

Loup City Public Schools Board of Education

Loup City Central Office
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Loup City, NE

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Regular Session

Monday, March 24, 2025

6:15 PM

Loup City Public Schools Library Board Room

6:15 PM

1. Call Meeting To Order:
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Announce Open Meetings Act - Posted in Meeting Room
 - C. Publication of Meeting
 - D. Approval of Agenda:
2. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approve Contracts & Resignations
 1. Hire of Justin Ningen, Social Studies teacher
 2. Hire of Grace Greenwood, elementary teacher
 3. Hire of Tannor Styren, elementary teacher
 4. Hire of Kelsi Becker, elementary teacher
 5. Hire of Paul Barker, Elementary Principal
 6. Hire of Leah Dudley, kitchen assistant/paraprofessional
 7. Resignation of Raychel Houser, Math teacher
 8. Resignation of Jessica Gieselman, Math Coordinator/teacher
3. Discussion
 - A. Cheryl Holcomb, CNCAP
4. Executive Session: for the purpose of discussing personnel.
5. Adjourn:

Note 1: The Board in its discretion may revise and consider any listed item at any time during the meeting.

Note 2: This agenda does not become final until 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of this meeting. All listed reports which are in writing are a part of the Agenda for this meeting and may contain action items or otherwise call for Board action on the subject matter(s) listed therein; complete copies of such reports, except for any legally confidential information are available upon request from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools as part of the agenda.

Note 3: The Board of Education is empowered to act on any item listed on the Agenda at any time during the meeting, irrespective of the order listed. Further detail on agenda items may be obtained by speaking to the Superintendent. The Board of Education by the approval of all consent items is also approving, authorizing and directing the Board President, Board Secretary, the Superintendent or their designees to take or cause to be taken all necessary action and sign all documents necessary or appropriate to complete the matter or transaction as approved.

Note 4: The Open Meetings Act requires that agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. The Board releases its agenda well in advance of most meetings and desires that all interested persons are fully informed. Any interested person who has a question about a report or needs

clarification about the sufficiency of any item on which action could be taken at this meeting should contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

Note 5: The Board of Education reserves the right to go into closed session at its discretion, but will only do so for the prevention of needless injury to a person's reputation or for the protection of the public interest.

March 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Board of Education,

It is my privilege to recommend Justin Ningen for a teaching position in our district. Justin is completing his Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Social Sciences Education at Concordia University, with anticipated graduation in May 2025. His academic background, paired with his extensive teaching and leadership experiences, makes him an outstanding candidate for your team.

Justin's practical teaching experiences demonstrate his readiness to excel as an educator:

- **East Butler Public Schools, Brainard, NE (January 2025 - Present):** As a 9-12 Social Studies Student Teacher under Gabriel Gauthier and Matt Novak, Justin has designed and implemented lesson plans aligned with Nebraska Social Studies State Standards. He has effectively differentiated instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners and utilized both formative and summative assessments to evaluate student progress.
- **Crete High School, Crete, NE (September 2024 - December 2024):** During his field experience, Justin developed lesson plans, led small group activities, and provided individualized support for high school students in alignment with the school curriculum.
- **Seward High School, Seward, NE (October 2022 - December 2022):** Working with 6th-grade students, Justin assisted with daily vocabulary, notes, and review, demonstrating his ability to manage classroom dynamics and support foundational learning.

Beyond the classroom, Justin has shown exceptional leadership and dedication to working with youth. His experience as a counselor for 5th-8th graders at the Fremont YMCA and as an Adult Special Needs Counselor at Camp Luther reflects his ability to foster positive relationships and create inclusive environments. Additionally, his role as a volunteer youth baseball coach showcases his commitment to mentorship and community involvement.

Justin's well-rounded background is further highlighted by his participation in NAIA Football at Concordia University, where he developed teamwork, discipline, and perseverance—qualities that translate seamlessly into his teaching.

I am confident that Justin Ningen will bring dedication, energy, and a passion for fostering academic and personal growth in students to the Loup City School District. I wholeheartedly recommend him for this position.

Sincerely,



Superintendent

March 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Board of Education,

I am writing to highly recommend Grace Greenwood for a teaching position within our district. Grace is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education Inclusive at Peru State College, with an anticipated graduation date of May 2025. Her academic achievements, including a 3.859 GPA, reflect her commitment to excellence. She has also demonstrated a deep understanding of Piaget's theory of learning through play, emphasizing hands-on, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate practices in the classroom.

Grace's field experience is extensive and diverse, showcasing her ability to adapt and excel in various educational settings:

- **Pyrtle Elementary School, Lincoln, NE:** Practicum student in Special Education (Pre-K, K4, K5).
- **Creek Valley Childcare Center, Chappell, NE:** Practicum student in infant/toddler care.
- **Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca School, Syracuse, NE:** Current student teacher in kindergarten.

These experiences total over 180 hours of practicum, in addition to her role as a Summer Camp Teacher and Assistant Teacher in various childcare settings. Through these roles, Grace has honed her skills in classroom management, differentiated instruction, fostering social-emotional growth, and integrating technology. Her CPR certification and ongoing professional development further attest to her dedication to safety and continuous learning.

Grace's collaborative spirit and strong communication skills are complemented by her ability to build relationships with families, colleagues, and the community. Her honors, including the President's List and Career Scholars Scholarship, highlight her exemplary work ethic and leadership potential.

The Loup City School District would greatly benefit from Grace's enthusiasm, professionalism, and innovative approach to education. I am confident that she will create a positive, inclusive, and engaging learning environment that supports both academic and social-emotional growth for your students.

Please feel free to contact me at [Dean Tickle's phone number] or [email address] if you require additional information or have further questions.

Sincerely,



Superintendent

March 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Board,

I am pleased to recommend Tannor Styren for the position of elementary teacher at Loup City Public Schools. A dedicated educator with a strong connection to the local area, Tannor brings a wealth of experience, a passion for teaching, and a commitment to fostering student success.

Tannor is a graduate of Ravenna High School and earned her teaching degree from Concordia University. Tannor was a member of the Concordia University Dance Team. She currently serves as an Elementary ELL teacher in the Grand Island Public Schools, where she has demonstrated her ability to meet the diverse needs of learners while creating an inclusive and supportive classroom environment.

Beyond her professional qualifications, Tannor and her husband, Tyler, have chosen to make Rockville their home, where they are raising their young daughter. Their commitment to our community speaks volumes about their desire to invest in the success of our schools and the well-being of our students.

I am confident that Tannor Styren will make a meaningful and lasting impact at Loup City Public Schools. Her passion for education, coupled with her dedication to the local community, will make her an asset to our district.

Sincerely,

Dean Tickle

Superintendent

March 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend Kelsi Becker for the position of elementary teacher at Loup City Elementary School. Kelsi's extensive experience, strong educational background, and commitment to student success make her an outstanding addition to our team.

A graduate of Callaway Public Schools, Kelsi holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, showcasing her dedication to professional growth and educational excellence. She brings valuable classroom experience as a preschool teacher in Arcadia, where she honed her ability to engage young learners and foster their academic and personal development.

Kelsi will be teaching in the upper elementary grades at LCES, where her expertise in curriculum implementation and student-centered instruction will undoubtedly benefit our students. Additionally, we are thrilled to welcome her knowledge and skills in the areas of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Continuous Improvement Processes (CIP). These frameworks will enhance our efforts to provide equitable, data-driven instruction that supports all learners in achieving their fullest potential.

We have been fortunate to have been able to hire Kelsi many times as a substitute teacher and have great evidence of the positive impact she will have on the education of our students.

Sincerely,

Dean Tickle

Superintendent

March 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend Paul Barker for the position of Elementary Principal at Loup City Public Schools. Paul brings a wealth of experience, a deep commitment to student success, and a fresh perspective that will undoubtedly benefit our district.

Paul's journey as an educator is both impressive and diverse. A New Jersey native, he began his teaching and administrative studies in Alaska, where he gained valuable insights into education in a variety of settings. His career has since taken him across regions, allowing him to develop a broad and successful range of experiences as both a classroom teacher and an administrator. This unique background equips him with the skills to address challenges with innovative solutions and to foster a culture of collaboration and excellence.

Paul's dedication to education extends beyond his professional life. His relocation to central Nebraska with his wife, Katie, and their daughter reflects their shared commitment to becoming integral members of our community. We are equally thrilled to welcome Katie to our teaching faculty, where her own talents will enrich our schools.

Paul's leadership style is characterized by approachability, strategic vision, and a student-centered focus. He has a proven track record of fostering positive relationships with staff, students, and families while maintaining high standards of academic and personal growth. His ability to build trust and inspire others will be a tremendous asset to our elementary school.

I am confident that Mr. Barker will make a significant and positive impact on Loup City Public Schools. His dynamic experiences, dedication to education, and commitment to our community position him to be an exceptional leader for our students and staff.

Sincerely,
Dean Tickle
Superintendent



Dear Members of the Board,

I recommend Leah Dudley for the position of kitchen worker at Loupe City Public Schools. As a dedicated member of our school community and the mother of two LCPS students, Leah brings not only practical skills but also a commitment to the success and well-being of our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Dean Tickle

Superintendent

Raychel Houser
PO Box 64
Ansley, NE 68814

March 13, 2025

Mr. Jason Sullivan
Loup City Public Schools
800 N 8th Street
Loup City, NE 68853

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

I hope this letter finds you well. After much consideration, I am writing to formally resign from my position as a teacher at Loup City Public Schools, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Having spent the past eight years in various roles at this school, it has been an incredibly fulfilling experience. I am grateful for the opportunity to have contributed to the education of the students, whether through teaching in the different areas, coaching junior high volleyball, or serving in other capacities. These roles have allowed me to grow both professionally and personally, and I am thankful for the trust and support provided by you, the staff, and the school community. This decision comes after careful thought, and while it is difficult to say goodbye, I believe it is time for me to pursue new opportunities and challenges.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to be a part of the Loup City Public Schools community and I wish the school continued success.

Sincerely,
Raychel Houser

Jessica Gieselman

630 N 5th Street | Loup City, NE | Phone: 402-819-6915 | jessica.gieselman@gmail.com

March 16, 2025

Dean Tickle
800 N. 8th Street
Loup City, NE 68853

Dear Mr. Tickle and Loup City School Board,

Please accept this letter as notice of my resignation from K-12 Math Coordinator and 4th Grade Math Teacher at Loup City Public Schools.

My husband took a job in South Sioux City, Nebraska, which will require us to relocate. Due to distance, I will unfortunately not be able to continue to work here.

It has been a pleasure working at Loup City Public Schools. I have absolutely loved the students and staff. Thank you again for the opportunity for allowing me to work for this school district. I will definitely miss working here!

I wish you and your staff all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Gieselman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jessica Gieselman