACKS ISSUE
CHRISTIAN DAMES	\$24.10	BEAR TRACKS	BEAR TRACKS SUPPLIES
ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO INC	\$64.00	BEAR TRACKS	BEAR TRACKS
CHRISTIAN DAMES	\$32.07	BEAR TRACKS	BEAR TRACK SUPPLIES
JOHN RASMUSSEN	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
JAYSON FORD	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
TIM RISKOWSKI	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
JONN MCCLAIN	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
DUSTIN TAYLOR	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
MARK HUNT	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
JOHN PETERS	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
AUSTAN HAYNES	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
CHAD METZGER	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
RYAN LEWIS	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
AARON ROSSE	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
JOHN RASMUSSEN	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
AL BEHREND	\$80.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
MONTY MATHEWS	\$80.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
BRANDON LAVELLE	\$80.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
TROY LANHAM	\$80.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
GARY EIKMEIER	\$150.00	BASEBALL	UMPIRE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$186.83	BASEBALL	SUPPLIES
VISA	\$0.34	BASEBALL	CHART-IT-APP.COM
VISA	\$11.99	BASEBALL	CHART-IT-APP.COM
BELLEVUE WEST HIGH SCHOOL	\$180.00	BASEBALL	ENTRY FEE
BRETT LEGRAND	\$500.00	CLASS OF 2026	DJ
JESSICA KAY	\$300.00	CLASS OF 2026	BALLOON ARCH
WASH CO AG SOCIETY	\$1,800.00	CLASS OF 2026	PROM VENUE
FREMONT RENTALS	\$388.30	CLASS OF 2026	PROM LINENS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$109.57	CLASS OF 2026	SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$599.31	CLASS OF 2026	SUPPLIES
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$45.00	CLASS OF 2026	PROM BANNER
BUTCH'S DELI	\$1,134.20	CLASS OF 2026	PROM FOOD
POUNDS PRINTING INC	\$30.00	DRAMATICS	SPRING PLAY POSTERS
NICK CLINEBELL	\$75.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH JUDGE
MADYSON RAY	\$75.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH JUDGE
LEIGH ANN CALFEE	\$75.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH JUDGE
MADYSON RAY	\$75.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH JUDGE
CHRISTIAN DAMES	\$75.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH JUDGE
HOLIDAY INN KEARNEY	\$189.05	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH LODGING
HOLIDAY INN KEARNEY	\$189.05	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH LODGING
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$522.13	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH SHIRTS
LOGAN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL	\$64.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH ENTRY FEE
MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL	\$86.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH ENTRY FEE

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
WEeping WATER HIGH SCHOOL	\$135.00	SPEECH CLUB	SPEECH ENTRY FEE
SCHUYLER HIGH SCHOOL	\$413.75	SPEECH CLUB	DISTRICT SPEECH ENTRY
MORGAN CASPER	\$310.80	F. F. A.	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES	\$220.00	F. F. A.	FFA LODGING
CHARTWELLS	\$221.00	F. F. A.	FFA LUNCHES
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$168.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #8000 COLOR: NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$28.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #8000 COLOR: NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$85.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #8400 COLOR: NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$147.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #18000 COLOR-NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$528.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #18500 COLOR: NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$130.00	F. F. A.	ITEM #18500 COLOR: NAVY
RALLY SPORTSWEAR LLC	\$50.00	F. F. A.	ESTIMATED SHIPPING/HANDLI
UNIV OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN	\$394.00	F. F. A.	REGISTRATION
NEBR FFA ASSOCIATION	\$1,504.82	F. F. A.	STATE FFA
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$19.49	F. B. L. A.	SUPPLIES
VISA	\$82.20	F. B. L. A.	WALMART.COM
NEBR FBLA	\$170.00	F. B. L. A.	FBLA SOCIAL NIGHT
AMY LUEDERS	\$14.69	HS FACULTY CONCESSIONS	STAFF BIRTHDAY FOOD
KATE NORRIS	\$50.00	DANCE TEAM	TRYOUT JUDGE
KATIE RANDALL	\$50.00	DANCE TEAM	TRYOUT JUDGE
ANNA HARGIS	\$50.00	DANCE TEAM	TRYOUT JUDGE
RAMADA MIDTOWN CONF CENTER	\$636.00	DANCE TEAM	DANCE TEAM LODGING
CASHELL SHONKA	\$59.95	DANCE TEAM	DANCE CAMP MUSIC
UNIVERSAL DANCE ASSOCIATION	\$6,045.00	DANCE TEAM	DANCE SUMMER CAMP
LEIGHTON WARE	\$200.00	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR JUDGE
DAN HAYS	\$200.00	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR JUDGE
BRAXTON CARR	\$200.00	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR JUDGE
WALSWORTH PUBL CO INC	\$5,872.33	TATTLER	2025 YEARBOOK 2ND DEP
HAUFF SPORTS	\$96.22	UNIFIED SPORTS	UNIFIED STICKERS
#N/A	\$190.17	UNIFIED SPORTS	CK#500363-AMAZON-SUPPLIES
HAUFF SPORTS	\$127.67	UNIFIED SPORTS	UNIFIED SUPPLIES
NORRIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$50.00	UNIFIED SPORTS	ENTRY FEE
TYLER SIECKE	\$322.84	ALL SPORTS	EMPLOYEE MILEAGE
REESE UPTMORE	\$54.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
KATE FAUE	\$54.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
LILY STONEHOCKER	\$65.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
PERRY MOSTEK	\$65.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
CLAIRE BRIGGS	\$81.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
ALAYNA WELTE	\$81.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
MIA MCCLAIN	\$54.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
TAYA TEMPLAR	\$54.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
JADE WICKWIRE	\$81.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
CARROLL HUFF	\$130.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
BRODY KARLS	\$165.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
CARLEY DAMME	\$185.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORT WORKER
HANK FROST	\$195.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
JACOB DUNN	\$245.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
BROOKE BOSWELL	\$325.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
CHRIS BOSWELL	\$325.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
TREYTON JONES	\$500.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
BO HANSEN	\$585.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
TANNON BELLAMY	\$27.00	ALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS WORKER
VISA	\$253.70	ALL SPORTS	ROUND THE BEND
MARK KWIKKEL	\$207.58	ALL SPORTS	TRAINER SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$64.56	ALL SPORTS	SUPPLIES
VISA	\$47.74	ALL SPORTS	O'REILLY AUTO PARTS
VISA	\$23.99	ALL SPORTS	OMAHA WORLD HERALD
VISA	\$99.00	ALL SPORTS	SIGNUP.COM
CMC NEPTUNE	\$2,300.00	ALL SPORTS	MUSIC SYSTEM LICENSE
MATBOSS LLC	\$299.50	WRESTLING - GIRLS	WRESTLING SOFTWARE
4 SEASON AWARDS	\$147.00	WRESTLING - GIRLS	WRESTLING SUPPLIES
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$61.12	WRESTLING - GIRLS	WRESTLING BANNER
THE SIGN DEPOT	\$61.91	WRESTLING - GIRLS	WRESTLING SUPPLIES
BSN SPORTS	\$732.00	CAMP-GIRLS SOCCER	SOCCER SHIRTS
HAUFF SPORTS	\$377.70	CAMP-BASEBALL	BASEBALL SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$113.23	F. F. A.	SUPPLIES
PEPSI CO	\$1,866.39	BHS CONCESSIONS	CONCESSION SUPPLIES
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$27.00	BAND INSTRUMENT USEAGE	RECORDERS
OMAHA CHILDRENS MUSEUM	\$918.00	FIELD TRIP ADMISSIONS	1ST GRADE FIELD TRIP
THE ROSE THEATER	\$450.00	FIELD TRIP ADMISSIONS	2ND GRD FIELD TRIP
OMAHA CHILDRENS MUSEUM	\$1,074.00	FIELD TRIP ADMISSIONS	1ST GRADE FIELD TRIP
THE ROSE THEATER	\$450.00	FIELD TRIP ADMISSIONS	2ND GRD FIELD TRIP
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$27.04	HOME EC LAB FEES	OMS FCS SUPPLIES
JEFF WESTOVER	\$150.00	TRACK-OMS	TRACK ENTRY FEE
HAUFF SPORTS	\$517.75	TRACK-OMS	TRACK SUPPLIES
VISA	\$9.98	TRACK-OMS	APPLE.COM
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$50.00	TRACK-OMS	TRACK ENTRY
HAUFF SPORTS	\$517.74	TRACK-OMS	TRACK SUPPLIES
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$50.00	TRACK-OMS	TRACK ENTRY
TY SIDZYK	\$160.00	JR. HIGH WRESTLING	OFFICIAL
JASON KATUSIN	\$160.00	JR. HIGH WRESTLING	OFFICIAL
ROGUE FITNESS	\$2,336.67	6TH GRADE ACTIVITIES	QUOTE 178299 (SEE ATTACHE
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$58.50	BAND INSTRUMENT USEAGE	BAND SUPPLIES
DIETZE MUSIC HOUSE	\$100.00	BAND INSTRUMENT USEAGE	BAND SUPPLIES
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$33.51	HOME EC LAB FEES	BHS FCS SUPPLIES
MAUREEN BRAY	\$82.82	HOME EC LAB FEES	FCS FABRIC
VISA	\$9.64	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$35.60	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART
VISA	\$60.84	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$62.98	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$72.99	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$99.01	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$125.71	HOME EC LAB FEES	COSTCO
VISA	\$135.56	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
VISA	\$138.03	HOME EC LAB FEES	WALMART.COM
SPARTAN STORES LLC	\$31.48	HOME EC LAB FEES	BHS FCS SUPPLIES

VENDOR	TOTAL	ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$79.17	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	BHS SUPPLIES
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$92.40	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	SHOP SUPPLIES
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$389.97	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	SHOP SUPPLIES
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$1,559.88	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	SHOP SUPPLIES
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$1,163.63	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	ITEM NUMBER: MSG XA5122DM
S E SMITH & SONS	\$62.21	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	BHS SHOP SUPPLIES
HAUFF SPORTS	\$612.94	BOYS GOLF	GOLF UNIFORMS
NEBR FFA ASSOCIATION	\$75.00	F. F. A.	CHAPTER VISIT PROGRAM
NEBR FFA ASSOCIATION	\$616.18	F. F. A.	STATE FFA
VISA	\$317.50	CHEERLEADERS	TEAMLEADER
UNIVERSAL CHEERLEADERS ASSOC	\$700.00	CHEERLEADERS	CHEER SUMMER CAMP
UNIVERSAL CHEERLEADERS ASSOC	\$2,800.00	CHEERLEADERS	CHEER SUMMER CAMP
BOBBYS DANCEWEAR	\$411.40	SHOW CHOIR	SHOW CHOIR UNIFORMS

Americanism Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 21, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Denise Cada (Chair), Ginger Fredericksen (Zoom), Melaini Sturm

Others Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Dr. Violet Glasshoff, Brett Schwartz, Shane Keeling, Tammy Holcomb, Courtney Tabor, and Angie Conety

1. Discussion

The Americanism Committee was formed to fulfill the new requirements of the American Civics Education Bill LB 399. The committee examines to ensure the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned to the social studies standards and teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. Dr. Glasshoff and Mr. Schwartz shared there have been no changes to policy and we are teaching what is required.

This portion of the meeting will serve as the second of two (2) yearly required Americanism Committee meetings and the minutes will reflect so.

Policy/Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 21, 2025

Immediately Followed the Americanism Committee Meeting

Central Office

1. Old Business

A. Review of Policy 1002-Community Use of School Facilities - Procedures

Community stakeholders have asked the school board to reconsider access to Krantz Field track and turf, which has been closed since the turf installation due to fears of vandalism and damage costs. The committee recommends maintaining the existing current policy and no further discussion is needed at this time.

B. Cell Phones LB 140

LB 140 mandates public school districts to create a policy on student use of electronic communication devices by the 2025-26 school year. Dr. Gilson is actively planning this policy and has conducted a parent meeting, with another meeting scheduled for students, staff, and parents. The goal is to present the new policy for its first reading at the Board of Education Meeting on June 9, 2025, followed by a second and final reading for adoption on July 14, 2025.

C. Discussion and Revisions to Policy 303.02-Administrator Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment

Discussions regarding Policy 303.02 on Administrator Qualifications, Recruitment, and Appointment have led to the recommendation of implementing a clear interview process for hiring administrators. Dr. Gilson presented three selection and interview process options to the committee. The Policy Committee plans to revise the policy over the next few months, acknowledging that while the current system is functional, efforts will be made to establish a more defined process within the policy. The committee discussed whether to post internally first or simultaneously for

both internal and external candidates. They agreed posting for both would expedite the hiring process and facilitate selecting the best candidate.

D. 2, 5, & 10-Year Facility Plan

Dr. Gilson announced that the Ad Hoc Capital Building Project Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 23, at 12:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board Room. The committee will include one administrator and two representatives from each building, covering grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12, and preschool, along with board members. Below is a list of building priorities the committee has previously outlined as high-priority needs.

1. Arbor Park - Office Relocation & Lunchroom expansion (\$1.8) & door locks at Deerfield & Arbor Park \$120,000
2. Preschool - Office Relocation (\$80,000)
3. High School - Culinary expansion (inside) & Greenhouse & (\$1 million)
4. Otte Middle School – Office relocation, parking lot expansion (\$1.8 million)
5. High School - Locker room renovation, multi-purpose room expansion. (\$2.5 million)
6. Deerfield - Classroom expansion (tornado shelter) (\$2 million)

2. New Business

E. LB 452

Dr. Glasshoff and Mr. Schwartz informed Legislative Bill (LG 452) requires school districts to annually report an update to their school board on their financial literacy program. They shared information detailing the integration of financial literacy across all grade levels (K-12) in their instructional programs to meet the requirements.

F. Student Fees

The committee is currently discussing potential revisions to student fees for the 2025-26 school year. The Policy Committee plans to continue these discussions, with a first reading scheduled for June and a second and final reading set for July.

G. Review of School Handbooks for 2025-26

Dr. Gilson presented the draft handbooks for the 2025-26 school year; Preschool, K-5 Elementary, Otte Middle School, Blair High School, Certified Staff, Classified Staff, Transportation, and Substitute Teachers. The committee plans to recommend a first reading at the May Board meeting, followed by a second and final reading in June.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting to approve the first reading of revisions to the 2025-26 handbooks; Preschool, K-5 Elementary, Otte Middle School, Blair High School, Certified Staff, Classified Staff, Transportation, and Substitute Teachers, as presented.

H. Science Adoption

Mr. Schwartz reported in April the Science Curriculum is currently in its second year of the Curriculum Cycle, with year 3 (2025-26) set for implementation and monitoring. The revised Nebraska State Standards for Science, approved on September 6, 2024, saw minimal changes, allowing K-12 to continue using existing materials. To align grades 6-12, he recommends purchasing ExploreLearning Gizmos, interactive online simulations that enhance science education by enabling students to explore complex concepts and conduct virtual experiments. Gizmos align with existing curricula and state standards, providing engaging, inquiry-based learning experiences.

The total cost for this agreement is \$7,612.50, which includes a hardcopy textbook and a one-year e-text, covering an 85-month period leading into the next adoption cycle.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve the purchasing agreement for ExploreLearning Gizmos in the amount of \$7,612.50.**

I. Communicable Disease

Dr. Gilson presented a new policy, 540.90-Communicable Diseases, received from legal counsel, which outlines the school's collaboration with county and state health department officials to establish procedures for controlling communicable diseases. The Three Rivers Health Department has opened an office in Blair, and the district plans to work with them to develop these procedures. The committee shared support of the policy and plans to recommend it for a first reading at the May Board meeting, followed by a second and final reading in June.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve the first reading of new policy 540.90-Communicable Diseases as presented.**

J. BEA and Board of Education Flex-Day Agreement

Dr. Gilson informed the Blair Education Association (BEA) and representatives from the Blair Community Schools Board of Education collaborated to create a plan that meets the negotiated requirement of 186 contract days for certified staff. Dr. Gilson shared the plan with the committee.

K. Next Scheduled Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, May 19, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

L. Adjournment:

The committee adjourned at 1:31pm.

Below is guidance for K-12. You can read the laws using the links in the table below. Dates and possible activities can be found in the table on Page 2.

Please make sure you review the resources for age-appropriate content and activities before implementing a lesson.

Nebraska State Law 79-724 and LB1102
<p>For grade levels below 6th grade: at least one hour per week for the...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>(a) recital of stories having to do with American history or the deeds and exploits of American heroes;</i><i>(b) singing of patriotic songs and the insistence that every pupil memorize the Star-Spangled Banner and America; and</i><i>(c) development of reverence for the flag and instruction as to proper conduct in its presentation.</i>
<p>For grade levels between 5th and 8th: there must be time set aside for the teaching of American history.</p>
<p>High School: at least three periods per week shall be devoted to the teaching of civics, during which courses specific attention shall be given to the following matters: (a) The United States Constitution and the Constitution of Nebraska; (b) The benefits and advantages of our form of government and the dangers and fallacies of Nazism, Communism, and similar ideologies; and (c) The duties of citizenship, including active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country, and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interests.</p>
<p>ALL: Develop and utilize, formative, interim, and summative assessments to measure student mastery of the social studies standards.</p>
<p>ALL: All American history courses approved for grade levels as provided by this section shall include and adequately stress contributions of all ethnic groups (a) to the development and growth of America into a great nation, (b) to art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government, and (c) to the war services in all wars of this nation.</p>
<p>ALL: "Appropriate patriotic exercises" are to be held on (or the week preceding/following the date) George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day.</p>

2024-2025 Dates	Possible Activity Ideas *Make sure you preview videos, books, etc. before using the resources! Websites can change at any time.*
	Activities can also be school-wide!
Patriot Day – September 11	9/11 Memorial & Museum resources , a reading or writing assignment using one of the resources from the 9/11 Memorial & Museum link, viewing artifacts from the Memorial & Museum and discussing what it represents, read a book about 9/11 together, The American Flag. Our Flag (6-12)
Constitution Day – September 17 (can be recognized during Constitution Week (9/16-9/20))	Celebrate as a school with a flag-raising ceremony, play a game with these fun facts , read and discuss the Preamble , The American Flag. Our Flag (6-12) . NDE site with tons of resources.
Nebraska Missing Persons Day October 17	Message from NDE SS site : This day is dedicated to observance of people who have gone missing and were never found. This not only recognizes them and the importance of their lives, but also their families who are continuously in mourning.
Thanksgiving (4th Thursday in November). Please recognize the week of Thanksgiving Day in November.	There are a few different things you can pull from the following resources: Library of Congress , Census Bureau , U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services , Smithsonian , Gilder Lehrman Guidance from NDE for K-5 is to focus on either the history of the holiday or the ‘thankful’ element.
Native American Heritage Day – (the day after Thanksgiving)	Native Voices site , learn about the day , learn about Native tribes in our area, look at and discuss the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian online exhibition , take an online virtual tour of the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture , PBS Native American resources ,
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday – January 15 (3rd Monday in January)	The King Center , read about Dr. King, Jr., use resources from PebbleGo, resources from EPIC, History Channel , or read a book from the school library, learn about the “I Have a Dream” speech and discuss its significance.
Abraham Lincoln’s birthday – February 12 (3rd Monday in January)	History Channel resources, read a book from the school library, use resources from PebbleGo, resources from EPIC, talk about the Gettysburg Address , read quotes and discuss.
George Washington’s birthday – February 22 (3rd Monday in February)	History Channel resources, read a book from the school library, use resources from PebbleGo, resources from EPIC.

<p>Malcolm X Day (El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz) March 19</p>	<p>Message from NDE SS site: Malcom X has Nebraska roots, having been born in Omaha and spending a short period of his life in the state. He was recently inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Fame.</p>
<p>Memorial Day – May 26 (the last Monday in May)</p>	<p>National Museum of American History resources, Memorial Day; A Commemoration, read a book from the school library, resources in PebbleGo, resources from EPIC, school-wide flag raising ceremony, Library of Congress resources, The American Flag. Our Flag (6-12)</p>

**Heritage Months are NOT required by NE 79-724.

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES - PROCEDURES

Facility use, including rehearsals, is at the sole discretion of the District. School district buildings, facilities, sites and equipment may be made available to local school-related nonprofit entities and fees may be assessed. School-related nonprofit entities shall be narrowly defined as groups that satisfy the Internal Revenue Service requirements for a nonprofit organization, and whose sole and direct mission and purpose is to support the students of a district school or district schools. Such use will be permitted only when the use does not interfere with or disrupt the education program or a school-related activity and the use is consistent with state law.

It is within the discretion of the Board and superintendent to selectively allow other community organizations or for-profit entities to use school district buildings, facilities, sites and equipment on a fee basis.

Request for Use of Facilities and Contracts for Use

All entities and organizations wishing to use school facilities must:

1. Complete a Request For Use of Facilities application. This document is available through the District website or may be obtained through the Blair High School. The application must be completed prior to any further action taken to fulfill the request.
2. Provide proof of insurance to the Administration Office. As a precondition for use of school facilities, all entities or organizations requesting use of school facilities may require a Certificate of Insurance in the amount of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of General Liability and Excess Liability naming Blair Community Schools as an additional insured.

When the Request for Use of Facilities application is complete, and the proof of insurance is received (when required), a Contract for Use shall be initiated by the office of the superintendent. The District shall authorize the use of the facilities, assess fees and receive payment, and reserve the space requested according to district policy and the administrative regulations. A completed Contract for Use is to be signed by the User and the District shall remain on file at the Administration Office. A copy will be provided to the User. Procedures for opening and closing the buildings shall be arranged between the Director of Maintenance and the organization. All requests must be submitted a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the requested date(s). The superintendent shall develop protocol and procedures for communicating the contracted use with building principals and maintenance personnel.

Schedule of Fees

Fees will be assessed by category of use as follows. The fee shall be for the total hours of service set forth in the administrative regulations. **As listed the following also establishes a schedule of priorities for the use of district facilities.**

Priority for Use	Events/Activities	Fee Structure
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-sponsored building-level or district-wide events, activities and programs. 	No fees will be assessed. (Practices, Post Prom, PTO, Fun Nights, Camps, etc.)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events or activities which serve students enrolled in Blair Community Schools that are planned and directed by nonprofit organizations directly affiliated with the District. Blair Kids Academy (BKA) & Gateway to the West 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary/Benefit Costs (if Personnel are needed) (BKA & Gateway to the West)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events or activities which serve youth that are planned and directed by nonprofit youth organizations not directly affiliated with the District; Charitable fundraising events or activities that serve the youth or community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary/Benefit Costs (if Personnel are needed) (Basketball Club) <u>Facility Use Fee</u> (Propose)
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals or groups involved in activities not listed above. For-profit entities, companies, or enterprises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Facility Use Fee</u> Salary/Benefit Costs (if Personnel are needed)

In addition, the following fees shall apply to the use of the facilities listed below:

School Auditorium (BHS and OBMS)	\$40.00 per hour
School Gymnasium (BHS, OBMS, AP)	\$40.00 per hour
Multi-purpose Rooms*	\$20.00 per hour
* Building spaces or rooms, including cafeterias, gyms (unless listed above), classrooms and other spaces suitable for the request.	
Football Field, BHS Track	\$150.00 per hour

All rehearsals will include full rental fees.

Limitations

1. Facility use is at the sole discretion of the District. The Board and superintendent reserve the right to deny the use of school facilities which have no direct benefit to youth or educational benefit to the citizens and for activities which are harmful to youth or incompatible with the mission of the District.
2. The District may restrict facility use during times including, but not limited to holidays, school vacations, or other dates where the needs of the district require the closing or limited access of school buildings, facilities or sites.
3. School district buildings, facilities, sites and equipment use is not allowed for private parties for corporations or businesses, private social functions for families or individuals including, but not limited to wedding receptions, birthday parties, graduation, or other such events.
4. The District may require that district staff be present during usage by an outside entity. In such cases, the cost for labor and related costs will be invoiced to the requesting entity on the Contract for Use.
5. Fees will be assessed for users as outlined in policy and administrative regulations.
6. The use of tobacco products and the possession or use of alcohol or drugs and the possession of an unauthorized loaded or unloaded firearm or any other instrument used as a dangerous or deadly weapon as defined in law are not allowed on school grounds per Board policy 1006.02-Public Conduct on School Premises or at School Events. Contracting groups are required to enforce this for their participants and spectators inside the building and on school grounds including parking lots.
7. Facilities are rented or provided "as is." The sponsoring agency is responsible for surveying the area to be used prior to the activity and assuring that it is safe and appropriate for the planned activity. The applicant agrees to protect, indemnify, and hold the District harmless for any and all claims, suits, actions, damages, judgments or causes of action arising out of or in any way related to such use.
8. In the event of school closings due to inclement weather, all use of facilities during that closing are canceled. Approved Contracts for Use for weekend or days school is not in session will also be canceled due to any snow or ice accumulation that would require additional removal costs for the District or when such inclement weather is deemed by the District to make travel conditions and facility operation hazardous to the participants or spectators of the event.
9. School district equipment will not be made available for use by outside organizations unless authorized in the contract. Kitchen equipment shall not be used or operated without Food Service personnel present. Contracting individuals will not be allowed to use kitchen equipment for personal use or gain.
10. Overnight rental of facilities is not allowed, but may be granted under special circumstances that must be approved by the Board of Education at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting prior to the date requested.
11. Use of facilities on Sunday:

- a. No facilities shall be utilized on Sunday for non-school sponsored activities (i.e. community concerts, dance recitals, youth tournaments) without prior approval from the Board of Education at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting prior to the date requested.
 - b. Facility use on Sundays for school-sponsored student activities shall only occur upon prior approval by the Superintendent.
12. Additional charges will apply if any facilities or equipment incurs damage during rental usage.

Requirements

1. A complete description of activities and needs must be provided on the Request for Facility Use application.
2. No Contract for Use will be made until the Request for Facility Use application is completed and approved. An applicant may, without penalty, cancel a previously approved facility use by providing notice of such to the District at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled use. If notice is given with less than 48 hours prior notice the facility use fee may not be refunded.
3. Contracts for Use will be executed during normal business hours. Contracts are not valid and no reservations of facility space will be made until final approval is granted by the Superintendent and full payment is received by the District when fees are assessed.
4. A Certificate of Insurance in the amount of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of General Liability and Excess Liability naming Blair Community Schools as an additional insured may be required from any entity or organization wishing to rent, or in any way, use any district facility.
5. The District may require a school district employee to be present during the use of school district buildings, facilities, sites, and equipment by entities and organizations. In such cases, the cost for labor and related costs will be invoiced to the requesting entity or organization on the Contract for Use. The school district employee shall not accept a fee from the entity or organization using school district facilities and equipment. If appropriate, the school district employee will be paid by the school district.
6. Custodial or supervisory people will normally be assigned for groups where fees are required; an additional charge of \$16.00 per hour per custodian will apply during the regular work hours, with \$24.00 per hour per custodian applicable during weekend and after regular work hours. Rates will be charged based on actual labor costs for Food Service personnel who will be assigned by the Director of Food Service. The District will estimate the amount of personnel required for the event based on the event requirements and number of people expected. The district reserves the right, at their sole discretion, to increase the number of personnel required to maintain the facility for school use. Should

the district need to increase the number of personnel required for the event the lessee will be invoiced by the District after the event has occurred with a breakdown of the charges. Failure to pay any and all charges will result in loss of future facility use.

7. For rental of the Blair High School auditorium facilities, the District will provide and control the stage equipment, light and sound control personnel. Rental requiring controls is subject to the availability of control personnel.
8. Payment for rental of facilities and personnel provided by the District shall be made to Blair Community Schools and sent directly to the office of the Board of Education by the agency renting the facility.
9. No direct payments will be made to custodial, cafeteria, or auditorium personnel provided by the District. The District will reimburse supervisory, custodial, cafeteria, and auditorium personnel through normal payroll procedures.
10. The applicant is held responsible for preservation of order.
11. All facility use is limited to the area requested. Attendees will not be allowed into other areas of the facility. Areas must be cleaned up after use, including seating areas if utilized.
12. Removal of building doors, physical plant modifications, the hanging of decorations or scenery or moving pianos or other furniture is prohibited unless special permission is granted. Any items of this nature should be completely described in the Building Use Contract.
13. Facility used by the applicant will be carefully examined after use and the applicant agrees to promptly make good any loss or damage, and determined by the District, which occurs during applicant's use.
14. Contracted users nor their participants shall not enter the facility prior to the listed start time on the Contract for Use. The contracted user shall be on site at the start time and shall supervise all participants and spectators for the duration of the event. The contracted user shall not leave until all participants and spectators have evacuated the facility.
15. Any conditions or circumstances not covered in these procedures will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the superintendent or designee.

Approved: 12-11-2006

Reviewed: 05-12-2025

Revised: 08-08-2016, 6-2023, 11-11-2024

AMENDMENTS TO LB140

Introduced by Education.

1 1. On page 2, lines 10 and 16, after the second "school" insert
2 "instructional"; in line 18 strike "cell phones" and insert "electronic
3 communication devices"; in line 23 after "school" insert "instructional";
4 and in line 29 strike "a teacher" and insert "the school district".

5 2. On page 3, line 6, strike "communicating" and insert
6 "communication".

STUDENT FEES

The board shall hold an annual public hearing at a regular or special meeting of the board on a proposed student fee schedule. Following a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the prior school year the board shall adopt a student fees schedule. The student fee schedule shall be adopted by a majority vote of the school board and shall be published in the student handbook. The board shall provide a copy of the student handbook to every student at no cost to the student. The student fee schedule shall include specific details regarding:

1. The general written guidelines for any non-specialized attire required for specified courses and activities.
2. Any personal or consumable items a student will be required to furnish for participation in extracurricular activities or required for school courses.
3. Any specialized equipment or attire which a student will be required to provide for any extracurricular activity;
4. Any fees required from a student for participation in any extracurricular activity;
5. Any fees required for post-secondary education costs;
6. Transportation fees for option students not qualifying for free lunches and nonresident students as allowed by state statute;
7. Any fees required for copies of student files or records as allowed by state statute;
8. Any fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or pre-kindergarten services in accordance with state statute;
9. Any fees required for participation in summer school or night school;
10. Any fees for breakfast and lunch program;
11. Fees required for field trips;
12. Musical instruments; and
13. The waiver policy as described below.

The District's policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) field trips and specialized items required for school courses, (2) required fees for participation and specialized equipment or attire in extracurricular activities, and (3) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses and musical extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for a waiver of fees for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials, and the fee waiver must be submitted prior to the time the fee is due or the time the specialized equipment or attire is needed.

Legal Reference: Neb. Constitution, Art VII, Sect. 1
Neb. Statute 79-215 (tuition)
79-241 (option student busing)
79-605 (nonresident busing)
79-611 (transportation fees)
79-715 (eye-protective devices)
79-734 (books, equipment and supplies)
79-737 (liability of students for damages to school books)
79-2,104 (student files)
79-2,125 to 2,134 (student fees law)
79-1104 (before-and-after-school services)
79-1106 to 1108 (learners with high ability)

Cross Reference: 505.05-Fines for Lost or Damaged Items
506-Student Activities
507.01-Student Records Access
801-Transportation
802.05-Free or Reduced Cost Meals Eligibility
1005.01-Public Complaints

Approved: 12-11-2006

Reviewed: 05-12-2025

Revised: 06-12-2017

GRADES K-12 STUDENT FEE
SCHEDULE
~~2024-25~~ 2025-26 School Year

Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, Blair Community Schools is required to set forth its guidelines for specific categories of student fees. The District does so by adopting the following fee schedule in accordance with policy 504.20-Student Fees. This fee schedule is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or Board regulations, which may be updated from time to time.

1. Fees for Non-Specialized Attire Required for Specified Courses and Activities

Students have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire meeting general District grooming and attire guidelines, as well as grooming and attire guidelines established for the building or programs attended by the students or in which the students participate. Students also have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire reasonably related to the programs, courses and activities in which the students participate when the required attire is specified in writing by the administrator or teacher responsible for the program, course or activity. The District will provide or make available to students such safety equipment and attire as may be required by law, specifically including appropriate industrial-quality eye protective devices for courses of instruction in vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical or chemical-physical classes which involve exposure to hot molten metals or other molten materials, milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials, heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials, gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes, repair or servicing of any vehicle, or caustic or explosive materials, or for laboratory classes involving caustic or explosive material hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations, or other similar hazards. Building administrators are directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, teachers are directed to instruct students in the usage of such devices and to assure that students use the devices as required, and students have the responsibility to follow such instructions and use the devices as instructed.

2. Fees for Personal and Consumable Items

Students are responsible for fees and costs associated with any personal and consumable items required for participation in extracurricular activities or for school courses.

a. Extracurricular Activities:

- i. Students have the responsibility to furnish any personal or consumable items for participation in extracurricular activities. Such items include, but are not limited to specialized and non-specialized clothing, shoes, and equipment for the student's personal use in each individual activity they are involved in. General specifications are:
 1. 7-12 Basketball: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments.
 2. 7-12 Football: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, mouth guard.

3. 7-12 Track: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel.
4. 7-12 Volleyball: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments.
5. 7-12 Wrestling: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, headgear, mouth guard.
6. 9-12 Baseball: Sport shoes, shorts/pants, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, gloves.
7. 9-12 Cross Country: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel.
8. 9-12 Golf: Sport shoes, shorts/pants, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, clubs, balls.
9. 9-12 Soccer: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, shin guards.
10. 9-12 Softball: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, gloves.
11. 9-12 Tennis: Sport shoes, shorts, shirt, socks, undergarments, cold/wet climate apparel, racket.
12. 9-12 Swimming: Suit, pay-to-play fee, goggles, transportation.

b. School Courses

- i. General School Course Materials: Students are required to furnish supplies needed to benefit from courses including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers, and other common personal or consumable items. A specific class supply list will be published annually in a Board-approved student handbook or supplement or other notice. The list may include refundable damage or loss deposits required for usage of certain District property.
- ii. Damaged or Lost Items: Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents or guardians will be held responsible for damages to school property where such damage is caused or aided by the student and will also be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of school property which is placed in the care of and lost by the student.
- iii. Materials Required for School Courses: Students are permitted to and may be encouraged to supply materials for course projects. Some course projects (such as projects in art and shop classes) may be kept by the student upon completion. In the event the completed project has more than minimal value, the student may be required to reimburse the District for the reasonable value of the materials used in the project.
 1. AP Chem - \$20
 2. Building Construction - Up to \$200 (OSHA requirement and cold weather gear)
 3. Culinary I and II - \$20
 4. Drama Costume Fee - \$25 for the school year or \$10 per show participation in

5. Food and Nutrition - \$10
6. Intro to FCS - \$15
7. Nutrition - \$20
8. Pottery, Adv - \$25
- 9. Robotics - \$20**
10. STEM - \$20
11. Woods - \$10
12. Woods, Adv - \$48
13. Welding - \$20

- iv. Field Trips and Specialized Items Required for School Courses: Students may be required to pay for field trips or provide specialized items for school courses. Such field trips and specialized items must have prior approval of the principal. Fees required for field trips or specialized items for school courses are subject to the District's Fee Waiver Policy (Section 10).
 1. Field Trips:
 2. Kindergarten: Harvest Moon - not to exceed \$10.00
 3. Grade 1: - not to exceed \$10.00
 4. Grade 2: - not to exceed \$10.00
 5. Grade 3: DeSoto and Day on the Farm - not to exceed \$15.00
 6. Grade 4: State Capitol - not to exceed \$15.00
 7. Grade 5: DeSoto Bend - not to exceed \$15.00
 8. Grade 6: Symphony - not to exceed \$5.00
 9. Grade 7: None
 10. Grade 8: None
 11. Lifetime Sports: Field Trip - not to exceed \$10.00.
- v. Specialized Items:
 1. Grade 6-8: Chromebook User Fee - not to exceed \$50.00. Parents or guardians also may purchase this device outright for their child's use throughout grades 6-12 at a cost not to exceed \$220.00.
 2. Grade 6-12: Physical Education Attire - not to exceed \$10.00 for shorts and \$10.00 shirt.
 3. Grade 9-12: Choir Ensemble clothes - not to exceed \$100.00; T-shirt - not exceed \$15.00.
 4. Grade 9-12: Marching Band/Pep Band: T-shirt - not to exceed \$15.00; shoes - not to exceed \$40.00. Grade 9-12: 10-12 grade Band: not to exceed \$30.00; 9 grade Band or 1st year Band student at Blair: not to exceed \$70.00.
 5. Music Course Materials: Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses. Use of a musical instrument without charge is available under the District's fee waiver policy (Section 10). The District is not required

to provide for the use of a particular type of musical instrument for any student.

6. Instrument rental fee of \$70.00 (\$35 if this is for a 2nd instrument or for 1 semester only use) for those using a school instrument.

3. Fees for Extra-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the District, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the District. Students have the responsibility to pay for fees required for participation and to pay for specialized equipment or attire for extra curricular activities or to pay a reasonable usage cost for such items. Fees required for participation or for specialized equipment or attire are subject to the Fee Waiver Policy (Section 10). The costs for attending local, regional, state, or national workshops or conventions are the responsibility of the student and/or organization and not subject to the Fee Waiver Policy. Admission fees are charged for entrance to extracurricular activities and are the responsibility of the student and not subject to the Fee Waiver Policy.

a. Fees Required for Participation:

- i. Grade 7-12 Activity Card: - \$75
- ii. Grade 7-12 Uniform Usage Fee for each sport activity: \$10.00.
- iii. Grade 12: Graduation Gown, Stole, Cap: not to exceed \$55.00
- iv. Grades 9- 12 Club Dues or Membership:
 1. FFA: \$25.00
 2. FBLA: \$20.00
 3. Thespian: \$30.00
 4. Drama: \$5.00
 5. MCC: \$5.00
 6. SkillsUSA: \$20.00
 7. Spanish Club: \$5.00
 8. Speech: \$10.00
- v. Grade 5-12 Instruments: Not to exceed \$70.00 rental fee those using a school instrument

b. Fees Required for Specialized Equipment or Attire

- i. Grade 6-8 Flag Squad: Uniform, shoes - not to exceed \$100.00.
- ii. Grades 6-8 Marching Band: Drum Major uniform – not to exceed \$150.00.
- iii. Grade 6-8 Jazz Band: T-shirt – not to exceed \$15.00.
- iv. Grade 6-8 Show Choir: Dress pants, dress shirt or dress, T-shirt and dress shoes - not to exceed \$145.00.
- v. Grade 6-8 Show Choir: Polo shirt - not to exceed \$15.00.
- vi. Grade 9-12 Show Choir: Costumes, attire/props - not to exceed \$500.00
- vii. Grade 9-12 Speech: Professional outfit not to exceed \$100.00
- viii. Grade 9-12 Musical: Costumes, attire/props - not to exceed \$200.00.
- ix. Grade 9-12 Dance/Cheerleading: Outfit - not to exceed \$1,500.00
- x. Grade 9-12 Jazz Band: Dress pants, skirt or dress, shirt - not to exceed \$100.00.

- xi. Grade 9-12 Flag Squad: Uniform, shoes - not to exceed \$225.00.
- xii. Grade 9-12 FBLA:
 - 1. State Leadership Conference – not to exceed \$250.00.
 - 2. National Fall Leadership Conference - not to exceed ~~\$600.00~~ **\$800.00**.
 - 3. National Convention - not to exceed \$2,000.00.
 - 4. Officer Polo shirt – not to exceed \$40.00.
- xiii. Grade 9-12 FFA
 - 1. T-shirt - not to exceed \$15.00.
 - 2. Hoodie - not to exceed \$30.00.
 - 3. FFA Jacket – not to exceed \$70.00.
 - 4. State Conference – not to exceed \$250.00.
 - 5. National Conference – not to exceed \$600.00.
 - 6. Convention clothes: white shirt or blouse; black pants or skirt, and black shoes – not to exceed \$100.00.
- xiv. Grade 9-12 Skills USA/~~VICA~~:
 - 1. State or National Official Dress: black pants/skirt, white shirt, tie, Official red blazer or windbreaker – not to exceed \$150.00.
Competition uniform state and national competition: Official competition uniform - not to exceed ~~\$100.00~~ **\$150.00**.
 - 2. Grade 9-12 Swimming - not to exceed \$2,500
 - 3. Pay to Play (Fremont Co-Op fees).
 - 4. Transportation fees.

4. Fees Required for Postsecondary Education Costs

For a course in which students receive both high school and post-secondary education credit through MCC, there will be no tuition costs for MCC dual enrollment courses through the 24/25 school year. Other fees charged by MCC are the responsibility of the family. Students taking dual enrolled courses through UNO or Nebraska Wesleyan will be responsible for tuition and other fees. Students taking an AP course and choosing to take the exam are responsible for the exam fee.

5. Fees Required for Transportation Costs

Students are responsible for fees established for transportation services provided by the District as and to the extent permitted by federal and state laws and regulations.

6. Fees for Copies of Student Files or Records

The imposition of a fee shall not be used to prevent parents of students from exercising their right to inspect and review the students' files or records and no fee shall be charged to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The fee schedule shall permit one copy of the requested records to be provided for or on behalf of the student without charge and shall allow duplicate copies to be provided without charge to the extent required by federal or state laws or regulations.

- a. \$.10 per sheet.

7. Fees Required for Participation in Before and After School Programs or Pre Kindergarten Services

Students are responsible for fees required for participation in pre-kindergarten services offered by the District except to the extent such services are required to be provided without cost. The Before and After School program offered by the Blair Community Schools Foundation is an optional service not operated by the school district and any charges or fees for this program are the responsibility of the student.

- a. Prekindergarten fees will be assessed using the following fee structure:
 - i. Tier I - Full Tuition: \$200.00 per month for 10 months (August through May).
 - ii. Tier II - One Special Consideration*: \$100.00 per month for 10 months (August through May).
 - iii. Tier III - At least two Special Considerations* or students who receive Special Education Services or who qualify for the Free/Reduced Lunch program: \$0.00 per month.
 1. Special Considerations: Financial scholarships may be available and are based on the following factors:
 - a. Child has qualified for Special Education verification (IEP).
 - b. Qualification for the Free/Reduced Lunch program.
 - c. Mother under 18 years of age at child's birth.
 - d. Home language is not English.
 - e. Child's birth weight of under 5 pounds at birth (physician verified).
 - f. Child is under foster care and ward of the court (legal documentation required).

8. Fees Required for Participation in Summer School, Correspondence or Online Courses, or Sports Clinics

Students are responsible for fees required for participation in summer school, sports clinics, fees online or correspondence courses, or other fees not required by law or regulation for instruction.

- a. Summer sports clinics (not to exceed \$60.00 for each clinic).
- b. Summer courses (not to exceed \$200.00 for each course).

9. Fees Required for Breakfast and Lunch Programs

Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District's breakfast and lunch programs. The cost of items to be sold to students shall be consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Students are also responsible for the cost of food, beverages and personal or consumable items which the students purchase from the District or at school, whether from a "school store," concession stand, a vending machine, a booster club or parent group sale, a book order club or the like. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

- a. K-5
 - i. Breakfast: per day \$2.30 (Reduced cost: \$.30)

- ii. Lunch:per day \$3.10 (Reduced cost: \$.40)
 - iii. Extra milk: \$.55 each
 - iv. Extras menu items: Separate from the lunch program and priced individually.
- b. 6-12
- i. Breakfast: \$2.30 per day (Reduced cost: \$.30)
 - ii. Lunch: \$3.40 per day (Reduced cost: \$.40)
 - iii. Extra milk: \$.55 each
 - iv. Extras or ala carte menu items: Separate from the lunch program and priced individually.
- 10.** For a course in which students receive both high school and post-secondary education credit through MCC, there will be no tuition costs for MCC dual enrollment courses through the 24/25 school year. Other fees charged by MCC are the responsibility of the family. Students taking dual enrolled courses through UNO or Nebraska Wesleyan will be responsible for tuition and other fees. Students taking an AP course and choosing to take the exam are responsible for the exam fee.

11. Waiver Policy

The District's policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) field trips and specialized items required for school courses, (2) required fees for participation and specialized equipment or attire in extracurricular activities, and (3) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses and musical extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for a waiver of fees for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials, and the fee waiver must be submitted prior to the time the fee is due or the time the specialized equipment or attire is needed.

Communicable Diseases

Students

Communicable Diseases

Communicable Disease Control

Blair Community Schools shall cooperate with county and state health department officials in developing procedures for the control of communicable diseases in the schools. All procedures shall conform to the regulations for communicable disease control set up by the state health department.

In general, a student with a communicable condition will be allowed to attend school in the student's usual class setting only after written approval has been secured from the student's physician stating that the disease is not in a communicable stage. Without such a written statement, a student with a communicable condition is subject to an emergency exclusion. The school reserves the right to consult with a second physician to secure another opinion if a second opinion is deemed necessary by school personnel.

In general, a district employee with a communicable condition will be allowed to work only after securing a physician's written statement indicating that the disease is not in a communicable stage. The school reserves the right to secure an independent second opinion if such is deemed necessary.

Students' Communicable Conditions

- A) The school principal and the Student Assistance Team will function as liaisons with the student's physician as necessary, and will coordinate the health management procedures within the school building.
- B) The decision to exclude a student from school shall be made by the Superintendent, after consultation with the appropriate building principal. Decisions regarding the type of educational setting for students who are not excluded from classes will be based on the behavior, neurological development and physical condition of the student and the expected type of interaction within others in that setting. Educational plans for these students will be developed by the Student Assistance Team, with the help of parents or guardians and the appropriate medical personnel.
- C) The privacy of the student and family must be protected, and knowledge that a student has a communicable condition should be confined to persons with a direct need to know. If it becomes necessary to inform others, these persons will be provided with information concerning necessary precautions, and they will be made aware of confidentiality requirements.
- D) Students who present a high risk of disease transmission may be temporarily excluded from school by the administration after consultation with the Student Assistance Team, the student's physician, parents, and/or their representative, school nurse, or the

school's physician.

E) A student might be considered at high risk if the student: exhibits behaviors that may spread the disease (e.g., biting, lacks toilet training or is incontinent) or has an open sore that cannot be concealed or hygienically covered, any of which could result in direct spreading of the condition or disease.

F) During the time a student is excluded from the classroom, an appropriate alternative or adjustment to the student's education will be provided. The Student Assistance Team will review long-term cases at least monthly, or more often if necessary.

Employees' Communicable Conditions

A) Any employee who contracts a communicable condition should report the same to the building principal who should, in turn, report to the Superintendent in a confidential manner. The Superintendent shall then consult with the employee and appropriate medical personnel to evaluate the medical and psychological condition of the employee. The Superintendent shall recommend reasonable accommodations so that the employee may continue in employment as long as the employee is physically able to do so.

B) The privacy of the employee must be protected, and knowledge that an employee has a communicable condition should be confined to persons with a direct need to know. If it becomes necessary to inform others, these persons will be provided with information concerning necessary precautions and will be made aware of confidentiality requirements.

C) Employees who present a high risk of disease transmission will be temporarily excluded from work after consultation with appropriate medical authorities.

Date of Adoption: May 12, 2025

Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 28, 2025

Call to Order at 12:00pm

Central Office

Committee Members Present: Steve Callaghan (Chair), Denise Cada, Nate Larsen

Also Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Jeffrey Steinbeck, Courtney Tabor, Tyler Siecke, Shane Keeling, and Angie Conety

1. Old Business

A. Stadium Gate Bid

Mr. Steinbeck reported that he has not yet received a bid from SEi for the stadium gate. He plans to follow up with them and hopes to present a cost at the upcoming meeting in May.

B. Ad Hoc Meeting for 2, 5, 10 Year Building Plans

Dr. Gilson informed that the Ad Hoc Capital Building Project Committee met on Wednesday, April 23, at 12:00 p.m. at the Central Office Board Room. The committee included one administrator and two representatives from each building, covering grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12, and preschool, along with board members. Below is a list of building priorities the committee has outlined as high-priority needs.

1. Arbor Park - Office Relocation & Lunchroom expansion (\$1.8) & door locks at Deerfield & Arbor Park \$120,000
2. Preschool - Office Relocation (\$80,000)
3. High School - Culinary expansion (inside) & Greenhouse (\$1 million)
4. Otte Middle School – Office relocation, parking lot expansion (\$1.8 million)
5. High School - Locker room renovation, multi-purpose room expansion. (\$2.5 million)
6. Deerfield - Classroom expansion (tornado shelter) (\$2 million)

The next Ad Hoc Capital Building Project Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 12:00pm.

2. New Business

C. Transportation Update

Tyler Siecke, Director of Transportation, provided an update on the bus driver shortage, noting that the recent loss of a driver will leave the department short-staffed for the 2025-26 school year. As a result, the shuttle service from South Early Childhood Center to Deerfield and Arbor Park Elementary will be canceled, along with transportation for noon preschool students to Little Blossoms. They are working on hiring new drivers but there has been a lack of applicants. Mr. Siecke will continue to provide updates on the situation.

D. Surplus Sale

Mr. Steinbeck informed that the annual school district surplus sale is scheduled for the week of July 7-11, 2025. The sale would be organized and conducted per state regulations, including public notice, on-site inspections, sealed bids, and a public bid opening. The sale will follow standard procedures, such as a newspaper announcement, and may also use online notification to expand the base of potential bidders. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Items will not be available for pickup until the sale is approved by the Board at the July 14, 2025, Board meeting.

E. City of Blair

Terry Vandry and CJ from the City of Blair attended the meeting to discuss the water line on the east side of Otte Middle School, where a main line currently exists. They would like to explore the possibility of running an additional line and are interested in any future school plans in that area that may require water. They presented a plan to the committee for discussion. After reviewing the proposal, the committee determined that the original plan needs modifications and the City will present revised plans at a later date.

F. Director of Operations Monthly Report – April 2025

Mr. Steinbeck shared a Director of Operations report. The report is attached to the agenda for viewing.

G. South Early Childhood Center (South) Butterfly Garden

Anne Chrans, a kindergarten teacher at Arbor Park Elementary, intends to take over the butterfly garden's care at South when she transitions to teaching preschool there for the 2025-26 school year. Although there have been discussions about possibly removing the garden due to the district grounds crew not able to add it to their workload, the committee supports the idea, provided a summer upkeep plan is developed. Mr. Callaghan will work with Mrs. Chrans to finalize these plans.

H. Grounds Crew Update

The district grounds crew has been working in full swing on the building grounds. They are actively keeping up with the mowing and trying to keep the weeds under control, which has been a challenge due to the wind. The underground sprinklers are running at Otte Middle School, Arbor Park Elementary, and Deerfield Elementary.

I. High School 18-21 Year Old Program

The high school is looking to implement an 18-21 year old program in two classrooms at Central Office, which will require renovations to facilitate teaching life skills. Mr. Steinbeck met with Mrs. Holcomb, high school principal, highlighted the need for installing an oven, microwave, washer and dryer, as well as adjusting the height of a sink. The estimated highest cost will likely be for plumbing work related to the raised sink and washer installation. To move forward, bids will be gathered, with consultations scheduled with Grunewald plumbing for plumbing costs and Dicks Electric for electrical needs.

The BG&T committee would like to add this project to the overall district plan, which is developed during the Ad Hoc Capital Building Project meetings. The Ad Hoc meeting focuses on identifying the district's building needs, with safety being the top concern.

J. High School FCS Department (Family and Consumer Science)

Mr. Steinbeck met with Ms. Holcomb and FACS teacher Cherise Wry from the high school who would like to expand the FCS cooking lab by converting an adjacent classroom into the cooking area. This would include splitting room 309 into two separate spaces, with the south room remaining a classroom while the north room is converted into 3-4 student kitchen lab spaces. This expansion would provide additional cooking stations to accommodate the growing demand for culinary classes. For the upcoming 2025-26 school year, there are 11 blocks of culinary classes scheduled, but only 8 blocks can fit into the current lab. While the FCS teachers can creatively manage scheduling, having more lab spaces is important. The renovation would involve minimal structural changes, requiring an additional wall, ventilation hoods, plumbing adjustments, and new entry doors. Key items needed for the new kitchen would include 4 electric stoves, 4 microwaves, and 4 sinks.

The BG&T committee would like to add this project to the overall district plan, which is developed during the Ad Hoc Capital Building Project meetings.

K. High School Dryer

The motor in the high school FCS room dryer stopped working last week. Mr. Steinbeck noted that replacing the motor would cost \$441, while a new dryer from Allied Appliance in Fremont, which includes installation and a compatible cord, would be \$650. Due to the small cost difference, he recommended purchasing a new dryer, and the committee supported his proposal.

L. Arbor Park Elementary Chiller

Mr. Steinbeck received a bid from Alberio for new controls for the chiller at Arbor Park due to ongoing issues following the last power outage. However, he has requested to table this proposal for now, as the chiller is currently functioning and will be monitored closely.

M. Next Scheduled BG&T Committee Meeting

Monday, May 28, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

N. The meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Call to Order at 12:00pm
Central Office

Committee Members Present: Courtney Tabor (Chair), Kari Loseke, and Bob Schoby

Also Present: Dr. Randall Gilson, Tom Shearer and Angie Conety

1. Old Business

A. Preliminary Valuation – 2025

Mr. Shearer presented the preliminary valuation obtained from the County Assessor on April 8, 2025, along with an analysis of this valuation and his own estimate. Certification of valuation for 2025-26 is not due until August 20, 2025.

B. Food Service Prices 2025-26

Annually, the district is required to calculate lunch prices using the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Calculation Tool. Mr. Shearer attempted to contact the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) to inquire about the availability of the PLE tool, but (as of May 6, 2025) he has not received a response.

C. Legislation Updates – LB 645 Retirement Percent

Current NPERS retirement contributions are as follows: the State contributes 2%, employees contribute 9.78%, and school districts contribute 9.8778% of employees' salaries and wages. If LB 645 is passed and signed into law, the following initial contribution rates would be set effective July 1, 2025.

- Employee Rate: 8%
- Employer Rate: 8.08% (101% of the Employee Rate)
- State Rate: .7%

Should the contribution rate for the district decrease from 9.8778% to 8.08%, Mr. Shearer estimates savings of about \$300,000 for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

D. Negotiation Settlement Updates

Mr. Shearer provided a school array update of known settlements for the 2025-26 school year.

E. Capital Forecast

Dr. Gilson informed the Ad Hoc Capital Building Project Committee will meet this Thursday, May 8th at 12:00pm to continue discussion focused on prioritizing high-priority building needs throughout the district.

2. New Business

F. Food Service Advisory Meeting – 2nd Semester 2024-25

Mr. Shearer shared the minutes provided by Shane Keeling, Director of Student Services, from the April 24, 2025 Food Advisory Meeting. The meetings are held to ensure that school meals and snacks meet nutritional guidelines and to promote student engagement with school food programs. Attendees include students, parents, school staff, and food service professionals.

G. Sale of Used Chromebooks – Buyback

Scott Macholan, the Director of Technology, is seeking Board approval to sell the district's used or unneeded Chromebooks to AGParts Education (AGParts Worldwide, Inc.). The buyback offers vary based on the condition of each fully functional machine: \$70 for Grade A (like new), \$60 for Grade B (good condition), \$40 for Grade C (average condition), and \$20 for Grade D (poor condition). Additionally, the district would receive a 10% bonus on all credit payments from this transaction.

The district intends to keep 250 of the new Chromebooks from 2023 and 2024 for summer school, paraprofessionals, and as extra classroom devices. Chromebooks purchased in 2021 and 2022, were funded by a grant, cannot be sold back. Instead, those devices will be decommissioned and eRecycled, as they are not in suitable condition for resale or use.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve the sale of the district's used Chromebooks to AGParts Education as presented.**

H. Monthly Financials – April 2025

Mr. Shearer provided a financial recap of the monthly financials.

- General Fund, Tax Collections Analysis, Cash Flow Forecasts, Activity Fund, and Lunch Fund.

I. Certified Administrator Increases 2025-26

Mr. Shearer presented recommendations for certified administrator increases for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve \$35,000 for the increase of certified administrators' total compensation inclusive of wages and benefits, for the 2025-26 school year to be allocated by the Superintendent.**

J. Classified Staff Increases 2025-26

Mr. Shearer presented recommendations for classified staff increases for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

A motion may be brought at the May 12, 2025 Board of Education meeting **to approve \$262,000 for the increase of classified staff total compensation inclusive of wages and benefits, for the 2025-26 school year to be allocated by the Superintendent.**

K. Next Scheduled Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 12:00pm.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.

April-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2024-2025				2023-2024			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Local Receipts									
Local Property Taxes	11100	\$898,261	\$8,353,992	\$15,926,345	52.5%	\$1,080,137	\$10,155,782	\$16,450,818	61.7%
Property Tax Interest & Penalties	11140	\$5,827	\$36,216	\$32,000	113.2%	\$5,187	\$31,027	\$38,000	81.7%
Carline Tax	11115	\$0	\$526	\$5,600	9.4%	\$0	\$1,307	\$1,200	108.9%
OPPD In Lieu	11120	\$0	\$0	\$225,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$232,000	0.0%
Motor Vehicle Tax	11125	\$140,969	\$1,256,569	\$1,775,000	70.8%	\$153,242	\$1,177,364	\$1,750,000	67.3%
Tuition ESU#3 (PT Contract)	11315	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition Other Districts (SPED)	11323	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition for Summer School	11312	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Tuition for Preschool	11370	\$7,500	\$50,425	\$50,900	99.1%	\$4,650	\$43,725	\$45,000	97.2%
Transportation School Districts	11423	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Transportation Private Sources	11440	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Interest	11510	\$17,394	\$138,832	\$80,000	173.5%	\$4,544	\$42,035	\$26,000	161.7%
Local License Fee	11911	\$3,275	\$6,830	\$6,500	105.1%	\$0	\$3,240	\$6,500	49.8%
Police Court Fines	11921	\$200	\$1,075	\$900	119.4%	\$0	\$675	\$900	75.0%
Community Service Fees	11800	\$0	\$2,100	\$2,000	105.0%	\$0	\$2,039	\$2,000	102.0%
Rentals - Facilities and Equip	11910	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	0.0%	\$0	\$6,060	\$5,000	121.2%
Contributions/Donations	11920	\$30	\$3,783	\$3,000	126.1%	\$726	\$2,616	\$4,000	65.4%
Grant - Corporate/Private Interest	11925	\$0	\$18,072	\$0	100.0%	\$500	\$26,071	\$0	100.0%
Misc Revenue-Other School Districts	11951	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Misc Revenue-Local Government	11960	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other Local Receipts	11990	\$0	\$20	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$1,073,454	\$9,868,439	\$18,112,245	54.5%	\$1,248,986	\$11,491,941	\$18,561,418	61.9%
Intermediate Source									
County Fines & Licenses	12110	\$0	\$161,987	\$110,000	147.3%	\$0	\$154,519	\$110,000	140.5%
ESU #3 Receipts	12210	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$0	\$161,987	\$110,000	147.3%	\$0	\$154,519	\$110,000	140.5%
State Source									
State Aid	13110	\$359,127	\$2,873,016	\$3,591,273	80.0%	\$375,225	\$3,001,800	\$3,752,253	80.0%
Special Education	13120	\$387,871	\$1,888,966	\$2,670,000	70.7%	\$351,699	\$1,816,481	\$2,499,504	72.7%
SPED Sch Age Transportation	13125	\$0	\$0	\$116,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$101,000	0.0%
Homestead Exemption	13130	\$0	\$76,957	\$400,000	19.2%	\$67,938	\$135,876	\$375,000	36.2%
Payments for Hi Ability	13535	\$0	\$15,771	\$12,000	131.4%	\$0	\$11,734	\$11,410	102.8%
Flex Funding: Before Age 5	13165	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Flex Funding: School Age	13166	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	13180	\$0	\$12,402	\$42,000	29.5%	\$0	\$15,730	\$45,000	35.0%
State Apportionment	13400	\$0	\$852,152	\$400,000	213.0%	\$0	\$421,971	\$370,000	114.0%
Property Tax Credit	13131	\$0	\$3,055,928	\$1,100,000	277.8%	\$0	\$576,683	\$850,000	67.8%
Personal Property Tax Credit	13132	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%

April-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2024-2025				2023-2024			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Education Innovation Grant	13575	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
CTE Grants	13551	\$0	\$0	\$8,147	0.0%	\$0	\$8,147	\$0	100.0%
State Field Trip Grant (NAC)	13590	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
NDEQ Transportation Grant	13500	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Early Childhood Grant	13540	\$0	\$16,215	\$69,466	23.3%	\$0	\$15,738	\$72,405	21.7%
SixPence Early Childhood Grant	13541	\$0	\$50,595	\$85,000	59.5%	\$0	\$14,919	\$85,000	17.6%
NDEQ Transportation Grant	13599	\$0	\$36,046	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Other	13990	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$850	\$850	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$746,998	\$8,878,048	\$8,493,886	104.5%	\$795,712	\$6,019,929	\$8,161,572	73.8%
Federal Sources									
IDEA Part B, Peak Grant	14418	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Title I Current	14505	\$0	\$185,092	\$194,722	95.1%	\$0	\$22,800	\$185,092	12.3%
Title I - Accountability	14506	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Title II Part A	14509	\$0	\$44,263	\$51,787	85.5%	\$0	\$0	\$44,146	0.0%
Title IV	14969	\$0	\$15,795	\$12,967	121.8%	\$0	\$0	\$15,795	0.0%
IDEA PART B (611) ARP	14421	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	14422	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
IDEA BASE AGE 0-3/3-5	14512	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
IDEA 619 Ages 3-4	14516	\$0	\$12,503	\$12,470	100.3%	\$0	\$12,290	\$12,503	98.3%
IDEA Part B (611) Base Allocation	14518	\$0	\$470,581	\$470,415	100.0%	\$0	\$450,230	\$470,581	95.7%
IDEA Part B Proportionate Share	14521	\$0	\$8,160	\$8,001	102.0%	\$0	\$4,350	\$8,160	53.3%
IDEA Special Projects	14523	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
MIPS	14708	\$19,911	\$40,906	\$55,000	74.4%	\$0	\$48,410	\$45,000	107.6%
MEDICAID ADMIN	14709	\$2,824	\$8,547	\$14,000	61.1%	\$0	\$9,830	\$22,000	44.7%
Forest Reserve: De Soto	14707	\$0	\$0	\$13,800	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	0.0%
Perkins Grant	14525	\$0	\$18,451	\$20,643	89.4%	\$0	\$20,216	\$18,961	106.6%
Title III NCLB-LEP	14527	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%
Head Start	14309	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Disaster Aid (FEMA-Covid19)	14995	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
ESSER Grant (Covid19)	14996	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
ESSER II Grant (Covid19)	14997	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
ESSER III Grant (Covid19)	14998	\$0	\$749,580	\$749,580	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$215,670	0.0%
Other Fed Categorical	14530	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$9,530	\$84,729	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$22,734	\$1,553,878	\$1,606,385	96.7%	\$9,530	\$652,856	\$1,054,908	61.9%
Non Revenue Receipts									
Insurance Adjustment	15301	\$0	\$23,765	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Transfer of Funds In	15200	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Refunds from Prior Years Expenses	11980	\$772	\$8,141	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$5,176	\$0	100.0%
Other Non-Revenue Rec	15690	\$0	\$8	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$1,354	\$0	100.0%

April-25

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Receipts

Description	Code	2024-2025				2023-2024			
		Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%	Mon Rec	YTD Rec	Budget	%
Total		\$772	\$31,914	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$6,530	\$0	0.0%
Non Program Receipts									
Sale of Property	15300	\$0	\$3,176	\$0	100.0%	\$236	\$7,456	\$0	100.0%
Total		\$0	\$3,176	\$0	100.0%	\$236	\$7,456	\$0	100.0%
GRAND TOTAL		\$1,843,959	\$20,497,441	\$28,322,516	72.4%	\$2,054,464	\$18,333,231	\$27,887,898	65.7%

Period: 8
 Month: APRIL
 Year: 2024-2025

Receipts to be Collected	\$28,322,516	\$27,887,898
Local Property Taxes-State Budget 11101	\$421,119	-\$1,319,641
Cash Balance Estimated on Budget	\$7,197,362	\$5,518,862
County Treasurer Balance Estimated on Budget	<u>\$4,836,483</u>	<u>\$6,192,422</u>
Total Receipts	<u><u>\$40,777,480</u></u>	<u><u>\$38,279,541</u></u>

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

		2024-2025				2023-2024			
Program Name	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	
201100	Regular Instruction	\$1,114,779	\$8,955,723	\$14,209,594	63.0%	\$1,027,918	\$8,235,959	\$12,952,745	63.6%
201125	Regular Instruction - FLEX	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
201150	Instruction - Limited English Programs	\$8,685	\$66,650	\$56,038	118.9%	\$4,685	\$38,551	\$69,556	55.4%
201160	Instruction - Poverty Programs	\$45,397	\$410,206	\$736,949	55.7%	\$56,561	\$449,077	\$541,833	82.9%
	Subtotal REGULAR INSTRUCTION	\$1,168,862	\$9,432,580	\$15,002,581	62.9%	\$1,089,164	\$8,723,587	\$13,564,135	64.3%
201200	Special Education	\$270,533	\$2,276,326	\$3,216,914	70.8%	\$252,800	\$1,974,557	\$2,808,063	70.3%
202141	Special Education (Psychology)	\$15,799	\$132,430	\$246,443	53.7%	\$14,940	\$139,221	\$413,219	33.7%
202151	Special Education (Speech Path)	\$23,012	\$195,544	\$281,789	69.4%	\$21,577	\$156,481	\$217,909	71.8%
202161	Special Education (Occup Therapy)	\$5,255	\$46,774	\$65,123	71.8%	\$5,262	\$51,146	\$158,389	32.3%
202171	Special Education (Physical Therapy)	\$5,340	\$42,209	\$62,925	67.1%	\$5,208	\$42,514	\$1,183	3592.2%
202181	Special Education (Vision Services)	\$13,272	\$81,889	\$110,000	74.4%	\$12,485	\$74,910	\$85,000	88.1%
	Subtotal SPED - SCHOOL AGE	\$333,213	\$2,775,173	\$3,983,195	69.7%	\$312,272	\$2,438,828	\$3,683,763	66.2%
201190	Early Childhood Education	\$240	\$9,763	\$2,206	442.5%	\$8,650	\$16,506	\$27,086	60.9%
201291	Preschool - SPED - Ages 3-5	\$4,950	\$114,528	\$99,911	114.6%	\$7,044	\$53,006	\$98,887	53.6%
201292	Preschool - SPED - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$200	0.0%	\$0	\$43	\$1,078	4.0%
202142	Preschool - Psych - Ages 3-5	\$4,061	\$32,293	\$0	100.0%	\$3,860	\$20,817	\$0	100.0%
202143	Preschool - Psych - Ages 0-2	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202152	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 3-5	\$0	\$590	\$845	69.8%	\$0	\$1,348	\$3,983	33.8%
202153	Preschool - Speech Path - Ages 0-2	\$4,730	\$30,123	\$51,330	58.7%	\$4,748	\$38,144	\$39,470	96.6%
202162	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$2,631	\$21,177	\$31,270	67.7%	\$2,604	\$22,031	\$20	110154.7%
202163	Preschool - Occup Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$2,727	\$21,089	\$31,450	67.1%	\$2,604	\$20,926	\$299	7000.0%
202172	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 3-5	\$2,607	\$18,282	\$31,325	58.4%	\$2,604	\$23,438	\$60,075	39.0%
202173	Preschool - Physical Therapy - Ages 0-2	\$2,629	\$20,965	\$31,450	66.7%	\$2,604	\$18,358	\$35,200	52.2%
202182	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 3-5	\$0	\$1,757	\$14,000	12.5%	\$1,561	\$9,364	\$20,000	46.8%
202183	Preschool - Vision Services - Ages 0-2	\$1,659	\$10,442	\$14,000	74.6%	\$1,561	\$9,364	\$14,000	66.9%
	Subtotal PRESCHOOL (non-reimbursed)	\$26,234	\$281,008	\$307,987	91.2%	\$37,839	\$233,344	\$300,098	77.8%
202610	Operation of Plant	\$118,896	\$1,083,396	\$1,598,697	67.8%	\$143,488	\$1,095,152	\$1,486,522	73.7%
202620	Maintenance of Plant	\$47,735	\$467,139	\$572,035	81.7%	\$55,938	\$408,764	\$410,956	99.5%
202630	Grounds Maintenance	\$9,966	\$84,912	\$124,205	68.4%	\$9,215	\$105,030	\$176,787	59.4%
202640	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,220	\$16,141	\$95,150	17.0%	\$1,983	\$29,613	\$19,400	152.6%
202650	Non-Student Vehicle Maint & Purch	\$1,859	\$7,483	\$68,483	10.9%	\$679	\$7,263	\$68,696	10.6%
202660	Security	\$3,002	\$76,266	\$89,200	85.5%	\$651	\$66,882	\$89,200	75.0%
202670	Safety	\$5,643	\$51,402	\$93,209	55.1%	\$8,081	\$37,304	\$57,893	64.4%
202680	Operation/Maintenance of Plant-Other	\$0	\$770	\$4,250	18.1%	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	0.0%
	Subtotal MAINTENANCE COSTS	\$188,320	\$1,787,510	\$2,645,229	67.6%	\$220,035	\$1,750,008	\$2,313,454	75.6%
202710	Reg Pupil Transportation-Operating	\$25,350	\$277,105	\$598,272	46.3%	\$36,686	\$285,290	\$676,862	42.1%
202712	SPED Transportation-Operating	\$8,189	\$66,704	\$114,604	58.2%	\$7,670	\$52,322	\$64,376	81.3%
202713	SPED Transport-Preschool-Operating	\$80	\$80	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$2,133	\$0	100.0%
202720	Reg Pupil Transportation-Monitoring	\$5,391	\$45,716	\$70,957	64.4%	\$5,506	\$44,433	\$65,256	68.1%
202722	SPED Transportation-Monitoring	\$4,515	\$44,180	\$62,332	70.9%	\$4,654	\$42,320	\$72,976	58.0%
202730	Reg Pupil Transportation-Maintenance	\$6,791	\$69,797	\$90,889	76.8%	\$1,495	\$83,729	\$84,473	99.1%
202732	SPED Transportation-Maintenance	\$273	\$21,238	\$31,993	66.4%	\$1,416	\$18,875	\$31,390	60.1%
202790	Reg Pupil Transportation-Other	\$32	\$256	\$500	51.2%	\$32	\$273	\$1,168	23.4%
202792	SPED Transportation-Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$3,435	0.0%

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

Program Name	2024-2025				2023-2024			
	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%
202793 SPED Transportation-Other Preschool	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
Subtotal STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$50,621	\$525,076	\$969,548	54.2%	\$57,460	\$529,376	\$999,937	52.9%
202110 Attendance & Social Work Services	\$3,957	\$31,650	\$47,488	66.6%	\$3,815	\$30,516	\$0	100.0%
202120 Guidance Services	\$42,732	\$331,749	\$491,571	67.5%	\$38,894	\$321,942	\$371,762	86.6%
202130 Health Services	\$19,477	\$184,027	\$264,946	69.5%	\$22,527	\$172,403	\$238,902	72.2%
202140 Psych Services	\$7,795	\$33,714	\$28,000	120.4%	\$2,880	\$11,623	\$32,850	35.4%
202190 Other Pupil Supp Services	\$10,000	\$84,333	\$171,712	49.1%	\$6,838	\$72,740	\$136,244	53.4%
202210 Improvement of Instruction	\$9,169	\$79,515	\$142,329	55.9%	\$8,486	\$74,170	\$46,172	160.6%
202212 Curriculum & Assessment	\$0	\$854	\$22,037	3.9%	\$0	\$3,365	\$15,073	22.3%
202213 Instructional Staff Training/Development	\$588	\$9,745	\$43,749	22.3%	\$0	\$15,316	\$61,698	24.8%
202211 School Improvement	\$0	\$92	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202214 Implementation of Standards	\$0	\$50	\$5,249	0.9%	\$0	\$869	\$276	314.8%
202220 Library Services	\$39,252	\$347,728	\$546,750	63.6%	\$41,892	\$358,197	\$603,596	59.3%
202230 Instruction-Related Technology	\$15,559	\$147,171	\$316,644	46.5%	\$16,375	\$206,926	\$199,054	104.0%
202223 Audio-Visual Services	\$1,341	\$9,340	\$5,800	161.0%	\$0	\$5,091	\$7,300	69.7%
202240 Academic Student Assessment	\$0	\$54,945	\$76,654	71.7%	\$0	\$15,000	\$35,125	42.7%
202290 Support Services - Other	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202310 Board of Education	\$778	\$23,696	\$59,608	39.8%	\$7,952	\$30,714	\$41,649	73.7%
202320 Executive Admin Services	\$58,597	\$475,300	\$673,141	70.6%	\$57,098	\$417,549	\$698,977	59.7%
202330 Legal Services	\$0	\$34,356	\$18,000	190.9%	\$938	\$11,969	\$14,850	80.6%
202410 Office of Principal	\$113,561	\$956,937	\$1,426,894	67.1%	\$116,659	\$955,359	\$1,351,186	70.7%
202490 School Administration - Other	\$4,889	\$7,619	\$10,880	70.0%	\$908	\$6,679	\$9,200	72.6%
202510 Gen Business Support	\$32,142	\$308,670	\$437,507	70.6%	\$27,343	\$312,077	\$426,437	73.2%
202520 Warehousing & Distribution	\$0	\$303	\$300	101.1%	\$0	\$297	\$301	98.8%
202530 Printing, Publishing, Duplicating Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202540 Planning, R&D, & Evaluation Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
202560 Public Information Services	\$1,691	\$13,129	\$0	100.0%	\$1,121	\$2,387	\$0	100.0%
202570 Personnel Services	\$0	\$5,246	\$2,500	209.9%	\$0	\$2,798	\$2,500	111.9%
202580 Technology-Administration Services	\$0	\$4,859	\$15,000	32.4%	\$600	\$3,683	\$7,300	50.5%
202900 Other Support Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
203300 Community Services	\$0	\$40	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$89	\$1,542	5.8%
203400 Corporate/Private Interest Grants	\$0	\$6,104	\$0	100.0%	\$841	\$39,668	\$0	100.0%
203535 High Ability Learners Grant	\$0	\$15,771	\$11,734	134.4%	\$2,218	\$4,931	\$11,410	43.2%
203540 State Early Childhood Grant	\$5,007	\$43,560	\$69,466	62.7%	\$0	\$56,184	\$72,405	77.6%
203541 Sixpence Early Childhood Grant	\$8,249	\$75,832	\$84,985	89.2%	\$5,820	\$48,117	\$85,000	56.6%
203551 Extended Learning Opportunity Grant	\$7,242	\$9,300	\$8,147	114.2%	\$78	\$3,021	\$0	100.0%
203590 Career Education Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$544	\$1,088	\$0	100.0%
203599 State Categorical Grants-NDEQ Grant	\$0	\$33,886	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
201300 Summer School	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
208000 Activity Fund Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	0.0%
209000 NON-PROGRAM EXPEND	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
FEDERAL PROGRAMS			\$0					
206200 Title I	\$28,999	\$222,198	\$207,689	107.0%	\$18,389	\$147,105	\$245,033	60.0%
206210 Title I Accountability	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206310 Title IIA	\$0	\$0	\$51,787	0.0%	\$0	\$44,263	\$0	100.0%
206404 IDEA 611 BIRTH TO	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%

Blair Community Schools Budget Comparison Expenditures

Program Name	2024-2025				2023-2024			
	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%	Month Exp	YTD Exp	Budget	%
206406 IDEA 619 AGES 3-4	\$0	\$0	\$12,470	0.0%	\$0	\$12,503	\$12,503	100.0%
206408 IDEA - SPED BASE-EP	\$48,483	\$361,005	\$470,415	76.7%	\$43,893	\$321,265	\$470,581	68.3%
206410 IDEA - SPED Preschool	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206412 IDEA - Part B Proportionalte Share	\$0	\$0	\$8,001	0.0%	\$0	\$8,160	\$8,160	100.0%
206415 IDEA SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	100.0%
206418 IDEA PART B PEAK PROJECTS	\$146	\$146	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$985	\$0	100.0%
206421 IDEA PART-B (611) ARP BASE & ENROLL	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206422 IDEA PRESCHOOL (619) ARP	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206700 PERKINS GRANT	\$0	\$4,799	\$20,643	23.2%	\$0	\$17,386	\$18,961	91.7%
206925 Title III	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0.0%
206940 HEAD START	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%
206990 FEDERAL CATEGORICAL GRANTS	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$1,080	\$9,530	\$0	100.0%
206998 ARP - ESSER III GRANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.0%	\$0	\$13,157	\$215,669	6.1%
TOTAL	\$2,226,902	\$18,727,015	\$28,743,635	65.2%	\$2,143,958	\$17,454,268	\$26,366,105	66.2%

Period: 8 (APRIL)
 Year: 2024-2025

Total Budget of Disbursements	\$28,743,635	\$26,366,105
Debt Service (Spending Authority Adjustment)	\$9,329,805	\$10,316,750
Necessary Cash Reserve	\$2,704,040	\$1,596,686
Total Requirements	\$40,777,480	\$38,279,541