

Board of Education Committee of the Whole  
Meeting  
Wednesday, April 5, 2023 5:00 PM  
1st floor Administration Building Conference  
Room  
320 W 24th St  
Kearney, NE 68845-5331

1. Call to Order

2. Open Meetings Act Announcement

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

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the agenda for the meeting, as presented.

5. Agenda -

5.A. Preview April 10, 2023 Regular Board of Education Meeting Agenda -

5.A.I. Public Hearing & Review of American Civics Education Policy & Requirements

5.A.II. Hanny Arram Center Report on Tutoring Program

5.A.III. Legislative Update

5.A.IV. NASB Legislative Committee Report

5.A.V. Announcement of "Celebration of Excellence" Reception - April 27, 2023

5.A.VI. Approval of KHS Wrestling Team Trip to Western State Summer Wrestling Camp, June 19-23, 2023 in Gunnison,CO

5.A.VII. Approval of KHS Boys' Basketball Team Trip to Summer Team Camp, June 22 & 23, 2023 in Council Bluffs, IA

5.A.VIII. Approval of KHS Boys' Basketball Team Trip to Gold Crown Tournament, June 15-17, 2023 in Denver, CO

5.A.IX. Approval of KHS DECA Club Trip to DECA International Career and Development Conference in Orlando, FL., April 22-25, 2023

- 5.A.X. Apoproval of KHS Girls' Basketball Trip to Midwest Girls' Basketball Showcase in Kansas City, MO., June 15 & 16, 2023
- 5.A.XI. Acceptance of Resignations - Amanda McConnell, Emily Elgert, Skye Clark, Shawna Strong, Margaret Florell, Greg Yochum, Alisha Cudaback, and Jessica Berst Spiegel
- 5.A.XII. Approval of Employment of Certificated Teaching Staff - Christopher Smithell, Scott King, Ashley Chizek, Emily Ripp, Taylor Haight, Hayley Mentzer, Nicole Dippel, and Madison McMillan
- 5.A.XIII. Approval of Employment of Administrative Staff - Meredith Johnson
- 5.A.XIV. Adoption of Eureka 2.0 Math Curriculum for Grades 6-8
- 5.A.XV. Sale of Sunrise Lots
- 5.A.XVI. Approval of Student Fees for the 2023-2024 School Year
- 5.A.XVII. First Reading Approval of Revised Board Policy 5416 (Homeless/In-Transition Students)
- 5.A.XVIII. Second and Final Reading of Revised & Amended Policy 6420 (Extra-Curricular Activities)
- 5.A.XIX. Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussing Personnel Matters & Possible Land Acquisitions
- 5.B. Discussion of Middle School Girls' Wrestling
- 5.C. Discussion of Payroll/Benefits Specialist/Payroll Administrator in Training
- 5.D. Discussion of Classified/Classified-Exempt/Administrator Leave Policies for 2023-2024
- 5.E. Discussion of 2023-2024 Parent-Teacher Conferences/Calendar Change

## 6. Closed Session

The Board of Education will require a closed session at the conclusion of the April 5, 2023 Board Committee of the Whole meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of the person, and if the person has not requested a hearing; and for possible land acquisitions.

Move to closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of the person, and if the person has not requested a hearing; and for possible land acquisitions.

## 7. Return to Open Session

Move to return to open session.

## 8. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting.

## Students

### Homeless/In Transition Students

#### A. General Policy Statement

The District shall ensure that homeless children and youths shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.

#### B. Definitions

“School of Origin” shall mean the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including preschool. School of origin shall also include any designated receiving school for the next grade level for all feeder schools when a student completes the final grade level served by the school of origin.

“Homeless children and youths” shall mean any individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and includes:

1. Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
2. Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
4. Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described in (1-3).

“Unaccompanied youth” shall mean a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

#### C. School Stability -

1. School Selection: Each school shall presume that keeping a homeless child or youth enrolled in the child’s or youth’s school of origin is in the child’s or youth’s best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child’s or youth’s parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth.

To overcome the presumption that a child or youth should remain in his/her school of origin, the school shall consider student-centered factors including: the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child’s or youth’s parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth.

2. Enrollment: Once the school is selected in accordance with the child’s or youth’s best interest, that child or youth shall be immediately enrolled, even if the child or youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment including, but not limited to, previous academic records, immunization or other health records, proof of residency or has missed any application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.

3. Transportation: If the child or youth continues to attend his or her school of origin, transportation shall be provided promptly even if there is a dispute pending regarding which school is in the child’s or youth’s best interest to attend. Transportation will continue to be provided to and from the school of origin for the remainder of any academic year during which the child or youth becomes permanently housed.

D. Records-

Any record ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization or medical records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs, regarding each homeless child or youth shall be maintained:

1. such that all records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youth enrolls in a new school or school district;
2. any information about a homeless child's or youth's living situation shall be treated as a confidential student education record, and shall not be deemed to be directory information; and
3. in a manner consistent with the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

E. Services-

The Local Education Agency Liaison shall identify an appropriate staff person to be the Local Educational Liaison (LEL) for all homeless children and youth attending school in the District. The LEL responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Ensure homeless children and youth are identified through outreach and coordination activities including coordination with the Nebraska Department of Education Homeless Education Liaison, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
2. Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
3. Ensure homeless families and homeless children and youths are referred to health care, dental, mental health, substance abuse, housing and any other appropriate services;
4. Ensure that homeless children and youths:
  - a. Are enrolled in school which includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities;
  - b. Have a full and equal opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths;
  - c. Receive individualized counseling from counselors to prepare and improve their readiness for college, including college selection, application, financial aid, and on-campus supports.
  - d. Unaccompanied youths are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and may obtain assistance from the LEL to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
5. Ensure that public notice of the educational rights and available transportation services of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youths and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.
6. Ensure the dispute resolution process identified below is carried out in accordance with the law and district policy.

A. Dispute Resolution -

- a. The dispute procedure must be available for disputes over eligibility, as well as school selection or enrollment.
- b. In the event of a dispute regarding where a child or youth should enroll, the child or youth shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals. The district shall immediately provide the child's parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth a written explanation of the decision made regarding the school selection including the right to appeal such decision. Said writing shall be provided in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth and also include the LEL contact information.

The LEL shall carry out the dispute resolution process within 30 calendar days from the date of said writing pursuant to 92 Nebraska Administrative Code 19-005.02.

- a. Appeals: Any parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge of a homeless child or youth that is dissatisfied with the decision of a school district after the dispute resolution process may file an appeal with the Nebraska Commissioner of Education within thirty calendar days of receipt of the decision by following the process in 92 Nebraska Administrative Code 19-005.03 and 19-005.03C.

The party may appeal the decision of the Commissioner or designee by filing a Petition with the State Board of Education within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the decision. Refer to NDE, Rule 19, Section 00503C for further details: [https://www.education.ne.gov/legal/webrulespdf/CLEAN19\\_2016.pdf](https://www.education.ne.gov/legal/webrulespdf/CLEAN19_2016.pdf)

Legal Reference:       Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-215  
                              Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19  
                              McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC §§11431, et seq.  
                              Every Student Succeeds Act

Policy adopted: 8/14/17  
revised:

KEARNEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

## Instruction

### Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular/co-curricular activities are school-sponsored clubs, programs, events, and performances. For a list of activities, please see the Student Activity Handbook.

### Participation

Participation for middle and high school students is encouraged but requires good standing in academic areas and adherence to rules of conduct promulgated by the Board of Education. ~~In addition, in order to ensure that all students at Kearney Public Schools have access to equitable opportunities and a safe and level playing field,~~ Participation in athletics at the 6-12 grade levels will be restricted to a student's biological sex, at birth as stated on the student's original birth certificate or subsequent court order. With that being said, any student (regardless of their birth sex) may participate in any extracurricular activity (including in after-school clubs) that allows both boys and girls to participate.

### Conduct

Students shall conduct themselves in a manner so as not to reflect with disfavor or bring discredit to the school, community or their activity group.

### Interscholastic Activities

#### Addition of New NSAA Interscholastic Activities (Team or individual)

The following guidelines must be met before a new interscholastic activity is added at Kearney High School. Adequate interest and adequate numbers must be shown for development of a team.

1. The activity must be sanctioned by NSAA and culminate with a state contest.
2. A qualified coach or sponsor must be in charge of the activity. The head coach must meet NSAA Coaching requirements.
3. A schedule of contests or games must be arranged by the Activities Director prior to the start of the season. Geographic proximity of contests, comparable school participation, and quality of scheduling must be considered.
4. Appropriate facilities for practice and competition must be available for the activity.
5. An initial start-up budget must be provided through the District's budgetary and allocation process. Consideration may be given for accepting funds raised through booster or other support organizations or through the Kearney Public Schools Foundation. Additional funds will be added to the school's activity budget to provide funding for the activities' on-going yearly budget.
6. Proposals for new activities shall be submitted to the High School administration prior to March 1. A School Activity Committee, selected by the High School Principal and Activities Director, will review all applications and proposals received by March 1 for compliance with the Interscholastic Activities Guidelines and make a recommendation to the board concerning adoption of the activity prior to the December Board of Education meeting.
7. A completed proposal for the initiation of the activity must be approved by the Board of Education by the December Board of Education meeting in the school year preceding the initiation of the activity.

Non-NSAA activities will follow the same process as above (except number 5) but need not be sanctioned by the NSAA.

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