

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

Wednesday, December 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, Brad Breitreutz, Cathy Burklund, Larry Heyen, Bill Lange, Derek Matulka. Also in attendance were: Bryon Hanson, Superintendent; Troy Lurz, Secondary Principal; Tony Kobza, Asst Principal/Activities Director; Breanne Poston, Asst Principal/Preschool Director; Deb Kruse, Ceresco 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 Matulka, second by Lange to approve the consent agenda as presented including the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2024; November financial statement; monthly bills; and approval of substitute teachers. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Regular Minutes of November 13, 2024

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Present: Mary Benes, Brad Breitreutz, Cathy Burklund, Bill Lange, Derek Matulka, **Absent:** Larry Heyen. Also in attendance were: Bryon Hanson, Superintendent; 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

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

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 Matulka, second by Benes to approve the consent agenda as presented including the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2024; October financial statement; monthly bills; and approval of substitute teachers Carley Peters and Rhiannon Stoner. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Regular Minutes of October 16, 2024

Financial Statement/Report

Monthly Bills

Policy Review

Certificated staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Correspondence/Recognition

Congratulations were extended to: Marissa Tvrdy who was selected as an alternate for All-State Band; the High School Band for their Division I Superior Rating at the Ashland Band Competition; the Volleyball team for being NCC Conference Champions; Cole Dubas for qualifying for State Cross Country; and the football team for their State Playoff win.

Presentation regarding options for lower class sizes at the elementary level.

HAL Report

Secondary Data Report

Reports

Administrative Reports

Submitted by Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High School Principal

Professional Development: The Professional Learning Team spent time with teaching staff on Friday, November 1st introducing cognitive interest cues, innovation configuration maps, and peer coaching. We look forward to our next inservice at the beginning of January.

Achievement Scores and Testing: PSAT testing was in October. ASVAB for juniors is November 13.

Counseling/ACT/Senior Experience/Scholarships (Tasha): Clover has been a fun addition to the staff. Students and staff are enjoying spending time with him and talking. Junior job shadow day was November 6. Students experienced everything from fence installation to dental hygienist to interior design. All grade levels are working on Naviance career education, 9th graders took the Gallup Strengthsfinder survey at the end of October and 6th grade explored their interests. We have hosted two college/career/military fairs with a variety of representatives. We are always looking for more local businesses, please send them my way!

Connor Tice represented RC at the HOBY Leadership Day on November 9 in Lincoln.

Raymond Central High School Youth Salute Scholarship Awards include Erika Donahue, Sarah Lange, Brooke Munford, and Ellerie White. These include a scholarship amount for up to five different schools. Sarah Lange was also awarded the Outstanding Youth Leaders Award.

The American Legion Auxiliary made a note to let us know that they were proud of RC student Sarah Lange for representing Nebraska at ALA GirlsNation in Washington DC this past July.

Evaluation Update: Semester one teacher evaluations are steadily in progress.

FBLA: FBLA hosted a successful craft fair and car show! Thank you to everyone who came out to support us. This past week, FBLA students went on our business tour field trip, with 17 students visiting the UNL College of Business and Hudl. At UNL, students participated in workshops on entrepreneurship and economics. Additionally, Sarah Lange is attending the National Fall Leadership Conference in Columbus, Ohio, this week.

Student Council: Student Council has started a canned food drive to help stock the Caring Shelves and they are planning to collect toys and winter wear for the Salvation Army.

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

Facilities

Valedictorian and Salutatorian plaques have been ordered to update our record board area. We are working on updating the recognition for activity and athletic accomplishments. The Senior Picture screen will be moved to the blue wall with the Val and Sal plaques to start to create an academic celebration wall.

The activity bus has been delivered to the inspection site in Grand Island. It will go through inspections and then be wrapped in Aurora before being delivered to the school.

Athletics

- Cross Country: Cole Dubas competed at the State Cross Country Meet
- Softball Finished the season with 9 wins on the season
- Volleyball won the conference tournament for the first time in 22 years
- Football won their first playoff game in 24 years
- Unified Bowling Season has begun and has had great participation

We are moving Junior High Girls Wrestling to November to try to encourage and allow more participation as opposed to the same time as Girls Basketball in January and February.

High School Winter Sports start officially on November 18.

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

Preschool has had a phenomenal start to the school year! Outside of daily learning experiences, highlights have included a visit from the Volunteer Fire Department during Fire Safety Week, Martin's Orchard field trip, parent-teacher conferences, and a plethora of fall festivities in the classroom. We also just recently completed the CLASS observation through the Nebraska Department of Education as part of Rule 11 compliance. The visit to Mrs. Megan's PK3 classroom focused specifically on teacher and student interactions and offered feedback for future planning. Truly, this was an opportunity for our program and PK team to shine and they certainly did not disappoint.

Coming up very soon is our annual fall Early Childhood Advisory Meeting with the RC Preschool team, ESU2 service providers, preschool families, and local community partnerships. We will share news and celebrations, review GOLD data, discuss the addition of a PK sensory space. We will also discuss anticipated future enrollment and early intervention. It's going to be a great place to be on November 18, so please join us!

**RC EARLY CHILDHOOD
ADVISORY MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024

@
6 PM
RC PK

WE HOPE
TO SEE YOU
THERE!

1800 W AGNEW RD
RAYMOND, NE 68428

Submitted by Amanda Coufal, Director of Special Education

Unifed Bowling:

Unifed Bowling has officially started for the 2024-2025 school year. Six athletes and around 14 partners are participating! On October 28, 20 students attended practice from 4:00-5:00 PM at SunValley Lanes in Lincoln. Then on November 4, we participated in our first Invite that was held at SunValley Lanes. The

kids competed against 16 schools and 42 teams! Our bowlers did a great job, are competitive and supportive of all of their teammates. It was a fun time and the kids are excited for the next meet. Big shout out to our coaches Shawn Semler, Stacey Doan, Peggy Breitreutz, Paige Mestl and myself. They are taking time out of their busy schedules to make sure that Unified Bowling is a success at Raymond Central. Also, thank you to Tony Kobza and Bryon Hanson for being so supportive of this endeavor and allowing this new program that will create an inclusive environment at Raymond Central. If you have never been to Unified Bowling, I encourage you to attend!!! (Pictures below)

Schedule:

- Tuesday, November 12 - Quad at Elkhorn with a 3:30pm start
- Thursday, November 14 - Quad at York with a 10:00am start
- Monday, November 18 - Quad at Elkhorn with a 3:30pm start
- Thursday, November 21 - Dual with Norris with a 2:00pm start
- Districts - December 4
- State - December 9

Tri-State Regional Special Education Law Conference:

Last Thursday and Friday, Shawn Semler, Caitlin Roussan, Clair Turman and myself attended the Special Education Law Conference which is my favorite conference! We left with a lot of great ideas and knowledge that will continue to help not only students with disabilities but also supporting our special education and general education staff. Some of the sessions that we attended are:

- Special Education Boot Camp
- Child Find under Section 504 and IDEA
- Discipline of Students with Disabilities and Why It Matters
- Facilitating High-Conflict IEP Meetings
- Goals, Grades, and Goldilocks
- Navigating General Supervision: Impact of Indicator 18
- Addressing Challenging Behaviors of Students with Disabilities
- Collaboration Between Special Education and General Education
- Legal Issues When the School Provides FAPE at Home
- Demystifying Dyslexia in Child Find and Services

Collaboration Meetings:

I have started to meet individually with the special education teachers, speech language pathologist and school psychologist every other week. This time allows us to celebrate the work that they are doing and brag about their students. This is also a time to reflect on challenges and problem solve situations. We also discuss paperwork and how we can continue to improve. Even though everyone is busy, this has been a beneficial time for all of us and allows me to better understand what is happening in each building with our students.

Thanksgiving Lunch:

Stacey Doan and her crew will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving lunch on November 26 at noon in the Mustang Room. This is a chance for the life skills students to plan a meal, go grocery shopping, prep, cook, and serve a delicious meal for their families. This is a highlight for our students and their parents. The tradition continues through the hard work of the life skills staff and students!





Game	Score
Game 1	100
Game 2	100
Game 3	100
Game 4	100
Game 5	100





Submitted by Elementary Principals Steve Rose and Deb Kruse
Veterans Day Observance

- On Monday, November 11, our elementary students traveled to the HS for a Veterans Day assembly. It was great to see our entire student body gathered together on such a special day.
- Elementary students also made art projects and Thank You cards for the veterans in attendance.

Professional Learning

- On Friday, November 1, the professional learning team finished presenting on the first phase of learning: become interested. In this learning phase, we want to capture student's attention so they will commit to learning, which is the next phase of learning. To do this, staff explored cognitive interest cues. Cognitive interest cues motivate learning by framing units and lessons in a way that makes learning stimulating and relevant to students.
- **Peer Coaching:** A study conducted by Bryce Joyce and Beverly Showers suggests, "With the addition of peer coaching, 95 of 100 teachers can be expected to apply the PD in their classrooms where it can impact student performance. If we were to include every component but peer coaching, the best we can expect is that 5 of those 100 will transfer their learning to their classrooms and students (McREL, 2017.)
 - Breanne Poston and Monica Blank introduced peer coaching to the staff and revealed Raymond Central's peer coaching plan. Through peer coaching, Raymond Central educators will share knowledge, skills, and experiences to perfect their craft and enhance student learning. Teachers will observe their peers and provide feedback on the use of cognitive interest cues. Administrators will

put structures in place to allow teachers time to complete these peer coaching sessions.

HAL Special Ops

- A group of 29 students from grades 3-8 traveled to Mead with Mrs. Hudson and Mr. Placke on October 29 to participate in the first enrichment opportunity provided by the ESU RESTORE Grant for our G-T / HAL students. The students were able to participate in an assembly from Wildlife Encounters, a non-profit organization out of Elkhorn, engaging students in wildlife conservation and environmental education. Students took a deep dive into animal habitats, roles in the food chain/web, classification, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) status, conservation, as well as other topics.
- The next event will take place in November at Fremont and our students will be split between Elementary and Middle School activities.
 - HAL students in grades 3-5 will work to design and construct a project developed by the National Inventors Hall of Fame, an organization that honors the greatest inventors who have built the world around us and seek to inspire the innovators of tomorrow and challenge today's creative thinkers to design the future.
 - HAL students in grades 6-8 will participate in a session called "Droids, Jedis, Rebels, Scoundrels, and the Empire: Star Wars, Political Science, and the Future of STEAM," developed and taught by Dr. Jenny Miller, Assistant Professor in the History, Politics, and Geography Department at Wayne State College. In this program students will learn how to debate the future of artificial intelligence using a format based on Star Wars.

Student Board Member

Superintendent's Report

I have reached out to the winners of our Unicameral Elections and congratulated them as well as invited them to meet and see what we have to offer in the Raymond Central School District.

We were a polling site on November 5 and everything went smoothly.

I was very pleased with how well our professional learning day went on November 1.

Classified Staff hires/reassignment/resignations

NASB Monthly Update

NRCSA Monthly Report

Update on Superintendent Goals

Safety Report

The subcommittee met on November 5 to add language regarding processes for tragic events. This will be reviewed by the entire Safety Committee and then presented to the Board of Education.

Facilities Report

The Valparaiso fire panel is in Lincoln, but engineers submitted plans to the Fire Marshall and he wants to

update other items that are not up to code. Not sure on what that all entails yet or a dollar amount.

I am starting to get pricing on a new route bus, that will replace bus 13 the Lion.

I have ordered and changed a bad energy recovery wheel motor on ERU-2 at the high school. New benches are on their way for the playground in Ceresco and will be installed soon. Working on all other maintenance items district wide on all HVAC and plumbing. Pretty much a constant thing.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- November 18 - Community Forum in Ceresco at 7:00 PM
- November 19 - Community Forum in Valparaiso at 7:00 PM
- November 21-22 - State Education Conference in Omaha

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 Early Graduation Requests

Motion by Matulka, second by Burklund to approve early graduation requests from Ainslee Southard and Jasmine Wells. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to approve the Superintendent Evaluation

Motion by Benes, second by Matulka to approve the Superintendent Evaluation as presented: Standard 1: Mission and Goals-5.11; Standard 2: Policy-4.88; Standard 3: Budget, Planning, and Management-5.13; Standard 4: Educational Leadership-5.22; Standard 5: Organizational and Cultural Leadership-5.21; Standard 6: Community Relations-5.40; Standard 7: Professional Leadership-5.40; Standard 8: Board-Superintendent Relations-5.45. RCV 5-0. Motion carried

Discuss, Consider and Take Necessary Action to approve the 2025-2027 Master Agreement with the RCEA

Motion by Lange, second by Burklund to approve the 2025-2027 Master Agreement with the RCEA increasing the base pay by \$700.00 in 2025-2026 and another increase of \$700.00 in 2026-2027. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Appoint NASB Delegate for Assembly on 11/22.

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to appoint Cathy Burklund as the NASB Delegate for the Assembly on November 22 at the State Education Conference. RCV 4-0, Abstained-Cathy Burklund. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action To Declare the 2013 Lion Bus Surplus.

Motion by Matulka, second by Burklund to declare the 2013 Lion bus as surplus. This bus does not get used and it is hard to find parts. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.

Next Regular Board Meeting

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

Adjournment

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 PM. RCV 5-0. Motion carried.



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

	11/1/2024 - 11/30/2024	11/1/2023 - 11/30/2023
Balance - Beginning of Month	\$2,352,656.20	\$3,394,487.00
Receipts	\$131,888.28	\$293,859.94
Interest Earned	\$3,721.21	\$5,908.71
Disbursements	<u>-\$917,044.47</u>	<u>-\$879,833.60</u>
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,011,717.81</u>	
Balance - End of Month	\$2,582,939.03	\$2,814,422.05



Raymond Central Public Schools

General Fund Receipts Nov 2024

LANCASTER COUNTY TREASURER		
TAXES		\$24,045.95
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX		\$701.18
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$26,440.57
FINES & FEES		\$1,954.66
MOTOR VEHICLE PRO-RATE		\$1,324.33
SAUNDERS COUNTY TREASURER		
TAXES		\$37,506.20
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$21,374.29
FINES & FEES		\$1,889.06
PUBLIC POWER 5% TAX		\$4,577.67
SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER		
MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES		\$1,020.64
FINES & FEES		\$162.06
BUTLER COUNTY TREASURER		
FINES & FEES		\$7.17
FEDERAL RECEIPTS		
ESSERS 3 FINAL PAYT		\$359.00
STATE OF NEBRASKA		
HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS		\$4,750.00
ESU PAYMENTS		
REIMB. EMPOWER SUB TEACHERS		\$2,115.50
VILLAGE OF DAVEY		
LIQUOR LICENSE		\$300.00
PRESCHOOL TUITION		
TUITION PAYMENTS		\$3,360.00
JONES BANK		
GENERAL FUND INTEREST Nov		\$3,731.21
TOTAL		\$135,619.49

NOVMEBER 2024	Percent of Year Completed		25.00%			
2024-2025 RECEIPTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	ANTICIPATED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	% Received	% Received
ACCOUNT	2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025	2023-2024	2024-2025	2023-2024
Property Taxes	\$8,049,417.00	\$61,552.15	\$1,291,173.25	\$1,356,817.14	16.04%	16.72%
Motor Vehicle Tax	\$550,000.00	\$48,835.50	\$127,884.24	\$149,048.02	23.25%	29.87%
Public Power Tax (5% Gross)	\$33,000.00	\$4,577.67	\$4,577.67	\$0.00	13.87%	0.00%
Carlina Taxes	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$268.20	\$539.88	10.73%	21.34%
Other Tuition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Interest	\$30,000.00	\$3,731.21	\$15,741.33	\$20,830.96	52.47%	260.39%
Local License Fees	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	60.00%	0.00%
Other Local Receipts(Pre-K)	\$20,000.00	\$3,360.00	\$13,185.00	\$6,042.62	65.93%	50.36%
Fines & License Fees	\$40,000.00	\$4,012.95	\$8,543.01	\$10,815.84	21.36%	41.60%
ESU Receipts	\$2,900.00	\$2,115.50	\$2,115.50	\$2,112.20	72.95%	28.93%
State Aid	\$1,237,141.00	\$0.00	\$250,202.00	\$373,931.00	20.22%	30.80%
Special Education	\$1,140,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Special Educ. Transportation	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Homestead Exemption	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
High Ability Learners	\$5,500.00	\$4,750.00	\$4,750.00	\$0.00	86.36%	0.00%
Pro-Rate Motor Vehicles	\$17,000.00	\$1,324.33	\$2,370.45	\$2,520.87	13.94%	13.27%
State Apportionment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Relief to Property Tax Payers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Other State Receipts	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Personal Property Tax Credit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,293.59	0.00%	100.00%
Title I /II Funds	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Other Federal Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
SPED IDEA Grant PreK	\$137,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Private Grants-College Access	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,150.00	0.00%	100.00%
Carl Perkins	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Other Non-Revenue Receipts	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$9,355.00	90.00%	100.00%
Ag Land Property Credit	\$0.00	\$701.18	\$10,736.77	\$0.00	0.00%	100.00%
ESSER (COVID-19) Funds	\$0.00	\$359.00	\$359.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Sale of Property	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$526.25	\$0.00	17.54%	0.00%
MIPS-Medicaid-Public Schools	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,882.70	\$13,334.66	24.71%	149.83%
TransferOther Fund/ Imprest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
Insurance Adjustments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	100.00%
TOTAL	\$11,461,458.00	\$135,619.49	\$1,744,415.37	\$1,955,791.78	15.22%	17.37%
2024-2025 DISBUREMENTS		M-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	Y-T-D
	BUDGET	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	DISBURSED	% Disbursed	% Disbursed
CATEGORY	2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025	2023-2024	2024-2025	2023-2024
Instructional Services	\$5,900,000.00	\$397,600.94	\$1,196,725.32	\$1,204,269.78	20.28%	22.79%
Special Education	\$2,450,000.00	\$143,204.24	\$526,237.25	\$522,327.34	21.48%	25.89%
Guidance	\$200,000.00	\$21,157.75	\$64,606.77	\$86,296.66	32.30%	37.87%
School Health Nurse	\$116,000.00	\$10,499.99	\$28,946.53	\$27,459.06	24.95%	24.35%
Safety & Security	\$52,151.00	\$13,374.52	\$13,374.52	\$29,926.42	25.65%	57.38%
Activities	\$90,000.00	\$11,123.77	\$36,586.48	\$57,594.63	40.65%	60.61%
Media, Technology	\$800,000.00	\$51,656.73	\$192,671.48	\$138,467.55	24.08%	19.50%
Gen.Admin (Supt/BOE/Legal)	\$430,000.00	\$30,766.83	\$82,149.82	\$83,583.55	19.10%	19.49%
School Admin (Principals)	\$860,000.00	\$69,606.97	\$316,214.63	\$176,867.61	36.77%	23.21%
Business	\$350,000.00	\$22,189.17	\$45,298.67	\$40,181.40	12.94%	12.46%
Operation of Plant	\$635,000.00	\$54,911.44	\$228,762.65	\$159,527.49	36.03%	20.21%
Maintenance of Plant	\$550,808.00	\$29,823.54	\$334,461.46	\$77,081.30	60.72%	14.89%
Pupil Transportation	\$421,129.00	\$26,637.45	\$267,933.82	\$53,017.94	63.62%	9.88%
Fed. Grants (Title,Perkins)	\$290,000.00	\$12,326.60	\$24,074.79	\$27,448.39	8.30%	21.12%
Transfers	\$0.00		\$100,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL	\$13,145,088.00	\$894,879.94	\$3,458,044.19	\$2,684,049.12	26.31%	22.39%



Raymond Central Public Schools

Financial Report 11-30-2024

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 - Nov. 1, 2024	\$2,352,656.20
Nov. Receipts	\$135,619.49
Nov. Disbursements	<u>-\$917,044.47</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$1,571,231.22
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,011,717.81</u>
Combined Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$2,582,949.03

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: On 8/2024, the General Fund transferred \$100,000.00 to the HL account. No transfers out of HL Fund.

Cash Balance - Nov. 1, 2024	\$114,292.57
Nov. Receipts	\$57,732.04
Nov. Disbursements	<u>-\$42,953.10</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$129,071.51

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 - Nov. 1, 2024	\$1,904,915.91
Nov. Receipts	\$10,336.89
Nov. Disbursements	<u>-\$5,966.25</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$1,909,286.55
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,071,164.35</u>
Combined Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$2,980,450.90

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 - Nov. 1, 2024	\$1,045,999.83
Nov. Receipts	\$14,202.87
Nov. Disbursements	<u>-\$646,966.25</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$413,236.45

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 8/2024, \$500,000.00 was transferred from the GF budget that was planned but not spent. This transfer was earmarked for a bus purchase, technology and updates needed for school buildings.

Cash Balance - Nov. 1, 2024	\$692,129.03
Nov. Receipts	\$1,374.78
Nov. Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$693,503.81
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$1,726,810.70</u>
Combined Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$2,420,314.51

QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE UNDERTAKING FUND

Purpose: Pays for removal of environmental hazards (mold, asbestos) and reduction/removal of accessibility 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 - Nov. 1, 2024	\$4,068.36
Nov. Receipts	\$0.97
Nov. Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$4,069.33

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 8/2024 \$100,000.00 was transferred from the GF earmarked to pay Admin Benefit costs .

Cash Balance - Nov. 1, 2024	\$102,122.52
Nov. Receipts	\$60.85
Nov. Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Cash Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$102,183.37
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$261,886.33</u>
Combined Balance - Nov 30, 2024	\$364,069.70



Raymond Central Public Schools
Student Activities Fund Balances Nov 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	11,770.00	230.00	0.00	12,000.00
AP Funds	41,888.48	0.00	943.98	40,944.50
APEX	119.05	0.00	0.00	119.05
ART CLUB	817.12	0.00	0.00	817.12
Athletics	119,860.84	1,310.61	8,209.97	112,961.48
Band	42.15	0.00	0.00	42.15
Band Trip	10,669.76	0.00	0.00	10,669.76
Baseball	164.42	64.80	0.00	229.22
Boys BB	5,671.94	50.00	1,799.18	3,922.76
Ceresco Book Fair	(4.60)	1,112.47	0.00	1,107.87
Ceresco Pop	26.26	0.00	0.00	26.26
Cheerleaders	(2,585.60)	0.00	0.00	(2,585.60)
Choir	14,103.72	0.00	90.00	14,013.72
Class 2025	1,097.52	0.00	2,253.95	(1,156.43)
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	3,807.53	0.00	0.00	3,807.53
Class 2031 Field Trip Funds V	2,961.89	0.00	0.00	2,961.89
Class 2032 Field Trip Funds C	2,419.28	0.00	0.00	2,419.28
Class 2032 Field Trip Funds V	2,282.37	0.00	0.00	2,282.37
Class 2033 Field Trip Funds C	1,269.93	0.00	0.00	1,269.93
Class 2033 Field Trip Funds V	1,307.35	0.00	0.00	1,307.35
Class 2035 Cer	265.88	0.00	0.00	265.88
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 2037 C	(222.00)	0.00	0.00	(222.00)
Class 3037 V	(174.00)	0.00	0.00	(174.00)
Class of 2026	306.01	0.00	164.53	141.48
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	1,906.52	0.00	188.56	1,717.96
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	2,282.99	0.00	467.09	1,815.90
Drill Team	561.46	230.00	0.00	791.46
Elem Fundraising	51,162.72	0.00	0.00	51,162.72
Elem Pictures/Yearbook	2,983.42	0.00	0.00	2,983.42
Elem Student Council	483.85	0.00	0.00	483.85
FBLA Act	2,652.57	522.90	500.47	2,675.00
FFA Act	21,435.39	28,842.00	11,627.61	38,649.78

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Fines	741.31	10.00	0.00	751.30
Football	6,154.62	2,060.00	4,810.56	3,404.06
Girls BB	956.32	817.44	0.00	1,773.76
Girls Wrestling	55.07	0.00	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	3,088.34	670.00	99.61	3,658.73
HS Pop	2,116.21	0.00	0.00	2,116.21
HS Quiz Bowl	(419.43)	480.00	13.99	46.58
JH Boys BB	128.71	0.00	0.00	128.71
JH Football	515.69	0.00	0.00	515.69
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	870.58	22.00	0.00	892.58
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	2,066.77	0.00	0.00	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	12,845.53	6,200.00	745.84	18,299.69
RC Backpack	25,520.08	0.00	0.00	25,520.08
RC Blue Crew	42.73	0.00	0.00	42.73
RC Concessions	15,374.99	1,650.50	2,108.53	14,916.96
RC Foundation	24.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
Restitution	190.00	0.00	0.00	190.00
Score Vision	13,401.64	0.00	0.00	13,401.64
Service Fees (Activity Acct)	8,097.75	526.58	0.00	8,624.33
Skills USA	330.99	0.00	0.00	330.99
Social Justice	194.12	0.00	0.00	194.12
Softball	5,191.17	0.00	515.97	4,675.20
Spanish Club	890.05	15.00	0.00	905.05
Speech	9,514.41	1,531.00	1,372.00	9,673.41
Spring Musical	2,193.04	0.00	0.00	2,193.04
'Stang Gang Student Section	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Student Council	8,610.37	0.00	0.00	8,610.37
Student Pop	1,112.18	0.00	0.00	1,112.18
Testing	4,688.23	0.00	0.00	4,688.23
Track	1,326.20	0.00	0.00	1,326.20
TShirt Press Acct	1,481.55	320.00	807.65	993.90
Unified Team	600.00	300.00	0.00	900.00
Val Book Fair	10,014.29	1,008.19	0.00	11,022.48
Val Pop	11.27	0.00	0.00	11.27
VolleyBall	11,954.87	0.00	0.00	11,954.87
Weight Room	4,050.00	0.00	0.00	4,050.00
Wrestling	625.09	0.00	0.00	625.09



Raymond Central Public Schools
Student Fees Fund Balances Nov 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Activity Pass	\$10,011.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,011.00
Service Fees (Student Fees)	\$1,335.79	\$638.87	\$197.69	\$1,776.97
Ag-Ed Labs	\$2,470.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,470.23
Art Class	\$298.41	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$323.41
Chromebooks	\$12,739.57	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$12,779.57
FBLA	\$106.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$106.00
Foods Class	\$477.24	\$50.00	\$450.17	\$77.07
Skills USA	\$1,150.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.33
Sports Fees	\$9,145.22	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$9,185.22
Tech Ed Student Projects	(\$785.64)	\$28.00	\$529.16	(\$1,286.80)

Monthly Bills



Raymond Central Public Schools

Bills Paid November 2024

General Fund - Report of Bills Paid November 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/20/2024	RCPS Payroll	Nov 2024 Payroll	751,629.69
11/08/2024	Kidwell	Cameras HS,PreK /SafetyGrant Final Payt	12,948.66
11/15/2024	Check Point SoftwareTech, Inc	Email Filter yr#3 of a 3 yr contract	11,670.00
11/15/2024	Shaw, Hull & Navarrette, CPAs	Auditors 24-25	11,342.44
11/15/2024	Norris Public Power	Electricity HS	9,995.34
11/15/2024	Electronic Contracting Company	New Fire Panel V pymt#2	9,423.33
11/15/2024	Apptegy, Inc	Thrillshare Media Sub Renewal 2025	8,980.52
11/08/2024	Alternative Service & Repair	Bus 22 Replace Brakes/Pads	4,502.85
11/13/2024	Pine Cove Consulting	Managed Tech Service Nov 2024	4,500.00
11/12/2024	Otte Oil & Propane Inc.	Propane HS	4,297.31
11/19/2024	Computer Hardware	Projectors- classrooms MS	4,145.00
11/12/2024	Power Distributors	Briggs & Stratton Engines -Perkins	3,934.44
11/08/2024	Access Systems, Inc	Copiers- Monthly	3,282.54
11/08/2024	Otte Oil & Propane Inc.	Replace Master Gauge/Fuel Tank HS	3,100.16
11/15/2024	Omaha Public Power Dist	Electricity C-	2,788.25
11/08/2024	Hanson, James	Reimb Relocation Expenses	2,689.29
11/08/2024	MCS	Custodial Supplies, all Locations	2,665.42
11/12/2024	NASB	NASB State Education Conf. Fees-BOE/Supt	2,527.00
11/13/2024	MAKERBOT INDUSTRIES LLC	3D Printer- Perkins	2,464.80
11/08/2024	Whittemore Sprinkler Company	Install New Clock Panel HS	2,384.24
11/15/2024	Butler Public Power District	Electricity V	2,152.84
11/20/2024	Mechanical Sales Parts Inc.	ERU-2 Motor HS	1,649.00
11/15/2024	Rocket Math	Rocket Math Elementary	1,500.00
11/15/2024	Electronic Contracting Company	Fix Relay Switch HS	1,368.15
11/15/2024	B2 Environmental	Asbestos Testing 3 yrs HS	1,250.00
11/08/2024	Brooke L. Cheleen	Oct 2024 SPED Physical Therapy	1,227.50
11/15/2024	US Bank	6 EpiPens	1,200.00
11/19/2024	Publication Printing of Nebraska	Envelopes	1,097.10
11/08/2024	Praire Mechanical Corporation	Repair Condensation Pump V	1,041.00
11/12/2024	Liberty Lawn & Landscape	Weed Spray Applied V, C July/Oct	920.00
11/12/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	JH Football supplies, helmet, bags, fb	898.40
11/12/2024	Rivers Metal Products Inc.	Metal tubing for welding class	852.60
11/08/2024	J.W. Pepper	Vocal Music/ Jazz Band Music	824.18
11/08/2024	Scott Tvrdy	Oct/Nov Mowing C, V	800.00
11/08/2024	Alternative Service & Repair	Bus 11 Oil/Filter	766.02
11/15/2024	Computer Hardware	2 Monitor-replace damaged Monitors HS Lab	700.00
11/08/2024	Alternative Service & Repair	Bus 21 Oil/Filers	679.86
11/08/2024	Alternative Service & Repair	Bus 22 Oil/Filers	679.86
11/15/2024	Waste Connections Co	Garbage HS, V	677.20
11/19/2024	Alternative Service & Repair	Bus 17A Oil/Filter	675.70
11/13/2024	Nebraska Safety Center	Bus Diriver Training PH,PH,MS,BW	645.00
11/15/2024	IXL Learning	IXL Math Licenses Grades 3-11 50 more	625.00
11/15/2024	Jared Shanahan	Cell Phone Annual Reimbursement	600.00
11/18/2024	Windstream	Phone HS, Fax	579.85
11/08/2024	Priefert, Tom	Parent Mileage Reimb Oct 2024	569.84
11/22/2024	Hydro Optimization & Automation	Irrigation Service Call HS FB Field	563.75
11/15/2024	US Bank	5th Grade Materials V	481.08
11/08/2024	Truck Center Companies	Repair/Replace Horn Bus 21	450.24
11/13/2024	Lancaster County Sheriff's Office	SRO - FB Game Oct	425.86
11/08/2024	Village of Ceresco	Utilities C	392.21
11/08/2024	Ron's Rolloffs Inc.	Dumpster/Dump Fees HS	350.00
11/05/2024	Oak Valley Lumber Co	Building Maint Supplies	345.85
11/15/2024	Village of Valparaiso	Utilities V	339.73
11/08/2024	US Bank	Text to Spch Reader Pen SPED Supply	305.00

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/08/2024	US Bank	Glaze-HS Art Supplies	298.16
11/12/2024	US Bank	Maint / Grounds Supplies HS	295.96
11/08/2024	College Board	PSAT fees 10/11th Grades	284.40
11/19/2024	One Source	Employee Background Check	270.95
11/12/2024	Awards Unlimited Inc	Service Awards	269.80
11/12/2024	US Bank	Prof Dev Books for Teacher Leadership	249.28
11/13/2024	Holiday Inn Kearney	Hotel for AD conference	239.90
11/08/2024	Intermedia.net, INC	Phone Service	235.16
11/13/2024	O' Reilly Auto Parts	Oil /Filters for Buses	229.05
11/08/2024	Jackson Services Inc.	Mats/Mops	207.51
11/13/2024	Donald R. Prentice	Extermination Service	205.00
11/13/2024	Lenovo Notebook Repair	Repair -Liquid Spill on Staff Laptop	185.00
11/12/2024	Matheson Tri-Gas Inc.	Gas Cylinders/Rental	176.50
11/08/2024	US Bank	SPED Supplies HS	171.74
11/26/2024	Whitehead Oil Co	DEF/Fuel	165.55
11/26/2024	Trutna, Nicole	Title1 Services-St Johns-Weston Sept	165.00
11/12/2024	Rixstine Recognition	Softball awards	160.00
11/12/2024	Pitney Bowes Global (Lease)	Postage Machine HS Lease	159.57
11/08/2024	US Bank	Wall Frames for Pictures / Lunchroom V	158.97
11/08/2024	One Source	Employee Background Check	152.00
11/12/2024	Nebraska Coaches Association	State Dance Registration	150.00
11/12/2024	US Bank	Classroom Supplies Kinderg. V	148.21
11/15/2024	US Bank	veteran's day supplies	144.16
11/15/2024	Graue, Melissa	Mileage Reimb Oct 2024	134.67
11/12/2024	Quest Diagnostics	3rd Party Drug Testing	129.00
11/08/2024	SpeechWire Tourn Services	JH SpeechTourney: Spring 2024	125.00
11/15/2024	US Bank	SPED Supplies C	121.39
11/15/2024	Educational Service Unit #2	PreK Prof Dev	120.00
11/08/2024	One Source	Employee Background Check	101.00
11/18/2024	Wahoo Newspaper	Annual Newspaper Renewal V	100.59
11/13/2024	US Bank	FBLA Registration	93.76
11/15/2024	Coufal, Amanda	Reimb Oct Mileage	92.46
11/13/2024	Rezac, Mark	Activity Work Pay	90.00
11/12/2024	US Bank	HS Art Supplies	89.78
11/15/2024	US Bank	One Act Costumes and Supplies	89.45
11/13/2024	Buena Vista High School	11/9 Speech Entry	88.00
11/19/2024	Millard South HS	Entry Fee: Millard South Speech	88.00
11/08/2024	Tvrdy's One Stop	ATV Tires Mouted	88.00
11/12/2024	Waverly News	HS Office Newspaper	84.99
11/22/2024	US Bank	STEM supplies JrHS	81.95
11/08/2024	US Bank	Office supplies V	77.08
11/08/2024	KSB School Law PC LLO	Legal Service	75.00
11/08/2024	Short Answer, Inc	MyShortAnswer - HS Soc. Studies	75.00
11/19/2024	Nebraska Music Education Assoc	NMEA fees- Band	65.00
11/19/2024	UNL Quiz Bowl	11/9 tourney registration	65.00
11/19/2024	Becky Studebaker	CDL Renewal Reimb	64.00
11/19/2024	Amanda Ehlers	Reissue Lost Dec Mileage Reimb check	62.23
11/19/2024	Ankrom, Ed	speech judge Buena Vista invite	60.00
11/19/2024	Ankrom, Ed	Speech Judge Millard South	60.00
11/19/2024	Dexter, Ellen	Speech Judge Millard South	60.00
11/19/2024	US Bank	GimKit Pro Business Class	59.88
11/19/2024	US Bank	Supplies: CaringShelves, HS Nurse	58.79
11/19/2024	Dietze Music	Instrument Parts- Band	56.64
11/19/2024	NCSA	Dues-Poston	55.00
11/19/2024	ASI	Payflex Admin Fees	50.00
11/19/2024	Central City HS	Quiz Bowl 11/1	50.00
11/19/2024	School Specialty Supply	Storage supplies for OG materials	45.36
11/19/2024	Turman, Clair	Oct Mileage Reimbursement SLP	45.16
11/19/2024	Enevoldsen, Jeff	Activity Worker pay	45.00

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/19/2024	Wolfe, Cindi	Activity Worker Pay	45.00
11/19/2024	US Bank	Agribusiness Class Supplies	40.95
11/19/2024	Millard North	Millard North Novice Registration	40.00
11/19/2024	Wiese, Collin	Activity Work Pay	37.50
11/19/2024	Coufal, Amanda	Reimb. Parking SPED Mtg Omaha/Linc.	35.00
11/19/2024	US Bank	Cleaning Supplies for the office C	32.75
11/19/2024	US Bank	Replacement switch for sander, and boots	30.81
11/19/2024	Nelson, Ritch	Activity Work Pay	30.00
11/19/2024	Wiese, Dave	Activity Worker Pay	30.00
11/19/2024	US Bank	Haunted house supplies One Act	29.96
11/15/2024	US Bank	Supplies: Tape HS Office	24.28
11/15/2024	Amanda Ehlers	Health Office Supplies Reimb	21.88
11/15/2024	US Bank	JrHS PepRally parking Pinnacle	20.00
11/13/2024	US Bank	Supplies for T-Shirts	18.90
11/15/2024	Follett Content Solutions	Follett Book Order Library HS	16.69
11/15/2024	Educational Service Unit #2	Prof Dev -BP	15.00
11/13/2024	Column Software PBC	Waverly Newspaper Publication	14.55
11/08/2024	Pioneer Manufacturing Company	Ground Supplies HS	14.45
11/08/2024	One Source	Employee Background Check	11.50
11/13/2024	US Bank	3 month subscription Omaha World Herald	1.00
11/08/2024	Madison Nat'l Life Ins Co, Inc	October 2024 additional payment	0.08

Hot Lunch Fund - Report of Bills Paid November 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/20/2024	RCPS Dist 161	Nov Hot Lunch Payroll	22,164.53
11/11/2024	Sysco Lincoln	Food and supply	14,051.51
11/11/2024	Hiland Dairy	Milk	3,223.11
11/11/2024	Cash-Wa Distributing	Food and supply	1,205.64
11/12/2024	TechMasters Heating & Air	Repair Oven HS	874.90
11/11/2024	US Foods Inc.	Food	767.78
11/12/2024	EduTrak Fees	Edutrak Fees	527.29
11/11/2024	Jackson Services Inc.	Towels	138.34

HS Bond Fund - Report of Bills Paid November 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/20/2024	BOK Financial	HS Bond #3 12/15/24 P&I	** 385,635.00
11/20/2024	BOK Financial	HS Bond #4 12/15/24 P&I	*** 261,331.25

** Balance Remaining: \$1,999,863.25

Last Payt: 12/2029

*** Balance Remaining: \$1,660,675.00

Last Payt: 12/2030

Building/Sinking Fund - Report of Bills Paid November 2024

<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/20/2024	Jones Bank	HVAC Lease/Purc Semi Ann. Payt Interest only	5,966.25
		* Balance Remaining: \$663,083.75	Last
		Payt: 6/1/2027	



Raymond Central Public Schools Student Activities Fund Checks Nov 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Athletics	11/13/2024	Tobin, Reinwald	JHBB official 11/14	120.00
Athletics	11/19/2024	Tobin, Reinwald	JHBBB Official 11/19	120.00
Athletics	11/13/2024	Scheel, Ken	JH/JV Bball assignor's fee 24-25	150.00
Athletics	11/22/2024	Holtz, Heath	JHBBB Tourney Official 11/23	160.00
Athletics	11/13/2024	Carlson, Curtis	JHBB official 11/14	120.00
Athletics	11/19/2024	Carlson, Curtis	JHBBB Official 11/19	120.00
Athletics	11/19/2024	US Bank	Activities Appreciation Dinner	84.05
Athletics	11/19/2024	US Bank	HS Boys Wr. Coach clinic	285.00
Athletics	11/19/2024	US Bank	Coaches Meal	79.74
Athletics	11/13/2024	Classic Sportwear & Awards	Chenille C's for letterwinners	471.83
Athletics	11/15/2024	Nebraska Orthopaedic Center	Athletic Trainer Service 24-25	4,320.00
Athletics	11/15/2024	Archbishop Bergan High School	JHGWR Entry Fee 11/25	50.00
Athletics	11/13/2024	Weeping Water HS	JHGWr Invite Entry Fee	125.00
Athletics	11/22/2024	Fangmeyer, Barry	JHBBB Tourney Official 11/23	160.00
Athletics	11/13/2024	Awards Unlimited Inc	Speech Invite Awards	352.25
Athletics	11/13/2024	Awards Unlimited Inc	Spring awards: track, etc.	1,492.10
Boys Basketball	11/07/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Boys basketball shirts	961.44
Boys Basketball	11/15/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	BBB Gear	687.75
Boys Basketball	11/19/2024	US Bank	Play drawing software	149.99
Caring Shelves	11/19/2024	US Bank	Supplies- Caring Shelves	99.61
Choir	11/12/2024	NCC @ Logan View	Meals at Logan View for DC West	90.00
Class of 2024	11/22/2024	Janet's Jungle	Poinsettias for Prom Fundraising	164.53
Class of 2025	11/15/2024	Jostens	Class 2024	2,253.95
College Access Grant	11/19/2024	US Bank	HOBY - 2 students	900.00
College Access Grant	11/19/2024	US Bank	Thank yous	43.98
Cross Country	11/19/2024	US Bank	Cross Country Supplies	188.56
Drama/One Act	11/19/2024	US Bank	Drama Act Supplies	385.76
Drama/One Act	11/19/2024	US Bank	Food for haunted house drama	81.33
FBLA	11/19/2024	US Bank	Good Cents for Meeting	180.47
FBLA	11/19/2024	US Bank	16x24 Coro Double Sided	320.00
FFA	11/07/2024	Hailee, Nelson	Pumpkins	115.00
FFA	11/07/2024	NAEA District 2	Registration	20.00
FFA	11/19/2024	US Bank	Supplies	64.50
FFA	11/19/2024	US Bank	Hotel ,Gas,Food -Nat'l FFA Conv	3,799.80
FFA	11/19/2024	US Bank	Ice	1,376.96
FFA	11/19/2024	US Bank	Food	42.90
FFA	11/19/2024	Wahoo Locker	Invoice	4,183.40
FFA	11/18/2024	Cross County FFA ALumni	Lunches	180.00
FFA	11/22/2024	Ely Farms, LLC	Pickled Products	911.05
FFA	11/12/2024	Lakeview FFA Alumni and Supporters	Lunches	95.00
FFA	11/07/2024	National FFA Organization	Jackets	839.00
FFA	11/22/2024	Wyhe's Choice Fundraising	Butter Braids: Speech	1,372.00
Football	11/22/2024	Hauff Mid America Sports	Embroidery for football jerseys	81.82
Football	11/19/2024	US Bank	coaches food for football	54.74
Football	11/12/2024	Arrow Stage Lines	Football Charter 1st Round Playoffs	2,337.00
Football	11/13/2024	Arrow Stage Lines	11/8/2024 Football transportation	2,337.00
Professional Development	11/19/2024	US Bank	Professional Development PT Conf	681.84
Professional Development	11/08/2024	RC Class of 2026	Professional Development Supplies	64.00
Quiz Bowl	11/19/2024	US Bank	medals	13.99
RC Concessions	11/22/2024	Raymond Central Junior High Wrestli	profit from 11/19 conc.	132.75
RC Concessions	11/19/2024	US Bank	Coffee/Cheese for concessions	563.47
RC Concessions	11/18/2024	Raymond Central Quiz Bowl Team	Profit from 11/16 conc.	30.00
RC Concessions	11/18/2024	RCPS FBLA	profit from 11/14 conc.	181.20
RC Concessions	11/07/2024	Del Gould Meat Co., Inc	Burgers for concessions	80.60
RC Concessions	11/12/2024	RCHS Girls Basketball	Profit from 10/25 conc.	817.44
RC Concessions	11/18/2024	RC Post Prom	square profit from conc.	170.32
RC Concessions	11/22/2024	RC Post Prom	profit from 11/19 conc.	132.75
Softball	11/19/2024	US Bank	Softball meal for districts	219.00
Softball	11/18/2024	Davinci's	softball banquet food	296.97
T Shirt Press	11/19/2024	US Bank	Mustard Vinyl	73.15
T Shirt Press	11/19/2024	US Bank	Shirt Order - Shrit Space	618.02
T Shirt Press	11/19/2024	US Bank	TShirt Press	116.48



Raymond Central Public Schools Student Fees Fund Checks Nov. 2024

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tech Ed Student Fees	11/07/2024	Menards Lincoln	Stud. Supplies Shop Projects	529.16
FCS Student Fees	11/19/2024	US Bank	Foods/Culinary	450.17
Service Fees (Student Fees)	11/12/2024	EduTrak Fees	Service Fees (Student Fees)	111.69
Service Fees (Student Fees)	11/19/2024	RC Hot Lunch Fund	Transfer to HL Fund	86.00

Policy Review

Certificated staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Correspondence/Recognition

Sarah Lange received the United States Senate Youth Program Scholarship.

Annual Financial Literacy Education Report

The Annual Financial Literacy Education Report was presented by Mr. Lurz indicating that our Life and Career Readiness course meets the state guidelines for personal finance.

Financial Literacy

According to Nebraska State Statute 79-3002, financial literacy is defined as, but is not limited to, “knowledge and skills regarding budget and financial record keeping; banking; taxes; establishing, building, maintaining, and monitoring credit; debt; savings; risk management; insurance; and investment strategies.” Personal finance, however, is not defined by state statute.

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In Life and Career Readiness, some topics that students discuss include.

Credit including the use of credit cards, credit reports and scores, auto, student and home loans Taxes with topics including filling out Federal and State taxes, different types of taxes, payroll deductions, net/gross pay, completing a Bank Reconciliation, Money Management Skills such as budgeting and creating a budget. Housing and Transportation Choices including Renting/Buying/Leasing.

Not only does this course meet the state requirements for personal finance, but it also includes topics that are part of Raymond Central's Senior File. These topics include: Table Setting and Etiquette, Mock Interviews (which include cover letters, resumes, applications, introductions and the actual mock interview). Students work hard during their time in Life and Career Readiness. As I shared above, there are many topics to cover in a semester.

During my time at Raymond Central, I have been blessed to talk with past students who share the skills and information discussed informally Adult Living, now Life and Career Readiness have helped to prepare them for life after high school. I look forward to continuing to work with students to share/teach/discuss these important topics.

AQuESTT Report

Superintendent Hanson presented the 2023-2024 AQuESST classification report released by the state. Mr. Hanson is pleased to report that Raymond Central Public Schools received a **GREAT** classification in the AQuESTT report.

District Snapshot

Student Membership



Student Membership
752

State 328,649 Peers 728



Teachers
54

State 23,792 Peers 56

Program Participation



English Learners

State 9% Peers 5%



Free/Reduced Lunch
18%

State 52% Peers 31%



Gifted
5%

State 13% Peers 10%



Special Education
14%

State 17% Peers 16%

Metrics



Attendance Rate
95%

State 93% Peers 95%



Dropout Rate

State 2% Peers *



Graduation Rate
94%

State 88% Peers 97%



College-Going Rate
68%

State 72% Peers 79%

Financial



State Aid
State Aid Data Not Available

State Peers



Per Pupil Expenditures
Per Pupil Expenditure Data Not Available

State Peers



Other State Receipts
Other State Receipts Data Not Available

State Peers



Expenditures
Financial Expenditure Data Not Available

State Peers

Performance



NSCAS English Language Arts
65%

State 59% Peers 68%



NSCAS Mathematics
68%

State 58% Peers 71%



NSCAS Science
69%

State 74% Peers 83%



ACT (11th Grade)
44% **48%** **55%**
ELA Math Science

State ELA
45%

State Math
42%

State Science
49%

Peers ELA
59%

Peers Math
56%

Peers Science
62%

AQuESTT

Beginning Status

GREAT

NSCAS English Language Arts &
Mathematics Proficiency

SUCCESS, ACCESS, AND SUPPORT



Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success

Students Without Out of School Suspension or Expulsion **99%**

TEACHING, LEARNING, AND SERVING



Postsecondary, Career, and Civic Ready

In Development!



Transitions

Four Year Graduation Rate **94%**

Extended Graduation **100%**

AQuESTT uses 2022-2023 graduation rates



Student Achievement & Growth

Individual Score Growth **62%**

Non-Proficiency Reduction **No**

Science Proficiency Status **64%**



Educational Opportunities and Access

Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Score **-1%**

Progress Towards EL Proficiency **N/A**



Educator Effectiveness

In Development!

Final AQuESTT Classification

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS SUPPORT TO IMPROVE
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Raymond Central Public Schools



Raymond Central Public Schools
1800 W Agnew Rd



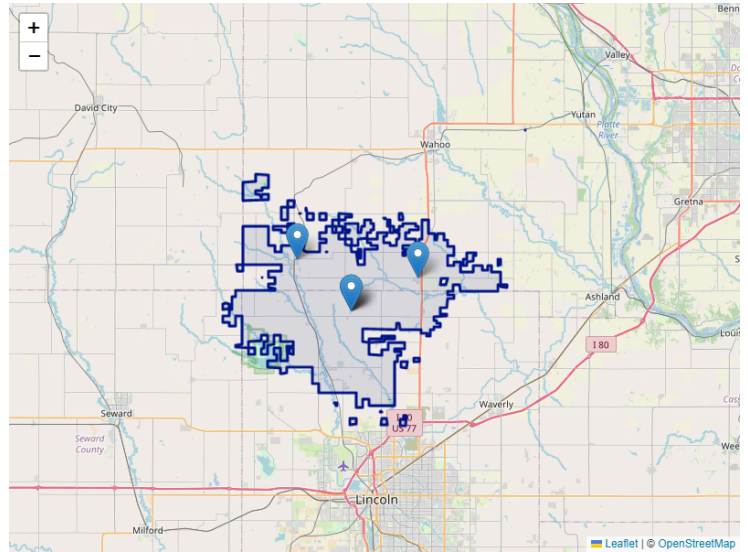
(402)785-2615



(402)785-2097



55-0161-000



Schools in District	5
State Board District	1
Educational Service Unit	2
Legislative District	21

District Description

Raymond Central is a consolidated public school district incorporating the communities of Davey, Raymond, Agnew, Ceresco and Valparaiso. Two elementary centers, K-5 at Ceresco and K-5 at Valparaiso. RC Jr-Sr High School is a comprehensive 7-12 school that strives to meet the varied needs of a wide range of students who have both agricultural and more urban/suburban backgrounds. The HS site also hosts a 6th grade "Intermediate" transition program which includes departmentalization of curriculum, and the PK program for 3-4 year old students. The elementary school program has been recognized as a US Dept of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and includes some Nebraska "Teacher of the Year" finalists. The secondary program features award winning speech, music, art, FBLA, FFA and SkillsUSA. Our staff provides students strong academic preparation and innovative teaching. Effective learning is a hallmark of Raymond Central Schools evidenced by high academic achievement.

This description was provided by the district

NDE State Conference Report

Superintendent Hanson, Brad Breitzkreutz, Cathy Burklund and Bill Lange attended the 2024 State Education Conference in Omaha. They highlighted presentations they attended.

Public Forum

Dave Burklund addressed the Board during Public Forum regarding student attendance at the elementary schools.

Reports

Administrative Reports

Submitted by Troy Lurz, Jr-Sr High School Principal

Professional Development: The Professional Learning Team spent time today working on learning targets and the intentionality of what we are teaching in our classrooms. This piece fits tightly into our Instructional framework conversations and is pivotal to the connections we will eventually make with the rest of the system. It is my estimation that once we get this right as a school and a system, we will see a huge difference in how we approach learning in our schools.

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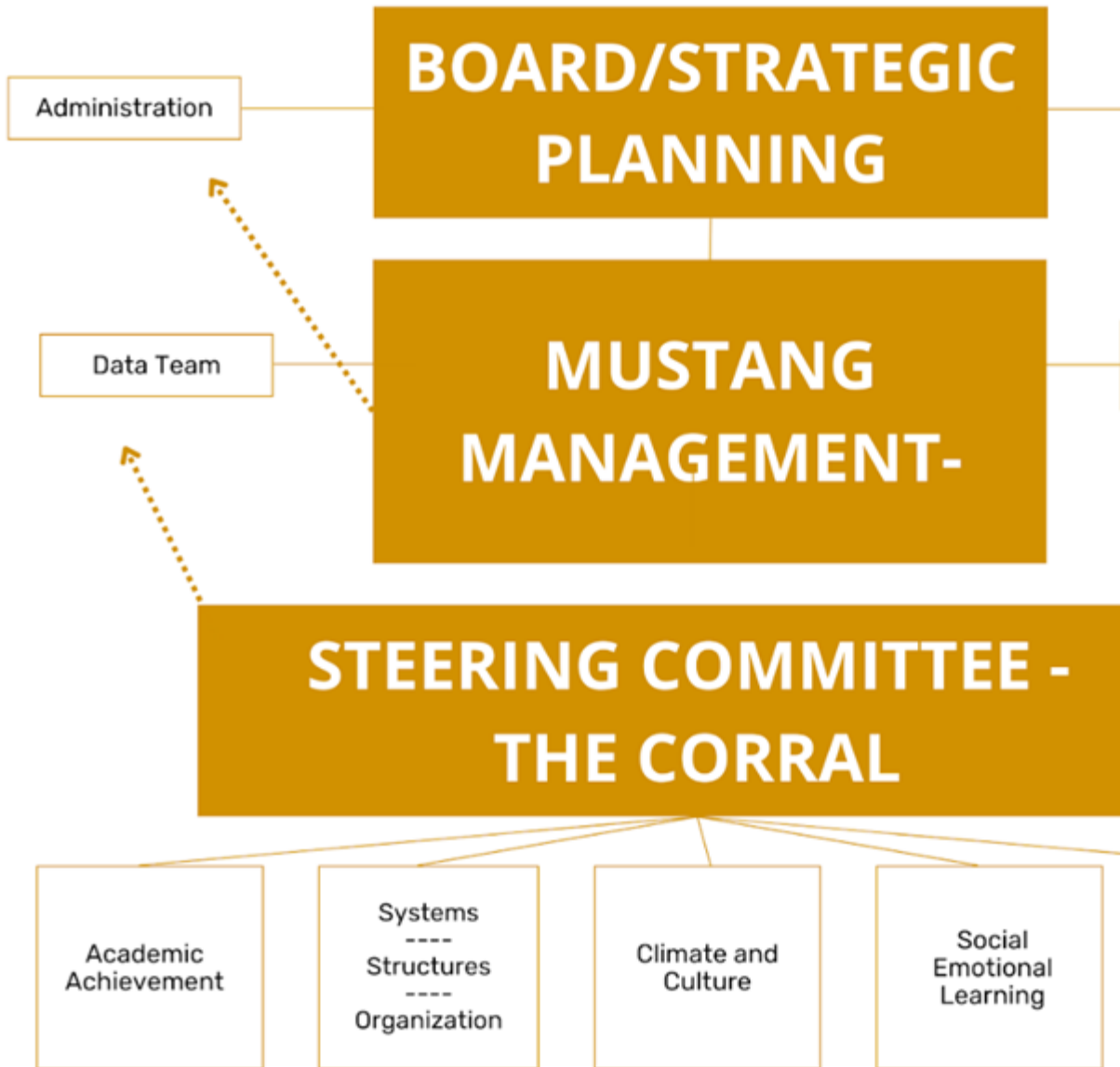
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Evaluation Update: We are in compliance with our non-tenured staff (completing the last of them presently) and we are on track with our evaluation systems. Feedback to staff has been immediate and delivered with confidence. It is our understanding that they appreciate the feedback they receive in the conversations and through the walk-throughs data. Our collective efforts are to offer staff constructive feedback that helps them grow as professionals and also validates the good work they are doing. The only way we can do this with accuracy and fidelity is to be in their classrooms on a regular basis and to continually ask questions about what is happening.

Staffing: We have a wonderful staff. Still searching for a media technology support staff worker. The office staff has absorbed those duties for now.

Student Council: The high school student council is collecting new and like new winter wear and toys. Donations will first go to the caring shelves and then the rest will be donated to the salvation army.

The Jr High Student Council will be holding a dance for all RC 7th and 8th graders on January 24 from 7:00-10:00 PM in the New Gym. The Junior High Student Council will also be partnering with Nebraska Make-A-Wish- Foundation to host a Wish Week January 24-31. More information will be shared later.



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

Facilities

Valedictorian and Salutatorian plaques have been ordered to update our record board area. We are working on updating the recognition for activity and athletic accomplishments. The Senior Picture screen will be moved to the blue wall with the Valedictorian and Salutatorian plaques to start to create an academic celebration wall.

Records have been broken and record board updates are being done.

The activity bus has been delivered to the design location and is being wrapped. Hoping for delivery before the end of the semester.

Athletics

Winter seasons have begun with basketball games and wrestling meets starting the weekend of December 6.

Fall Award Winners:

- Volleyball - All Conference
 - 1st Team/Honorary Captain - Quincy Cotter
 - 2nd Team - Savannah Masek
 - HM - Alexa Otto, Hailee Wiig
- Softball - All Conference
 - 2nd Team - Tess Roubal, Lacey Down
- Football - All District
 - 1st Team - Wyatt Jelinek, Tysen Taylor, Tavion Johnson, Dawson Potter, Reid Otto
 - HM - Gavin Gehle, Owen Kreikemeier, Caleb Redstrom, Oliver Echtenkamp, Alex Novosolev
- Academic All-State
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Activities

FBLA: Is busy preparing for the State Leadership Conference. We also have the Soup Supper on January 11 from 4:00-8:00 during the basketball game.

FBLA Members went on a business tour to Hudl and UNL. At UNL students participated in an economics lesson on trading.



Speech: Central Players started off strong this season with competing at Millard North Novice the first Friday of November. Mitchell Hellerich won 1st place in Impromptu Speaking and Alyssa Grundin placed 2nd in Entertainment. Overall, the team won 2nd place. Buena Vista on Saturday, November 9 will be the first Varsity tournament. The team has been working hard to prepare and we feel confident that it will be a good year!

Quiz Bowl: The Raymond Central Quiz Bowl team hosted 16 teams at a tournament on Saturday, November 16. The "A" team placed 2nd with a strong performance. This tournament qualified the school to send a team to compete in Chicago in April. The members of the "A" team were Sarah Lange, James Liu, Drew Tice, Liam Tvrdy, and Sophia Burt.

Spanish Club: The Spanish Club will be traveling to Spain in June of 2026.

Band/Choir: Grades 6-12 had their concert on December 5 and K-5 had their choir/5th grade band concert on December 10. The students did amazing preparing and having a great concert. Thank you to all the administrators, janitors, and parents for their help and support. Thanks!

One Act: One Act Season is close to the end. The students, cast and crew, have been working very hard over the past two months. Districts are on Friday, December 6.

Submitted by Elementary Principals Steve Rose and Deb Kruse
Grandfriends Day

- On Tuesday, November 26, the Elementary Schools welcomed in almost 500 visitors. Students and their grandfriends spent the afternoon visiting the classrooms, doing art

and stem projects, playing games, and other stations throughout the school. The visitors had a great time and expressed their appreciation for us hosting this event.

Holiday Fun Day

- Ceresco and Val hosted their Holiday Fun Day with the theme of Charlie Brown Christmas on Thursday, December 5 at Ceresco and Friday, December 6 at Val.
- The students spent the morning in groups doing activities making ornaments, building Christmas villages, cutting out snowflakes and participating in some Reindeer games.

Professional Learning

- The professional learning team will meet on December 11 to plan for our next professional learning session. We are moving into the next phase of learning: Commit to Learning. To learn anything students must find it both meaningful and achievable and therefore worthy of expending mental effort. The strategy we will focus on in this phase of learning is student goal setting and monitoring. But before students can set goals, they must first know the daily learning targets. Teachers have been diligently working on posting their daily learning targets. The professional learning team will enhance this work by ensuring a common language and a consistent process for writing learning targets.
- The teacher leadership team is compiling data and preparing to lead the elementary January 3rd data dig. Staff will look at data for patterns, trends, and insights. This data profile will help us create meaningful school improvement goals.



Submitted by Amanda Coufal, Director of Special Education

Unifed Bowling:

Unifed Bowling has wrapped up their season for the 2024-2025 school year. We had 6 athletes and 15 partners that started this team at RC. The unifed bowling team competed in 5 meets this year. Five bowlers competed at Districts on December 4 and placed 6th overall with 641 points. For the year, they finished 26th out of 51 teams that competed in class B/C districts which is awesome for their first year!

The coaches are proud of the dedication, competitiveness, leadership, inclusivity, and bravery to start something new. It was an awesome season and everyone is looking forward to next year!

Life Skills Thanksgiving Dinner Tradition:

The life skills class did it again with their annual Thanksgiving dinner held on November 26. The Mustang room was packed as the students prepared a delicious meal for their families and grandparents. It is fun to see the hard work and pride that they take in this dinner and to share this time with their families. Special thank you to Stacey Doan for organizing this event along with the help of Jody Albrecht, Ashley Matulka, Jessica Knopp and Leann Wiese.



November News from Speech with Miss Claire

SPEECH TURKEYS INVADE SCHOOL!

In preparation for Thanksgiving, speech students in both elementaries created "speech turkeys" that connected to their IEP goals. Feather decorations included homophone pairs, descriptive words, and words with the student's target speech sound. Some students went on "speech sound scavenger hunts" to find words in their environment that contained a particular phoneme. This activity challenged students to think critically about their goals, while also being creative. It was a great way to start off the holiday season!

VALPARAISO



CERESCO



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

What an exciting time it is with RC Preschool Christmas Programs right around the corner! The 4-

year old classrooms will be presenting on Wednesday, December 18 and Thursday, December 19 from 2:00-3:00 PM in the Mustang Room and would love for anyone and everyone to join in the festive fun, but be prepared for a "cuteness overload" and a cookie, too! The 3-year olds will have their annual holiday party on Tuesday, December 17 at 2:00 PM in the preschool classroom. There will be cookie decorating, ornament making, and a special guest reading from our very own Superintendent Hanson...aka SANTA!! Please accept this as your official invitation to join us in celebrating such a special holiday season!



December 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:

[10/13/24](#)

[10/20/24](#)

[10/27/24](#)

[11/3/24](#)

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December 2024 Board Report

Mr. Steven Rose
Principal | Elementary

Mrs. Deb Kruse
Principal | Elementary

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Our Financial Literacy Story and How It Is Being Addressed: Per Rebecca Parks

Beginning in the 2023-24 school year, all high school students in the State of Nebraska are required to take a course in Personal Finance. Raymond Central has for years been ahead of the game in preparing students and requiring a class with topics in personal finance. Previously senior students took a course called Adult Living. Now many of the topics from Adult Living are included in the course that meets the state guidelines for personal finance which is called Life and Career Readiness.

*In Life and Career Readiness, some topics that students discuss include;
Credit including the use of credit cards, credit reports and scores, auto, student and home loans
Taxes with topics including filling out Federal and State taxes, different types of taxes, payroll deductions, net/gross pay, Completing a Bank Reconciliation, Money Management Skills such as budgeting and creating a budget. Housing and Transportation Choices including Renting/Buying/Leasing.*

*Not only does this course meet the state requirements for personal finance, it also includes topics that are part of Raymond Central's Senior File. These topics include;
Table Setting and Etiquette, Mock Interviews (which include cover letters, resumes, applications, introductions and the actual mock interview). Students work really hard during their time in Life and Career Readiness. As I shared above, there are many topics to cover in a semester.*

During my time at Raymond Central, I have been blessed to talk with past students who share the skills and information discussed informally Adult Living, now Life and Career Readiness have helped to prepare them for life after high school. I look forward to continuing to work with students to share/teach/discuss these important topics.

Evaluation Update: We are in compliance with our non-tenured staff (completing the last of them presently) and we are on track with our evaluation systems. Feedback to staff has been immediate and delivered with confidence. It is our understanding that they appreciate the feedback they receive in the conversations and through the walk-throughs data. Our collective efforts are to offer staff constructive feedback that helps them grow as professionals and also validates the good work they are doing. The only way we can do this with accuracy and fidelity is to be in their classrooms on a regular basis and to continually ask questions about what is happening.

Staffing: We have a wonderful staff. Still searching for a media technology support staff worker. The office staff has absorbed those duties for now.

Athletics/Activities (Tony): See AD report

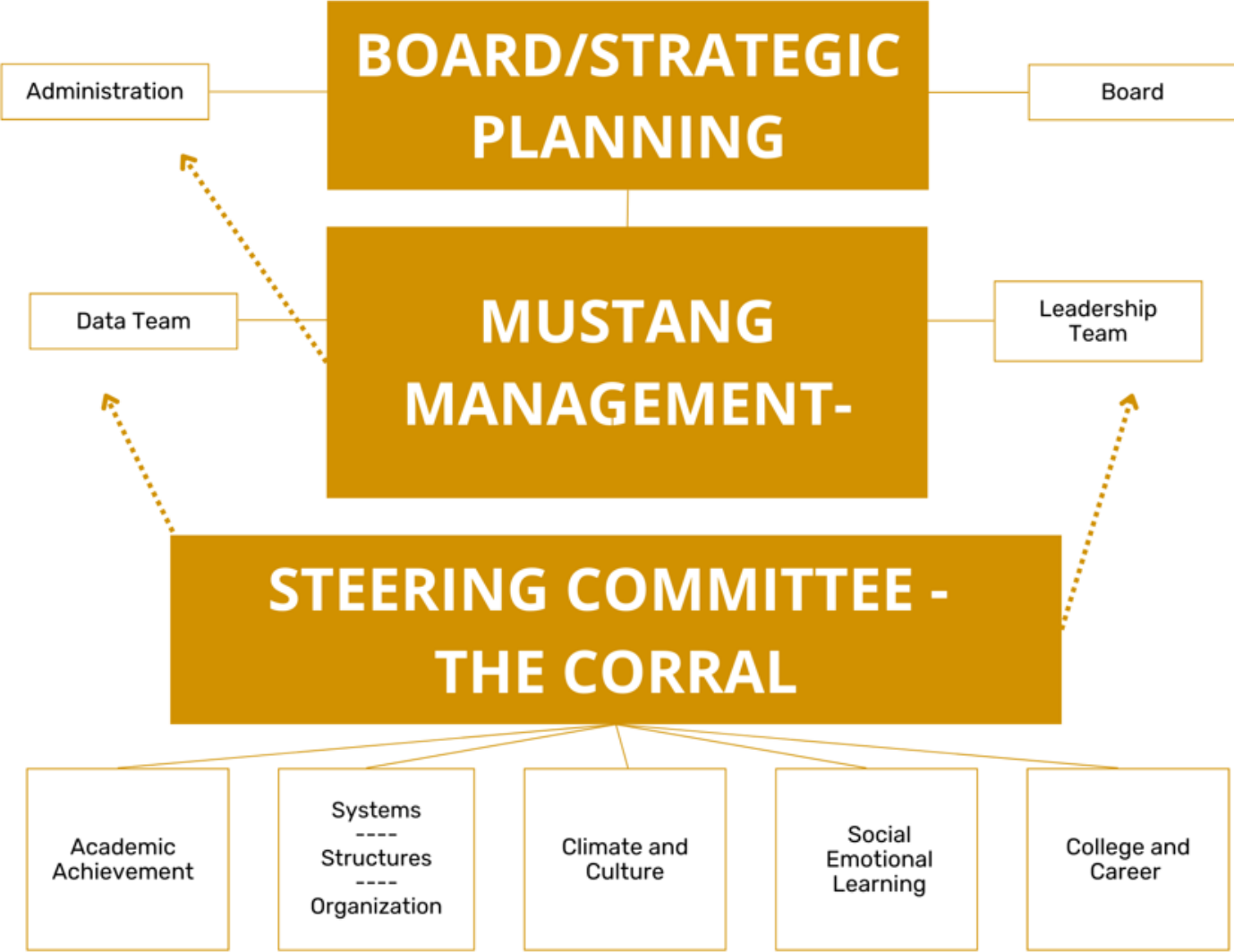
FFA: No additional Notes for December

FBLA: No additional Notes for December

Student Council: The high school student council is collecting new and like new winter wear and toys. Donations will first go to the caring shelves and then the rest will be donated to the salvation army.

The Junior High Student Council will be holding a dance for all RC 7th and 8th graders on January 24th from 7-10PM in the New Gym. The Junior High Student Council will also be partnering with Nebraska Make-A-Wish-Foundation to host a Wish Week January 24-31. More information will be shared later.

School Improvement: No immediate updates.



December Board Report
Amanda Coufal
Director of Special Education

Unified Bowling:

Unified Bowling has wrapped up their season for the 2024-2025 school year. We had 6 athletes and 15 partners that started this team at RC. The unified bowling team competed in 5 meets this year. Five bowlers competed at Districts on Dec. 4th and placed 6th overall with 641 points. For the year, they finished 26th out of 51 teams that competed in class B/C districts which is awesome for their first year! The coaches are proud of the dedication, competitiveness, leadership, inclusivity, and bravery to start something new. It was an awesome season and everyone is looking forward to next year!

Life Skills Thanksgiving Dinner Tradition:

The life skills class did it again with their annual Thanksgiving dinner held on November 26th. The Mustang room was packed as the students prepared a delicious meal for their families and grandparents. It is fun to see the hard work and pride that they take in this dinner and to share this time with their families. Special thank you to Stacey Doan for organizing this event along with the help of Jody Albrecht, Ashley Matulka, Jessica Knopp and Leann Wiese.

Information from our Speech Language Pathologist - Clair Turman:

November News
from Speech with Miss Clair

SPEECH TURKEYS INVADE SCHOOL!

In preparation for Thanksgiving, speech students in both elementaries created "speech turkeys" that connected to their IEP goals. Feather decorations included homophone pairs, descriptive words, and words with the student's target speech sound. Some students went on "speech sound scavenger hunts" to find words in their environment that contained a particular phoneme. This activity challenged students to think critically about their goals, while also being creative. It was a great way to start off the holiday season!

VALPARAISO

CERESCO

The graphic features a central text box with a decorative border of pumpkins and autumn leaves. Below the text are two photographs: one showing a classroom display of 'speech turkeys' and another showing students working at a table. The entire graphic is framed by autumn-themed illustrations.

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

“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

What an exciting time it is with RC Preschool Christmas Programs right around the corner! The 4-year old classrooms will be presenting on Wednesday, December 18th and Thursday, December 19th from 2-3 PM in the Mustang Room and would love for anyone and everyone to join in the festive fun, but be prepared for a “cuteness overload” and cookie, too! The 3-year olds will have their annual holiday party on Tuesday, December 17th at 2 PM in the preschool classroom. There will be cookie decorating, ornament making, and a special guest reading from our very own Superintendent Hanson...aka SANTA!! Please accept this as your official invitation to join us in celebrating such a special holiday season!

WE WISH YOU A
*Merry
Christmas*
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Student Board Member

Submitted by Ellerie White, Student Body President

I hope everyone is having a great day. Winter sports have started to compete. We had our Jamboree basketball game against NorthWest last week. Wrestling had its first tournament at Lakeview for both boys and girls. Sophia Burt got 1st, Morgan Shultz and Zaylee Kring placed 2nd, and Izzy Soden and Kaitlyn Rezac placed 3rd. For boys, Mathew Larson placed 1st, Elijah Ehlers and Hunter Sykes placed 2nd, and Ryker Coleman, Caleb Redstrom, Owen Kreikemier, and Wyatt Jelineck placed 3rd. Speech recently competed at Norris. Carlee Wolf placed 1st in entertainment and 2nd in informative. Sophia Burt placed 4th in Extemp. Our student council hosted another blood drive on December 6. We collected 21 units of blood and had eight new donors with Nebraska Community Blood Bank. We are also hosting a Winter toy drive for new or like new clothes and toys. We have donation boxes at the high school and both elementary schools, so please consider donating. I hope you all have a great Christmas and happy holidays.

I hope everyone is having a great day. Winter sports have started to compete. We had our Jamboree basketball game against NorthWest last week. Wrestling had its first tournament at Lakeview for both boys and girls. Sophia Burt got first, Morgan Shultz and Zaylee Kring placed second, and Izzy Soden and Katelyn placed third. For boys, Mathew Larson placed first, Elijah Ehlers and Hunter Sykes placed second, and Ryker Coleman, Caleb Redstrom, Owen Kreikemier, and Wyatt Jelineck placed third. Speech recently competed at Norris. Carlee Wolf placed first in entertainment and 2nd in informative. Sophia Burt placed fourth in Extemp. Our student council hosted another blood drive on December 6th. We collected 21 units of blood and had eight new donors with Nebraska Community Blood Bank. We are also hosting a Winter toy drive for new or like new clothes and toys. We have donation boxes at the high school and both elementary schools, so please consider donating. I hope you all have a great Christmas and happy holidays.

Superintendent's Report

I appreciated the community involvement at both of the forums held regarding options for lowering class sizes.

The NDE State Conference was a good experience. I spent time in legislative and legal sessions but was also able to learn about school construction project funding sources as well as school beef programs.

I attended the NSCA Legislative Forum to get a preview of what bills that could impact education could be introduced this session.

Gov. Pillen Previews 2025 Legislative Priorities

December 1, 2024

Press Release

Governor Jim Pillen is previewing some of his priorities for the 2025 legislative session. These initiatives, and others, align with his administration's ongoing commitment to kids, taxes, agriculture and values.

"This is by no means an all-encompassing list, but these items are certainly top of mind as we reflect on our past achievements and acknowledge there is still much to be accomplished," said Gov. Pillen. "We must continue to build on those foundations, addressing issues that are of greatest concern to Nebraskans."

KIDS: Gov. Pillen is advocating for guidelines around athletic activities, aimed at protecting both kids and women. Legislation brought by Senator Kathleen Kauth in 2023 proposed guidelines for opposite-sex participation in sports activities and the use of restroom and locker room facilities. It was carried over into 2024 but failed to advance by only two votes.

Eight months into his administration, Gov. Pillen became the second governor to issue an executive order establishing a Women's Bill of Rights, which in part, defined terms like "male" and "female" as guidance to agencies, boards and commissions. That order remains in effect, only to expire upon passage of a state law that provides the necessary clarification to these issues.

TAXES: Legislation passed during the summer special session produced \$185 million in new tax relief, and established caps on local tax collections. Recently, Gov. Pillen issued the *2024 School Property Tax Collection Report*, which makes the case for reworking the Tax Equity and Equalization Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA) formula, so that it provides schools a more stable and consistent method of budgeting; thereby, reducing the amount of increase that schools feel they need to offset reductions in state aid.

"We cannot continue down the path of Nebraskan's paying among the highest property taxes in the nation," said Gov. Pillen. "It makes us less competitive with other states and less attractive to people who may be looking to move here. This is a situation that we will keep fighting to address."

AGRICULTURE: New legislation will be introduced aimed at banning the sale of lab-grown meat. This follows Gov. Pillen's executive order prohibiting the state from purchasing products defined as lab-grown meat and prohibiting other parties from contracting with the state, which might also procure lab-grown meat.

At a news conference in August, Gov. Pillen pointed to the uncertainty of health impacts arising from consumption of lab-grown meat and that other states and countries have implemented strict labeling requirements and outright bans to best protect consumers. The Nebraska

Department of Agriculture (NDA) has drafted rules and regulations to ensure proper labeling and make certain that lab meat is not sold on store shelves next to natural meat products.

At the media event, Gov. Pillen reinforced his commitment to Nebraska farmers and ranchers, who produce products that drive Nebraska's economy and are highly sought overseas. "We feed the world and we save the planet more effectively and more efficiently than anybody else and I will defend those practices with my last breath."

VALUES: Returning the state's allocation of electoral votes to winner-take-all is another top priority when the 109th Legislature convenes. Since 1993, Nebraska, has apportioned its electoral college votes in a way that promotes gerrymandering and prioritizes a small minority of voters over a majority of the public. For example, in the 2024 presidential election, 8% of Nebraskans allocated 20% of the electoral college votes. Gov. Pillen seeks to change this unjust system and have Nebraska rejoin the 48 other states that allocate electoral college votes through winner-take-all.

Classified Staff hires/reassignment/resignations

Kayla Melton has been hired as a high school custodian.

NASB Monthly Update

NASB BOARD NOTES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



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329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

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Snapshots



IN THIS EDITION OF BOARD NOTES

THIS MONTH IN ...

AT THE BOARD TABLE

ALL SYSTEMS WENT ... THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!
BRAD WILKINS: SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR
ALICAP RECOGNIZES ITS ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

JOIN US THIS DECEMBER & JANUARY

NEBRASKA LITERACY PROJECT STATE PLAN

EHA SETS 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR RATES

WHO AM I?

... AND MUCH MORE!

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

THIS MONTH IN ...

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/>

ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ... With the election over, NASB continues its advocacy for local control on all decisions made in the boardroom and classroom. Come January 8th we will have 17 new Senators, new Committee leadership in many key committees, and anticipate the following hot topics to come up at some point ... School Funding Changes (will more caps be added? Will a re-write of TEEOSA be attempted?); The micro-management of books, curriculum, cell phones, and student discipline; Sports & Spaces; School Safety; Option Enrollment, and more! As always, stay engaged and informed! Call Colby & Matt with questions any time!

ALICAP & INSURANCE ... Thank you to all those ALICAP members who attended the Annual ALICAP Membership Meeting on Wednesday November 20th in Omaha at the CHI Center. We had a great turnout, and it was so good to see so many members in one room! The 2023-2024 year was a great year for the pool, and we enjoyed celebrating with you all!! The ALICAP Team wishes you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

BOARD LEADERSHIP ... "At the Board Table" is on pages 4&5. This space reflects recommended regular board meeting agenda items to include in your upcoming agenda. - Marcia, Katie, Caden, Stacie, Ben, Stephanie & McKenna!

DATA ANALYTICS ... When last year's state standardized test results become available, it will be a great time to examine your students' scores in relationship to various nearby districts and districts of a similar size. Jim Luebbe can supply that NDE information to you in way that quickly makes sense of the numbers, along with other relevant information such as poverty and mobility indicators that may be influential in your own school's results.

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SEARCH SERVICE ... Contact us with questions on search protocol, to schedule a proposal, or inquire about a vacancy. The deadlines are approaching for multiple positions. Visit the Search section of the website for more information or give Shari a call.

ENERGY PURCHASING ... With elections over and winter near, the natural gas markets are looking at fundamentals and seem to be moving sideways. Total gas in storage is above 5-year levels and creeping higher, with no strong indications of a colder than normal winter. Our gas purchasing programs, NJUMP and CJUMP, have locked in most of this winter's predicted needs at favorable prices, but our market consultants continue to watch the trends daily to ensure our districts can stretch their utility dollars as much as possible. If you are not a member, watch for sign up information early this spring to help your district take advantage of this valuable program.

THIS MONTH IN ...

A quick snapshot of the various programs, services, support and events NASB has planned for its members in the coming month!

FOUNDATION ... The Nebraska Public Leadership Foundation (NPLF) has created an annual scholarship program for high school seniors who are pursuing higher education to become a teacher in a Nebraska public school system. Please consider helping today's student leaders become tomorrow's education leaders by donating to the NPLF Student Scholarship Program at

www.nepublicleadership.org

GALLUP STRENGTHS ... Click the link to read and hear about how Tom Osborne leads with strengths. His top 5 are Belief, Achiever, Self-Assurance, Relator, and Responsibility.

<https://www.gallup.com/leading-with-strengths/511949/tom-osborne.aspx>

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ... It was FANTASTIC to see so many of you at the State Education Conference! I hope you left feeling inspired and energized by the wealth of learning and networking opportunities. The exchange of ideas and experiences is always a powerful reminder of the impact we can make together in education. Be sure and register for the New Board Member Workshops where the learning is appropriate for brand new and veteran board members and their administrators. Recent district visits include Alliance, Arthur County, Bridgeport, Mitchell, Scottsbluff, and Sioux County.

POLICY ... Many school districts no longer have a daily or weekly newspaper being published within their boundaries. Beginning with January 2025 for those districts lacking a newspaper of general publication within their jurisdiction, there will be a process available for posting notice of your Board meeting notices to a statewide website maintained for that purpose. LB 287 section 73 deals with this change but further details should be coming from the state very soon.

TECHNOLOGY ... It was great seeing so many of you in Omaha last week! As you start to settle and certify your negotiated agreements, please remember to load them into the Contract Settlement Form or send them to Darion!

TRAINING, NETWORKING, ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS



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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events>

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.

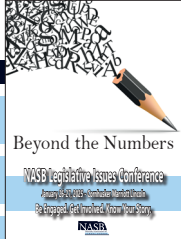


2024 NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS



New Board Member Workshops

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



2025



Legislative Issues Conference - January 26-27 - Lincoln

JANUARY

School Board Member Week - January 26 to February 1

President's Retreat - February 16-17 - Kearney

FEBRUARY

Federal Advocacy Fly In - March 16-19 - Washington D.C.

MARCH

NAEP State Convention - March 19-20 - Kearney

NASB Member Golf Outing - June 11 - Kearney

JUNE

School Leaders & Law Conference - June 11-12 - Kearney

ALICAP Summer Workshops - TBD

JULY

Leadership Workshops - July 28-30 - Gering, Kearney & Omaha

Area Membership Meetings - Fall 2025

AUGUST

Labor Relations - October 1-2 - Lincoln

OCTOBER

2025 State Education Conference - November 19-21 - Omaha

NOVEMBER

New Board Member Workshop - December 3, 2025 - Kearney

DECEMBER

www.NASBonline.org

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BOARD AGENDA ITEMS FOR YOUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-leadership>



Each month, this space reflects recommended regular board meeting agenda items to include in the upcoming board meeting agenda. Please contact Marcia at mherring@NASBonline.org if you have questions or recommendations for improving the Board Meeting Annual Calendar.

DECEMBER BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Please see the November 15th email from mherring@NASBonline.org and shiggins@NASBonline.org for the draft of the December Board Meeting Agenda. If you have questions or need us to resend the email, please feel free to contact Marcia at 402-450-5152 or Stacie at 402-209-1608.

NASB LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEWLY ELECTED, APPOINTED, OR EXPERIENCED BOARD MEMBERS

NASB Learning Opportunities

The Association has a long history of providing learning opportunities and resources to support board members, boards, and superintendents. As you know, after each election cycle, NASB offers a full-day workshop for incoming board members as well as experienced members. Superintendents often attend alongside their board members when possible. This popular workshop provides an in-depth overview of the:

- Board's governance role and responsibilities
- Board meeting agenda, public comment, minutes
- Policy
- Superintendent leadership and evaluation
- Board meeting protocol and procedures
- NE Open Meetings Law
- Board committee work
- Board self-assessment, and so much more

This year the New Board Member Workshop will debut the NASB Board Member Academy – Module I.

WHAT IS THE NASB BOARD MEMBER ACADEMY?

This Academy offers a comprehensive board training program designed to enhance the effectiveness and cohesiveness of the board of education. The program features content aligned with the NASB Effective Board Governance Standards, including interactive workshops and leadership development. Key outcomes include strengthened collaboration, improved decision-making processes, and a unified vision for working collaboratively with the superintendent to advance education within your school district.

The Academy provides an expanded platform for NASB Board Leadership staff and experts to engage new board members, offering additional opportunities to discuss and explore key topics related to the role and responsibilities of both board members and superintendents to lead cohesively with confidence and purpose. This initiative begins with the redesign of the New Board Member Workshop. This year's Module I will deliver comprehensive training on essential governance topics, including the board's role and responsibilities, policy, Nebraska Open Meetings Law, community engagement, board-superintendent relations, long-term goals, etc. This improved structure is purposefully designed to deepen the board's understanding of duties, equip board leadership to collaborate with the superintendent to uphold the district's mission of delivering a high-quality education for all students.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

AT THE BOARD TABLE



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

NASB BOARD MEMBER ACADEMY MODULES & TIMELINE

Module I OFFERED 2024	Module I & II OFFERED 2025	Module I, II, and III OFFERED 2026	Module I, II, III, and IV Offered 2027
Board Role and Responsibilities	Budget and Stakeholder Engagement	Student Academic Success	State and Local Advocacy
NASB Standards I – IX	Standard VI: District Resources	Standard IV: Student Accountability and Achievement	Standard V: Advocacy
Board Role and Responsibilities	Board Superintendent Relations	NDE - NEP Site	Legislative Calendar
NE Open Meetings Law	Budget Calendar	District Accreditation NDE Assurance Statement	NASB Advocacy Updates
Communications	Finance Committee	District Adopted Curriculum	District Legislative Initiatives
Board Meeting Protocols and Procedures	Standard I: Mission, Vision & Goals	District Instructional Framework	NASB Website Legislative Bill Updates/Hearings/etc.
Standard II: Policy Governance	Budget Aligned to District Strategic Plan/Goals	State Standards Alignment	Testifying before the Legislature
Board Committees	Monthly Board Meeting Budget Reports	Staff Professional Development Plan	State Senator Engagement
Standard VIII: Board Superintendent Relations	Standard III: Community and Stakeholder Engagement	Board Data Calendar	Community Leader
Superintendent Leadership and Evaluation	Community Leader	Board Agenda Reports and Goal Monitoring	
Annual Board Calendar		Community Leader	
Board Meeting Agenda			
Community Leader			

Contact Marcia or any of the Board Leadership team with questions regarding the Academy!

NASB BOARD MEMBER ACADEMY ALIGNED LEARNING WORKSHOPS

Module I OFFERED 2024	Module I & II 2025 NASB Learning Workshops	Module I, II, and III 2026 NASB Learning Workshops	Module I, II, III, and IV 2027 NASB Learning Workshops
	*Open Meetings Law *Leadership Workshop-Board Self-Assessment and Superintendent Evaluation *Area Membership Mtgs *New Board Member Workshop	*Open Meetings Law *Budget Workshop *Leadership Workshop *Area Membership *New Board Member Workshop	*Legislative Issues Conference *Open Meetings Law *Budget Workshop *Leadership Workshop *Area Membership *New Board Member Workshop

On-Boarding Newly Elected or Appointed Board Members

Suggested resources to share with newly appointed/elected board members for the Board, Board President, and Superintendent:

- District mission/vision/belief statements
- District short and long-range goals/strategic plan
- Code of Conduct for board members and conflict of interest criteria/form
- Board policy manual or access to online policies, administrative guidelines, and all handbooks (e.g., student, staff, activities, etc.)
- Board committee structure and appointments
- District complaint and grievance procedures
- Annual Board Calendar and district calendar of events
- Board processes, including board meeting procedures, agenda preparation, and policy development
- Communication issues, including use of email and communicating with the media
- Superintendent's contract including, a blank evaluation tool, the job description, salary, and benefit package details
- Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes from the past year
- Geographic boundaries of the district and ward boundaries if applicable
- NASB board member learning workshops [NASB New Board Member Workshop]
- Board member, superintendent, and administrative assistant contact information

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events/state-education-conference>

THANK YOU! Another incredible week in Omaha with 1,100 of our closest friends, learning, networking, engaging and working together! This event does not happen without YOU! Takeaways from this year's Conference include:

- Two engaging Pre-Conference sessions on Harnessing the Power of AI, and Board Conflict and the Hidden Costs of Dysfunction
- **58 breakout sessions on a wide variety of topics.**
- The Louisville 4th, 5th and 6th graders kicked things off with a ROAR Thursday morning.
- **Gian Paul Gonzalez taught us how to be ALL IN!**
- Tommy Spaulding showed us what it means to lead with the heart.
- **We learned what was on the horizon at the NDE with Commissioner Brian Maher.**
- Students from districts across the state participated in the Student Voices breakout and in Friday's Classroom Showcase.
- **The annual NASB Delegate Assembly set the legislative and leadership initiatives for the Association and its members for 2025**
- Brad Wilkins of Ainsworth Community Schools was honored as this year's Ann Mactier School Board Member of the Year.
- **Melissa Poloncic of DC West Community Schools recognized as this year's Superintendent of the Year.**



Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend, present, serve, exhibit, and network. We always look forward to seeing you throughout the year and each November. Mark your calendars now for the 2025 State Education Conference. November 19-21, 2025, back at the CHI Health Center Omaha!



BRAD WILKINS: SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/board-leadership/ann-mactier-school-board-member-of-the-year-award>

Last Thursday we gathered to celebrate leadership, innovation, vision, and engagement. It was the honor of State Board of Education President, Elizabeth Tegtmeier, to elucidate the remarkable achievements of this year's 2024 Ann Mactier School Board Member of the Year, Brad Wilkins of Ainsworth Community Schools.

A graduate of Ainsworth Community Schools, his impact goes beyond the 12 years of service to his local board. He routinely sacrifices personal time with excellent commitment to serve not only the Ainsworth school district, but at the state and national levels as well.

He has served on the NASB Legislation Committee, was an NASB Region Director, and spent six years as an NASB Officer, including Association President in 2022.

Brad is a local business owner, landowner, involved in many aspects of the local community through his church and other groups, is an active mentor through the school's Teammates program, and can be counted on as a faithful volunteer and supporter of that program.

A true advocate for the policies, procedures, and strategic planning in Ainsworth Community Schools resulting in many positive impacts for our students and staff. Brad understands community engagement and walks the talk.

"Brad simply just gets it and understands leadership and why collaborative coherence among Board members and their stakeholders is necessary."

Congratulations Brad!



ALICAP RECOGNIZES ITS ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

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<https://alicap.org/>

ALICAP

211 NEBRASKA SCHOOLS AND ESUs

.94 AVERAGE WORK COMP EXPERIENCE MODIFIER

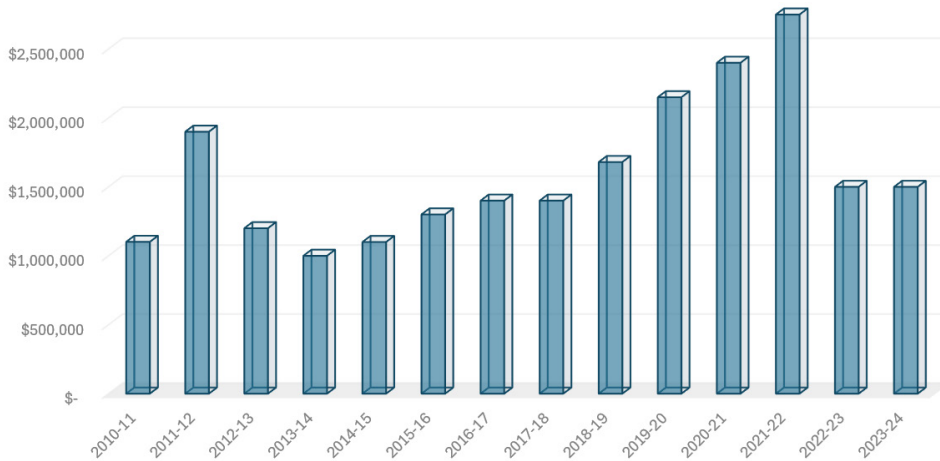
6 LOSS CONTROL CONSULTANTS

OVER 134,000 SAFETY TRAININGS COMPLETED

\$1.5 MILLION DOLLAR DIVIDEND RETURNED

31,000 EMPLOYEES COVERED

\$31 MILLION GIVEN BACK IN DIVIDENDS SINCE 1990



2023-2024 RECOGNITION PROGRAM AWARD WINNERS

LOSS RATIO AWARD WINNER
MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EXPERIENCE MODIFIER AWARD WINNERS
BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SAFESCHOOLS AWARD WINNER
PLATTSMOUTH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

ALICAP WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THESE MEMBERS ON EARNING THIS YEAR'S SAFETY AWARDS.

A STRONG SAFETY PROGRAM BEGINS WITH A SUPPORTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM AND IS ACTED OUT BY EVERY STAFF MEMBER, EVERY DAY.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

MANY THANKS TO ALL ALICAP MEMBERS FOR THEIR TRUST, LOYALTY & DEDICATION



JOIN US THIS DECEMBER & JANUARY

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<https://members.nasbonline.org/events>

NEW BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS

AGENDA

8:00 AM - Registration

8:30 AM - Welcome & Introductions
Board and Community Leadership

NASB Standards of Effective Board Governance

Board Member Role and Responsibilities

Superintendent Leadership

Lunch

Board Standards I through IX

NASB Event Calendar Save the Date

3:00 PM - Dismissal & Workshop Evaluation



This will be an interactive work session for newly elected board members covering board governance roles and responsibilities and more. The Workshops also provide a great review for those who have experienced serving on the board.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE

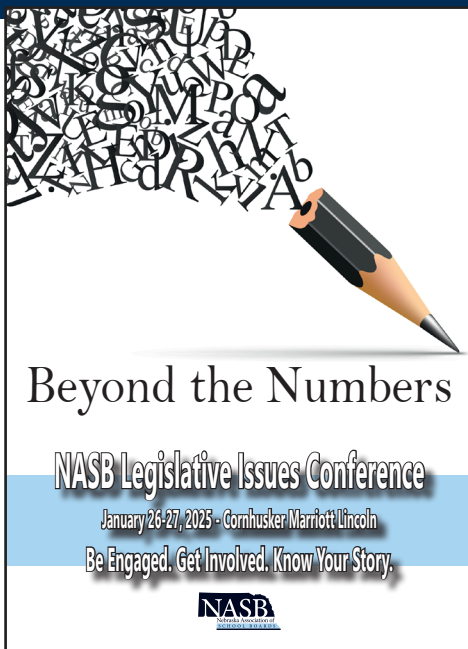
Newly elected or recently appointed school or ESU board members, experienced board members, Superintendents, and ESU Administrators

DATES & LOCATIONS

Monday, December 2 - Norfolk Country Club
Tuesday, December 3 - Kearney Holiday Inn
Wednesday, December 4 - Gering Civic Center
Thursday, December 5 - North Platte - Venue 304
Tuesday, December 10 - York - Holthus Center
Wednesday, December 11 - La Vista Conference Center

REGISTRATION

Onsite Registration welcome for the first four locations!
Online registration deadline for York & La Vista is December 5th.



Legislative Issues Conference

January 26-27, 2025

Cornhusker Marriott - Lincoln

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 - 6:00 PM - Reception, Dinner, and Program
Beyond Tornado Drills: The New Challenges of School Safety
Jay Martin - NDE Safety & Security Director

MONDAY, JANUARY 27 - 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM
Welcome and Introductions, 2025 Bill Review & Looking Beyond the Numbers
Speaker Arch - Session Preview
Senator Murman - Education Committee Update
A Conversation with the New Revenue Chair
Senator Hughes - School Funding Legislation Update
School Spending/Caps: Bills & Strategies to Help Share Your Story
How Nebraska Compares. The Story Rarely Told
Final Talking Points Prior to Your Lunch with the Senators
Lunch with the Senators

(IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER, SPEAKER LIST SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

NEBRASKA LITERACY PROJECT STATE PLAN

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329,000 Students

1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members

260 Member Districts/ESUs

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Prior to her election to the State Board of Education in November 2020, Patti Gubbels served on the Norfolk Board of Education, and was a member of the NASB Board of Directors, and the NASB Legislation Committee since 2016.



The State Board of Education approved the Nebraska Literacy Project State Plan at the October board meeting. The origination of the Nebraska Literacy Project State Plan occurred through efforts taken over the last twenty years by the Nebraska State Board of Education, and more recently, the Nebraska Legislature, to prioritize literacy. Prevalent actions included the approval of a State Board of Education literacy position statement, the enactment of the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act (2018), the Literacy Professional Learning System (2024), the endorsement of early literacy as a legislative priority by the Nebraska State Board of Education, and the NDE receipt of a Comprehensive Literacy Development Grant from the federal government.

The State Board of Education initially adopted an Early Literacy Position Statement in 2002 that was recently revised (2024) to focus on foundational literacy. The foundational literacy position statement encourages schools to establish policies that promote high-quality literacy instruction for all students that is grounded in evidence-based practices.

In 2018, the Nebraska Legislature passed the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act. The Reading Improvement Act requires that schools administer diagnostic reading assessments three times during the school year to measure progress toward reading proficiency for students in K-3rd grade. The NRIA also requires identification and parental notification of students with reading deficiencies, and the development of Individualized Reading Improvement Plans which include supplemental reading interventions for those students.

The Nebraska State Board of Education identified early literacy as a legislative priority in 2022. Prior to the last legislative session, Nebraska Department of Education staff and I met with Senator Linehan and Senator Walz to garner their support for additional funding so literacy improvement efforts could be implemented in a systemic way. The 2024 Nebraska Legislature passed Nebraska Revised Statute 79-2607 that requires the Nebraska Department of Education to establish a professional learning system related to evidence-based reading instruction. The State of Nebraska is providing funding over the next three years to support the hiring of regional reading instruction coaches and provide teacher in-service evidence-based reading instruction training.

The Nebraska Department of Education recently received a fifty-five-million-dollar Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant from the US Department of Education that NDE will use to help accomplish the vision and goals of the Nebraska Literacy Project State Plan.

The Nebraska Literacy Project State Plan's vision is to foster a culture of proficient and lifelong readers in Nebraska and unlock student potential for learning, earning, and living through a focus on evidence-based reading instruction. As Commissioner Maher stated during the October board meeting, "We want to make sure kids in Nebraska are reading a little bit better tomorrow than they are today."

The goals of the NE Literacy Project are to increase third grade proficiency on the NSCAS English Language Arts Statewide Assessment to 75% by 2030 with the subgoals of increasing the percentage of Nebraska K-3 students who meet the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act approved assessment thresholds, and to ensure that 100% of Nebraska educator preparation programs are implementing evidence-based instruction for prospective teachers grounded in the science of reading.

For the Nebraska Literacy Project to be successful, the Nebraska Department of Education will need to implement an effective Professional Learning System that includes evidence-based reading curriculum and teacher preparation. Regional literacy coaches, coordinated through our Educational Service Units, must work diligently to train local school district coaches. NDE must collect and analyze data to evaluate the effectiveness of the project with adjustments being made to the project if necessary, and finally, family literacy and Pre-K programs must be engaged to ensure that young children are gaining the essential pre-reading skills and prior knowledge necessary to become effective early readers. Through these efforts I am confident that Nebraska students will be reading better tomorrow than they are today.

Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in the column are those of Patti Gubbels and do not necessarily represent the Nebraska State Board of Education.

EHA SETS 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR RATES

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Educators Health Alliance Sets 2025-26 School Year Rates Overall premium increase of 5.49% continues single-digit streak

There will be an overall increase of 5.49% in premiums next year for the medical and dental insurance plans used by nearly every Nebraska school district, following action by the Educators Health Alliance (EHA) Board of Directors. The EHA is a consortium of three statewide public school groups that manages the plan. All medical insurance rates and dental insurance rates for active employees and retirees will increase 5.49% from the 2024-25 rate level.

"While our medical claims have increased in the most recent months, we are comfortable approving a rate increase below some of the industry surveys we have seen," said Trish Guinan, EHA Board Chair and NSEA Executive Director. "Given the rate of inflation over the last few years, we are pleased we've been able to maintain our streak of more than 20 years without a double-digit increase in rates, and to average an increase of 4.77% for the last decade."

Read the full release now at www.ehapan.org/sites/default/files/2025-26-insurance-rate-news-release.pdf



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SEE HOW WELL YOU KNOW YOUR NASB STAFF ...

ANSWERS BELOW

TRIVIA
time

A: I HAVE 19 YEAR OLD CAT NAMED PTERODACTYL

B: I CAN'T BEND MY LEFT WRIST

C: I HAVE BEEN SKYDIVING... TWICE!

D: I WAS A GYMNAST FOR 10 YEARS

E: I HAVE THE SAME BIRTHDAY AS MY MOM

F: I PLAY IN AN ALUMNI POLKA BAND EVERY SUMMER WITH APPROXIMATELY 200 OF MY CLOSE FRIENDS

G: I'VE INTERCEPTED A PASS FROM AN NFL HALL OF FAMER, WHILE COVERING AN NFL HALL OF FAMER

H: I TOOK GYMNASTICS GROWING UP AND WAS A HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER

I: I HAVE VISITED 22 COUNTRIES AND ALL CONTINENTS (EXCEPT ANTARCTICA)

J: I'VE CASUALLY PLAYED THREE STRING, TWO WOODWIND, AND THE PIANO AS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

K: I RODE THE SAME BUS ROUTE AS MY FUTURE HUSBAND BACK WHEN WE WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

L: I LOVE A PEANUT BUTTER AND PICKLE SANDWICH

M: AT 10 I WAS CURED OF SEVERE, CHRONIC ASTHMA WITH A VARIATION OF MEDICINE USING COMPOUNDS OF ARSENIC, IODINE, DIGITALIS, PHENOBARBITAL, STEROIDS, AND A PINCH OF STRYCHNINE

N: I HAVE HAD MY SPLEEN REMOVED, BUT GREW A NEW BABY SPLEEN

O: I HAVE AN ORIGINAL COPY/PRESS OF THE BEATLES WHITE ALBUM

P: I HAVE VISITED 37 STATES AND 7 COUNTRIES

A: Caden. B: Sallie. C: Katie. D: Makenzie. E: Ben. F: Sharon. G: Matt. H: Megan. I: Colby. J: Nate. K: Rachel. L: Marcia. M: Jim. N: John. O: Lindsey. P: Stephanie

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View the full, detailed listings with contact info at:

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YOUR 2024 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

YOUR 2024 GOLD AFFILIATES

YOUR 2024 NASB AFFILIATES

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Sampson Construction
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EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE

Outdoor Recreation Products
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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D.A. Davidson & CO.
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund
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Northland, (First National Capital Markets)
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

Piper Sandler
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

FOOD SERVICE

Lunchtime Solutions
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

Opa! Food Management

FUNDRAISING

Omaha Public Schools Foundation
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INSURANCE SERVICES

American Fidelity
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Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
GOLD LEVEL AFFILIATE

National Insurance Services

Public Risk Management/ALICAP
PLATINUM LEVEL AFFILIATE

LEGAL SERVICES

Mueller Robak, LLC

PLAYGROUND/SCOREBOARDS/SURFACING

Creative Sites, LLC
SILVER LEVEL AFFILIATE

PLAYGROUND/SCOREBOARDS (CONTINUED)

Crouch Recreation
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Fisher Tracks, Inc.

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One Source The Background Check Company
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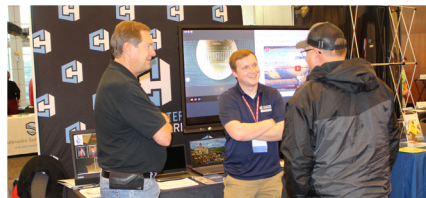
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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



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

NRCSA Monthly Report



Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

Member Update

December 5, 2024



Photo Credit: Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools



NRCSA Calendar

NRCSA Events

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

January 2025, date & time TBD
Via Zoom

NRCSA Scholarship & Recognition Committee

February 19 & 20, 2025
In conjunction with the NRCSA Legislative Forum

NRCSA/UNO Closing the Achievement Gap Research Team

December 6, 2024, 9:30 AM
Via Zoom

NRCSA Legislative Committee

Every Thursday during Bill Introduction & Hearings,
9:30 AM, Via Zoom

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.



Boyd County Schools
Search Complete



Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools
Application Process Complete
Finalists Selected: **Nov. 25, 2024**
Interviews: **Dec. 4 & 5, 2024**
Contract Begins: **July 1, 2025**

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

Login: member Password: learning

The password to the ‘Members’ Only section of the NRCSA website has chaged. The new login and password are:

Login: **member**

Password: **learning**

NRCSA SPRING CONFERENCE/PRE-CONFERENCE

The NRCSA Spring Conference is just around the corner! The conference will be held at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney on March 20 & 21. We are expecting another great conference, highlighted by Thursday’s keynote speaker: Joe Sanfelippo. You will not want to miss his presentation!

For the second straight year, we are also offering a free pre-conference. Franklin-Covey has provided NRCSA with the opportunity to provide a very valuable experience, centered around the work of Steven Covey. The pre-conference will take place on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A free lunch will also be provided. A little information about the pre-conference from Sam Stecher of Franklin-Covey, Client Partner for Franklin-Covey Education:

*“Leadership is the cornerstone of thriving schools, especially in rural communities like ours. In partnership with NRCSA we are excited to invite you to the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People pre-conference on **March 19**, an inspiring session designed specifically for leaders shaping the future of small, rural districts.*

This interactive workshop will equip you with actionable strategies to:

- *Foster collaboration among your team.*
- *Cultivate a school culture where everyone’s capacity to lead is enhanced- from the boardroom to the classroom.*
- *Drive sustainable results, even with limited resources.*

Don’t miss this opportunity to invest in yourself and your school community. Together, let’s turn challenges into possibilities.”

More information will be provided in the coming months, but we encourage you not to miss this great opportunity!

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

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Crawford Public Schools

Dale Hafer, North Central
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Jon Davis, South Central
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Hershey Public Schools

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Jack Moles

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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

2025 NRCSA Spring Conference

The 2025 NRCSA Spring Conference will be held on March 20 & 21, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza and Younes North Convention Center in Kearney.

There will be many informative and timely sessions regarding law, TEEOSA, school finance, curriculum development, updates from the Department of Ed, staff and board development, updates regarding current federal and state legislation and others. Sessions highlighting special programs and initiatives are always a plus. A total of 35 sessions will be provided at the conference. As always, the general sessions will feature music groups, speakers on Thursday and Friday, scholarships, awards, recognitions, and the traditional meals that have become a mainstay of the conference.

As usual, there will be many opportunities for networking and informal discussions with attendees from other schools!

Be sure and make plans to attend!!

Room Reservations

There are several hotels in and around the area. Attendees will need to make room arrangements for the conference.

These hotels participate in group rates for Spring Conference

Crowne Plaza (308) 238-7000
Hampton Inn (308) 234-3400

These hotels do NOT participate in group rates

Holiday Inn (308) 237-5971
Comfort Inn & Suites (308) 236-3400
La Quinta Inn & Suites (308) 237-4400
America Inn & Suites (308) 234-7800
Fairfield Inn (308) 236-4200
Holiday Inn Express (308) 234-8100
Microtel Inn & Suites (308) 698-3003
New Victorian Inn & Suites (308) 237-5858
Wingate Inn (308) 237-4400

Program Highlights

Wednesday March 19, 2025

10:00 AM Pre-Conference: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People

Presented by:



6:30 PM Exhibitor Check-In and Set-Up

7:00 PM Early Registration and Hospitality Rooms Open

Thursday March 20, 2025

7:15 AM Registration & Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 AM General Session

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM Select-a-Session I

12:00 PM General Session

2:20 PM - 3:10 PM Select-a-Session II

3:35 PM - 4:25 PM Select-a-Session III

6:00 PM Country Buffet

7:00 PM Hospitality Rooms Open

Friday March 21, 2025

7:30 AM Registration Open

8:00 AM- 8:50 AM Select-a-Session IV

9:00 AM – 9:50 AM Select-a-Session V

10:00 AM Brunch

10:50 AM Closing Session

12:50 PM Gifts, Prizes, & Giveaways

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH & PLANNING

We are in the midst of the time in which we see movement of Superintendents. NRCSA has an outstanding Superintendent Search Service and I would encourage your Board of Education to closely consider these services if you are in need of a Superintendent.

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. We are currently assisting the Boards of Education at Lawrence-Nelson and Boyd County in their Superintendent searches.

One of the more outstanding features of the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service is that the consultants who assist Boards of Education with their searches are all retired rural school Superintendents who experienced great success in their careers. They know what it takes to be successful in a rural school district and community, and how to work closely with a rural school Board of Education.

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

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

[NRCSA Search Service Experience](#)

[NRCSA Planning Support Brochure](#)

NRCSA's annual membership drive is virtually complete. Last year we had 221 school districts, ESU's, and State colleges. This year we will have 224 members, the most in NRCSA history! We are excited to welcome **Osmond, ESU 1, and Shelby-Rising City** to NRCSA! Thanks to all of our members, rural is at the table and making a difference on behalf of our rural students, schools, and communities.

Jeremy Braden, Superintendent at Doniphan-Trumbull, has developed a useful agenda for onboarding new Board of Education members. Many of our districts will bring on new Board members in January. Jeremy's instrument could be a nice template for Superintendents and Board Presidents to use in working with new Board members. It may be accessed here:

[Board Member Onboarding](#)

Nebraska was well represented at the National Rural Education Association's "National Forum to Advance Rural Education" in Savannah, GA. Members of NRCSA's Executive Committee, NRCSA's administrative staff, and other Nebraska educators attended the conference on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1



L-R: Daryl Schrunk (Supt at Randolph), Laurie Smith (Elem Teacher at Sumner-Eddyville-Miller/2021 National Rural Teacher of the Year), Heather Nebesniak (Supt at Ord), Andrew Easton (ESUCC), Jeff Bundy (NRCSA Office Manager), Jane Davis (Supt at Hershey), Jack Moles (NRCSA Executive Director), Paul Sheffield (Supt at Exeter-Milligan)



Tiffany Heins of David City Public Schools was a finalist for the National Rural Education Association’s “Rural Teacher of the Year Award”. She was NRCSA’s nomination for the award. NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles traveled to David City to present her with her award, an inscribed teacher’s bell. Also pictured are David City Superintendent Chad Denker and High School Principal Cortney Couch.

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 transition to teaching program in which a person with a minimum of a bachelor’s degree who is employed to teach in a member school while working through a transitional program, such as offered by the University of Nebraska-Kearney. The applicant could currently be teaching under a transitional certificate. Application materials for Spring scholarships were distributed to member Superintendents and ESU Administrators, who were then asked to share with potential candidates in their buildings. Applications were due on Monday, Dec. 2. The NRCSA Scholarship and Recognitions Committee will select the three Spring semester scholarship winners. An announcement of the spring semester winners will be announced shortly.

NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles visited the districts of the three recipients Fall scholarships to make the scholarship presentations. The Fall recipients are: Kayla Christensen (Morrill), Lauren Nichols (Sioux County), and Tabitha Nelson (Falls City).

Kayla Christensen is currently a para at Morrill Elementary School. She has a Bachelors degree in Sports and Exercise Science and is working to obtain teaching certification in Early Childhood Education (Inclusive) through UNK.

Lauren Nichols is currently a Science teacher (provisional certificate) at Sioux County Public Schools. She has a Bachelors degree in Applied Sciences and is working to obtain a teaching certificate in Secondary Science through UNK.

Tabitha Nelson is currently a para with Falls City Public Schools. She is working on a teaching certificate in K-12 Special Education through Chadron State College.



Morrill Board President Bill Watson, Jack Moles, Kayla Christensen, Morrill Elementary Principal Delinda Lackey.



Sioux County Superintendent Liz Baker, Lauren Nichols, and Jack Moles



Falls City Superintendent Tim Heckenlively, Tabitha Nelson, and Jack Moles

NRCSA Scholarships & Awards. Each year NRCSA honors excellence in our member schools through a series of scholarships and awards. The application and nomination forms are now available for these scholarships and awards. Winners will be announced at the 2025 NRCSA Spring Conference March 19 to 21, 2025.

Scholarship Forms

[**2025 NRCSA Scholarship Form**](#) (MS Word document)

[**2025 Gary Fisher Fine Arts Scholarship Form**](#) (MS Word document)

Awards Forms

[**Gary Fisher Outstanding Music Teacher**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Board Member Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Classified Staff Member Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Elementary Teacher Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding ESU Staff Member Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Principal Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Secondary Teacher Award**](#) (MS Word document)

[**NRCSA Outstanding Superintendent Award**](#) (MS Word document)

Application & Nomination Deadline: **February 7, 2025.**



FOLLOWING IS A REPORT FROM NRCSA’S LOBBYIST, RUSS WESTERHOLD:

Nebraska voters turned out at historic levels Tuesday during the statewide General Election. Preliminary figures from Nebraska Secretary of State Bob Evnen indicate that 74 percent of all registered Nebraska voters participated in this year’s election, breaking the previous turnout record set in 2020.

All members of Nebraska’s incumbent Republican congressional delegation were reelected. Senator Deb Fischer fended off a tough challenge from Dan Osborn for another six year term, and Republican Congressman Don Bacon again narrowly won reelection to Nebraska’s Second Congressional District seat.

Nebraska voters approved ballot initiatives proposing a constitutional 12 week abortion ban (Initiative 434), paid sick leave (Initiative 436), and legalizing medical marijuana (Initiatives 437 and 438). By approving Initiative 435, Nebraskans also voted to repeal LB 1402, which provided public money to be used by Nebraska’s private schools

Nebraska voters also filled 25 of the Legislature’s 49 seats. From unofficial results, it appears that Republicans will hold 33 seats in the officially nonpartisan body, and that a total of 18 new senators will be sworn in when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

You can view our full report on elections to the Nebraska Legislature by clicking on the button below.

[2024 General Election Results \(Edwards, Westerhold, & Moore\)](#)

From Governor Pillen’s website:

Governor Jim Pillen is providing state senators with the newly published 2024 School Property Tax Collection Report, aimed at providing historical context for funding of the state’s school districts, the impact of recent legislation in reigning in property tax increases and a request to state senators to consider legislation that will finally address inconsistencies in state aid to schools. The report, compiled by the Governor’s Policy and Research Office (GPRO), compares data across each of the state’s 244 school districts, accounting for the impact of state aid and property tax increases to taxpayers in those districts.

“We have newly elected state senators who may not have a complete understanding of how the state’s funding formula has worked historically, nor the impact of recent legislative initiatives when it comes to setting caps and also providing state funding to those districts,” said Gov. Pillen. “This document helps illustrate the impact of those changes and hopefully, inform discussions as we embark on the next legislative session and resume efforts to provide additional property tax relief to Nebraskans.”

There are three key findings from the report:

Caps are working to slow the growth of school property taxes. It is estimated that in 2024 growth will be 2.7%, the smallest percentage increase since 2018.

Cuts in state aid are negatively impacting property tax relief delivery, especially for certain districts.

State revenues can eliminate property tax increases enacted by school districts, through the creation of a stable school aid formula.

“The majority of a taxpayer’s property tax bill is tied to their local school district – an average of 60 percent,” said GPRO Director Kenny Zoeller. “One hundred and eleven school districts have had a reduction in state

aid in the current year. Some have increased property taxes to help meet that decrease and others have far exceeded it. We need to find a way to better help districts budget for the aid they do get, thereby creating some predictability and hopefully, further reduce what Nebraskans end up paying in property taxes year over year.”

The analysis calls for Nebraska lawmakers to provide greater funding certainty through the Tax Equity and Equalization opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA). That formula has undergone multiple adjustments since its creation in 1990, which has also made it more confusing and has created disparities among districts in how they manage predicting budget shortfalls that are subsequently made up through property tax increases.

“The formula is inconsistent and hits taxpayers hard. It is not fair to them or the schools. Providing certainty to school districts will allow Nebraska to have sustained property tax reductions for the first time in history,” concludes the report.

[2024 Property Tax Collection Report](#)

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 \(Jack Moles\)](#)

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](#)

From NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles: *NRCSA is backing the work of the Nebraska State College System and the Nebraska SMART program. This is a unique approach to providing free tutoring services to your students. Information on the program is provided below. This program is beneficial on many levels. Among them are:*

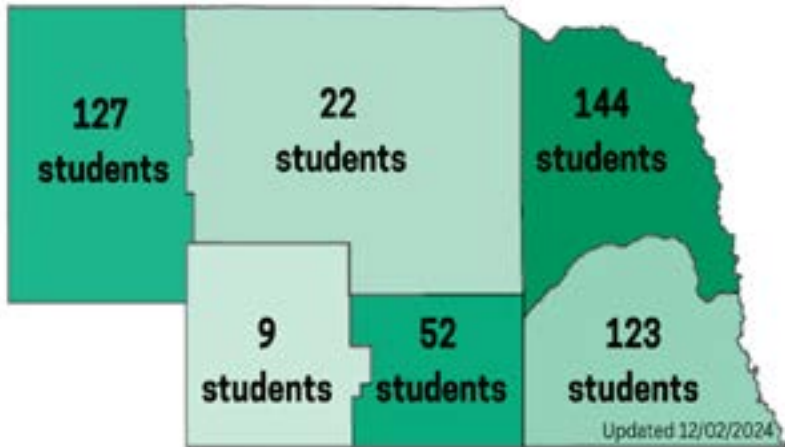
- *The program is FREE for kids and families.*
- *The program provides valuable experience for prospective teachers.*
- *The program provides a paying job for prospective teachers.*
- *The program provides another great connection between Chadron State, Peru State, and Wayne State with NRCSA member school districts. All three of the State Colleges are NRCSA members.*
- *The program provides an opportunity to connect prospective teachers with rural schools. Some of the tutors did not attend rural high schools and this provides an opportunity for them to connect with rural.*
- *The program provides an opportunity to connect YOUR school with prospective teachers. You may be in the market to hire one of these tutors in the future and this connection could help!*

Nebraska SMART Free Online Tutoring for K-12 Students

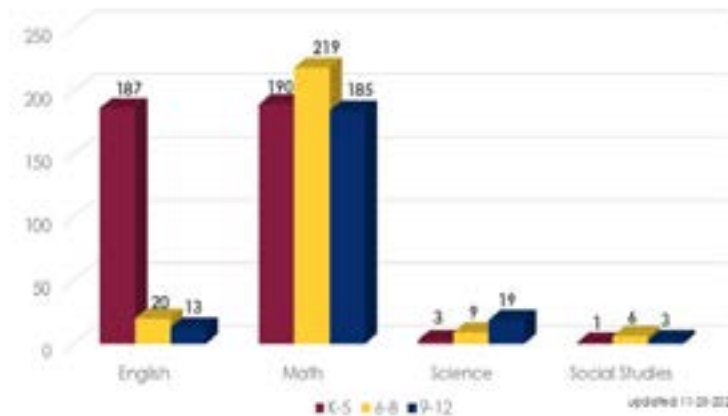
Nebraska SMART End-of-Semester Feedback Survey

As we approach the end of the semester, Nebraska SMART would like to gather feedback to support ongoing improvement of the Program. Would you take a few minutes to complete the Nebraska SMART [End-of-Semester Feedback Survey](#)? Please feel free to share this survey with principals, teachers, counselors, and other district staff.

Since the end of the Spring 2024 Semester, over 335 new students have registered, bringing the total to 477 students, 75% of whom attend NRCSA member school districts.



Our Tutors have been conducting an average of 50-60 sessions each week. Since the start of the current semester in September, 641 sessions have been completed, totaling 855 sessions since tutoring began in February. Our Tutors have spent over 350 hours this semester helping students across rural Nebraska. Below is a breakdown of tutoring sessions completed by subject and grade level since February.



Tutoring Hours

Tutoring for the Fall 2024 Semester is available Monday through Thursday, from 3:30 to 7:30 PM local time. Fall tutoring will end on December 12, tutoring will resume January 13, 2025.

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
- During Parent/Teacher Conferences
- With Teachers, Counselors, Parent/Teacher Associations, and district staff

- Link [Nebraska SMART](#) as a student resource on school district websites
- Distribute bookmarks to each K-12 student in school/district
- Connect with Nebraska SMART on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X \(Twitter\)](#)
- Share with district technology team the domain [allowlist guide](#)

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

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

School districts can request additional promotional supplies by emailing nebraskasmart@nscs.edu.

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

Julie Dickerson, Nebraska SMART Director

nebraskasmart@nscs.edu

From Rebecca Vogt, UNL

Today we are releasing the first of the reports from the 2024 Rural Poll, focusing on the well-being of rural Nebraskans. The report can be accessed online. The press release for this report can be found here.

Well Being of Rural Nebraskans

From Jay Martin, NDE Director of School Safety & Security

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

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 117 such meetings. I most recently attended the Board meetings at Stuart and West Holt on Monday, Nov. 11, ESU 17 in Ainsworth on Tuesday, Nov. 12, and Valentine on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

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

Monday, December 9: Boone Central and Newman Grove

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 a legislative update. When I am going to be in a specific area on Board meeting days I may send out a notice to near-by Superintendents to make an offer to visit. I'd like to be able to schedule two or three in the same evening if I can.

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



STUART BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



WEST HOLT BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



ESU 17 BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATOR GERALDINE ERICKSON



VALENTINE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION

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 Superintendentcy. 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





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

December 2024:

- * Minden won the Class C1 State Volleyball Championship.
- * Superior finished as the Class D1 State Volleyball Champion.
- * Shelton won the Class D2 State Volleyball Championship.
- * Reagan Meyers, a sophomore at Superior, broke the 20-year old state Volleyball record for kills in a season with 834.
- * Athletes from NRCSEA-member schools who were chosen to the State Volleyball All Tournament Team were:
 - Class C1: Nora Herian (Pierce), Shayla Rautenberg (Milford), Mattie Kamery (Minden), Myla Emery (Minden), Aubree Bules (Minden)
 - Class C2: Emma Bruggemann (Thayer Central), Ella Bruggemann (Thayer Central)
 - Class D1: Reagan Meyers (Superior), Kaydence Haase (EMF), Campbell Bohling (BDS), Halle Bargaen (Superior), Faith Butler (Superior), Taylin Schluter (EMF)
 - Class D2: Erin Gegg (Shelton), Jalyn Branson (Shelton), Daisy Ryan (Overton), Shawnee Gamble (Leyton), Zaili Benish (Leyton)
- * Several athletes from NRCSEA-member schools were named first team All-State in Softball by the Omaha World-Herald (OWH) and/or the Lincoln Journal-Star (LJS). They include:
 - SUPER STATE: Reyse Zobel, Northwest (LJS), Sydney Atkins, DC West (LJS)
 - CLASS B: Reyse Zobel, Northwest (LJS/OWH), Adi Farhrnbruch, Aurora (LJS/OWH), Kyra Ray, Northwest (LJS/OWH)
 - CLASS C: Sydney Atkins, DC West (LJS/OWH), Maddison Zach, DC West (LJS/OWH), Kaylee Taylor, Ft. Calhoun (LJS/OWH), Maya Dolliver, NEN–cooperative of Pender & Wisner-Pilger (LJS), Taylor Scholting, NEN (OWH), Izzabella Zach, DC West (OWH), Tracey Belina, Ft. Calhoun (OWH)
- * The Jet Award Foundation has established the Jordan Larson Girls Athlete of the Year Award which will go to the state's outstanding high school girl athlete. Jordan Larson is a graduate of NRCSEA-member Logan View. Among the nominees for the first award are athletes from two NRCSEA-member schools: Reagan Meyers of Superior (Volleyball) and Karsyn Leeling of Sidney (Track and Field).

* Melissa Polonic, Superintendent at Douglas County West, was honored as the 2024 NASA Nebraska Superintendent of the Year.



* Stuart won the 6-man State Football championship. S-E-M finished as the runner-up.

* Riverside was the runner-up in Class D2 State Football.

* Sandy Creek was the Class D1 Football State Champion. Stanton finished as the runner-up.

* Brad Wilkins of Ainsworth was honored by the Nebraska Association of School Boards with the Ann Mactier School Board Member of the Year Award.



BRAD WILKINS, AINSWORTH BOARD OF ED, AND FAMILY

* 155 Nebraskans received American FFA Degree this fall. Of those, 142 are graduates of NRCSA-member school districts. Almost 92%!

The National Rural Education Association's Legislative Committee (of which NRCSA is a member) continues to represent rural education on the Federal level.

NRCSA Executive Director Jack Moles and NRCSA Legislative Committee Co-Chair Bryce Jorgenson (Supt. at Southern Valley) attended the NREA Federal Legislative Summit in Washington DC on April 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: NREA seeks preservation of critical federal funding for rural schools.

2) REAP FUNDING: NREA 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: NREA supports efforts to ensure any infrastructure proposal in Congress must include funding for modernizing or maintaining rural school facilities.

4) FOOD AND NUTRITION: NREA supports any effort to streamline processes and reduce the administrative burdens related to school meal programs.

5) SCHOOL SAFETY: NREA 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: NREA 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.

NREA Legislative Committee Agenda

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

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

FROM SARAH:

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

Dear CEF Members:

As we digest the results of yesterday's election and wait to find out which party will lead the House in the 119th Congress, I imagine many of you are focused on what this means for governing in general and for education funding and policy in particular. We will certainly be facing a more challenging environment

for investing in education and for ensuring that the federal government supports and protects students, educators, and education institutions as the country continues to educate students of all ages. CEF's mission to increase the federal investment in education will not change, but we'll have to focus more on defense against funding cuts. We will continue to point out the results of education investments – for students immediately and for economic growth in the long term. We will need to communicate well, broaden our community of advocates, and target our efforts so they are as effective as possible.

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

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

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

Administrative/regulatory agendas change with each Administration – Since recent presidents have not been able to enact much of their agendas because they often split power with Congress, each successive administration has made changes with executive action, which are then reversed by the next administration. A Trump administration is likely to reverse Biden Administration student loan debt relief

executive actions and impose new ones that support their agenda, such as limiting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion requirements, limiting transgender student participation in sports or protections at the school level, and changes in interpretation of student civil rights protections.

Possible Republican policy agenda focused on the private sector (except for IHEs) – Conservative theory tends to support the private sector as a more efficient than the public sector for accomplishing goals, and I'd expect to see a renewed focus on support for private school vouchers that families could use toward private school education, more tax policy supporting private school tuition, and "local control" for public schools. At the higher education level, Republicans are likely to sharpen their attention to college admission policies, protections for freedom of speech, policies regarding civil rights, and taxation of endowments. This can occur through appropriations and tax policy (forbidding federal funding if a recipient does a certain thing or requiring a certain action to receive federal funding), and through oversight hearings and federal administrative actions, among other actions.

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

FY2025 appropriations likely not finalized in December – The government is operating on an extension of fiscal year (FY) 2024 funding that expires on December 20. I think it is now likely that Congress will not finalize FY 2025 appropriations bills by then and will instead extend funding into next Spring (this is what House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) supported when the current 3-month extension was enacted in September), giving the new Republican Administration and Senate more say in the outcome. That outcome does not bode well for investments in education; the current bipartisan appropriations bill approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee includes \$12 billion more

for the Department of Education programs than the Republican bill approved by the House Appropriations Committee.

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](#)

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 exhibit at the NRCSA Spring Conference.

This month we recognize:



Proactive Roof and Building Envelope Maintenance: Maximizing School District Budgets and Infrastructure Lifespan

It is often said that “the only thing constant is change” – a truth that underscores the importance of proactive roof and building envelope maintenance in school districts. No one ever wants to deal with leaks or other moisture issues in a school. Tremco Roofing and Building Maintenance has partnered with school districts nationwide, offering budget-friendly solutions that protect critical infrastructure and extend asset life. Since ESSER funding is no longer available, many schools may be challenged by limited resources to address deferred maintenance.

Tremco solutions are designed to meet challenging budget constraints while protecting your roofing and building envelope assets, extending performance life for as long as possible, and helping you plan for long-term needs while addressing your most urgent roofing and building envelope problems today.

The True Cost of “Run-to-Failure” Maintenance

It’s a familiar story: a roof starts leaking, and by the time the issue is investigated, warranties have expired, leaving only one solution—an expensive total roof replacement. Allowing roofs to “run to failure” is both costly and disruptive. By maintaining and restoring your roofs before they reach the point of failure, you can avoid emergency repairs and extend the life of your assets.

The Power of Proactive Maintenance

Routine inspections, diagnostics, and timely repairs are essential to prolonging roof life. By catching minor issues early and restoring rather than replacing roofs, schools can save significantly. Roof restoration is not only more cost-effective but also less disruptive. Unlike roof replacement, which involves tearing off the old roof and generating significant waste, restoration uses fluid-applied systems that extend the roof’s life by 20 years or more—often with minimal odor or disruption to the learning environment.

Scheduled roof maintenance is essential to avoid premature roof failures. Routine maintenance helps prevent small issues, like cracks or blisters, from escalating into costly damage. Roof systems should be inspected and maintained regularly and include:

- **Inspection and Cleaning:** roofs should be inspected for surface damage, pooling water, debris accumulation, and signs of leaks or compromised seals, especially around roof penetrations, and cleaned annually.
- **Drains and Curbs:** Flat roofs are more prone to pooling water, which can lead to leaks, mold, and structural damage. Cleaning drain assemblies and possibly installing new drains may alleviate this problem.
- **Joint Sealing:** Extreme weather changes, age and other problems can create cracks or open joints in your parapet walls and concrete surfaces. This can allow water to infiltrate your roof and building. Early detection of cracks in the roof membrane protects the building’s interior and structural integrity.
- **Flashings:** The most common reason for premature roof failure is flashing problems. Simply repairing or replacing failing flashings with reinforcement membranes designed to be compatible with your roof system can help you avoid major problems down the road.
- **Patch and Repair:** As roofs age, minor problems such as tears and splits in the membrane, as well as cracks and deterioration of the walls may occur. Left unrepaired, they can become major problems and lead to large capital expenses.



Tremco/WTI for Your Maintenance Needs

Limited budgets and vast responsibilities often mean that roofing and building envelope maintenance is reactive rather than proactive; only addressed when leaks or damage appear.

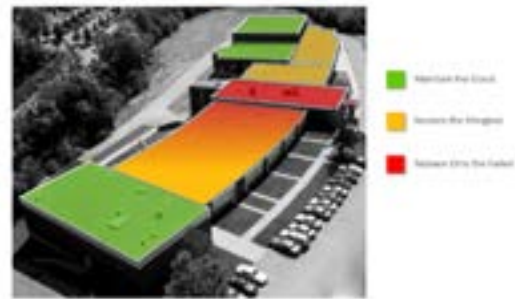
Through Tremco Roofing's affiliated construction services company, WTI (Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc.), school districts in Nebraska can obtain comprehensive maintenance, repair, roof management, and general contracting services for the entire building envelope. From simple patch and repair to ongoing maintenance to roof restoration or even replacement, Tremco and WTI have you covered. Taking a proactive approach to managing facility infrastructure can prevent costly emergencies, reduce disruptions, and stretch your budget much further.

Tremco even offers the TremSource® leak management program. One call to our 24/7 hotline sends qualified roofing technicians to find and repair roof leaks anywhere at your facility.

Asset Management Methodology: A Roadmap for Success

Tremco takes roof maintenance a step further with its asset management program. An effective facility asset management program consists of three parts: expert inventory assessment, prioritized construction, and scheduled maintenance—so you know what you have, spend wisely and keep your building enclosures operational for as long as possible. With this approach, you can optimize both your budget and your operations.

The first step in effective asset management is assessing the condition of your roof and other building envelope components. Categorize them using a simple triage system:



- **Green (Maintain):** These areas are in good condition and require routine maintenance.
- **Amber (Restore):** These areas need restoration to prevent further degradation.
- **Red (Replace):** These areas have reached the end of their useful life and require replacement.

This categorization allows you to develop a long-term (10-20+ years) maintenance and repair plan. Applying this methodology to all aspects of your building envelope—roofs, walls, windows, and foundations—can save time and money in the long run.

Beyond Roofing: A Holistic Approach to Asset Management

While roofing is an essential starting point, the asset management approach should extend to the entire building envelope. Walls, windows, doors, and foundations all play a role in maintaining the building's integrity and energy efficiency. By understanding the condition of these assets, prioritizing repairs, and developing a structured plan, districts can achieve predictable budgets and long-term cost savings.

Conclusion: The Payoff of Proactive Maintenance and Asset Management

For rural school districts in Nebraska, proactive maintenance and asset management offers a clear path to optimizing performance, extending the life of critical infrastructure, and avoiding costly emergency repairs. By investing in routine maintenance and timely restorations, facility managers can safeguard their buildings, protect their budgets, and ensure a safe, comfortable learning environment for years to come.

Contact Jim Wolfsohn at 816.801.7844 or jwolfsohn@tremcoinc.com to discover how **Tremco** can help your district implement cost-saving, proactive maintenance strategies



Purple Ribbon Partners



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Purple Ribbon Partners



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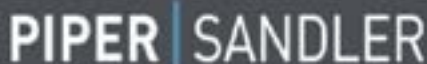
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Alliance Public Schools



Mascot: Bulldogs

Enrollment: 336

Location(s): Alliance, NE

Interesting Fact: Minnesota governor and vice presidential nominee Tim Walz is a former teacher at Alliance High School.

Superintendent: Dr. Troy Unzicker



Principals(L to R): Brenda Mills – Emerson Elementary, **Chris Bailey** – Grandview Elementary, **Troy Mach** – Alliance Middle School, **Chris Stein** - Alliance High School, **Anita James** – Asst. High School Principal



Board of Education: Tim Kollars, Shanna Brown, Tim Richey, Edison Red Nest, Jake Sylvester, Dave Rischling

Programs

Program 1. – During the 2023/2024 school year, Alliance Public Schools focused on improving our chronic absenteeism rate in a movement spearheaded by Alliance High School assistant principal Anita James. APS partnered with NDE to identify reasons for chronic absenteeism by working with our students and patrons. In addition, each building focused on incentives with students and increasing awareness amongst the community. By the end of the year, the district saw a 15% drop in chronic absenteeism.

Program 2. – Grandview Elementary, led by Principal Chris Bailey, has implemented their BARK UP program to address Tiers 2 and 3 behaviors. The mission of the BARK UP program is to provide individualized, structured, and continuous behavior interventions for students grades 3-5 at Grandview Elementary.

Goals of the program:

- Identify and address the underlying causes of challenging behaviors.
- Teach individuals new skills and strategies for managing their behavior.
- Create a positive and supportive environment that promotes prosocial behaviors.
- Collaborate with families and other stakeholders to develop and implement effective interventions.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Sandy Creek Public Schools



Mascots: Cougars

Enrollment: 425 K-12

Location(s): 3 Miles east of Fairfield; 6 miles south of Clay Center

Interesting Fact: Our High School has no classrooms...we operate with an “open concept” floor plan that serves our NCAPS program well.

Superintendent: Stephen Grizzle

Principals:

Elementary Principal - **Joe Wiechman,**

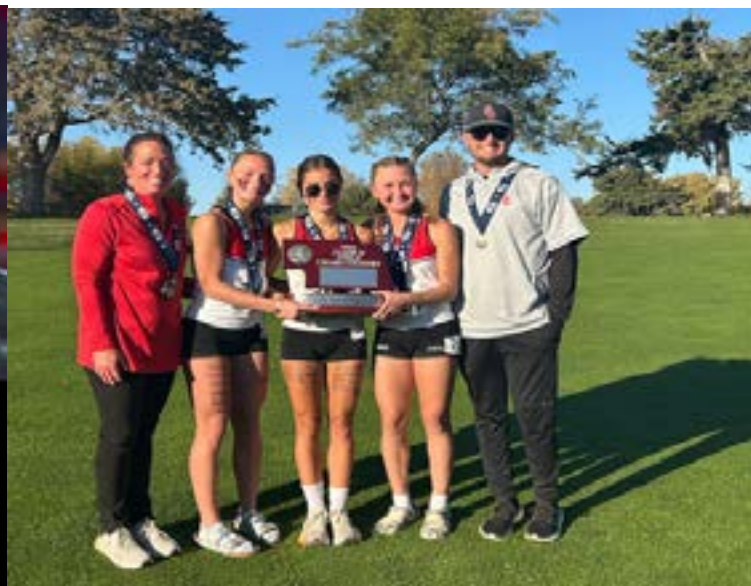
Secondary Principal - **Jason Searle**



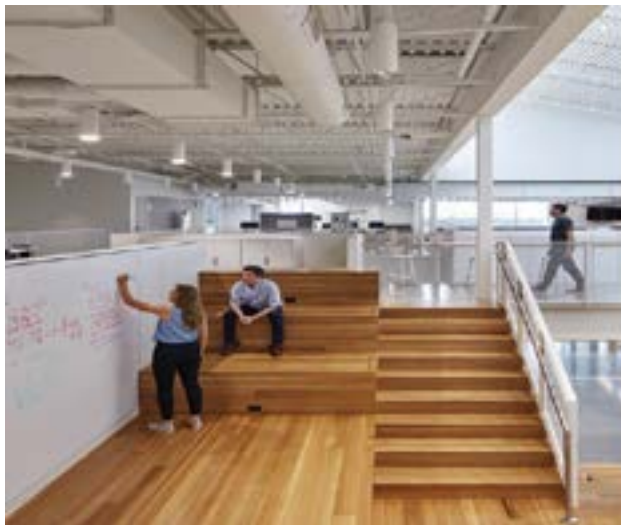
Board of Education: Chad Dane, Ryan Petr, Donita Furman, Brian Shaw, Sara Hemberger & Cheryl Brockman



Class D1 Football State Champions



Class D1 Cross Country Runner-Up



Programs:

Program 1. - NCAPS

In 2019 the Sandy Creek facility opened the newly renovated Nebraska Center for Advanced Professional Studies. The program is a nationally recognized, innovative high school program where students fast forward into their future and are immersed in a professional culture, solving real world problems, using industry standard tools and mentored by actual employers, while receiving high school and college credit. NCAPS is an example of how business, community and public education partner to produce personalized learning experiences that educate the workforce of tomorrow, especially in high skill, high demand jobs. NCAPS students can study in the fields of Agriculture; Business; Communication Arts; Construction; Culinary Arts; Education; Engineering; Government & Law; Health Sciences; Manufacturing and Transportation.

Program 2. - Preschool NeMTSS

Sandy Creek has a long standing partnership with Head Start of Hastings and the Early Development Network to provide extended services to students and families. The partnership also provides transportation, para education positions, family engagement opportunities, and staff professional development.

The Sandy Creek Preschool operates specifically around the early intervention approach developed around the MTSS Framework. The program is built around four fulltime classrooms with four full time teachers and nine paraeducators along with on-site speech language, occupational therapy, and physical therapy services. The program can accommodate up to 80 students with a regular attendance level of around 60 students. Students have the option to attend full days or half days Monday through Thursday in mixed age group classrooms during the morning hours. Following the lunch hour, students transition to other rooms with specific lessons designed around their needs. The program also supports early enrollment for students transitioning from IFSPs to IEPs at age three. The staff utilizes the MTSS framework and GOLD data to structure common planning times on Friday to attend professional development, prepare common lessons, and differentiate instruction for small groups.

UNL Tuition Discount & GOLD Grant.

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

Big Red Leader Website

Big Red Leadership Flyer

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-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](#)

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[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/nrdsa/home/

Update on Superintendent Goals

Safety Report

The Safety/Crisis Team met and reviewed roles and responsibilities as well as communication protocols and templates. We are still making some modifications.

Facilities Report

We are still waiting on final requirements from the fire marshal to finish the fire panel in Valparaiso.

Important Upcoming Dates:

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 an option to lower class sizes at the elementary level.

Motion by Lange, second by Benes to approve the grade alike option in an effort to lower class sizes and eventually move to 3 sections per grade level. Grades K-2 will be at Ceresco and grades 3-5 will be at Valparaiso for the 2025-2026 school year. RCV 5-1 (Burklund).



The Raymond Central Community is **Committed** to providing a **Positive, Challenging** learning environment which **Prepares Each** individual **Student** to be a responsible citizen in an **Ever-changing** society.

RAYMOND CENTRAL VALUES

- **We will promote a quality education as the cooperative responsibility of students, staff, parents, and community.**
- **We will provide a safe learning environment where all individuals are treated with dignity and respect.**
- **We will encourage parents to reinforce skill building at home.**
- **We will promote life-long learning and responsible citizenship.**
- **We will empower students to be problem solvers and independent learners.**
- **We will provide each student with the opportunity to learn and achieve success.**
- **We will meet the needs of individual students through a variety of approaches to learning.**
- **We will use available time and resources to stay on top of current educational practices.**
- **We will continuously evaluate, update and assess our district's goals.**

Objectives

- District Needs - Lowering Class Sizes K-5
- Options to Accomplish this Task
- Important Information for the Public
- Public Feedback Sessions
 - Monday, November 18th - Ceresco Elementary 7:00
 - Tuesday, November 19th - Valparaiso Elementary 7:00

Timeline of Information

- The grade alike option was discussed in 2022 as a part of bond issue considerations.
- The grade alike option was discussed in open session of the October 2023 BOE Meeting.
- The topic of lowering class sizes was brought up at community listening sessions.
- The need to lower class sizes with grade alike being an option was discussed at the September 30, 2024 Board of Education Workshop. This was an open meeting.
- The need to lower class sizes is being discussed with options this evening.
- Community input sessions will be held.

What Research Says Regarding Class Size and Student Growth

- Conclusive research has shown the benefits of class sizes of 1:15, especially in the primary grades.
 - Obtain higher test scores
 - Participate more in school
 - Demonstrate improved behavior
 - Retain many benefits of early class-size reductions in their later years of schooling

(School Superintendent Association, Charles Achilles. 2010)
- "Results consistently indicated that all types of students benefit more in later grades from being in small classes in early grades. These positive effects are significant through grade 8. Longer periods in small classes produced higher increases in achievement in later grades for all types of students."

(Chung, American Journal of Education)
- Brookings Institute reports that a large reduction in class sizes, 7 students or roughly 30%, results in an increase in student achievement equal to 3 months of learning over a four year period.
- LR319 - Interim study to determine whether student-to-teacher ratio requirements should be considered or implemented in Nebraska by statute or regulation.

Our Current Situation

* 3rd Section In Place

Current Year 2024-25

	Ceresco	VAL	Total
K	24	25	49
1	18	21	39
2 *	22	32	54
3	20	21	41
4	25	28	53
5	25	22	47

Projections with Moderate 2% Growth 2025-26

	Ceresco	Val	Total
K	25	25	50
1	25	25	50
2	19	21	40
3 *	23	33	55
4	21	21	42
5	25	29	54

What The Research Says About Teacher Retention

- A decrease in class size from 23 to 20 students decreases the probability that a teacher will leave a school district by 4.2 percentage points. *(John Ringer Syracuse University)*
- Why teachers leave. Dissatisfaction with working conditions, including large class sizes (10%). *(Learning Policy Institute)*
- The cumulative effect of smaller class sizes can increase job satisfaction for teachers making them less likely to depart the profession. Viewed from this perspective, investments in small class-sizes may well be cost effective when compared to the annual costs of recruiting and training new teachers and the loss of sustained learning for students. *(National Council of Professors of Educational Administration)*
- While at the UNL and Wayne State teacher recruitment events I was asked by a high percentage of elementary teacher candidates about our class sizes.

What The Research Says About Collaboration

- We already provide time for grade alike collaboration and feedback from the teachers has been positive.
- We are looking for opportunities to enhance and solidify this process.
- “Schools that embrace teacher collaboration tend to ensure the success of educational reform, in part because teaching as a profession needs to be cured of its isolationist tendencies. Moreover, these schools also tend to ensure teacher satisfaction” (*Sutula UCF*)
- “Teacher collaboration has strong and positive effects on student achievement, particularly when the collaboration is about assessment.” (*Ronfeldt, American Education Research Journal*)
- “Data shows the impact collaboration in value-added achievement in the areas of math and reading.” (*Avila, Cal Poly-Tech*)
- “Teachers are professionals and possess unique knowledge about their students and how they learn. When effective collaboration occurs, teachers’ knowledge and experience are diffused and instruction is enhanced. Teachers with various levels of experience that collectively focus on improving student learning are most effective in increasing student achievement” (*Burton University of South Carolina*)

Option 1- Keep Both Buildings K-5

- 2025-26- Add 3 staff members per building for a total of 6 to lower class sizes in our larger sections- projected increased cost- \$600,000.
- 2026-27- Potentially add 3 staff members in Ceresco and 2 in Valparaiso depending on growth in our smaller sections. This would bring us to two sections per grade level in each building. Projected increased cost - \$500,000.
- 2026-27- Potential need to add space at Ceresco - 2 room portable classrooms.
 - Monthly Unit Rent- \$3,300
 - Set Up Costs- \$37,000
- Plumbing and electrical costs for portable unit.- \$10,000
- Classroom furnishing over 2 Years depending on growth at \$5,000 per room- \$55,000.

Option 2 Split K-2 (Ceresco) and 3-5 (Valparaiso)

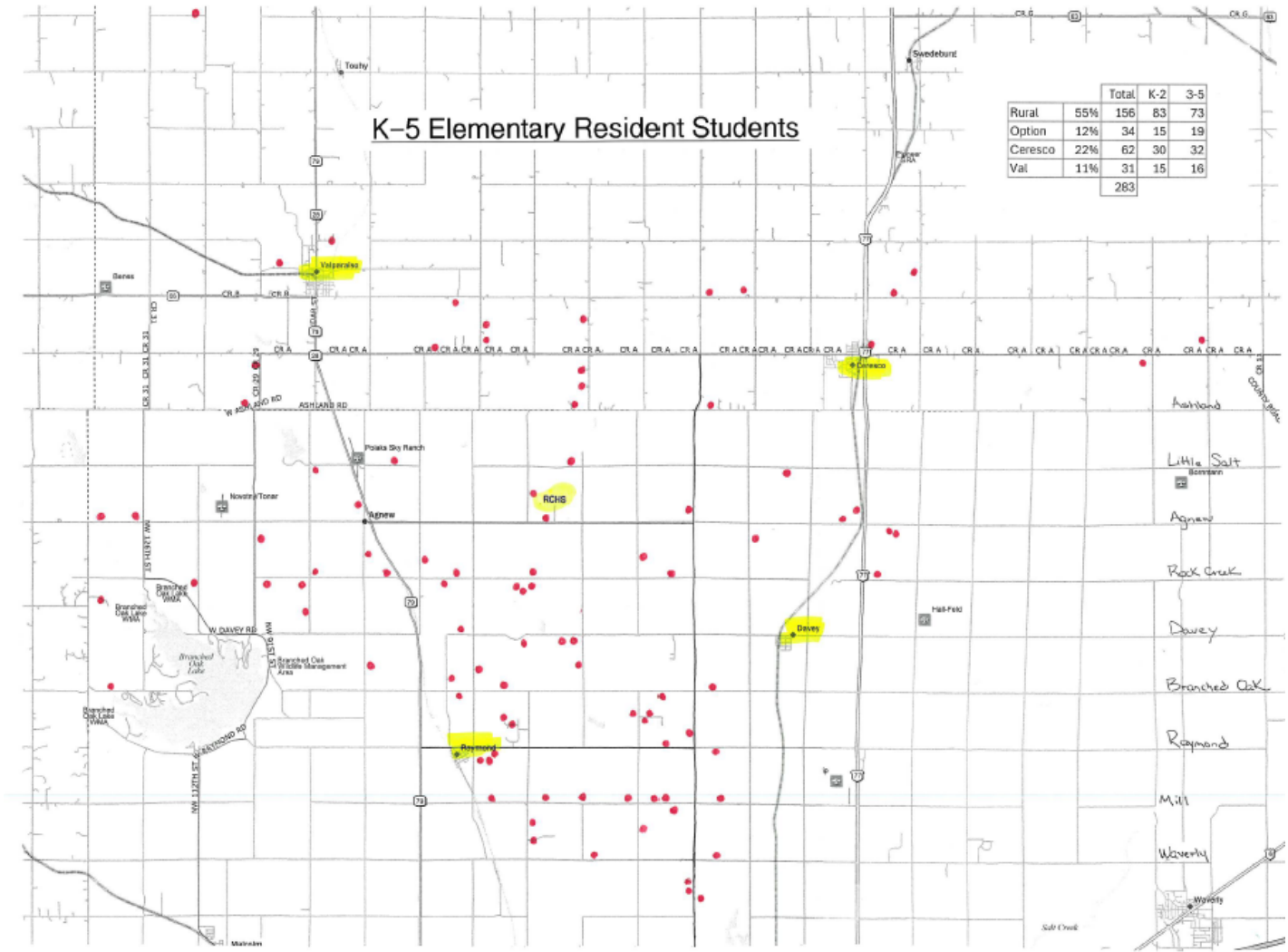
- 2025-26- Add 3 staff members total, projected increased cost- \$300,000.
- 2026-27- Potentially add 2 staff members depending on growth in smaller classrooms, projected increased cost- \$200,000.
- This would allow for 3 sections per grade level.
- The current configuration at Ceresco can support 9 traditional classrooms.
- The current configuration at Valparaiso can support 12 traditional classrooms.
- Classroom furnishing over 2 Years depending on growth at \$5,000 per room- \$25,000.

Bussing

- Projections based on current enrollment:
 - K-2- 80 current bus riders - Would add 15 Valparaiso Students- 95 total riders.
 - 3-5- 74 current bus riders - Would add 32 Ceresco Students- 106 total riders.
- The Raymond Central School District was already planning on adding a route based on increased ridership in the southern part of the district.
- We currently use a system where students are bussed to the central site then take a shuttle to either Ceresco or Valparaiso. This practice will continue.
- Our goal is to have students on a bus for no longer than 1 hour. With the additional route we are confident that we can maintain this expectation.
- Projected cost: \$10,000 in additional fuel for shuttles to the elementary buildings.

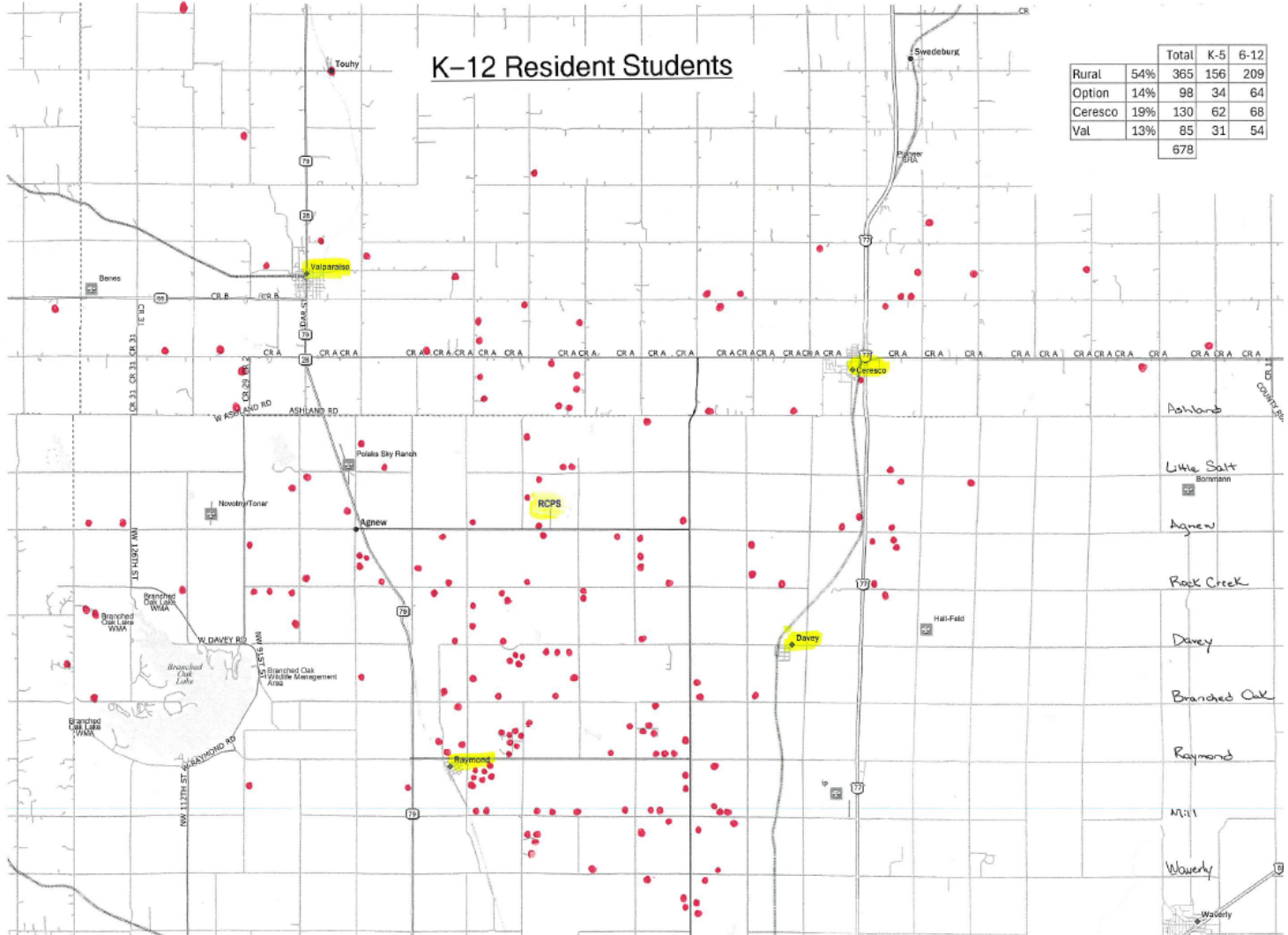
K-5 Elementary Resident Students

	Total	K-2	3-5	
Rural	55%	156	83	73
Option	12%	34	15	19
Ceresco	22%	62	30	32
Val	11%	31	15	16
		283		



K-12 Resident Students

	Total	K-5	6-12
Rural	54%	365	156
Option	14%	98	34
Ceresco	19%	130	62
Val	13%	85	31
	678		



Pro's and Con's From The BOE from Workshop 8-31-2022

Pros of Split Option

- Utilizes Space
- Numbers Solution
- Collaboration of Teaching
- More Cost Effective
- Communities Keep Their Schools
- Earlier Integration of Towns and Kids
- Small Town EMT's Closer

Cons of Split Option

- Splits Families More
- Transportation Logistics
- Lack of Unity
- Could Lose Students
- Temporary Solution- This was as compared to a single site.
- Doesn't Solve Playground Issue
- Still an Old Building
- Are the Rooms Big Enough?

Timeline of Implementation

- There is no rational reason to delay doing what is in the best educational interest of our students and educators. Whichever option is selected it should be implemented for the 2025-26 School Year.
- Depending on the option chosen, teachers would be given contract time at the end of the year. We would monitor instructional hours and potentially release elementary students two days early so they have time to pack up their classroom.
- Projects will be completed over the summer to enhance our current learning facilities. These are not additional costs, but planned maintenance and upkeep.
- Depending on the option chosen, the best options to move furniture between the buildings will be used. Will start in Mid-July- Projected cost \$10,000
- Depending on the options chosen, teachers would be given two days prior to report day to get their classrooms put together. Projected Cost- \$5,000

The Ultimate Goal

- In the most educationally sound and fiscally responsible manner to provide the most effective learning environment for our students, while ensuring that our teachers have manageable educational loads that allow them to meet the unique needs of our students.

Programs

Student Membership

Student Race/Ethnicity

Pre-Kindergarten

Highly Mobile

English Learner

Free/Reduced Lunch

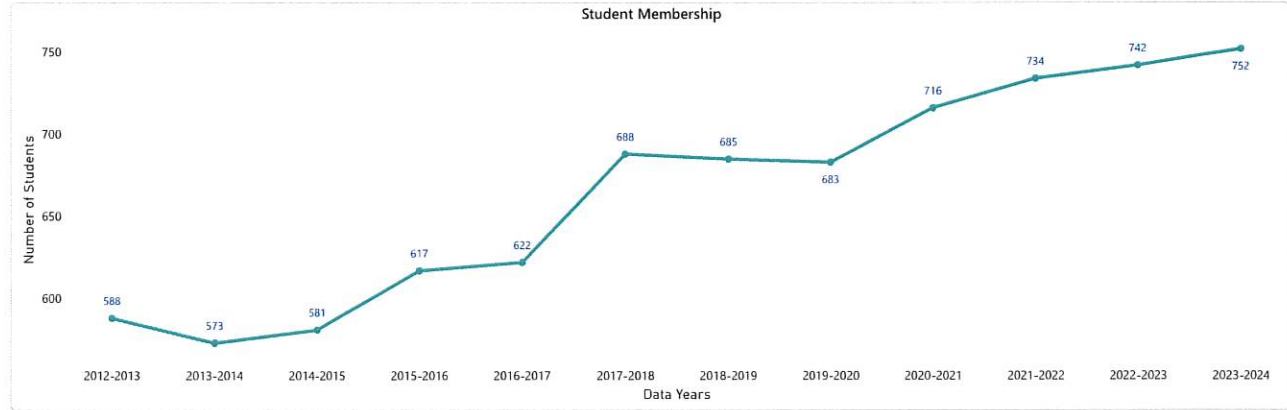
Gifted (High Ability Learner)

Students with Disabilities

Student Membership

How many students were enrolled at the beginning of the school year?

[Click Here for Data Definition](#)



Data Years	PK	KG	G01	G02	G03	G04	G05	G06	G07	G08	G09	G10	G11	G12	Total
2023-2024	55	43	52	43	50	49	46	51	49	62	69	55	63	65	752
2022-2023	50	53	43	45	47	46	49	48	64	71	52	62	62	50	742
2021-2022	59	44	43	47	45	50	45	60	66	52	61	59	50	53	734
2020-2021	40	46	43	51	49	47	55	66	51	55	62	44	52	55	716
2019-2020	44	46	50	40	44	51	58	47	57	59	43	52	56	36	683
2018-2019	39	50	39	47	50	57	45	49	60	39	56	54	39	61	685
2017-2018	43	44	47	54	54	43	48	56	37	52	56	45	62	47	688
2016-2017	9	44	54	51	37	44	49	39	50	50	41	60	46	48	622
2015-2016	11	54	51	37	45	48	37	47	48	36	64	44	47	48	617
2014-2015	7	49	36	39	45	35	45	48	35	59	46	48	48	41	581
2013-2014	8	35	37	46	35	47	45	35	53	47	49	49	41	46	573
2012-2013	6	42	43	33	47	46	32	51	42	45	45	46	47	63	588

Metrics

Student Performance on Assessments

Teachers

Financial

Other Information

Options to Lower Class Sizes at Elementary Schools

Option 1: Keep K-5 in each Building

- 2025-26- Add 3 staff members per building for a total of 6 to lower class sizes in our larger sections- projected increased cost - \$600,000.
- 2026-27- Potentially add 3 staff members in Ceresco and 2 in Valparaiso depending on growth in our smaller sections. This would bring us to two sections per grade level in each building. Projected increased cost - \$500,000.
- 2026-27- Potential need to add space at Ceresco - 2 room portable classrooms.
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- Set Up Costs - \$37,000.
- Plumbing and electrical costs for portable unit - \$10,000.
- Classroom furnishing over 2 Years depending on growth at \$5,000 per room- \$55,000.

Option 2: K-2 Ceresco and 3-5 Valparaiso

- 2025-26 - Add 3 staff members total, projected increased cost - \$300,000.
- 2026-27- Potentially add 2 staff members depending on growth in smaller classrooms, projected increased cost - \$200,000.
- This would allow for 3 sections per grade level.
- The current configuration at Ceresco can support 9 traditional classrooms.
- The current configuration at Valparaiso can support 12 traditional classrooms.
- Classroom furnishing over 2 Years depending on growth at \$5,000 per room - \$25,000.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to approve the purchase of a 2025 71 Passenger International Bus.

Motion by Matulka, second by Burklund to approve the purchase of a 2025 International 71 passenger bus at a cost of \$134,320.00. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.



2025 IC Bus, CE Series

- 71 Passenger, 78" Headroom, Ext'd kneeroom
- 100 Gallon Fuel Tank
- Dash A/C, Full Body A/C w/Roof Condensers
- Full Underfloor Luggage Compartments
- *Safety-Star* Premium Package
- 36 month/50,000 miles Ext'd Warranty
- 24 month/unlimited miles Towing/Service

Sales Proposal For:

Raymond Central Public Schools

Presented By:

CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, INC

Prepared For:
Raymond Central Public
Schools
1800 W Agnew Road
Raymond, Ne 68428

Presented By:
CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, INC
Russell Folts
3131 CORNHUSKER HIGHWAY
LINCOLN NE 68504 -
(402)466-8461

Reference ID: N/A

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with the following quotation on a new IC Corporation vehicle. I am sure the following detailed specification will meet your operational requirements, and I look forward to serving your business needs.

Model Profile
2025 CE SCHOOL BUS (PB110)

AXLE CONFIG: 4X2

APPLICATION: School Transportation

MISSION: Requested GVWR: 27500. Calc. **GVWR: 29800**
Calc. Start / Grade Ability: 26.24% / 2.05% @ 55 MPH
Calc. Geared Speed: 88.6 MPH

DIMENSION: Wheelbase: 276.00, CA: N/A, Axle to Frame: 166.00

ENGINE, DIESEL: {Cummins B6.7 250} EPA 2024, **250HP @ 2400 RPM, 660 lb-ft Torque @ 1600 RPM, 2600 RPM**
Governed Speed, 250 Peak HP (Max), School Bus Only

TRANSMISSION, AUTOMATIC: {Allison 2500 PTS} 6th Generation Controls, Wide Ratio, **6-Speed with Double Overdrive**, Less PTO Provision, Less Retarder, with 33,000-lb GVW and GCW Max, School Bus

CLUTCH: Omit Item (Clutch & Control)

AXLE, FRONT NON-DRIVING: {Meritor MFS-10-122A} I-Beam Type, 10,000-lb Capacity

AXLE, REAR, SINGLE: {Dana Spicer S140} Single Reduction, 19,800-lb Capacity, 190 Wheel Ends Gear Ratio: 5.57

TIRE, FRONT: (2) 11R22.5 Load Range H R89 ALL POSITION (PIRELLI), 501 rev/mile, 75 MPH, All-Position

TIRE, REAR: (4) 11R22.5 Load Range H R89 CS (PIRELLI), 494 rev/mile, 75 MPH, Drive

SUSPENSION, REAR, AIR, SINGLE: {International IROS} 21,000-lb Capacity, 9.25" Ride Height, with Shock Absorbers Mounted Outside the Rails

PAINT: Cab schematic 100NB
Location 1: 4421, School Bus Yellow (Std)
Chassis schematic N/A

Vehicle Specifications
2025 CE SCHOOL BUS (PB110)

March 28, 2024

Description

Base Chassis, Model CE SCHOOL BUS with 276.00 Wheelbase, N/A CA, and 166.00 Axle to Frame.

BODY PLANS

BODY, BUS Conventional; 78" Headroom, 34'11" Body Length, +9 Section Rear, **seated to 71 passenger**

w/ ext'd kneeroom

:

BODY PLAN, NON-SPECIAL NEEDS for CE, 34' 11" Body Length, +9 Section Rear, 71 Passenger, 276" WB, DM0037A000

BODY PLAN, APPROVED VARIATION Number 001

AXLE CONFIGURATION

AXLE CONFIGURATION {Navistar} 4x2

ENGINE

ENGINE, DIESEL {Cummins B6.7 250} EPA 2024, **250HP** @ 2400 RPM, **660 lb-ft Torque** @ 1600 RPM, 2600 RPM Governed Speed, 250 Peak HP (Max), School Bus Only

EMISSION, CALENDAR YEAR {Cummins B6.7} EPA, OBD and GHG Certified for Calendar Year 2024

CARB EMISSION WARR COMPLIANCE Does Not Comply with CARB Emission Warranty

CARB IDLE COMPLIANCE Does Not Comply with California Clean Air Idle Regulations

EPA IDLE COMPLIANCE Low NOx Idle Engine, Complies with EPA Clean Air Regulations; Includes "Certified Clean Idle" Decal on Hood

RADIATOR Aluminum, 2-Row, Down Flow, Front to Back System, 640 SqIn Louvered, with 383 SqIn Charge Air Cooler, Includes In-Tank Oil Cooler

Includes

: RADIATOR HOSES Premium, Rubber

FAN DRIVE {Warner Electric FC550} On/Off Type, Electronically Activated and Controlled

Includes

: FAN Nylon

AIR CLEANER Single Element, Fire Retardant Media

ANTI-FREEZE Red, Extended Life Coolant; To -40 Degrees F/ -40 Degrees C, Freeze Protection

BLOCK HEATER, ENGINE {Phillips} 120V/750W, for Cummins ISB/B6.7 Engines

Includes

: BLOCK HEATER SOCKET Receptacle Type; Mounted in Center Through Front Bumper

CRUISE CONTROL Electronic

OIL PAN 15 Quart Capacity, For Cummins ISB/B6.7 Engines

THROTTLE, HAND CONTROL Electronic

TRANSMISSION

TRANSMISSION, AUTOMATIC {Allison 2500 PTS} 6th Generation Controls, Wide Ratio, **6-Speed with Double Overdrive**, Less PTO Provision, Less Retarder, with 33,000-lb GVW and GCW Max, School Bus

NEUTRAL AT STOP OMIT

SHIFT CONTROL PARAMETERS {Allison} 1000 or 2000 Series Transmissions, Performance Programming

Description

TRANSMISSION OIL Synthetic; 20 thru 28 Pints

TRANSMISSION SHIFT CONTROL Column Mounted Stalk Shifter, for Allison 1000 & 2000 Series Transmission

CLUTCH

CLUTCH Omit Item (Clutch & Control)

REAR AXLES, SUSPENSIONS

AXLE, REAR, SINGLE {Dana Spicer S140} Single Reduction, 19,800-lb Capacity, 190 Wheel Ends . Gear Ratio: 5.57

SUSPENSION, REAR, **AIR-Ride**, SINGLE {International IROS} 21,000-lb Capacity, 9.25" Ride Height, with Shock Absorbers Mounted Outside the Rails

FRONT AXLES

AXLE, FRONT NON-DRIVING {Meritor MFS-10-122A} I-Beam Type, 10,000-lb Capacity

FRONT SUSPENSIONS

SUSPENSION, FRONT, SPRING Parabolic Taper Leaf, Shackle Type, 10,000-lb Capacity, with Shock Absorbers

Includes

: SPRING PINS Rubber Bushings, Maintenance-Free

CABS, COWLS, BODIES

COWL Flat Back

AIR CONDITIONER with Integral Heater and Defroster

CAB INTERIOR TRIM Classic, for Day Cab

GAUGE CLUSTER Premium Level; English with English Electronic Speedometer

Includes

: GAUGE CLUSTER DISPLAY: Base Level (3" Monochromatic Display), Premium Level (5" LCD Color Display); Odometer, Voltmeter, Diagnostic Messages, Gear Indicator, Trip Odometer, Total Engine Hours, Trip Hours, MPG, Distance to Empty/Refill for

: GAUGE CLUSTER Speedometer, Tachometer, Engine Coolant Temp, Fuel Gauge, DEF Gauge, Oil Pressure Gauge, Primary and Secondary Air Pressure or Auxiliary Air Pressure (if Air Equipped)

: WARNING SYSTEM Low Fuel, Low DEF, Low Oil Pressure, High Engine Coolant Temp, Low Battery Voltage (Visual and Audible), Low Air Pressure, Primary and Secondary (if Air Equipped)

GAUGE, DEF FLUID LEVEL

GAUGE, OIL TEMP, AUTO TRANS for Allison Transmission

HEATER SHUT-OFF VALVES (2) Ball Valve Type

INSTRUMENT PANEL Wing Panel

IP CLUSTER DISPLAY On Board Diagnostics Display of Fault Codes in Gauge Cluster

WINDSHIELD Three Piece, Bonded, with Shaded Band

WINDSHIELD WIPER BLADES **Winter Type**

FRAMES

FRAME RAILS High Strength Low Alloy Steel (50,000 PSI Yield); 10.125" x 3.062" x 0.312" (257.2mm x 77.8mm x 8.0mm); 489.2" (12425mm) Maximum OAL

Description

BUMPER, FRONT Contoured, Steel, Painted Gloss Black, Severe Duty

Notes

: Bumper Thickness is .25"

CROSSING GATE, FRONT Electric, Yellow Blade, Bumper Mounted

Includes

: CONTROL ASSEMBLY Solid State, Located Rear of Front Bumper, Heater not Required

: CROSSING GATE, FRONT Matches Contour of Bumper

CROSSMEMBER, REAR, AF (1)

TOW HOOK, FRONT (2) Frame Mounted

TOW HOOK, REAR (2) Mounted on Lower Rail Flange

WHEELBASE RANGE 276" (700cm) Only

BRAKES

BRAKE SYSTEM, **AIR** Dual System for Straight Truck Applications

Includes

: BRAKE LINES Color and Size Coded Nylon

: DRAIN VALVE Twist-Type

: GAUGE, AIR PRESSURE (2) Air 1 and Air 2 Gauges; Located in Instrument Cluster

: QUICK RELEASE VALVE On Rear Axle for Spring Brake Release: 1 for 4x2, 2 for 6x4

: SPRING BRAKE MODULATOR VALVE R-7 for 4x2, SR-7 with relay valve for 6x4/8x6

AIR BRAKE ABS {Bendix AntiLock Brake System} 4-Channel (4 Sensor/4 Modulator) Electronic Stability Program, with Automatic Traction Control

BRAKE, PARKING Manual Push-Pull Pneumatic Parking Brake

BRAKES, FRONT {Meritor 15X4 Q-PLUS CAST} Air S-Cam Type, Cast Spider, Fabricated Shoe, Double Anchor Pin, Size 15" X 4", 13,200-lb Capacity

BRAKE CHAMBERS, FRONT AXLE {Bendix} 20 SqIn

SLACK ADJUSTERS, FRONT {Gunite} Automatic

DUST SHIELDS, FRONT BRAKE for Air Cam Brakes

BRAKES, REAR {Meritor 16.5X7 Q-PLUS CAST} Air S-Cam Type, Cast Spider, Fabricated Shoe, Double Anchor Pin, Size 16.5" X 7", 23,000-lb Capacity per Axle

BRAKE CHAMBERS, REAR AXLE {Bendix EverSure} 30/30 SqIn Spring Brake

SLACK ADJUSTERS, REAR {Gunite} Automatic

DUST SHIELDS, REAR BRAKE for Air Cam Brakes

AIR COMPRESSOR {Cummins} 18.7 CFM

AIR DRYER {Bendix AD-9SI} with Heater, Includes Safety Valve

AIR DRYER LOCATION Mounted Inside Engine Compartment, Right Side

AIR DRYER SHIELD to Protect from Debris

AIR TANK LOCATION (1) Mounted Inside & Below Left Rail, Back of Cab

GVWR LIMITATION FOR BUS with Air Brakes, Limited to 33,000-lbs Maximum to meet FMVSS 121 Requirements, for Conventional Bus

PARKING BRAKE INTERLOCK Parking Brake Cannot be Released Until Ignition Switch is in "On" Position and Service Brake Pedal is Applied, Use with Air Brake Chassis Only

Description
STEERING

STEERING GEAR {Sheppard M100} Power

STEERING COLUMN Tilting

STEERING WHEEL 4-Spoke; 18" Dia., Black

DRIVELINES

DRIVELINE SYSTEM {Dana Spicer} SPL100, for 4x2/6x2

PROPSHAFT GUARD

EXHAUST SYSTEMS

EXHAUST SYSTEM Horizontal Aftertreatment System, Frame Mounted Under Right Rail, for Single Long Horizontal Tail Pipe

ENGINE EXHAUST BRAKE for Cummins ISB/B6.7/ISL/L9 Engine with Variable Vane Turbo Charger

TAIL PIPE (1) Horizontal, Long, Exits Right Side Through Bumper

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM 12-Volt, Standard Equipment

Includes

: HAZARD SWITCH Push On/Push Off, Located on Instrument Panel to Right of Steering Wheel

: HEADLIGHT DIMMER SWITCH Integral with Turn Signal Lever

: MISCELLANEOUS FEATURES Modular, Loom Protected, Grommets in all Applicable Body Openings, Assembled in Computer Assisted Fixture which Verifies Continuity and Correct Assembly Prior to Installation

: PARKING LIGHT Integral with Front Turn Signal and Rear Tail Light

: STARTER SWITCH Electric, Key Operated

: TURN SIGNAL SWITCH Self-Cancelling with Lane Change Feature

: TURN SIGNALS, FRONT Includes Reflectors and Auxiliary Side Turn Signals, Solid State Flashers; Flush Mounted

: WINDSHIELD WIPER SWITCH 2-Speed with Wash and Intermittent Feature (5 Pre-Set Delays), Integral with Turn Signal Lever

: WIRING, CHASSIS Color Coded and Continuously Numbered

ALTERNATOR {Leece-Neville BLP4024N} Brushless, 12 Volt, **325 Amp Capacity**, Pad Mount, with Remote Sense

ANTENNA Shark Fin, Roof Mounted

BATTERY BOX Steel, with Powder Coat Sliding Tray, 25.25" Wide, for Standard Batteries, 1-3 Battery Capacity, Mounted Left Side Behind Front Axle Perpendicular to Frame Rail

BATTERY DISCONNECT SWITCH {Cole-Hersee 75920-06} 300 Amp, Disconnects Charging Circuits, Locks with Padlock, Battery Box Mounted

BATTERY SYSTEM {Fleetrite} Maintenance-Free, **(3)** 12-Volt 1980CCA Total, Top Threaded Stud

CIRCUIT BREAKERS Manual-Reset (Main Panel) SAE Type III with Trip Indicators, Replaces All Fuses

COLLISION MITIGATION SYSTEM {Bendix Wingman Advanced} Adaptive Cruise Control with Collision Mitigation and Stationary Object Alert; Includes Front Radar, Driver Display

HEADLIGHT WARNING BUZZER Sounds When Head Light Switch is on and Ignition Switch is in "Off" Position

HEADLIGHTS Halogen, with Daytime Running Lights, Automatic Twilight Controlled

HEADLIGHTS ON W/WIPERS Headlights Will Automatically Turn On if Windshield Wipers are Turned On

HORN, AIR Dual Trumpets, Chrome, Mounted Outside Above Driver Window, with Electric Solenoid and Switch on Panel, on Air Chassis

HORN, ELECTRIC (2) Trumpet Style

Description

INDICATOR, LOW COOLANT LEVEL with Audible Alarm

RADIO AM/FM/USB Input/Auxiliary Input, Includes Wiring and Antenna, with Public Address System

STARTING MOTOR {Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America 90P47} 12-Volt, with Soft-Start

TELEMATICS SYSTEM {ZONAR SYSTEMS V3} Installation Package, Less System; Includes Power Connector, J1939 Datalink Connector, Stop Arm and Entrance Door Inputs, Located Inside Dash Center Panel for Customer Installed Zonar V3 Module

TURN SIGNALS, FRONT Dual Face, LED, Amber/Amber, Mounted on Top of Fender, Used with Standard Flush Mounted Front Turn Signal, Side Marker Lamps, Parking Lights and Reflectors

USB PORT One USB-A Port and One USB-C Port, Located in Instrument Panel

FRONT END

FRONT END Tilting, Fiberglass, with Three Piece Construction, Dual Air Intakes

BUG SCREEN Mounted Behind Grille

GRILLE Molded in Black, **with Chrome Surround**

HOOD TILT ASSIST {EASY TILT} Mechanical

LOGOS EXTERIOR Model Badges

LOGOS EXTERIOR, ENGINE Badges

SPEEDOMETER, TOOLS, MISC

COMMUNICATIONS MODULE Telematics Device with Over the Air Programming; Includes Five Year Data Plan and International 360

MUD FLAPS, FRONT WHEELS (2) Rubber, Mounted on Fender Extension

PAINT SCHEMATIC, PT-1 Single Color, Design 100

Includes

: PAINT SCHEMATIC ID LETTERS "NB"

PAINT TYPE Urethane, One or Two Colors, Other than Imron or International.

PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE **7 Year Unlimited Miles/km Warranty, Limited Time Program for Allison 2500 Series Transmission** on School and Commercial Buses (Supplied directly through Allison)

FUEL TANKS

FUEL TANK Top Draw, Steel, Rectangular, **100 US Gal** (379L), Includes Protective Cage, Mounted Between Frame Rails and Behind Rear Axle

DEF TANK 16.5 US Gal (62.5L) Capacity, Frame Mounted Outside Right Rail, Behind 0 Bow

FUEL/WATER SEPARATOR {Racor 400 Series,} 12 VDC Electric Heater, Includes Pre-Heater, with Primer Pump, Includes Water-in-Fuel Sensor

LOCATION FUEL/WATER SEPARATOR Mounted Under Hood, Left Side, Above Front Axle

WHEELS, TIRES - FRONT

WHEELS, FRONT {Accuride 51408} DISC; 22.5x8.25 Rims, **Powder Coat Steel**, 2-Hand Hole, 10-Stud, 285.75mm BC, Hub-Piloted, Flanged Nut, with Steel Hubs

(2) TIRE, FRONT 11R22.5 Load Range H R89 ALL POSITION (PIRELLI), 501 rev/mile, 75 MPH, All-Position

WHEELS, TIRES - REAR

Description

WHEELS, REAR {Accuride 51408} DUAL DISC; 22.5x8.25 Rims, Powder Coat Steel, 2-Hand Hole, 10-Stud, 285.75mm BC, Hub-Piloted, Flanged Nut, with Steel Hubs

(4) TIRE, REAR 11R22.5 Load Range H R89 CS (PIRELLI), 494 rev/mile, 75 MPH, Drive

BODY FEATURES

BUMPER, REAR Painted, 12" High, 3/16" Thick

SUPPORTS, REAR BUMPER Bolted to Frame

BODY, REAR Includes Emergency Door

BOWS, ROOF 14 ga., One Piece Construction

Includes

: BOWS, ROOF Positioned Floor Line to Floor Line, Threaded Through Roof Strainers and Drip Rail

FASTENERS, HEADLINER Rivets

FLOOR, BODY with Wheel Wells

HANDLE, ASSIST Windshield Side Mounted, Left and Right, Chrome

HEADLINER, BODY Conventional; 25'11"-35'08" Body Length, Perforated Full Length with Sound Insulation Full Length

LIGHT BARS Plastic

LINING, SIDE INTERIOR, LOWER Embossed Steel, Clear Coated

RAILS, WRAP-AROUND Just Below Window Line

RUB RAILS, BODY (4) Conventional; Steel, 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths, Includes Snow Rail

Includes

: RUB RAILS Full Length, Primer Coated (Both Sides), Attached to Body without Cuts or Splices

SEALER Extra; Sidewall to Floor, In Wheel Pocket Area, and Rear Wall to Floor

SIDE SHEET, BODY, EXTERIOR Conventional, 16ga., Smooth, 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths

SKIRT, BODY Conventional, 20", 16ga., 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths

Includes

: SKIRT, BODY Extra Smooth Steel Supported by Floor Gussets

STEP, FRONT ENTRANCE DOOR 27 1/4" Depth; 14ga Steel, Formed Treads, Naviflex Finish

TIE DOWNS, BODY Grade 8 Bolts, Every Body Section

Includes

: TIE DOWNS, BODY with Formed Tab that Fits into Floor Structure to Prevent Turning

COVER, REAR DOOR INSIDE HANDLE Partial Coverage

DOOR, ENTRANCE, FRONT Electric, Outward Opening, with Single Pane Glass

FASTENERS, REAR DOOR Lag Screws, Rear Door To Body

HANDLE, ASSIST, ENTRANCE DOOR Outside Entrance

HANDLE, EXTERIOR, REAR Emergency Door; Chrome

HOLD BACK, REAR DOOR Stationary, No Cables, with Plastic Cover

KEYS ALIKE, LOCKS Entrance Door, 545 Keys

LATCH, REAR DOOR One Point Slide Bar, Cam Operated, with One Inch Stroke

Vehicle Specifications
2025 CE SCHOOL BUS (PB110)

March 28, 2024

Description

LOCK, ENTRANCE DOOR in External Release, with Key

LOCK, REAR DOOR with Ignition Starter Interlock, Located at Bottom Edge of Rear Buzzer Box

COMPARTMENT, DRIVER STORAGE Bin, Sized to Hold Three Ring Binder, Includes (1) USB-A Port and (1) USB-C Port

COMPARTMENT, LUGGAGE, LT MID 91" x 24" x 18"

Includes

: HINGES Rubber

: LATCH, T-HANDLE, LOCKING Stainless Steel

COMPARTMENT, LUGGAGE, RT MID 91" X 24" X 22"

Includes

: HINGES Rubber

: LATCH, T-HANDLE, LOCKING Stainless Steel

HOLD DOWN, BATTERY For Up To 3 Batteries

WASTE CONTAINER Removable, Located in Driver Area

INSULATION, ROOF/SIDES/BULKHEAD 1.5"

UNDERCOAT, BODY Fire Resistant, Water Based, TT-C-730 Spec

Includes

: **UNDERCOATING** Performed Before **and** After Mounting on Chassis

UNDERCOAT, FLOOR/STEPWLL/SIDES for Engine Noise Reduction

BODY CERTIFICATION TAG Metal

BODY TAG, METAL Capacity to Include the Total Number of Passengers

LETTERS, BATTERY COMPARTMENT (01) Decal; "Battery"; 1" Black Letters, Centered on Standard Battery Box

LETTERS, CAPACITY 2" Black Decal, (1) Place, with Bus Number, For the State of Nebraska

LETTERS, DEF, I.D. Decal; "DEF ONLY", 1" Black, on DEF Filler Door

LETTERS, DOOR, REAR Decals; "EMERGENCY DOOR", 2" Black Letters Inside and Outside

LETTERS, FUEL I.D. Decal; "DIESEL FUEL", 2" Black, Adjacent to Fuel Filler Door

LETTERS, HEADER Decal; "WATCH YOUR STEP", 1" Black, Above Windshield

LETTERS, E/E WINDOW, LEFT (2) Decal Sets, "EMERGENCY EXIT", Black Inside and Outside

LETTERS, E/E WINDOW, RIGHT (2) Decal Sets, "EMERGENCY EXIT", Black, Inside and Outside

LETTERS, SCHOOL BUS FRONT/REAR Decal; "SCHOOL BUS"; with 8" Black Reflective Letters, 3M Fluorescent Diamond Grade, Yellow On Front and Rear Cap

LETTERS, STEPWELL Decal, "WATCH YOUR STEP", 2.5" Black, Behind Door on Step Riser

LOGO, ROOF LINE Decal; Wing and Shield, First Body Section, Above Driver Window and Entrance Door Over Driver Window and Entrance Door

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS, REAR Decal, Inside Rear Emergency Door

PAINT COLOR, BODY INTERIOR 9384 Spring White

PAINT COLOR, BODY EXTERIOR 4421 School Bus Yellow

PAINT COLOR, BUMPER Rear, 0001 Canyon Black

PAINT FLASHER BACKGRD 0001 Canyon Black

Description

PAINT HOOD AND FENDER To Match Body Exterior

PAINT COLOR, ROOF 9219 Winter White, (Does Not Include Lift Door) Beginning 5" Above Drip Rail, Rounded Corners

PAINT, RUB RAIL Flange to Flange

PAINT COLOR, RUB RAILS 0001 Canyon Black

PAINT STREAMER On Roof, Both Sides 1" Above Drip Rail, 0001 Canyon Black

SEAL, RUB RAILS Top Edge, All Rails

STRIPING, BUMPER (4) Decal, Non-contrasting, Front and Rear

STRIPING, E/E WINDOW, LEFT {3M} (02) Perimeter, 1" Yellow Fluorescent Diamond Grade

STRIPING, E/E WINDOW, RIGHT {3M} (02) Perimeter, 1" Yellow Fluorescent Diamond Grade

STRIPING, PERIMETER, REAR Emergency Door, 1" Yellow Reflective

STRIPING, REAR END {3M} White Fluorescent Diamond Grade, 1" Horizontal and 2" Vertical

STRIPING, ROOF HATCH, FRONT {3M} Decal, Perimeter, 1" Yellow Fluorescent Diamond Grade

STRIPING, ROOF HATCH, REAR {3M} Decal, Perimeter, 1" Yellow Fluorescent Diamond Grade

STRIPING, SEATLINE {3M} 2" Yellow Fluorescent Diamond Grade

WIRING DIAGRAM Schematic, Electrical

Includes

: ACCESS PANEL for Wiring Diagram Schematic Located on Inside of Electrical Panel Door, Below Driver Window

SUB FLOOR, PLYWOOD Conventional; B-C Exterior Grade, Less Sealed Edges, 5/8", 5 Ply, for 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths

DISARM, POST TRIP INSPECTION Button Located on Light Bar at Rear of Bus

MONITOR, POST TRIP INSPECTION {Leave No Student Behind} Accessory Controlled, with Push Button Alarm Disable at Rear of Bus Prompts Driver to Walk to Back of Bus to Disable Alarm

SWITCH, LOCATION Steering Wheel; Includes Master Flasher, Flasher On/Off, Red Override, and Door Control

Includes

: SWITCH, STEERING WHEEL, LIGHT **Includes Illuminated Switches**

BODY FEATURES

WINDOW, DRIVER Storm

COLOR, WINDOW FRAME, PASS Passenger Window, Natural Aluminum Finish

WINDOW, E/E, LEFT (2) Vertical Hinge

WINDOW, E/E, RIGHT (2) Vertical Hinge

WINDOW, PASSENGER, **TINT** Conventional; 28% Light, Laminated Glass, 78" Headroom, with 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths

WINDOW, SASH (18) 27" Sections, 9"x 23" Opening

WINDOW, STOPS 12" Opening, Only with 78" Headroom

AISLE POSITION Center, for balanced seating

FLOOR COVERING, COLOR Blue

FLOOR COVERING, TRIM Aluminum

Vehicle Specifications
2025 CE SCHOOL BUS (PB110)

March 28, 2024

Description

FLOOR COVERING, TYPE {Koroseal} All Body Lengths

STEP TREADS {Koroseal} Pebble White Nosing Only, with Non-Metal Backing, used with Formed Treaded Steps

WHEEL POCKET COVER Plastic, ABS

AIR CONDITIONER, BODY IC Air, 120,000 BTU, Evaporators FM55 Front & Rear Flush Mounted, Condenser R120 Rooftop Mounted, Compressors TM21, with EC4.0 Control System

FAN, DEFOG LEFT CENTER 6.50" Diameter, Black, Mounted Left of Center Post, 2-Speed Switch in Panel

FAN, DEFOG RIGHT CENTER 6.50" Diameter, Black, Mounted Over Windshield, 6" Right of Centerline, 2 Speed Switch in Panel

HEATER, PASS, LT MIDSHIP 1ST 84,500 BTU

Includes

: AIR FILTER

HEATER, PASS, LT REAR 84,500 BTU

Includes

: AIR FILTER

HEATER, STEPWELL with Fixed Angle Louver to Door Glass

HEATER, WATER PUMP {2 MPU 12} Self Priming, with Plastic Housing

ROOF HATCH, FRONT {Specialty Hybrid Adv H1975-025-191-0F} Emergency Exit with Outside Release, Alarm, English Decals

ROOF HATCH, REAR {Specialty Hybrid Adv H1975-025-191-0F} Emergency Exit with Outside Release, Alarm, English Decals

ROOF VENT, FRONT Static

ARM REST, DRIVER Left and Right

SEAT, DRIVER {National 2000} Air Suspension Dual Shock, High Back with Integral Headrest, Isolated, with 2 Position Front Cushion Adjustment, 6 to 17 Degree Seat Back Adjustment, Mechanical Lumbar Support, Includes Additional Back Padding

Includes

: SEAT BELT, DRIVER Adjustable D-Loop Seat Belt, Single Locking Retractor

UPHOLSTERY, BARRIER, TYPE (1-2) Prevaill, 52 oz.

UPHOLSTERY, DRIVER SEAT, COLOR Drivers Seat, Graphite

UPHOLSTERY, DRIVER SEAT, STYLE Plain, with Cloth Insert

UPHOLSTERY, DRIVER SEAT, TYPE Prevaill, 42 oz.

BARRIER, CRASH, AFT ENTRY DOOR 39", 2 Leg

BARRIER, CRASH, AFT DRIVER 39", 1 Leg

HAND RAIL, ENTRANCE DOOR, AFT Dual Height Stainless Steel, Upper Rail 1.25" OD 28" Above Floor, Lower Rail 1" OD

HAND RAIL, ENTRANCE DOOR, FWD Dual Height Stainless Steel, Upper Rail 1.25" OD 28" Above Floor, Lower Rail 1" OD

PANEL, MODESTY, AFT ENTR DOOR Mounted Under Barrier

PANEL, MODESTY, AFT OF DRIVER Mounted Under Barrier

SEAT BELT, DRIVER, COLOR with Blaze Orange Seat Belt Webbing

SEAT BACK, PASSENGER High Back

SEAT,26",WALL,LT (01)

SEAT,39",WALL,LT (11)

Description

SEAT,39",WALL,RT (12)

UPHOLSTERY, PASS SEATS, COLOR Blue, for Seats, Barriers and Head Bumpers

UPHOLSTERY, PASS SEATS, TYPE Prevaill, 42 oz.; for (23-24) Seats

CUSHION, SEAT 15" Depth

SHOULDER RAILS, PADDED Conventional Bus; with 31'2", 31'11", 32'8", 33'5", 34'2", 34'11", 35'8" Body Lengths

UPHOLSTERY, SEAT, STITCHING Single

BODY FEATURES

INSULATION, FUEL FILLER Rubber Isolator for Fuel Filler when Exhaust are on Same Side

ALARM, BACKING {Ecco #850} 112 dB

CIRCUIT, PROTECTION Breakers, Manual Reset in Lieu of Fuses

FLASHER SYSTEM (8) Warning Lights, 8-Lamp System, Electronic Relay Flasher, Sequential Operation, Red Lights Activate after Amber Lights, Lights Deactivate with Door Closing

HOOD, WARNING LAMP (4) Black, 8-Lamp System, One Hood Above Two Lights

LIGHT, ENTRY DOOR {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} LED; 4" Oval; Light Mounted in Skirt Behind Entrance Door, Wired To Step Light

LIGHT, EXTERIOR, CHECK Automatically Activates Lights for Pre Trip Inspection

LIGHT, INDIC, WARNING LIGHTS Red and Amber

Includes

: LIGHTS, WARNING Indicator Located in Instrument Cluster

LIGHT, STEP {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} 4" Round LED, White, Wired to Clearance Lights, Operated by Entrance Door

LIGHT, STROBE LED, Specialty Man. Co. 845-3020, Low Profile, Double Flash, 3.60" High

LIGHT, STROBE, GUARD Brush Guard; for Strobe Light 3" to 5" High

LIGHTS, BACK UP (2) {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} LED, 7" Round Clear

LIGHTS, CLUSTER {Truck Lite} LED; Amber Front and Red Rear

LIGHTS, DIRECTIONAL, REAR (2) {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} LED, 7" Round Amber

LIGHTS, DIRECTIONAL, SIDE {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} (2) Slim-Line LED Armored, Amber, (1) Each Side First Section Aft Entrance Door

LIGHTS, DOME LED, Rectangular Recessed Type, Stagger Mounted, for 34'02", 34'11", 35'08" Body Lengths

LIGHTS, DOME, DRIVER (1) LED, Rectangular, Mounted in Light Bar in Ceiling, with Separate Switch

LIGHTS, MARKER, FRONT & REAR LED, Flush Mount, Amber Front and Red Rear

LIGHTS, MARKER, SIDE, INTERMED LED, Amber, Flush Mount, Intermediate, Centered, Required for Units 30 Foot or Longer

LIGHTS, STOP (2) {Sound Off/OptiLuxx} and Tail; 7" Round LED, Red

LIGHTS, TAIL, LICENSE PLATE (2) 4" Red with Light Window

LIGHTS, WARNING (8) Quartz Halogen Beams, 7", 2 Front, 2 Rear, Red and Amber Lights

SPEAKERS AND WIRING (8) Flush Mounted In Light Bar

STOP ARM, FRONT Electric, Composite Blade, 18" Octagon, Double Sided, 1/2" White Border, **Hi Intensity Grade, Strobing LED Lights**

STOP ARM, LEFT REAR Electric, Composite Blade, 18" Octagon, Single Sided, 1/2" White Border, **Hi Intensity Grade, Strobing LED Lights**

Vehicle Specifications
2025 CE SCHOOL BUS (PB110)

March 28, 2024

Description

SWITCH, DOME LIGHTS, SPLIT Front and Rear Operated with Separate 2 Position Switch, Quantity of Lights Split Equally
SWITCH, INTERRUPT CROSS GATE Single Cycle; with Auto Reset, Located In Driver Compartment

SWITCH, NOISE SUPPRESSION Actuator Legend States, "NOISE SUPP ", for Separate Solenoid, with Red Switch in Panel

SWITCH, REAR DOOR BUZZER for Emergency Door

WIRING MOD, DOME LIGHTS Mounted in Ceiling

MIRROR, CROSS VIEW, EXTERIOR (2) {Rosco High Definition} Black, **Heated**, **with LED Downlit Front Lighting**

MIRROR, INSIDE 6" x 30", Clear Safety Glass, Metal Back, Round Corners

MIRROR, REAR VIEW, EXTERIOR {Rosco Open-View} Black, **Motorized** Head, **Heated**, Detent Breakaway Brackets

VISOR, INTERIOR, DRIVER LEFT 10" X 27" for Driver's Window

VISOR, INTERIOR, LEFT FRONT 6" x 30", Transparent, For Left Windshield

COMPARTMENT ABOVE DRIVER Left of the Driver

Includes

: COMPARTMENT ABOVE DRIVER Compartment Size: 39" x 10" x 10"

: HINGES Piano Type

FIRE EXTINGUISHER 5 lb 3A-40BC Minimum, with Flexible Hose and Metal Nozzle

FIRE EXTINGUISHER, FRONT LOC Located Behind Driver Seat

KIT, BODY FLUID Nebraska

KIT, FIRST AID Plastic; 24 Unit, Spec State

LATCH, COMPARTMENT Locking, for Overhead Storage Compartment

LOCATION, BODY FLUID KIT on Bulkhead

LOCATION, FIRST AID KIT Right Side Front Bulkhead with Screws

PADDING COMPART ABOVE DRIVER Window; Safety Equipment Compartment, with Cutout for Dome Light

REFLECTORS, REAR (2) 3", Red, Adhesive Back

REFLECTORS, SIDE, FRONT (2) 3", Amber; Adhesive Back, 1 Aft Drivers Window Left, 1 Aft Entrance Door Right

REFLECTORS, SIDE, INTERMEDIATE (2) 3" Amber, 1 Each Side, Below The Third Rub Rail From the Top, Adhesive Back

REFLECTORS, SIDE, REAR (2) 3", Red, Adhesive Back

SAFETY TRIANGLES Warning Reflectors, Mounted on Floor Between Driver Seat and Drivers Crash Barrier/Stanchion/Partition

CUTTER, SEAT BELT {TIE TECH Safecut} for Cutting Seat Belts

CUTTER, SEAT BELT, LOCATION Mounted on Panel Left of Driver

DEF FILLER DOOR with Locking Latch

FENDERS, RUBBER, REAR (2)

FUEL FILLER DOOR with Non-Locking Latch

INSPECTION PLATE Fuel Sending Unit 8" x 8" Steel

MUD FLAPS, REAR WHEELS (2) Rubber

STATE OF OPERATION Nebraska

Services Section:

Description
WARRANTY

WARRANTY Standard for CE, RE, BE School Bus Models, Effective with Vehicles Built March 1, 2017 or Later, CTS-3304H

SERVICES, TOWING {Navistar} Service Call to 24-Month/Unlimited Mileage to the Nearest IC Bus Dealer for Navistar Warrantable Failure as Contract Defined; Includes Engine Failure if Supplier Declines Tow Coverage & ESC Supplied thru Navistar; \$550 (USA) Maximum Benefit per Incident

SRV CONTRACT, EXT VEH COVERAGE {Navistar} To **36-Month/50,000 Miles** (80,000 km), Covers 100% Parts and Labor; Includes Body; Excludes Extending Warranty for Engine, Transmission, Perforation or Corrosion of Cab/Cowl Structure and Paint

BODY FEATURES

WARRANTY 5-Year, Limited

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to approve a Co-Operative Agreement with Parkview Christian For Baseball.

Motion by Matulka, second by Benes to approve a cooperative agreement with Parkview Christian for baseball which would add 5-7 additional players allowing Raymond Central to play a full JV roster but not bump us up to Class B. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

Discuss, Consider, and Take Necessary Action to Provide Financial Backing For a Line of Credit For the More Than a Field Project.

Discussion was held as to whether Raymond Central would provide financial backing to the Raymond Central Community Foundation in the event the "More Than A Field" project would need to obtain a Line of Credit loan. This could happen if work needs to continue and the Foundation is waiting on pledges to be received. Mr. Kobza will visit with a few banks to get options which would then be presented to the Board in January.

Personnel

Motion by Breitreutz, second by Matulka to enter Executive Session at 7:53 PM to discuss a personnel issue. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:02 PM.

84-1410.

Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

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

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

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

(e) For the Community Trust created under section [81-1801.02](#), discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

I move that we enter into closed session per Nebraska Revised Statute 84-1410 to prevent needless injury to the reputation on an individual employed by the Raymond Central School District.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular Board of Education Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 15, 2025.

Retiring Board Member Recognition

Superintendent Hanson presented Brad Breitreutz with a recognition plaque for the 8 years he served on the Board.

Adjournment

Motion by Matulka, second by Lange to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. RCV 6-0. Motion carried.