

Raymond Central Public Schools (District 0161) Board of Education Budget/Tax Asking Hearing and Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Raymond Central Jr-Sr High School - Mustang Room
1800 West Agnew Road
Raymond, NE 68428-9783

Present: Mary Benes, Cathy Burklund, Larry Heyen, Bill Lange, Derek Matulka, **Absent:** Brad Breitreutz. Also in attendance were: Bryon Hanson, Superintendent; Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High Principal; Tony Kobza, Activities Director/Asst Principal; Breanne Poston, Asst Principal/Preschool Director; Steve Rose, Elementary Principal; Deb Kruse, Asst Elementary Principal; and Amanda Coufal, SpEd Director.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Burklund called the Budget and Tax Asking Hearing to order at 6:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion to Excuse Board Member's Absence

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to excuse the absence of Brad Breitreutz. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Open Meeting Law

The audience was reminded that Open Meeting Laws would be followed.

Presentation of the 2024-2025 Budget and the 2024-2025 Tax Asking

Superintendent Hanson reviewed the 2024-2025 budget. The budget and tax asking are designed to meet district needs while being attentive to the board's budget goals. The 2024-2025 budget would generate a tax asking of \$9,669,027.00 which is a decrease of \$74,496.00 and a reduced levy of \$0.927226 (down from \$0.990180).

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Raymond Central Public Schools (5550161) in Lancaster County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 11th , day of, September, 2024," at 6:00 o'clock PM, at, The Mustang Room, Raymond Central JR/Sr High School for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>")

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2022-2023 (1)	2023-2024 (2)	2024-2025 (3)			
General	\$ 10,601,976.00	\$ 11,948,392.00	\$ 13,145,088.00	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 5,845,671.00	\$ 8,130,724.00
Depreciation	\$ 247,760.00	\$ 286,298.50	\$ 2,735,233.50		\$ 2,735,233.50	
Employee Benefit	\$ 27,409.00	\$ 244,395.00	\$ 340,380.00	\$ -	\$ 340,380.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 549,285.00	\$ 527,000.00	\$ 995,876.00	\$ -	\$ 995,876.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 564,198.00	\$ 585,259.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 600,000.00	
Bond	\$ 677,150.00	\$ 668,388.00	\$ 1,370,800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,047,880.00	\$ 326,182.00
Special Building	\$ 999,845.00	\$ 882,725.00	\$ 3,925,115.00		\$ 2,725,115.00	\$ 1,212,121.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ -	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 4,053.00	\$ -	\$ 4,053.00	\$ -
Cooperative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Student Fee	\$ 52,602.00	\$ 72,227.00	\$ 41,653.00	\$ -	\$ 41,653.00	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 13,720,225.00	\$ 15,221,284.50	\$ 23,158,198.50	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 14,335,861.50	\$ 9,669,027.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 326,182.00	\$ 9,342,845.00	\$ 9,669,027.00

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

Raymond Central Public Schools (5550161) in Lancaster County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 11th day of September 2024, at 6:00 PM, at The Mustang Room, Raymond Central Jr/Sr high School, for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Property Valuations	983,777,067	1,042,790,972	6%

2023-2024 Budget Information

2024-2025 Budget Information

Fund	2023-2024 Operating Budget	2023-2024 Property Tax Request	2023 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2023-2024 Request Divided By 2023 Valuation)	2024-2025 Operating Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2024 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	12,377,397.00	8,198,220.00	0.833341	0.786181	13,145,088.00	8,130,724.00	0.779708	-6%	6%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,563,374.00	699,141.00	0.071067	0.067045	1,370,800.00	326,182.00	0.031280	-56%	-12%
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	3,114,231.00	846,162.00	0.086012	0.081144	3,925,115.00	1,212,121.00	0.116238	35%	26%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12	10,568.00		0.000000	0.000000	4,053.00	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	-62%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	17,065,570.00	9,743,523.00	0.990420	0.934370	18,445,056.00	9,669,027.00	0.927226	-6%	8%

District Goals

Goal 1 - Increase the number of students that meet or exceed normal growth rates

Goal 2 - Research and implement strategies to recruit, hire, develop, support, and retain the highest quality staff

Goal 3 - Increase Student Enrollment

Goal 4 - Maintain and Improve Current Facilities

Goal 5 - Technology

Goal 6 - Staff Professional Development

Goal 7 - Mental Health Action Plan

Goal 8 - Ensure all students learn in a safe environment

Budget Goals

1. Meet the educational needs of our students (Goals #1, #2, #4, #5, #6, #8) Attract and retain quality staff Build and maintain quality programs Provide a safe and appropriate learning environment

2. Accumulate and reserve necessary cash resources to address items that are identified in short term and long term goals. (Goals #1, #2, #4, #5, #6, #8)

3. Sustain adequate reserves in the general fund and the bond fund(s)

4. Sustain cash balance in the general fund account equivalent to a minimum of 3-6 months of operating expenses and cash balance in the bond fund to make one year of payments

5. Avoid significant levy swings as feasible.

Budget Comparison

2023-24	2024-25
General Fund: \$12,377,397	General Fund: \$13,145,088
Employee Benefit Fund: \$193,980	Depreciation Fund: \$2,735,233.50
Depreciation Fund: \$1,841,186	Employee Benefit Fund: \$340,380
Activities Fund: \$576,955	Activities Fund: \$995,876
School Nutrition Fund: \$745,000	School Nutrition Fund: \$745,000
Bond Fund: \$1,563,374	Bond Fund: \$1,370,800
Special Building Fund: \$3,114,231	Special Building Fund: \$3,925,115
QCPUF Fund: \$10,568	QCPUF Fund: \$4,053
Student Fee Fund: \$85,421	Student Fee Fund: \$41,653
Total Budget of Disbursements: \$20,508,112	Total Budget of Disbursements: \$23,158,198

Tax Request Comparison

2023-24	2024-25
General Fund: \$8,198,220	General Fund: \$8,130,724
Bond Fund: \$699,141	Bond Fund: \$326,182
Special Building Fund: \$846,162	Special Building Fund: \$1,212,121
General Fund Tax Rate: .833341	General Fund Tax Rate: .779708
Bond Fund Tax Rate: .071067	Bond Fund Tax Rate: .031288
Special Building Fund Tax Rate: .086012	Special Building Fund Tax Rate: .116238
Overall Tax Rate: .990420	Overall Tax Rate: .927226

Receive Public Input

At this time the public was given the opportunity to ask questions but there weren't any.

Adjournment - Close Budget and Tax Asking Hearing

Vice President Burklund closed the Budget/Tax Asking Hearing at 6:05 P.

Call to Order Regular Meeting

Vice President Burklund called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

District Mission Statement

The Raymond Central community is committed to providing a positive, challenging learning environment which prepares each individual to be a responsible citizen in an ever-changing society.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Heyen, second by Matulka to approve the consent agenda as presented including the regular meeting minutes of August 14, 2024; Public Workshop/Special Board Meeting minutes of August 28, 2024; August financial statement; monthly bills; and approval of substitute teachers Shaina Borer, Kim Turnwall, Laura Casne, and Shannon Chinn. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Regular Minutes of August 14, 2024 and Budget Workshop/Special Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2024

Raymond Central Public Schools (District 0161) Board of Education Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Raymond Central Jr-Sr High School - Mustang Room

1800 West Agnew Road

Raymond, NE 68428-9783

Present: Mary Benes, Brad Breitreutz, Cathy Burklund, Larry Heyen, Bill Lange, Derek Matulka. Also in attendance were: Bryon Hanson, Superintendent; Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High Principal; Tony Kobza, Activities Director/Asst Principal; Breanne Poston, Asst Principal/Preschool Director; Steve Rose, Elementary Principal; Deb Kruse, Asst Elementary Principal; and Amanda Coufal, SpEd Director.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Breitreutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion to Excuse Board Member's Absence

All members were present.

Open Meeting Law

The audience was reminded that Open Meeting Laws would be followed.

District Mission Statement

The Raymond Central community is committed to providing a positive, challenging learning environment which prepares each individual to be a responsible citizen in an ever-changing society.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to approve the consent agenda as presented including the regular meeting minutes of July 10, 2024; July financial statement; monthly bills; and approval of substitute teachers Carrie Bouwens, Hayley Reikofski and Grace Smith. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Regular Minutes of July 10, 2024

Financial Statement/Report

Monthly Bills

Policy Review

Certificated staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Correspondence/Recognition

Public Forum

Reports

Administrative Reports

Submitted by Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High School Principal

First Days: The first days of school have been exciting and without a great deal of challenges. Even with all of the changes, the office and building appear to be functioning at a high level. The staff has been excellent to work with and all indications are that we have given them plenty of time to prepare for their classes and the school year. Having the students here is always where our work becomes truly relevant. It is always good to see the students and staff interacting. Our work is about kids; first, last, and always. The

rotations that were set up yesterday for the students to rotate through set them up for great success moving forward. I am excited to see what the next few months bring. We are off to a great start.

Professional Development: Our staff spent one full day working on the introductory pieces of our Instructional Model. Deb Kruse has been instrumental in seeing our Six Phase Model come to fruition. The professional learning team met first and set the parameters for the day with the certified staff. This provided an excellent scaffold by which the learning was anchored. Early indications are that the staff appreciate the format and that the information was not overwhelming and ties into what many of them already know. Moving forward we will be meeting with the high school staff next week to review the first week of school and realign priorities. This will include our steps and intended work with the Six Phase Instructional model and the use of learning targets/learning intentions in their classrooms.

Counseling/ACT/Senior Experience/Scholarships (Tasha): We are finalizing schedules, enrolling students in dual credit courses and making plans for future events. We will have a school counseling intern this semester Kylie Vodehnal from Wayne State College.

Awards and Recognition (Staff Member of Merit): We will be honoring students and staff this year for their efforts in and out of the classroom.

Friday Celebration: We will begin celebrating our family members throughout the year. We will also be trying various ways to introduce excitement and school spirit back into the operations of our school. Beginning as early as next Friday, we will begin the practice of playing the National Anthem in the commons on Friday morning. This will give us the opportunity to meet with our students and staff and potentially recognize them for things we have deemed worthy.

Evaluation Update: Beginning walk-throughs presently.

Tell Our Story! Remember to be telling others what we stand for at Raymond Central. It is too easy to get caught up in the negative. It is imperative that we continue to tell our story our way. Our version is the only version that matters because we are seeing it happen first hand. We have been sharing this message with our staff and students loudly. #Skyward, #Family, #HerdMentality

Submitted by Elementary Principals Steve Rose and Deb Kruse

New teachers and new assignments:

- Ceresco:
 - Kindra Tvrdy - Office Administrative Assistant
 - Cheryl Masek - Para
 - Rebecca Jacobs - Para
 - Eleanah Enevoldsen - Para
- Valparaiso
 - Melanie Schmalken - Office Administrative Assistant
 - Elayna Furasek - Para

School-wide Expectations:

The teacher leadership team continued work on lesson plans and presentations for staff and students to begin our year with "The Mustang Way" This will be our expectations on how to be "Safe, Responsible, and Respectful" throughout the school.

Teachers are expected to teach these expectations to students and all teachers / staff will use the common expectations and language to promote what it looks like to do things "The Mustang Way."

The leadership team added lessons around "The Five Finger Rule" and "Problem Identification" to help students manage and process through conflict in a systemize way in all of our classrooms and schools.

Upcoming Dates:

- FastBridge Testing 8.26
- Grade Alike / PLCs 8.27-8.29

- Picture Day 9.2
- NSCAS Testing 9.9-9.27
- Patriots Day 9.11

Submitted by Amanda Coufal, Special Education Coordinator

Extended School Year Services (ESY):

- During the summer, ten students, ranging from PK to 12th grade, participated in ESY services. Case managers and related service providers helped students with transitioning from summer back into the school environment. The focus was on ensuring that students retained the information and skills they had learned during the previous school year, which is critical for their readiness to learn new material when the new school year begins.

New para educators that are joining our RC Family:

- We are very fortunate to have new faces joining our RC family. Please welcome our new paraeducators to the district:
 - Cheryl Masek - Ceresco
 - Rebecca Jacobs - Ceresco
 - Eleanah Enevoldsen - Ceresco
 - Elayna Furasek - Valparaiso
 - Robin Wright - 3 year old preschool classroom

Para-Handbook:

- Paraeducators and case managers met on August 7th to review the paraeducator handbook and new changes to the handbook.
- This year, my goal is to create monthly "SpEd Snippets" for the paraeducators in our district. These brief, informative updates will cover a range of important topics, including detailed insights into specific disabilities, engaging articles on special education, strategies that paraeducators can implement in the classroom to better support our students, and a feature called "In the Life of..." where students/adults share their experiences living with a disability.

Special Education Teacher Meeting:

- The special education staff met on August 8th to discuss important topics such as:
 - Our Targeted Improvement Goal
 - NECounts and Annual Determinations from NDE
 - Reviewed Parent Survey Information to identify areas where we are excelling and areas where improvement is needed
 - Indicator 13
 - Transition Programming
 - Consideration of Services
 - Hot Topics in Special Education
 - Progress Report Expectations
 - Service Minutes
 - Prior Written Notice
 - Changes to SRS forms
 - Improving IEP goal writing
 - Reminders for the school year

- This year, our focus is on "Perfecting the Paperwork". While our special education teachers already excel in documentation, we want to continue to improve by making small but impactful changes to make sure that our paperwork is more understandable to parents and remains compliant with regulations.

Student Board Member

Ellerie White reported on back to school and events happening among the student body.

Superintendent's Report:

- Superintendent Hanson expressed his excitement for the start of the school year and having kids back in the buildings. He has visited most of the local businesses and has met several community members.
- Cindy Kaiser submitted her resignation as paraeducator.
- We have hired Eleanah Enevoldsen as a paraeducator in Ceresco.

Classified Staff hires/reassignment/resignations

NASB Monthly Update

NRCSA Monthly Report

Update on Superintendent's Goals

Safety Report

Facilities Report

Valparaiso

1. Valparaiso had 12 heat pumps installed on the main level that were balanced and are up and running
2. Valparaiso also had all the controls for HVAC brought back up and running.
3. Val had new carpet installed on all the main level except for 4 classrooms on the west wing they were found to have old asbestos on the old floor under the carpet and not enough time was left in the summer to get it abated. We will get it abated next June and those rooms will be carpeted next summer as well as the upstairs hall and classrooms
4. Val received new windows on the west and south side of the school by insurance claim from the hailstorm 2 years ago
5. Val received all new exterior lighting from high pressure sodium fixtures to LED
6. Painting/floor waxing/carpet extraction and restroom scrubbing was all completed

Ceresco

1. Ceresco received new windows all the way around from the hailstorm insurance claim 2 years ago
2. Ceresco also had all new Led exterior lighting all the way around with some lights added for better coverage
3. Painting/floor waxing/carpet extraction and restroom scrubbing was all completed
4. Ceresco is in line for new carpet over the next 2 summers
5. Trees were removed from the west side of the school.

High School

1. The High school received new carpet in the entire senior wing hall and classrooms, the library and a few other classrooms. Asbestos as found in 2 rooms and was abated before carpet install
2. Some new drainage was done at the high school along the driveway and a box drain was put in by east shed to help with soil erosion.
3. The practice field is getting close to getting ready. Irrigation piping should be complete soon.
4. High school new gym floor was completely repainted and refinished
5. June storm damage to building was completed on July 31
6. Painting/ floor waxing / carpet extraction and restroom scrubbing was all completed

Additional projects

- All regular maintenance items were done at all 3 sites
- Some new desks and chairs were purchased for some classrooms
- Buses and Vans were cleaned and gone through
- All 3 sites got all new parking lines and curbs painted

Important Upcoming Dates:

August 28 - Budget Workshop

September 11 - 2024-25 Budget Hearing followed by Regular Board Meeting

September 25 - Area Membership Meeting in Fremont

Superintendent Evaluation:

October 9-15 Self Evaluation

October 17- BOE Receives Self Evaluation For Review

October 17-27 - BOE Evaluations

November 4 - BOE Will Recieve Results

November BOE Meeting - 1st Evaluation

Legislative Update

Board Committee Reports

Curriculum & American Civics Committee (Burklund-chair, Lange, Matulka)

Facilities & Transportation Committee (Matulka-chair, Burklund, Lange)

Finance Committee (Breitkreutz-chair, Burklund, Heyen)

Negotiations Committee (Lange-chair, Benes, Heyen)

Policy Committee (Benes-chair, Breitkreutz, Heyen)

Professional Learning Committee Report

Professional Learning Committee members Jill Huck, Kim Hudson, Hannah Kring and Andrew Placke presented on their work over summer. The team will help provide research-based teaching strategies and how to adjust instruction according to student needs.

Old Business

New Business

Discuss, Consider the approval of the additional property tax authority of 6%, which is afforded as a consideration through legislation

Discussion was held regarding the additional property tax authority of 6% which is afforded as a consideration through legislation. The additional 6% tax authority does not necessarily mean we as a district will use it. It is important to note if we approve this for future use, it will allow for the continued ability to address facilities and large purchase needs during a time when funding is uncertain. There are multiple reasons why voting to access it makes sense.

- Uncertainty of the legislature regarding school funding
- If we don't ask for the additional authority, we could lose authority over time.
- Protects the Base Growth in the formula because it gets added to your base growth for future years.

Action will be taken on this topic at the August 28, 2024 Budget Workshop

Declare outdated and unused furniture items surplus.

Motion by Matulka, second by Burklund to declare outdated and unused furniture items as surplus. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Discuss and consider the purchase and installation of a new fire panel at Valparaiso Elementary school.

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to approve the purchase and installation of a new fire panel at the Elementary School in Valparaiso at a cost of \$26,923.79. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Discuss and consider a lease agreement with the RC Community Foundation regarding the More Than a Field project.

Discussion was held regarding a lease agreement with the RC Community Foundation for the "More Than a Field" project which may be needed for grants being applied for. Action will take place at the September meeting.

Next Regular Board Meeting - September 11, 2024

The next regular Board of Education Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 11, 2024.

Adjournment

Motion by Benes, second by Matulka to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Raymond Central Public Schools (District 0161) Board of Education Budget Workshop and Special Meeting

Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Raymond Central Jr-Sr High School - Mustang Room

1800 West Agnew Road

Raymond, NE 68428-9783

Present: Mary Benes, Brad Breitreutz, Cathy Burklund, Larry Heyen, Bill Lange, **Absent:** Derek Matulka. Superintendent Hanson was also in attendance.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Breitreutz called the Public Budget Workshop to order at 6:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion to Excuse Board Member's Absence

Motion by Lange, second by Burklund to excuse the absence of Derek Matulka. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Open Meeting Law

All were reminded that Open Meeting Laws would be followed.

Presentation and Discussion regarding the proposed 2024-2025 budget and necessary tax request

Information regarding the proposed 2024-2025 budget and necessary tax request had been provided to the Board. There was no further discussion.

Public Input and Questions regarding the budget and tax request

There was no public input.

Adjournment

Motion by Benes, second by Heyen to close the Public Budget Workshop at 6:26 PM.

Call to Order Special Meeting

President Breitreutz called the Special Board Meeting to order at 6:28 PM.

Public Forum

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to approve blinds purchase for new windows at Ceresco and Valparaiso

Motion by Benes, second by Burklund to approve the purchase of new blinds for the new windows at Ceresco and Valparaiso. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary action to approve a resolution that requires at least 70% of the Board of Education of this School District to affirmatively vote to increase the School District's overall property tax request authority by up to an additional 6% above the base growth percentage, or other maximum amount as permitted by law

Motion by Benes, second by Heyen to approve a resolution that requires at least 70% of the Board of Education of this School District to affirmatively vote to increase the School District's overall property tax request authority by up to an additional 6% above the base percentage, or other maximum amount as permitted by law. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Breitreutz, second by Matulka to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 PM. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.



Raymond Central Public Schools
General Fund Comparison to Previous Year
August 2024

	8/1/2024 - 8/31/2024	8/1/2023 - 8/31/2023
Balance - Beginning of Month	\$3,125,636.79	\$3,901,845.92
Receipts	\$1,361,527.65	\$1,223,614.11
Interest Earned	\$6,476.23	\$6,243.08
Disbursements	<u>-\$1,892,029.58</u>	<u>-\$1,580,075.59</u>
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>	
Balance - End of Month	\$3,601,611.09	\$3,551,627.52



Raymond Central Public Schools

General Fund Receipts Aug 2024

LANCASTER COUNTY TREASURER		
TAXES		\$1,112,739.05
PERSONAL PROP TAXES		\$32,244.30
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$25,443.14
FINES & FEES		\$3,321.95
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION		\$21,696.65
SAUNDERS COUNTY TREASURER		
TAXES		\$48,588.45
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$24,905.17
FINES & FEES		\$1,783.78
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION		\$19,919.22
PUBLIC POWER 5% TAX		\$3,633.28
SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER		
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$678.12
FINES & FEES		\$202.11
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION		\$299.36
BUTLER COUNTY TREASURER		
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$3.53
FINES & FEES		\$10.08
ESU RECEIPTS		
EMPOWER GRANT		\$4,466.06
VILLAGE VALPARASIO		
LIQUOR LICENSE FEES		\$1,120.00
STATE OF NEBRASKA		
SECURITY GRANT		\$22,311.00
FEDERAL RECEIPTS		
MEDICAID CFDA		\$8,936.34
MEDICAID DIRECT		\$1,623.05
NON-REVENUE RECEIPTS		
KLIMENT RECYCLING- Misc Metal		\$99.60
PRESCHOOL TUITION		
TUITION PAYMENTS		\$4,325.24
RCPS HOT LUNCH FUND		
AUGUST PAYROLL EXPENSES		\$23,178.17
JONES BANK		
GENERAL FUND INTEREST Aug		\$6,476.23
TOTAL		\$1,368,003.88

AUGUST 2024	Percent of Year Completed		100.00%			
2023-2024 RECEIPTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	2023-2024	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	% Received	% Received
ACCOUNT	ANTICIPATED	2023-2024	2023-2024	2022-2023	2023-2024	2022-2023
Property Taxes	\$8,116,238.00	\$1,161,327.50	\$7,218,592.61	\$7,115,051.08	88.94%	87.46%
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$499,000.00	\$51,029.96	\$584,280.02	\$551,460.86	117.09%	122.55%
Public Power Tax (5% Gross)	\$39,000.00	\$3,633.28	\$42,742.06	\$48,107.98	109.60%	137.45%
Carline Taxes	\$2,530.00	\$0.00	\$2,751.51	\$2,529.40	108.76%	84.31%
Other Tuition	\$0.00	\$0.00	13.78	\$13.78	0.00%	0.00%
Interest	\$8,000.00	\$6,476.23	81,850.50	45,961.07	1023.13%	1436.28%
Local License Fees	\$3,900.00	\$1,120.00	\$1,770.00	\$2,367.50	45.38%	118.38%
Other Local Receipts(Pre-K)	\$12,000.00	\$4,325.24	18,310.72	12,385.08	152.59%	103.21%
Fines & License Fees	\$26,000.00	\$5,317.92	\$48,473.73	\$38,571.68	186.44%	128.57%
ESU Receipts	\$7,300.00	\$4,466.06	7,675.40	13,149.74	105.14%	187.85%
State Aid	\$1,213,974.00	\$0.00	\$1,219,596.00	963,483.00	100.46%	100.00%
Special Education	\$972,397.00	\$0.00	\$1,139,193.00	543,323.00	117.15%	110.88%
Special Educ. Transportation	\$21,000.00	\$0.00	\$52,927.00	\$28,489.00	252.03%	135.66%
Homestead Exemption	\$0.00	\$41,915.23	\$253,687.71	\$227,694.74	0.00%	0.00%
High Ability Learners	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	5,622.00	\$5,909.00	102.22%	98.48%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	\$19,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,296.88	\$14,954.68	96.30%	83.08%
State Apportionment	\$103,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,715.01	\$145,873.17	146.33%	208.39%
Relief to Property Tax Payers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$495,361.90	\$416,452.85	0.00%	0.00%
Other State Receipts	\$23,000.00	\$22,311.00	\$37,311.00	\$0.00	162.22%	0.00%
Personal Property Tax Credit	\$0.00	\$32,244.30	\$230,699.77	\$195,757.85	100.00%	100.00%
Title I /II Funds	\$49,000.00	\$0.00	\$77,052.00	\$69,481.00	157.25%	257.34%
Other Federal Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,364.14	\$395,000.00	0.00%	0.00%
SPED IDEA Grant PreK	\$124,000.00	\$0.00	\$140,366.00	\$163,149.00	113.20%	132.64%
Private Grants-College Access	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$6,063.39	\$5,601.61	173.24%	100.00%
Carl Perkins	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$7,685.96	\$0.00	30743.84%	0.00%
Other Non-Revenue Receipts	\$1,000.00	\$99.60	\$37,328.04	\$6,524.30	3732.80%	100.00%
Ag Land Property Credit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$64,538.09	115,839.52	100.00%	100.00%
ESSER (COVID-19) Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.00%	0.00%
Sale of Property	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,181.00	\$0.00	206.03%	0.00%
MIPS-Medicaid-Public Schools	\$8,900.00	\$10,559.39	\$50,252.16	\$34,753.68	564.63%	369.72%
TransferOther Fund/ Imprest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	0.00%	0.00%
Insurance Adjustments	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,681.50	0.00%	100.00%
TOTAL	\$11,262,264.00	\$1,344,825.71	\$12,034,701.38	\$11,171,626.07	106.86%	107.09%
2023-2024 DISBUREMENTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	2023-2024	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	% Disbursed	% Disbursed
CATEGORY	BUDGET	2023-2024	2023-2024	2022-2023	2023-2024	2022-2023
Instructional Services	\$5,285,000.00	\$419,281.71	\$4,717,990.07	\$4,650,174.92	89.27%	89.32%
Special Education	\$2,017,427.00	\$148,729.22	1,988,497.28	1,665,129.57	98.57%	83.40%
Guidance	\$227,900.00	21,596.41	338,240.06	241,418.78	148.42%	105.93%
School Health Nurse	\$112,750.00	8,940.68	109,128.20	107,497.28	96.79%	95.34%
Safety & Security	\$52,151.00	\$0.00	\$31,955.73	33,242.92	61.28%	63.74%
Activities	\$95,020.00	\$3,709.28	\$120,092.31	\$99,079.38	126.39%	104.27%
Media, Technology	\$710,125.00	\$113,163.88	\$646,790.72	\$690,220.73	91.08%	97.20%
Gen.Admin (Supt/BOE/Legal)	\$428,800.00	\$26,705.60	\$359,944.15	\$346,757.59	83.94%	80.87%
School Admin (Principals)	\$762,100.00	176,224.76	841,868.57	782,082.16	110.47%	102.62%
Business	\$322,600.00	172,161.90	307,157.11	292,187.53	95.21%	90.57%
Operation of Plant	\$789,500.00	132,753.92	724,460.53	644,835.03	91.76%	81.68%
Maintenance of Plant	\$517,500.00	310,494.31	689,094.76	418,475.11	133.16%	80.86%
Pupil Transportation	\$536,549.00	230,263.63	884,700.69	429,524.76	164.89%	80.05%
Fed. Grants (Title,Perkins)	\$129,975.00	\$4,901.11	\$88,477.89	\$120,643.28	68.07%	92.82%
Transfers	\$0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	\$75,000.00	0.00%	100.00%
TOTAL	\$11,987,397.00	\$1,868,926.41	\$11,948,398.07	\$10,596,269.04	99.67%	88.58%
Cash Reserves -General Fund	\$1,990,000.00			\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL	\$13,977,397.00		\$11,948,398.07			



Raymond Central Public Schools

Financial Report 8-31-2024

GENERAL FUND

Purpose: Pays day to day expenses for District

Funded by: Local Taxes, State/Fed Reimb. for SPED, State Aid, Title 1, other misc. grants

For RC: Salaries, benefits, educ expenses, technology, building and grounds maintenance, transportation

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$3,125,636.79
Aug Receipts	\$1,368,003.88
Aug Disbursements	<u>-\$1,892,029.58</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$2,601,611.09
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>
Combined Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$3,601,611.09

LUNCH FUND

Purpose: Pays all expenses for Hot Lunch program including kitchen payroll.

Funded by: Parent/Student/Staff payments for meals and State/Fed Reimb. for meals served.

For RC: Salaries, benefits for HL staff, food, milk, supplies, equipment, repairs associated with HL program.

Note: General Fund can transfer funds into HL account if needed. No transfers out of HL Fund.

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$50,874.78
Aug Receipts	54166.65
Aug Disbursements	<u>-27889.02</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$77,152.41

BUILDING/SINKING FUND

Purpose: To acquire new sites, improve existing buildings, all new building/construction expenses.

Funded by: Local Taxes, sale of property.

For RC: Previously used for HVAC projects, new propane tank HS, pays property taxes on farmland south of HS.

Used for new additions/construction.

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$1,675,081.84
Aug Receipts	\$131,090.13
Aug Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$1,806,171.97
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,060,631.26</u>
Combined Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$2,866,803.23

HIGH SCHOOL BOND FUND

Purpose: Pay principal/interest on loans for new construction and additions.

Funded by: Local Taxes through a bond.

For RC: Used to pay interest/principal payts on 2009 HS Bond

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$836,859.17
Aug Receipts	\$105,211.73
Aug Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$942,070.90

DEPRECIATION FUND

Purpose: Pays to 'replace' not add. Fixing a roof, replacing a bus, upgrading systems.

Funded by: General Fund (GF) transfers at YE only with specific purpose identified.

For RC: In 8/2023, \$400,000.00 was transferred from the GF budget that was planned but not spent. This transfer was earmarked for truck/bus purchase, technology, safety upgrades and curric. materials.

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$189,649.71
Aug Receipts	\$272.78
Aug Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$189,922.49
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,712,312.64</u>
Combined Balance - Aug 31, 2024	<u>\$1,902,235.13</u>

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE UNDERTAKING FUND

Purpose: Pays for removal of environmental hazards (mold, asbestos) and reduction/removal of accesiblity barriers in school buildings.

Funded by: Local taxes via tax levy.

For RC: Use funds for accessibility improvements on elementary playground updates in 2024.

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$10,660.58
Aug Receipts	\$5.42
Aug Disbursements	<u>-\$6,600.00</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$4,066.00

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND - UNEMPLOYMENT

Purpose: Part of the General Fund. Can be used to pay unemployment, benefits, early retirement

Funded by: General Fund transfers at YE only with specific purpose identified.

For RC: In 8/2023 \$100,000.00 was transferred from the GF earmarked to pay Admin Benefit costs during the 23-24SY.

Cash Balance - Aug 1, 2024	\$2,028.68
Aug Receipts	\$0.83
Aug Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Aug 31, 2024	\$2,029.51
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$258,598.20</u>
Combined Balance - Aug 31, 2024	<u>\$260,627.71</u>



Raymond Central Public Schools
Student Activities Fund Balances Aug 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
After School Club	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Annual	13,913.00	3,470.00	6,694.00	10,689.00
AP Funds	50,075.88	0.00	659.52	49,416.36
APEX	119.05	0.00	0.00	119.05
ART CLUB	598.88	0.00	0.00	598.88
Athletics	174,101.68	2,095.00	25,105.37	151,091.31
Band	59.56	0.00	22.51	37.05
Band Trip	10,669.76	0.00	0.00	10,669.76
Baseball	164.42	0.00	0.00	164.42
Boys BB	6,313.71	1,310.00	0.00	7,623.71
Ceresco Book Fair	(4.60)	0.00	0.00	(4.60)
Ceresco Pop	6.62	0.00	0.00	6.62
Cheerleaders	3,004.87	234.00	11,546.60	(8,307.73)
Choir	14,359.76	0.00	0.00	14,359.76
Class 2024	517.31	0.00	517.31	0.00
Class 2025	580.21	517.31	0.00	1,097.52
Class 2028	4,248.35	0.00	0.00	4,248.35
Class 2029 Field Trip Funds C	2,806.38	0.00	0.00	2,806.38
Class 2030 Field Trip Funds C	3,045.11	0.00	0.00	3,045.11
Class 2031 Field Trip Funds C	3,807.43	0.00	0.00	3,807.43
Class 2031 Field Trip Funds V	2,961.89	0.00	0.00	2,961.89
Class 2032 Field Trip Funds C	2,494.28	0.00	0.00	2,494.28
Class 2032 Field Trip Funds V	2,357.37	0.00	0.00	2,357.37
Class 2033 Field Trip Funds C	1,349.43	0.00	0.00	1,349.43
Class 2033 Field Trip Funds 2033	1,386.85	0.00	0.00	1,386.85
Class 2035 Cer	265.98	0.00	0.00	265.98
Class 2035 Val	1,042.51	0.00	0.00	1,042.51
Class 2036 C	90.45	0.00	0.00	90.45
Class 2036 Val	201.75	0.00	0.00	201.75
Class of 2026	205.18	0.00	0.00	205.18
Class of 2027	3,613.18	0.00	0.00	3,613.18
Class of 2034 Ceresco	922.23	0.00	0.00	922.23
Class of 2034 V	831.30	0.00	0.00	831.30
College Access Grant	4,448.94	0.00	0.00	4,448.94
Cross Country	2,004.56	767.25	0.00	2,771.81
Culinary Snack Cart	1,639.50	0.00	0.00	1,639.50
DI	4,614.68	0.00	0.00	4,614.68
Drama Act	2,701.26	125.00	499.35	2,326.91
Drill Team	746.56	27.89	2,846.90	(2,072.45)
Elem Fundraising	53,561.01	0.00	537.70	53,023.31
Elem Pictures/Yearbook	2,983.42	0.00	0.00	2,983.42
Elem Prof Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Elem Student Council	483.85	0.00	0.00	483.85
FBLA Act	384.55	355.00	81.96	657.59

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
FFA Act	16,677.76	1,120.00	531.54	17,266.22
Fines	2,570.31	0.00	1,829.00	741.31
Football	3,316.03	2,444.33	0.00	5,760.36
Girls BB	606.97	0.00	0.00	606.97
Girls Wrestling	18.07	37.00	0.00	55.07
Golf Activity	1,068.91	0.00	0.00	1,068.91
HAL	59.66	0.00	0.00	59.66
HS Caring Shelves	3,400.61	0.00	0.00	3,400.61
HS Pop	1,772.57	100.00	0.00	1,872.57
HS Quiz Bowl	(519.43)	0.00	0.00	(519.43)
JH Boys BB	128.71	0.00	0.00	128.71
JH Football	342.13	0.00	0.00	342.13
JH Girls BB	809.70	0.00	0.00	809.70
JH Speech	2,065.54	0.00	0.00	2,065.54
JH Student Council	904.43	0.00	0.00	904.43
JH Track	1,350.09	0.00	0.00	1,350.09
JH Volleyball	1,339.13	0.00	0.00	1,339.13
JR Achievements	629.57	0.00	0.00	629.57
Library	2,075.76	0.00	8.99	2,066.77
Life Skills	2.41	0.00	0.00	2.41
Mock Trial	380.96	0.00	0.00	380.96
National Honor Society	291.49	0.00	0.00	291.49
Professional Development	18,723.99	0.00	4,168.15	14,555.84
PTO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RC Backpack	24,974.81	207.63	0.00	25,182.44
RC Blue Crew	42.73	0.00	0.00	42.73
RC Concessions	12,008.04	914.55	4,071.46	8,851.13
RC Foundation	24.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
Restitution	190.00	0.00	0.00	190.00
Score Vision	9,901.64	1,000.00	0.00	10,901.64
Service Fees (Activity Acct)	12,200.67	678.23	2,880.95	9,997.95
Skills USA	330.99	0.00	0.00	330.99
Social Justice	194.12	0.00	0.00	194.12
Softball	5,938.94	1,177.39	2,213.25	4,903.08
Spanish Club	860.05	0.00	0.00	860.05
Speech	8,142.13	334.06	241.22	8,234.97
Spring Musical	2,193.04	0.00	0.00	2,193.04
'Stang Gang Student Section	(0.01)	0.00	0.00	(0.01)
Student Council	7,494.05	0.00	0.00	7,494.05
Student Pop	970.45	0.00	0.00	970.45
Testing	4,365.23	72.00	0.00	4,437.23
Track	1,326.20	0.00	0.00	1,326.20
TShirt Press Acct	(1,368.42)	0.00	0.00	(1,368.42)
Unified Team	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
Val Book Fair	10,014.29	0.00	0.00	10,014.29
Val Pop	4.49	0.00	0.00	4.49
VolleyBall	14,439.58	3,223.12	5,726.95	11,935.75
Weight Room	4,050.00	0.00	0.00	4,050.00
Wrestling	468.05	40.00	0.00	508.05



Raymond Central Public Schools
Student Fees Fund Balances Aug 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Activity Pass	876.00	9,135.00	0.00	10,011.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	779.20	2,107.42	1,601.75	1,284.87
Ag-Ed Labs	2,170.23	275.00	0.00	2,445.23
Art Class	890.87	540.00	0.00	1,430.87
Chromebooks	4,229.57	7,830.00	0.00	12,059.57
Foods Class	259.20	645.00	0.00	904.20
Skills USA	1,150.33	0.00	0.00	1,150.33
Sports Fees	1,605.22	6,700.00	0.00	8,305.22
Tech Ed	504.36	540.00	0.00	1,044.36

Monthly Bills



Raymond Central Public Schools

Bills Paid August 2024

General Fund - Report of Bills Paid August 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
8/20/2024	RCPS Payroll	August Payroll	706,632.96
08/30/2024	RCPS Depreciation Fund	Transfer to Depreciation Fund	500,000.00
08/14/2024	NASB ALICAP	Insurance Premium WComp & Liability 24-25	145,474.00
08/30/2024	RCPS Employee Benefit Fund	Transfer to Employee Benefit Fund	100,000.00
08/30/2024	Rcps Hot Lunch Fund	Transfer to Hot Lunch Fund	100,000.00
08/15/2024	Midwest Floor Covering, Inc	Carpet- V, C	37,910.00
08/20/2024	VIRCO	Furniture Rotation-Stud Desks/chairs HS, V	29,936.70
08/14/2024	Egan Supply Co.	Re-Do New Gym Floor	20,140.59
08/27/2024	Whittemore Sprinkler Company	Install Irrigation -New SB/BB Fields HS	20,053.37
08/15/2024	Kidwell	Cameras HS, PreK 3 - Safety Grant 50% down	16,329.50
08/27/2024	Whitehead Oil Co	Fuel for Buses	14,082.38
08/20/2024	Norris Public Power	Electricity HS	11,985.30
08/20/2024	Ralston Public School	SPED 2nd Semester Serv- Hearing Impaired	10,365.15
08/22/2024	10 Men, LLC	HS Wall Panels - Repair Wind Damage	8,400.00
08/20/2024	TMS	E Time Tracking & Absence/Sub Management	7,705.56
08/15/2024	Kidwell	Cameras C, V - Safety Grant	7,209.84
08/27/2024	Pine Cove Consulting	Server Infrastructure Ruckus	7,171.80
08/20/2024	EduTrak, LLC	Set up/1st yr Fee Hot Lunch/Fees Program	6,558.00
08/15/2024	MCS	Custodial Supplies, all Locations	6,514.51
08/21/2024	US Bank	6 Ranges/Ovens FCS Classroom	5,883.00
08/14/2024	Comfortechs	AC Service Calls V	5,395.05
08/20/2024	Sentry Electric Inc.	Replace fixtures with LED equivalents HS	4,725.00
08/27/2024	Pine Cove Consulting	Managed Tech Service Aug. 2024	4,500.00
08/20/2024	Renaissance Learning Inc.(WI)	Accelerated Reader and Star 360 Renewal	3,953.20
08/14/2024	Cornhusker State Industries	50% Wallpad replacement/repair main gym	3,860.00
08/20/2024	Omaha Public Power Dist	Electricity C	3,146.57
08/15/2024	Mechanical Sales Inc.	Heat Pump Service HS	3,009.20
08/15/2024	Johnstone Supply	Annual Filter Order HS/C/V	3,003.84
08/14/2024	Follett School Solutions Inc. Software	Destiny Service renewal - Library HS, V, C	2,815.51
08/14/2024	Commonwealth Electric Company	Heaters added to West Wing- V	2,800.00
08/14/2024	Butler Public Power District	Electricity V	2,766.04
08/14/2024	Comfort Inn	Admin Days Conf Hotel Rooms	2,699.00
08/20/2024	TCI	6th Grade Social Studies Materials	2,645.45
08/14/2024	Access Systems, Inc	Copiers- Monthly	2,458.45
08/20/2024	Renaissance Learning Inc.(WI)	FastBridge	2,369.64
08/14/2024	Barco Products Co	2 Picnic Tables HS Wind Storm Damage	2,298.69
08/20/2024	KC AV	Digital Class Photos HS service agreement	2,200.00
08/20/2024	Kajeet Inc	Renewal for 10 district Hotspots	2,054.13
08/20/2024	NCSA	2024 Administrators' Days	1,992.00
08/15/2024	Midwest Automatic	Annual Inspection C, V, HS	1,825.00
08/27/2024	Foundations Occupational Therapy	SPED Services OT Summer 2024	1,824.21
08/22/2024	Typing.com, LLC dba EduTyping	3 year renewal for Business/Acctg Classes	1,783.22
08/22/2024	Sid Dillon Ford Inc.	PreK Bus 19D- Antilock Brake service	1,765.98
08/22/2024	CDW Government	Teacher Laptop Replacement	1,595.71
08/21/2024	US Bank	Hotels & Meals- ASCA School Counselors	1,336.51
08/22/2024	Trane US Inc	Repairs HVAC HS	1,254.00
08/14/2024	Flinn Science	Chemistry and Biology Supplies	1,253.39
08/14/2024	Educational Service Unit #2	Summer 2024 Speech Services	1,170.67
08/20/2024	Staples Advantage	HS Office Supplies	1,169.52
08/20/2024	Pioneer Printing Inc.	Carbon Receipts for HS office	1,167.37
08/20/2024	Shaw, Hull & Navarrette, CPAs	Auditors 23-24	1,154.30
08/22/2024	TAESE/USU	Sped Law Conference AC, CR, CT, SS	1,005.00
08/20/2024	Saunders County Clerk	Election Expenses 5-14-24	1,002.19
08/20/2024	Scott Tvrdy	July Mowing C, V	1,000.00

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/20/2024	Schaefer's Inc	Range/Oven FCS	949.00
08/20/2024	Ron's Rolloffs Inc.	Dumpster/Dump Fees HS	946.23
08/22/2024	Windstream	Phone HS July&Aug Payt	930.08
08/26/2024	National Insurance Services	LTD/STD Sept Insurance Premium	911.17
08/20/2024	Voss Lighting	Lightbulbs LED	866.80
08/20/2024	Summit Fire Protection	Fire Alarm Semi-Annual Inspect. C	775.00
08/15/2024	Liberty Lawn & Landscape	Lawn Treatment#3 HS	748.00
08/20/2024	Trane US Inc	Repairs HVAC HS	731.50
08/20/2024	Teaching Strategies LLC	Tchg Strategies GOLD PreK Assessment	728.00
08/20/2024	Time for Kids	Time For Kids Magazines- Val	704.00
08/20/2024	Saunders County Youth Services	Attendance Officer Assistance	699.00
08/22/2024	Waste Connections Co	Garbage HS, V	677.20
08/14/2024	HD Supply FKA Home Depot Pro	Custodial /Maintenc. Supplies V,C,HS	646.89
08/14/2024	Husker SewVac	Sewing Machine Tune ups FCS	641.67
08/20/2024	Success By Design, Inc.	Planners C,V	635.58
08/20/2024	Oak Valley Lumber Co	Building Maint Supplies	632.90
08/20/2024	National Speech & Debate Association	HSand JH Speech Registration	624.00
08/22/2024	Column Software PBC	Waverly Newspaper Publication	621.73
08/20/2024	Otte Oil & Propane Inc.	Propane V	581.52
08/20/2024	Nebraska Safety Center	Required Bus Driver Training	520.00
08/21/2024	US Bank	HS Office/School supplies	475.64
08/20/2024	One Source	Employee Background Check	453.00
08/20/2024	O' Reilly Auto Parts	Oil & Filters& Antifreeze Buses	447.67
08/14/2024	Brooke L. Cheleen	July 2024 SPED Physical Therapy	442.89
08/27/2024	Ralston Public School	SPED Summer Services - Hearing Impaired	426.11
08/22/2024	NE Public Health Environ. Lab	Water Testing- Herbicides HS	415.00
08/20/2024	Engineered Controls	Heat Pump Service Call C	408.00
08/21/2024	US Bank	PreK 4 Classroom Supplies	401.88
08/14/2024	CDW Government	Tech Supplies HS	401.87
08/20/2024	Adam Killham	Marching Band Drill choreography	400.00
08/20/2024	National Art & School Supplies Inc.	HS Principal Office Supplies	383.83
08/20/2024	Village of Ceresco	Utilities C	371.43
08/21/2024	US Bank	XC Supplies, Heart Rate Monitor	351.18
08/22/2024	Nebraska State fire Marshal Agency	Boiler Inspections HS, C, V	324.00
08/20/2024	Sentry Electric Inc.	Search for existing Lines/pipes HS	315.44
08/20/2024	Summit Fire Protection	Fire Inspect HS	304.50
08/22/2024	Green's Furnace & Plumbing Co. Inc.	Heat Pump Service Calls - C	260.00
08/20/2024	Nebraska/Central Equipment, Inc	Bus Blower,Heater Assembly Part	256.19
08/20/2024	Sherwin-Williams	Paint - HS	254.95
08/21/2024	US Bank	Back to School Bags C,V	243.01
08/15/2024	Intermedia.net, INC	Phone Service	233.82
08/20/2024	Village of Valparaiso	Utilities V	227.56
08/20/2024	Poster Compliance Center	Labor Law Posters	224.85
08/20/2024	Platte Valley Equipment	Mower Blade and Belt	215.49
08/27/2024	Access Systems, Inc	Staples for HS Copier	206.99
08/22/2024	Really Good Stuff Inc.	Kinderg. Class Supplies V	205.71
08/20/2024	Donald R. Prentice	Extermination Service	205.00
08/27/2024	O' Reilly Auto Parts	Oil /Filters for Buses	203.73
08/20/2024	CHI Health Company Care	2 Physicals/1 Drug Test	199.00
08/20/2024	School Datebooks Inc.	Student planners for Cer & Val	196.73
08/14/2024	Coufal, Amanda	Reimb Mileage - July	196.31
08/20/2024	Great Minds	W&W Teacher Manuals 2nd Grade	196.16
08/21/2024	US Bank	SpEd Supplies HS	193.72
08/21/2024	US Bank	Curric Supplies	189.46
08/21/2024	US Bank	Shelving for AD's office	189.27
08/22/2024	Cengage Learning	Accounting Materials	180.60
08/20/2024	Bennington High School	Bennington marching competition	180.00
08/21/2024	US Bank	100 RC Lanyards&badge holders	177.98
08/22/2024	Kristine White	Reimb Mileage to ASCA conf.	175.54
08/15/2024	Menards Lincoln	Shop Supplies Welding&Sm Engine Classes	169.36

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/20/2024	Pitney Bowes Global (Lease)	Postage Machine HS Lease	159.57
08/27/2024	SAVVAS Learning Company	Student Workbooks 2nd C/V	144.00
08/27/2024	Menards Lincoln	Building Maint HS	122.04
08/22/2024	Windstream	Fax	109.18
08/21/2024	US Bank	Standing Desk Polak	103.99
08/27/2024	Newman Grove Public Schools	District FFA Dues	100.00
08/21/2024	US Bank	Ice Maker C	99.00
08/20/2024	Menards Lincoln	Maint Supplies Bus Barn	96.19
08/21/2024	US Bank	Kinderg supplies V	94.11
08/15/2024	Matheson Tri-Gas Inc.	Welding Tank Rental	85.89
08/20/2024	NE Public Health Environ. Lab	Water Testing HS	80.00
08/20/2024	Tvrdy's One Stop	Repair leak in AC unit Van	80.00
08/27/2024	Peterson, Madelyn	Activity Work Pay- Reprinting Old check	75.00
08/21/2024	US Bank	General Tech supplies	73.81
08/21/2024	US Bank	STEM Binders MS	62.88
08/27/2024	Menards Lincoln	Tools for Welding	58.53
08/14/2024	ASI	Payflex Admin Fees	50.00
08/20/2024	Kemnitz, Megan	Mileage Reimbursement Aug	46.23
08/15/2024	Innovative Office Solutions, LLC	HS Office Supplies 24-25SY	41.12
08/21/2024	US Bank	Gutter Splash Guards C	12.99
08/08/2024	RevTrak	Revtrak Fees	5.24

Hot Lunch Fund - Report of Bills Paid August 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
8/20/2024	RCPS Dist 161	Hot Lunch Staff August Payroll	23,178.17
08/20/2024	Staples Advantage	Hot Lunch Paper Supplies	2,968.80
08/20/2024	Summit Fire Protection	Hydrostatic Test Kitchen, V	1,175.00
08/20/2024	Comforttechs	Repair Freezer - V	430.00
08/30/2024	RevTrak	Revtrak Fees	55.95
08/30/2024	EduTrak Fees	Edutrak Fees	54.75
08/15/2024	Sears, Megan	Hot Lunch Refund-Max and Ava	26.35

Building/Sinking Fund - Report of Bills Paid August 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/27/2024	Praire Mechanical Corporation	Install HVAC at Val	77,305.10
08/27/2024	Custom Blinds & Designs	75% Down- Blinds V/C Hail Damage \$	14,895.00

QCPUF - Report of Bills Paid August 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/14/2024	Bockmann, Inc	Asbestos Abatement HS	6,600.00



Raymond Central Public Schools

Student Activities Fund Checks Aug 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cheer	08/27/2024	Varsity Spirit Fashion Attn: AR	Cheer uniform order	11,246.60
Annual	08/21/2024	US Bank	2023-2024 yearbook printing cost	6,634.00
Softball	08/21/2024	US Bank	VB Tournament Expenses -Colo	5,726.95
Athletics	08/22/2024	Phillips Floors	Replace 4 side hoop switches BB	4,708.56
Athletics	08/14/2024	Cornhusker State Industries	50% Wallpad replacement/repair	3,860.00
Athletics	08/20/2024	SCOREVISION, LLC	Athletics	3,750.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Power Source Electric LLC	power for shot clocks and pizza	3,200.00
Athletics	08/14/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Athletics	2,869.68
Service Fees (Activity Acct)	08/27/2024	ESU Coordinating Council	Streaming License V, C, HS	2,851.00
Dance Team	08/27/2024	Varsity Spirit Fashion Attn: AR	dance uniform order	2,696.90
Professional Development	08/14/2024	D&T Shirtified	HS portion of 24/25 staff shirts	2,150.80
Fines	08/07/2024	Amanda Ehlers	Refund Trip Deposit	1,829.00
RC Concessions	08/20/2024	Cash-Wa Distributing	pizzas, candy, for conc.	1,473.17
Athletics	08/14/2024	Awards Unlimited Inc	Winter athletics awards order	1,306.48
Professional Development	08/22/2024	Hy-Vee Accounts Receivable	Staff Meal Inservice 8/7/24	1,232.00
Softball	08/22/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Balls, bats, gloves for sb	1,090.79
RC Concessions	08/20/2024	Sysco Lincoln	Condiments, popcorn oil, etc.	1,049.50
RC Concessions	08/20/2024	Del Gould Meat Co., Inc	Hot dogs and burgers for conc	824.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Cross over mat for track	816.25
Athletics	08/22/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Volleyball nets and flags	735.98
Softball	08/22/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Tees, screen, bags for softball	704.57
AP Funds	08/21/2024	US Bank	DC World History textbooks	659.52
RC Concessions	08/27/2024	Pepsi Cola Of Lincoln	Outside conc. restock 8/22	634.10
Athletics	08/21/2024	US Bank	Tools for Drama Dept./One Act	571.91
Elem Fundraising	08/14/2024	D&T Shirtified	Staff Shirts C, V	537.70
Class 2024	08/20/2024	Class of 2025	Transfer funds	517.31
Drama	08/15/2024	University of Nebraska Lincoln	downpayment for lied tickets	499.35
Softball	08/20/2024	Eclipse, Inc,	Visors for Softball	337.50
Professional Development	08/20/2024	Kobza, Anthony	Reimb - Admin Days	320.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Double first base SB,BB	300.41
Athletics	08/27/2024	Rivalry	Hats for athletics	300.00
Cheer	08/27/2024	Placke Pro Photo	Photos for cheer team	300.00
Athletics	08/21/2024	US Bank	Activity pass cards	261.63
Speech	08/14/2024	Carolyn Enevoldsen	Reimb. Team Meal-State	241.22
Athletics	08/27/2024	Wahoo Public Schools	Entry fee for hs and jh xc meet 9/12	230.00
FFA	08/20/2024	Rivalry	Embroidery Cost	190.75
FFA	08/27/2024	NAEA District 2	Lunches	184.00
Professional Development	08/21/2024	US Bank	Professional Development	176.74
Athletics	08/20/2024	Plattsmouth High School	plattsmouth invite sb 8/31	150.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Beatrice High School	Entry Fee for xc meet 9/7/24	150.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Hunt, Mat	Volleyball 8/29 vs. Malcolm	150.00
Athletics	08/20/2024	Freeman High School Softball	SB invite 8/24	150.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Freeman High School Softball	Entry Fee: Freeman Invite	150.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Castillo, Eric	assignor's fee for 24 fall sb	150.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Kalnins, Ivars	Volleyball 8/29 vs. Malcolm	150.00
Dance Team	08/27/2024	Placke Pro Photo	Drill Team -Activities Fund	150.00
Professional Development	08/21/2024	US Bank	Professional Development	142.33
Athletics	08/21/2024	US Bank	Athletics	139.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Castillo, Cutty Louis	JV/V SB vs. Syracuse 8/26	125.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Athow, Mark	JV/V SB vs. Syracuse 8/26	125.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Gubbels, Chuck	Assignor's Fee: HSBV	100.00
Professional Development	08/21/2024	US Bank	Professional Development	91.00
RC Concessions	08/27/2024	Sysco Lincoln	Popcorn for conc. stand	90.69
Athletics	08/21/2024	US Bank	Custom hole punch-activity cards	87.98
Athletics	08/22/2024	Gretchen, Thornburg	Reimburse for found track uniform	85.00
FBLA	08/21/2024	US Bank	Binders for FBLA Officers/ML Leaders	81.96
Softball	08/27/2024	Amanda Ehlers	Reimb softball lunches for camp	80.39
Athletics	08/22/2024	Russel, Isaak	Volleyball Scrimmage 8/23	75.00
FFA	08/21/2024	US Bank	FFA Act	60.33
Athletics	08/22/2024	Drews, Aaron	Football scrimmage 8/23	60.00
Athletics	08/27/2024	Kratochvil, Ryan	Football scrimmage 8/23	60.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Hickson, Mark	Football scrimmage 8/23	60.00

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Athletics	08/22/2024	BCW Enterprises LLC	Football scrimmage 8/23	60.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Schulte, Vern	Football scrimmage 8/23	60.00
Annual	08/15/2024	Marathon Printing	Registration for 24-25 yearbook	60.00
Professional Development	08/21/2024	US Bank	Professional Development	55.28
Athletics	08/22/2024	BCW Enterprises LLC	Assignor's Fee for JH/JV Football	50.00
Athletics	08/22/2024	Woit, Andrea	Assignor's Fee for JH VB	50.00
FFA	08/20/2024	Newman, Celia	Popsicles - Val Parade	49.90
FFA	08/21/2024	US Bank	Food	46.56
Service Fees (Activity Acct)	08/30/2024	RevTrak	Service Fees (Activity Acct)	29.95
Band	08/21/2024	US Bank	Band Camp Supplies	22.51
Fines	08/20/2024	Lothrop, Hannah	Book Refund	8.99
Athletics	08/21/2024	US Bank	Air pump needles	7.49



Raymond Central Public Schools Student Fees Fund Checks Aug 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Service Fees (Student Fees)	08/27/2024	Annual	Transfer to Annual	930.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	08/27/2024	RC Hot Lunch Fund	Transfer to Hot Lunch	620.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	08/27/2024	RCPS Speech	Transfer to Speech	25.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	08/27/2024	RC FFA	Transfer to FFA	25.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	08/30/2024	RevTrak	Revtrak Fees	1.75

Policy Review

Certificated staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Correspondence/Recognition

Sarah Lange was recognized for being one of the top five finalists to receive the Lincoln Inspire Young Leader Award. The award celebration will be held September 18, 2014.

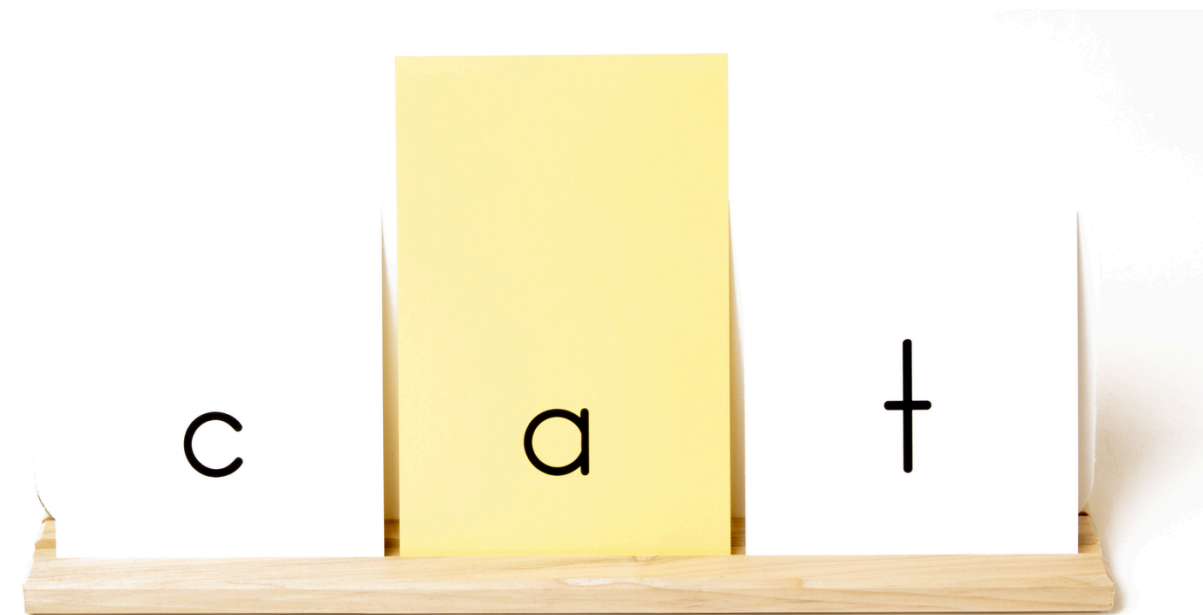
Presentation to the board by Monica Blank on Orton Gillingham (OG) which is our methodology for structured literacy

Monica Blank and Shelly Hlavaty gave a presentation on Orton Gillingham (OG) which is our methodology for structured literacy. It combines direct, multi-sensory teaching strategies with systematic, sequential lessons focused on phonics.

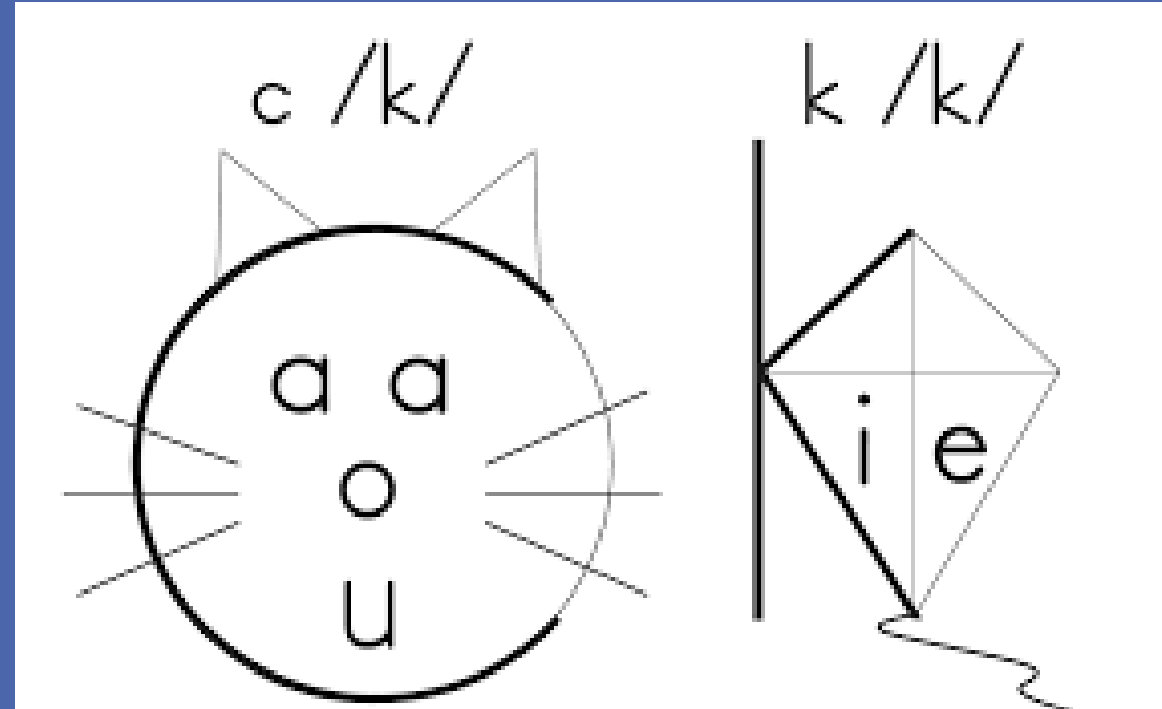
What is “OG?”



OG is the Orton–Gillingham approach to teaching phonics. Raymond Central uses the structured literacy program from the Institute of Multi–Sensory Education (IMSE) which is based on the principles of the OG approach.

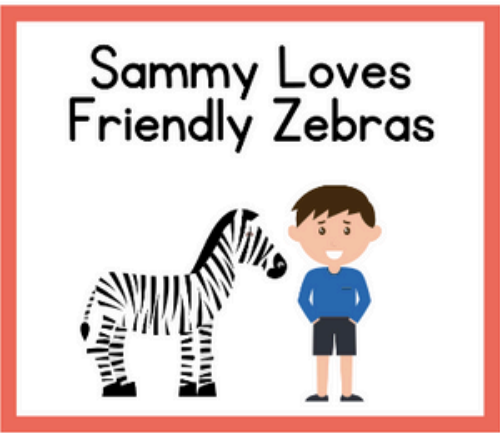


What are our students learning?



-ss, -ll, -ff, -zz

I-I-I Rule



If a word has one syllable, one short vowel, and ends with one consonant sound made by s, l, f, or z, double the final consonant.



-tch /ch/

I-I-I Rule



If a word has one syllable, one short vowel, and ends with one consonant sound that says /ch/, spell /ch/ with -tch.



Soft C /s/ and G /j/

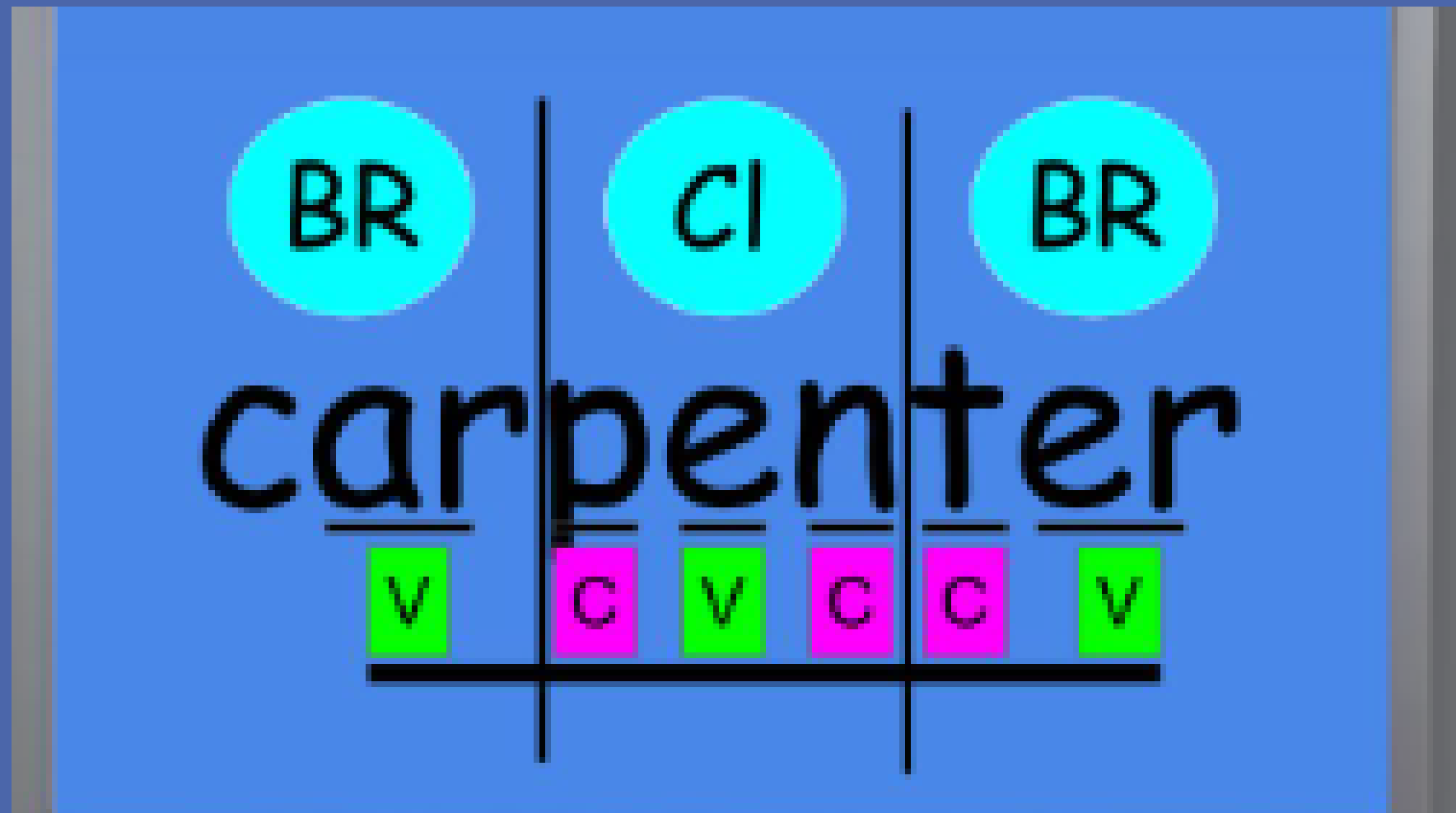


C says /k/ next to a, o, and u.
C says /s/ next to e, i, and y.

G says /g/ next to a, o, and u.
G says /j/ next to e, i, and y.

Gentle Cindy

Strategies for reading multisyllabic words



6 Syllable Types

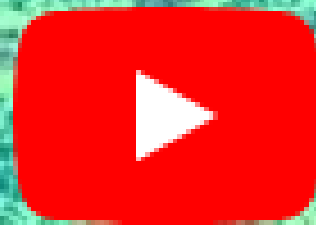
closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ends in a consonantshort vowel sound	cat 
open	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ends with a vowelvowel has long sound	go 
magic e	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ends with a silent elong vowel sound1 consonant between the vowel and silent e	cake 
vowel team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2 vowels making 1 sound	boat 
r controlled	<ul style="list-style-type: none">at least 1 vowel followed by rar, er, ir, or, ur	star 
consonant -le	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ends with a consonant and -le	turtle 

A

May 19, 2024



Copy link



Watch on  YouTube

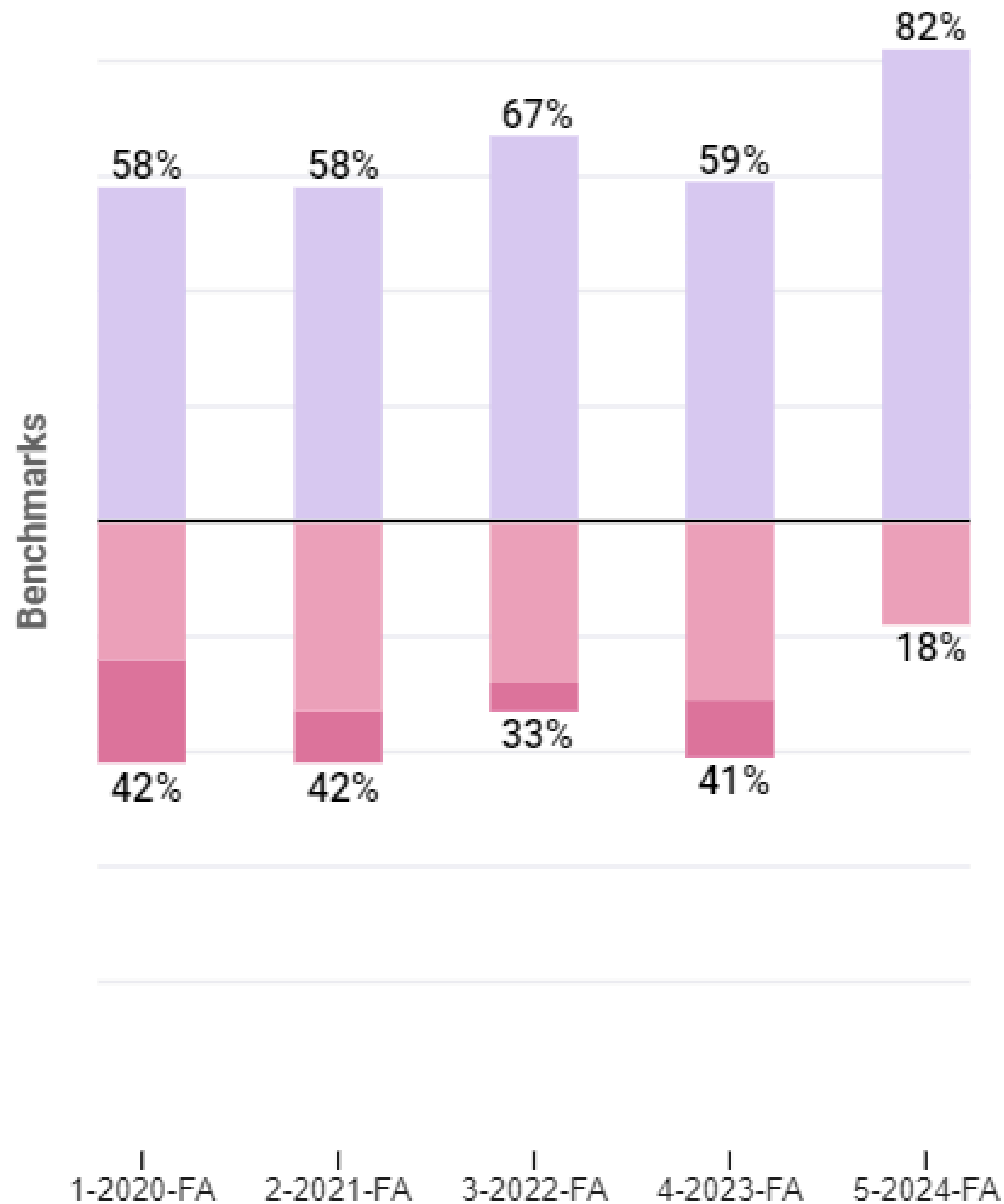
Measuring Success



Students are assessed at the beginning of the program to determine their baseline skills in phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, and comprehension.

These assessments are repeated periodically to measure progress.

Percentage of Grade 1 students meeting and not meeting benchmark from Fall 2020-Fall 2024



This chart indicates:

- The percentage of students meeting reading benchmarks has increased 24%.
- The overall trend shows a positive trajectory in the reading performance of students.

Presentation to the board by the Raymond Central Community Foundation regarding It's More Than A Field Project

Tony Kobza, Laura Tvrdy and Travis Hazard spoke to the Board about the Raymond Central Community Foundation regarding "It's More Than A Field" project. The RC Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization which is supported by members of the Raymond Central communities. Their long-term vision is to have a facility that houses ALL outdoor athletic teams for the Jr-Sr High School. They have raised enough money to get started on the dirt work of phase I with the support of the Board.

Public Forum

Reports

Administrative Reports

Submitted by Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High School Principal

First Weeks: The first weeks of school have been enlightening. There are some great things happening at RCHS. The actions of both students and staff demonstrate an early dedication to the educational process. The students get to class on time and the teachers can offer them a great learning experience because of this. Together we truly can move mountains. It has been great to get to know both the students and staff. It was even more enjoyable to observe how they interacted with each other. This family works well together. Students know their role(s) in this building and the Raymond Central staff is ready to help them achieve and have goals realized. Our work continues to be about kids; first, last, and always. This is one of our operating principles when we meet as a staff. I still feel we are off to a very solid start.

Professional Development: Staff have been encouraged to use the new pieces being shared from the Instructional model. They have also been encouraged to post learning objectives/targets/intentions in their classrooms to provide an education focus. Staff meetings have been conducted using a flipped concept where information is provided for staff to pursue prior to the meeting and then clarified or reinforced during the meeting itself. This maximizes our time together. The ELA teachers are meeting together to work on curriculum and assessments September 11. The intent is to align priorities and further define the educational journey we are providing for our students.

Achievement Scores and Testing: MAP testing will begin the week of September 9. Several grade levels will be offering MAP tests as early as Tuesday, September 10. The staff has been very flexible in preparing to accommodate the assessments. I am appreciative of the staff with experience using MAP in that they can help facilitate the process for others. They have been a great resource for others as we get the process started. We are working on setting goals with the students and using these as targets of improvement as we take the assessments. We will gather excellent data and should be able to understand where our students are performing so we can adjust our instruction accordingly.

Counseling/ACT/Senior Experience/Scholarships (Tasha): Class meetings have started. Seniors are working on applications and registering for Apply to College Day on September 25th. EducationQuest will be present to share updated FAFSA information. Our first college/career/military fair will be that afternoon. We are always looking for local businesses to join us. Please encourage anyone interested, to contact Ms. Osten!

Juniors will attend the SCC Beatrice EPP fair on Sept 17th. They will be able to tour the Beatrice campus and have lunch in the cafeteria. Naviance lessons have started which include career surveys and exploration.

Friday Celebration: We began celebrating our family members several weeks ago. We have been trying various ways to introduce excitement and school spirit back into the operations of our school. We began the practice of playing the National Anthem in the commons on Friday mornings. This is giving us the opportunity to meet with our students and staff and potentially recognize them for things we have deemed worthy. Students are beginning to nominate staff members and each other now. So

far, we have profiled 16 students so far. 7 of them were last Friday. This thing is taking off!

Awards and Recognition (Staff Member of Merit): Courtney Polak (staff nominated), Andrea Hicks (staff and student nominated), Mike Henderson (staff nominated), Shawn Semler (staff nominated), Adison Kenning (student/staff nominated), and Rebecca Parks (student nominated) have been the staff we have celebrated so far. Jared Shanahan, Ron States, and Jeff Elstun were all celebrated on September 6 for all their work to keep our campus safe and sane.

Evaluation Update: We are conducting classroom walk-through observations presently. The administrative team collaborated to design a workable document that we can collect data regarding walk-through observations. To this point, the high school has been using a reflective process and email to communicate information to staff. We then follow up directly with staff members and have critical conversations about what is happening in and sometimes out of the classrooms.

Staffing: Nothing to report other than we have great people working on behalf of our students.

FFA: Helping with multiple projects and are currently working with other CTSOs to get help with the Veteran's Day Program. See the activities report for any additional information.

FBLA: The FBLA year is off to a great start! The national theme this year is "Dare to Dream...Dare to Lead". Our August meeting was on August 20th and we had 35 students attending. We are hoping to add to this as the year goes on. The FBLA Officers will attend the Fall Leadership Conference at Midland University on September 25. They will listen to a keynote speaker and attend sessions led by the Nebraska State Officers.

The officer team has been working hard to organize the Fall Craft Fair and Car Show. This event will be held on October 26 at the High School. We still have spots available for the craft fair. Students are also encouraged to sign up for a booth. We have just started taking registration for the car show. The link to register is listed on the Facebook Event Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/UAlq3Ko5rzQ9L4V/>

Upcoming Events:

September 3 - Stock Market Game Registration Opens

September 3 - Concessions

September 23 - FBLA Meeting

September 21 - 7th Grade VB Tourney

September 25 - Summer Starter Ends

September 26 - Shaping Success Starts

September 25 - Fall Leadership Conference

Click this link to view the Raymond Central FBLA Newsletter: <https://secure.smores.com/n/fkg8e>

School Song: The students and staff have been working on renditions of the school song to potentially update the lyrics and modernize the fight song. We hope to help use this process as we recharge our school spirit.

Tell Our Story! Photos, Fistbumps, and Family is the topic of my Mustang Newsletter this month. The key point here is connectedness. We are being intentional in sharing the things we do as a school and the hope is that we continue to demonstrate that we are all in this together. There is a feeling of togetherness being felt in the halls and classrooms of RCHS. We all need to continue to tell our story how we want it to be told. Our version is the only version that matters because we are creating the narrative. #MustangMentality, #RC_Nation, #Family

Submitted by Tony Kobza, Asst Jr-Sr High School Principal/Athletic Director

Facilities

Basketball hoops and motors were replaced and a new touchscreen has been installed to raise and lower hoops. Shot clocks were also installed and will be ready to go for basketball season.

Stage and wall mats have been replaced and look great!

Water couplings have been installed and we are able to water the practice area in the hopes that

grass will be established and ready to use in the Spring. The heavy rain has caused some havoc on the area and adjustments have been made to help alleviate that in the future.

Athletics

Cross Country, Football, Softball and Volleyball are in full swing. Schedules and results are included in the Mustang Minutes link each week. Upcoming events:

9/20 - Pre Week Pep Rally (Announce Mr. and Ms. Mustang Candidates)

9/23 - Bonfire at 8pm

9/27 - Game Day Pep Rally (Announce Royalty Candidates after the game Friday)

9/28 - Homecoming Dance and Coronation

Senior Nights:

9/24 Softball

10/8 Volleyball

10/24 Football

TBD Cross Country

Pink Out Games:

10/1 Softball

10/3 Cross Country

10/3 Volleyball

10/11 Football

Activities

FBLA: The FBLA year is off to a great start! The national theme this year is "Dare to Dream...Dare to Lead". Our August meeting was on August 20 and we had 35 students attending. We are hoping to add to this as the year goes on. The FBLA Officers will attend the Fall Leadership Conference at Midland University on September 25. They will listen to a keynote speaker and attend sessions led by the Nebraska State Officers.

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<https://www.facebook.com/share/UAl1q3Ko5rzQ9L4V/>

Quiz Bowl: The group continues to grow in size! Quiz Bowl will be competing at a number of tournaments this fall in Seward, Ralston, Central City and more. We are also hosting a tournament on November 16!

One Act: *The Fall of Lafontaine Manor*, auditioned this week and the cast list was released on September 6. We began rehearsals this week and will be working hard with a stellar group of students! In October we have the chance to see two professional productions: *To Kill a Mockingbird* with Crane River Theater Company and *Back to the Future* at the Lied Center.

Art Club: We had over 30 students sign up for Art Club at our initial meeting in August where we introduced our newly elected officers for the year: Kinsley Seufferer-President, Aliviah Ceja-Vice President, Kayla Behn-Secretary, and Alyssa Monnier-Social Media Manager. We discussed our upcoming meetings and requirements/expectations for the club along with the dates for our yearly art competitions. Students are working on creating work for the Scholastic Art Competition coming up in December and prepping for Inktober designs in October. Our next club meeting is after school on September 18 where we will go over possible t-shirt designs for the upcoming school year. Art Club is open to any students in grades 9-12, they do not have to be taking an art class to join.

FFA: So far this year we have had a successful first FFA meeting of the year; had 13 FFA members show at the State Fair; had 12 first year FFA members attend Greenhand day at CCC in

Columbus; 7 current FFA members helped to put on the Parliamentary Procedure workshop that day.

Upcoming events include: preparing to compete in District Land Judging on October 2nd; planning an exciting and educational trip to the National FFA convention-we have 14 students that will be attending plus one alumni, Aleya Cuttlers, that will be receiving their American Degree; and preparing to compete in District Livestock Judging on October 13.

Submitted by Breanne Poston, Asst Jr-Sr High School Principal/Preschool Director

"Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood." - Mr. Fred Rogers

Raymond Central Preschool is exactly four weeks in and full of meaningful play and learning in every way! Our program has grown with major transitions including our new PK 4 teacher, Ariel Broekemeier and returning educator, Megan Kemnitz as the PK 3 teacher. We also have phenomenal paraprofessional staff with Nikki Haas, Robin Wright, Cindra Jensen, and Kristy Sears. Cindra and Kristy were recognized during last Friday's student and staff celebration rally at the JH/HS. Mrs. Ariel deemed them 'Masters of the Preschool Universe' and you may have seen their photo posted on one of the RC social media platforms. The preschool also has amazing outside resources with our ESU2 partnership, which provides valuable support to staff and students. Additionally, we currently have four high school students volunteering time in preschool and hoping to grow that opportunity as their time and presence is greatly appreciated.

As we specifically consider what it means to be a preschooler at Raymond Central, skills focus on daily routines, following classroom expectations, social development, and a lot of quality 'get to know you time' to foster authentic relationships between students and staff. Preschoolers are also beginning to learn basic sign language as it's incorporated into their days. The Pk 4 space has recognizable signs posted around the classroom and also recently sent home a signing language reference sheet for families.

Preschool students are not the only ones learning this year. Our teachers and paraprofessional staff attended their first PEP or Preschool Essential Partnerships meeting at ESU 2 and will continue to meet monthly throughout the school year. This supports NDE's Rule 11 professional development requirements for Early Childhood Education Programs.

Ahead, we are looking forward to our first field trip adventure next month. All preschool classes will visit Martin's Hillside Orchard at the beginning of October and our staff could not be more excited! Stay tuned for adorable pics and RCP updates!

Submitted by Elementary Principals Steve Rose and Deb Kruse

Grade-Alike Meetings: Our teachers met for their first meeting during the days of 8.27-8.29 to discuss and plan together in their grade-alike groups. Teachers looked at data, planned instruction and worked on their pacing guides for English Language Arts. Teachers aligned the Nebraska state standards to formative and summative assessments. These meetings were extremely productive and teachers will meet again this month to continue the work.

Mustang Reading Challenge: One of our district-wide goals is to increase reading proficiency for all of our students. We are starting a new reading program designed to encourage students to read outside of the classroom. Students will be recognized for their hard work. Thanks to Mrs. Roussan and Kim Hudson who helped to get this started.

[Bookmarks](#)
[Program Flyer](#)

Patriots Day Observance: Students and Staff observed Patriots Day on 9.11.24. The students gathered at the flagpole during the morning opening and the 5th Graders read a script explaining the meaning and purpose of the day and a moment of silence was observed.

FastBridge / OG Screeners: Teachers have completed the first round of reading screeners at the elementary schools. The data will be processed and shared with staff to start determining individual student and entire program needs. We use this data to help inform our decisions about what foundations

and skills our students will need to be successful in the classroom.

Fall PTO Fundraiser: Every fall the PTO runs a fundraiser that helps to raise money for the support that the organization gives the teachers and students at our elementary schools throughout the year. The fundraiser kicked off last week and will finish this week. We cannot say enough about the work that our PTO does to provide resources and opportunities for our students, teachers and staff.

Upcoming Dates:

NSCAS Testing 9.9-9.27

Patriots Day 9.11

Submitted by Amanda Coufal, Special Education Coordinator

Assistive Technology Cadre: Last school year, Caitlin Roussan (school psychologist) participated in an assistive technology cadre through the Nebraska Department of Education. This cadre was a year-long class that met once a month for three hours. The class was designed for teachers, special educators, and other specialists who work with students who have assistive technology needs. At the end of the cadre, Caitlin had to create a project that would benefit Raymond Central. Caitlin chose to create an outline for our district to determine if a student needs assistive technology and to what degree. This Fall, she has begun utilizing this outline for our students. Most recently, she was able to determine the barriers a student was having with speech-to-text on Google Docs. She worked with Jaxn Kobza and Breanna Mayfield to unlock a few different chrome extensions.

These extensions were able to help the student with word prediction rather than simple speech-to-text. She also helped secure a loan of an electronic reader pen. This pen allows the student to highlight what they are reading and it reads it back to them in real time through their headphones. Teacher feedback has been positive and this student is able to be more independent with his reading class. Caitlin is hoping to continue to use the knowledge she gained in the assistive technology cadre to help support our students here at Raymond Central.

Adapted PE: We currently have five students who participate in a self-contained adapted PE class taught by Taylor Vasa. Adapted PE is a specially designed, separate class setting that is used for students with disabilities who are not able to participate fully and/or successfully in the general education setting. Adapted PE provides adaptations and modifications to physical education in order to make activities as appropriate for students with verified disabilities as it is for students without disabilities.

Equipment was purchased to allow our students to participate and learn valuable skills while attending PE class. The five students look forward to this time and really enjoy the new activities that they are learning. Some of the items that were purchased are:

- Velcro Dart Board
- Bowling Set
- Dice with Numbers and Colors
- Hula Hoops and Bean Bags
- Ribbon Wands
- Frisbees
- Parachute Toys
- Velcro Balls and Paddles

- Kites

September 2024 AD Board Report
Mr. Tony Kobza
Assistant Principal/AD

AD Newsletter

Here are the links to our weekly newsletter laying out the upcoming events as well as the successes from the previous week. Please take a look at them below with more in depth information:

[7/29/24](#)

[8/11/24](#)

[8/18/24](#)

[8/25/24](#)

[9/1/24](#)

Facilities

Basketball hoops and motors were replaced and a new touchscreen has been installed to raise and lower hoops. Shot clocks were also installed and will be ready to go for basketball season.

Stage and Wall mats have been replaced and look great!

Water couplings have been installed and we are able to water the practice area in the hopes that grass will be established and ready to use in the Spring. The heavy rain has caused some havoc on the area and adjustments have been made to help alleviate that in the future.

Athletics

Cross Country, Football, Softball and Volleyball are in full swing. Schedules and results are included in the Mustang Minutes link each week. Upcoming events:

Homecoming Week:

9/20 - Pre Week Pep Rally (Announce Mr. and Ms. Mustang Candidates)

9/23 - Bonfire at 8pm

9/27 - Game Day Pep Rally (Announce Royalty Candidates after the game Friday)

9/28 - Homecoming Dance and Coronation

Senior Nights:

Softball 9/24

Volleyball 10/8

Football 10/24

Cross Country TBD

Pink Out Games:

Softball 10/1

Cross Country 10/3

Volleyball 10/3

Football 10/11

Activities

FBLA: The FBLA year is off to a great start! The national theme this year is “Dare to Dream...Dare to Lead”. Our August meeting was on August 20th and we had 35 students attending. We are hoping to add to this as the year goes on. The FBLA Officers will attend the Fall Leadership Conference at Midland University on September 25. They will listen to a keynote speaker and attend sessions led by the Nebraska State Officers.

The officer team has been working hard to organize the Fall Craft Fair and Car Show. This event will be held on October 26 at the High School. We still have spots available for the craft fair. Students are also encouraged to sign up for a booth. We have just started taking registration for the car show. The link to register is listed on the Facebook Event Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/UAI1q3Ko5rzQ9L4V/>

Quiz Bowl: The group continues to grow in size! Quiz Bowl will be competing at a number of tournaments this fall in Seward, Ralston, Central City and more. We are also hosting a tournament on November 16th!

The 2024 **One Act**, *The Fall of Lafontaine Manor*, auditioned this week and the cast list is being released on Friday 9/6. We begin rehearsals on Monday and will be working hard with a stellar group of students! On October we have the chance to see two professional productions: *To Kill a Mockingbird* with Crane River Theater Company and *Back to the Future* at the Lied Center.

Art Club:

We had over 30 students sign up for Art Club at our initial meeting in August where we introduced our newly elected officers for the year: Kinsley Seufferer - President, Aliviah Ceja - Vice President, Kayla Behn - Secretary, and Alyssa Monnier - Social Media Manager. We discussed our upcoming meetings and requirements/expectations for the club along with the dates for our yearly art competitions. Students are working on creating work for the Scholastic Art Competition coming up in December and prepping for Inktober designs in October. Our next club meeting is after school on September 18th where we will go over possible t-shirt designs for the upcoming school year. Art Club is open to any students in grades 9-12, they do not have to be taking an art class to join.

FFA:

So far this year:

- Had a successful first FFA meeting of the year.
- Had 13 FFA members show at the State Fair. (results found here)
- Had 12 First year FFA members attend Greenhand day at CCC in Columbus. 7 current FFA members helped to put on the Parliamentary Procedure workshop that day

Upcoming Events

- Preparing to compete in District Land Judging on October 2nd
- Planning an exciting and educational trip to the National FFA convention. We have 14 students that will be attending. Plus 1 alumni, Aleya Cuttlers, that will be receiving their American Degree.
- **Preparing to Competing in District Livestock Judging on October 13**

September 2024 Board Report
Mr. Steve Rose and Mrs. Deb Kruse
Principal | Elementary

Topics

- Grade- Alike Meetings
 - Our teachers met for their first meeting during the days of 8.27-8.29 to discuss and plan together in their grade-alike groups. Teachers looked at data, planned instruction and worked on their pacing guides for English Language Arts. Teachers aligned the Nebraska state standards to formative and summative assessments. These meetings were extremely productive and teachers will meet again this month to continue the work.
- Mustang Reading Challenge
 - One of our district-wide goals is to increase reading proficiency for all of our students. We are starting a new reading program designed to encourage students to read outside of the classroom. Students will be recognized for their hard work. Thanks to Mrs. Roussan and Kim Hudson who helped to get this started.
 - [Bookmarks](#)
 - [Program Flyer](#)
- Patriots Day Observance
 - Students and Staff observed Patriots Day on 9.11.24. The students gathered at the flagpole during the morning opening and the 5th Graders read a script explaining the meaning and purpose of the day and a moment of silence was observed.
- FastBridge / OG Screeners
 - Teachers have completed the first round of reading screeners at the elementary schools. The data will be processed and shared with staff to start determining individual student and entire program needs. We use this data to help inform our decisions about what foundations and skills our students will need to be successful in the classroom.
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Upcoming Dates

- NSCAS Testing 9.9-9.27
- Patriots Day 9.11

Board Report: September 2024

First Weeks: The first weeks of school have been enlightening. There are some great things happening at RCHS. The actions of both students and staff demonstrate an early dedication to the educational process. The students get to class on time and the teachers can offer them a great learning experience because of this. Together we truly can move mountains. It has been great to get to know both the students and staff. It was even more enjoyable to observe how they interacted with each other. This family works well together. Students know their role(s) in this building and the Raymond Central staff is ready to help them achieve and have goals realized. Our work continues to be about kids; first, last, and always. This is one of our operating principles when we meet as a staff. I still feel we are off to a very solid start.

Professional Development: Staff have been encouraged to use the new pieces being shared from the Instructional model. They have also been encouraged to post learning objectives/targets/intentions in their classrooms to provide an education focus. Staff meetings have been conducted using a flipped concept where information is provided for staff to pursue prior to the meeting and then clarified or reinforced during the meeting itself. This maximizes our time together. The ELA teachers are meeting together to work on curriculum and assessments September 11. The intent is to align priorities and further define the educational journey we are providing for our students.

Achievement Scores and Testing:

MAP testing will begin the week of September 9. Several grade levels will be offering MAP tests as early as Tuesday, September 10. The staff has been very flexible in preparing to accommodate the assessments. I am appreciative of the staff with experience using MAP in that they can help facilitate the process for others. They have been a great resource for others as we get the process started. We are working on setting goals with the students and using these as targets of improvement as we take the assessments. We will gather excellent data and should be able to understand where our students are performing so we can adjust our instruction accordingly.

Counseling/ACT/Senior Experience/Scholarships (Tasha): Class meetings have started. Seniors are working on applications and registering for Apply to College Day on September 25th. EducationQuest will be present to share updated FAFSA information. Our first college/career/military fair will be that afternoon. We are always looking for local businesses to join us. Please encourage anyone interested, to contact Ms. Osten! Juniors will attend the SCC Beatrice EPP fair on Sept 17th. They will be able to tour the Beatrice campus and have lunch in the cafeteria. Naviance lessons have started which include career surveys and exploration.

Friday Celebration: We began celebrating our family members several weeks ago. We have been trying various ways to introduce excitement and school spirit back into the operations of our school. We began the practice of playing the National Anthem in the commons on Friday

mornings. This is giving us the opportunity to meet with our students and staff and potentially recognize them for things we have deemed worthy. Students are beginning to nominate staff members and each other now. So far, we have profiled 16 students so far. 7 of them were last Friday. This thing is taking off!

Awards and Recognition (Staff Member of Merit): Courtney Polak (staff nominated), Andrea Hill (staff and student nominated), Mike Henderson (staff nominated), Shawn Semler (staff nominated), Adison Kenning (student/staff nominated), and Rebecca Parks (student nominated) have been the staff we have celebrated so far. Jared Shanahan, Ron States, and Jeff Elstun were all celebrated on September 6 for all their work to keep our campus safe and sane.

Evaluation Update: We are conducting classroom walk-through observations presently. The administrative team collaborated to design a workable document that we can collect data regarding walk-through observations. To this point, the high school has been using a reflective process and email to communicate information to staff. We then follow up directly with staff members and have critical conversations about what is happening in and sometimes out of the classrooms.

Staffing: Nothing to report other than we have great people working on behalf of our students.

Athletics/Activities (Tony): Nothing Additional to report

ROOMS Update (Tony): Nothing additional to report

MTSS Update (Breanne): Nothing additional to report

FFA: Helping with multiple projects and are currently working with other CTSOs to get help with the Veteran's Day Program. See the activities report for any additional information.

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Upcoming Events:

September 3 - Stock Market Game Registration Opens
September 3 - Concessions
September 23- FBLA Meeting
September 21- 7th Grade VB Tourney
September 25 - Summer Starter Ends
September 26 - Shaping Success Starts
September 25 - Fall Leadership Conference

Click this link to view the Raymond Central FBLA Newsletter: <https://secure.smores.com/n/fkg8e>

School Improvement: No immediate updates.

School Song: The students and staff have been working on renditions of the school song to potentially update the lyrics and modernize the fight song. We hope to help use this process as we recharge our school spirit.

Tell Our Story! Photos, Fistbumps, and Family is the topic of my Mustang Newsletter this month. The key point here is connectedness. We are being intentional in sharing the things we do as a school and the hope is that we continue to demonstrate that we are all in this together. There is a feeling of togetherness being felt in the halls and classrooms of RCHS. We all need to continue to tell our story how we want it to be told. Our version is the only version that matters because we are creating the narrative. #MustangMentality, #RC_Nation, #Family

September Board Report
Amanda Coufal
Director of Special Education

Assistive Technology Cadre:

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September 2024 PK Board Report
Breanne Poston
Preschool Director | Asst. Principal 6-12

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Student Board Member

Submitted by Ellerie White, Student Body President

Hello everyone my name is Ellerie White. I am your Student Body President and I'd like to give you some insight into what all the after-school clubs and school activities are doing. Our Art Club which is run by Taylor Craig meets once a month. Their upcoming meeting is September 28th. The meetings consist of fun art projects and crafts. During this time you get to know your peers and grow your art skills. Next is our Spanish Club which is run by Josh Karel. Their next meeting is September 16th. Spanish Club is an innovative way to learn more about other cultures than our own. We get to try foods from different cultures and watch movies as well. Our FBLA club is run by Keely Schafer. Their next meeting is on September 23rd where our students are learning how to be business leaders through leadership experiences. FFA is run by Kathryn Donahue. They recently went to Green Hand Day which was a convention for first-year FFA members. They learned all about what FFA truly is. Our Speech team run by Carolyn Enevoldsen just had their first practice this last Wednesday. Right now everybody's working hard to create their pieces to prepare themselves for the upcoming season. Our One Act is led by Emma Jorgenson and Shannon Chinn. This year it will be a series called The Fall of the Lafontaine Manner. I highly encourage you to come and see it. I think we will have a great year. Our Dance Team led by Aiden Moerer is working really hard every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning to prepare routines for the halftime shows at every home football game. Our Cheer team led by Calli Dennison practices every Tuesday and Thursday morning, practicing new and legal stunts to show off at football games along with the addition of showing our school spirit at home volleyball games this year. Another awesome club that just started was our gaming club. This club is led by a student named Leo Hain who is accompanied by the help of Carolyn Enevoldsen. The first meeting was September 10th. They will be playing many different games including Dungeons and Dragons. Last but certainly not least is our Student Council. At the moment we are working hard to plan our homecoming which is September 28th along with the pep rallies that week. The theme for the Dance is a night in New York City. Not only are our clubs/activities important but so are all of our sports teams. I encourage you all to make your way to at least one sporting event and cheer on your Raymond Central Mustangs. As you all know, activity calendars can be found online. I hope to see you all there. Thank you for your time and support towards RC.

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Superintendent's Report

Enrollment Data - At the end of August our overall student enrollment was 725 students with 50 of those being PK students. We currently have 5 more students optioning out as compared to optioning in (104 vs. 99).

I have been able to get in and visit every classroom. We will finalize our district wide data collecting tool at our Admin Meeting. Our fall test data will be available soon - we will then set district and building academic growth goals with action plans. I have scheduled another listening session for 5:30 before the football game on October 11.

2024-2025 Enrollment

Grade	Preschool	Ceresco	Valparaiso	Middle School	High School
PK-3	14				
PK-4	36				
	50				
K		24	25		
1		18	22		
2		21	32		
3		20	20		
4		24	28		
5		25	22		
		132	149		
6				55	
7				52	
8				48	
				155	
9					58
10					63
11					53
12					65
					239
OVERALL TOTAL					725

PK 0.07
 Ceresco 0.18
 Val 0.21
 MS 0.21
 HS 0.33

RAYMOND CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Option Students In and Out

	2024-25		2023-24		2022-23		2021-22		2020-21		2019-20		2018-19		2017-18		2016-17		2015-16		2014-15	
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out
K	2	11	7	5	7	8	8	7	4	4	6	3	6	7	4	6	4	11	2	7	3	8
1	7	5	7	8	7	8	4	3	5	3	7	7	3	6	3	14	3	6	3	7	3	9
2	6	8	7	8	6	4	4	3	7	7	4	5	3	14	2	7	2	9	3	10	5	5
3	6	7	8	3	5	2	6	8	6	5	3	13	3	7	1	7	4	12	5	5	5	11
4	7	2	6	4	4	9	5	4	2	11	3	5	1	7	4	12	6	4	3	10	4	6
5	6	4	4	8	6	6	3	13	5	5	2	9	3	13	6	3	4	11	5	5	3	4
6	8	8	7	8	2	10	7	5	6	12	9	7	8	4	5	12	5	5	2	5	4	8
7	8	5	3	10	9	6	8	11	11	5	12	8	6	12	5	6	5	5	4	8	9	8
8	4	10	9	4	11	12	15	6	17	6	4	14	6	7	5	5	5	8	9	8	6	11
9	9	6	11	15	12	8	19	6	0	14	6	10	11	9	7	10	10	7	8	13	4	8
10	13	17	12	12	17	10	3	16	10	12	10	13	8	12	14	9	8	13	3	8	9	4
11	11	11	15	9	6	18	12	10	11	12	10	14	11	14	8	13	4	6	10	4	4	10
12	12	10	9	16	11	11	12	11	10	12	9	12	8	13	5	9	10	5	5	9	1	7
Total	99	104	105	110	103	112	106	103	94	108	85	120	77	125	69	113	70	102	62	99	60	99
Difference	-5		-5		-9		3		-14		-35		-48		-44		-32		-37		-39	

	2024-25		2023-24		2022-23		2021-22		2020-21		2019-20		2018-19		2017-18		2016-17		2015-16		2014-15	
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out
Ashland	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	1	2	1	2						
East Butler	14	14	17	10	16	13	14	10	14	6	16	8	12	5	17	3						
Fremont	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0						
LPS	40	37	41	36	43	32	50	25	35	30	26	40	29	40	21	42						
Malcolm	4	30	4	38	1	40	2	37	4	39	3	39	2	38	0	33						
Mead	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	1	0						
Milford	1	0																				
Norris	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
OPS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Seward	2	3	2	4	3	5	1	4	2	5	2	5	1	5	1	5						
Wahoo	15	10	15	11	14	10	12	12	12	9	11	9	9	15	6	11						
Waverly	23	9	25	10	24	11	26	14	22	14	25	15	21	20	22	17						
Total	99	104																				

Classified Staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Melanie Jordan has been hired as Jr-Sr High Cook and Brandi Lile as a Valparaiso Para.

NASB Monthly Update

NASB BOARD QUICKS

A MONTHLY E-UPDATE OF KEY DATES FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

SEPTEMBER
2024

1,900,000 Nebraskans 329,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

To register for an NASB event, click on the 'My Membership' link, then navigate to the 'Events' dropdown and select 'Register'. If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 402-423-4951 for assistance. All Dates & Locations Tentative & Subject to Change

JOIN US!

Events & Networking - <https://members.nasbonline.org/events>

Now Hiring! NASB is hiring a Board Leadership Associate ... visit the About Us page to learn more.



Area Membership Meetings began August 20

North Platte - Gering - Valentine - Kearney - York - Norfolk ✓

September 11 - Nebraska City

September 24 - Omaha

September 25 - Fremont



Labor Relations Conference - October 2-3 - Lincoln

Statewide General Election Day - November 5

Check out our Legislative Candidate Questionnaires at <https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations/candidate-questionnaires-videos>

State Education Conference - November 20-22 - Omaha

2 Pre-Conferences - 58 Breakouts - 3 General Sessions

Registration Opens September 11 ...

Hotel Room Requests Open September 25 ...

Delegate Assembly - November 22



Continued on Page 2



Leadership

Innovation

Vision

Engagement

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

NASB provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at www.NASBonline.org

NASB BOARD QUICKS

SEPTEMBER 2024

A MONTHLY E-UPDATE OF KEY DATES FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

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New Board Member Workshops

- December 2 - Norfolk
- December 3 - Kearney
- December 4 - Gering
- December 5 - North Platte
- December 10 - York
- December 11 - Omaha

YOUR 2024 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

If your business would like to become an Affiliate Member of NASB, please visit: <https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>

Leadership Innovation Vision Engagement #liveNASB #weLIVEhere

NASB provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at www.NASBonline.org



Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

Member Update

September 6, 2024



Photo Credit: Ainsworth Community Schools



NRCSA Calendar

NRCSA Events

NRCSA District Meetings
August to October 2024

South Central

August 28, 2024, 1:00 PM
ESU 11 in Holdrege

Southwest

TBD

Southeast

October 1, 2024 10:00 AM
NCSA Building in Lincoln

Northeast

October 14, 2024, 11:30 AM
Wayne State College

North Central

October 15, 2024 10:30 AM
In Ord

West

October 16, 2024, 12:30 PM
Bridgeport (Prairie Winds Community Center)

NRCSA Legislative Forum

February 20, 2025
Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Spring Conference

March 20 & 21, 2025
Crowne Plaza & Younes North Convention Center in
Kearney

[More about this event](#)

NRCSA Golf Tournament

July 22, 2025
Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney

[More about this event](#)

Committee Meetings

NRCSA Executive Committee

November 20, 2024 9:00 AM
CHI Center in Omaha, Room TBD

NRCSA Scholarship & Recognition Committee

November 20, 2024, 10:00 AM
CHI Center in Omaha, Room TBD

NRCSA/UNO Closing the Achievement Gap Research Team

November 20, 2024, 11:00 AM
CHI Center in Omaha, Room TBD

NRCSA Legislative Committee

November 20, 2024, 1:00 PM
CHI Center in Omaha, Room TBD

NRCSA Rural Teacher Committee

November 20, 2024, 3:00 PM
CHI Center in Omaha, Room TBD



NRCSA Search Service

Please let Jack Moles know where superintendent vacancies occur, so that NRCSA Superintendent Search can make direct contact. We need to hear as soon as possible in anticipation of getting promotional materials specific to that board of education ready. It is critical that Board Presidents have the NRCSA contact information so that if they choose to consider a Superintendent Search Service, NRCSA is one they hopefully will consider.

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

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

Login: member Password: playground

NRCSA has moved to a new office. The new address for NRCSA is:

440 S 13th St, Suite B
Lincoln, NE 68508

NRCSA's annual membership drive is going on now. Notices were sent out in time for your July Board meetings, but members were welcome to pay their dues in the 2024-25 budget year. Annual Dues remain at \$850. Last year we had 221 school districts, ESU's, and State colleges and we expect to continue our annual growth. Thanks to you for being a member. This energizes our representation and advocacy for rural Nebraska, no matter who we are engaged with on education, legislation, or community issues. Without your support, there is less rural advocacy. Whether we like it or not, the outstate and rural population does not create a legislative majority anymore. In fact, rural Nebraska lost another seat in the Unicameral in the most recent redistricting. Finding success, whether passing, amending, or stopping legislation comes from membership, relationships, and focus. Thanks to your membership in NRCSA, rural is at the table and making a difference on behalf of our rural students, schools, and communities.

We do expect to grow in membership this year as we have already been informed that two Boards of Education have already voted to become new members for the 2024-25 school year. We are excited to welcome **OSMOND ESU 1, and Shelby-Rising City** to NRCSA! We are very excited to have you as partners.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH & PLANNING

NRCSA has assisted 4 Boards of Education in choosing their next Superintendent of Schools.

In 2023-24, NRCSA assisted the Boards of Education at Sioux County Sioux County and Raymond Central in identifying their next Superintendent. We also assisted Deshler and Fairbury in identifying Interim Superintendents for next year.

If your district finds a need to locate your next school leader, please be sure to keep the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service in mind. For more information you can contact Executive Director Jack Moles at jmoles@nrcsa.net or by phone at 402-335-7732.

Another service that is offered is a planning service. It is a common practice for Boards of Education and the Superintendent to develop short and long-term plans. NRCSA does provide a quality service using experienced consultants. If you are interested in more information, please contact Executive Director Jack Moles.

NRCSA Leadership

Dr. Heather Nebesniak, President.
Ord Public Schools

Mark Lenihan, Past President.
Wayne Community Schools

Chris Kuncl, Pres-Elect.
Mullen Public Schools

Chris Prosocki, Secretary.
Southern School District # 1

District Representatives:

Eugene Hanks, West
Crawford Public Schools

Dale Hafer, North Central
Ainsworth Community Schools

Daryl Schrunk, Northeast
Randolph Public Schools

Paul Sheffield, Southeast
Exeter-Milligan Public Schools

Jon Davis, South Central
Alma Public Schools

Jane Davis, Southwest
Hershey Public Schools

Executive Director:

Jack Moles

Lobbyists:

Jon Edwards
Scott Moore
Russell Westerhold

Legislative Co- Chairs:

Dr. Jason Dolliver
Pender Public Schools

Bryce Jorgenson
Southern Valley Schools

Scholarship & Recognition Co Chairs:

Tim Heckenlively,
Falls City Public Schools

Jim Widdifield
Minden Public Schools



SYRACUSE-DUNBAR-AVOCA used the NRCSA Planning Service in 2022. NRCSA Consultants Rob Hanger and Fred Helmink assisted the district with its planning.

[NRCSA Search Service Experience](#)

[NRCSA Planning Support Brochure](#)



The Special Session of the Unicameral adjourned on August 20. The special session of the Nebraska Legislature was called by Governor Jim Pillen with the goal of reducing property tax levels. There were three days of bill introductions and a week's worth of bill hearings.

LB 1, introduced by Sen. Linehan, contained the Governor's plan for property tax relief. In part, this bill would have had the effect of the state taking over the funding of public schools. The plan had many issues from many different individual Senators and did not move forward. LB 9, introduced by Sen. Hughes, contained a plan that was more beneficial for NRCSA-member districts. This bill was taken over by the Revenue Committee as the vehicle to move the Governor's plan forward. As amended, it also did not gain traction.

LB 34 ended up being the next vehicle by which the Unicameral's Revenue Committee attempted to move forward with concepts in the Governor's plan. After much debate, the amended LB 34 was again amended. In the end, property tax relief that was originally provided through income tax credits in LB 1107 from a few years ago will now be "front-loaded". In the past these income tax credits for property taxes paid had to be claimed when property owners filed their income taxes. It is estimated that between 40% and 50% of property owners did not file for these credits. With LB 34, property owners will now automatically receive the reductions without having to file for them.

The cost of the new credit is \$750 million in FY25, then increasing 3% every year after that. The state will reimburse school districts for the cost of the new credit. The bill also changes growth in property tax levy authority for cities and counties. LB 2 and 3, referred to the Appropriations Committee, change provisions relating to appropriations and funds to lapse unexpended funds from FY2023-24, reduce General Fund appropriations in the current fiscal year, to provide for transfers of cash funds to the General Fund, and to provide for the crediting of investment earnings from certain cash and revolving funds to the General Fund. LB 2 and LB 3 provide the additional funding for LB 34.

The 2024 regular session of the Unicameral ended in April. Below you will find a link to NRCSA's summary of bills that were passed. A few bills that did not pass are also listed. Bills signed by Governor Pillen become effective three calendar months after adjournment (July 18, 2024), unless the bill has a specific operative date or was adopted with an emergency clause. Bills adopted with an emergency clause take effect the day after being signed. All bills not enacted at the conclusion of this year's session are indefinitely postponed and will not carry over to the next Nebraska Legislature. They may, however, be re-introduced by a Senator as a new bill.

[NRCSA Bill Summaries \(Jack Moles\)](#)

The NRCSA Executive Committee has made a positive move to assist non-traditional educators move toward full teaching certification. As a result of this move, new scholarship opportunities were created for paras who are in a "para to teacher program" and for transitional educators. NRCSA will provide three \$1,000 scholarships for the fall semester and three \$1,000 scholarships for the spring semester for the 2024-25 school year. Applicants for the scholarships must be current employees of a NRCSA-member district or ESU. Applicants must be enrolled for that semester in one of two types of programs: (1) in a recognized "para to teacher" program such as is offered by the three State Colleges (Chadron State, Peru State, or Wayne State), or (2) a transitional program in which a person with a minimum of a bachelor's degree who is employed to teach in a member school while working through a transitional program, such as offered by the University of Nebraska-Kearney. The applicant would currently be teaching under a transitional certificate. Application materials were distributed to member Superintendents and ESU Administrators, who were then asked to share with potential candidates in their buildings. The Fall applications have been received and the NRCSA Scholarship and Recognitions Committee will select the three scholarship winners.

Applications for the Spring semester will go out in October or November.

NRCSA has developed a "resource" document to assist members when they want insight on a particular topic. Often we are contacted and asked if we know of a school that has experience in a topic of interest. Many times we can point them in the right direction, but often we need to put out a request for information to the members. We have developed a list to begin from and already have some contact information on some of the topics. The plan is to feature this list in each of our monthly updates. Below is a link to a copy of this "early" list. If you would be willing to be listed as a resource or if you would like to suggest other topics for inclusion, please contact Jack Moles.

[NRCSA School Programs](#)

Nebraska SMART Free Online Tutoring for K-12 Students



Fall Tutoring

Parents and students are now able to make tutoring appointments with a Nebraska SMART Tutor by logging in to their accounts through the [website](#). Students can request on-demand tutoring by logging in during tutoring hours. Recurrent tutoring appointments can be requested by completing the [Recurrent Appointment Request Form](#).

Students should provide homework for which they wish to receive help. Assignments can be uploaded to the secure classroom, can be messaged to the Tutor in advance, or a picture can be taken of the assignment when connected to the Tutor.

Tutoring began on September 3. Fall 2024 Semester Tutoring Hours are Monday through Thursday 3:30-7:30 PM local time.



We look forward to serving K-12 students across rural Nebraska!

How can school districts help?

Your assistance in communicating with parents in your school district is essential to expand awareness and generate interest in this program. Below are ways that you can help:

- Share about Nebraska SMART in school/district/classroom parent newsletters
- Share about this program during your school/district Open House or Back to School nights
- Like, follow, and/or share Nebraska SMART on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X \(Twitter\)](#)
- Share Nebraska SMART social media posts on your school/district social media pages
- Link [Nebraska SMART](#) as a student resource on your school district websites
- Share about this program with Teachers, Counselors, and other district staff
- Share about this program with Parent/Teacher Associations
- Distribute bookmarks to each K-12 student in your school/district (these will be mailed to school districts at the end of July)
- Hang posters in a visible location (these will be mailed to school districts at the end of July)
- Share with your district technology team the [domain allowlist guide](#).

Please note that we are unable to support Pre-K students at this time; please refrain from distributing promotional materials to Pre-K students.

For more information, visit: www.nscs.edu/nebraskasmart

Questions, comments, or concerns? Email: nebraskasmart@nscs.edu

Connect with Nebraska SMART on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X \(Twitter\)](#)

Thank you for your support in broadening awareness of Nebraska SMART within your school districts! We look forward to serving your students.

The NRCSA Joe Toczek Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, July 23 at Meadowlark Hills in Kearney. Over the past few years we had to turn away golfers due to course limitations. That is something we don't like doing, especially when we have to turn away members. New this year was a format in which there were two foursomes on a hole at the same time. Also new this year was a change in venue for the awards program after the tournament.

Championship Flight

1st Mike Apple, Sara Hento, Coady Pruett, Bobby Truhe

2nd Jason Cafferty, Scott Rezac, Gene Russel, Michael Shively

3rd Dan Bird, Larry Cihal, Byron Copeland, Dave Raymond

First Flight

1st Troy Pritchett, Dallas Sweet, Ryan Terwilliger, Simon Wiedel

2nd Randall Gilson, Darin Hanigan, John Poppert, Paul Sheffield

3rd Brad Best, Curtis Childers, Jake Luhr, Jay Spearman

Second Flight

1st Jared Haag, Mike Hart, Heath Johnson, Linde Walter

2nd Steve Bristol, Jeff Koehler, Mike Little, Mario Mammina

3rd Terry Bauer, Tom Borders, Jason Heldt, Charles Jones

From Jay Martin, NDE Director of School Safety & Security

It is time for a new school year, and I hope you all found time this summer to do something fun and/or relaxing! Below you will find the School Safety Newsletter – Fall Edition. In the first five pages is the quarterly school safety updates and trainings. The **Badge Certification** is underway, and we already have several schools who will be getting their Diamond Badges to show their communities the challenging work they are doing to keep students, staff, and visitors safe and secure. Make sure to sign-in and get your badge today!

Due to many requests the **Digital Parent Academy is now available on our YouTube Channel**. Also, there is a Promo video for parents that can go up on schools Digital Billboards to direct parents to view the 4-part series on being digitally wise with their children. Thanks to those of you who suggested the billboard.

Once you have read the School Safety Newsletter there is **seven different flyers with trainings** that are available this fall. Please use the links to get your staff signed up for these opportunities to aid in keeping others safe.

Lastly, please join us in Kearney on October 17th YCC, South from 8:30 to 4:30 for the **School Safety Summit**. Anyone from our schools is welcome to attend including the first responders in your communities. **School Safety is not just for specific people** it is for everyone, and we will have a great keynote Lisa Hamp, Virginia Tech survivor, several breakouts, and a panel discussion on two emergency situations. Registration will be coming soon this month or the first part of September.

Take care and have a safe school year!

[School Safety Newsletter - Fall 2024](#)

From Marissa Payzant; Assistant Administrator, NDE Office of Teaching, Learning, & Assessment

Dear Nebraska Educators,

Thank you for your continued interest in the Secondary Science of Reading offering from the Nebraska Department of Education. We know Nebraska has driven, passionate educators who strive to continuously improve their effectiveness; this has been demonstrated in your investment in learning about the latest science as it relates to literacy development for all students. So far, there have been almost 300 educators across the state who have engaged in this opportunity and we are working to meet the ongoing demand!

Foundational Literacy has been integral in shifting priorities in the K-5 grades across the state of Nebraska; and we're eager for that research to similarly impact approaches to teaching and learning for middle and high school ELA educators!

Even though the in-person capstone registration is at maximum capacity, the NDE is excited to provide an additional opportunity to register for an **online-only version** of the **Secondary Science of Reading Course**

for this upcoming fall. Educators will have the flexibility of completing the online modules over the course of the entire school year.

Please read all information below prior to registering for this experience.

What is being offered?

- An online course offered by TNTP called “The Science of Reading,” which will focus on secondary grades (grades 6-12).
- o The online course is self-paced and asynchronous with the content broken down into 6 modules. Completion of the online modules is anticipated to take 12-20 hours to complete, however, participants have access to the content for a full calendar year

Who should register for this amazing opportunity?

- This opportunity is available for a variety of educators in the secondary space, specifically:
 - o ELA teachers in grades 6-12
 - o School-based staff and leaders that support ELA instruction at the secondary level
 - o District staff and leaders that support ELA instruction at the secondary level
 - o ESU Staff developers
 - o NDE Staff, especially those who support ELA instruction at the secondary level

Without an in-person capstone pre-scheduled, is the online course still worth taking?

- Absolutely! While the in-person capstone provides opportunities for participants to have additional practice applying the science of reading concepts to their teaching, the content from the course is incredibly valuable.
- Previous participants have indicated increases in their knowledge of foundational literacy and secondary strategies through the pre and post tests administered throughout the course.
- The ability to have a **full school year to engage** in the course provides an opportunity for participants to engage in the learning as a team! This could mean:
 - o Instructional coaches or staff developers taking the course alongside teachers and using the content to inform coaching
 - o Directors, Administrators, and ESU Support Facilitators engaging in the learning to set effective instructional priorities or inform professional development calendars
 - o Utilizing the learning as discussion points for PLCs
 - o Using module content to adjust lesson and unit internalization protocols

How do I enroll?

- There are **160 total spots available** for this opportunity. The online registration is open now (link below).
- The registration window will close on August 29, 2024 OR when the 160 available spaces for the course are filled, whichever occurs first.
 - o When all spaces for the course are filled, registration will close, even if that date is before August 29, 2024. Registration is **first come, first served!**
- The online course will begin on September 5, 2024.

Will there be a stipend or graduate credit for the online course?

- There will not be a stipend or graduate credit available at this time, as that requires the completion of the in-person Capstone. Educators are invited to obtain a certificate of completion that can be used towards professional development requirements set by your districts. Please use the following [link](#) to register for the course. The form should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Additional questions? Please contact nadia.nibbs@tntp.org.

We look forward to your participation in this amazing opportunity and appreciate your commitment to our communities in Nebraska.

We continue to celebrate those who were selected to receive NRCSA awards for their outstanding contributions to rural education in Nebraska. Receiving NRCSA Awards at the Spring Conference were:

- OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY TEACHER: Karma Ridpath (Dorchester)
- OUTSTANDING SECONDARY TEACHER: Tiffany Heins (David City)
- OUTSTANDING MUSIC TEACHER: Robin Ankrom (Falls City)
- OUTSTANDING ESU STAFF MEMBER: Brooke Kavan (ESU 7)
- OUTSTANDING SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER: Kim Fuehrer (East Butler)
- OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL: Jamie Gorwill (Arthur County)
- OUTSTANDING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER: Ken Spray (ESU 9)
- OUTSTANDING SUPERINTENDENT: Tim Heckenlively (Falls City)



KARMA RIDPATH



TIFFANY HEINS



ROBIN ANKROM



BROOKE KAVAN



KIM FUEHRER



JAMIE GORWILL



KEN SPRAY



TIM HECKENLIVELY

UNL Extension Center: Embracing Innovation: Exploring the Dynamics of New Partnerships

Developing business & Industry, organizational, and postsecondary partnerships with school districts can play a pivotal role in enriching the educational experience, supporting student achievement, and strengthening connections between schools and their communities. By leveraging external resources, expertise, and support, schools can create a more inclusive, engaging, and supportive learning environment for all students. While partnerships within school districts can bring numerous benefits, there are also challenges that may be encountered. These can be overcome by fostering a culture of collaboration, prioritizing communication and relationship-building, seeking creative funding solutions, and promoting equity and inclusivity in partnership efforts. Additionally, leveraging support from district leadership, community stakeholders, and external resources can help schools overcome obstacles and maximize the benefits of collaborative partnerships.

We in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), specifically the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR) and Nebraska Extension 4-H, believe this strategy for K-12 partnerships will result in a strong learning innovation network of support for every learner and every educator in the state of Nebraska. The world of higher education is evolving, driven by changes in technology, demographics, workforce demands, and societal expectations. To meet the needs of today's learners in the 21st century and prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow, we are embracing innovation, collaboration, and a student-centered approach.

In recent years, CASNR has created two new positions to help in this work. Dr. Tammy Mittelstet (tmittelstet@unl.edu) is serving as the CASNR Statewide Education and Career Pathways Coordinator and Bailey Feit (bailey.feit@unl.edu) serves as the LPS/CASNR Early College and Career Pathways Coordinator. They engage

in co-creating education and career pathways for students and supporting teachers by:

- creating opportunities and minimizing barriers for all learners in the exploration of education and career pathways,
- investing in and supporting teachers to innovate and integrate cross-curricular concepts of Food, Energy, Water, and Societal Systems (FEWSS) throughout K-12 education,
- encouraging our higher education institutions to share content expertise to build curriculum that will inform best practices in the areas of FEWSS and mentor future systems thinkers for the continuum of learners through our higher education institutions,
- connecting and developing a team of community leaders to build partnerships that combine resources to support student and teacher innovation, and
- building a workforce of tomorrow with the support of the industry of today by developing work-based learning opportunities.

If you would like to get monthly updates, consider signing up for the L.I.N.K.S. newsletter at <https://casnr.unl.edu/k-12-partners>.

Nebraska Extension brings University of Nebraska expertise and research in 8 key areas of impact directly to Nebraskans from all walks of life in each of the state's 93 counties. Nebraskans turn to Nebraska Extension to strengthen their families, inspire their communities, empower young people, conserve and protect natural resources and advance their farms, ranches and businesses. Nebraska 4-H represents one of the eight key areas, and has been a leader in the career and college readiness field by being one of the first in the country to support a statewide educator position and team to provide leadership in program development and delivery.

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

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

NRCSA has had the great privilege to work closely with Open Sky Policy Institute over the years. They provide great information on the fiscal impact of legislation that is very helpful to me in my work as NRCSA's chief lobbyist. I would encourage Superintendents and Board of Education members to sign up to receive Open Sky's email updates.

Open Sky has developed some awesome Nebraska Public School District Profiles instruments. It provides much information that can be used to tell the story of your district in comparison to other districts when discussing school finance. The instruments can be accessed at:

<https://www.openskypolicy.org/schooldistrictprofiles>

The mission of OpenSky Policy Institute is to provide impartial and precise research, analysis, education and leadership on fiscal policy-improving opportunities for all Nebraskans. Subscribe to their email updates at <https://bit.ly/OpenSkyUpdates> <https://bit.ly/OpenSkyUpdates> or contact Todd Henrichs at thenrichs@openskypolicy.org.

At the Membership Meeting during the Spring Conference the Executive Committee presented updated NRCSA Constitution/By-Laws for approval by the membership. According to NRCSA rules, such issues must be shared with the membership prior to the meeting. The updates were approved. Below are links to a working copy with suggested revisions and an adopted copy which was voted on and approved.

[Adopted copy](#)

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

[Why Rural Matters](#)

The National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition (NREAC) partnered with AASA in producing a report on REAP. REAP is a program that benefits many of our smaller districts. The report can be accessed here:

<https://www.aasa.org/docs/default-source/resources/reports/rural-education-achievement-program-survey-report.pdf>

[Understanding REAP](#)

NRCSA is pleased to announce a partnership with New Leaf Teletherapy. New Leaf provides mental health teletherapy services for both staff and students. I became very interested in this possibility especially in terms of staff services. I know our members are working hard to provide services for their students, but there does not appear to be that same capability when looking at staff services.

I look at this service as helping to bolster what your district is already doing, not to take the place of those efforts. I believe this can be a cost effective means of furthering your efforts.

NRCSA recently hosted three introductory Zoom meetings with Mark Goldman and Deb Romano of New Leaf to have them explain what the program would look like. Below you can access the slide show from those meetings, as well as a recording of one of the meetings.

[New Leaf PowerPoint Presentation](#)

[New Leaf Zoom Meeting](#) (recording)



If you would like to be in contact with Mark Goldman or Deb Romano, please feel free to call or email me and I can help make that happen.



[Read the Full Blog](#)

Board of Education meeting visits. Beginning in December, 2019, I started attending Board of Education meetings in member school districts/ESUs. Since then, I have attended 106 such meetings. I most recently attended the Board meeting at Anselmo-Merna on Monday, August 19.

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

- MONDAY, SEPT. 9:** Alma and Southern Valley
- WEDNESDAY, SEPT 11:** Kenesaw and Silver Lake
- MONDAY, OCT. 14:** Fullerton, St. Edward, and Boone Central

I have really enjoyed attending meetings and am willing to attend Board meetings when I can. I take a few minutes to cover NRCSA news and offerings, as well as some legislative news. When I am going to be in a specific area on Board meeting days I may send out a notice to near-by Superintendents to make an offer to visit. I'd like to be able to schedule two or three in the same evening if I can.

If you would be interested in me attending a future Board meeting, please contact me to start the arrangements. I would also be willing to "attend" your Board meetings via Zoom if you preferred. I would still only do one at a time but would be able to do several in the same evening. Let me know and we will try to make the connection.



NRCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JACK MOLES WITH THE ANSELMO-MERNA BOARD OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATORS

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

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

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

Improving Cardiac Response in Schools. Did you know that the odds of surviving a cardiac arrest in rural areas is only about half of that in an urban area? In the aftermath of a cardiac emergency - minutes matter. The Chain of Survival starts with those who are present and requires everyone to do their part. The American Heart Association is committed to building a Nation of Lifesavers to and to helping school districts and other entities develop [Cardiac Emergency Response Plans](#). These plans consider: access to functioning AED's, a strong base of CPR knowledge and training, as well as the identification of a response team and the annual practice of a cardiac emergency. Tim Nikolai, Sr. Rural Health Director at the American Heart Association can help. Please reach out to: Tim.Nikolai@heart.org.

[Learn CPR in 60 Seconds](#)

A note from Mr. Nikolai:

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

There are many ways our organization has worked to collaborate with schools – supporting access to nutritious, affordable food, helping to address the ongoing challenges of vaping/tobacco use, and more. Today, though I'm focusing primarily on our resources to assist with cardiac readiness / cardiac emergency response planning.

*Much of the country was watching – or has followed since – the **collapse of Buffalo Bills' safety, Damar Hamlin, on Monday Night Football**. Fortunately, Damar's story had a happy ending. Our goal is to maximize the opportunity for everyone to have a similar outcome should they experience a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Most organizations will not have the resources that the NFL does to ensure player safety, but there is much that can be done, especially with proper planning.*

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

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

- *Sample Cardiac Emergency Response Guidelines and Plans.*
- *A toolkit to maximize the impact of AED placement and implementation.*
- *Training and awareness tools to help with Hands-Only CPR knowledge for staff and students.*

- *A revamped, training site search feature, for coaches, nurses, and others who need CPR certification.*
- *In some cases, we may have – or be able to help secure – financial resources to help schools with purchasing/maintaining AEDs, CPR mannequins, etc. Hearing the scope of that need can help us secure additional resources, so please let us know!*

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

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

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

[American Heart Association Service Summary](#)

Farm to School Network Takes Root in Nebraska

The Nebraska Department of Education, Center for Rural Affairs, Nebraska Extension, Buy Fresh Buy Local, and No More Empty Pots are pleased to announce the establishment of the Farm to School Network in Nebraska. The network aims to increase access to fresh and nutritious foods in Nebraska schools and strengthen connections between local farmers, educators, and communities.

To build this network, a Network Development Committee and Advisory Committee will lead the process and guide stakeholders to create a strategic, collective action plan that will move farm to school forward in Nebraska. The Network Committees are made up of representatives from key organizations and institutions across the state and are focused on breaking down barriers standing in the way of implementing farm to school initiatives.

The Network Committees will begin the network building process with mapping community assets, phase one of the Nebraska Farm to School Network Timeline. Through this phase, they will collect information on existing farm to school activities in the state and establish a vision for the network.

All stakeholders interested in building a stronger and healthier food system in Nebraska may participate in upcoming virtual and in-person listening sessions. These listening sessions will take place from October 10th to 18th and provide a platform for sharing information about current farm to school activities and discussing the future vision for the network.

“Pillars to farm to school success in a state include partnerships, policies, and supportive programming. A network will support development of these initiatives,” said Sarah Smith, Nebraska Department of Education Farm to School Specialist and Project Director.

To register for the listening sessions or to learn more about the Nebraska Farm to School Network, please visit the [Network's webpage](#).

Southern Superintendent Chris Prosocki has shared a sample Superintendent Checklist that he uses. I thought this was a great instrument, one that I wished I had available to me when I was in the Superintendency. It can be especially helpful as you head into the new school year! Thanks to Chris for sharing this! You can access the updated checklist here:

[Superintendent Check List](#)

The ESUCC and ESU 3 have shared a document which outlines all of the trainings and mandates that are required of districts. The document, “School District Plans, Policies, and Annual Trainings Requirements”, is a handy reminder for districts. Thanks to ESUCC Executive Director Kraig Lofquist and ESU 3 Administrator Dan Schnoes for developing and distributing this handy tool. The document may be accessed here:

[School District Plans, Policies, & Annual Trainings](#)

We urge you to consider participation in the NRCSA Partner OneCard program as a tool for you in managing school expenditures, both large and small. Certainly, the card can help reduce/eliminate any issues relative to unverified cash expenditures. You decide who uses it, can get cards for each of those users, keep all cards wherever you wish, determine the amount to load on each individual card, and how long the time frame of use is. It is a terrific management tool and clearly identifies each expenditure/name/date/amount. Whether small purchases or very large purchases, the card is a terrific tool. NRCSA owns the state contract, so liability for misuse falls to NRCSA, not the district user. We have only had three circumstances of fraud and all three have been the theft of the card number information, not any district employee misuse. For 2023-24, 98 districts/ESUs participated in the program. We have received interest from several districts already this year, so we believe we will end up with over 100 entities using the program. Great job by all participating districts in protecting the card and program! Don't forget, the NRCSA rebate from the transaction fee paid by businesses that choose to accept plastic is used for scholarship, awards, and special needs. For 2023-24, the rebate was over \$30,000 to NRCSA, showing that use is increasing, and large purchases are being included. WIN, WIN, WIN! If you are considering joining the program and need more information, please contact Jack Moles (jmoles@nrca.net) or Jeff Bundy (jbundy@nrca.net).



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

Book your School's Presentation

Parent Meetings or Special Events

THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION-BASED ATHLETICS

PRESENTED BY DARIN BOYSEN, NCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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



Before the Season

What do Athletes/Kids Really Want?

Releasing Your Son/Daughter to the Experience

Parental Red Flags



During the Game/Event

Modeling Appropriate Behavior

Big Picture

One Instructional Voice



After the Game/Event

Time & Space

Confidence Building

Relationship Building

Six Powerful Words

NEBRASKA COACHES ASSOCIATION

500 Charleston St, Ste 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

402-310-5472 | darin@ncacoach.org

Official Association Endorsements as of September 1



Nebraska School Administrators & School Board Members,

The Nebraska Coaches Association (NCA) is excited to announce a partnership with Proactive Coaching to bring Coach Bruce Brown's legendary insights about "**The Role of Parents in Education-Based Athletics**" to your school and community. Please see the attached flyer for highlights/focus of the in-person presentation.

NCA Executive Director, Darin Boysen, will begin travel across Nebraska multiple times throughout the 2024-2025 school year to deliver this powerful and passionate message. The NCA, Proactive Coaching and Darin are partnering to bring this message to your school at a **50% discounted rate from the standard Proactive Coaching in-person booking fee.**

Presentation Details:

45-Minute Parent Presentation with One School or Combined Schools

- Single school presentations are recommended but not required
- One presentation = one fee (no additional fee for schools merging)

Audio/Visual Requirements from the Host School:

- Overhead Projector with HDMI Connection
- Screen or Scoreboard Display
- Microphone

Cost – Payable the Day of Presentation:

- Within 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
 - \$750 flat rate
- Beyond 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
 - \$750 flat rate
 - 50 Cents per mile Round-Trip -OR- Cost of a Rental Vehicle/Gas
 - In some cases, a rental car may be cheaper for longer distances
 - Hotel Expense – if needed
- ***Please Note:*** Working together with other area schools to book separately on consecutive days of the week can greatly save travel and lodging expenses

The following booklets authored by Bruce Brown will be available for purchase for \$5 each (15% discount) after the presentation or ordered by the school in advance:

- *The Role of Parents in Athletics*
- *Playing with Confidence*
- *Life Lessons for Athletes*

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the presentation or booking a date.
All the best,

Darin Boysen

Darin Boysen
Nebraska Coaches Association

Official Association Endorsements – as of September 1





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

September 2024:

* Josh O'Neill, a 2006 graduate of Hershey, was part of the silver-medal winning Team USA in Wheelchair Rugby at the Paris ParaOlympics.



* Jordan Larson, a graduate of Logan View, was part of the United States' silver-medal winning Women's Volleyball team at the Paris Olympics.



The National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium (of which NRCSA is a member) continues to represent rural education on the Federal level. NREAC is an extension of the National Rural Education Association. NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles and NRCSA Legislative Committee Co-Chair Bryce Jorgenson (Supt. at Southern Valley) attended the NREAC Federal Legislative Summit in Washington DC on April 28-30.



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



NRCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JACK MOLES AND NEBRASKA CONGRESSMAN ADRIAN SMITH

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

- Copies of NREA’s publication, “Why Rural Matters” was presented to each of the offices.
- Full funding of IDEA was stressed. This would bring about \$171 million more to Nebraska public schools in support of Special Education services.
- Passage of the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2023. This would bring about \$180,000 to school districts surrounded by tax-exempt public lands.

A brief description of the six NREAC legislative priorities are as follows:

- 1) **EDUCATION FUNDING:** NREAC seeks preservation of critical federal funding for rural schools.
- 2) **REAP FUNDING:** NREAC urges Congress to increase funding to Title V, Part B of ESSA, the Rural Education Achievement Program, with a specific increase to the Rural Low-Income School Program.
- 3) **INFRASTRUCTURE:** NREAC supports efforts to ensure any infrastructure proposal in Congress must include funding for modernizing or maintaining rural school facilities.
- 4) **FOOD AND NUTRITION:** NREAC supports any effort to streamline processes and reduce the administrative burdens related to school meal programs.
- 5) **SCHOOL SAFETY:** NREAC supports flexible federal formula funding streams that channel resources to rural school districts for school safety that recognizes the geographic and economic challenges in rural communities.
- 6) **BROADBAND AND CONNECTIVITY:** NREAC believes access to high-speed internet is critical for providing equitable access to learning for students in rural schools. As such, NREAC strongly supports maintaining E-Rate as an element of the Universal Service Fund in its current funding structure.

[NREAC Legislative Agenda](#)

Two years ago, NRCSA began a Principal Search Service. This service is patterned after our successful Superintendent Search Service. Two options are available. Both options will involve NRCSA consultants recruiting candidates for the position. One option will involve the NRCSA consultant making background calls, while the reduced version of the service will place that role with the Superintendent. If you are interested in getting more information about the service now, please contact Jack. Here is a brochure outlining the service.

[NRCSA Principal Search Brochure](#)

An outstanding opportunity is available for rural districts or ESUs to “grow their own” School Psychologist. I highly encourage someone in your school or ESU to apply for admission to the

Prairie Nebraska Project through UNL.

With generous funding from the Behavioral Health and Education Center of Nebraska, the University of Nebraska Lincoln's School Psychology program is recruiting 10 rural Nebraska residents to complete an Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology. The Prairie Nebraska project uses synchronous and asynchronous online instruction to deliver a program of study that is highly accessible for rural Nebraska residents. Students will be able to complete the training in their own community without having to relocate to Lincoln. Prairie Nebraska funds will pay for the trainees' tuition and fees. Upon successful completion of the program, Prairie Nebraska trainees will qualify for an endorsement towards a Nebraska Department of Education certificate in School Psychology.

Successful applicants to the Prairie Nebraska program will:

- Live and work in any Nebraska county excluding Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Washington, or Cass Counties.
- Have a recommendation from an ESU or school administrator with a commitment by the school/ESU to provide the experiences and supervision that trainees will need to complete the program.
- Apply to and be accepted into the University of Nebraska Lincoln Educational Specialist program in School Psychology.

Due to restrictions associated with the ARPA funds, all project-funded activities must be completed by December 2025. Consequently, we will be recruiting very quickly – with review of applicants beginning on April 1, 2023 and continuing until the program is filled. Coursework and supervised practica will be tightly scheduled and offered one course at a time. Formal, synchronous courses and meetings will be scheduled outside of typical work hours (e.g., 5 PM or later) and will emphasize projects, assignments, and activities that have practical utility to prepare students for day-to-day practice as School Psychologists.

Interested applicants should email Beth Doll, bdoll2@unl.edu and include their:

- Name, email, and phone number
- Mailing address, including county of residence
- The school district or Educational Service Unit that is likely to provide their recommendation and commitment for supervised experiences

New Collaboration Seeks to Address Principal Shortage and Strengthen Professional Development

A new collaboration designed to address the shortage of future principals and strengthen professional development of current school leaders is underway. The project, entitled, Growth-Oriented Leadership Development (GOLD) is being coordinated by members of the UNL Department of Educational Administration, in partnership with NRCSA, NCSA, ESUs, and NDE.

“We’re seeking federal funds to develop current and future principals from within—a grow your own model, said Nick Pace, chair of the UNL Educational Administration Department. Over the next several months, Pace says a team led by professors Jianguang Xia and Scott Sturgeon will be inviting districts to join the effort. The team is inviting approximately 60 schools to participate, with half receiving focused training while the other half continues its current efforts without the training. Districts not initially selected for the training group would be first in line for the next round of the program, if funded.

Districts interested in participating should watch for information through NRCSA updates, ESU superintendent meetings, or by contacting Pace, Xia, or Sturgeon.

Nick.Pace@unl.edu, Jxia@unl.edu, ssurgeon2@unl.edu

NRCSA developed a corporate sponsorship/partnership program. The program is designed to provide our corporate partners with more opportunities for contact with the decision makers in our member school districts, ESUs, and the colleges through increased exposure. Corporate partners are able to choose among three levels of sponsorship: Purple Ribbon Partners, Blue Ribbon Friends, and Red Ribbon Sponsors. Different forms of contact with our members are made available in each of the three levels.

All of NRCSA's corporate exhibited at the NRCSA Spring Conference.



Purple Ribbon Partners



Apptegy

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



DA Davidson

Paul Grieger
450 Regency Parkway, Suite 400
Omaha, NE 68114
Phone: (402) 392-7986
pgrieger@dadco.com



Cheever Construction

Doug Klute
3425 N 44th St
Lincoln, NE 68504
Phone: (402) 477-6745
dklute@cheeverconstruction.com



DLR Group

Emily O'keeffe
6457 Frances St, Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68106
Phone: (402) 393-4100
eokeeffe@dlrgroup.com



CMBA Architects

Troy Keilig
208 N Pine ST, Ste 301
Grand Island, NE 68801
Phone: (308) 384-4444
keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com



Facility Advocates

Dave Raymond
3738 S 149th St, Suite 102
Omaha, NE 68144
Phone: (402) 206-8777
draymond@facilityadvocates.com



Cornhusker International Trucks

Russ Folts
3131 Cornhusker Hwy
Lincoln, NE 68504
Phone: (402) 304-4016
russ.folts@cornhuskerinternational.com



MCL Construction

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



Purple Ribbon Partners



Network For Educator Effectiveness (NEE)

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



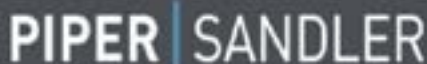
Tremco Roofing

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



Voss Lighting

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



Piper Sandler & Co

Jay Spearman
11422 Miracle Hills Dr, Suite 408
Omaha, NE 68154
Phone: (402) 599-0307
jay.spearman@psc.com



Wilkins Architecture, Design, Planning

Jacob Sertich
2908 W 39th St, Suite A
Kearney, NE 68845
Phone: (308) 237-5787
jsertich@wilkinsadp.com



RMV Construction

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



Trane Technologies

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



Blue Ribbon Supporters



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska



Clark Enersen Partners



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First National Capital Markets



Hausmann Construction



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Rasmussen Mechanical Services



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US Bank



Red Ribbon Friends



BD Construction



Boyd Jones Construction



BVH Architects



On to College



Sampson Construction



Student Assurance Services



Tarkett

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Chambers Public Schools



Mascot: Coyotes

Enrollment: 118

Location(s): Chambers, NE

Interesting Fact: Chambers has two Nebraska High School Hall of Fame inductees, John Miller and Darcy Stracke. Coach Miller has seven state championships and more than 700 victories between football, girls and boys basketball. Darcy Stracke led Chambers to three consecutive state basketball titles during her tenure at Chambers amassing 2,752 career points.

Superintendent / Principal: **Frank Jesse**



Board of Education: (Left to Right) **Terry Kamphaus** (President), **Monte Metschke** (Treasurer), **Jamie Tomjack**, **Brady Dexter**, **Mark Dexter** (Vice-president), **Amy Scott** (Secretary)

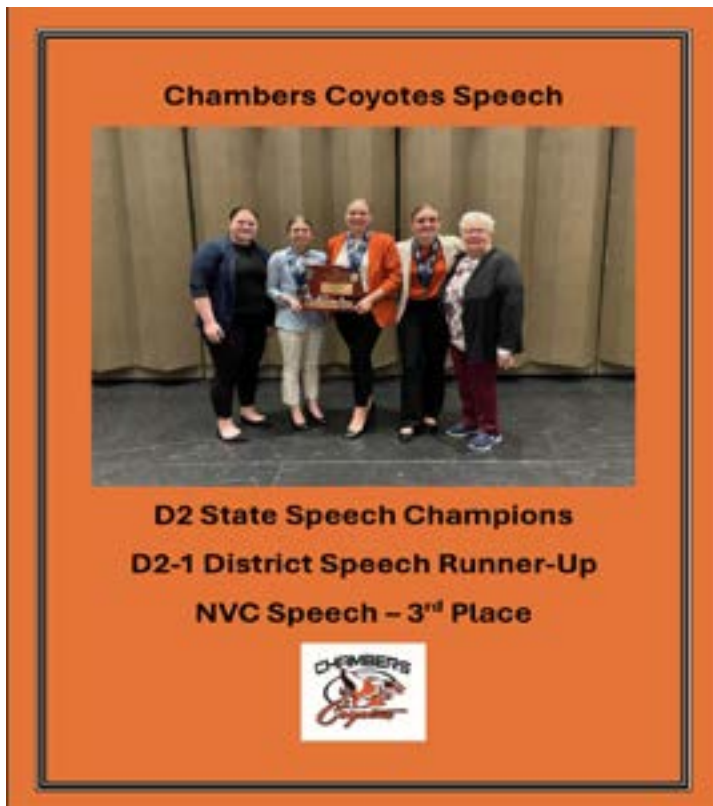


Programs

Program 1. Chambers FFA Program. The FFA program is not new to Chambers but we have had a revolving door for advisors until welcoming Mrs. Rylee Dexter. We have seen the number of students enrolled in the program and classes swell and under her leadership we have a State FFA officer.



Program 2. Speech program. Under the leadership of Nancy Woeppel, Chambers won the D-2 Class State Championship in 2024 with only four students on the speech team. The program also earned Class D-2 State Runner-up banners in 2021 and 2023.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

St Edward Public Schools



Mascots: Beavers & Panthers

Enrollment: 172

Locations: St Edward, NE

Interesting Fact: We have formed a cooperative for most of our NSAA activities with Newman Grove Public Schools. This is our first year with high school activities and our second year with junior high activities. Our “fair and equal” approach and putting the student first at all times has developed the cooperative into a program both districts are proud to be PANTHERS!



Superintendent / Elementary Principal: **Stephen Osborn**

Secondary Principal: **Lindsay Tenski**



Board of Education(L to R): **Sherri Cruise, Lindsey Christman, David Roberts, David Merrell, Dan Reardon, Vanessa Cumming**



Programs:

Program 1. Beaver Bucks

Our Beaver Buck program began in the 6th grade to encourage positive behaviors. It is now embraced throughout the elementary the staff believed all students could benefit from the incentive-based program. Students are awarded “Beaver Bucks” as a reward for positive behavior, whether it is reinforcement for expected behaviors or for students who go above and beyond. Each classroom teacher uses the Beaver Bucks in their rooms as they believe is necessary and appropriate. For example, some teachers let the students collect their Beaver Bucks and then periodically shop at a “store” full of goodies provided by the teacher. Other teachers use them to award students’ special privileges such as using a special pen or sitting in a special seat. At the end of the quarter, the students and staff gather in the gym for a Beaver Buck Rally where awards are given to recognize the good behaviors or achievements of students. During the celebration, we draw from the entire collection of Beaver Bucks and award prizes to a few students. This program has encouraged the students to be the best versions of themselves while attending St. Edward Schools.



Beaver Bucks – 6th Grade Teacher Amanda Redler empties the bag of Beaver Bucks during one of the the Beaver Bucks Celebrations

Program 2. Drop Everything And Read (DEAR Time)

DEAR or Drop Everything And Read is a PBS program that was adapted to fit our school. Every week on Tuesday and Thursday our students can see a giant dog in the hallway that signals that DEAR time will take place. This reminds them to take their book to class. On that day during the last twenty minutes of the chosen period an announcement comes over the intercom to Drop Everything And Read. Throughout the high school you will find teachers and students alike reading. DEAR rotates through class periods each week (The first week first period, the second week second period etc.) Originally it was to be an hour block of reading each week, but an hour can be a long time for struggling readers, so we tailored it to our students by making it into two twenty-minute blocks each week.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Louisville Public Schools



Mascot: Lions

Enrollment: 693 students

Locations: Louisville, NE

Superintendent: Kolin Haecker

Principals: Cameron Soester, 7-12; Katie Behounek, PK-6

Board of Education: (Front Row Left to Right) Sara Quam; Jackie Heard; Ashley Christiansen
(Back Row Left to Right) Kolin Haecker, Superintendent; Dan Witte; Micah Kohles; Andy Mixan



Programs

Dance and Cheer

Through the years the Louisville High School Dance and Cheer teams have caught the eyes of many. Between early morning and late night practices, the girls of LHS have put in nonstop time, effort, and dedication to the programs. The Louisville High School Dance Team is coached by Maddie Bastian. They are 5x State Champions in Class C2. As the dance team continues to put in the work for another championship, the cheerleaders are right alongside them. The Louisville Cheer Team is led by Melissa Schmitt. They are also 5x State Champions in Class C2. Both teams have put in a recognizable amount of dedication and have gained many well-deserved supporters along the way.



SkillsUSA

Louisville's SkillsUSA program has had great success throughout the years, consistently going to State and National competitions every year. They've placed in competitions such as carpentry, T-shirt design, promotional bulletin board, community service, SkillsUSA Week, heavy equipment operator, diesel & off road service, web design, technical team problem solving, and team engineering challenge. Many of the competitions and conferences require students to be at the school very early in the morning in order to make it to places such as Grand Island and Wayne State College, where they earned the Model of Excellence Award for the past two years. SkillsUSA is not only a school activity, but a class that students can take part in. In this class, they get key opportunities to do things such as listening to speakers about fields and jobs they're interested in, build a resume, have mock job interviews, and be chairs that help run and put together different parts of their SkillsUSA chapter like their annual volunteering project.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Riverside Public Schools



Mascot: Chargers

Enrollment: 250 students

Locations: Cedar Rapids & Spalding, NE

Interesting Fact: Riverside Public Schools was created on August 1, 2014, as a result of the merger of the Cedar Rapids and Spalding Public School Districts. Our district encompasses the communities of Spalding, Primrose, Cedar Rapids, and parts of Belgrade—approximately 273 sq. miles. Riverside is led by a 9-member Board of Education. Both Spalding and Cedar Rapids house PK-5 students, Spalding site is also host to all 6-7-8 grades, while the district’s 9-12 students attend at Cedar Rapids. Many of our graduates leave with 12-24 college credit hours with dual credit class offerings.

Superintendent: **Stephanie Kaczor**

Principals: **Tricia Martinsen & Melissa Weltruski**

Board of Education: **Terry Glesinger, Jim Molt, Karen Penne, Dan Ray, Kallen Ryan, Ryan Robinson, Chris Slevin, Brian Swerczek, Christy Yosten**



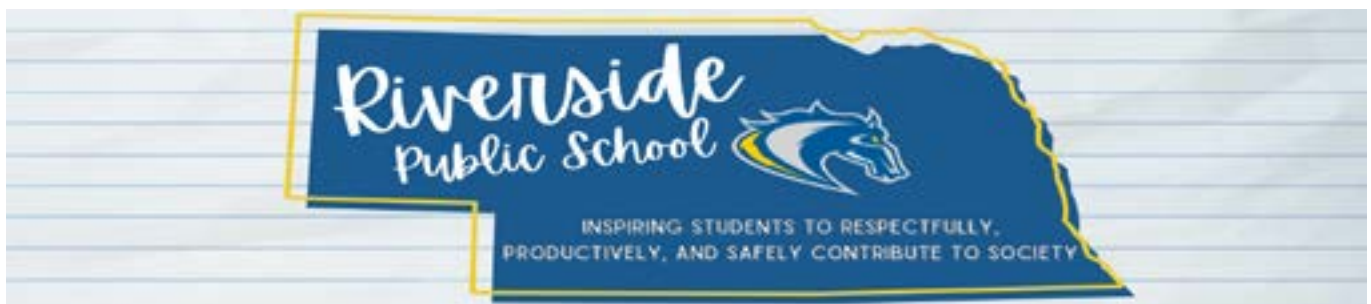
Programs

We are unique and successful because of the many programs we provide that allow students to interact with community members to build positive community connections and relations. Below are four various examples.

- Taking Charge is a class for juniors or seniors. It is designed for students to enhance their communication skills and to give back to the Riverside communities through volunteer work and service learning projects requested by patrons throughout our communities. These projects range from yard work and housework items to painting and landscaping projects.
- The entrepreneurship class offers small business opportunities for our students and community. The entrepreneurship class is designed to help inspire students to become small business owners and know the importance of creating opportunities for small businesses. They design and run a small coffee business throughout the year and then sell their final product to staff and students. Specific events each year, like the Community Farmers Market and occasionally selling coffee to the public, help students know the importance of building community and creating opportunities for other small businesses. Proceeds go to our senior scholarship program.
- Our FBLA program also promotes philanthropy in our communities each year whether it be volunteering time or raising money to distribute necessities to local families. They go on tours of local businesses and promote buying local.
- Our Middle School Student Council works with our Senior Center to deliver meals throughout the community to those shut in or unable to travel to the Senior Center for their meals. This provides the opportunity for our middle school members to interact and provide assistance to community members in need.

Grow Your Own

Another unique and successful part of Riverside is....all three of our administrators are homegrown! Our Principal at the Spalding site came to our district as a first-year social science teacher and coach in 2010, to district-wide technology coordinator for 9 years, and she is now our elementary and middle school principal. Our Cedar site principal is a graduate of our district and has occupied various roles in our district since the 1996 school year. She started as a paraprofessional, and moved from classroom teacher, coach, and Title I Instructor, to now elementary and high school principal. Our Superintendent came to our district in 2005 as an elementary teacher, athletic director, and coach. She transitioned to the principal role and then to Superintendent of Riverside.



I would encourage districts to consider participating in the Academic Decathlon competition.

Academic Decathlon is an activity that is dependent on students of different ability levels. A team is made up of students who are in the Honors (A average), Scholastic (B average), and Varsity (C average) levels. Students may move up, but they may not move down. The combined scores of the students in all 10 competition events are counted, thus each team member is very important. There is a defined course of study in each subject area each year. Subject areas are commonly Math, Language & Literature, Science, Social Science, Economics, Art, and Music which are covered in the Regional competition each year. At the State Competition, Speech, Interview, and Essay are added. There is a “theme” each year that many of the subject areas cover. The theme for 2022-23 was the American Revolution. The theme for 2023-24 will be “Technology and Humanity”. Regional competition takes place in January and State competition takes place in February. The school can decide how to prepare for the competitions. Some schools have teams that have practices in the evenings or after school. Some simply provide the students with materials to study prior to competitions. Other schools offer a class to prepare.

Quiz Bowls are wonderful and fun activities, but they do not have a defined course of study like the Academic Decathlon. I find the Decathlon to be the best academic competition that I have experienced. To me, it is based on true study and learning.

This year as I worked the State Academic Decathlon Championships, I had an opportunity to connect with great kids from NRCSA-member districts Adams Central, Johnson County Central, and Lexington.

On a personal note, three of my four kids participated in Academic Decathlon through high school and between them they won thousands of dollars in scholarships as they were on teams that had success. I currently serve on the Nebraska Academic Decathlon Board of Directors. I have been very involved with this activity for many years and highly encourage you to consider adding it to your school. A new school can have its enrollment fee waived the first year and may receive free study materials.

If you have any questions or have a staff member who is interested, please feel free to contact me. You could also contact the State Director, Vicki Deniston-Reed at dcthl.n.denistonreed@gmail.com.



ADAMS CENTRAL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM



JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM



LEXINGTON ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

UNL Tuition Discount & GOLD Grant.

We have a new tuition discount program aimed at better serving folks from rural districts who are seeking school leadership degrees (MEd – principalship, EdD – superintendency) or endorsements. The program provides a 15% tuition discount for educators who

serve in NRCSA member districts or are in an area classified by NCES as rural or town. We think this is a small but important step toward helping rural schools be intentional about growing their own leaders. If interested, please contact Dr. Nick Pace at nick.pace@unl.edu

[Big Red Leader Website](#)

[Big Red Leadership Flyer](#)

In addition, invite your participation in a federal grant application aimed at helping Nebraska school districts. Led by the UNL Department of Educational Administration, the *Growth-Oriented Leadership Development (GOLD) Project* is a collaboration across NCSA, NRCSA, ESUCC, and NDE. Goals include:

- Developing current and future leaders in a grow-your-own model
- Strengthening School Leadership
- Improving Principal and Teacher Retention

GOLD Highlights:

- A focus on local, building/district level context, not a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach
- Research-based content aligned with Marzano's Balanced Leadership and other recent work
- Use of existing professional development structures led by credible leaders and coaches
- No additional costs or duties to ESUs or districts

GOLD Includes:

- Regular, large group professional development for the principal and 2-3 teacher leaders per building
- Small group coaching and facilitation provided by grant-funded coaches
- Application of material presented in sessions to local school improvement priorities and integration with the new NDE Nebraska Teacher and Principal Professional Standards (NTPPS)
- A stipend to participating schools to support implementation of GOLD dimensions and materials

To Learn More:

<https://cehs.unl.edu/edad/gold-project/>

Chadron State College Special Education Para-to-Teacher Program Initiative.

Purpose: This “Grow Your Own” Special Education Teacher program is designed to provide school districts with the opportunity to cultivate and participate in the training of their para-professionals who wish to continue their education to become special education teachers.

Who: Any individual who holds a minimum of an Associate's Degree (or equivalent credit hours) from an accredited higher education institution, and who is employed as a para-professional within a school district. **What:** Chadron State will provide required course work and enrichment activities via online, face-to-face (via Zoom), and on the job experiential learning, leading to a Bachelor's in Education Degree, and a Nebraska Teaching Certificate with an endorsement in Special Education (grades PK-12). With administrator input, program course work will be tailored to best fit your district practices and expectations. Each course will be offered in an 8-week format, with 12-13 credit hours to be completed each 16 week semester.

How: Program participants will be advised, monitored, and supported by CSC faculty/staff, and a CSC Education Program liaison is specifically assigned to facilitate their progress. District para-professionals may enter the program at any time in the academic year.

When: once participants reach their senior academic year they will embark on completing their capstone course work, via online and Zoom class sessions. This course work has been pared down considerably with the understanding and assumption that these student teachers will be learning “on-the-job”. For example, one section covers classroom management practices. Clearly, one can argue and attest that these student teacher interns are learning more about managing a classroom from being mentored by veteran teachers within your school, and observing them in action. This is the belief and learning approach embraced during this senior year. However, to ensure and assess concept learning, Chadron State faculty will be meeting with your student teacher cohort twice per week for 1.5 hours, via Zoom conferencing technology.

Graduation: At the completion of this program students/candidates graduate from Chadron State College, and apply for teaching licensure resulting in a valid initial teaching certificate with and endorsement in PK-12 Special Education. Chadron State's education program is nationally and State accredited. As such, interstate certification reciprocity is not a problem.

Things for your consideration:

- 1) To qualify for this program participants must hold at least an Associate's Degree or the equivalent in college credit hours. (CSC will work with those applicants to provide them with the needed coursework leading up to program entry).
- 2) Districts must agree to maintain para-professional employment throughout the course of the program—including during the student teaching experience.

Please contact Dr. Adam Fette for more program information, at afette@csc.edu.

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

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

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

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

We are very excited to enter a partnership with schools and communities of SE Nebraska to promote mental health and well-being. We are aware of the mental health counseling disparities that exist in Nebraska

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

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

For more information, please visit our clinic website:

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

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

[NRCSA Spending Study](#)

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

Contact Information

NRCSA

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

Jeff Bundy, Office Manager
(402) 202-6028
jbundy@nrcea.net

Legislative Contacts

U.S. Senators

[Deb Fischer](#)

[Pete Ricketts](#)

U.S. House of Representatives

[Don Bacon](#)

[Mike Flood](#)

[Adrian Smith](#)

Nebraska Governor

[Jim Pillen](#)

NE State Senators

[Raymond Aguilar, Dist 35](#)

[Joni Albrecht, Dist 17](#)

[John Arch, Dist 14](#)

[Christy Armendariz, Dist 18](#)

[Beau Ballard, Dist 21](#)

[Carol Blood, Dist 3](#)

[Carolyn Bosn, Dist 25](#)

[Eliot Bostar, Dist 29](#)

[Bruce Bostelman, Dist 23](#)

[Tom Brandt, Dist 32](#)

[Tom Brewer, Dist 43](#)

[John Cavanaugh, Dist 9](#)

[Machaela Cavanaugh, Dist 6](#)

[Robert Clements, Dist 2](#)

[Danielle Conrad, Dist 46](#)

[Jen Day, Dist 49](#)

[Wendy DeBoer, Dist 10](#)

[Barry DeKay, Dist 40](#)

[Myron Dorn, Dist 30](#)

[Robert Dover, Dist 19](#)

[George Dugan, Dist 26](#)

[Steve Erdman, Dist 47](#)

[John Fredrickson, Dist 20](#)

[Steve Halloran, Dist 33](#)

[Ben Hansen, Dist 16](#)

[Brian Hardin, Dist 48](#)

[Rick Holderoft, Dist 36](#)

[Jana Hughes, Dist 24](#)

[Megan Hunt, Dist 8](#)

[Teresa Ibach, Dist 44](#)

[Mike Jacobson, Dist 42](#)

[Kathleen Kauth, Dist 31](#)

[Lou Ann Linehan, Dist 39](#)

[Loren Lippincott, Dist 34](#)

[John Lowe Sr., Dist 37](#)

[Mike McDonnell, Dist 5](#)

[Terrell McKinney, Dist 5](#)

[Fred Meyer, Dist 41](#)

[Mike Moser, Dist 22](#)

[Dave Murman, Dist 38](#)

[Jane Raybould, Dist 28](#)

[Merv, Riepe, Dist 12](#)

[Rita Sanders, Dist 45](#)

[Julie Slama, Dist 1](#)

[Tony Vargas, Dist 7](#)

[Brad Von Gillern, Dist 4](#)

[Lynne Walz, Dist 15](#)

[Justin Wayne, Dist 13](#)

[Anna Wishart, Dist 27](#)



NRCSA Programs

New Leaf Teletherapy

Planning Support Service

Scholarship and Awards Programs

Superintendent Search Service

USBank OneCard Program



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



www.nrdsa.net



www.twitter.com/NRCSA1980



www.facebook.com/nrcsahome/

Update on Superintendent Goals

Safety Report

The Safety Committee will hold its first meeting of the year on September 26.

Facilities Report

From Jared:

The fire panel has been ordered and will be installed as soon as it comes in.

The window coverings have been ordered and will be installed as soon as they come in.

The sprinklers are in on the practice softball/ baseball areas.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Board Retreat - September 30 at 6:00 PM

NASB Membership Meeting - September 25 in Fremont - We will leave at 3:30 PM

Americanism Committee Meeting - October 16 before the BOE Meeting

State Education Conference - November 20-22 in Omaha

**2024 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 20-22
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA**

All Systems Go



**Co-Sponsored by the Nebraska Association of School Boards
and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators**



2 Registration & Reservations



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

To register, go to www.NASBOnline.org

Log in using your email and password, and click the 'Events' tab to register.

Registration fees for the conference are as follows:
 REGISTRATION SEPTEMBER 11 - NOVEMBER 8 **\$325**
 PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION **\$100**
 CANCELLATION FEE (PRIOR TO 11/8) **\$150**
 (No refunds after the registration deadline)

\$325	LATE-REGISTRATION NOVEMBER 9 - ON-SITE	\$375
\$100	BOARD MEMBER ELECT	\$175
\$150	NON-MEMBER	\$750

(Substitutions are done at no charge)

Hotel Reservations

TO RESERVE ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CONFERENCE HOTELS YOU MUST FIRST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

To qualify for a room, you must first register for the Conference.

Once your conference registration is complete, you will receive an email with your NASB Registration code and a Conference Hotel reservation link. The code will not be activated until 10:00 AM CT, Wednesday, September 25, 2024

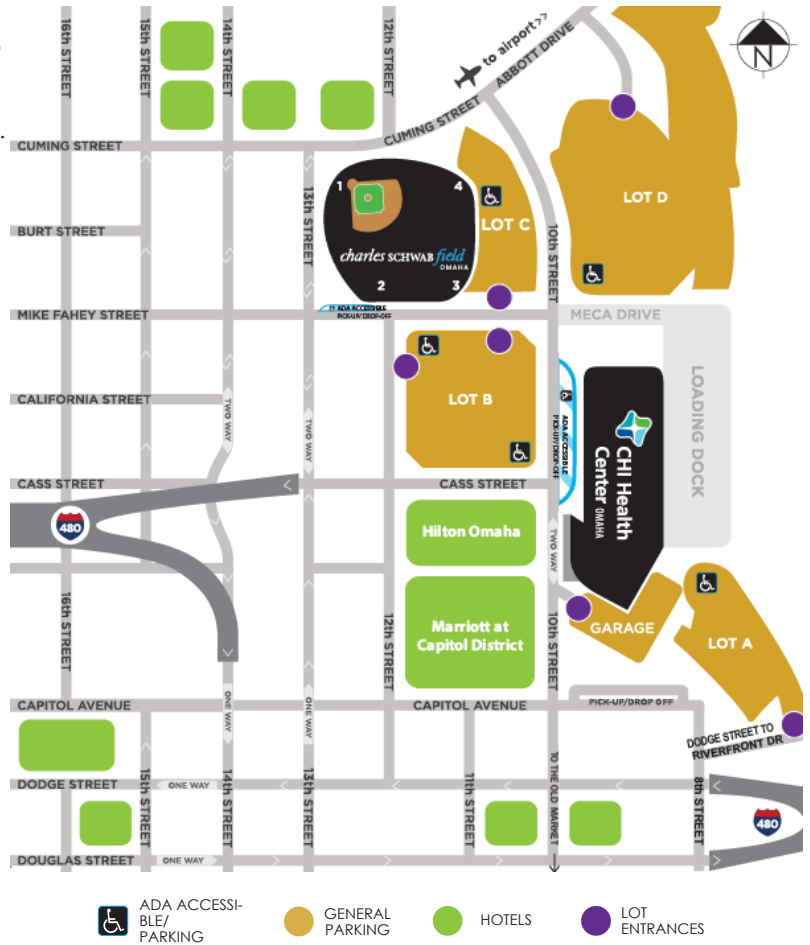
SUBMIT YOUR CONFERENCE HOTEL ROOM REQUEST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024.

THE OMAHA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU WILL ACT AS THE HOUSING AGENT FOR ALL PROPERTIES.

Hilton Omaha - 1001 Cass Street
 \$151 per night
ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 20, OR UNTIL FULL

Omaha Marriott Downtown - 222 North 10th Street
 \$171 per night
ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL NOVEMBER 8, OR UNTIL FULL

A RESERVATION AT ONE OF THE ABOVE IS NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Pre-Conference Sessions
1:00 to 4:00 PM

Exhibitor Reception
4:00 to 5:30 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Board Member/Mentor Collaboration
7:15 to 8:15 AM

Opening Keynote Speaker
8:15 to 9:30 AM

A - Breakout Sessions
9:45 to 10:45 AM

B - Breakout Sessions
11:15 AM to 12:15 PM

Thursday Luncheon Keynote Speaker
12:30 to 2:00 PM

C - Breakout Sessions
2:15 to 3:15 PM

D - Breakout Sessions
3:30 to 4:30 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Classroom Showcase
8:00 to 11:30 AM

NASB Delegate Assembly
8:00 to 9:30 AM

NASA Membership Meeting
8:00 to 9:30 AM

E - Breakout Sessions
9:15 to 10:15 AM

F - Breakout Sessions
10:30 to 11:30 AM

Friday Luncheon Keynote Speaker
11:45 AM to 1:15 PM

20th

DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

NASBO MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NASB LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING

NASA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

EXHIBITOR RECEPTION

NASB BOARD MEETING

21st

DAY 2

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024

BOARD MEMBER / MENTOR COLLABORATION

PRESENTATION OF COLORS / MUSICAL OPENING

OPENING & LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR PRESENTED

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (A, B, C & D)

22nd

DAY 3

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024

NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

CLASSROOM SHOWCASE

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR RECOGNIZED

CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (E & F)

ADJOURN

Register now at www.NASBonline.org



INSPIRING HOPE THROUGH THE POWER OF COMMITMENT AND POSITIVITY BEYOND THE GAME: APPLYING "ALL IN" TO LIFE

GIAN PAUL GONZALEZ

THURSDAY MORNING OPENING SPEAKER - 8:15 TO 9:30 AM

During the New York Giants' 2011 Super Bowl run, Gian Paul Gonzalez, a high school teacher from Union City, N.J., played a pivotal role in inspiring the team with his "ALL IN" rally cry. Before a crucial Christmas Eve game against the NY Jets, Gonzalez led a chapel service where he used poker chips to symbolize commitment, urging players to go "all in" with their dedication. The Giants, initially seen as unlikely playoff contenders, won that game 29-14 and carried their momentum through to victory in Super Bowl XLVI. Gonzalez, who turned down professional basketball opportunities to work with at-risk youth, is the founder of the Hope + Future Foundation. This organization provides health and wellness programs for youth in West New York, NJ, focusing on empowering students and fostering community unity. Gonzalez's "ALL IN" message, is not just a slogan it's a LIFEstyle.



RUNNING TOWARD CHAOS

DR. NATALIE STAVAS

THURSDAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER - 12:30 TO 2:00 PM

Dr. Natalie Stavas, a Nebraska native, and award-winning Harvard physician and humanitarian, epitomizes her life philosophy: "You Run Toward." This mantra was vividly demonstrated on April 15, 2013. As she approached the finish line of her fifth Boston Marathon, she faced the chaos of a bomb explosion. Instead of fleeing with the crowd, Dr. Stavas ran directly into the danger, providing critical aid and saved several lives that day. Natalie attacks every obstacle with the same attitude: "You run towards that which you fear, that which challenges you, that which is oppositional." Described as a healer, educator, and community leader, she was named "2013 Bostonian of the Year" by The Boston Globe.



WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON AT THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION?

BRIAN MAHER

FRIDAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER - 11:45 AM TO 1:15 PM

Join Commissioner Maher as he embarks on his second year at the helm of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), leading the charge in shaping the future of education across the state. In this pivotal year, he is poised to build upon the progress of his inaugural term, introducing a range of new developments and initiatives designed to enhance educational outcomes. As he outlines his strategic priorities, we will gain insight into his vision for fostering educational excellence, addressing key challenges, and driving meaningful change within Nebraska's schools. This comprehensive look at the goals and aspirations guiding Commissioner Maher's second year, highlighting the dynamic efforts underway to ensure that every student in Nebraska has access to high-quality education.

Pre

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 - 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

INSIDE OUT:

NAVIGATING BOARD CONFLICT AND THE HIDDEN COSTS OF DYSFUNCTION

As Boards of Education evolve, long-standing teams often encounter new members with differing beliefs, styles, and agendas, which can challenge board dynamics. This session offers attendees a chance to delve into how respectful dialogue ensures diverse perspectives are heard and considered in the decision-making process. What can the board and superintendent do to prepare for change and explore strategies for managing communication and conflict when it occurs? Participants will learn to foster civility in governance and proactively address common challenges. Join us to enhance your skills in navigating board transitions and maintaining a productive, respectful environment that builds trust between the board and superintendent and ensures that decisions are made openly and with integrity.

PRESENTERS: David Kramer - Baird Holm Law Firm; Marcia Herring - NASB

HARNESSING THE POWER OF AI:

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Have you been hearing about the buzz around AI and wondering how it will impact your district? Join us for an engaging, hands-on workshop designed specifically for school board members and administrators. We'll start by showcasing how cutting-edge AI tools, like ChatGPT, can simplify daily tasks and enhance the efficiency of board work. From there, we'll explore real-world applications where AI is already benefiting educators—saving time, reducing burnout, and improving student support. Our session will wrap up with the latest research on AI in education, including how schools are crafting policies to leverage AI for better learning outcomes and streamlined operations. You'll leave with actionable insights and practical tools to help you navigate the evolving landscape of AI and make a meaningful difference in your district and community.

PRESENTERS: Lynne Herr - ESU 6; Andrew Easton - ESUCC; UNK AI Research Team



JOIN US!!! EXHIBITOR RECEPTION
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 - 4:00 TO 5:30 PM

Register now at www.NASBonline.org



ANN MACTIER - SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON

Previous Winners Include:

2023 - ALLISON WELCH, CONESTOGA	2016 - TERRI HAYNES, CHADRON	2009 - RON PEARSON, ESU #3
2022 - MARCIA MAHON, SOUTH SIOUX CITY	2015 - LINDA RICHARDS, RALSTON	2008 - SANDRA JENSEN, OMAHA
2021 - STEVE KOCH, HERSHEY	2014 - BRAD KRIVOHLAVEK, NORFOLK	2007 - JOHN HANSEN, BELLEVUE
2020 - MARIAN HOLSTEIN, WINNEBAGO	2013 - PATTY BENTZINGER, NORRIS	2006 - FRED TAFOYA, PAPILLON-LA VISTA
2019 - VALERIE FISHER, PAPILLON-LA VISTA	2012 - KATHY BARTEK, FALLS CITY	2005 - WAYNE ERICKSON, WISNER-PILGER
2018 - KATHY DANEK, LINCOLN	2011 - JULIE AGARD, KEARNEY	2004 - ANN MACTIER, OMAHA
2017 - BONNIE HINKLE, GRAND ISLAND	2010 - KIM FASSE, ELKHORN	



SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON

Previous Winners Include:

2025 - MELISSA POLONCIC, DC WEST	2012 - BILL MOWINKEL, GRAND ISLAND NW	1999 - KENNETH ANDERSON, HASTINGS
2024 - ANDY RIKLI, PAPILLION LA VISTA	2011 - MIKE CUNNING, HERSHEY	1998 - KEN BIRD, WESTSIDE
2023 - MARK LENIHAN, WAYNE	2010 - KEITH LUTZ, MILLARD	1997 - RICK BLACK, CONESTOGA
2022 - TERRY HAACK, BENNINGTON	2009 - STEVE RECTOR, SOUTH SIOUX CITY	1996 - GARY HAMMACK, KEARNEY
2021 - JIM SUTFIN, MILLARD	2008 - LARRY RAMAEKERS, AURORA	1995 - MARTIN PETERSEN, ALLIANCE
2020 - MARK ADLER, RALSTON	2007 - ROGER BREED, ELKHORN	1994 - VANDLE PHILLIPS, SOUTH SIOUX CITY
2019 - MIKE TEAHON, GOTHENBURG	2006 - RICHARD EISENHAUER, LEXINGTON	1993 - FRED BELLUM, COLUMBUS
2018 - JOHN SKRETTA, NORRIS	2005 - ROY BAKER, NORRIS	1992 - GLENN LARSEN, ADAMS CENTRAL
2017 - CAROLINE WINCHESTER, CHADRON	2004 - DAN ERNST, WAVERLY	1991 - NORBERT SCHUERMAN, OMAHA
2016 - JAY BELLAR, BATTLE CREEK	2003 - RANDY NELSON, NORFOLK	1990 - DOUG CHRISTENSEN, NORTH PLATTE
2015 - BRIAN MAHER, KEARNEY	2002 - PHILIP SCHOO, LINCOLN	1989 - DONALD STROH, MILLARD
2014 - STEVE BAKER, ELKHORN	2001 - KEITH ROHWER, NEBRASKA CITY	
2013 - KEVIN RILEY, GRETNA	2000 - STEVE JOEL, BEATRICE	



BOARDSMANSHIP



CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CURRICULUM



ESU



FACILITIES



LEGAL & POLICY



LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY



MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION



NEW BOARD MEMBER



SAFETY



STUDENTS/EARLY CHILDHOOD



TECHNOLOGY



WELLNESS

Breakout Sessions - Quick Glance 7

THURSDAY

- A1 LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK: A "SPECIAL" KIND OF YEAR
- A2 BOARD GOVERNANCE: WHERE DO I BEGIN?
- A3 CONSTRUCTION FUNDING
- A4 STOP CALLING IT MARIJUANA
- A5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 10.0
- A6 COMMUNICATION FOR DISTRICTS LARGE & SMALL
- A7 SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504 ISSUES
- A8 NURTURING FUTURE EDUCATORS IN RURAL NEBRASKA
- A9 BANCROFT-ROSALIE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL
- A10 HARVESTING HOPE
- A11 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- B1 NSAA COMPETITIVE BALANCE UPDATE
- B2 EMPOWERING SBMS AS COMMUNITY CATALYSTS
- B3 HOLD YOUR FIRE - ISSUES IN TERMINATIONS
- B4 BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS
- B5 SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACTS: WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?!
- B6 MAKING DOLLARS AND SENSE OF SCHOOL FINANCE
- B7 THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: THE BASICS TO THE UNEXPECTED
- B8 BUILDING AND GROWING OUR FUTURE
- B9 HOW TO CREATIVELY FUND A SCHOOL FACILITIES UPDATE
- B10 NAVIGATING FUTURES
- B11 HIRING FOREIGN-TRAINED TEACHERS

- C1 STUDENT VOICES
- C2 AN INTERACTIVE MOCK BOARD MEETING
- C3 BUILDING, FACILITIES, AND REAL ESTATE
- C4 SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- C5 MEETING OF THE MINDS: LET'S GET CLOSED SESSION RIGHT!
- C6 INNOVATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATORS
- C7 WAIVERS & RELEASES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
- C8 TAKING SCHOOL SAFETY TO THE NEXT LEVEL
- C9 LESSONS FROM BROKEN BOW BOND ELECTION
- C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE
- C11 CONNECTING ED LEARNING TO WORKPLACE SUCCESS

- D1 MASTERING PAPERLESS BOARD MEETINGS & NEGOTIATIONS
- D2 EHA BENEFITS UPDATE
- D3 THE USE OF ADVISORY GROUPS TO ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS
- D4 POWER OF STAY SURVEYS IN RETAINING HIGH-QUALITY STAFF
- D5 HOT TOPICS WITH JIM AND KAREN
- D6 RULE 10: HOW SBMS CAN SUPPORT THEIR SUPERINTENDENT
- D7 NAVIGATING TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICIES IN SCHOOLS
- D8 DEVELOPING THE DISTRICT AND FOUNDATION RELATIONSHIP

FRIDAY

- E1 MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES
- E2 LEADERSHIP THROUGH LONG-TERM PLANNING
- E3 HOT LEGAL TOPICS FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS
- E4 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY CREATES DEEP PARTNERS
- E5 SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE BOARD MEMBER
- E6 ADDRESSING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE
- E7 OPEN MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS
- E8 CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK METHOD
- E9 BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & TEACHER SUPPORT

- F1 SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT BEHAVIOR
- F2 CAREER ACADEMIES - FIND YOUR PATH
- F3 NEGOTIATING FROM THE BOARD'S SIDE
- F4 STRENGTHENING YOUR BEEF IN SCHOOLS
- F5 TITLE IX: NEW OR IMPROVED?
- F6 CENTRAL NEBRASKA TEACHER RECRUITMENT
- F7 ATHLETICS, NIL, AND COPYRIGHT
- F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH THE STATE BOARD



Register now at www.NASBonline.org

A

A - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 9:45 TO 10:45 AM



A1 A "SPECIAL" KIND OF YEAR

While the 2024 legislative session ended in April and included many provisions that impacted K-12 education, Senators were not done. Called back in July for a Special Session, K-12 education was once again a target for change. Come learn what the legislature did (and didn't do) through two sessions of 2024. We will also preview what education leaders should be thinking about as we head into 2025.

PRESENTERS: Colby Coash - NASB; Mike Dulaney - NCSA



A2 BOARD GOVERNANCE: WHERE DO I BEGIN? WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?

Welcome to board service! What is the secret to preparing effectively to transition as a new board member? What are the demands of the role and responsibilities of the board? This session will cover frequently asked questions, highlight the NASB Board Governance Standards, and will engage you in interactive discussion, present scenarios to challenge your understanding of overstepping or proper board oversight.

PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB



A3 SCHOOL FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, INCLUDING LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS



This session will explore the alternatives to a bond election to finance school buildings and equipment, including lease-purchase agreements directly with banks, lease-purchase agreements for equipment, "QCPUF" financings which now permit financing for "school safety infrastructure concerns," and other financing ideas.

PRESENTERS: Mike Rogers - Gilmore & Bell Law Firm



A4 STOP CALLING IT MARIJUANA. WHAT SCHOOLS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HIGH POTENCY THC, VAPING, & FENTANYL

It is not ditch weed in our schools. The marijuana industry has changed the script. High potency THC (the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana) is what students are using in vapes or edible cannabis products. Neighboring states and countries legalizing this new drug along with clever marketing by the cannabis industry has lowered our sense of risk with these products. Learn how the new gateway drug and vape industries are impacting a new generation of users leading them to other deadly substances like fentanyl. What can schools do to be more aware and aid students in curbing these drug trends?

PRESENTER: Jay Martin - Nebraska Department of Education



A5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 10.0



It's the diamond anniversary of this topic, and Karen and Sara have a real gem in store! Come get the latest legal trends and troubles regarding student and staff use of social media and technology.

PRESENTERS: Karen Haase & Sara Hento - KSB School Law



A6 COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES & TOOLS FOR DISTRICTS LARGE & SMALL

Effective communication is the cornerstone of a successful school district. This how-to session is designed to empower school board members and superintendents with the tools and strategies they need to establish clear, consistent, and impactful communication within their districts. The session will cover the essential steps for building a robust communication plan, engaging the community, and ensuring that communication efforts resonate across districts of all sizes. Participants will leave this session with a clear, actionable plan for establishing effective communication in their districts, practical tools for implementation, and strategies for engaging their communities.

PRESENTER: Annette Eyman - Kordica Communications



A7 WAKE UP CALL: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504 ISSUES FOR BOARDS AND ADMINISTRATORS

The fastest developing areas for school litigation surround students with disabilities. The rights of parents with students that have disabilities are actively enforced by government agencies such as the Department of Education, the Office of Civil Rights, and the Department of Justice. We will go through best practices and common pitfalls under the IDEA and Section 504 to help your district develop specialized plans, respond to parent complaints, create plans for difficult behaviors, and more!

PRESENTER: Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm



A8 GROW YOUR OWN: NURTURING FUTURE EDUCATORS IN RURAL NEBRASKA

Passionate about tackling Nebraska's educator shortage? Join us to explore the ESUs 6 & 9 Education Career Pathway pilot program, focusing on rural schools' needs with replicability statewide. Dive into details spanning 15 districts, and 66 high school students supported by NDE. Learn about the free curriculum, work-based learning, and dual-credit opportunities at Wayne State College. Discover Educators Rising CTSO's impact in fostering community among aspiring educators. Gain valuable insights into addressing teacher shortages and discuss implementation strategies.

PRESENTERS: Lynne Herr - ESU 6; Kristen Slechta & Katie Soto - ESU 9



A9 BANCROFT-ROSALIE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Bancroft-Rosalie School graduated their first class of six Associate Degree earning high school seniors in 2023. The students will share their Early College experience in a rural school and the transition from high school to a college junior curriculum. School administration will provide information on the process of identifying and supporting high ability in an accelerated academic program with limited resources.

PRESENTER: Jon Cerny - Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools



A10 HARVESTING HOPE

UNPS Three Sisters Farm to School has embarked on an exciting venture to address the concern of food insecurity and sovereignty on the Omaha Reservation. This school-based 7-acre garden blends traditional and modern farming practices to produce over 16,000 pounds of fresh organic produce that is distributed to the school and community. This project offers vocational training, paid employment, and cultural experiences to the students of UNPS. This one-of-a-kind project has become a model for other schools and revitalized the cultural ties and customs of the Omaha people.

PRESENTERS: Stacie Hardy & Susan French - Umonhon Nation Public Schools



A11 A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO DELIVERING ON-GOING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Millard Public Schools believes our People are our greatest resource. In order to best support our staff, Millard implements a systematic approach to deliver on-going and embedded professional learning and leadership development. In this session, Millard will share specific plans and strategies used to develop and retain staff. Examples that will be shared include action research, the Millard Graduate Program, and leadership development.

PRESENTERS: Kim Saum-Mills, John Schwartz & Todd Tripple - Millard Public Schools



B

B - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM



B1 NSAA COMPETITIVE BALANCE UPDATE

This session will provide an overview of the NSAA's adoption of a Competitive Balance Committee and its implementation.

PRESENTERS: Jennifer Schwartz & Jeff Johnson - NSAA



B2 EMPOWERING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AS COMMUNITY CATALYSTS: STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

Explore the critical role of school board members as community leaders in fostering effective cross-sector partnerships. The session emphasizes the importance of partner identification, alignment of goals, and establishing a clear governance structure for decision-making. We will highlight the central role of relationship building, underpinned by trust and understanding of diverse organizational cultures. We will cover transparency in all processes and communication, along with strategies for project monitoring, evaluation, and continuous improvement.

PRESENTERS: Joe DiCostanzo - Nebraska Children & Families Foundation; Caden Frank - NASB



B3 HOLD YOUR FIRE - ISSUES IN TERMINATIONS

Everyone knows the Teacher Tenure Act provides numerous protections to certificated employees. But, various state and federal laws and rules also impact a school's ability to part ways with employees, including classified staff. In this session, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will address and provide guidance on things to consider before firing, or even demoting or reassigning, any employee.

PRESENTER: Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm



B4 BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS

We know learning can only happen when students and staff feel safe in their educational environment. So, how do we build safe and secure schools? Become a Diamond Status member with NDE School Safety & Security Diamond Badge Certification. Schools across the state are completing the safety protocols and the Badge being displayed on buildings, social media platforms, and websites provides the confirmation to school communities that best practices and requirements are being met. Get the latest guidance and support from the Nebraska Department of Education, School Safety & Security Director on what is needed to put your school district in Diamond Badge Certification.

PRESENTER: Jay Martin - NDE



B5 SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACTS: WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?!

We get dozens of questions each fall about the same sections of the superintendent contract. How long is our contract, and how and when does the contract "renew"? Do we have to do anything at our meeting to approve the renewal or extension? What if we don't approve it? What about the pay transparency law--when does that apply if we're just adding a year? This presentation will cover these critical contract sections and decisions so that all board members and superintendents understand how they affect the contract length, costs, and obligations.

PRESENTERS: Bobby Truhe & Steve Williams - KSB School Law



B6 MAKING DOLLARS AND SENSE OF SCHOOL FINANCE

The learning curve for understanding school finance is never ending. Learn about long standing practices and recent changes that affect your district's financial position.

PRESENTERS: Bryce Wilson - NDE; Matt Fisher - Grand Island Public Schools; Carl Dietz - Northland Securities





B7 THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT: FROM THE BASICS TO THE UNEXPECTED

Most board meetings may run smoothly. But every once in awhile, a board member may make an unexpected motion, a member of the public may object to the board considering an item that was added to the agenda late. Occasionally, public comment can present challenges in the middle of the meeting. These scenarios can create confusion and contention among the board and community. We will walk through these types of situations and offer proactive advice under Nebraska's Open Meetings Act and real-world examples.

PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm



B8 BUILDING AND GROWING OUR FUTURE: A BOARD VISION OF INVESTMENT

Gering Public Schools highlights two national priorities: Workforce development and early intervention. The Board and district leadership identified how to maximize programs effectively while leveraging resources efficiently. The growing school district has opened a new preschool center constructed by their own high school students. As a response to the expanding need for early childhood education in the community, GPS has embraced the "cradle-to-cap" concept by empowering their construction trade students to apply their skills of woodworking, machinery, electrical and masonry. The 4-year high school program offers a strong background in construction trades and apprenticeship experience for students.

PRESENTERS: Nicole Regan, Stacy Rodriguez, Brian Copsey & Greg Trautman - Gering Public Schools



B9 HOW TO CREATIVELY FUND A SCHOOL FACILITIES UPDATE

Wauneta-Palisade used creative funding options to complete an addition and renovation project creating a better learning environment. WP was faced with aging facilities in two locations and deciding how to improve them without passing a bond issue. We worked with business partners to find funding and design options to fit our budget and resources. WP utilized a lease purchase for new construction, QCPUF for ADA and HVAC improvements and leveraged our strong financial resources.

PRESENTERS: Allison Sandman & Randy Geier - Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools; Jacob Sertich - Wilkins ADP; Tobin Buchanan - Northland Securities



B10 NAVIGATING FUTURES: HAWK HERD & NEBRASKA CAREER CLUSTERS

Come and learn how one local producer's beef donation for the school lunch program has evolved into a hands-on "grow your own" beef program at Hampton Public School. The session will highlight the four key areas of the Nebraska Career Education Model - Core Academics/College and Career Readiness, Career Fields, Career Clusters, and Employability and Entrepreneurship. The Hawk Herd engages students in community partnerships within each of the six career clusters utilizing real-world experiences to help guide potential career choices while supporting "Farm to Fork" in our school lunch program two days a week.

PRESENTERS: Holly Herzberg, Carson Klute & Grant Dose - Hampton Public School



B11 WHAT EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT HIRING FOREIGN-TRAINED TEACHERS

Hiring a Foreign-Trained Teacher has become a creative way for school districts to overcome the teacher shortage. Superintendents and board members will both benefit from learning the ends and outs of hiring a foreign-trained teacher.

PRESENTER: Decau Jean-Baptiste & Katelyn Larson - NDE



C - BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 2:15 TO 3:15 PM



C1 STUDENT VOICES

Students from Nebraska high schools share their perspectives on issues that are important to the leaders of tomorrow.



C2 AT THE BOARD TABLE - AN INTERACTIVE MOCK BOARD MEETING

Join us at the boardroom table and experience the dynamics of a school board meeting. This session will provide a practical understanding of how board meetings are conducted, including the procedures, protocols, and decision-making processes. Through a simulated mock board meeting, participants will gain confidence in their ability to navigate real meetings, and the importance of what boards communicate through the public meeting.

PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB



C3 BUILDING, FACILITIES, AND REAL ESTATE – WHAT KEEPS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER UP AT NIGHT?



In this session, the Perry Law Firm will talk about various legal issues relating to school buildings, facilities, and real estate, including potential legal issues that can arise with facility maintenance, construction and other expenditure and revenue issues with school property.

PRESENTERS: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm



C4 EMPOWERING DECISION SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN NEBRASKA

Since the fall of 2020, the Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS) has been working to create a state-of-the-art education and workforce information source. These efforts have culminated in the establishment of a unique and strategic asset designed to bolster decision making and empower decision makers by mitigating uncertainty surrounding education and workforce planning. This session will provide an overview of NSWERS and the innovative analytic tools being created to support schools.

PRESENTER: Matt Hastings - Seward Public Schools



C5 MEETING OF THE MINDS: LET'S GET CLOSED SESSION RIGHT!



Enough said. Leave your preconceptions at the door. If you are thinking, "I know all about closed session, so I don't need to attend that one," you're probably our target demographic for this presentation.

PRESENTERS: KSB School Law



C6 INNOVATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATORS: HOW UNL IS MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Innovative educator preparation, including alternative certification and grow your own programs, are necessary to ensure we have qualified teachers and administrators as we work with the educator workforce challenge. Join me to learn about UNL's teacher apprenticeship program, school administrator preparation innovations, professional development for Career Education Permit teachers, alternative certification and accelerated programs, and how to grow your own school psychologist. These innovative approaches ensure the preparation of quality educators while meeting the immediate needs of school districts.

PRESENTER: Sara Skretta - UNL



C7 COACH & RELEASE - WAIVERS & RELEASES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities are a significant part of public education. They are also a potential source of significant liabilities for your district. From concussions to motor vehicle accidents, risks are everywhere. A recent decision from the Nebraska Supreme Court indicates that schools could mitigate some of these risks with releases and waivers. We will discuss everything from the implications of using waivers and releases to the standards of care applicable to coaches and volunteers.

PRESENTER: Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm



C8 SCHOOL SAFETY 101: TAKING SCHOOL SAFETY TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Norris School District 160 has centralized and streamlined our safety and security efforts on our campus. While you can never be fully prepared for a critical incident, understanding and testing your District's Emergency Operation Plan is a starting point. This session will provide insight into updating and testing your District's EOP, community partnerships, grant opportunities, use of technology, and more to create a better understanding for staff, students, and parents/guardians.

PRESENTERS: Derrick Joel, Brian Maschmann & Gary Kubicek - Norris School District 160



C9 BUILDING BOW TOGETHER - LESSONS FROM BROKEN BOW BOND ELECTION

This session will be a panel presentation and Q&A on lessons learned from the Broken Bow Bond Elections - a bond failure that turned into a yes vote and win for the community. Panel participants will include representatives from Broken Bow Public Schools and the business partners that helped make the project a success.

PRESENTERS: Ashley Abramson & Steve Thiel - Hausmann Construction, Inc.; Darren Tobey - Broken Bow; Tobin Buchanan - Northland Securities; Jacob Sertich - Wilkins ADP



C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Especially for our ESU attendees, get the latest from the ESUCC, NDE, and NASB about statewide ESU activities and issues.

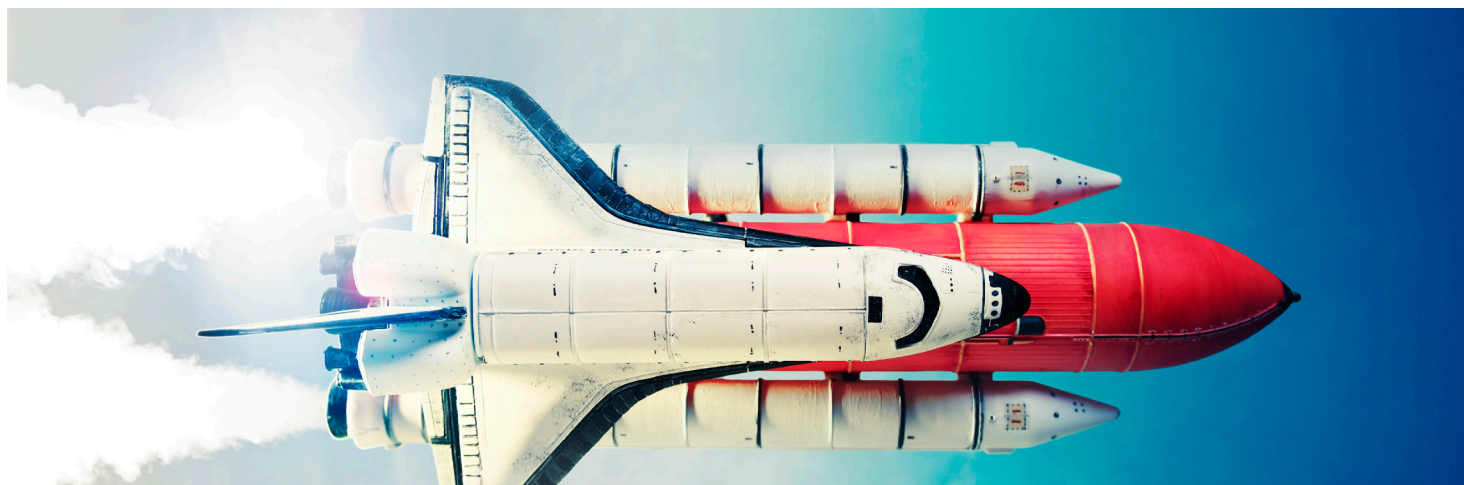
PRESENTERS: Larianne Polk - ESUCC; Brad Dirksen - NDE; Colby Coash - NASB



C11 CONNECTING EDUCATIONAL LEARNING TO WORKPLACE SUCCESS

Today's careers have multiple entry and exit points, and it is important for young people to recognize how to navigate effectively to reach their fullest potential. Experiential learning opportunities assist youth with developing knowledge and skills that will lead to greater persistence in college and the workplace. This session provides a unique platform where education, business, and industry professionals collaborate through a variety of school enrichment and community programming. They will share personal perspectives and discuss strategies to collectively enhance college and career readiness for the next generation.

PRESENTERS: Dawn Lindsley, Jacie Milius, Kim Liebeg & Jonathan Schulte - ESU 7



Register now at www.NASBonline.org

D

D - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 3:30 TO 4:30 PM



D1 UNLOCKING EFFICIENCY: MASTERING PAPERLESS BOARD MEETINGS & STAFF NEGOTIATIONS



Embark on a transformative journey with paperless board meeting and teacher negotiations systems, redefining school board governance. Uncover the secrets to streamlined meetings, harnessing transparency for better decision-making, and unlocking invaluable data insights. Dive into tips and tricks to maximize your efficiency and effectiveness in managing school affairs. Join us in embracing this innovative approach to governance, where simplicity and productivity are paramount.

PRESENTERS: Chris Kuncel - Mullen; Darion Miller & Nicole Kobus - Sparq Data Solutions



D2 EHA BENEFITS UPDATE

In this session we will provide an up-to-date look at the benefits programs available to EHA members and allow time to address any questions attendees may have.

PRESENTER: Greg Long - EHA; Courtney Ray - Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE



D3 WE ARE FAMILY: THE USE OF ADVISORY GROUPS TO GATHER FEEDBACK AND ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS



Papillion La Vista Community Schools is a suburban school district in the Omaha metro area with over 12,000 students. The purpose of this session is to describe how PLCS utilizes a variety of internal and external advisory groups to solicit feedback on critical topics and to engage its community members. A specific focus will be placed on the purpose, selection process, and structure of its Student Advisory Council and other groups including teacher, classified staff, and business/elected official advisories.

PRESENTERS: Valerie Fisher, Christopher Villarreal & Andy Rikli - Papillion La Vista Community Schools



D4 THE POWER OF STAY SURVEYS IN RETAINING HIGH QUALITY STAFF

Every school district is making plans to recruit and hire the next generation of teachers. We are considering hiring incentives, perks, and salary increases for these new staff members. What are we doing to keep our very best teachers in our school district? In this presentation, you will hear from practicing administrators regarding a "stay" survey that was implemented during the 2023-2024 school year, as well as ideas and thoughts regarding retaining staff from administrators and board members with emphasis on teacher voice, leadership, and culture.

PRESENTERS: Matt Dominy, Josh Fields, Paul Duer, Shawn Svoboda, Ryne Seaman, Matt Hastings, Jill Hochstein, Danielle Shipley & Jessica Dominy - Seward Public Schools



D5 HOT TOPICS WITH JIM AND KAREN



Veteran school attorneys Jim Gessford from the Perry Law Firm and Karen Haase from KSB School Law will cover a variety of "hot topics" that school board members from Nebraska should know. Come learn about the legal issues that your board will be (or maybe already is) dealing with, while you also get to listen to Jim and Karen bicker and banter.

PRESENTERS: Karen Haase - KSB School Law; Jim Gessford - Perry Law firm



D6 RULE 10: REQUIREMENTS, REGULATIONS, REPORTS AND COMPLIANCE. HOW BOARD MEMBERS CAN SUPPORT THEIR SUPERINTENDENT

Rule 10 has several sections, numerous statutes and over 200 regulations. This session is for board members who want to support their superintendent through having a better understanding of what it means to be accredited through Rule 10.

PRESENTER: Decau Jean-Baptiste, Todd Wolverton & Sandy Suiter - NDE



D7 NAVIGATING TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICIES IN SCHOOLS

Can our school have a policy relating to transgender students? Should our school have a policy on transgender students? Which state and federal laws do we need to consider? Is this about bathrooms or athletics? Can we just ignore the discourse on this topic? Join attorneys from the Perry Law Firm where we will answer all of these questions and more!

PRESENTER: Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm



D8 DEVELOPING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SCHOOL FOUNDATION RELATIONSHIP



As public schools continue to be top of mind across the nation, the need for school districts and school foundations to work hand in hand increases. During this session you will learn how developing a relationship with the superintendent and communications department can move your foundation forward. You will learn how aligning success stories can increase goodwill for the district as well as giving to the foundation.

PRESENTER: Nicole Anderson - Columbus Public Schools



Register now at www.NASBonline.org


E

E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 9:15 TO 10:15 AM **E1 SUPPORTING AND ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES** It is critical to build the collective capacity of families and staff to align efforts and create consistency between school and home while also creating balance in the lives of school staff to ensure learners and families thrive! This district has worked to build out mental health, social-emotional, personal development, and family wellness resources in connection with community supports to engage families creating agency and ownership**PRESENTER: Summer Stephens - Grand Island Public Schools** **E2 ARE WE THERE YET? HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE HAVE ARRIVED, IF WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE WE ARE GOING?** Effective board governance and superintendent leadership requires the board to provide clarity of purpose and a vision for success for the school district. Through purposeful engagement of stakeholders, the board gathers valuable insights into the needs and expectations of the school district. Regular communication with stakeholders ensures that they are kept informed about the progress and direction of the district. This builds transparency and trust and ensures alignment between the district and the community. During this session, you will learn about three important characteristics of effective board and superintendent leadership through long-term planning.**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Stacie Higgins & Stephanie Summers - NASB** **E3 HOT LEGAL TOPICS FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS**

This session will focus on current and forthcoming legal hot topics, with a specific focus on Board Presidents. This will include policy and handbook updates, constructing and managing the agenda, public comment, closed session, recent court decisions, legislative proposals, and other happenings in school law.

PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm **E4 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY CREATES DEEP COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Learn how the LPS Citizen's Academy works and walk session participants through steps to replicate it in a way that fits your community. The LPS Citizen's Academy is a unique, no-charge public outreach program that engages approximately 30 adult members of our community in four evening sessions during the first semester, all on-site at different buildings within the district. The relationships built and information shared with academy participants have paid important dividends in future efforts by the districts.

PRESENTERS: Mindy Burbach, Paul Gausman, Kathy Danek & Lanny Boswell - Lincoln Public Schools **E5 SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE BOARD MEMBER - DO'S AND DON'TS AND OTHER LEGAL ISSUES** Social media plays a big part in board governance these days, whether we like it or not. Many board members actively use social media for community engagement...and all board members employ staff who do the same. This presentation will cover the top things every board member must know about their own social media use, official school accounts, and the most recent court cases and real life examples where things can go wrong.**PRESENTERS: KSB School Law**



E6 ADDRESSING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE THROUGH INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Recruiting and retaining the educator workforce is critical to successful schools and student achievement. Join us to learn about grow your own initiatives like teacher apprenticeships, rural school psychologist training programs, and principal preparation programs, the results of collaboration between school districts and educator preparation programs. Other recruitment strategies, including those specific to special education teachers, will also be shared. We'll discuss actions for retention of both teachers and administrators with a focus on the importance of collaboration and conversation between school districts and educator preparation programs. We look forward to having you join us!

PRESENTERS: Sara Skretta - UNL; Andrea Haynes - Westside Community Schools



E7 OPEN MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS - ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW CHANGES?

In this session, lawyers from the Perry Law Firm will discuss some of the new changes to the Open Meetings Act and Public Records Laws that were recently made by the Legislature.



PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm



E8 USING THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK METHOD TO DESIGN, CONTRACT, AND BUILD YOUR BOND PROJECTS.



Join us for an insightful session where a school superintendent and a legal expert will discuss the benefits of using a Construction Manager at Risk (CM@R) approach. Discover how a school district can effectively collaborate with architects, attorneys, and construction firms to successfully manage bond projects from inception to completion. Gain valuable perspectives on optimizing the process to ensure timely and efficient project delivery.

PRESENTERS: Jason Buckingham - Ralston Public Schools; Coady Pruett - KSB School Law



E9 HOW DOES MY SCHOOL TRAIN AND REPORT FOR THE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & TEACHER SUPPORT ACT (BITS)

Does my school have to train everyone this year? Does my school have to train everyone? Does my school have to watch videos? If my school recertified in MANDT or CPI in June, does that count? Does my school have to use Canvas? How do we record the staff who took the training? Join us this fine Friday morning as we help to answer these questions and more.

PRESENTERS: Larianne Polk & Andrew Easton - ESUCC



F

E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 10:30 TO 11:30 AM**F1 GETTING YOUR SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON PAR**

Student behavior is a common concern among stakeholders. During the 2023-2024 school year, Lincoln Public Schools developed a comprehensive PK-12 behavior framework. The Prevention, Accountability, and Restorative (PAR) Behavior Framework is designed to equip teachers, staff, administrators, and stakeholders with the tools, strategies, and practices necessary to cultivate a positive, supportive environment for teaching and learning with greater consistency. The PAR framework encompasses evidence-based practices, preventative strategies, and an accountability matrix in conjunction with restorative practice to address a range of behavior needs across educational settings. Join us for an overview of the framework.

PRESENTERS: Lanny Boswell, Kathy Danek, Mike Gillotti & Karmin Pedroza - Lincoln Public Schools

**F2 2024 PHS CAREER ACADEMIES - FIND YOUR PATH IN HIGH SCHOOL**

Plattsmouth High School Wall-to-Wall Career Academies began in 2016 after years of visioning and planning by students, staff, and stakeholders. Our academies are led by student academy core leaders (ACL), the business/community advisory committee, and our district and PHS staff. Learn about our journey to becoming a National Model High School and how wall-to-wall career academies differ from pocket academies with every student in an academy. Join us at our session and also hear about our new website, marketing, updated course guides, and pathways for our three career academies.

PRESENTERS: Tina Harvey, Richard Hasty, Todd Halvorsen & Cherie Larson - Plattsmouth Community Schools

**F3 NEGOTIATING FROM THE BOARD'S SIDE: SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, AND CLASSIFIED STAFF**

Negotiations is one of the most important functions of a school board. In fact, "personnel" is the largest item of a school district's budget. And one of the Board's main responsibilities is to oversee the Superintendent. This session will walk through the statutory requirements for negotiations with teachers, as well as common pitfalls in Superintendent Contracts and classified staff agreements. We will also give boards an update on ideas for the 2024-2025 negotiations season.

PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm

**F4 STRENGTHENING YOUR BEEF IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR STUDENTS IN 4H**

Arnold Public Schools has spent the last two years partnering with local businesses to purchase market heifers or steers at the Custer County Fair Livestock Auction. The school pays the base set at current market, and the sponsoring business pays the premium. They are then processed at our USDA Inspected Processor. What started with one steer, quickly jumped to 4 at the 2023 auction. After the first year, businesses were requesting to participate in the program. Attend this session to learn more about seizing this opportunity to buy local and support our local farmers and ranchers.

PRESENTER: Joel Morgan - Arnold Public Schools

**F5 TITLE IX: NEW OR IMPROVED?**

Every year there's one topic we hope won't surface yet again, and every year Title IX and all things sex discrimination and gender identity see trends or changes we can't ignore. This year, we have new regulations, new cases, and a Supreme Court content with punting on 3rd down. From complaints of sex discrimination to athletic participation, it's been another busy year. We can't cover everything, but we'll hit the high points all board members and administrators need to know.

PRESENTERS: Jordan Johnson & Coady Pruett - KSB School Law



F6 CENTRAL NEBRASKA TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Nationally, there is a recognized teacher shortage and ongoing conversation and collaborations among policymakers, school leaders, and education preparation programs focused on recruiting and retaining teachers. Funded by the Nebraska Department of Education's Educator Shortage grant, UNK researchers delved into the experiences of Central Nebraska teachers. Their research captured teacher perceptions of their jobs, identified factors boosting professional satisfaction, and pinpointed interventions supporting their growth and development. During this session, the UNK Research team will share findings and ideas on how to support early career educators.

PRESENTERS: Chelsea Feusner, Janet Eckerson, Aprille Phillips & Chadra Diaz - University of Nebraska-Kearney



F7 SCOREBOARD UPDATE: ATHLETICS, NIL, AND COPYRIGHT

In this session, lawyers from Perry Law firm will discuss various issues that can arise with athletic equity and booster clubs, student-athlete name-image-likeness issues, and school and third-party copyrights and trademarks.

PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge- Perry Law Firm



F8 A LISTENING SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Share your thoughts on statewide education policy with members of the State Board of Education. State Board members are particularly interested in what is currently affecting local school boards and districts, and the solutions you have to offer for these issues. Topics may include school accountability, accreditation and approval, educator certification, and statewide assessment, among others. Attending this session is a great opportunity for you to have your voice heard among members of the State Board of Education.

PRESENTERS: Ryan Foor & Elizabeth Tegtmeier - Nebraska Department of Education

Registering for the Conference

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

To register, go to the NASB website at www.NASBonline.org and log in using your email and password, and click the State Education Conference link.

AS YOU REGISTER, BE SURE TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITOR RECEPTION
FROM 4:00 TO 5:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION, CONTACT AVARY PANSING-BROOKS AT
APANSINGBROOKS@NASBONLINE.ORG TO ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE MENUS.



Register now at www.NASBonline.org



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NOVEMBER 20-22
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and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators



Board Committee Reports

Curriculum & American Civics Committee (Burklund-chair, Lange, Matulka)

Facilities & Transportation Committee (Matulka-chair, Burklund, Lange)

Finance Committee (Breitkreutz-chair, Burklund, Heyen)

Negotiations Committee (Lange-chair, Benes, Heyen)

Policy Committee (Benes-chair, Breitkreutz, Heyen)

Old Business

New Business

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Approve the 2024-25 budget.

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to approve the 2024-2025 budget as follows: General Fund: \$13,145,088.00; Depreciation Fund: \$2,735,233.50; Employee Benefit Fund: \$340,380.00; Activities Fund: \$995,876.00; School Nutrition Fund: \$600,000.00; Bond Fund: \$1,370,800.00; Special Building Fund: \$3,925,115.00; QCPUF Fund: \$4,053.00; and Student Fee Fund: \$41,653.00 for a Total Budget of Disbursements: \$23,158,198.50. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to Set System-Wide 2024-25 Property Tax Request for General Fund, Building Fund, and High School Bond Fund.

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to approve the tax resolution to set system-wide 2024-2025 property tax request at \$9,669,027.00 with fund requests of: General Fund: \$8,130,724.00; Bond Fund: \$326,182.00; and Special Building Fund: \$1,212,121.00. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Approve the Lease with the RC Community Foundation.

Motion by Matulka, second by Lange to approve a Lease Agreement with the RC Community Foundation. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this 11th day of September, 2024 (“Effective Date”), by and between Lancaster County School District No. 55-0161, a.k.a. the Raymond Central Public School District, a Nebraska political subdivision (hereinafter the “District”) and the Raymond Central Community Foundation, a Nebraska non-profit corporation (hereinafter the “Foundation”). The District and Foundation are sometimes referred to hereinafter individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties.”

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the District operates a public-school system across various communities; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District, its students, and the community within the District to facilitate and permit the construction and development of new student and community activity facilities; and

WHEREAS, the District has identified benefits for its students and community by allowing access to new activity facilities and the District has identified its property located generally at 1800 W Agnew Road, Raymond Ne 68428 (the “Site,” more specifically identified in Exhibit “A” to this Agreement); and

WHEREAS, in order to defray the cost of such construction and renovations of such activity facilities on the Site, the District has determined that it is beneficial to establish a cooperative effort with the Foundation to lease the Site to the Foundation and allow the Foundation to design, construct, furnish, and otherwise develop activity facilities on the Site; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation desires to increase its ability to serve community members, including those youth who are students of the District; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained and for the good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 LEASE AGREEMENT

1.01 Lease of the Site.

(a) By entering into this Agreement, the District agrees to lease the Site to the Foundation from October 1, 2024, through August 1 2027 (the “Lease Term”). During the Lease Term, the District shall continue to own the Site but allow the Foundation and its directors, staff, and invitees access to the Site.

(b) During each calendar year of the Lease Term, the Foundation shall pay to the District the annual rent of \$1.00. Rent shall be due by the 31st day of December of each calendar year. If the Foundation fails to timely pay rent, the District shall notify the Foundation in writing and allow the Foundation five business days to remit rent. If, after five business days, the Foundation fails to remit rent to the District, the District may elect to terminate the Lease with no penalty to the District.

(c) During the Lease Term, the Foundation shall be permitted to use the Site as the Foundation deems appropriate, including to construct buildings, including activity facilities, and make other improvements or developments on the Site. The Foundation shall obtain the District's prior approval before any construction or development of buildings and facilities on the Site during the Lease Term. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Foundation shall not use the Site or permit the Site to be used for any unlawful purposes. If the District has concerns that the Foundation is not using the Site in an appropriate manner, the District and Foundation shall meet to discuss their concerns to find a mutually agreeable resolution.

(d) To the extent that the Foundation constructs new buildings or facilities, the Parties agree, to the extent permitted by law, to use the District's tax-exempt status in the purchasing or acquiring of goods and services.

(e) All costs and expenses of any construction or development on the Site (including design fees, construction costs, grading and development, materials and labor, and the like) shall be the sole responsibility of the Foundation and the District shall have no obligation to contribute or pay for any amounts related to the Site, unless the Parties otherwise agree in writing.

(f) The Foundation will oversee the construction on the Site. The Foundation will keep the District reasonably informed of the plans for the Site and progress of construction.

(g) The Foundation will be responsible for obtaining insurance in a commercially reasonable amount to cover the Site and any developments or construction on the Site, including builder's risk insurance. The Foundation shall name the District as an additional named insured on such policy. The Foundation shall provide proof of insurance coverage to the District upon the District's reasonable request.

(h) All facilities, equipment, trade fixtures, personal property, buildings, and improvements constructed on the Site during the Lease Term shall be owned by and shall be the property of the Foundation. The Foundation shall have all risk of loss with respect to the facilities, buildings, and improvements constructed on the Site during the Lease Term, except for loss or damage caused by the negligence or intentional acts or omissions of the District or its directors, officers, employees, agents, or representatives.

ARTICLE 2
USE OF SITE

2.01 Use of the Facilities on Site.

(a) The Foundation shall have the discretion, after consultation with the District, to determine how any facilities, buildings, or areas of the Site are used during the Lease Term. The Foundation's discretion shall include the ability to secure naming rights, advertisements, signage, and the like on the Site or in any facilities on the Site. It is the Parties' intent to allow the District access to the Site, but the Foundation shall have the final determination on scheduling and access to the Site during the Lease Term. The Foundation agrees to keep the District reasonably informed of planned events and scheduling to ensure that the District is aware of such events. In addition, the Foundation may, with permission of the District, lease space on the Site to third party entities or organizations.

(b) The Foundation shall be solely responsible for the costs and expenses of operating any facilities, buildings, or areas on the Site during the Lease Term. The Foundation's obligations shall include all day-to-day operations (including maintenance, cleaning, utilities, supervision, staff, and the like) and long-term commitments (such as upkeep, repairs, replacement of equipment, and the like). The Foundation shall also be entitled to collect and keep any revenues generated from the Site, including admission fees, concessions, registration fees, naming rights, advertisements, signage, and the like on the Site. The District shall have no obligation to contribute or any right to collect any amounts related to the Foundation's use of the Site, unless otherwise agreed by both Parties. I

(c) If the District has concerns about the Foundation's operation of the Site, the District and Foundation agree to meet in good faith to discuss such concerns. If the Parties are unable to reach a good faith resolution, then both Parties agree to submit to mediation within 30 days from the meeting date to find a mutually agreeable solution to the concern.

(d) Upon reasonable request, the Foundation shall allow the District access to the Site and any facilities at no cost to the District.

(e) If, during the Lease Term, all or a material portion of any buildings or facilities on the Site are destroyed by fire or other casualty, or in the event a material portion of such buildings or facilities are damaged by any such cause to the extent that the damages cannot be repaired and instead such portion of the buildings or facilities must be rebuilt, the Foundation shall determine whether such portion of the buildings or facilities can and will be rebuilt with the use of the casualty insurance proceeds. In the event the Foundation determines to rebuild such buildings or facilities, then this Agreement shall not be terminated. In the event the Foundation determines that such buildings or facilities will not be rebuilt, then the Agreement shall be terminated, and will be deemed terminated as of the date of such fire or casualty. Such determination shall be made within sixty (60) days after such damage occurs or otherwise agreed to by both Parties. If such notice is not given to the District by the Foundation, then this Agreement shall not terminate.

2.02 Personal Property at Risk of the Foundation. All personal property of the Foundation on the Site shall be at the risk of the Foundation only. The District shall not be liable for any damage to any property of the Foundation in the buildings or facilities caused by any reason whatsoever, including, without limitation, fire, theft, steam, electricity, sewage, gas or odors, or from water, rain, ice, or snow which may leak into, or flow into the buildings or facilities from any part of the Site, unless caused by the negligence or the intentional act or omission of the District or its employees, students, agents, representatives, contractors, invitees or licensees.

2.03 Foundation Insurance. The Foundation shall, at its sole cost and expense, at all times during the Lease Term and any other period of occupancy of the Site by the Foundation, obtain and keep in force with respect to the Site and any buildings or improvements commercial general public liability insurance and fire and casualty insurance, each in a form customarily written for the protection of owners, landlords, tenants, tenants' agents, patrons, employees, invitees, and contractors and anyone else who the Foundation is responsible, which shall name the District as an additional insured. The certificates of insurance shall not be canceled or terminated without at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice to the District. Failure to maintain the required insurance shall be considered an event of default under this Agreement.

2.04 Indemnification.

(a) The District hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Foundation and its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, invitees, and licensee from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees (collectively, "Claims") that (a) arise from or are in connection with District's use, ownership, or control of the Site or any portion thereof; (ii) arise from or in connection with any act or omission of the District or its employees, students, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees; (iii) result from any default, breach, violation or non-performance of this Agreement or any provision hereof by District; or (iv) results from injury to person or property or loss of life sustained at the Site, except to the extent caused by the gross negligence or intentional acts or omissions of the Foundation or its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees. The District shall, at its own cost and expense, defend any and all actions, suits and proceedings which may be brought against the Foundation and its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees with respect to the foregoing. The District shall pay, satisfy and discharge any and all judgments, orders and decrees which may be received against the Foundation or any such directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees in connection with the foregoing. In the event the Foundation or any other party so indemnified shall, without fault, be made a party to any litigation commenced by or against District, or if the Foundation or any such party shall, in its sole discretion, intervene in such litigation to protect its interest hereunder, then the District shall protect and hold them harmless and shall pay all costs, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred or paid by such party(ies) in connection with such litigation.

(b) The Foundation hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the District and its employees, students, agents, representatives, invitees, and licensees from and against any and all Claims that (i) arise from or are in connection with the Foundation's use, operation, management, repair, maintenance or control of the Site or any portion thereof; (ii) arise from or in connection with any act or omission of the Foundation or its directors, officers, employees, coaches, trainers,

agents, representatives, invitees or licensees; (iii) result from any default, breach, violation or non-performance of this Agreement or any provision hereof by the Foundation; or (iv) results from injury to person or property or loss of life sustained at the Site, except to the extent caused by the gross negligence or intentional acts or omissions of the District or its employees, students, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees. The Foundation shall, at its own cost and expense, defend any and all actions, suits and proceedings which may be brought against the District and its employees, students, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees with respect to the foregoing. The Foundation shall pay, satisfy and discharge any and all judgments, orders and decrees which may be received against the District or any such employees, students, agents, representatives, invitees or licensees in connection with the foregoing. In the event the District or any other party so indemnified shall, without fault, be made a party to any litigation commenced by or against the Foundation, or if the District or any such party shall, in its sole discretion, intervene in such litigation to protect its interest hereunder, then the Foundation shall protect and hold them harmless and shall pay all costs, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred or paid by such party(ies) in connection with such litigation.

2.05 Bankruptcy. In the event (i) the Foundation files a petition in bankruptcy or insolvency or for reorganization under any bankruptcy act, or voluntarily takes advantage of any such act by answer or otherwise, or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors or (ii) if involuntary proceeds under any bankruptcy or insolvency act shall be instituted against the Foundation, or if a receiver or trustee shall be appointed of all or substantially all of the property of the Foundation, and such proceedings are not dismissed or the receivership or trusteeship vacated within thirty (30) days after the institute or appointment, then this Agreement shall and all rights of the Foundation hereunder shall immediately terminate, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by both Parties. In the event of a termination as provided herein, the District also shall have all remedies allowed to the District pursuant to other provisions of this agreement.

2.06 Assignment. Neither Party may assign this Agreement, in whole or in part, nor allow any other entity to operate and manage any facilities, buildings, or other part of the Site, nor any portion thereof, nor shall this Agreement be transferred by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the other Party. Any permitted assignment or transfer shall not relieve the transferring Party of their obligations hereunder. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Paragraph 2.06, the Foundation, in its sole discretion, may contract with a third party or third parties to operate the Site or a portion thereof. If the Foundation intends to contract with a third party or third parties, the Foundation shall notify the District in writing at least ten days before the third party begins contracted work on the Site.

2.07 Default. In the event the Foundation: (a) entirely discontinues its operation of the Site for a period of six (6) consecutive months, (b) fails to adequately maintain the Site in accordance with applicable law and regulations for a period of six (6) consecutive months, or (c) if any other default is made by the Foundation in the performance of any of the covenants and agreements herein contained, and the Foundation fails to cure any such default within sixty (60) days after receiving written notice thereof (or if, for any reason outside the control of the Foundation, such default cannot be cured within said 60-day period, provided that the Foundation has commenced such cure and continues to diligently prosecute the same to completion, such reasonable additional time, which in any event shall not exceed an additional 60-day period

without the prior written consent of the District), which notice shall specifically identify the alleged default, the District shall have the right, at any time thereafter, to declare the Foundation to be in default and terminate this Agreement for cause, and may re-enter the Site and retake possession thereof, without prejudice, to any remedies which the District may have according to law. In the event of any default on the part of the Foundation and declaration by the District that this Agreement is terminated for cause, the District shall have the right to exercise any other right or remedy that it has, according to law. Temporary discontinuance of the operation of the Site due to damage by casualty or force majeure event or as necessary to accommodate repairs and renovations shall not be considered a default under this Agreement.

2.08 Self-Help. In the event the Foundation shall fail, refuse or neglect to perform any duty or obligation specified in this Agreement, and such non-performance continues after thirty (30) days' written notice thereof by the District to the Foundation, the District may, but shall not be obligated to, perform such obligation, and the cost thereof shall be reimbursed by the Foundation immediately upon demand by District. If such failure or refusal to perform creates a condition that endangers people or property at the Site, the District shall not be required to provide such notice before electing to perform such obligation. The performance of any such obligation by the District shall not be deemed a cure of the default under the provisions of Section 2.07. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedy that the District may have in law or equity.

2.09 Termination.

(a) Definition of Cause. "Cause" means a termination due to (i) a material breach by either Party of the terms and conditions of this Agreement (beyond any required notice and cure period), including those reasons set forth in this Agreement, (ii) a violation of law, safety code, or regulation by either Party with notice to the other Party and an opportunity for the other Party to cure such noncompliance; and/or (iii) the Foundation electing not to rebuild any destroyed buildings or facilities, or any material portion thereof, pursuant to Section 2.01(e) during the Lease Term.

(b) Termination for Cause. Either Party may terminate this Agreement for Cause by providing written notice thereof to the other Party. In the event that, after receipt of such notice, the other Party fails or declines to cure any breach or basis to terminate (if applicable), then the Party may terminate this agreement for cause, effective immediately.

(c) Termination for Convenience. Either Party may terminate this Agreement without Cause by providing written notice thereof to the other Party at ~~least thirty-six (36)~~ **least 6 months** prior to the proposed termination date. Such notice shall specify the date that the Agreement will terminate. This Agreement shall thereafter expire on the date specified in the notice without further action by either Party.

**ARTICLE 3
MISCELLANEOUS**

3.01 Dispute Resolution.

(a) Negotiations. In the event of any dispute between the Foundation and the District, the Parties will promptly and in good faith attempt to resolve such dispute through negotiations. The appropriate representative(s) with authority to resolve the dispute for each Party will meet as soon as reasonably possible to attempt in mutual good faith to resolve the dispute. If the Parties are unable to resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days after either the Foundation or the District sends a written notice to the other Party specifying in detail the nature of the dispute, then the Parties may submit the dispute to mediation as agreed to by the parties.

(b) Judicial Resolution. If there is a failure to resolve a dispute, either Party may initiate appropriate proceedings to obtain a judicial resolution of the dispute with the District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska.

3.02 Relationship. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be deemed or construed by the Parties hereto, nor by any third party, as creating the relationship of principal and agent or of partnership or of joint venture between the Parties, it being understood and agreed that no provision contained herein, nor any act of the Parties, shall be deemed to create any relationship between the Parties hereto other than the contractual relationship of the District and the Foundation as set forth herein.

3.03 Entire Agreement. The District and the Foundation hereby agree that this Agreement, along with all Exhibits and attachments hereto, embodies the entire agreement between the Parties and that there are no other agreements, written or verbal, between the Parties hereto.

3.04 Binding Effect. The words “District” and “the Foundation” shall be taken to include and be binding upon the Parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and permitted assigns, and shall be taken in the plural sense, whenever the context requires, and all pronouns used herein and referring to said parties shall be construed accordingly, regardless either of the number or gender thereof. The provisions herein shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and shall bind and inure to the benefit of the legal representatives, heirs, successors, and permitted assigns of the Parties respectively.

3.05 Amendment. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by written instrument executed by both the District and the Foundation.

3.06 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed, construed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the state of Nebraska.

3.07 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

3.08 Captions; Construction of Terms. All captions, headings, section and subsection titles are solely for reference purposes and shall not be deemed to be supplementing, limiting, or otherwise varying the text of this Agreement. Whenever in this Agreement the consent of one of the Parties is required as a condition of the other Party performing some act under this Agreement, such consent shall, in all instances, not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed by such Party.

3.09 No Waiver. No waiver of any default hereunder shall be implied from any omission of either Party hereto, or from the failure of either Party to exercise any right or power that such Party may have. No custom or practice of the Parties that is at variance with the terms of this Agreement shall constitute or waiver of such terms. Any waiver shall be in writing.

3.10 Notice. Whenever under this Agreement a provision is made for notice of any kind, such notices shall be given in writing and shall be deemed duly served if such notice: (i) is hand-delivered or sent by nationally recognized overnight courier service, when delivered at the address specified in this Section 3.10, (ii) sent by United States registered or certified first class mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid, when delivered at the address specified in this Section 3.10 on the date appearing on the return receipt therefor, or (iii), or by electronic mail.

If to the District, notices shall be sent to both:

Superintendent of Schools
Raymond Central Public Schools
1800 W. Agnew Road
Raymond, NE 68428

If to the Foundation, notices should be sent to:

Chief Executive Officer
Raymond Central Schools Foundation
1800 W. Agnew Road
Raymond, NE 68428

3.11 Counterparts; Exchange by Electronic Transmission. This Agreement may be executed in two (2) or more counterparts, and by electronic transmissions, each of which shall be deemed an original, but which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank; Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have formally approved this Agreement and authorized the undersigned to execute this Agreement on each Party's behalf on the day and date first above written.

RAYMOND CENTRAL
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

RAYMOND CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Date: _____

Date: _____

By: _____
Authorized Representative

By: _____
Authorized Representative

Exhibit "A" – Approximate Location of the Site

**Lot 22, Irregular Tracts in the Southeast Quarter of Section 9, Township 12 North,
Range 6 East of the 6th P.M., Lancaster County, Nebraska.**

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to approve RCEA as Exclusive Bargaining Agent for Non-Supervisory Certificated Staff for the 2026-2027 Contract Year

Motion by Lange, second by Burklund to recognize the Raymond Central Education Association as exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2026-2027 contract year. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

September 6, 2024

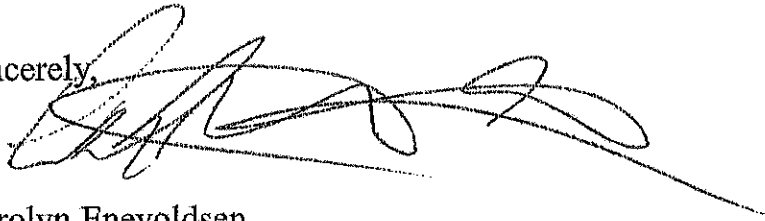
Raymond Central Public School
Board of Education
1800 West Agnew Road
Raymond, NE 68428

Dear Negotiations Committee,

The Raymond Central Education Association requests that the school board of the Raymond Central Public Schools take action to recognize the Raymond Central Education Association as exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2026-2027 contract year.

Please direct your response to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn Enevoldsen', written over a horizontal line.

Carolyn Enevoldsen
Raymond Central Education Association

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Make the Following Transfers From the General Fund.
\$500,000 to the Depreciation Fund
\$100,000 to the Employee Benefit
\$100,000 to the Hot Lunch Fund

Motion by Heyen, second by Matulka to transfer money from the General Fund as follows: \$500,000 to the Depreciation Fund; \$100,000 to the Employee Benefit Fund; and \$100,000 to the Hot Lunch Fund. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular Board of Education Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

Adjournment

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 PM. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.