

## Special Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:00 PM

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



## Minutes

### 1. **GPS Board of Education Information**

**Absent:** Greg Trautman, **Present:** Bryan Barrett, Matt Kautz, Josh Lacy, John Maser, Tracy Wiese.

### 2. **Opening Procedures**

#### 2.1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President, Tracy Wiese, at 12:00 p.m.

#### 2.2. Roll Call

#### 2.3. Open Meetings Act

### 3. **Reports and Discussions**

#### 3.1. Two-Year Strategic Plan Update - Dr. Nicole Regan, Jennifer Sibal, Julie Siebke, Kory Knight, & Stacy Rodriguez

Dr. Regan and her team presented an update to the Board regarding the district's five-year strategic plan, developed in 2024 for Gering Public Schools. The plan was created through extensive collaboration with community members, staff, and students. Now two years into implementation, the district is demonstrating measurable and positive progress.

Kory Knight and Julie Siebke provided an overview of Priority #1: Academic Excellence. The district recently completed a successful accreditation visit and has strengthened its Continuous Improvement and Professional Learning Community (PLC) processes. Several schools earned Excellent and Great ratings, and the district maintains a 98% graduation rate—among the highest in the state. Academic performance has improved across multiple indicators, including ACT scores, state assessments, and SPED proficiency rates. Additionally, the district continues to expand opportunities for students through dual credit offerings and enhanced preschool programming.

Under Priority #2: Investing in Staff, the district has cultivated a strong "Grow Your Own" culture, with approximately one-third of staff members being Gering alumni. PLC time has been expanded to include all staff groups, including secretaries, paraprofessionals, and custodians. Professional development has evolved to provide more personalized learning opportunities, allowing staff to select sessions aligned with their individual needs. The district also maintains a high retention rate, with over 60% of teachers holding a master's degree.

Stacy Rodriguez addressed Priority #3: Modernizing Infrastructure and Priority #4: Operational Excellence. The district has assembled a highly skilled maintenance team representing multiple trades, reducing the need for outside contractors. A primary focus remains ensuring the safety of students and staff through proactive facility maintenance. Ongoing projects include technology upgrades such as audio enhancements, as well as improvements to several roofs, the auditorium, and the track. Budget decisions are data-driven and transparent, with a continued emphasis on right-sizing and responsible spending. Jennifer Sibal concluded with Priority #5: Community Engagement. The district has implemented staff forums, staff and family newsletters, bond surveys, annual reports, school day surveys, and a career advisory committee to strengthen communication and stakeholder involvement. These efforts continue to foster a strong sense of pride and engagement within the Gering community. As a district, we get better when we listen.

3.2. Strategic Priority #3: Modernizing Infrastructure, Measure of Success - Rich Evans

Rich Evans provided an overview of the district's current camera systems across school buildings. He noted that updates are needed to enhance the safety and security of students and staff. The district is exploring a cloud-based solution that would modernize the system and potentially generate long-term cost savings.

3.3. Track Bid Update - Stacy Rodriguez

Stacy Rodriguez provided an update on the track bidding process. The district received one bid; however, it exceeded budget expectations. As a result, the district plans to rebid the project to encourage more competitive pricing and to ensure the work is completed by a company with demonstrated experience in track installation.

4. **Action Items**

4.1. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the approval of the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school calendars.

5. **Public Comment: Policy 204.12**

6. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION | NO SCHOOL STUDENTS STAFF DEVELOPMENT | NO SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF Holiday or Break | EARLY DISMISSAL | [ ] BEGIN/END NINE WEEKS

### AUGUST 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Aug 2-4 New Teacher Orientation  
Aug 6-11 Staff Development  
Aug 11 6th Grade Orientation 10am to Noon  
Freshman Orientation 3 PM  
Aug 12 K-12 First Day of School 1st Qtr Begins  
Aug 16 PreK First Day of School

Students: 14 Staff: 18

### SEPTEMBER 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sept 6 No School: Holiday Students & Staff  
Sept 7 No School Students Staff Development

Students: 20 Staff: 21

### OCTOBER 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Oct 15 No School Students Workday  
Oct 18 2nd qtr begins  
Oct 18-19 PreK-5 P/T Conferences 3:45-7:30pm  
Oct 20-21 6-12 P/T Conferences 3:45-7:30pm  
Oct 22 No School Students & Staff

Students: 19 Staff: 21

### NOVEMBER 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Nov 8 No School Students Staff Development  
Nov 24-26 No School: Holiday Students & Staff

Students: 18 Staff: 19

### DECEMBER 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Dec 17 2nd Qtr/1st Sem Ends  
\*Dec 20-31 No School: Holiday Students & Staff (\*continues into January)

1st Sem: 84 Days  
Students: 13 Staff: 13

# 2027 • 2028



# CALENDAR

### JANUARY 2028

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1/8
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Jan 3 No School: Holiday Students & Staff  
Jan 4 No School Students Workday  
Jan 5 Students Return -3rd qtr begins  
Jan 21 No School Students Staff Development

Students: 18 Staff: 20

### FEBRUARY 2028

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

Feb 11 No School Students & Staff  
Feb 14 No School Students (ESU Mid-Winter Conf.)

Students: 19 Staff: 20

### MARCH 2028

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mar 10 No School Students Workday  
Mar 13 4th qtr begins  
Mar 13-14 K-5 P/T Conferences 3:45-7:30pm  
Mar 15-16 No School PreK ONLY Home Visits  
Mar 15-16 6-12 P/T Conferences 3:45-7:30pm  
Mar 17 No School Students & Staff

Students: 21 Staff: 23

### APRIL 2028

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1/8
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Apr 14-18 No School Students & Staff  
Apr 28 No School GMS ONLY GHS Future Focus Day

Students: 17 Staff: 17

### MAY 2028

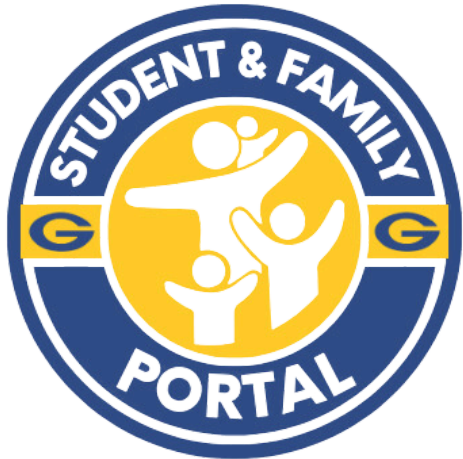
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May 13 Graduation  
May 15 Preschool Graduation 3pm  
May 16 Last Day of School K-12 Early Release 11:30am 1/2 Staff Workday  
May 17 Staff Workday

Students: 11.5 Staff: 13  
2nd Sem: 86.5 Days



**CLICK HERE**



[geringschools.net](http://geringschools.net)

**Important Phone Numbers**



**Gering Public Schools - District Office**  
308.436.3125

**Student Lunch Accounts**  
308.633.4385

**Transportation (First Student)**  
308.635.6214

**Geil Elementary**  
308.436.2545

**Lincoln Elementary**  
308.436.2350

**Northfield Elementary**  
308.436.5555

**Gering Middle School**  
308.436.3123

**Gering High School**  
308.436.3121

**Important Dates**

**First & Last Days for  
K-12 Students**

**\*August 12, 2027 (Thursday)  
May 16, 2028 (Tuesday)**

*\*PreK students begin August 16, 2026\*  
5/16 will be the last day of school unless there are  
days to be made up. Inclement weather may alter  
the school calendar.*

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**October 18-21, 2027  
March 13-16, 2028**

NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION | NO SCHOOL STUDENTS STAFF DEVELOPMENT | NO SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF Holiday or Break | EARLY DISMISSAL | [ ] BEGIN/END NINE WEEKS

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2026 • 2027

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