

**Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Kearney Public Schools Board of
Education
Kearney Public Schools Board of Education
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 5:00 PM
1st floor Administration Building Conference Room
320 W 24th Street
Kearney, NE 68845**

1. Call to Order

President Hazard called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Open Meetings Act Announcement

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

3. Board Meeting Decorum Expectations

4. Roll Call

Attendance Taken at 5:05 PM.

John Icenogle: Absent
Amy Barth: Present
Drew Blessing: Present
Niki Deeds: Present
Paul Hazard: Present
Amanda Smallcomb: Present

5. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the agenda of the meeting, as presented. This motion, made by Amanda Smallcomb and seconded by Drew Blessing, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Niki Deeds: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6. Public Participation/Comment

7. Agenda

7.A. Preview of the March 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda

Attendance Update Taken at 5:21 PM.

John Icenogle: Present

7.A.I. Recognition of the Kearney High School Dance Catz for their Runner-Up Finish in Class A High Kick at the Nebraska State Dance Championships and Earning the Academic Excellence Award

7.A.II. Recognition of Kearney High School Social Studies Teacher, Kevin Witte for Being Selected as the Nebraska 3rd Congressional District Recipient of the Bertolas, Gildersleeve, Stoddard, Stone Award Presented by the Geographic Educators of Nebraska

7.A.III. Recognition of Kearney High School Student Fulton Moyer for Winning the NSAA Class A State Bowling Championship

7.A.IV. Recognition of the Kearney High School Girls Wrestling Team for their Runner-Up Finish at the NSAA Class A State Wrestling Championship, including State Champions Sloane Abbey and Stella Harbols

7.A.V. Recognition of Kearney High School Boys Wrestling Team for their Runner-Up Finish at the NSAA Class A State Dual Championships

7.A.VI. Recognition of Kearney High School Students as State Scholastic Art Award Winners and National Qualifiers

7.A.VII. Recognition of Kearney High School Student Josslyn Flood for her Selection to Participate in the Annual National K-12 Ceramic Exhibition

7.A.VIII. Legislative Update

7.A.IX. Second and Final Reading Approval of Revised 4000 Section of Board Policies

7.A.X. Approval of the Kearney High School Girls Basketball Trip to the Midwest Showcase, June 18– 20, 2026 in Kansas City, Missouri

7.A.XI. Approval of the Kearney High School JROTC Trip to the Knight Raider Meet, March 27–29, 2026 in Rockford, Illinois

7.A.XII. Acceptance of Resignations and Retirements - Amber Berger, Amber Sklenar, Kathryn Peterson, Jordan Hughett, Megan Homolka, Kelli Bauer, Jennifer Meinecke, Mark Johnson

7.A.XIII. Approval of the Employment of Certificated Staff

7.B. Discussion of Potential 2016 Bond Refinancing Options

7.C. Discussion of Potential Random Drug Testing at Kearney High School (Board Policies 5104 and 5405)

7.D. Discussion of Kearney High School Graduation Dress Code Expectations

7.E. Discussion of KPS K-12 AI Framework

7.F. Discussion of KPS Board Retreats/Schedules

7.G. Review and Discussion of the KPS Master Plan Projects

7.H. **Closed Session**

- The Board moved to closed session at 7:55 PM.

Move to enter into a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by John Icenogle and seconded by Amy Barth, Passed. Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Niki Deeds: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, John Icenogle: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.I. Open Session

- The Board returned to open session 8:33 PM.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned 8:34 PM.

Move to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by John Icenogle and seconded by Niki Deeds, Passed.

Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Niki Deeds: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea, John Icenogle: Yea, Amanda Smallcomb: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Notice of Meeting

This meeting was publicized in the Kearney Hub on February 28, 2026; radio stations KGFW and KKPR; and KSNB and KHGI T.V.

Niki Deeds, Secretary