

## Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, March 18, 2024 6:00 PM

Gering High School - Freshmen Academy Wing  
1500 U Street  
Gering, NE 69341



## Minutes

1. **GPS Board of Education Information**  
**Absent:** Josh Lacy, **Present:** Brian Copsy, John Maser, B.J. Peters, Greg Trautman, Tracy Wiese.
2. **Opening Procedures**
  - 2.1. Call to Order  

President Brian Copsy called this meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
  - 2.2. Roll Call
  - 2.3. Pledge of Allegiance
  - 2.4. Open Meetings Act
3. **Consent Agenda**
  - 3.1. Fund Amount

01 General	\$925,116.78
03 Employee	\$731.50
05 Activity	\$60,836.77
06 Cafeteria	\$109,559.88
07 Bond	\$700.00
08 Special Building	\$67,265.94
<b>Fund Totals:</b>	<b>\$1,164,210.87</b>
  - 3.2. Minutes from the previous month's board meeting(s)
  - 3.3. Approval of Claims/Bills
  - 3.4. Board Policy Adoption
    - 3.4.i. First Reading of Board Policies
      - 3.4.i.1. **502.1 RESIDENT STUDENTS**
      - 3.4.i.2. **502.3 ENTRANCE ADMISSIONS**
      - 3.4.i.3. **502.4 ATTENDANCE CENTER ASSIGNMENT**

- 3.4.i.4. **502.5 STUDENT TRANSFERS IN**
- 3.4.i.5. **502.6 STUDENT TRANSFERS OUT OR WITHDRAWALS**
- 3.4.i.6. **502.7 STUDENT RE-ENTRY TO SCHOOL**
- 3.4.i.7. **502.8 EXCHANGE AND FOREIGN STUDENT ADMISSIONS**
- 3.4.i.8. **502.8R1 EXCHANGE AND FOREIGN STUDENT PROCEDURES**
- 3.4.i.9. **502.10 ASSIGNMENT OF NEW STUDENTS TO CLASSES AND GRADE LEVELS**
- 3.4.i.10. **502.11 ASSIGNMENT OF CONTINUING STUDENTS TO CLASS**
- 3.4.i.11. **502.12 STUDENTS**
- 3.4.i.12. **503.01 APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUING THE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS YOUNGER THAN SIX YEARS OF AGE**
- 3.4.i.13. **503.1 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**
- 3.4.i.14. **503.1F1 APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUING THE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS YOUNGER THAN SIX YEARS OF AGE**
- 3.4.i.15. **503.1F2 BASC-2 BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL SCREENING SYSTEM (BASC-2 BESS) SUMMARY FOR EARLY KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION**
- 3.4.i.16. **503.1F3 YOUNG CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENT TEST (YCAT) SUMMARY FOR EARLY KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION**
- 3.4.i.17. **503.1R1 EARLY ADMISSION ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**
- 3.4.i.18. **503.2 STUDENT ATTENDANCE RECORDS**
- 3.4.i.19. **503.3 STUDENT ABSENCES EXCUSED**
- 3.4.i.20. **503.4 ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE**
- 3.4.i.21. **503.4E1 EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM REPORT**
- 3.4.i.22. **503.5 STUDENT RELEASE DURING SCHOOL HOURS**
- 3.4.i.23. **503.6 STUDENTS OF LEGAL AGE**
- 3.4.i.24. **503.7 PREGNANT OR PARENTING STUDENTS**
- 3.4.i.25. **503.8 MARRIED STUDENTS OR STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN**
- 3.4.i.26. **503.9 HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

3.4.i.27. **503.10 HOMESCHOOLING-REINTEGRATION**

3.4.i.28. **503.10R1 HOMESCHOOLING-REINTEGRATION-  
ACADEMIC/ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION**

3.4.ii. Second Reading of Board Policies

3.5. Personnel Items

3.5.i. Certified Staff Contract(s)

3.5.i.1. **Carrie Lepant-GMS Special Education Teacher**

3.5.ii. Certified Staff Resignation(s)

3.5.ii.1. **Byron Olsen-Director of Student Services**

3.5.ii.2. **Rebecca Montoya-GMS Special Education Teacher**

4. **Celebration of Excellence**

4.1. Recognition of the FFA State Degrees.

Board Member John Maser had the pleasure to hand out the FFA State Degrees awards.

4.2. FFA state qualifying members to perform for the Board of Education.

The board of education was delighted to witness what the FFA Chapter will be presenting at the upcoming state meet. Thank you to the members and Carrie Johns for sharing the amazing work this club does.

4.3. Secondary Grading Task Force presentation on Grading Scale

Kori Knight, Mr. Stobel, and Mr. Shank presented their concerns in regard to the Secondary Grading Task Force. They have been looking into our current grading system, and how it impacts the students at GPS. There are several advantages for students if the district decides to lower the grading scale. Ex: Scholarships, alignment with college grading systems, and help with the all over GPA's for students.

4.4. Employee Recognition: "Bulldogs Going Beyond"

4.4.i. **Andy Stobel- GHS ELA/German Teacher**

Mr. Stobel was nominated by Mr. Boyd to receive this award. He was present at the meeting, and read his nomination letter to Mr. Stobel. Mr. Chavez was also in attendance to express how deserving Mr. Stobel is of this recognition.

4.4.ii. **Chelsy Sanchez- Northfield Elementary Paraprofessional**

Mrs. Sanchez was unable to attend, and will be recognized at the May BOE Meeting.

4.5. Building Report

4.5.i. **Northfield Elementary- John Wiedeman**

Mr. Wiedeman, along with Ms. Funk, Mrs. Sherfey, and a few bright students from Northfield had the honor of presenting the building report this evening. The BOE saw a slide show showing all the clubs that Northfield Elementary has to offer their students. STUCO, Girls Who Code, Cooking Club, Bulldog Ambassadors, and ALL Pro Parents are just a few of the clubs that the school has to offer. John Wiedeman stated these clubs are the "Pulse for what kids want to be involved in".

5. **Reports & Discussions**

5.1. Board Committee Report: Curriculum & Personnel

BJ Peters-Discussion was focused on curriculum grade inducing apathy. This gives the students a chance to succeed! The district is gearing up for summer school, as all buildings will be participating in the program. Please be mindful that spring testing starts April 1, 2024.

5.2. Board Committee Report: Business & Facilities

Greg Trautman - A/p listing was on target, and we are currently under budget. Hats off to Stacy and her team for staying fiscally sound, and making sure we are not over budget. Several students have been able to have their hand in the construction of the new preschool building at Northfield. We are in the process of updating our district vehicle fleet, as many of the vehicles we have now are worn down.

5.3. Monthly Finance Report

5.4. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Nicole Regan-Spring is here! And so is our pride. Kudos to our spring sports activities participants. Please be sure to check out our social media with all the success of our students. Mark your calendars for the GHS Spring Play, Music Man, as the showings will be April 11-13.

Legislative session is in high gear. It is looking like there will be approximately 6 package bills that senators are prioritizing focused on property tax relief and homestead exemption. Some of these bills loaded together will impact education and we are working closely with the senators and governor to navigate how this will impact school funding and policy.

Summer Sun Food and Fun has launched with enrollment in Gering's YMCA camp for this season. We are able to offer full and part-time options. The camp begins May 30 and runs through Aug 9. The camp offers free transportation as well as food service for breakfast and lunch. Field trips, swimming, games, and reading programs are just a few of the activities the camp has to offer.

We are in the 4th quarter with 10 weeks remaining in the school year. This is a critical time for state testing, the junior ACT exam, and, of course, our graduating seniors.

6. **Public Comments**

7. **Action Items**

7.1. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the purchase of a 2023 Nissan Rogue, for the amount of \$31,484.00 from SID DILLON Dealership.

8. **Board Comments**

Greg Trautman- I am impressed with all the planning the district does on a daily basis. Board members put in a lot of countless hours to ensure the district runs smoothly. In closing, I would like to say "A goal without a plan, is just a wish".

John Maser-There are a million things going on at GPS, and the kids are killing it with all the activities they are involved in. It is amazing how much work goes into preparing our students for life after graduation.

Tracy Wiese- I attended the Superintendent's Forum, and loved being informed of all the things happening within the district. It is great getting input, which guides us on how to move forward. The high school and middle school administrators that are here tonight are on board about changing the grading scale, so I hope we can come to a decision soon.

BJ Peters- VALTS has 6 kids from Gering that will be graduating in May, and are participating in the GPS ceremony. Listening to kids and their stories has been an amazing experience as a board member. "We are all here for the kids".

Brian Copsey- I love watching all the presentations! I appreciate each and every one of you, and your hard work. Dr. Regan and her team have created a board of education that has a plan and a map to get us there.

8.1. Tentative Upcoming Board Meeting/Event Dates

9. **Adjourn**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm

## Special Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:00 PM

Gering Public Schools - Central Office  
1519 10th St  
Gering, NE 69341



## Minutes

### 1. GPS Board of Education Information

**Absent:** John Maser, Tracy Wiese, **Present:** Brian Copsey, Josh Lacy, B.J. Peters, Greg Trautman.

### 2. Opening Procedures

#### 2.1. Call to Order

President, Brian Copsey, called this meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### 2.2. Roll Call

#### 2.3. Open Meetings Act

### 3. Reports and Discussions

#### 3.1. 2022-23 Audit Report by Stacy Rodriguez

Stacy Rodriguez presented the Board of Education with a recap of the 2022-23 school year audit.

#### 3.2. 2024-2029 Strategic Plan Report by Dr. Nicole Regan

Dr. Nicole Regan- On July 24th 2023, the Board of Education and district leadership began the journey with JNW Consulting to begin the Stakeholder Discovery Work and vision casting the hopes and dreams for Gering Public Schools. After 37 hours of planning sessions, 540 family survey feedback, and 92 staff and student focus group feedback, a Unified Strategic Plan was created. Five areas of focus are Academic Excellence, Investing in Staff, Modernizing Infrastructure, Operational Excellence, and Inspired Community Engagement. In the next five years, we have a vision-driven process to highlight our academic excellence, innovation, and responsiveness to the evolving needs of the community and education landscape. Our next steps will be executing the plan.

**At 12:50 pm, a motion to go into closed session in regard to the approval of the 2024-25 school year negotiations, along with Dr. Regan and Stacy Rodriguez, were made by BJ Peters and the 2nd by Greg Trautman.**

**At 1: 25 pm, BJ Peters made a motion to exit closed session, and a 2nd was made by Josh Lacy.**

### 4. Action Items

4.1. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the approval of the 2024-25 school year calendar.

A motion to approve the 2024-2025 school year calendar. was presented by Josh Lacy, seconded by Greg Trautman. After voting, motion Passed.

Brian Copsey: **Yea**, Josh Lacy: **Yea**, John Maser: **Yea**, B.J. Peters: **Yea**, Greg Trautman: **Yea**, Tracy Wiese: **Yea**

4.2. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the GEA 2024-2025 school year negotiations.

A motion to approval of the GEA 2024-2025 school year negotiation. was presented by Josh Lacy, seconded by Greg Trautman. After voting, motion Passed.

B.J. Peters: **Nay**, Brian Copsey: **Yea**, Josh Lacy: **Yea**, John Maser: **Yea**, Greg Trautman: **Yea**, Tracy Wiese: **Yea**

4.3. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the approval of the 5 yr Strategic Plan.

A motion to approve the 5 yr Strategic Plan. was presented by B.J. Peters, seconded by Josh Lacy. After voting, motion Passed.

Brian Copsey: **Yea**, Josh Lacy: **Yea**, John Maser: **Yea**, B.J. Peters: **Yea**, Greg Trautman: **Yea**, Tracy Wiese: **Yea**

4.4. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the approval of the purchase of a new Audio Enhancement Camera.

A motion to approve the purchase of a new Audio Enhancement Camera. was presented by B.J. Peters, seconded by Josh Lacy. After voting, motion Passed.

Brian Copsey: **Yea**, Josh Lacy: **Yea**, John Maser: **Yea**, B.J. Peters: **Yea**, Greg Trautman: **Yea**, Tracy Wiese: **Yea**

## **5. Adjourn**

This meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

**POLICY 205.2**  
**GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**GERING, NE**

**POLICY ADOPTION**

The board shall give notice of proposed policy changes or adoption of new policies by placing the item on the agenda of two regular board meetings. The proposed policy changes shall be distributed and public comment will be allowed at each meeting prior to final board action. This notice procedure shall be required except for emergency situations. If the board adopts a policy in an emergency situation, a statement regarding the emergency and the need for immediate adoption of the policy shall be included in the minutes. The board shall have complete discretion to determine what constitutes an emergency situation.

The final action taken to adopt the proposed policy shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the board at the next regular meeting after the meeting allowing public discussion. The policy will be effective on the later of the date of passage or the date stated in the motion.

In the case of an emergency, a new or changed policy may be adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the board. The emergency policy shall expire at the close of the third regular meeting following the emergency action, unless the policy adoption procedure stated above is followed and the policy is reaffirmed.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 79-520 (Class III)  
  79-521 (Class IV)  
  79-522 (Class V)  
  79-523 (Class VI)  
  79-526  
  84-712 et seq.  
  NDE Rule 10.004.01A1

Cross Reference:               201.1 Board Powers and Responsibilities

**POLICY 502.1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**RESIDENT STUDENTS**

Children who are residents of the school district community will attend the school district without paying tuition. Students whose residency in the district ceases during a school year may continue attending school for the remainder of the school year without payment of tuition upon completion of option papers.

The residence of a student means the place, abode, or dwelling of the student. Generally, the legal dwelling of minors is the same as their parents. However, a student may establish a dwelling with someone other than the parents and attend a public school in the school district without paying tuition if the primary purpose for residing in the school district is not for the purpose of obtaining a free public education.

Any student who is a ward of the state or court, or who is residing in a residential setting in the district for reasons other than to receive an education shall be provided educational services in accordance with state statute 79-215 including such reimbursement to the district as may be due under the statute.

Children of military families may enroll preliminarily in the district if a parent presents evidence of military orders that the military family will be stationed in this state during the current or following school year. A student of a military family shall be admitted to the school district without charge upon arrival in Nebraska. When any person is on active duty as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force in the State of Nebraska and is residing on federally owned property, any child of school age of that active duty member who also resides on that property shall be considered a resident of the school district where that property is located in accordance with the statutes. This also applies to children of parents employed by the federal government and residing with their parents on the property of national parks or national monuments within this state.

Each case involving the determination of residence of a student will be decided upon its individual merits by the school board. Payment of tuition will not be required in cases where the student would otherwise be denied free common school privileges. The burden of proof as to legal residence shall rest with the person claiming legal residence in the district. The superintendent or designee shall determine the specific documents required for collecting enrollment, admission, and related information needed for any student to attend; and they may be provided through electronic means or other means specified by the Nebraska Department of Education.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-215

Cross Reference: 101 District Organization and Basic Commitments  
503 Student Attendance  
801 Transportation

**Approved** 05/17/2010 **Reviewed** 03/06/2017, 08/05/2019  
**Revised** 04/17/2017, 08/19/2019

**POLICY 502.3  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**ENTRANCE ADMISSIONS**

Children in the school district community will be allowed to enroll in the school district's regular education program beginning at age five. The child must be age five on or prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> to participate in the school district's kindergarten program

The board shall require evidence of age and residency in the form of a birth certificate or other evidence before the student may enroll in the school district's education program. It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to determine what is satisfactory evidence for proof of age.

Prior to enrollment, the child's parent/guardian must provide the administration with proof of a physical examination and immunizations as required by law and the respective policies of this district. Failure to provide this information shall be the reason for denying admission to the student.

The parent/guardian of any child younger than six years of age prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year who is enrolled may discontinue that enrollment according to procedures provided by the district.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-214 et seq.

Cross Reference:                 503.01 Compulsory Attendance  
  508.01 Student Health and Immunization Checkups

**POLICY 502.4  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**ATTENDANCE CENTER ASSIGNMENT**

The board and/or superintendent shall have complete discretion to determine the boundaries for each attendance center, to assign students to the attendance centers, and to assign students to the classrooms within the attendance center.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board regarding the division of students among attendance centers. In making the recommendations, the superintendent shall consider the geographical layout of the school district, the condition and location of the school district facilities, the location of student population, possible transportation difficulties, financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the superintendent or the board.

Cross Reference:                   503.01 Compulsory Attendance

**Approved 05/17/2010**

**Reviewed 03/06/2017**

**Revised 04/17/2017**



**POLICY 502.6  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENT TRANSFERS OUT OR WITHDRAWALS**

If the student's parents wish to withdraw or transfer the student from school prior to completing and graduating from the education program, they shall notify the superintendent or designee in writing as soon as possible of the decision to withdraw or transfer the student from the education program. The student or parent should present this written notice at the office and receive instructions regarding the return of textbooks, library books, locker equipment, hot lunch tickets and completion of grade records.

The notice shall state the student's final day of attendance. If the student is not enrolling in another school district, the school district shall maintain the student's records in the same manner as the records of students who have graduated from the school district.

If the parents wish to have the student's cumulative record sent to the new school district, the parents shall notify the superintendent or designee in writing. This notice shall include the name of the school district and the person at the new school district to whom the student's cumulative records should be sent. If the new school district requests the student's cumulative records, the school district will forward the cumulative records and notify the parents the records have been sent.

Withdrawal and Transfer Procedure

The procedure for withdrawal or transferring is as follows:

1. Secure authorization withdrawal or transfer note from the parent or guardian.
2. Obtain appropriate forms from the guidance office or principal's office.
3. Have the forms filled out by teacher, return all school books and property, and make sure all fees are paid.
4. Take completed forms to the guidance or principal's office for final clearance.

Cross Reference:           502    Student Attendance  
                                  507    Student Records

**Approved 05/17/2010**

**Reviewed 03/06/2017**

**Revised 04/17/2017**

**POLICY 502.7  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENT RE-ENTRY TO SCHOOL**

A student who has transferred to another school under the open enrollment procedures may be readmitted to his or her district of residence at any time after one school year.

The student may not return prior to one year except at the mutual agreement of both the resident and option school districts.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 79-237

Cross Reference:             502    Student Attendance

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/06/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 502.8  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**EXCHANGE AND FOREIGN STUDENT ADMISSIONS**

No foreign exchange student will be enrolled in the district until the foreign exchange student has provided the district with all records and information requested by the district. Foreign exchange students must also comply with any health requirements imposed by state or other governing laws and according to district policies.

Foreign exchange students must not have graduated from high school (or an equivalent educational institution) prior to enrollment in the district.

Foreign exchange students completing twelfth grade in the district will be provided with an honorary diploma. If a foreign exchange student wishes to receive a Gering High School Diploma, the student must make application to the school principal at the time of enrollment, and must successfully complete district graduation requirements

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-215

Cross Reference:                502    Student Attendance  
  508    Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/06/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 502.8R1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**EXCHANGE AND FOREIGN STUDENT PROCEDURES**

- Each year a maximum of three foreign exchange students will be accepted in the Gering Public Schools on a non-tuition basis. Preferential enrollment status shall be given to The Rotary International Exchange.
- All programs must be listed on the Advisory List of International Education and Exchange Programs published by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel. No other organizations will be considered.
- Inquiries and applications shall be submitted to the building principal who shall make the final decision as to acceptance for placement in the school.
- Applications and related material must be completed and submitted by August 20 in order to be considered for admission for the fall semester.
- Foreign Exchange organizations or agencies must be able to give area-wide services and have an agent living within a 45 mile radius of Gering.
- Exchange students shall make satisfactory progress in all classes in which they are enrolled.

Exchange students with senior status will be allowed to participate in graduation exercises regardless of their eligibility for a diploma. Exchange students that are classified as sophomores or juniors will not take part in senior activities.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-215

Cross Reference:                502     Student Attendance  
  508     Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 06/12/2010           Reviewed 03/06/2017 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 502.10  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**ASSIGNMENT OF NEW STUDENTS TO CLASSES AND GRADE LEVELS**

New students entering from schools recognized and approved by the Nebraska Department of Education will initially be placed in grades and classes on the basis of their grade placement/credits in the school from which they are transferring. The district administration, through academic achievement tests and other evaluation measures as necessary, will determine the appropriate grade level/credit status of students transferring from schools that have not been approved by the state department of education.

Previous high school work will be validated for a high school student by successfully completing a higher level unit in this district's high school for every unit completed in a non-accredited high school; i.e., completion of a second unit mathematics would validate the mathematics credit transferred. If no successive course work is pursued to validate the credit, similar or equivalent work will be evaluated at the discretion of the principal.

Cross Reference:                    601    Goals and Objectives

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/06/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 502.11  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**ASSIGNMENT OF CONTINUING STUDENTS TO CLASS**

Pupils will be enrolled in grades and classes in which they can be expected to master established district instructional/learning objectives. All pupils who are included under the compulsory school attendance law must be enrolled and required to attend all classes prescribed by the state and the district Board of Education unless exempt by the school authorities.

Pupils will be assigned to the grade level in elementary and middle schools, or be enrolled in classes recommended by the principal consistent with state guidelines, the recommendations of teachers, through academic achievement tests and other evaluation measures. Ability to meet district grade-subject and course instructional/learning objectives will be a major factor in grade level assignment.

High school students will be classified in certain grades according to the following criteria:

- Freshman (ninth grade student) A student in his/her first year of a four-year senior high school or a student with sufficient credits to expect graduation\* in four years.
- Sophomore (tenth grade student ) A student in the second year of enrollment in a four-year senior high school who has earned sufficient credits to expect graduation\* in three years.
- Junior (eleventh grade student) A student with two or more years of enrollment in a senior high school who has earned sufficient credit to expect graduation\* in two years.
- Senior (twelfth grade student) A student with three or more years of enrollment in a senior high school who has earned sufficient credit to expect graduation\* in one year.

\* Students may reasonably expect to graduate if they earn the required credits by successfully completing a full schedule of classes. They may not expect graduation or a class promotion if they must gain extra credit from an overload schedule, summer school or correspondence work.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-526  
Cross Reference: 100 District Organization and Basic Commitments  
503 Student Attendance

**Approved** 05/17/2010      **Reviewed** 03/06/2017      **Revised** \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 502.12  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENTS**

High School Credit for Middle School Courses

High school credit may be awarded to students in a middle grades course if the course content and requirements are equivalent to a course offered in the high school.

**Legal Reference**

**NDE Rule 10.003.05B**

**Approved 8/10/23**

**Reviewed**

**Revised**

**POLICY 503.01  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUING THE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS  
YOUNGER THAN SIX YEARS OF AGE**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby request that my child's enrollment at Gering Public Schools District #16 be discontinued. I certify that I am the parent, guardian, or person with the legal or actual charge or control of the above named student. I further certify that my child is or will be younger than six (6) years of age on or before October 15 of the current upcoming school year. To the best of my knowledge, the attached birth certificate verifying my child's age is an accurate, correct, and unaltered copy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) or Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

(Seal)

**POLICY 503.1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**

Any child who will reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current year and who has not reached eighteen years of age shall meet the requirements of mandatory school attendance. Any such child shall attend the academic program on a regular basis, unless a written request to drop the child from the school rolls is made by the parent, guardian or other person having charge, control or custody of the child.

Any child of mandatory attendance age must by law regularly attend a public, private, denominational, parochial school or a combination of such schools not less than the entire school term of the school(s) which the child attends. This does not apply to a child who has obtained a high school diploma or received a General Equivalency Diploma, completed the program of instruction offered by a non-credited or non-approved school, has reached the age of 18, or who is at least 16 years old and whose parent or guardian has withdrawn the child from school in the manner prescribed by state statute.

Excusal from the full-time requirement of the compulsory education law can be granted by the superintendent for a child between 14 and 16 years of age having completed the work of the eighth grade when legal employment due to necessity has been obtained by the student and such a request has been made by a parent/guardian.

**Withdrawal To Age 6**

The parent/guardian of any child who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year and who is enrolled, may discontinue that enrollment according to procedures provided by the district.

**Minimum Age**

The district will not admit any child into its kindergarten class unless:

1. the child will reach the age of five years on or before July 31 of the current year beginning with the 2012-2013 school year or
2. the child will reach the age of five years by February 1 of the current year (October 15 of the current year beginning with the 2012-13 school year), and;
  - a) the parent provides an affidavit stating that the child attend kindergarten in another district, or
  - b) the family will be relocating to another district within 60 days to a district that allows early admission into kindergarten within the current year, or

- c) the child has demonstrated through recognized assessment procedures approved by the board his/her capability of carrying the work of the beginner grade. By January 1, 2012, each school board shall approve and make available a recognized assessment procedure for determining if a child is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten.

The district will use the Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning (DIAL-4) to meet the requirement for a recognized assessment procedure to determine if a child not 5 years of age on or before July 31 of the current year is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten. The board shall update these procedures as the board deems appropriate.

### **Early Withdrawal at Age Sixteen**

A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least sixteen years of age may withdraw the child from school if an exit interview is conducted as required below, or if a signed notarized release form is filed with the Commissioner of Education as required by law for a child enrolled in a school that elects not to meet accreditation or approval requirements.

The exit interview shall be conducted at the time and place selected by the superintendent or designee upon receiving the written request of any person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least sixteen years of age if the child is enrolled in a school operated by the school district or resides in the school district and is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

The exit interview shall be personally attended by:

- the child, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable;
- the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child who requested the exit interview;
- the superintendent or designee;
- the child's principal or the principal's designee if the child at the time of the exit interview is enrolled in a school operated by the school district; and
- any other person requested by any of the required parties who agrees to attend the exit interview and is available at the time designated for the exit interview which may include other school district personnel or the child's principal or such principal's designee if the child is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

At the exit interview, the person making the written request shall present evidence that the person has legal or actual charge or control of the child and that the child would be withdrawing due to either:

- a) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child, or
- b) an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable.

The superintendent or designee shall identify all known alternative educational opportunities, including vocational courses of study, that are available to the child in the school district and how withdrawing from school is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in the future. Any other relevant information may be presented and discussed by any of the parties in attendance.

At the conclusion of the exit interview, the person making the written request may sign the withdrawal form provided by the school district agreeing to the withdrawal of the child or may rescind the written request for the withdrawal.

Any withdrawal form signed by the person making the written request shall be valid only if:

- a) the child signs the form unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable, and
- b) the superintendent or designee signs the form acknowledging that the interview was held, the required information was provided and discussed at the interview, and, in the opinion of the superintendent or designee, the person making the written request does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the child and the child is experiencing either:
  - 1) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or dependents of the child, or
  - 2) an illness making attendance impossible or impracticable.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-201 et seq.

Cross Reference: 502 Student Admissions

**Approved** 05/17/2010 **Reviewed** 12/23/2013, 03/27/2017  
**Revised** 10/15/2012, 04/17/2017

**POLICY 503.1F1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUING THE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS  
YOUNGER THAN SIX YEARS OF AGE**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby request that my child's enrollment at Gering Public Schools District #16 be discontinued. I certify that I am the parent, guardian, or person with the legal or actual charge or control of the above named student. I further certify that my child is or will be younger than six (6) years of age on or before October 15 of the current upcoming school year. To the best of my knowledge, the attached birth certificate verifying my child's age is an accurate, correct, and unaltered copy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) or Guardian's Signature Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

(Seal)

**POLICY 503.1F2  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**BASC-2 BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL SCREENING SYSTEM (BASC-2 BESS)  
SUMMARY FOR EARLY KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION**

*(Completed by the staff member administering the assessment.)*

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Assessment Completed:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Staff Member completing Assessment – Please provide a summary of the results of the assessment.

Testing Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age at Testing: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Do not round months up by one if days exceed 15.

Expected Date of Kindergarten Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Age at Kindergarten Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Determination:

(Testers will input a summary.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Student is recommended for enrollment in Kindergarten.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Student is not recommended for enrollment in Kindergarten.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Student must participate in a classroom observation period for further assessment.**

Staff Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 503.1F3  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**YOUNG CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENT TEST (YCAT) SUMMARY FOR EARLY  
KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION**

*(Completed by the staff member administering the assessment.)*

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Assessment Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Staff Member completing Assessment – Please provide a summary of the results of the assessment.

Testing Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age at Testing: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Do not round months up by one if days exceed 15.

Expected Date of Kindergarten Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Age at Kindergarten Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Standard Scores as compared to peers aged 5 years 0 months:

General Information \_\_\_\_\_

Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Mathematics \_\_\_\_\_

Writing \_\_\_\_\_

Spoken Language \_\_\_\_\_

Total of Standard Scores \_\_\_\_\_ \*

\*Total equal to or higher than 500 indicates child is eligible for entry to Kindergarten.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Student must complete the BASC-2 Assessment.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Student is not recommended for enrollment in Kindergarten.**

Staff Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 503.1R1**  
**GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**GERING, NE**

**EARLY ADMISSION ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**

Gering Public Schools may admit into kindergarten a child who will reach the age of five years on or after August 1 and on or before October 15 of such school year if the parent or guardian requests such entrance and the child has demonstrated through the procedures set forth below that the child is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten. Families who seek early admission of their child into kindergarten must obtain a *Written Request for Early Admission* form from any of the district elementary buildings. This form must be completed and returned to the Gering Public Schools Central Office no later than March 1 before the next school year to allow the interview and assessment to be completed.

An initial parent interview will be held prior to testing. If the child passes the initial interview, the process below must be followed:

1. parents must request, schedule, and make their child available for an Early Kindergarten admission assessment prior to May 1;
2. the early kindergarten admission assessment will be completed (as further explained below) by district personnel; and
3. the early kindergarten admission assessment results will be given to the parent with the staffs' recommendation and the superintendent's decision.

The ESU 13 regional review found two assessments to be appropriate for the purpose of early admissions. Gering Public Schools has chosen to use the following as their assessments:

- **BASC-2 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System (BASC-2 BESS)**
  - Authors: Randy W. Kamphaus, PhD, Cecil R. Reynolds, PhD
  - Description:
    - Brief, universal screening system for measuring behavioral and emotional strengths and weaknesses in preschool children which can be an effective tool in promoting student success. The BASC-2 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System offers a reliable, quick, and systematic way to determine behavioral and emotional strengths and weaknesses of children and adolescents in preschool through high school. This comprehensive screening system consists of brief forms that can be completed by teachers, parents, or students, providing one of the most comprehensive and efficient tools available today.
- **Young Children's Achievement Test (YCAT)**
  - Authors: Wayne P. Hresko, Pamela K. Peak, Shelley R. Herron, and Deanna L. Bridges

o Description:

- This test identifies young children (from preschool through first grade) who are at risk for school failure. It yields an overall Early Achievement score, plus individual subtest scores for General Information, Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Spoken Language. Results are provided as standard scores, age equivalents, and percentiles. Because the subtests can be given independently, the YCAT permits flexible testing sessions, which are easier on both the examiner and the youngsters being tested. Normed on a representative sample of 1,224 children from all over the United States, the YCAT offers substantial evidence of validity. In addition, YCAT items were examined to eliminate bias in regard to sex, disability, race, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity.
  
- The YCAT Assessment will be administered first. A child eligible for Kindergarten entrance would require a score equal to or higher than that the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile for a child 5 years 0 months on the YCAT.
  
- If the child receives the required score on the YCAT Assessment, the BASC-2 Assessment will be administered. Gering Public Schools will take at-risk and/or clinically significant scores on the BASC-2 into consideration before allowing eligibility admission.
  
- If a child is within  $\pm 3\%$  points on the assessments, an observation day may be required. If an observation day is required, the parents must bring their child for observation at a school designated by the district or allow school personnel to attend and observe the child at the preschool where the child is enrolled.

The final decision regarding entrance will be made by the superintendent with recommendations from the test administrator and student services director.

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/06/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 503.2  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENT ATTENDANCE RECORDS**

As part of the school district's records, the daily attendance of each student shall be recorded and maintained on file with the permanent records of the district.

It shall be the responsibility of the principals to ensure that such reports contain all information required by law and are filed with the administrative office.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-205 to 207

Cross Reference:                 503.01 Compulsory Attendance  
  507    Student Records

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/27/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 503.3  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENT ABSENCES EXCUSED**

Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students shall attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Student absences approved by the principal shall be excused absences. Excused absences, including documented illness, shall count as non-attendance days for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism, except for notification of the county attorney in policy 503.04.

Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, within guidelines of the student handbook. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

Students who wish to participate in school sponsored activities must adhere to attendance and activity participation rules as outlined in the student handbooks.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the student's attendance center as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. The principal may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence. This issue is specifically addressed in the student handbook which is approved every year by the Board of Education.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference:           Neb. Statute 79-209  
                                  NDE Rule 10.012.01B

Cross Reference:         503.04 Excessive Absenteeism  
                                  505    Student Discipline  
                                  506    Student Activities  
                                  507    Student Records  
                                  Student Handbook

**Approved 08/13/2003           Reviewed 10/31/2011, 03/27/2017**  
**Revised 12/19/2011, 04/17/2017**

**POLICY 503.4  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance by the students at school is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students shall attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center. This policy, developed and annually reviewed in collaboration with the county attorney for the district's principal office location, is an attempt to address the barriers to student attendance. This policy shall include a provision indicating how the district and the county attorney will handle cases in which excessive absences are due to illness, and shall state the circumstances and number of absences or hourly equivalent upon which the school shall render all services to address barriers to attendance.

Any superintendent, principal, teacher, or member of the school board who knows of any violation of the state school attendance laws (79-201) shall report that violation to the school attendance officer within 3 days.

The superintendent shall designate an attendance officer. The attendance officer will immediately investigate the report of any child who may be in violation of the state's compulsory attendance statutes.

If any student has exceeded the number of unexcused absences as defined in the student handbook, the school shall render all services to address barriers to attendance. These services shall include the following:

1. verbal or written communication by school officials with the person or persons who have legal or actual charge or control of any child; and
2. a meeting or meetings between the school attendance officer, school social worker, a school administrator or designee, the person who has legal or actual control of the child, and the student (when appropriate) to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall consider, but not be limited to:
  - (i) illness related to physical or behavioral health of the child;
  - (ii) educational counseling;
  - (iii) educational evaluation;
  - (iv) referral to community agencies for economic services;
  - (v) family or individual counseling; and
  - (vi) assisting the family in working with other community services.

The school may report to the county attorney of the county in which the person resides when the school has documented the efforts it has made as required by statutes, that the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and that the child has been absent more than twenty days per year. The school shall notify the child's family or legal guardian in writing prior to referring the child to the county attorney. Illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney.

Students are subject to disciplinary action for excessive absenteeism including suspension and expulsion. It shall be within the discretion of the principal to determine, in light of the circumstances, whether a student may make up work missed because of excessive absenteeism. Disciplinary action for students receiving special education services will be assigned in accordance with the goals and objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program.

The superintendent shall report to the Commissioner of Education as directed by the commissioner regarding the number of and reason for any long-term suspension, expulsion, or excessive absenteeism; referral of a student to the office of the county attorney for excessive absenteeism; or contacting of law enforcement officials other than school resource officers by the district relative to a student enrolled in the district. The superintendent shall report annually to the Commissioner of the required data for the number of students who have dropped out of school.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to implement this policy. The implementation may include regulations indicating the disciplinary action to be taken for excessive absenteeism.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-208 and 209  
  NDE Rule 10.012.01B

Cross Reference:                411.03 Truancy Officer  
  505    Student Discipline  
  506    Student Activities  
  507    Student Records

**Approved** 05/17/2010           **Reviewed** 06/23/2014, 03/27/2017  
**Revised** 10/15/2012, 04/17/2017

**POLICY 503.4E1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM REPORT  
THIS FORM SHALL BE SENT TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY OF THE COUNTY  
IN WHICH THE ABSENTEE STUDENT RESIDES**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

For Current Year

Total Days Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ Days Absent But Not Excused: \_\_\_\_\_

- The school representative requests additional time to work with the student prior to intervention by the county attorney.
- The school representative believes that the school has used all reasonable efforts to resolve the student's excessive absenteeism without success and recommends county attorney intervention.

If further action is necessary to address the student's attendance, the initial meeting between the parent/guardian of the student, the school, and the county attorney or his/her designee shall be at a location determined by the school.

School Representative's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY 503.5  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**STUDENT RELEASE DURING SCHOOL HOURS**

Students will be allowed to leave the school district facilities during school hours only with prior authorization from their parents, unless the custodial parent or legal guardian appears personally at the student's attendance center to arrange for the release of the student during school hours, or with the permission of the principal.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-201 et seq.

Cross Reference: 503.01 Compulsory Attendance  
505 Student Discipline  
506 Student Activities  
507 Student Records  
Student Handbook

Approved 05/17/2010

Reviewed 03/27/2017

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



**POLICY 503.7  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**PREGNANT OR PARENTING STUDENTS**

The district recognizes that pregnant or parenting students have the right and responsibility to attend school. This attendance right and responsibility applies to students regardless of their marital or parental status. The district will educate pregnant or parenting students and will provide reasonable accommodations to support and encourage all pregnant or parenting students to obtain their high school diploma. No student will be excluded from, denied the benefit of, or discriminated against under any educational program or activity because of pregnancy or parenting responsibilities.

Attendance and Leave of Absences:

Pregnant or parenting students will be permitted to attend to their own health care, their child's medical care, or other appointments related to pregnancy or parenting with the benefit of having any such absences or tardiness excused. A student will be permitted to take a leave of absence for pregnancy, childbirth, and any other prenatal and postnatal related medical needs, along with related recovery for the duration that is considered medically necessary by the student's licensed health care provider. At the conclusion of the leave of absence, a student will be immediately enrolled in the district at the same grade and status as when the leave began. Pregnant or parenting students shall be allowed to participate in all activities including extracurricular activities throughout the student's pregnancy and following unless administrators determine such participation poses a significant risk of injury to the student or to others. A pregnant or parenting student may be asked to obtain certification from the student's licensed health care provider regarding the student's safe participation in an extracurricular activity when such certification may be required of students for other conditions which require the attention of a licensed health care provider.

Any absences accumulated due to pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions, or care for an ill child, should not count towards any district policies in effect under compulsory attendance requirements. Pregnant or parenting students with excused absences or tardiness shall be treated like all other students with excused absences or tardiness for any other medical reasons.

Pregnant or parenting students will be provided with assignments, classwork and any additional support needed to help the student keep up with class requirements due to absences related to pregnancy or parenting.

Alternative means to complete course work:

The district will provide at least one alternate method, in addition to traditional classroom instruction to keep pregnant or parenting students in school. Such accommodation(s) may

include accessing coursework online, home-based independent study, or at-home tutoring. Alternative methods of instruction or other alternative programs for pregnant or parenting students are voluntary for the student who may elect whether to engage in an alternative method of instruction or the traditional methods of instruction available to their peers. Pregnant or parenting students shall be allowed to attend their regular classrooms and complete regular coursework.

Lactation:

The district will provide reasonable time and space to accommodate lactating students to express breast milk or breastfeed during the school day. Such accommodations will be in a location, other than a bathroom or closet, that is private, clean, has an electrical outlet, a chair and is reasonably accessible. Students shall also be provided a food-safe refrigerator to store breast milk.

Child Care:

If in-school child care is not provided, a list of qualified licensed child care providers will be provided when requested by pregnant or parenting students. The list will be updated annually and include providers that participate in the quality rating and improvement system and meet all of the quality rating criteria for at least a step three rating in keeping with the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act. Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or limit any referral for a student or a student's child to an early Head Start program or any other available community resources.

Privacy and Confidentiality:

Pregnant or parenting students have the right to have their health and personal information kept confidential in accordance with law. School staff will make every effort to keep personal information and health records confidential and in compliance with Nebraska and federal law.

Information about students' pregnancies and related conditions will not appear in their cumulative record and will not be used when they are being considered for educational or job opportunities, awards or scholarships.

Other Accommodations:

Pregnant or parenting students are here notified that they may request additional reasonable accommodations to ensure continued participation and enrollment in school. Accommodation requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the building principal. Such accommodations may include but are not limited to: additional frequency allowed for bathroom breaks, additional time allowed in between class periods, a larger desk or additional work space, and adjustments to requirements for physical education as needed.



**POLICY 503.8  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**MARRIED STUDENTS OR STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN**

Married students residing in the district are considered to be of legal age and shall have the same educational opportunities as unmarried students.

The district encourages married students and students with children to complete requirements for graduation and to participate in school activities. The district prohibits any discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status or the condition of being a parent and provides relief for those who are aggrieved under its non-discrimination policies.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 43-2101, 79-2,149 to 79-2, 152  
  79-2, 114 to 79-2, 124  
  20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.  
  34 C.F.R. 106.40

Cross Reference:                   503.01 Compulsory Attendance  
  605.02 Individualized Instruction

**POLICY 503.9  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

A homeless child or youth is defined as one who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes—

- (1) Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals.
- (2) Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- (3) Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- (4) Migratory children (as defined in section 1309 of the ESSA of 1965, as amended), who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described in this definition.

This definition includes both youth who are unaccompanied by families and those who are homeless with their families. The district will comply with state and federal law as it relates to homeless children or youth.

**Assurances**

1. The district adopts these policies and practices to ensure that homeless children and youths are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.
2. The district will designate an appropriate staff person as the Local Educational Liaison (LEL) for homeless children and youths, to carry out the duties in compliance with state and federal law.
3. The district adopts these policies and practices to ensure that transportation is provided, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison), to and from the school of origin. The “school of origin” means the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled. This will be done in accordance with the following, as applicable:
  1. If the homeless child or youth continues to live in the district in which the school of origin is located, the child’s or youth’s transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by that district.

2. If the homeless child's or youth's living arrangements in the district served by the school of origin terminate and the child or youth, though continuing his or her education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another district, the school of origin and the local district in which the homeless child or youth is living shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the two districts are unable to agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally.

#### Comparable Services

Each homeless child or youth shall be provided services comparable to those offered to other students in the school in which the child is placed including transportation services, educational programs for children with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency, educational services for which the child or youth meets the eligibility criteria, such as Title I, school nutrition programs, programs in vocational and technical education, and programs for gifted and talented students.

#### Local Educational Liaison

The Superintendent or designee shall serve as the district's Local Educational Liaison who will serve in tracking, monitoring and coordinating programs and activities for these children. The identity and duties of the LEL shall annually be provided to the NDE, school staff, providers and advocates of services to homeless persons, and to homeless students.

1. In general, the LEL shall coordinate:
  1. the provision of services with local social services agencies, the NDE Homeless Education Liaison, community and school personnel, and other agencies or programs providing education, social and related services to homeless children and youths and their families; and
  2. with other local educational agencies on interdistrict issues, such as transportation or transfer of school records.
2. Coordination purpose - The coordination shall be designed to:
  1. ensure that homeless children and youths have access and reasonable proximity, to available education and related support services; and
  2. raise the awareness of school personnel and service providers of the effects of short-term stays in a shelter and other challenges associated with homelessness.
3. The LEL shall receive appropriate time and training to carry out the duties required by law and this policy, and ensure that:
  1. homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies;

2. homeless children and youths enroll in schools of the district, which includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities, and have a full and equal opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths;
3. homeless families, children, and youths receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services;
4. the parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
5. receive individualized counseling from counselors to prepare and improve their readiness for college, including college selection, application, financial aid, and on-campus supports;
6. unaccompanied youths are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and may obtain assistance from the LEL to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;
7. public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is communicated where such children and youths receive services under the federal laws for homeless children, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens;
8. enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance state and federal law; and
9. the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected for the youth.

#### Enrollment and Placement

The district will handle enrollment and placement of homeless children in compliance with state and federal law according to the child's or youth's best interest such that it shall:

1. continue the child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness—
  1. in any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; or
  2. for the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
2. enroll the child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

3. The choice regarding enrollment shall be made regardless of whether the child or youth lives with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.
4. Issues of guardianship, proof of residency, and dress code requirements shall not be cause for delay or denial of enrollment. The district is not prohibited from requiring a parent or guardian of a homeless child to submit contact information.
5. If the school district is unable to determine the grade level of the student because of missing or incomplete records, the child will be placed in the appropriate grade level by the same procedures used for non-homeless children.

#### School Stability

In determining the best interest of the child or youth the district shall:

1. presume that keeping a homeless child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest unless doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.
2. The district must consider student-centered factors related to a child's or youth's best interest including the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.
3. If the district determines that it is not in a child's or youth's best interest to attend the school of origin, or the school requested by the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, it must provide a written explanation of the reasons for its determination, in a manner and form that is understandable.

#### Enrollment Disputes

The dispute procedure must be made available for resolving disputes over eligibility, as well as school selection or enrollment. If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school:

1. the district shall immediately provide the child's parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth a written explanation of the decision made regarding the school selection including the right to appeal the decision. It shall be provided in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth and include the LEL contact information. The child or youth shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. Unaccompanied youths shall be assisted by the LEL in enrolling immediately.
2. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the initial complaint, the LEL shall carry out the dispute resolution process in accordance with 92 NEC 19-005.002
3. The parent/guardian (or student, if applicable) may file a written appeal of the decision to the Nebraska Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner or designee

may file a written response to the appeal within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the appeal.

4. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Commissioner's decision, the parent/guardian (or student, if applicable) may file a written appeal of the decision with the State Board of Education and shall be governed by 92 NAC Rule 61.

#### Records

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

1. so that the records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youth enters a new school or school district;
2. the district will treat the student's homeless status as a Student Education Record, not deemed to be directory information; and
3. in a manner consistent with the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

The LEL shall document the number of homeless children and youths receiving services, and maintain financial records regarding any federal funds used for providing such services.

#### Immunization Requirements

Homeless students will not be denied enrollment for lack of immunization records. The school district will make a reasonable effort to locate immunization records from the information provided or will assist the student in obtaining the necessary immunizations. Permanent exemptions for homeless students from the immunization requirement in this policy will be allowed only for reasons in accordance with the law.

#### Review and Revision

The district shall review and revise any policies that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths in the district. In reviewing and revising such policies, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship. Special attention shall be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-215  
  NDE Rule 19 and Rule 61  
  42 U.S.C. §11431 and §11432 (McKinney-Vento Homeless  
  Assistance Act) with amendments  
  20 U.S.C. §1232g Federal Education Rights and Privacy  
  Act

**Approved:** 05/17/2010   **Reviewed:** 08/22/2016, 04/24/2017  
**Revised:** 09/19/2016, 06/19/2017



**POLICY 503.10R1  
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GERING, NE**

**HOMESCHOOLING – REINTEGRATION –  
ACADEMIC/ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION**

Home-Schooled, Rule 13 students who enroll in the Gering Senior High School after having initiated their education in a Home-Schooled environment will be granted credits in core curriculum subject matter to the extent they can show evidence of mastery of subject matter.

When Rule 13 students begin attending Senior High and credit has been granted for previously completed courses, pass/fail grades will be assigned to said courses.

A minimum of four (4) semesters of attendance will be required for a student to be considered for academic honors.

Pass/fail credits will not be considered when computing grade point averages.

Students enrolled on a part-time basis may be permitted at the discretion of the principal and athletic director to participate in extracurricular activities. Participation in activities that are subject to the bylaws of the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) will be limited to those students who meet the NSAA bylaws.

Byron L. Olsen, Jr.  
1990 O Street  
Gering, NE 69341

Dr. Nicole Regan  
Superintendent  
1519 10th St.  
Gering, NE 69341

Dear Dr. Regan,

Please accept this letter as formal notification that I am resigning from my position as Director of Student Services position with Gering Public Schools. I accepted a position as Superintendent of Sargent Public Schools in Sargent NE.

I would like to thank Gering Public Schools for the opportunity to work as Director of Student Services for the past 4 years. I've greatly enjoyed and appreciated the many opportunities I've had to lead others. I have especially enjoyed the leadership activities the district has allowed me to do, and I have grown through this experience more than you know, all of which I will take with me throughout my career.

Please let me know if there's anything else I can do to aid in the transition.

I wish the Gering Public Schools continued success, and I will stay in touch with the great family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Byron L. Olsen, Jr.".

Byron L. Olsen, Jr.

Rebecca Montoya  
560 W 42nd St  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
rmdelzer@gmail.com  
303-263-6306  
February 23, 2024

Julie Siebke  
Gering Middle School  
800 Q Street  
Gering, NE 69341

Dear Julie,

I am writing to formally resign from my position as a Special Education Teacher at Gering Middle School at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. This decision comes with mixed emotions as I have cherished my time working with the students, staff, and families at Gering Middle School. However, after careful consideration, my husband and I have decided to embark on a new adventure together. This decision was not made lightly, but we believe it is the right step for us at this time in our lives. While I will miss the rewarding experiences and relationships I have formed at Gering Middle School, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for us.

I want to express my gratitude to you and the entire school community for the support, guidance, and camaraderie I have received during my time here. It has been an honor to be a part of such a dedicated team and to work alongside passionate educators who are committed to making a difference in the lives of students. I will do everything possible to ensure a smooth transition before my departure. I am committed to ensuring that the students continue to receive the support and services they need to thrive.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of the Gering Middle School family. I will carry the memories and lessons learned here with me as I embark on this new chapter in my life.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Montoya

**POLICY 204.12**  
**GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**GERING, NE**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS**

The board recognizes the importance of citizen participation in school district matters. In order to assure citizens are heard and board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner, the board shall set time aside for citizen participation, either at a specific time during the meeting or during the discussion of agenda items. The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation.

Instructions for members of the public who wish to speak:

- Getting started: When you have been recognized, please stand and state your name.
- Time Limit: Tonight the board will allow a total of 30 minutes for the presentation of ALL public comments. Individuals may speak only one time, and must limit comments to around 5 minutes. If there are more than 6 individuals who wish to address the board, the 30 minutes will be divided equally between the number of speakers. These time limits may be changed by a majority vote of the board members in attendance to extend the time for a specific item or speaker. You may only speak ONCE.
- Personnel or Student Topic: If you are planning to speak about a personnel or student matter involving an individual, please understand that our policies may require you to follow the district's complaint procedure before addressing the board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments you make about individual staff members or students. Please remember that slanderous comments will not be tolerated.
- General Rules: This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from within the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Lewd, obscene, profane, slanderous, threatening and hostile conduct or statements and fighting words (words whose mere utterance entails a call to violence) will not be tolerated.
- No action by the Board: The board will not act on any matter which is not on the agenda and will not take action upon the conclusion of public comment.

If the pressure of business or other circumstances dictate, the board president may decide to eliminate this practice at a particular meeting. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time. The orderly process of the board meeting shall not be interfered with or disrupted. Only those speakers recognized by the board president shall be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. If disruptive, the individual making the comments or another individual causing disruption may be asked to leave the board meeting.

Citizens wishing to address the board on a certain agenda item must notify the superintendent prior to the board meeting. Citizens wishing to present petitions to the board may do so at this time. However, the board will only receive the petitions and not act upon them or their contents.

Subjects for comment should involve areas within the board's proper responsibility. Discussion on unrelated matters is to be discouraged.

Individuals who have a complaint about employees may bring their complaint to the board only after they have followed board policy addressing citizens' complaints. Students who have a complaint may only bring their complaint to the board after they have followed board policy addressing students' complaints.

Any written or printed materials to be circulated for a meeting of the school board must be submitted to the superintendent by the Wednesday preceding a Monday night meeting.

This material will be transmitted to the members of the board for their consideration.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Statute 84-1408 to 1414

Cross Reference: 201.7 School Board Liability  
204.3 Public Hearings  
204.10 Agenda  
403.5 Public Complaints about Employees

Approved 01/20/2003

Reviewed 02/23/2015, 10/14/2021 6/9/22

Revised 09/14/2009, 7/20/22

# VEHICLE PURCHASE CONTRACT

**SID DILLON**  
 GMC - CADILLAC - MAZDA  
 2420 East 23rd St. • P.O. Box 1326  
 FREMONT, NE 68025  
 402-721-2448  
 Toll Free: 1-888-721-2448

**SID DILLON**  
 CHEVROLET - BUICK - PONTIAC  
 2500 East 23rd St. • P.O. Box 625  
 FREMONT, NE 68025  
 402-721-2233  
 Toll Free: 1-888-723-2233

**SID DILLON**  
 BUICK - NISSAN - HYUNDAI  
 SAAB  
 2827 Kandra Lane  
 LINCOLN, NE 68512  
 402-464-8500

**SID DILLON**  
 CHEVROLET - PONTIAC  
 2261 S. Hwy. 30 • P.O. Box 305  
 BLAIR, NE 68008  
 402-428-4121  
 Toll Free: 1-888-722-4141

**SID DILLON**  
 CHEVROLET - BUICK - PONTIAC  
 257 West A St. • P.O. Box 186  
 WAHOO, NE 68086  
 402-443-4244  
 Toll Free: 1-800-677-1180

SOLD TO: <b>Gering School</b>						STOCK # <b>4N24358</b>			
ADDRESS: <b>1519 10th St</b>						DATE <b>03/13/2024</b>			
CITY <b>Gering</b>			STATE <b>NE</b>		ZIP <b>69341</b>		COUNTY		
HOME PHONE <b>(402) 598-3103</b>		WORK PHONE		CELL / E-MAIL <b>nregan@geringschools.net</b>		NEW <input type="checkbox"/>		USED <input type="checkbox"/>	
YEAR <b>2023</b>		MAKE <b>Nissan</b>		MODEL <b>Rogue</b>		BODY STYLE <b>Sport</b>		COLOR <b>Pearl White</b>	
				CYL. <b>Inter</b>		IDENTIFICATION NUMBER <b>5N1BT3BB7PC909454</b>			
MILES		DEL. DATE		TIME		INCENTIVE CODE		MSRP <b>\$33,685.00</b>	
LEASE								OUTRIGHT <b>\$33,685.00</b>	
MONTHS		MILES		REBATE/DISCOUNT				REBATE 1 <b>\$2,500.00</b>	
% SALES TAX		CASH DOWN						REBATE 2	
ACQUISITION FEE INCLUDED IN PAYMENT								REBATE 3	
								REBATE 4	
								TRADE 1	
								TRADE 2	
								SUB TOTAL <b>\$31,185.00</b>	
REFERRAL <input type="checkbox"/>		MEDIA <input type="checkbox"/>		REPEAT <input type="checkbox"/>		DELIVERY		OTHER <b>\$500</b>	
Sid Dillon Website								DOC FEE <b>\$299.00</b>	
UNLESS SPECIFIED, TAXES, LICENSE, INSURANCE AND FEES NOT INCLUDED								OUTRIGHT/ DIFFERENCE	
LIENHOLDER								SERVICE AGREEMENT	
								GAP INSURANCE	
ADDRESS								TOTAL DEL. PRICE	
CITY		STATE		ZIP		CHECK #		DEPOSIT	
ACCT #		PHONE #						PAYOFF DUE AT DELIVERY	
INSURANCE CO.		AGENCY				CHECK #			
STOCK #		YEAR		MAKE		MODEL		BODY STYLE	
								COLOR	
								CYL.	
								MILES	
								PLATE #	
VIN 1						VIN 2			

TRADE(S) SUSTAINED IN EXCESS OF \$2000 DAMAGE  YES  NO IF YES, LOCATION OF DAMAGE AND DOLLAR AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I guarantee that the title of my trade-in vehicle(s) is not a salvage title and the vehicle never has had a salvage title. I also guarantee that neither the emissions or safety restraint system has been altered or removed. If any of this is not accurate, the selling dealer may elect to void this sale and/or elect to collect damages (including but not limited to dealer's expenses and lost profits) from me for the difference in value had my title not been salvage and/or for the cost of repair or replacement of any emissions or safety restraints. X

### BUYER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that:  
 (1) The face and reverse sides of this contract set forth all of the terms and conditions of the contract; there are no other contracts or provisions, oral or written, supplementary or in addition to the provisions expressly set forth in this contract; this contract cancels and supersedes all other understandings and agreements of the parties prior to the signing hereof and as of the date hereof, when signed by the dealer, comprises the complete agreement of the parties; AND

(2) I have read the terms and conditions of this contract and have received a true copy thereof.  
 Notice to Buyer: Do not sign this instrument before you read it, or, if it contains blank spaces. You are entitled to a copy of the instrument you sign. Buyer states that the amounts shown on this instrument were quoted to him before he agreed to the sale.

**CUSTOMER NOTE THAT THE VEHICLE IS BEING SOLD "AS IS" BY THE SELLING DEALER. SHOULD THE MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY APPLY TO THIS VEHICLE, IT IS DIRECTLY OFFERED BY THE MANUFACTURER TO THE CUSTOMER. THE SELLING DEALER HEREBY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EITHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NEITHER ASSUMES NOR AUTHORIZES ANY OTHER PERSON TO ASSUME FOR IT ANY LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF THIS VEHICLE. BUYER SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO RECOVER FROM THE SELLING DEALER ANY CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, DAMAGES TO PROPERTY, DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF USE, LOSS OF TIME, LOSS OF PROFITS, OR INCOME, OR ANY OTHER INCIDENTAL DAMAGES. THIS DISCLAIMER AS TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE DOES NOT APPLY IF A SERVICE CONTRACT IS SOLD WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE VEHICLE'S DATE OF SALE IN WHICH THE DEALER IS LEGALLY LIABLE UNDER THE SERVICE CONTRACT.**

**CONTRACTUAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:**  
 The information you see on the window form for this vehicle is part of this contract. Information on the window form overrides any contrary provisions in the contract of sale. The term "window form" refers only to the E.T.C. used car "Buyers Guide", if one is present, and not to any other form or sign that might be in any window.

SALES: Trent Tegtmeler X *Stacey Redquist* X  
(Dealer or Authorized Representative) (Buyer's Signature)

ACCEPTED BY: X \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_  
(Buyer or Authorized Representative) (Co-Buyer's Signature)

THE CONTRACT CONDITIONS OF THIS ORDER ARE CONTINUED ON THE REVERSE SIDE HEREOF