

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 13, 2023

7:30 PM

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following members in attendance:

I. Call Meeting to Order

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

II. Approval of Minutes from the October 9, 2023, Regular Board Meeting, October 11, 2023, Special Board Meeting, & Committee on American Civics

Motion to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2023, regular board meeting, October 11, 2023, special board meeting, & committee on American civics. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Financial Statement: Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

IV.A. Approval of Bills

IV.A.1. General Fund, Special Building Fund, Depreciation Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Claims

Motion to approve the general fund, special building fund, depreciation fund, and qualified capitol purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

V. Support Service

V.A. Facility Update

V.B. Personnel Items

V.C. Technology Update

VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

VI.A. Student Board Member Report

VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

VI.D. Superintendent's Report

VII. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

VII.A. Declare the old Electrical Wire as Surplus for Immediate Sale or Disposal

Motion to declare the old electrical wire as surplus for immediate sale or disposal. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

VII.B. Softball Cooperative Agreement with Diller-Odell Public Schools for the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 School Years

Motion to approve the softball cooperative agreement with Diller-Odell Public Schools for the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 school years. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

VII.C. Junior High Football Cooperative Agreement with Diller-Odell Public Schools for the 2024-2025 School Year - Chaysen Bednar & Preston Jurgens

Motion to not approve the junior high football cooperative agreement with Diller-Odell Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

Dana Dorn: Abstain (With Conflict), Debra Schlake: no, David Zimmerman: no, Jeff Argo: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes  
yes: 3, no: 2, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

VII.D. Appoint Dana Dorn to Serve as the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) Delegate Assembly Representative

Motion to appoint Dana Dorn to serve as the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) delegate assembly representative. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

Dana Dorn: Abstain (With Conflict), Jeff Argo: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

VII.E. Option Enrollment Applications

VII.F. Executive Session: Annual Superintendent Evaluation - As Needed to Protect the Interest of the District & to Prevent the Needless Injury to the Reputation of an Individual

Motion to enter in executive session at 9:02 p.m. as needed to protect the interest of the district & to prevent the needless injury to the reputation of an individual. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

VII.F.1. Convene Executive Session: Annual Superintendent Evaluation

VII.F.2. Reconvene Meeting from Executive Session

Motion to reconvene the meeting from executive session at 9:29 p.m. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

VII.F.3. Approval of Any Action Deemed Necessary as a Result of Executive Session

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 6, no: 0

President of the Board of Education  
Of this School District

ATTEST

Secretary of the Board of Education  
of this School District

# Nebraska Open Meetings Act

**84-1407. Act, how cited.** Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

**84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.** It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret. Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

**84-1409. Terms, defined.** For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Videoconferencing means conducting a meeting involving participants at two or more locations through the use of audio-video equipment which allows participants at each location to hear and see each meeting participant at each other location, including public input. Interaction between meeting participants shall be possible at all meeting locations.

**84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.**

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

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

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

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; videoconferencing or telephone conferencing authorized; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.**

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site. (ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by: (A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site; or (B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting. (iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of

an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2) A meeting of a state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, of an advisory committee of any such state entity, of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, or of a community college board of governors may be held by means of videoconferencing or, in the case of the Judicial Resources Commission in those cases specified in section 24-1204, by telephone conference, if:

(a) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section;

(b) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recodation by audio or visual recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if videoconferencing or telephone conferencing was not used;

(c) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference;

(d) At least one member of the state entity, advisory committee, board, council, or governing body is present at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site; and

(e)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(e)(ii) of this section, no more than one-half of the state entity's, advisory committee's, board's, council's, or governing body's meetings in a calendar year are held by videoconference or telephone conference; or (ii) In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conferencing.

Videoconferencing, telephone conferencing, or conferencing by other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(3) A meeting of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, of a community college board of governors, of the governing body of a public power district, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district, or of the Nebraska Brand Committee may be held by telephone conference call if:

(a) The territory represented by the educational service unit, member educational service units, community college board of governors, public power district, public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or member public agencies of the entity or pool covers more than one county;

(b) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section which identifies each telephone conference location at which there will be present: (i) A member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of a public power district, governing body of a public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity's or pool's governing body; or (ii) A nonvoting designee designated under subdivision (3)(f) of this section;

(c) All telephone conference meeting sites identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity or pool or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(d) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recodation by audio recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if a telephone conference call was not used;

(e) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the telephone conference call;

(f) At least one member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or governing body of the entity or pool is present at each site of the telephone conference call identified in the public notice, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site;

(g) The telephone conference call lasts no more than five hours; and

(h) No more than one-half of the board's, council's, governing body's, committee's, entity's, or pool's meetings in a calendar year are held by telephone conference call, except that: (i) The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by telephone conference call or videoconferencing; and (ii) An organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act may hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conference call.

Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the participation of consultants, members of the press, and other nonmembers of the governing body at sites not identified in the public notice. Telephone conference calls, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by means of electronic or telecommunication equipment. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness other than a member of the public body to appear before the public body by means of video or telecommunications equipment.

**84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.**

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right

to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body may require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making a telephone conference call available at an instate location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act;

(f) Reasonable arrangements are made to provide viewing at other instate locations for a videoconference meeting if requested fourteen days in advance and if economically and reasonably available in the area; and

(g) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) The public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at the meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the instate location for a telephone conference call or videoconference, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

**84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when.**

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

**84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

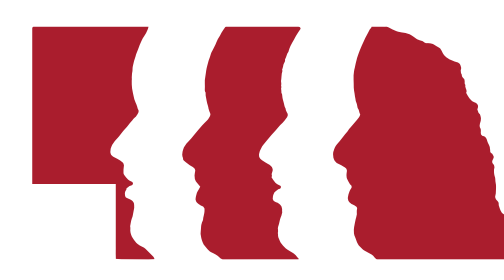
(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

Revised  
10/2020



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MINUTES  
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN CIVICS  
October 9, 2023  
7:15 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the Committee on American Civics meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and the following members were present: Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, Jared McKeever. The following administrator was present: Christopher Prosocki.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 10/4/2023

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Committee on American Civics Statute 79-724

The committee on American civics reviewed statute 79-724.

I.B. Accept Public Comment on the topic of American Civics

I.C. District Policies Related to the topic of American Civics

The committee on American Civics reviewed Policy 2002: Organization of Board, Board Officers, and Check Signing, Policy 6012: Flag Display and Patriotic Observances, and Policy 6032: Constitution Day Education.

I.D. Review the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum

Dr. Prosocki gave an overview of the K-12 Social Studies curriculum, and he said the district purchased new K-12 Social Studies curriculum at the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The district used the third round of stimulus funds or the Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds to purchase the new K-12 Social Studies curriculum.

I.E. Patriotic Exercises

Dr. Prosocki gave an overview of the patriotic exercises that occur throughout a given school year.

I.F. Requirements (8th & 12th Grade) Related to the American Civics Statute

Dr. Proski said that all 8th grade students and all 12th grade students will be taking the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to fulfill the requirements under state statute 79-724.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. This motion, made by Jared McKeever: and seconded by Dana Dorn passed.

yes: 3, no: 0

## II. Adjournment

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., October 9, 2023, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY

President of the Board of Education  
Of this School District

ATTEST

Secretary of the Board of Education  
of this School District

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
October 9, 2023  
7:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the following members were present: Betsy Frerichs, Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, Debra Schlake, Jared McKeever, & Jeff Argo. The following administrators were present: Kane Hookstra, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Proski. The following student board member was present: Cole Thompson.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 10/5/2023

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted on the back of the board of education meeting room.

II. Approval of Minutes from the September 19, 2023, Special Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the September 19, 2023, special board meeting. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Financial Statement: Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

IV.A. Approval of Bills

IV.A.1. General Fund, Special Building Fund, Depreciation Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Claims

Motion to approve the general fund, special building fund, depreciation fund, and qualified capitol purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

#### IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

#### V. Support Service

##### V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report on the installation of a Level 3 charging station, addressing drainage issues at the Jr./Sr. High School, working on the new welding program, field trips and drivers, and servicing the basketball hoops.

Dr. Proski noted that he is working with Johnson Controls on a Renew America's Schools grant. The United States Department of Energy (USDOE) last year announced a first-of-its-kind investments to make clean energy improvements in K-12 public schools. Funds will position school districts to make upgrades that will lower facilities' energy costs and foster healthier learning environments for students. Lastly, Dr. Proski gave the school board an update on the Jr./Sr. High School safe and secure entrance project.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

##### V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Proski went over the district's strategic plan for the acquisition of technology to improve student learning. Based on the district's strategic plan, the district will be purchasing 70 iPads, 35 MacBook Airs, and 3 MacBook Pros during the 2023-2024 school year.

#### VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

##### VI.A. Student Board Member Report

The student board member reported on the following items: fall activities update, land judging, DeMoine Adams presentation, eSports, play production, art club, & homecoming activities.

##### VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (PK-6 = 198 students), fall Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS or state test) testing, 2nd grade field trip to Arbor Day Farms, an evacuation drill completed in conjunction with Gage County Sheriff's Department and Wymore Police Department, 4th grade field trip to Homestead National Monument & Pioneer Day Celebration, 3rd & 4th graders attending Rural Safety Day, Red Ribbon Week (Is an alcohol, tobacco, smoking, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October), 1st grade field trip to Roca Berry Farm, the continuation of the WORDS project for PK-3 teachers with University of Nebraska at Lincoln

(UNL & Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), and a 77% turn out rate for the fall parent-teacher conferences.

#### VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (7-12 = 175 students), Homecoming King & Queen (Rylee Swearingen & Bladen Weiner), bringing in college representatives and attending career opportunities (Visiting SCC, Manufacturing Day, Careers Ag Day, Construction Day, Careers in Auto Expo, & Apply to College Day), all sophomores will take the Pre-ACT, all juniors will take the ASVAB, celebrating Constitution Day on September 17, 8th & 12th graders taking the civics portion of the naturalization test, Mrs. Baumgartner working to prepare for the upcoming Washington D.C. trip in June of 2024, Mrs. Baumgartner & Mr. Doose taking their students to County Government day, and a 41% turn out rate for the fall parent-teacher conferences.

#### VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prosofski went over his contracted days for the third quarter and he gave the school board an update on the Department of Labor's (DOL) new proposed overtime rules. Since all of Southern's classified staff are paid hourly, this will not be an issue for the district. In addition, these new proposed regulations do continue to treat teachers and community member coaches as exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), even if their salary does not meet the new proposed threshold. He noted this has been a longstanding tradition because it would complicate things like collective bargaining if it were to be changed. Next, Dr. Prosofski went over the DIBELS testing results in grades K-6, and he went over the draft calendars for the 2024-2025 school year. Dr. Prosofski also went over a 3-year state aid history for Nebraska school districts and how Southern did not come out as a winner under the new funding formula. From here, Dr. Prosofski covered the changes to the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), where it lowered the minimum Identified Student Percentage (ISP) from 40 percent to 25 percent. This will allow schools greater flexibility to offer meals to all enrolled students at no cost when financially viable. Dr. Prosofski said that it is important to note that the Free and Reduced Priced Lunch data does not determine Title I allocations. Those allocations are based on Small Area Income Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) data, which is pulled from the census. Dr. Prosofski gave the school board an update regarding the upcoming NASB State Education Conference, about an upcoming Nebraska Schoolmasters meeting, and he went over a copy of the safety audit. Lastly, Dr. Prosofski reminded the school board that they would need to complete his evaluation during the November school board meeting.

#### VII. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

##### VII.A. Resolution on School District Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of Option Enrollment Applications

Motion to approve the resolution on school district standards for acceptance or rejection of option enrollment applications. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

VII.B. Option Enrollment Applications

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., November 13, 2023, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY  
President of the Board of Education  
Of this School District

ATTEST  
Secretary of the Board of Education  
of this School District

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
October 11, 2023  
5:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the following members were present: Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, Debra Schlake, & Jared McKeever. The following administrators were present: Kane Hookstra, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Prososki.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 10/11/2023

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted in the Jr./Sr. High School commons.

II. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

II.A. Strategic Planning Meeting - Dr. Matt Dominy & Dr. Josh Fields

Dr. Matt Dominy and Dr. Josh Fields led parents, community members, certified staff and classified staff through the strategic planning process.

III. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by David Zimmerman, passed.

yes: 4, no: 0, Absent: 2

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., November 13, 2023, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY  
President of the Board of Education  
Of this School District

ATTEST  
Secretary of the Board of Education  
of this School District

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK:  
This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board about matters of public concern.

- **Getting Started:** When you have been recognized, please identify yourself, including an address and the name of any organization you represent. The board may waive the address requirement to protect the security of the individual.
- **Time Limit:** The board will generally 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.
- **Personnel or Student Topic:** If you are planning to speak about a personnel or a student matter involving an individual, please understand that the district has a complaint policy and/or procedures to resolve such complaints and concerns. The Board requests that you follow the policy and procedures before addressing these matters with the Board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments about individual staff members or students.
- **General Rules:** This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from 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 unless it is on the published agenda.

# Southern Public Schools

## 2024-2025 District Calendar

**July—2024**

S	M	T	W	T	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			

**August—2024**

S	M	T	W	T	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

**September—2024**

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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**October—2024**

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

**November—2024**

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**December—2024**

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Note:** Any/all mechanical or weather related loss of school time will be made up at the discretion of the Board of Education and/or the Superintendent.

Student Instructional Days **174**  
Teacher Contract Days **182**

**August—2024**

12 Teacher In-Service (No School)

At Beatrice Public Schools  
19-21 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
22 First Day of Classes

**September—2024**

2 Labor Day (No School)

**October—2024**

3 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
Parent Teacher Conferences (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)  
4 Fall Break (No School)  
11 End of First Quarter (35 Days)  
14 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
15 Second Quarter Begins

**November—2024**

1 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
3 Standard Time Begins  
27-29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

**December—2024**

20 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
End of Second Quarter (45Days)  
21-31 Winter Break (No School)

**January—2025**

1-5 Winter Break (No School)  
6 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
7 First Day of Third Quarter

**February—2025**

20 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
Parent Teacher Conferences (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)  
21 Teacher In-Service (No School)

**March—2025**

7 Spring Break (No School)  
9 Daylight Savings Begins  
13 End of Third Quarter (46 Days)  
14 Spring Break (No School)  
17 Fourth Quarter Begins

**April—2025**

18 Spring Break (No School)  
21 Spring Break (No School)

**May—2025**

9 Last Day for Seniors  
17 Graduation (5:00 p.m.)  
23 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
End of Fourth Quarter (48 Days)

**January—2025**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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**February—2025**

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**March—2025**

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**April—2025**

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26	27	28	29	30		

**May—2025**

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**June—2025**

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**Key:** Blue Font (Single Underline) = Late Start or Early Dismissal  
Red Font = Holidays/Non-Contract Days (No School)  
Red Font (Strikethrough) = Teacher In-Service (No School)  
[] = First/Last Day of the Quarter

# Southern Public Schools

## 2024-2025 Preschool Calendar

**July—2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**August—2024**

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**September—2024**

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29	30					

**October—2024**

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27	28	29	30	31		

**November—2024**

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**December—2024**

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Note:** Any/all mechanical or weather related loss of school time will be made up at the discretion of the Board of Education and/or the Superintendent.

Student Instructional Days **174**  
Teacher Contract Days **182**

**August—2024**  
12 Teacher In-Service (No School)

At Beatrice Public Schools  
19-21 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
22 First Day of Classes

**September—2024**  
2 Labor Day (No School)

**October—2024**  
3 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
Parent Teacher Conferences (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)  
10 End of First Quarter (29 Days)  
14 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
15 Second Quarter Begins

**November—2024**  
3 Standard Time Begins  
27-29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

**December—2024**  
19 End of Second Quarter (37Days)  
21-31 Winter Break (No School)

**January—2025**  
1-5 Winter Break (No School)  
6 Teacher In-Service (No School)  
7 First Day of Third Quarter

**February—2025**  
20 Early Dismissal (1:20/1:30 p.m.)  
Parent Teacher Conferences (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

**March—2025**  
9 Daylight Savings Begins  
13 End of Third Quarter (40 Days)  
17 Fourth Quarter Begins

**April—2025**  
18 Spring Break (No School)  
21 Spring Break (No School)

**May—2025**  
22 End of Fourth Quarter (39 Days)

**January—2025**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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26 27 28 29 30 31

**February—2025**

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**March—2025**

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**April—2025**

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27	28	29	30			

**May—2025**

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31						

**June—2025**

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**Key:** Blue Font (Single Underline) = Late Start or Early Dismissal  
Red Font = Holidays/Non-Contract Days (No School)  
Red Font (Strikethrough) = Teacher In-Service (No School)  
[] = First/Last Day of the Quarter

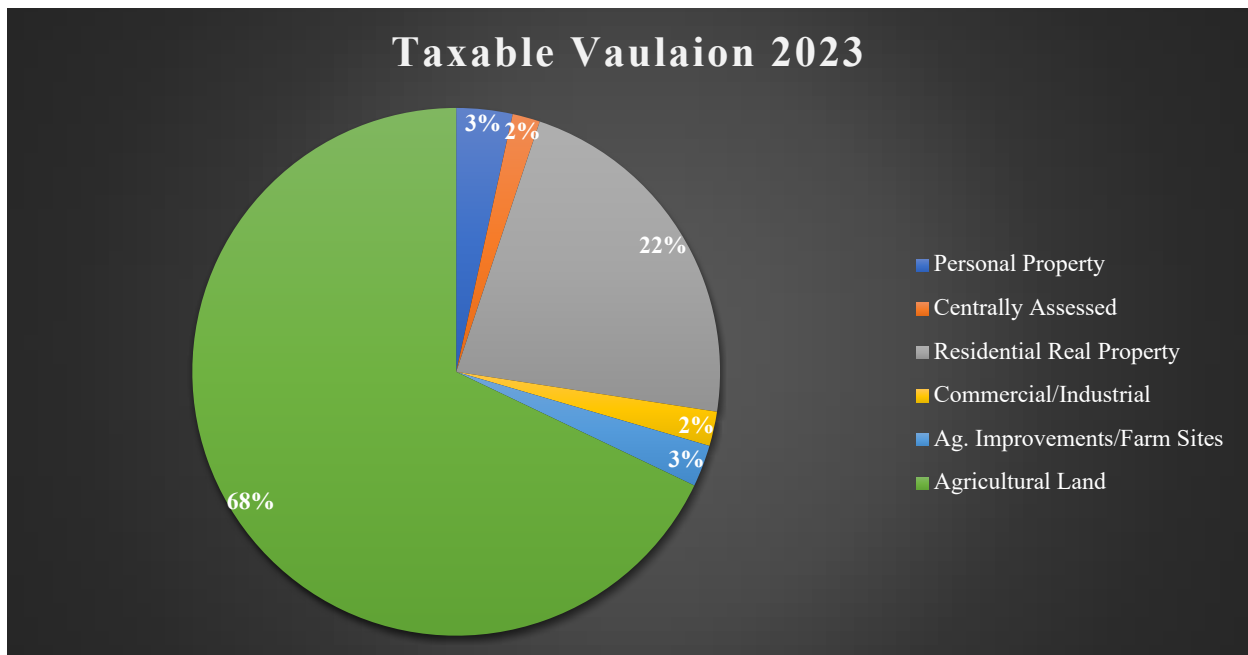
## Adjusted/Taxable Valuation 2023

Category	Amount	% of Taxable Valuation
Personal Property	\$15,022,289	3.44%
Centrally Assessed	\$7,360,770	1.69%
Residential Real Property	\$97,442,508	22.29%
Commercial/Industrial	\$9,238,351	2.11%
Ag. Improvements/Farm sites	\$11,208,910	2.56%
Agricultural Land	\$296,908,942	67.91%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$437,181,770</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Source:** Nebraska Department of Revenue Property Assessment Division – 2023 Certified School Adjustment Value Report.

Adjusted value or taxable valuation used in this table as it is used for tax setting purposes by the County Board of Equalization. Adjusted valuation is what the state uses in calculating state aid. For purpose of state aid, ag land is adjusted to 72% of actual value and all other real property is adjusted to 96% of actual value.

Category	Definition
Personal Property	Any depreciable business equipment, no vehicles. (e.g., Combine, tractor, office equipment, etc.)
Centrally Assessed	Any railroad or public service entity such as pipelines or telecommunication companies, etc.
Residential Real Property	Any residence within the district, including agriculture residences. (e.g., House, garage, lot, or farm home site land)
Commercial/Industrial	Any valuation of real property classified as commercial and/or industrial. (e.g., Commercial business, industrial manufacturing, etc.)
Ag. Improvements/Farm sites	Any agriculture buildings and farm site land. (e.g., Barns, grain bins, etc.)
Agricultural Land	Any land used for agriculture or horticultural purposes. (e.g., Cropland or pasture land)



**Adjusted/Taxable Valuation History  
2018-2023**

<b>Tax Year</b>	<b>Personal Property</b>	<b>Centrally Assessed</b>	<b>Residential Real Property</b>	<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>	<b>Ag. Improvements/ Farm sites</b>	<b>Agricultural Land</b>	<b>Total</b>
2018	\$9,628,203	\$4,524,026	\$68,350,187	\$8,664,341	\$8,519,750	\$302,496,890	\$402,183,397
2019	\$10,098,154	\$4,711,526	\$69,653,029	\$8,806,032	\$9,295,225	\$289,453,922	\$392,017,888
2020	\$10,117,742	\$5,469,231	\$73,415,622	\$9,179,415	\$9,910,750	\$285,292,453	\$393,385,213
2021	\$10,992,323	\$7,268,774	\$75,400,831	\$9,207,835	\$10,646,195	\$281,238,081	\$394,754,039
2022	\$12,016,372	\$7,295,685	\$85,185,853	\$9,570,499	\$10,666,780	\$285,394,125	\$410,129,314
2023	\$15,022,289	\$7,360,770	\$97,442,508	\$9,238,351	\$11,208,910	\$296,908,942	\$437,181,770

**Assessed Valuation History  
2018-2023**

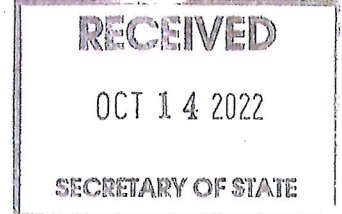
<b>Tax Year</b>	<b>Gage County Valuation</b>	<b>% Change (Prior Year)</b>	<b>Pawnee County Valuation</b>	<b>% Change (Prior Year)</b>	<b>Overall Valuation</b>	<b>% Change (Prior Year)</b>	<b>\$ Change (Prior Year)</b>
2018	\$399,062,663	0.003%	\$1,376,365	(4.84%)	\$400,439,028	0.003%	\$1,345,781
2019	\$382,188,694	(4.41%)	\$1,376,110	(.0018%)	\$383,564,804	(4.39%)	(\$16,874,224)
2020	\$378,656,597	(0.93%)	\$1,374,630	(0.10%)	\$380,031,227	(0.92%)	(\$3,533,577)
2021	\$387,897,024	2.44%	\$1,391,515	1.23%	\$389,288,539	2.43%	\$9,257,312
2022	\$399,748,194	3.05%	\$1,442,600	3.67%	\$401,190,794	3.05%	\$11,902,255
2023	\$433,936,240	8.55%	\$1,456,165	0.94%	\$435,392,405	8.52%	\$34,201,611

# Nebraska Secretary of State

## Petition Sponsor Sworn Statement

**Petition:** All taxation in Nebraska will be only consumption or excise taxes  
(Brief description of petition for identification purposes)

Sponsor Name: Paul Von Behren  
Street Address: 2046 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St., Fremont, NE 68025  
Phone Number: 402-720-7158 Email: LPVB4561@gmail.com



Sponsor Name: Mark Bonkiewicz  
Street Address: 11129 Z St., Omaha, NE 68137  
Phone Number: 402-490-8612 Email: markb@dynamicconsulting.net

Sponsor Name: Rob Rohrbough  
Street Address: 8515 S 105th St., La Vista, NE 68128  
Phone Number: 402-639-8286 Email: rprohrbough@gmail.com

STATE OF NEBRASKA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF Dodge )

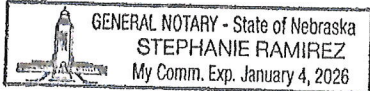
I hereby swear that this is a complete list containing the names and street addresses of every person, corporation, or association sponsoring the aforementioned petition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.  
(Day) (Month) (Year)

[Signature]  
Signature of Sponsor

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022  
(Day) (Month) (Year)

by Paul Von Behren  
(Printed name of sponsor appearing before Notary)

(SEAL)  [Signature]  
Signature of Notary Public



Final Language

December 5, 2022

**TEXT FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT:**

“To add a new section 14 to Article VIII of the Nebraska State Constitution: VIII-14 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, beginning January 1, 2026, no governmental entity in the State of Nebraska may impose taxes other than retail consumption taxes or excise taxes.”

**OBJECT STATEMENT:**

“A Constitutional Amendment to restrict governmental entities in Nebraska to imposing only retail consumption taxes and excise taxes. This amendment will eliminate Nebraska personal and real property taxes; personal and corporate income taxes; sales taxes and inheritance taxes.

# FAFSA Simplification Fact Sheet

## A Better FAFSA

The FAFSA Simplification Act was ratified in August 2022, with the intent to streamline the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application process. It specified three goals: 1) expanded eligibility for federal financial aid, 2) reduced barriers for certain student populations and, 3) a better user experience for the FAFSA form.

This PDF outlines changes that accomplish these goals.

Old	New
<b>Terminology</b>	
EFC (expected Family contribution)	SAI (Student Aid Index)
Household Size	Family Size
Parent (s)	Contributors
Student Aid Report	FAFSA Submission Summary
Dependency Status	Student Personal Circumstances
IRS Data Retrieval Tool	Direct Data Exchange

Old	New
<b>Process</b>	
Contributor could access the FAFSA without creating FSA ID first	Contributor will NOT be able to access the FAFSA without an FSA ID set up and verified by SSA prior to starting the form
Parent without social security number could not create FSA ID. Signature page required	Parent (s) without SSN will be required to create an FSA ID – process TBD
Using IRS Data Retrieval Tool was optional	Everyone has to click a permission box allowing their financial information to be transferred from the IRS, including non tax-filers
Parent Info provided was determined by “whom the student lived with more out of the year”	New definition of parent is “parent which provides the greater portion of the student’s financial support”
Student could enter up to 10 colleges	Student will be able to add up to 20 colleges
<b>Formula Changes</b>	
Household size reported by student applicant	Family size based on number of people claimed as exemptions on tax forms
Businesses and farms with fewer than 100 employees not counted as an asset	Net value of businesses and farms of any size counted as an asset
Number in college included in EFC calculation	Number in college NO LONGER included in SAI calculation. Question will still appear for institutional purposes
Families with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) greater than \$50,000 required to report asset information	Families with AGI greater than \$60,000 will be required to report asset information
Lowest EFC is 0	Lowest SAI is - 1500



FAFSA Preview Available



FSA ID Process Released



Financial Aid Estimator Released



FAFSA Demo Site Available



2024-2025 FAFSA Opens

This information was compiled by the College and Career Access team at the Office of the Idaho State Board of Education, with help from Federal Student Aid, UAspire, NCAN, UNC, and others.



Visit [www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov](http://www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov) for additional help and insights.

## Contributors

A contributor is anyone who is required to provide information on the FAFSA; that means the student, parent(s), and spouse might all be referred to as "contributors" in the FAFSA form.

## FSA ID

EVERY contributor will need an FSA ID to access the FAFSA. Undocumented parents will now be able to create an FSA ID.

**Tip:** Ensure every contributor creates an FSA ID before the FAFSA becomes available.

## Multi-Factor Authentication

All contributors will need to set up at least one form of multi-factor authentication. It could be a phone (device), email address, or via an authentication app.

**Tip:** Set up ALL forms of multi-factor authentication.

## Family Size

For tax-filers, family size will be automatically calculated based on the number of individuals claimed on the tax return. If the family size is different from the tax return, there will be an option to enter it manually.

**Tip:** Have a copy of the tax return or tax transcript on hand to check who was claimed.

## Number in College

The number of dependents in college will no longer impact the federal formula for aid distribution. However, questions about the number of dependents in the household attending college may still appear for institutional purposes.

## EFC vs SAI

Household size reported by student application	V.S.	Family size automatically calculated based on tax forms
Number in college impacts EFC	V.S.	Number in college no longer considered in SAI
Businesses and farms with fewer than 100 employees not counted as an asset	V.S.	Businesses and farms of any size counted as an asset
Lowest EFC is 0	V.S.	Lowest SAI is -1500

## Federal Tax Information

Direct Data Exchange (DDX) will replace the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) as the process for transferring tax information from the IRS. This will reduce the number of financial questions that most families will see on the FAFSA.

All contributors must consent to having their tax information transferred, even if they did not file taxes for the required year. There will be few exceptions for manual entry.

If consent is not granted...

- ▶ the FAFSA will be considered incomplete
- ▶ the FAFSA will be ineligible for federal financial aid

## Reporting Assets

Families with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) greater than \$60k will be required to report asset information. The net worth of businesses and farms of any size will now be included.

## Potential Impact on Students

The new formula allows a minimum SAI of negative \$1,500 to give financial aid administrators more insight when making determinations for students with especially challenging situations.

Some applicants will be able to determine Pell Grant eligibility prior to enrolling in college based on their family size, household income, and state's poverty standards.



8% will have a higher SAI than EFC



13% will see no change



78% will have a lower SAI than EFC

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)

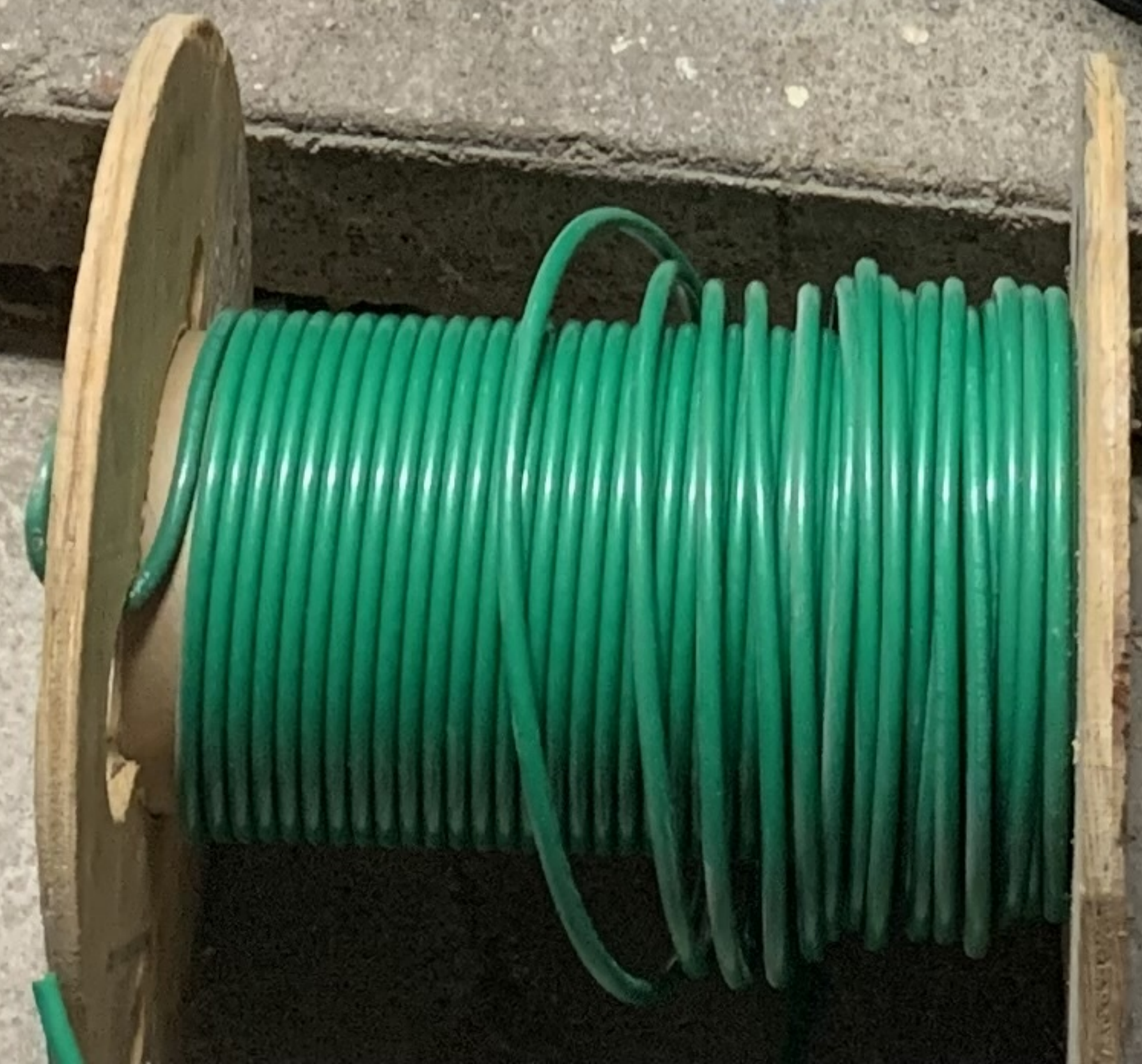
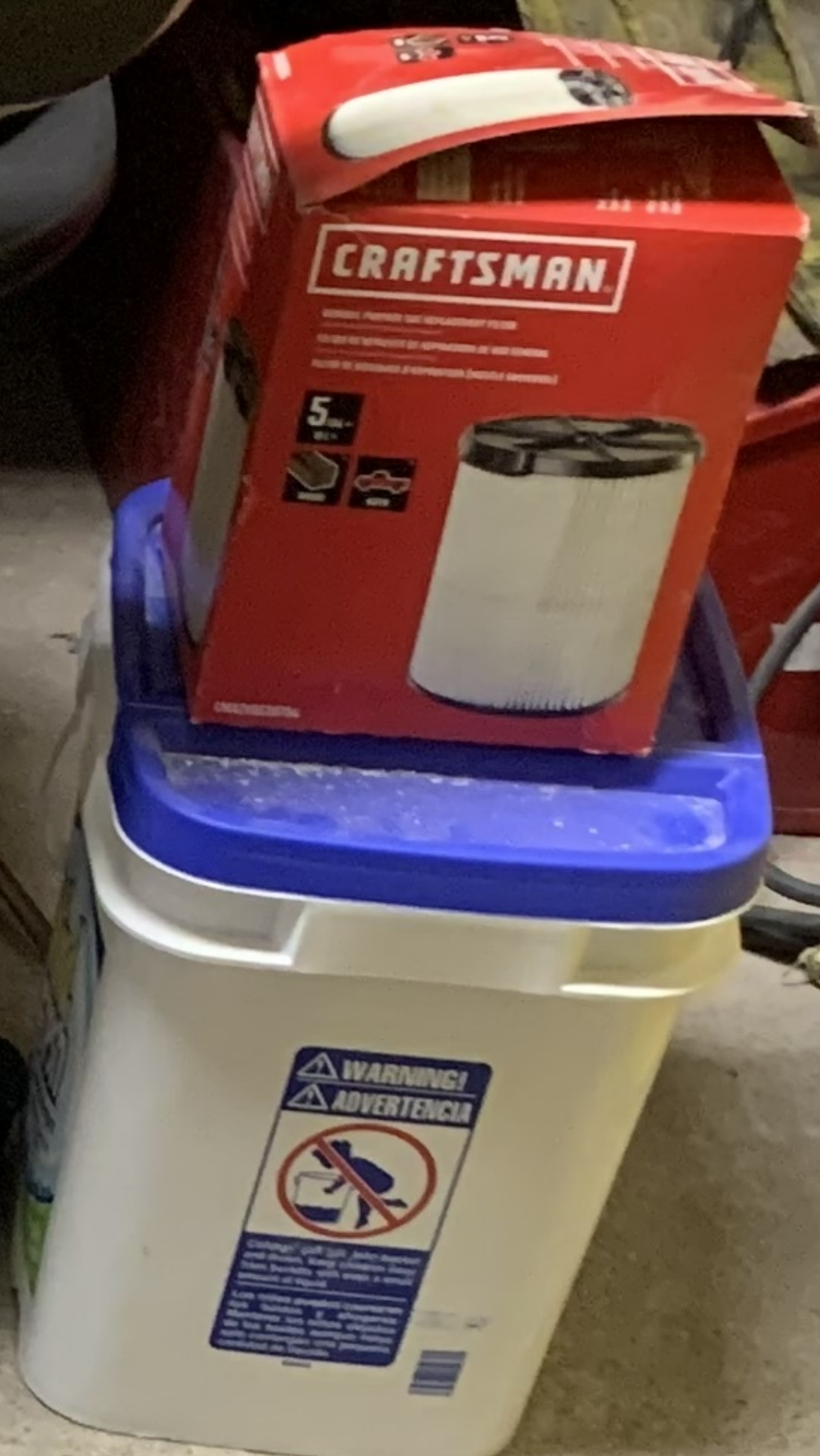
**3019**  
**Sale or Disposal of School Property**

In selling school property, whether real or personal, the board of education shall be mindful of its financial obligation to the taxpayers of the school district. The board may sell school property in the manner it deems most appropriate for the particular property (e.g., by taking bids, by auction, or by selling the property for a specified price). The board shall take action at a regular meeting to approve the sale or disposal of property by the statutorily required two-thirds vote of the members before selling or disposing of it.

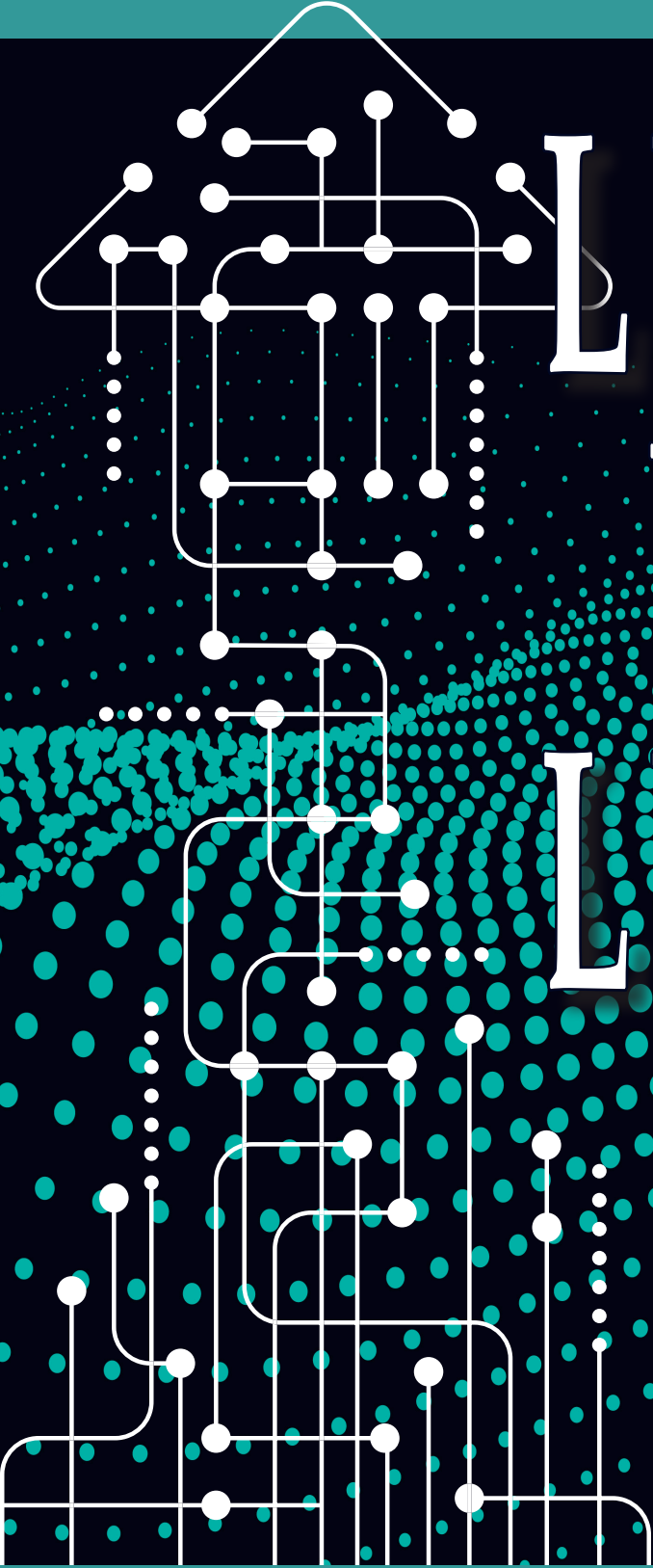
Adopted on: 8-13-2018

Revised on: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed on: \_\_\_\_\_



2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 15-17  
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA



# LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS



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



# REGISTRATION & RESERVATIONS

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

To register, go to [www.NASBOnline.org](http://www.NASBOnline.org)

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



Registration fees for the conference are as follows:

REGISTER SEPTEMBER 13 THROUGH NOVEMBER 3	<b>\$325</b>	REGISTER NOVEMBER 4 THROUGH ON SITE	<b>\$375</b>
PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	<b>\$100</b>		
CANCELLATION FEE (PRIOR TO 11/4)	<b>\$150</b>	(No refunds after the registration deadline)	

# HOTEL RESERVATIONS

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

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

Once your conference registration is complete, you will receive an email with your NASB Registration code and a Conference Hotel reservation link. The code will not be activated until 10:00 AM CT, Wednesday, September 27, 2023

SUBMIT YOUR CONFERENCE HOTEL ROOM REQUEST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023.

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

Hilton Omaha - 1001 Cass Street  
\$151 per night

**ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 15, OR UNTIL FULL**

Omaha Marriott Downtown - 222 North 10th Street  
\$169 per night

**ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 24, OR UNTIL FULL**

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



ADA ACCESSIBLE/PARKING    
 GENERAL PARKING    
 HOTELS    
 LOT ENTRANCES

# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE / PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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

Exhibitor Reception  
4:00 to 5:30 PM

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

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

Opening Keynote Speaker  
8:15 to 9:30 AM

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

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

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

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

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

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Classroom Showcase  
8:00 to 11:30 AM

NASB Delegate Assembly  
8:00 to 9:30 AM

NASA Membership Meeting  
8:00 to 9:30 AM

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

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

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

## PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 - 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

### SPEAK OUT, REACH OUT!

Boards are facing a sense of urgency due to the ever increasing need to engage parents and community. Boards provide a platform for parents and patrons to speak out through public comment but how does a board reach out through appropriate measures to ensure parents and patrons feel heard? Beyond the board meeting how do boards reach out and maintain a continuous dialogue with parents and community? Join us for a robust session that will include current challenges related to public comment policy and procedures, purposeful parent-community engagement, and mock scenarios to provide practical strategies.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Caden Frank & Kari Stephens - NASB  
Dana Wiseman & James Jones - Sutton Public Schools  
Mike Hart & Brandon Desh - District OR1 Public Schools  
Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**

### EDUCATOR WORKFORCE: STRATEGIES TO ATTRACT, DEVELOP, AND RETAIN A HIGH-QUALITY STAFF

National and state educator workforce data is important to solving issues that face Nebraska. You will hear Nebraska's story through data, be introduced to the national publication "5 Shifts to Address the National Educator Shortage", and share strategies that work to alleviate workforce challenges in our schools. Millard Public Schools representatives will share information about their homegrown programs that help them attract, develop, and retain teachers and administrators. A panel of administrators will share their journey toward implementing payment of student teachers including how they plan to fund the program in the future. Attendees will also learn about the NexGen Leadership Academy at UNK and how it provides a model for university and PK-12 school district partnerships to develop system-wide capacity and create a leadership and principal pipeline program.

**PRESENTERS: John Schwartz, Kevin Clark & Kim Saum-Mills - Millard Public Schools;  
Dan Schnoes - ESU #3; Andy Rikli - Papillion LaVista Community Schools;  
Jami Jo Thompson - Norfolk Public Schools; Jeff Rippe - Bellevue Public Schools;  
Jason Brown - Bertrand Community School; Charles Wakefield - Omaha  
Public Schools; Sara Skretta - UNL; Mike Teahon, Chelsea Feusner & Aprille  
Phillips - UNK**

**SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON**

**NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM**

**NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON**

**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



## BETTER TOGETHER PRINCESS SARAH

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

Princess Sarah has an extraordinary journey that has been featured on CNN, GMA, and BBC, among numerous other media outlets. She shares the story of reuniting with her birth father in "A Princess Found: An American Family, an African Chiefdom, and the Daughter Who Connected Them All". "A Princess Found" is now being adapted into a major motion picture for Disney Studios. Princess Sarah is a real-life Princess of Sierra Leone. In addition, she is a humanitarian, author, and speaker on building a culture of belonging. She uses her personal story of being adopted and growing up in a bi-racial family to illustrate understanding cultural differences.



## THE MASTERPIECE IN YOU RICHARD HIGHT

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

Internationally-known artist and keynote speaker Richard Hight hails from a military family with roots deep in the red dirt of Oklahoma. Overcoming challenges faced at a young age led to valuable lessons learned about focusing on strengths and recognizing possibilities, not limitations. His artistic gift allowed him to express his ideas, and his successes built his confidence. From this his mission emerged —Vision, Focus, Grit! Richard's impressionist approach to painting equips him to successfully communicate with his audience. When he performs for groups, he wants the audience to focus on the artistic process, not the finished canvas: he shows that trusting creative impulses can yield surprising and beautiful results. With his often humorous storytelling, he has entertained diverse audiences around the world. The vivid colors he selects, the broad flourishes that coalesce into a stunning image, and the passion Richard possesses: all of these harmonize into an imaginative encounter that inspires and compels those present. Richard is sure to ignite an artistic mindset in innovative leaders. Some events you attend - This one, you experience!



## LEARNING FROM OUR NEW LEADERS GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN & COMMISSIONER BRIAN MAHER

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

We are happy to welcome our new 2023 Nebraska leadership! Governor Jim Pillen will reflect on his first year along with vision and priorities for K-12 education moving forward. You will also have an opportunity to hear Brian Maher, Commissioner of Education, share his thoughts on education in our state and bring you up to speed on things at the Nebraska Department of Education.



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS & TRACKS



BOARDSMANSHIP



CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CURRICULUM



ESU



FACILITIES



LEGAL & POLICY



LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY



MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION



NEW BOARD MEMBER



SAFETY



STUDENTS/EARLY CHILDHOOD



TECHNOLOGY



WELLNESS

# A

## A - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 9:45 TO 10:45 AM



### A1 A SESSION LIKE NO OTHER

Despite an unprecedented filibuster resulting in the creation of large omnibus packages, the legislature passed several bills impacting K-12 education. From student discipline in the classroom to budget considerations in the board room, learn about all the bills districts will navigate. With an eye to 2024, Colby and Mike will breakdown the issues that will dominate the upcoming session.

**PRESENTERS: Colby Coash - NASB; Mike Dulaney - NCSA**



### A2 ACCREDITATION 101: UNDERSTANDING THE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS AND FLEXIBILITIES OF RULE 10

Whether you are a veteran administrator or new to the role, a Rule 10 review from the Office of Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval can increase your confidence when building schedules, hiring teachers, and completing the annual Assurance Statement. This session will cover both the non-negotiables and built-in flexibilities of Nebraska's Rule 10: Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools. NDE staff will also provide time for questions on current trends and challenges when reporting for compliance.

**PRESENTER: Brad Dirksen - NDE**



### A3 IS MY DISTRICT DOING SOMETHING WRONG WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION?

It starts off with an angry phone call from a parent and now your Superintendent received notice that the Nebraska Department of Education has placed your district under corrective action in response to a special education complaint. Is your District alone? NDE investigated 35 cases during the 2022-2023 school year. In this session, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will discuss the state complaint process for special education, the implications of corrective action, and how to avoid corrective action by implementing appropriate policies and procedures. This presentation will cover discipline for students with disabilities, accommodations, service logs, behavior intervention plans, and more!

**PRESENTERS: Haleigh Carlson & Greg Perry - Perry Law Firm**



**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## A4 AT THE BOARD TABLE – BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE MEETING



Learn how the board can maximize time to ensure the regular board meeting agenda, utilization of best practice protocols and procedures, and how a collaborative culture between board members communicates a positive message to staff, parents, and patrons. The importance of integrating these components determines the board's effectiveness and the quality of education the district is providing. Join us to learn how to purposefully prepare for a board meeting that reflects cohesive board-superintendent leadership.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring & Stacie Higgins - NASB**



## A5 HOT TOPICS IN SCHOOL LAW

The (questionably) dynamic duo is back again this year to tell you all about recent updates in school law, including important court cases, new laws and legislation, and the legal issues boards and administrators should know about! Bring your questions, concerns, and lawyer jokes.

**PRESENTERS: Steve Williams & Bobby Truhe - KSB School Law**



## A6 EDUCATOR SHORTAGE: IT'S TIME FOR ACTION!

The educator workforce shortage crisis is affecting schools and students across Nebraska. In this interactive session we will use the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit Action Plan and AASPA's *"5 Shifts to Address the National Educator Shortage"* to discuss innovative ideas and recommendations for change at the local and state levels. You will also develop an action plan framework to address educator workforce challenges specific to your district. Join us as we exchange ideas, discuss strategies and implementation processes to continue the work of making sure all Nebraska districts have high quality educational leaders, teachers, and staff.

**PRESENTER: Sara Skretta - UNL**



## A7 PUBLIC COMMENT: LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

In this session, we will walk through public comment as prescribed by the Open Meetings Act. Then, we will discuss real-world examples and how boards should handle both simple and complicated scenarios under the Open Meetings Act including complaints about staff members, discussions about student discipline matters, and threats of litigation.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## A8 DEVELOPING AND DEMONSTRATING LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY

The Westside Community Schools has a long history of using technology in instruction. This session will highlight examples of learning-focused iPad use with and by students in our current K-12 1:1 environment.

**PRESENTERS: Paul Lindgren & Matthew Lee - Westside Community Schools**



## A9 BOARD AND COMMUNITY CULTURE IN CHALLENGING TIMES

In this session a panel of board members from across Nebraska will discuss the importance of a positive culture on school boards and in communities in these polarized times. The panel will share what has worked, what has caused challenges to success and strategies that have been implemented to improve the culture in their school and community.

**PRESENTERS: Keith Rohwer & Cinde Wendell - NCSA**



## A10 MASTERING CHALLENGES TO IMPROVE LEARNING FACILITIES

After an extremely close second-attempt bond election ("One Vote Wonder!"), it was time to really get creative with our building projects. In order to accommodate the build of our new High School, teachers transitioned to a modified, alternate block schedule and students spent the 2022-2023 school year learning in a variety of creative locations across our community. Once the HS project phase was complete, it was time to start on construction and renovations for the Elementary School. We will share what worked, what had to be modified, and how our strong project partnerships resulted in success. Attend this session to not only learn about our construction project, but also how we used this exciting time to continue building support from our communities!

**PRESENTER: Jeremy Christiansen & Dustin Thompson - Laurel-Concord-Coleridge; Steve Thiele & Ashley Abramson - Hausmann Construction; Bob Soukup - CWP Architects; Cody Wickham - D.A. Davidson**

## B

## B - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 11:15 AM TO 12:15 PM



### **B1 THE NSAA IN ACTION**

The NSAA will discuss the legislative process and current initiatives that support and assist NSAA member schools in day-to-day operations.

**PRESENTER: Jennifer Schwartz – NSAA**



### **B2 ONE DISTRICT'S CUSTOMIZED TIERED APPROACH TO SUPPORTING STUDENT AND STAFF MENTAL WELLNESS**



The Ord Public Schools has a unique custom developed approach to supporting student and staff mental wellness by offering tiered levels of support. This includes three Guidance Counselors for the K-12 district, a contracted Licensed Mental Health Practitioner in district part-time, and unlimited counseling and wellness sessions both online and in-person through a contracted prepaid partnership with Wholeness Healing. The unlimited counseling available to all students and staff has been highly impactful with helping to support both students and staff that find themselves in need of support. We would like to share with other districts how we were able to achieve this financially, and with scheduling. This system has been four years in the making, but knowing what we know now, other districts can learn from our template and follow some well-designed steps to make it happen in their districts.

**PRESENTER: Heather Nebesniak - Ord Public Schools**



### **B3 HOW MUCH CAN I REALLY KNOW? PERSONNEL MATTERS FOR SCHOOL BOARDS**



This session will walk through the Nebraska Teacher Tenure Act and discuss the board's role in a personnel matter.

**PRESENTER: Josh Schauer & Greg Perry - Perry Law Firm**



### **B4 EFFECTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

A high-quality education does not stop after the last bell. The best education uses all of the contributions of a wide variety of stakeholders to support students. Yet, how do we communicate the many different efforts of education to our stakeholders? Moreover, how do we build commitment from our community for district initiatives? Join the Board Leadership Team as we explore the effective engagement of stakeholders and how to build meaningful relationships between the district and community.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring, Caden Frank & Kari Stephens - NASB**



### **B5 KSB GOES TO HOLLYWOOD: PUBLIC COMMENT IN ACTION!**

Public comment, our favorite topic! What, exactly, is permissible? What does a patron have to disclose before speaking? Is repetition permitted? What if they want to talk about students or staff members--we can stop that, right? This session will be interactive and display the horrible acting chops of the attorneys from KSB. We'll actually demonstrate and talk through how we recommend boards and administrators handle tricky situations dealing with public comment at board meetings (and a few bonus scenes board members deal with all the time).

**PRESENTERS: Bobby Truhe, Karen Haase, Steve Williams, Coady Pruett, Jordan Johnson & Sara Hento - KSB School Law**



### **B6 LEAD NEBRASKA: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TO ADDRESS ED PIPELINE SHORTAGES FOR ADMINISTRATOR CANDIDATES**



ESU 6, in partnership with UNL Educational Administration and NCSA, have implemented an innovative program to address Ed leadership shortage challenges. The grant focuses on developing teacher leaders and fostering readiness for pursuing educational leadership through Ed Ad program pathways. Content was delivered through a series of seminars focusing on foundational skills of school leadership. Learn how ESU 6 and UNL are partnering to promote the next generation of Nebraska Ed Leaders!

**PRESENTERS: Scott Sturgeon & Nick Pace - UNL; John Skretta - ESU 6**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## **B7** BOARD MEMBERS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND FREE SPEECH

Social media has become such a prevalent communication platform in today's society. Questions can and do arise with whether an elected public official's social media site is purely personal or has spilled over to the public domain. In this session, we will discuss some of these issues and how courts are addressing this. We will also discuss other communication media, including emails, text messages and the like.

**PRESENTERS: Derek Aldridge & Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm**



## **B8** WOOD RIVER RURAL SCHOOLS RESPONDS TO HEALTH CARE WORKER DEMAND WITH CNA PROGRAM

To help meet demand for medical field workers, Wood River Rural Schools has established a Certified Nursing Assistant program. This was a collaboration with Central Community College, the Wood River community, and generous local donors. With this in-school opportunity, students are prepared for high demand, high pay, high skill careers in medical care. For those students who have a career interest in medicine, becoming a CNA gives them a valuable experience that opens many doors in their future. Join Shelby Allan, WRRSD School Nurse, plus past and current students as they discuss the ins and outs of this program.

**PRESENTER: Shelby Allan & Terry Zessin - Wood River Rural Schools**



## **B9** WHEN YOUR SCHOOL'S SAFETY IS UNDER ATTACK...WHAT I WISH I WOULD HAVE KNOWN PRIOR



We often say "it will never happen to us." We all have safety teams, crisis teams, and threat assessment teams...but things still happen. There is only so much the pieces of training and manuals can provide when a crisis strikes. This session will provide all the things I learned and wish I would have known prior to an incident that we all thought "would never happen to us."

**PRESENTER: Stephanie Kaczor - Riverside Public Schools**



## **B10** DIGITAL WISE PARENTING TO CREATE DIGITALLY FIT STUDENTS



What do adults need to be aware of when devices are a big part of children's lives? The core of many of the issues seen in schools originate from digital platforms, apps, and media. Exposure to digital nuances impact all of us on a behavioral, mental, and emotional level. Developing our digital wisdom will make us more mindful of the best practices to assist students with better digital: citizenship, literacy, privacy, and navigation within the virtual world to be safer and more secure in the real world. We will discuss: platform pressures, synthetic media, emotional exploitation, and digital fitness. Digital parent academies are needed to give them the tools to build a child's digital wisdom framework for safe platform participation.

**PRESENTER: Jay Martin - NDE**



**LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS**

# THURSDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE THURSDAY LUNCHEON



### Previous Winners Include:

2024 - ANDY RIKLI, PAPIILLION LA VISTA  
2023 - MARK LENIHAN, WAYNE  
2022 - TERRY HAACK, BENNINGTON  
2021 - JIM SUTFIN, MILLARD  
2020 - MARK ADLER, RALSTON  
2019 - MIKE TEAHON, GOTHENBURG  
2018 - JOHN SKRETTA, NORRIS  
2017 - CAROLINE WINCHESTER, CHADRON  
2016 - JAY BELLAR, BATTLE CREEK  
2015 - BRIAN MAHER, KEARNEY  
2014 - STEVE BAKER, ELKHORN  
2013 - KEVIN RILEY, GRETNA

2012 - BILL MOWINKEL, GRAND ISLAND NW  
2011 - MIKE CUNNING, HERSHEY  
2010 - KEITH LUTZ, MILLARD  
2009 - STEVE RECTOR, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
2008 - LARRY RAMAEKERS, AURORA  
2007 - ROGER BREED, ELKHORN  
2006 - RICHARD EISENHAUER, LEXINGTON  
2005 - ROY BAKER, NORRIS  
2004 - DAN ERNST, WAVERLY  
2003 - RANDY NELSON, NORFOLK  
2002 - PHILIP SCHOO, LINCOLN  
2001 - KEITH ROHWER, NEBRASKA CITY

2000 - STEVE, JOEL, BEATRICE  
1999 - KENNETH ANDERSON, HASTINGS  
1998 - KEN BIRD, WESTSIDE  
1997 - RICK BLACK, CONESTOGA  
1996 - GARY HAMMACK, KEARNEY  
1995 - MARTIN PETERSEN, ALLIANCE  
1994 - VANDLE PHILLIPS, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
1993 - FRED BELLUM, COLUMBUS  
1992 - GLENN LARSEN, ADAMS CENTRAL  
1991 - NORBERT SCHUERMAN, OMAHA  
1990 - DOUG CHRISTENSEN, NORTH PLATTE  
1989 - DONALD STROH, MILLARD



## C - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 2:15 TO 3:15 PM



### C1 STUDENT VOICES

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



### C2 ADDRESSING DIVERSE POPULATIONS IN RURAL DISTRICTS TO ENSURE QUALITY EDUCATION IN GRADES PK-12



Lexington Public Schools will share how it is addressing the needs of the whole child in a rural district with a diverse population and student needs. From programs that support EL/Migrant populations to students experiencing poverty and trauma, LPS representatives will share some of the programs and approaches they have implemented to ensure all students are prepared to learn and succeed.

**PRESENTERS: John Hakonson, Angie Kovarik, Annette Fitzgerald - Lexington Public Schools**



### C3 ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, AND THE LAW

School athletics and activities present unique legal challenges. From name image and likeness (NIL) to transgender participation, these are hot button issues that impact all schools. In this session, we will discuss those matters along with important topics such as Title IX, booster club funds, and activities discipline. These are emerging areas of the law that are constantly impacted by court decisions and legislative activities, and it is important to stay ahead of the game (pun intended) on these topics.

**PRESENTERS: Josh Schauer & Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm**



### C4 WALKING ALONGSIDE THE BOARD THROUGH SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION AND BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

Evaluating the superintendent is one of the primary functions of the board. Eliminate the obstacles that distract the board from administering an efficient and effective evaluation process. Are you allowing the superintendent to complete a self-assessment and do all board members participate in the evaluation of the superintendent? Join us to discuss the importance of the evaluation tool, protocols, and procedures for administering a fair and professional evaluation, plus adoption of goals to support superintendent accountability for growth of the district and his/her professional leadership.

**PRESENTERS: Marcia Herring & Katie Corfield - NASB**

**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



## C5 PERSONNEL MATTERS: FACT, FICTION, AND FUNCTION

Quality staff members make all the difference, and boards and administrators appropriately spend a lot of time, energy, and money ensuring students receive a top-notch education from excellent educators. It doesn't always work out that each educator is a fit for each school, and vice-versa. This presentation will make sure everyone understands their role and responsibilities during personnel cases, from the evaluation process through the school board hearing, focusing on key elements that prove difficult or frustrating every time. Whether you've been through it or not, there's always more to know!

**PRESENTERS: Karen Haase, Steve Williams & Jordan Johnson - KSB School Law**



## C6 RETAINING & HIRING MUSIC TEACHERS IN SMALL SCHOOLS

Music education is an integral part of a student's physical, mental, and emotional health. There is a concern across the state that small schools (especially those in more rural areas) are not filling their music positions. NSBA (Nebraska State Bandmasters Association), along with some administrators from across the state are going to share the efforts that are being made to prevent their small schools from being a "stepping stone" job and instead make it a "forever" job where their music teacher(s) can build a program and have a desire to stay.

**PRESENTERS: Emiley Bond - Nebraska State Bandmaster Association; Anna Sake - Palmer Public Schools**



## C7 WHAT HAPPENS IN CLOSED SESSION, STAYS IN CLOSED SESSION?

Closed session can be a very complicated area of the law. In this session, we will walk through the legal requirements and case studies involving entering into closed session, discussions during closed session, "leaks" from closed session, and other legal and practical issues that may arise during (or after) closed session. We will also discuss how to make the proper motion to enter into closed session, how to exit closed session, and how closed session entrance and exit should appear in minutes.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## C8 REFRAMING THE FOUR-DAY WEEK DEBATE: STUDENT ENRICHMENT AND SUPPORTING THE PROFESSION

The move to a four-day school week and implementation of Optional Enrichment Fridays has realized some positive outcomes for both students and teachers! Our district's innovative approach to providing enrichment opportunities for students, meeting the needs of families, and tackling dwindling enrollment is now in its fifth year. This session provides an overview of implementing a radical change through the lenses of current research, community consultation, student engagement, and district leadership. The lessons learned in the process and plans for the future will be presented.

**PRESENTER: Evelyn Browne - Banner County School**



## C9 LIKE FREE, BUT STILL HIGH QUALITY?

The current reality in education is; tight budgets, staff shortages, unfunded mandates, and expensive materials. ESU 5 has looked at Open Education Resources (materials FREELY available online). We have vetted these units for quality and have put together a coherent K-12 science curriculum from these FREE units. Most of our units are already ranked "high quality." Interested in getting access to our FREE, vetted curriculum for your school? Come to this session and you will leave with FREE access to the units we have collected as well as our suggested scope and sequence for implementation.

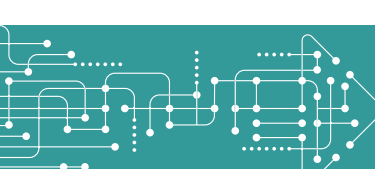
**PRESENTER: Annette Weise - ESU 5**



## C10 ESU BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Attend this session for a review of events from the past year and a preview of the programs of interest to ESUs across the state.

**MODERATOR: Jim Luebbe - NASB**



## D

## D - BREAKOUT SESSIONS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 3:30 TO 4:30 PM



### **D1** WHO WILL BE YOUR DISTRICT'S NEXT SUPERINTENDENT?

Are you concerned about hiring a high-quality superintendent should your current superintendent resign? If so, then the Nebraska Association of Professors of School Leadership (NAPSL) would like to partner with you in developing solutions that will ensure future high-quality leaders for our Nebraska schools. During this session, NAPSL will facilitate conversations focused on Nebraska school leaders. The session will review Nebraska's history of superintendents along with examining how future Nebraska superintendents must be more diverse to keep up with demand. Board members and superintendents are encouraged to attend.

**PRESENTERS: Michael Sieh - Wayne State College; Kevin Riley - UNO; Shavonna Holman - UNL**



### **D2** EHA BENEFITS UPDATE

Overview of the health and dental plans available to EHA schools, member engagement programs, and an opportunity to address your benefit questions.

**PRESENTERS: Brett Young - BCBS; Greg Long - EHA**



### **D3** SCHOOL LAW JEOPARDY FOR BOARD PRESIDENTS

This session is targeted to current and aspiring school board presidents. From preparing agendas, managing public comment, and serving as the "chair" of the board, we will walk through a board president's legal "dos" and "donts."

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight & Josh Schauer - Perry Law Firm**



### **D4** DIGITIZING AND STREAMLINING YOUR BOARD MEETINGS AND STAFF NEGOTIATIONS

The days of using paper and manual calculations are slowly coming to an end. In this session, you will learn the features and benefits of the Sparq Meetings and Negotiations platforms; some of our tips and tricks for becoming more proficient and efficient; and what new changes have been added that make your life easier.

**PRESENTERS: Nicole Kobus & Darion Miller - Sparq Data Solutions**



### **D5** DUELING PIANOS, SCHOOL LAW STYLE

You've got the requests; they've got the keys. Jim and Karen will have some pre-planned topics to cover, and then they will open it up for requests! From personnel/student issues to the First Amendment, anything goes. Bring your questions and requests, and Karen and Jim will keep it 100 (or at least PG-13).

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



### **D6** WHY DO SCHOOL BOARDS NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO BIRTH TO FIVE?

You can't care about children's reading proficiency, academic success, and high school graduation rates without caring about quality early childhood education. The foundation for all future learning is built during children's earliest years. Yet, Nebraska does not have enough programs. Get insights from a new survey that shows Nebraska voters want early education supported like K-12 and higher education. Hear from school leaders about how they are leveraging funding sources and partnerships to build a birth-through-third grade continuum. Also learn how We Care for Kids can help.

**PRESENTER: Kara Ficke - We Care For Kids**



### **D7** HELPING HANDS

The North Platte Public School district's Helping Hands program is designed to have one college-aged student come into the classroom to serve as a positive mentor/role model to students with behavior needs. The Helper will support the student in the classroom by helping to keep the student on task, assist the student with coping skills, follow and implement Behavior Improvement Plans, and help identify the good things the student does during their time with them. The college students have received training from local Licensed Mental Health Providers.

**PRESENTERS: Todd Rhodes & Brandy Buscher - North Platte Public Schools**

# FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## CLASSROOM SHOWCASE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 11:30 AM



## NASB DELEGATE ASSEMBLY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM



## NASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8:00 TO 9:30 AM



## E - BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 9:15 TO 10:15 AM



### E1 LOCAL VETERANS' HISTORY PROJECT

The Congressional Veterans History Project 2000 was designed to record the memories of WWII Veterans across the Nation. Unfortunately, most schools are still unfamiliar with this project and these memories are lost. Using the interview questionnaire from the CVHP our High School has interviewed around 60 area veterans who served in WWII to the present day. What we have learned is our students and veterans develop a unique relationship and learning opportunity. Students develop these skills: organizing, greeting, interviewing, listening, recording, writing, summarizing, and thanking. Skills that reach across the curriculum. Veterans benefit by seeing our community's youth being attentive and appreciative of the sacrifices service requires.

**PRESENTERS: Lance Swanson - South Sioux City Community Schools; Dwight Freiberg & Steve Shadle - Siouxland Freedom Park**



### E2 BOARD COMMITTEES - HOW TO EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE COMMITTEES

One Board's journey from near non-existent committee meetings to routine committee meeting utilization. Learn about the effect on board cohesiveness and communication, Board/Superintendent relations, community engagement and the evolution to more effective and efficient Board meetings.

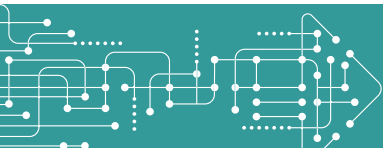
**PRESENTER: Alicia Beavers - Elm Creek Public Schools**



### E3 HOT TOPICS IN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCING

In this session, we will discuss some of the basics of the statutory requirements for school districts contemplating facility construction projects. We will also discuss considerations of financing, including bond issue elections, assistance in this approach for school districts and the dos and don'ts for school districts. Finally, we will discuss some pitfalls that can occur in school construction.

**PRESENTER: Derek Aldridge - Perry Law Firm**





## E4 ACCESS TO OVERALL WELL-BEING



ESU 2 Team ACCESS (All Children Celebrated Educated Safe & Successful) is a program to support students, families, and districts by expanding services and programs that aim to address overall well-being. Team Access was created as a single entry point for our school districts to access our social support services. Our goal is to work together behind the scenes, to make it easier for schools to navigate our many social support programs. The presentation will review how ESU 2 Team ACCESS staff help coordinate services, provide educator training, and support through small group instruction or mental health counseling.

**PRESENTERS: Taira Masek & Megan Reese - ESU 2**



## E5 PAIN IN THE APP, V. 9.0



It's hard to believe it, but this annual favorite is now a 3rd grader! We will take board members and administrators through the most relevant and recent cases with information related to the intersection of schools and student use of technology and social media.

**PRESENTERS: Karen Haase & Sara Hento - KSB School Law**



## E6 RECOGNITION: IT'S MORE THAN JUST A THANK YOU

Workplace wellbeing is a hot topic in many school districts. Terms such as "self-care" are casually thrown around, but what is the right way to show meaningful appreciation to staff members? According to a recent Gallup survey, only 31% of U.S. teachers report feeling engaged at work. This means, almost 70% of teachers are going to work burned out or feeling depleted. In this session, attendees will learn the best practices in workplace recognition, strengths-based leadership, and engagement.

**PRESENTER: Hannah Miller - TeamMates Mentoring**



## E7 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) & REMOTE LEARNING ISSUES - WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

Social media and Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology are changing the global framework of public education at a faster pace than ever before in history. From AI software programs designed to modify instructional delivery to meet each individual student's needs, to now, students using AI to complete their homework. Are we set for teacher email signature lines like "I'm teleworking on Mondays and Wednesdays," now common place in the private sector? We will explore the parameters of where public education is heading.

**PRESENTERS: Jim Gessford & Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



## E8 MISSION: MENTAL HEALTH

Mission: Mental Health is an original mental health initiative that was implemented at Lakeview Community Schools during the school year. Administrators and school counselors worked together to create this initiative to help prevent staff burnout and boost staff morale throughout the district. The initiative provided quarterly incentivized challenges to help staff members focus on taking care of themselves, checking in on their coworkers, and bringing awareness to mental health. The initiative was supported by community businesses with donations as incentives for staff. Mission: Mental Health was positively viewed by staff members, improved culture, and promoted mental health wellness.

**PRESENTERS: Aaron Plas - Bennington Public Schools; Mollie Rambour, Paige Rambour & Miranda Hellbusch - Lakeview Community Schools**



# F

## F - BREAKOUT SESSIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 10:30 TO 11:30 AM



### F1 WELLNESS 4ALL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Attendees will learn about the impactful Wellness 4ALL mental health program that began in 2017 at Educational Service Unit 5 (ESU5). Fast forward six years, the program supports all 10 districts in ESU5, and an additional three districts outside of ESU5.

**PRESENTERS: Jen McNally, Brenda McNiff & Jamie Mapp - ESU 5**



### F2 ADDRESSING THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER SHORTAGE, SERVING DIVERSE LEARNERS

Since December 2020, Central Community College has helped metro and rural schools address the critical substitute teacher shortage. Come and learn how CCC quickly responded by creating an accessible, engaging, informative human relations course. More than just a training, the course's design helps students gain a basic understanding of cultures' contributions to our pluralistic society as well as provide beginning strategies to advocate for human dignity and individual rights. Presenters will share a course outline and student stories of growth. The course is offered most every month and has been delivered to over 1,500 students and substitute candidates.

**PRESENTER: Abie Ott - Central Community College**



### F3 NEGOTIATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Negotiations is one of the most important functions of a school board. In fact, "personnel" is the largest item of a school district's budget. This session will walk through the statutory requirements for negotiations. We will also give boards an update on negotiations "hot topics" and ideas for the 2023-2024 negotiations season.

**PRESENTER: Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm**



### F4 CHECKING THE PULSE OF YOUR DISTRICT

Over the past 3 years education has changed. Boards, administrators, teachers, and students have handled situations and issues no one thought possible. So how is your district doing? How are you: Board Member? Superintendent? How are your Administrators? Staff Members? Students? Research shows that engaging all stakeholders is one way to "check the pulse of the district," grow student success, keep teachers, and gauge well-being of the school district. This session will address the importance of stakeholder engagement to help districts continue to better their climate and culture and grow student success.

**PRESENTERS: Kari Stephens & Marcia Herring - NASB**



### F5 PICKING YOUR OWN CONTRACTOR

Do you have a new construction project or a large renovation coming up? Do you need some construction management input before finalizing your design? Do you want the opportunity to select your construction manager based on experience and quality rather than just the lowest responsible bidder? Steve Williams and Coady Pruett will discuss the construction management at risk option for school districts, including when you can use a CM, the selection process, advantages, and how to avoid pitfalls. Any school board members or administrators who are thinking about an upcoming construction project or renovation should attend this session.

**PRESENTERS: Steve Williams & Coady Pruett - KSB School Law**



### F6 ORIENTATION AND MENTORING...STARTING OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT

As board members, new or old, are there expectations for you as a board member that have been shared by board leadership or by the superintendent/administrator? Do you know where to access policies, staff information, board meeting minutes/agendas? Is there training you need to attend? What are the goals of the board? This session will provide a practical template for Board Orientation and Mentoring for school district or ESU boards. Please join us for this practical learning session, to enhance your school board member onboarding process.

**PRESENTER: Larianne Polk - ESU 7**

# FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS



## **F7 WE DON'T HAVE A POLICY ON TRANSGENDER STUDENTS, BUT SHOULD WE?**

The law and guidance surrounding transgender students is changing faster than ever before. In this presentation, attorneys from the Perry Law Firm will address the current status of the law concerning transgender students and will address when, if ever, your board should consider adopting a policy regarding the rights and privileges of transgender students.

**PRESENTERS: Greg Perry & Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm**



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

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

**PRESENTERS: Ryan Foor - NDE; Patti Gubbels - State Board of Education**



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

Previous Winners Include:

2022 - MARCIA MAHON, SOUTH SIOUX CITY  
2021 - STEVE KOCH, HERSHEY  
2020 - MARIAN HOLSTEIN, WINNEBAGO  
2019 - VALERIE FISHER, PAPPILLON-LA VISTA  
2018 - KATHY DANEK, LINCOLN  
2017 - BONNIE HINKLE, GRAND ISLAND  
2016 - TERRI HAYNES, CHADRON

2015 - LINDA RICHARDS, RALSTON  
2014 - BRAD KRIVOHLAVEK, NORFOLK  
2013 - PATTY BENTZINGER, NORRIS  
2012 - KATHY BARTEK, FALLS CITY  
2011 - JULIE AGARD, KEARNEY  
2010 - KIM FASSE, ELKHORN  
2009 - RON PEARSON, ESU #3

2008 - SANDRA JENSEN, OMAHA  
2007 - JOHN HANSEN, BELLEVUE  
2006 - FRED TAFOYA, PAPPILLON-LA VISTA  
2005 - WAYNE ERICKSON, WISNER-PILGER  
2004 - ANN MACTIER, OMAHA

## REGISTERING FOR THE CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

To register, go to the NASB website at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org) and log in using your email and password, and click the State Education Conference link.

AS YOU REGISTER, BE SURE TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITOR RECEPTION FROM 4:00 TO 5:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15. IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION, CONTACT ABI CARLSON AT 800-422-4572 TO ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE MENUS.



**TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE VISIT [WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG)**



1311 STOCKWELL STREET  
LINCOLN, NE 68502  
WWW.NASBONLINE.ORG

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2023 STATE EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 15-17  
CHI HEALTH CENTER - DOWNTOWN OMAHA

# LEARNERS LEADING LEARNERS



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

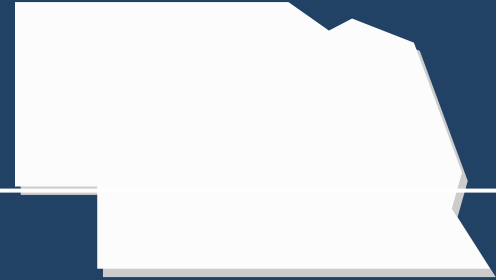


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# NASB

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Nebraska Association of School Boards



## Superintendent Evaluation – VIII





<b><u>Standard #3: Board Relations</u></b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
1. Provides leadership to maintain the board's focus on student achievement.			
2. Attends and participates in all board meetings unless specifically excused by the board from its consideration of the superintendent's performance, contract, or salary.			
3. Develops in cooperation with the board president the agenda for each board meeting.			
4. Ensures that all board meetings are legally conducted and communicated to the public in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.			
5. To the greatest extent possible, ensures that the board has adequate information and sufficient time to make critical decisions on behalf of the district.			
6. In cooperation with the board president, develops and maintains an annual board calendar that ensures timely consideration of: (a) routine matters requiring board approval, (b) follow-up reports requested by the board, (c) regular updates on district goals and the school improvement plan, (d) regular updates on student achievement data, and (e) continuous policy review.			
7. Ensures that administrative recommendations to the board identify: (a) the situation necessitating the recommendation, (b) how the recommendation relates to district and/or school improvement goals and district policies, (c) the options reviewed and the reason for selecting this recommendation, (d) the benefit that is expected to result from the implementation, (e) the personnel that will be involved in or affected by the implementation, (f) the immediate and long-term cost of the implementation (g) how the staff will measure the results of the implementation, and (g) how and when progress will be reported to the board (see AIM document for format).			
8. Using agreed-upon methods, communicates with the board between meetings to ensure that all members have current information about district issues and activities.			

Comments:

1. Areas for commendation









<b><u>Standard #7: Personal Qualities</u></b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
1. Demonstrates ethical, trustworthy and professional behavior.			
2. Demonstrates values, beliefs, and attitudes that inspire others to higher levels of performance.			
3. Is cordial, patient, personable, and treats everyone fairly, equitably, and with dignity and respect.			
4. Expresses ideas in a logical, forthright, and professional manner.			
5. Possesses the health and energy necessary to fulfill his responsibilities.			

Comments:

1. Areas for Commendation
  
  
  
2. Areas for Improvement

**SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION: BOARD SUMMARY**

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Board President Signature

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Date

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Superintendent Signature

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Date

