



# Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

*Member Update*

*April 9, 2026*



*Photo Credit: Palmyra Bennett Dist OR 1*



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# NRCSA Calendar

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## NRCSA Events

### **NRCSA Golf Tournament**

July 28, 2026

Meadowlark Hills Golf Course in Kearney

[More about this event](#)

### **NRCSA Superintendent Lunch**

July 29, 2026

12:00 PM

Holiday Inn in Kearney

### **NRCSA Legislative Forum**

February 24, 2027

Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln

[More about this event](#)

### **NRCSA Spring Conference**

April 1 & 2, 2027

Crowne Plaza & Younes North Convention Center in

Kearney

[More about this event](#)

## Committee Meetings

### **NRCSA Executive Committee**

June 17, 2026

10:00 AM Mountain Time

Ogallala Public Schools

### **NRCSA Consultant Meeting**

June 2026

Time & Location TBD

### **2026-27 NRCSA Executive Committee**

July 29, 2026

1:00 PM

Holiday Inn in Kearney

## NRCSA Search Service



**Please let Jack Moles know where superintendent vacancies occur, so that NRCSA Superintendent Search can make direct contact. We need to hear as soon as possible in anticipation of getting promotional materials specific to that board of education ready. It is critical that Board Presidents have the NRCSA contact information so that if they choose to consider a Superintendent Search Service, NRCSA is one they hopefully will consider.**



**Axtell Community Schools**  
Search Complete



**Potter-Dix Public Schools**  
Search Complete



**Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools**  
Search Complete



**Red Cloud Community Schools**  
Interim Search Complete



**Blue Hill Community Schools**  
Interim Search Complete



**Sandy Creek Public Schools**  
Search Complete



**Hampton Public Schools**  
Search Complete



**Superior Public Schools**  
Search Complete



**Hayes Center Public Schools**  
Search Complete



**Newman Grove Public Schools**  
Search Complete

Access the Members area of [www.nrcsa.net](http://www.nrcsa.net) anytime.

**Login: member Password: learning**

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***NRCSA Updates***

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**The NRCSA Spring Conference was another success!** The conference, which was held at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney on March 19 & 20, brought together Board members and administrators to reconnect and refresh. The free pre-conference, courtesy of Franklin-Covey, provided NRCSA members with the access to a very valuable experience, centered around the work of Steven Covey. In addition to 35 high-quality breakout sessions of importance to rural education, we also hosted two featured speakers: Adrienne Bulinski and Michelle Oberg. Also in attendance was Dr. Melissa Sadorf, Executive Director of the National Rural Education Association. And, of course, everyone was well fed!



*MELISSA OBERG*



*JACK MOLES WITH NREA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MELISSA SADORF*



*COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, DR. BRIAN MAHER*

**NRCSA Leadership**

Chris Kuncl, President.  
Mullen Public Schools

Dr. Heather Nebesniak, Past Pres.  
Ord Public Schools

Stephanie Kaczor, Pres-Elect.  
Riverside Public Schools

Jeremy Braden, Secretary.  
Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schs

**District Representatives:**

Ginger Meyer, West  
Chadron Public Schools

Dale Hafer, North Central  
Ainsworth Community Schools

Daryl Schrunk, Northeast  
Randolph Public Schools

Andrew Havelka, Southeast  
Freeman Public Schools

Jon Davis, South Central  
Alma Public Schools

Jane Davis, Southwest  
Hershey Public Schools

**Executive Director:**

Jack Moles

**Lobbyists:**

Jon Edwards  
Scott Moore  
Russell Westerhold

**Legislative Co- Chairs:**

Dr. Jason Dolliver  
Pender Public Schools

Bryce Jorgenson  
Southern Valley Schools

**Scholarship & Recognition Co Chairs:**

Jessica Bland,  
Oakland-Craig Public Schools

Jim Widdifield  
Minden Public Schools

A central part of the NRCSA Spring Conference each year is the recognition of outstanding people in rural education in Nebraska. To most in attendance, this is one of the highlights of the conference. Recognized as NRCSA's Outstanding award winners this year were:

- ELEMENTARY TEACHER:** Allie Schliefer, Fort Calhoun
- SECONDARY TEACHER:** Dawn Metschke, Johnson-Brock
- ESU STAFF MEMBER:** Dr. Jean Anderson, ESU 10
- PRINCIPAL:** Jim Crilly, Madison
- CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBER:** Kathy Houser, Meridian
- MUSIC TEACHER:** Kristi Hiles-Smith, Kimball
- BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER:** Rusty Rhynalds, Minden
- SUPERINTENDENT:** Jane Davis, Hershey



*ALLIE SCHLIEFER,  
FORT CALHOUN*



*DAWN METSCHKE,  
JOHNSON-BROCK*



*DR. JEAN ANDERSON,  
ESU 10*



*JIM CRILLY,  
MADISON*



*KATHY HOUSER,  
MERIDIAN*



*KRISTI HILES-SMITH,  
KIMBALL*



*RUSTY RHYNALDS,  
MINDEN*



*JANE DAVIS,  
HERSHEY*



*VIKING JAZZ BAND—BERTRAND*



*GILTNER CHORUS*

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Dr. Mike Dulaney and the Nebraska Council of School Administrators were presented with NRCSA’s Friend of Rural Education Award at the NRCSA Spring Conference. Besides being NRCSA’s landlord, Dr. Dulaney and NCSA have been strategic partners with NRCSA in our work with the Legislature. Dr. Dulaney has been instrumental in pulling together groups in Education that work together to address legislative issues, including the Education Coalition and the Management Group. Both groups provide opportunities for leaders from several groups to share with each other what they are hearing and where their individual groups stand on issues. In pulling these groups together, he has provided an opportunity for all sized schools to be represented. NCSA’s staff is remarkable in working daily with NRCSA’s staff. We are truly partners in the NCSA building. Thank you to Dr. Dulaney and NCSA for being such great partners!



*NCSA ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. TROY LOEFFELHIOLZ, NCSA CHAIR CHRIS PROSOSKI, NCSA FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR AMY POGGENKLASS, JACK MOLES, NCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. MICHAEL DULANEY, NRCSA PRESIDENT CHRIS KUNCL*

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## **Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association Names Paul Sheffield as Executive Director-Elect**



The Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA) Executive Committee met January 29–30, 2026, to interview candidates for the organization’s open Executive Director position. Four highly qualified individuals were selected for interviews: Dr. Curtis Cogswell, Paul Sheffield, Dr. Jon Cerny, and Stephen Grizzle. Each candidate demonstrated strong leadership experience and a deep commitment to serving Nebraska’s rural schools.

After thoughtful deliberation, the Executive Committee extended an offer for the position of Executive Director-Elect to Paul Sheffield on January 31. Sheffield accepted the offer and will begin a transition period alongside current Executive Director Jack Moles to ensure continuity and a smooth leadership handoff for the Association.

“The Executive Committee was thrilled to have applications from four highly respected rural educational leaders in Nebraska,” said NRCSA President Chris Kuncl. “The process was both rewarding and challenging. One thing that was evident is that Nebraska rural schools have tremendous educational leaders. NRCSA rural schools are in good hands. We are thankful for the leadership of our current Executive Director, Jack Moles, and we look forward to growing NRCSA in the future under the leadership of Paul Sheffield.”

The search process was led by the NRCSA Executive Committee, which consists of President Chris Kuncl, Past President Heather Nebesniak, President-Elect Stephanie Kaczor, Secretary Jeremy Braden, Northwest Representative Ginger Meyer, Southwest Representative Jane Davis, North Central Representative Dale Hafer, South Central Representative Jon Davis, Northeast Representative Daryl Schrunk, and Southeast Representative Andrew Havelka.

### About Paul Sheffield

Sheffield brings more than 30 years of educational leadership experience to the role, along with a longstanding commitment to rural schools and the NRCSA mission. He previously served on the NRCSA Executive Board as the Southeast Representative for six years, completing two terms and actively supporting advocacy efforts on behalf of rural districts across the state.

Originally from Russell, Minnesota, Sheffield is a graduate of Russell–Tyler High School. He began his postsecondary education at South Dakota State University before earning a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education from the University of Nebraska–Omaha in 1991.

He began his career in education in 1992 as a math, health, and physical education teacher and coach at Keya Paha County High School in Springview, Nebraska. He later earned a Master’s degree in Educational Administration from South Dakota State University and held multiple leadership roles at Shickley Public Schools, including principal, activities director, technology director, and superintendent. He earned an Educational Specialist degree from the University of Nebraska–Kearney in 2005.

In 2008, Sheffield became superintendent at Exeter–Milligan Public Schools, where he served until his retirement in 2025. Throughout his administrative career, he focused on student-centered decision-making, staff support, community engagement, and strong fiscal and organizational stewardship.

Sheffield and his wife, Karla, have been married since 1988 and have three children serving their communities in the military, agriculture, and healthcare professions.

NRCSA looks forward to Sheffield’s leadership and continued advocacy on behalf of rural community schools across Nebraska.

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### **NREA Partners with SchoolSims for “Lead Where You Are” Webinar Series**

Rural districts are not small versions of big systems. They are different systems with different constraints and different strengths. This three part NREA x SchoolSims webinar series is designed for rural and small district leaders who are building strong people systems with limited capacity. We will focus on practical, rural ready strategies for recruiting and selecting staff, strengthening onboarding and support, improving retention, and building sustainable structures that protect culture and reduce leader burnout. The series is offered at no cost to NREA members.

#### **Session 2 – April 23, 2026 at 2pm CST**

#### **[Register here: Small District Budget Crisis](#)**

In this webinar we will explore some of the key challenges in navigating the district budgeting process. Often, the challenge begins with understanding the context and underlying Tradeoffs that are at play – finding the balance between the needs of specific community members while deciding what is in the best interest of students. At the same time needing to determine to what degree you can balance transparency and confidentiality. During the Webinar, participants will engage in a simulation that places them as a new Superintendent taking over a small school district that happens to be the primary employer in the community. When a budget shortfall is discovered,

participants, as the Superintendent, must decide which resources to involve in the resolution while balancing transparency and strategy among key constituencies. They will need to decide which conditions warrant more persistence versus flexibility while keeping the focus on students.

### Session 3 – May 28, 2026 at 2pm CST

#### [Register here: Political Leadership in the Superintendency](#)

The goal of this Webinar is to help aspiring and sitting superintendents to explore a Political Leadership Framework to hone their skills so that they can more effectively lead change through complexity. We will share the Framework and then engage in a Superintendent level Simulation to challenge participants with various scenarios that require them to engage in the following proactive political leadership skills: visioning, communicating, political mapping, mobilizing and relationships building, while gaining and sustaining public trust and internal support. The central issue in the simulation exercise focuses on a district's discipline policy and its relationship with school safety—an issue that nearly all superintendents will encounter throughout their career.

You can learn more about the SchoolSims experiential learning PD here: SchoolSims | [Simulations for School Leaders & Teachers](#)



**As of Thursday, April 9, the Nebraska Unicameral is down to two days left in the session.** The Senators are putting in the last few days in late night debate on bills. The Unicameral is scheduled to meet on Friday, April 10. Friday, April 17, is reserved for possible override votes on any vetoes of bills by Governor Pillen. If Gov. Pillen indicates he will not be vetoing any bills, the work of the Unicameral may be done on the 10th.

Four bills that took a lot of our attention over the past couple of weeks have been LB1050, LB 803, LB937, and LB1219. Updates on those bills:

- LB1050: LB1050, the “Nebraska Reading Improvement Act”, was introduced as a way to ensure students are reading at grade level. The bill would have required the retention of students at the end of their 3rd grade year if they were not reading at grade level. Many supports and assessments were to be required to help students get to grade level. A few amendments were introduced to try and make the bill better, with one by Sen. Jana Hughes getting quite a bit of discussion. The Education community was against the bill, mainly because of the 3rd grade retention issue and the fact that the bill would create a substantial unfunded mandate. On Wednesday, April 8, the bill failed on a Cloture vote.
- LB803 was originally a “shell bill”, but was amended by parts from several bills. There are several sections to the bill, but the sections directly relating to schools would deal with “pink postcard” hearings and budget increases. All school districts would be required to participate in the “pink postcard” hearing, which would be held between July 1 and July 15. The County would also advise property owners to the dates and times of each entity’s budget hearing. Finally, when voting to increase the property tax request at least a 2/3 majority vote of the members of the Board shall take place. This bill was placed on Final Reading on Wednesday, April 8.
- LB 937 is a “Christmas tree” bill as several other bills were attached to it. Sen. Rountree attempted to attach LB81 to LB 937 through AM2965. This would have given the parent/guardian last say on a possible change in placement or services in an IEP. Currently the parent/guardian is part of the IEP team that makes such decisions. NRCSA, along with the rest of the Education community, was in support of the amendment. AM2965 failed to be adopted on Tuesday, April 7.
- LB 1219 (Brant, priority bill of Hansen) was a bill that would set a hard cap of 2% increase in property tax request placed on governmental subdivisions, including school districts. There were several changes

that were rumored to possibly be introduced to make the bill better, but still not good at all for school districts. The bill needed to be placed on the Unicameral's daily agenda by last Thursday. The Education community was relieved when it did not appear on that day's agenda.

## [NRCSA Bill Summaries 2026](#)

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**Ideas on how to deal with cancellations for NRCSA events were shared with the Executive Committee several months ago.** After receiving input from the Committee members, a policy was presented at the November meeting of the Executive Committee and adopted. Following is the policy that will be followed moving forward:

### POLICY ON CANCELLATIONS FOR NRCSA EVENTS

When planning for a large event (i.e. NRCSA Spring Conference or NRCSA Legislative Forum), NRCSA must make financial commitments such as facility rental and costs of meals. Weather sometimes causes a decision to be made by NRCSA in the form of a cancellation or postponement of the event, or for registrants to decide whether or not they can attend the event. Sometimes registrants need to make a decision not to attend due to other reasons. NRCSA has weighed the issues of its financial commitments versus registrants not being able to attend for various reasons. Thus, the following policy has been adopted:

#### WEATHER CANCELLATION DECISION MADE BY NRCSA:

All registrants, including vendors, will be offered a full refund or to have the registration fee carried forward to the next year's event.

#### WEATHER POSTPONEMENT DECISION MADE BY NRCSA:

All registrants, including vendors, will be offered a full refund or to have the registration fee carried forward to the re-scheduled event.

#### DECISION BY A REGISTRANT, INCLUDING VENDORS, TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT AND COMMUNICATED TO NRCSA AT LEAST A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT:

Two options will be provided to the registrant, including vendors: A full refund OR carry the registrant amount forward to the following year.

#### DECISION BY A REGISTRANT, INCLUDING VENDORS, TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT AND COMMUNICATED TO NRCSA WITHIN A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT:

For members, an option will be provided to have the registration fee carried forward to the next year's event OR a refund minus the costs to NRCSA for meal(s). (NOTE: In 2026, for the Spring Conference this would be \$105, for the Legislative Forum the cost is \$45.)

For vendors, the option to carry the registration amount to the following year will be provided.

#### DECISION BY A REGISTRANT TO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT, BUT FAILS TO COMMUNICATE WITH NRCSA PRIOR TO THE EVENT:

No refund will be provided.

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**There are a few NRCSA leadership spots available for the 2026-27 school year.** Ballots were sent via email on April 2, 2026.

**PRESIDENT ELECT**—this position is part of a three year Presidency cycle (President-Elect, President, Past-President). This is a state-wide election with each member entity having one vote. Candidates are:

Michael Eldridge, Supt. at East Butler  
Dale Hafer, Supt. at Aisworth

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—Current North Central District rep Dale Hafer is term-limited, thus the position will be open. The position has a term of three years, with the ability to run for a second term. This position is voted on by member entities in the North Central District. Candidate:

Heather Nebesniak, Supt. at Ord

**SCHOLARSHIP AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE MEMBER:** The committee will be moving from two year to three year terms. To make this work we will only add one new committee member for the coming year. The person can come from any of the NRCSA geographic districts. Self-nominations for positions are accepted.

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**The NRCSA Executive Committee has made a positive move to assist non-traditional educators move toward full teaching certification.** As a result of this move, new scholarship opportunities were created for paras who are in a “para to teacher program” and for transitional educators. NRCSA will provide three \$1,000 scholarships for the fall semester and three \$1,000 scholarships for the spring semester each school year. Applicants for the scholarships must be current employees of a NRCSA-member district or ESU. Applicants must be enrolled for that semester in one of two types of programs: (1) in a recognized “para to teacher” program such as is offered by the three State Colleges (Chadron State, Peru State, or Wayne State), or (2) a transition to teaching program in which a person with a minimum of a bachelor’s degree who is employed to teach in a member school while working through a transitional program, such as offered by the University of Nebraska-Kearney. The applicant could currently be teaching under a transitional certificate. Application materials for Spring scholarships were distributed to member Superintendents and ESU Administrators, who were then asked to share with potential candidates in their buildings. The NRCSA Scholarship and Recognitions Committee selected the three Spring semester scholarship winners. Applications for the Summer/Fall Semester were recently forwarded to NRCSA Superintendents and are due on **Monday, April 20.**

Applications for the Spring semester were received and the three recipients have been selected. They are:

- Jacey Anderson, Thedford
- Maren DeJonge, HTRS
- Kylie Hiatt, Shelby-Rising City



*SHELBY-RISING CITY ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL HEATHER THOMPSON, JACK MOLES, KYLIE HIATT, SHELBY-RISING CITY SUPERINTENDENT TUCKER TEJKL*



THEDFORD PRINCIPAL ADAM KUNTZ, JACEY ANDERSON, JACK MOLES



HTRS SUPT GEORGE GRIFFIN, JACK MOLES, MAREN DEJONGE, HTRS PRINCIPAL KIM CANIGLIA

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## **SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH & PLANNING**

**As Boards of Education and Superintendents start to plan for the future, there may be a change in Superintendent approaching your district.** We would like to remind you that NRCSA has an outstanding Superintendent Search Service and I would encourage your Board of Education to closely consider these services if you are in need of a Superintendent.

NRCSA has already helped the Axtell, Bancroft-Rosalie, Hampton, Hayes Center, Newman Grove, Potter-Dix, Sandy Creek and Superior Boards of Education identify their next Superintendent. We are currently assisting the Blue Hill Board of Education with their search for an Interim Superintendent.. We also assisted Red Cloud in a search for an Interim Superintendent.

One of the more outstanding features of the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service is that the consultants who assist Boards of Education with their searches are all retired rural school Superintendents who experienced great success in their careers. They know what it takes to be successful in a rural school district and community, and how to work closely with a rural school Board of Education. Our current consultants are: Jim Havelka, Fred Helminck, Robin Stevens, Rob Hanger, Caroline Winchester, Curtis Cogswell, Paul Sheffield, Mo Hanks, Mark Norvell, and Jay Bellar.

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

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

[NRCSA Search Service Brochure](#)

[NRCSA Planning Support Brochure](#)

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**Board of Education meeting visits.** Beginning in December, 2019, I started attending Board of Education meetings in member school districts/ESUs. Since then, I have attended 147 such meetings. I most recently attended the Board meetings at Shickley and Bruning-Davenport on Monday, March 9..

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

**MONDAY, APRIL 13:** Wallace

I have really enjoyed this venture and am willing to attend Board meetings when I can. I take a few minutes to cover NRCSA news and offerings, as well as a legislative update. When I am going to be in a specific area on Board meeting days I may send out a notice to near-by Superintendents to make an offer to visit. I'd like to be able to schedule two or three in the same evening if I can.

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



SHICKLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



*BRUNING-DAVENPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION*

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**NRCSA was well-represented at the National Rural Education Association’s Federal Advocacy Conference in Washington DC.** The Conference was held on March 23-25. Representing NRCSA were Executive Director Jack Moles, Legislative Co-Chair Bryce Jorgenson, and Executive Director-Elect Paul Sheffield.



NREA created documents that outlined our Federal legislative agenda. Those documents may be accessed here:

[Download NREA Policy Agenda](#)

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**The Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS)** has released a new research brief examining chronic absenteeism in Nebraska’s K–12 schools and its effect on student outcomes, including assessment scores, graduation rates, and college enrollment.

The analysis highlights that chronic absenteeism—defined as missing 10 percent or more of the school year for any reason—has risen sharply in Nebraska since the COVID-19 pandemic and remains persistently high. Rates jumped from 10 percent in 2019–2020 to nearly 24 percent the following school year and have since remained above 20 percent statewide.

Key Findings from the NSWERS brief:

- Nebraska’s chronic absenteeism rate has stabilized but remains elevated at more than one in five students.
- Disparities exist across student race/ethnicity, with Indigenous/Native American and Black students showing the highest rates of chronic absenteeism.
- Chronically-absent students consistently score lower on statewide assessments (NSCAS and ACT) compared to their peers.
- Chronic absenteeism greatly reduces the likelihood of graduating on time; students with regular attendance are nearly six times more likely to graduate high school than their chronically-absent peers.
- College-going rates show a significant divide: nearly 71 percent of non-chronically absent graduates enroll in postsecondary education compared to just 49 percent of chronic absentees.

*“These findings underscore the lasting impact of chronic absenteeism on students’ academic progress and future opportunities,” said Dr. Jay Jeffries, author of the brief. “Addressing absenteeism requires not only monitoring the type of absence but also understanding the characteristics of students who are chronically absent.”*

The full report, NSWERS Brief on the Impact of Chronic Absenteeism on Academic Outcomes in Nebraska, is available at:

<https://insights.nswers.org/briefs/2025-chronic-absenteeism>

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**A year ago, NRCSA introduced a new initiative to assist rural schools in educating their communities about digital citizenship.** Our partnership with A.Plum Creative will provide members with ready-to-use, research-based resources designed to help districts promote responsible technology use among students and families.

The program has its origins out of a goal by the Hershey Board of Education and Superintendent Jane Davis to work on digital citizenship in their district. The district worked with A.Plum Creative on the initiative, then shared information on the program with the NRCSA Executive Committee.

This research based, legally vetted campaign includes monthly social media graphics and captions that focus on key topics like online safety, respectful communication, digital wellness and appropriate tech use. All content is designed to engage school communities and support districts in meeting digital citizenship education goals.

We offer a set of tiered service options for NRCSA Member Districts:

- Tier 1 – NRCSA Branded Content (\$2,500/school year): Monthly graphics and captions with NRCSA branding, aligned to seasonal themes and events.
- Tier 2 – District-Branded Content (\$5,000/school year): Customized graphics and captions tailored to your district’s brand and messaging.
- Tier 3 – Custom Content + Consultation (\$7,500/school year): District-branded content plus three planning calls per year with A.Plum Creative.
- Tier 4 – Full Social Media Management (\$10,000/school year): District-branded content, full posting and scheduling, community engagement and monthly performance reports.

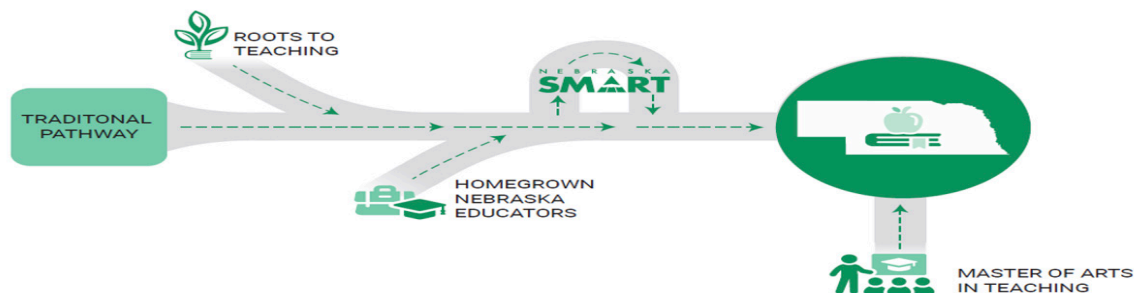
A few more NRCSA-member districts have since started working with A-Plum Creative. This campaign is available exclusively to NRCSA member districts. To learn more or reserve your spot, contact Anna Weber at [anna@a-plum.com](mailto:anna@a-plum.com) or visit [www.a-plum.com](http://www.a-plum.com).

### [Good Life EDU Podcast Featuring Anna Weber & Jane Davis](#)

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## Expanding the Educator Pipeline through Innovative Nebraska State College Initiatives.

### Educator Preparation Pathways



The Nebraska State Colleges (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne) are proactively addressing the growing teacher shortage across the state, particularly in rural communities. With their evolution beginning as Normal Schools to present, and approximately 28% of undergraduate students majoring in teacher education (the largest comprehensive major system-wide), the Colleges have long played a central role in preparing future educators.

However, as Nebraska faces increasingly urgent staffing shortages in K–12 classrooms, especially in high-need areas such as special education, early childhood, and STEM, the State Colleges continue to evolve to meet this challenge through four strategic initiatives.

**Nebraska Roots to Teaching (NRT)**, seeks to offer a high school-to-career educator pathway modeled after Washington State’s successful Recruiting Washington Teachers (RWT) program. Anchored in Wayne State College’s STEP (Students to Teachers through Educator Pathways) program, NRT is expanding dual credit options in education across the three colleges. High school students (especially first-generation and underrepresented learners) will be able to complete introductory education courses for dual credit, participate in campus-based experiences, and receive mentorship from teacher-mentors and college “navigators” throughout their transition into college and early teaching careers. Flexible modalities, financial incentives, and future paraeducator credentialing further broaden access for rural students.

The **Homegrown Nebraska Educators Apprenticeship Program** seeks to leverage new flexibility under Nebraska Department of Education Rules 20 and 21 to provide an alternative pathway to certification for paraprofessionals and place-bound adults. Building on Chadron State College’s pilot model, this initiative allows candidates to remain employed in their local districts while completing a bachelor’s degree and teacher certification. Courses are fully online and asynchronous, ensuring flexibility for working adults. The program emphasizes district-identified endorsement areas, such as special education and elementary education, and uses a competency-based credit model to reward relevant experience.

The **Nebraska SMART (Success Made Accessible through Rural Tutoring)** initiative connects teacher education candidates from the three State Colleges with K–12 students in their home districts through virtual tutoring. Focused on supporting rural schools, SMART offers academic help during afternoons and evenings while providing early, meaningful field experience for teacher candidates. By allowing candidates to serve students in their own communities, the program strengthens local ties and broadens access to educational support. SMART not only improves outcomes for K–12 learners but also enhances the preparation of future educators committed to serving Nebraska’s rural schools and communities.

Lastly, the **Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)** is a distinct, graduate-level program designed for individuals who hold a bachelor's degree in a core content area and seek teacher certification in Nebraska. Delivered fully online, the 18-credit core of the program ensures that individuals fully meet certification requirements and provides a flexible path to licensure, while the additional 18 credits of the graduate program provide options to complete the required content courses to qualify for teaching dual credit courses or work toward specific endorsement requirements. Individuals can choose to complete the core course which lead to certification without committing to the MAT; however, the completion of the MAT graduate program assists individuals in completing elective coursework that moves them toward their career goals. Unlike the Homegrown Nebraska Educators apprenticeship model, which supports paraprofessionals pursuing a bachelor's degree, the MAT serves adult career changers and professionals seeking a direct, advanced entry into the teaching profession. Together, these initiatives form a comprehensive ecosystem of entry points into the teaching profession. From high school dual credit options and rural tutoring roles to full apprenticeship models and flexible graduate pathways, the Nebraska State Colleges are creating scalable solutions to address Nebraska's critical teacher shortage, ensuring every community has access to well-prepared, locally rooted educators for years to come.

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**Chris Prosocki, formerly the Superintendent at Southern and now at Hastings, has shared a sample Superintendent Checklist that he uses.** I thought this was a great instrument, one that I wished I had available to me when I was in the Superintendency. It can be especially helpful as you head into the new school year! Thanks to Chris for sharing this! You can access the updated checklist here:

### **[Superintendent Check List](#)**

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**NRCSA has had the great privilege to work closely with Open Sky Policy Institute over the years.** They provide great information on the fiscal impact of legislation that is very helpful to me in my work as NRCSA's chief lobbyist. I would encourage Superintendents and Board of Education members to sign up to receive Open Sky's email updates.

Open Sky has developed some awesome **Nebraska Public School District Profiles** instruments. The instruments provide much information that can be used to tell the story of your district in comparison to other districts when discussing school finance. The instruments can be accessed at:

**<https://www.openskypolicy.org/school-district-profile/>**

The mission of OpenSky Policy Institute is to provide impartial and precise research, analysis, education and leadership on fiscal policy-improving opportunities for all Nebraskans. Subscribe to their email updates at **<https://bit.ly/OpenSkyUpdates>** or contact Todd Henrichs at **[thenrichs@openskypolicy.org](mailto:thenrichs@openskypolicy.org)**.

As we head into the new legislative session, Open Sky has shared a few more tools that can be especially helpful. A message from Rebecca Firestone, Executive Director for Open Sky shares:

*Dear friends,*

*On behalf of the team at OpenSky, I want to thank you for the work you have done to prepare for the important policy work ahead for all of us this year.*

*We wanted to take an opportunity to share a few quick reference materials we have developed that we think will be especially useful this session (attached).*

- 1. A one-page guide to TEEOSA, the K-12 public school funding formula. With significant changes promised to the formula in pursuit of property tax relief, we felt it was important to share the current state of play.*
- 2. A guide on the budget process, including a timeline, who is involved, and a breakdown of important components of the state budget. With a significant deficit heading into session, lawmakers will grapple*

*with complex decisions regarding spending. At OpenSky, we are ready to work towards a budget that reflects the priorities of Nebraskans and allows everyone a shot at The Good Life, and we look forward to partnering with you in this work.*

*I also wanted to introduce you to some new members of our team who you may interact with during the upcoming session:*

*Lillian Butler-Hale joins our team as Outreach and Engagement Director. She replaces Joey Adler Ruane, who will continue to support OpenSky for some time from his new role with the lobbying firm Lindsay Harr MacDonald. Lillian was most recently in the office of Senator Jen Day and will be a great asset to the team during this session. Please make sure to say hello when you see her in the rotunda.*

*Noah Rhoades just joined us in a new role as Outreach and Engagement Manager. He will support our legislative work as well as community engagement and outreach efforts, including coalition building. We are excited to have him on board.*

*We are also launching a refreshed website at [www.openskypolicy.org](http://www.openskypolicy.org), and last, but not least, we have moved! Same building, bigger office. Please make note that our new address is 1325 H Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, NE 68508. We look forward to welcoming you to our new space soon, when we are a little more settled.*

*We are excited to work alongside all of you this session, and here to be a resource. Don't hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on the team if you need us.*

*Onward,  
Rebecca*

[Open Sky TEEOSA Guide](#)

[Open Sky Budget Process Guide](#)

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**NRCSA is pleased to be in a partnership with New Leaf Teletherapy.** New Leaf provides mental health teletherapy services for both staff and students. I became very interested in this possibility especially in terms of staff services. I know our members are working hard to provide services for their students, but there does not appear to be that same capability when looking at staff services.

I look at this service as helping to bolster what your district is already doing, not to take the place of those efforts. I believe this can be a cost effective means of furthering your efforts.

NRCSA hosted three introductory Zoom meetings with Mark Goldman and Deb Romano of New Leaf to have them explain what the program would look like. Below you can access the slide show from those meetings, as well as a recording of one of the meetings.

[New Leaf PowerPoint Presentation](#)

[New Leaf Zoom Meeting \(recording\)](#)



[New Leaf Flyer](#)

If you would like to be in contact with Mark Goldman or Deb Romano, please feel free to call or email me and I can help make that happen.

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**NRCSA has developed a “resource” document to assist members when they want insight on a particular topic.** Often we are contacted and asked if we know of a school that has experience in a topic of interest. Many times we can point them in the right direction, but often we need to put out a request for information to the members. We have developed a list to begin from and already have some contact information on some of the topics. The plan is to feature this list in each of our monthly updates. Below is a link to a copy of the list. If you would be willing to be listed as a resource or if you would like to suggest other topics for inclusion, please contact Jack Moles.

### **[NRCSA School Programs](#)**

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**We urge you to consider participation in the NRCSA Partner OneCard program** as a tool for you in managing school expenditures, both large and small. Certainly, the card can help reduce/eliminate any issues relative to unverified cash expenditures. You decide who uses it, can get cards for each of those users, keep all cards wherever you wish, determine the amount to load on each individual card, and how long the time frame of use is. It is a terrific management tool and clearly identifies each expenditure/name/date/amount. Whether small purchases or very large purchases, the card is a terrific tool. NRCSA owns the state contract, so liability for misuse falls to NRCSA, not the district user. We have only had three circumstances of fraud and all three have been the theft of the card number information, not any district employee misuse. For 2024-25, over 100 districts/ESUs participated in the program. We currently have **109** entities using the program. In talking with some districts, there is a chance there could be upwards of 112 entities participating. Great job by all participating districts in protecting the card and program! Don't forget, the NRCSA rebate from the transaction fee paid by businesses that choose to accept plastic is used for scholarship, awards, and special needs. For 2024-25, the rebate was over \$34,000 to NRCSA, showing that use is increasing, and large purchases are being included. WIN, WIN, WIN! If you are considering joining the program and need more information, please contact Jack Moles ([jmoles@nrca.net](mailto:jmoles@nrca.net)) or Jeff Bundy ([jbundy@nrca.net](mailto:jbundy@nrca.net)).

U.S. Bank provided two webinars for those considering using the program or for those who are currently using it, but want to find out more about the program. The slides from the webinar are available below.

### **[U.S. Bank Commercial Card Program](#)**



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

**April 2026:**

**\* Jordan Larson, a graduate of Logan View, has been selected to the National High School Hall of Fame.**



**\* The NSAA's Above and Beyond program is designed to recognize and celebrate the outstanding individuals who make a meaningful impact within their communities. Whether it's a student, coach, community member, or parent, this award honors those who go the extra mile to support and uplift others. The NSAA recognizes an individual each week. Individuals from NRCSA member school districts who have been recognized recently are:**



**\* Nate Larsen of O'Neill was selected as the NSIAAA's State Athletic Administrator of the Year.**



**\* Several football players from NRCSA-member schools were selected to participate in the Shrine Bowl this summer. Included were:**

- NORTH TEAM: Brogan Benes (Boone Central), Treyvan Berry (Lexington), Wyatt Dent (Central City), Levi Gall (Clarkson-Leigh), Xavier Galloway (Mitchell), Jett Herian (Alliance), Wyatt Jelinek (Raymond Central), Dawson Johnson (Northwest), Tavion Johnson (Raymond Central), Boston Krueger (Pierce), Owen Kuchar (Bloomfield), Porter Mathews (O'Neill), Colt Meyer (Ord), Ben Monheiser (Sidney), Regan Raabe (Wisner-Pilger), Hayven Stewart (Plainview), Ryder Theisen (Pierce), Nate Vander Griend (West Point-Beemer), Grayson Vogt (Lakeview), Coy Vrbka (Shelby-Rising City), Blake Welchert (Fort Calhoun), Korbin Werner (Elkhorn Valley), Parker Zikmund (Central City)
- SOUTH TEAM: Canon Allen (Aurora), Nolan Asher (DC West), Kyler Boyles (Superior), Tristan Campbell (McCook), Oliver Corbett (McCook), Rhodoe Hill (Hershey), Hunter Holle (Syracuse), Ethan Latta (Dundy County Stratton), Nick Mousel (Adams Central), Maxwell Parde (Syracuse), Jack Poppe (Doniphan-Trumbull), Garrett Schoen (Milford), Carson Sieber (Deshler), Collin Stolpe (Aurora), Cole Vorderstrasse (Thayer Central)
- NORTH COACHING STAFF: Troy Schlueter (Arlington), Tony Kobza (Raymond Central), Jim Clarkson (Clarkson-Leigh), Zach Byrd (Fort Calhoun)
- SOUTH COACHING STAFF: Josh Lewis (Adams Central), Jake McLain (Holdrege), Mitchell Shepherd (Thayer Central)

**\* Milford won the Class C1 Girls State Basketball Championship. Malcolm was the Runner-up.**



*MILFORD-GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS!*

\* Pender won its 4th straight Girls State Basketball Championship by winning Class C2. Elkhorn Valley was the Runner-up.



PENDER-4 STRAIGHT!

\* Howells-Dodge was the Class D1 State Girls Basketball champion. Bloomfield was the Runner-up.



\* Dundy County Stratton won the Class D2 Girls State Basketball Championship. Wynot was the Runner-up.



\* DC West was the Class C1 Boys State Basketball Runner-up.

**\* Howells-Dodge won the Class D1 Boys State Basketball Championship. McCool Junction was the Runner-up.**



**\* NRCSA schools were recognized as the Nebraska Coaches Association Sportsmanship Award winners at the Girls and Boys State Basketball Tournaments. Included were:**

- CLASS C1 GIRLS: Holdrege
- CLASS C2 GIRLS: Elkhorn Valley
- CLASS D1 GIRLS: Bloomfield
- CLASS D2 GIRLS: Dundy County Stratton
- CLASS C2 BOYS: Freeman
- CLASS D1 BOYS: McCool Junction
- CLASS D2 BOYS: Pleasanton



- \* **Osmond was the Class D2 State Speech Champion. Chambers was the Runner-up.**
- \* **Riverside won the Class D1 State Speech Championship. Wausa was the Runner-up.**
- \* **Elmwood-Murdock was the Runner-up in the Class C2 State Speech Championships.**
- \* **Gothenburg was the Class C1 State Speech Champion.**



- \* **Many students from NRCSA-member schools won State Speech Championships. Included were:**

CLASS B:

- DUET ACTING: Aidan Bohnert and Colby Raulston (Wayne)
- ENTERTAINMENT: Sophia Spieker (Wayne)

CLASS C1:

- DUET ACTING: Brittany Sup and Katelyn Curry (Boone Central)
- ENTERTAINMENT: Makenna Devine (Boone Central)
- EXTEMPORANEOUS: Carson Reiman (Gothenburg)
- INFORMATIVE: Makenna Devine (Boone Central)
- ORAL INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA: Lathan Buesing, Mavrix Butterfield, Carter Kincheloe, Brant Miller and Carson Reiman (Gothenburg)
- SERIOUS PROSE: Ayden Jackson (Fillmore Central)
- PERSUASIVE: Carson Roland (Ogallala)

CLASS C2:

- EXTEMPORANEOUS: Myles Bishop (Perkins County)
- HUMOROUS PROSE: Ellie Meyer (Elmwood-Murdock)
- ORAL INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA: Kasey Fischbach, Kreyten Zimmerman, Charlie Thompson and Hayden Reznicek (Shelby-Rising City)
- POETRY: Emma Baldeh (Dundy County Stratton)
- SERIOUS PROSE: Owen Standage (Ravenna)

## Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

- PERSUASIVE: Emma Sauser (Plainview)
- POI: Shiloh Smith (Centura)

### CLASS D1:

- DUET ACTING: Braydon Hoelsing and Rogan Hoelsing (Wausa)
- ENTERTAINMENT: Luke Woockman (Wausa)
- EXTEMPORANEOUS: Kailey Hartman (Pawnee City)
- INFORMATIVE: Addyson Seamann (Riverside)
- HUMOROUS PROSE: Braydon Hoelsing (Wausa)
- ORAL INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA: Maverick Glathar, Ashlyn Puhalla, Larkyn Vlcek, Cael Johnson and Tyler Tegtmeyer (Pawnee City)
- POETRY: Bennett Novacek (Riverside)
- SERIOUS PROSE: Aspyn Molt (Riverside)
- PERSUASIVE: Natalie Clark (McCool Junction)
- POI: Bennett Novacek (Riverside)

### CLASS D2:

- DUET ACTING: Peyton Hofmann and Madi Zerr (High Plains)
- ENTERTAINMENT: Thomas Paxton (Stuart)
- EXTEMPORANEOUS: Ava Reikofski (Osmond)
- HUMOROUS PROSE: Taven Borchert (Lewiston)
- ORAL INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA: Peyton Hofmann, Rylee Hofmann, Madi Zerr and Garyt Lesiak (High Plains)
- POETRY: Graci Peterka (Maywood)
- SERIOUS PROSE: Rose Woepfel (Chambers)
- POI: Cheney Dishman (Callaway)

**\* District OR-1 Palmyra/Bennett band teacher John Furrow is Channel 10/11's March Golden Apple winner.**



\* **Clinton Hosick, McCook, has been recognized as the 2026 NCA-Hudl Strength & Conditioning Coach of the Year.**



\* **Tyler Legate of Pierce has been named the 2026 NCA-Hudl Wrestling Coach of the Year.**



\* **Scott Polacek, Howells-Dodge, is the 2026 NCA-Hudl Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.**



**\* Amy Arganbright, Valentine, is the 2026 NCA-Hudl Dance Coach of the Year.**



**\* Carrie Tabor, Kimball, has been named the 2026 NCA-Hudl Cheer Coach of the Year.**



**\* Several players from NRCSA-member schools have been selected to play in NCA's Senior Showcase Basketball Games. Included are:**

- GIRLS: Halle Dolliver (Malcolm), Madalyn Dolliver (Pender), Sonya Guzinski (Oakland-Craig), Jaisie Janssen (Crofton), Eden Peterson (Cross County), Clara Spargo (Dundy County Stratton), Karissa Stengel (Maywood-Hayes Center), Laren Sterup (North Bend), Halsey Thomalla (Gothenburg), Hadley Walsh (Pender)
- BOYS; Houston Billeter (Southwest), Isaac Couch (Yutan), Brody Koehler (Johnson-Brock), Carson McDonald (McCool Junction), Jack Poppe (Doniphan-Trumbull), Sawyer Smith (Ogallala)

**\* Coaches for the Nebraska Coaches Association's Senior Showcase Basketball Games to be played this summer have been announced. Coaches from NRCS-member schools are:**

- BOYS BLUE TEAM HEAD COACH: Bob Braithwait, Wallace
- BOYS BLUE TEAM ASS'T COACH: Jesse Gardner, Yutan
- BOYS RED TEAM ASS'T COACH: Ryon Nilson, Creighton
- GIRLS RED TEAM HEAD COACH: Scott Guzinski, Oakland-Craig
- GIRLS RED TEAM ASS'T COACH: Randy Eisenhauser, Elgin/Pope John
- GIRLS BLUE TEAM HEAD COACH: Jeff Thober, Shelton

**\* Each year, the NSAA and Nebraska Public Media, feature outstanding champions of the State Speech Contest in the “Best of the Best” show. This year’s feature will be on Sunday, April 26, at 2:00 p.m. CST. Selected from NRCSA-member schools are:**

- ENTERTAINMENT: Sophia Spieker (Wayne)
- HUMOROUS PROSE: Taven Borchert (Lewiston)
- UNIFIED SPEECH: Katie Hogancamp (Humphrey-Lindsay)
- INFORMATIVE: Makenna Devine (Boone Central)
- POETRY: Graci Peterka (Maywood)
- DUET ACTING: Braydon Hoelsing and Rogan Hoelsing (Wausa)
- ORAL INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA: Lathan Buesing, Mavrix Butterfield, Carter Kincheloe, Brant Miller and Carson Reiman (Gothenburg)

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## *Educational Service Unit 8*



**Location(s):** Main office in Neligh, Eastern Learning Center in Norfolk, Central Learning Center in Clearwater

**Interesting Fact:** ESU 8 is based out of Neligh, NE and serves almost 7 counties, 18 districts, about 13,000 students, and has a staff of 110.

Administrator: **Corey Dahl**

Board of Education: **Tim Lambert**, President; **Dr. Wende Heckert**, Vice President; **Charles Balsiger**, Secretary; **Craig Brewster**; **Bob Chilcoat Jr.**; **Gary Arehart**; **Troy Berryman**; **Beth Gentrup**; **Randy Jochum**; **Cindy Hild**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Recognitions:**

Board Member: President Tim Lambert



Since 1987, Tim Lambert has been a cornerstone of our Board of Directors, where he is currently serves in the role as President. For almost four decades, his deeply caring and thoughtful approach helps ESU 8 through both challenges and opportunities. We are incredibly fortunate to have his steady hand and enduring commitment at the helm.

Business Manager: Elleah Wiebelhaus



Elleah Wiebelhaus is an exceptionally knowledgeable and hard-working Business Manager who brings a detail-oriented approach to every facet of her work. Her expertise is broad. Her personal knowledge of HR, business operations, or board policies is met with dedication each day. She keeps so many things going at ESU 8 and are thankful to have her on our team.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## *Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools*



**Mascot:** Falcons

**Enrollment:** 228 students

**Location(s):** Hildreth grades 3-5 Wilcox grades PK-2, 6-12

Superintendent: **Justin Patterson**

Principal(s): **Joe Muhlbach**, Principal; **Luke Glenn**, Assistant Principal

Board of Education: **Kirk Nelson**, President; **Kert Hansen**, Vice-President; **Ryan Knaus**, Secretary; **Alan Casper**; **Teresa Carey**; **Chris Stuehm**

**Programs:**

FFA- Being a rural farming based community we have a strongly supported FFA Program. In the last 8 years we have constructed a new shop and classroom and two years ago we constructed a new greenhouse. We have 40 high school FFA members and 19 JH FFA members.



Play Production - The Wilcox-Hildreth Play Production team has maintained a consistent presence in competitive drama for more than 15 years. With a steady participation rate of 20-25 members annually, the program has built a reliable foundation for students to develop their performance skills and compete at the state level.

The program's history is marked by several notable achievements, beginning with a D1 State Championship in 2010 for their performance of "And Then There Was One." Since then, the team has qualified for the state competition multiple times: 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, and most recently 2025.

Through steady effort and collective teamwork, the Wilcox-Hildreth team continues to be a regular participant in the Nebraska play production community.



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## Updates from Members & Other Entities

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

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



### Nebraska SMART Update

#### Free One-on-One Tutoring Now Available for All Nebraska Students

#### Help us tell the Nebraska SMART story

We are gathering feedback from teachers, counselors, and school leaders to tell the story of how Nebraska SMART is making a difference in classrooms like yours. Your perspective is essential and will play a critical role in demonstrating the program's value to key stakeholders.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey here: [Testimonial Form](#).

Your responses will help us:

- Show how Nebraska SMART supports student learning and success
- Highlight its role in developing Nebraska's future teachers
- Share meaningful stories and outcomes with decision-makers

We especially encourage you to share specific examples or stories. These experiences are incredibly powerful in helping others understand the true impact of the program.

Thank you for all you do for your students, and for helping us tell the Nebraska SMART story.

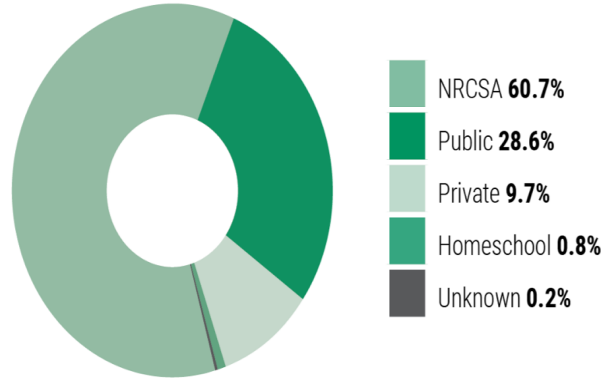
<b>TUTORING HOURS</b>  <b>Monday - Thursday</b> <b>3:30 to 8:30 PM CT</b>	Tutoring sessions are available after school, in the evenings, giving students the flexibility to get help when it works best for them. Each session is customized to meet the student's needs, whether they're catching up, preparing for a test, or seeking to strengthen key skills. <b>LAST DAY OF TUTORING: May 7</b> <b>Tutoring for Spring Semester:</b> <b>Jan. 12 – May 7</b>
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Nebraska SMART is helping students across the state reach their full academic potential through free, online tutoring available to all K–12 students. The program connects students with trained college tutors who provide personalized, one-on-one support in core subjects.

To date, Nebraska SMART tutors have completed more than **2,661** tutoring sessions, serving **1,029** students statewide. The program’s success is possible thanks to strong partnerships with schools and organizations across Nebraska, like NRCSA. These partnerships ensure that students, no matter where they live, have access to high-quality academic support.

## 1,029 STUDENTS SERVED

Since February 2024, 1,029 students have registered for free online tutoring with Nebraska SMART. The chart shows the distribution of students registered based on school type.

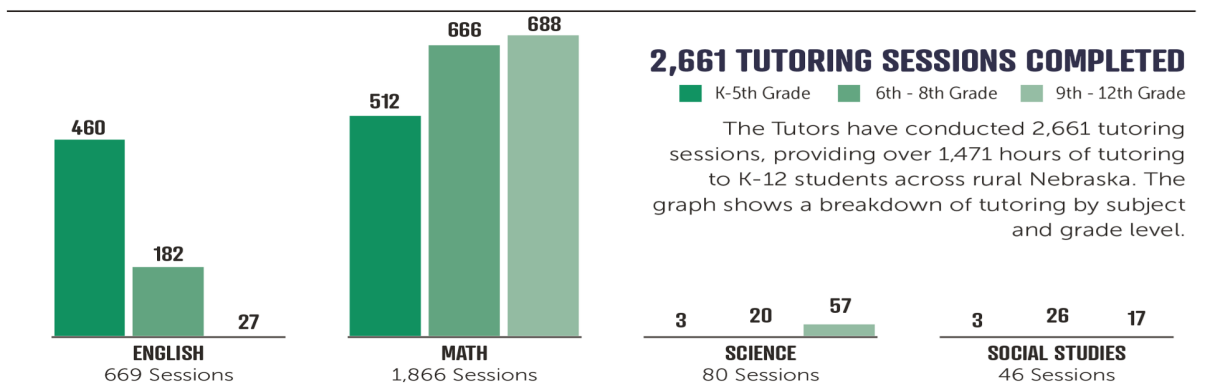


## How to Access Tutoring

To access tutoring, parents need to register their student(s) through our [website](#). After registering, parents and students can log in to schedule tutoring appointments or request on-demand tutoring with a Tutor. Students are encouraged to provide the homework or assignment for which they need help. Assignments can be uploaded to the secure classroom, sent to the Tutor in advance via message, or a picture can be taken of the assignment when connected to the Tutor in the classroom.

For NRCSA schools, Nebraska SMART offers a meaningful way to extend learning beyond the classroom without adding extra cost or staff burden. Teachers and school leaders are encouraged to share this opportunity with students and families and to remind them that free, one-on-one tutoring is just a click away. Please help promote this free service to your students and families by sharing our [flyer](#) (also available in [Spanish](#)).

Together, the Nebraska State Colleges, the Nebraska Department of Education, and NRCSA schools are making a statewide impact, helping every student build confidence, master challenging subjects, and stay on the path to success.



To learn more or help your students get started, visit [www.nscs.edu/nebraskasmart](http://www.nscs.edu/nebraskasmart) or contact Judi Yorges at [jyorges@nscs.edu](mailto: jyorges@nscs.edu).

**As we hear concern from rural districts concerning moves in the national front regarding the Department of Education, the National Rural Education Association (NREA) and the National Education Association (NEA) have combined to share a website outlining the amount of federal funding that goes to public schools.** The website can be accessed here:

### **[How Much Funding Does My Public School Get from the Federal Government](#)**

Dr. Steven Johnson, a member of the NREA Executive Committee, provided a document entitled, “Strengthening Rural Communities Through Public Education”. Many of you had an opportunity to meet Steve at the NRCSA Spring Conference. His article may be accessed here:

### **[Strengthening Rural Communities Through Public Education](#)**

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, along with the Food Research and Action Center, has drawn attention to the possibility that the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) might be substantially altered. This change could have a negative impact on several school districts in Nebraska. The following website provides a great overview of the concern and allows the viewer to go specifically to Nebraska to see how the change could affect districts.

### **[State by State Fact Sheet](#)**

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**The ESUCC and ESU 3 have shared a document which outlines all of the trainings and mandates that are required of districts.** The document, “School District Plans, Policies, and Annual Trainings Requirements”, is a handy reminder for districts. Thanks to ESUCC Executive Director Kraig Lofquist and ESU 3 Administrator Dan Schnoes for developing and distributing this handy tool. The document may be accessed here:

### **[School District Plans, Policies, & Annual Trainings](#)**

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

### **[Board Member Onboarding](#)**

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#### **From Rebecca Vogt, UNL**

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

### **[Well Being of Rural Nebraskans](#)**

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#### **From Jay Martin, NDE Director of School Safety & Security**

Hello All,

Time for the home stretch to the end of another school year! I hope it all goes well with all the events planned this spring.

Below you will find the School Safety Newsletter and information. The main question to look for is a Threat

Assessment Survey. We are gaging schools' interest in future Threat Assessment trainings. The last page has a breakdown of the three Threat Assessment trainings offered by UNLPPC. Please take a moment to complete this survey by April 15, 2025.

Remember to apply for your Diamond status Safety Badge to display at your school letting your school community know you "Place School Safety First!"

Thanks for all you do in school safety.

## **School Safety Newsletter Spring 2025**

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### **UNL Extension Center: Embracing Innovation: Exploring the Dynamics of New Partnerships**

Developing business & Industry, organizational, and postsecondary partnerships with school districts can play a pivotal role in enriching the educational experience, supporting student achievement, and strengthening connections between schools and their communities. By leveraging external resources, expertise, and support, schools can create a more inclusive, engaging, and supportive learning environment for all students. While partnerships within school districts can bring numerous benefits, there are also challenges that may be encountered. These can be overcome by fostering a culture of collaboration, prioritizing communication and relationship-building, seeking creative funding solutions, and promoting equity and inclusivity in partnership efforts. Additionally, leveraging support from district leadership, community stakeholders, and external resources can help schools overcome obstacles and maximize the benefits of collaborative partnerships.

We in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), specifically the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR) and Nebraska Extension 4-H, believe this strategy for K-12 partnerships will result in a strong learning innovation network of support for every learner and every educator in the state of Nebraska. The world of higher education is evolving, driven by changes in technology, demographics, workforce demands, and societal expectations. To meet the needs of today's learners in the 21st century and prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow, we are embracing innovation, collaboration, and a student-centered approach.

In recent years, CASNR has created two new positions to help in this work. Dr. Tammy Mittelstet ([tmittelstet@unl.edu](mailto:tmittelstet@unl.edu)) is serving as the CASNR Statewide Education and Career Pathways Coordinator and Bailey Feit ([bailey.feit@unl.edu](mailto:bailey.feit@unl.edu)) serves as the LPS/CASNR Early College and Career Pathways Coordinator. They engage in co-creating education and career pathways for students and supporting teachers by:

- creating opportunities and minimizing barriers for all learners in the exploration of education and career pathways,
- investing in and supporting teachers to innovate and integrate cross-curricular concepts of Food, Energy, Water, and Societal Systems (FEWSS) throughout K-12 education,
- encouraging our higher education institutions to share content expertise to build curriculum that will inform best practices in the areas of FEWSS and mentor future systems thinkers for the continuum of learners through our higher education institutions,
- connecting and developing a team of community leaders to build partnerships that combine resources to support student and teacher innovation, and
- building a workforce of tomorrow with the support of the industry of today by developing work-based learning opportunities.

If you would like to get monthly updates, consider signing up for the L.I.N.K.S. newsletter at <https://casnr.unl.edu/k-12-partners>.

Nebraska Extension brings University of Nebraska expertise and research in 8 key areas of impact directly to Nebraskans from all walks of life in each of the state's 93 counties. Nebraskans turn to Nebraska Extension to strengthen their families, inspire their communities, empower young people, conserve and protect natural resources and advance their farms, ranches and businesses. Nebraska 4-H represents one of the eight key areas,

and has been a leader in the career and college readiness field by being one of the first in the country to support a statewide educator position and team to provide leadership in program development and delivery.

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**The National Rural Education Association (NREA) is proud to release Why Rural Matters 2025—the 11th edition in a long-standing series of reports that examine the contexts and conditions of rural education across all 50 states.** This report continues the critical mission of drawing attention to the urgent need for policymakers, educators, and communities to address rural education challenges and opportunities within their own states.

Since its inception, the Why Rural Matters series has sought to make publicly available data more accessible and actionable. The overarching goal remains clear: to promote informed, civil dialogue about our shared civic responsibility to ensure that every student—rural or urban—has access to high-quality educational opportunities.

New in this year’s edition is the inclusion of Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. In his topical essay, Alex Red Corn provides critical insights into the significance of BIE schools, which educate students from multiple tribes and nations with unique histories and cultures. The report carefully distinguishes between “states” proper and BIE schools while underscoring their shared place in the broader rural education landscape. The analyses and data presented in Why Rural Matters 2025 are intended to inform policy discussions, guide decision-making, and inspire action. The report highlights states that have demonstrated measurable progress over time, highlighting examples where thoughtful policy interventions have led to improved outcomes for rural students. These stories of progress offer valuable lessons and serve as evidence that strategic, context-sensitive policies can make a tangible difference in the lives of rural learners.

Data used in Why Rural Matters 2025 come from public sources: the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the United States Department of Education, the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

The National Rural Education Association is proud to launch the 2025 Why Rural Matters report, a project with a more than 20-year history of shaping the conversation about rural education. First conceptualized by the Rural Schools and Community Trust, the report has evolved into a vital resource for policymakers, educators, and communities. Today, NREA carries this important work forward, ensuring that the voices, needs, and strengths of rural schools and students remain at the forefront of education policy and practice nationwide. We are also grateful to the Rural Schools Collaborative, whose continued support strengthens NREA’s work on behalf of rural schools, educators, and students across the country.

I would encourage you to take a look at WHY RURAL MATTERS, which can be accessed here:

### **[Why Rural Matters 2025](#)**

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**The National Rural Education Association (NREA) partnered with AASA in producing a report on REAP.** REAP is a program that benefits many of our smaller districts. The report can be accessed here:

**<https://www.aasa.org/docs/default-source/resources/reports/rural-education-achievement-program-survey-report.pdf>**

### **[Understanding REAP](#)**

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The NCA & Proactive Coaching partner to bring Coach Bruce Brown's legendary insights about the parent's role in education-based athletics to your school & community.

Book your School's Presentation

Parent Meetings or Special Events

# THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION-BASED ATHLETICS

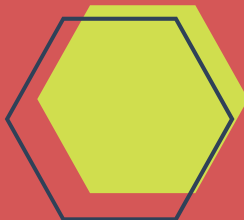
PRESENTED BY DARIN BOYSEN, NCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Outstanding information, well delivered. There were times I thought he was talking directly to me, which is a sign of a great communicator. I personally feel I'm better today than yesterday as a sports parent because I was able to listen to this message." – Parent & School Board Member



### Before the Season

- What do Athletes/Kids Really Want?
- Releasing Your Son/Daughter to the Experience
- Parental Red Flags



### During the Game/Event

- Modeling Appropriate Behavior
- Big Picture
- One Instructional Voice



### After the Game/Event

- Time & Space
- Confidence Building
- Relationship Building
- Six Powerful Words

#### NEBRASKA COACHES ASSOCIATION

500 Charleston St, Ste 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
402-310-5472 | darin@ncacoach.org

#### Official Association Endorsements as of September 1





**Nebraska School Administrators & School Board Members,**

The Nebraska Coaches Association (NCA) is excited to announce a partnership with Proactive Coaching to bring Coach Bruce Brown's legendary insights about "The Role of Parents in Education-Based Athletics" to your school and community. Please see the attached flyer for highlights/focus of the in-person presentation.

NCA Executive Director, Darin Boysen, will begin travel across Nebraska multiple times throughout the 2024-2025 school year to deliver this powerful and passionate message. The NCA, Proactive Coaching and Darin are partnering to bring this message to your school at a **50% discounted rate from the standard Proactive Coaching in-person booking fee.**

**Presentation Details:**

45-Minute Parent Presentation with One School or Combined Schools

- Single school presentations are recommended but not required
- One presentation = one fee (no additional fee for schools merging)

Audio/Visual Requirements from the Host School:

- Overhead Projector with HDMI Connection
- Screen or Scoreboard Display
- Microphone

**Cost – Payable the Day of Presentation:**

- Within 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
  - \$750 flat rate
- Beyond 75 miles of Lincoln/150 miles Round Trip
  - \$750 flat rate
  - 50 Cents per mile Round-Trip -OR- Cost of a Rental Vehicle/Gas
  - In some cases, a rental car may be cheaper for longer distances
  - Hotel Expense – if needed
- **Please Note:** Working together with other area schools to book separately on consecutive days of the week can greatly save travel and lodging expenses

**The following booklets authored by Bruce Brown will be available for purchase for \$5 each (15% discount) after the presentation or ordered by the school in advance:**

- *The Role of Parents in Athletics*
- *Playing with Confidence*
- *Life Lessons for Athletes*

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the presentation or booking a date.  
All the best,

*Darin Boysen*

Darin Boysen  
Nebraska Coaches Association

**Official Association Endorsements – as of September 1**



**The National Rural Education Association, of which NRCSA is a member, works closely with the the Committee for Education Funding (CEF) on federal policy issues.** Following is an update on education issues on the federal level from CEF:

## **I. Policy Intelligence and Education News**

**Department of Education's website is periodically offline** – The Department of Education's (ED's) website ([www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)) has been repeatedly offline today, with some of the career and technical education and adult education sites down since last night. I asked the education authorizing committee and Appropriations Committee staffers if this is related to the government shutdown and having no staff there to fix a technical problem or is this a statement of the Administration's intention to close ED; apparently it is an inadvertent technical issue. I wouldn't normally assume nefarious intentions, but this year has demonstrated that the Administration is working to dismantle ED from within. The website glitches serve to as a reminder that if there is information on the ED website that you regularly use, you should download it and save it elsewhere.

**Judge extends order halting layoffs of federal employees during the shutdown** – Yesterday a federal judge extended her original order that temporarily stopped the Administration from firing federal employees during the shutdown, which had included about 465 employees at ED. The Administration is now prohibited from making a reduction in force (RIF) during the government shutdown. So those employees given RIF notices in early October now likely have their jobs for the time being but most are furloughed and not being paid. See [CNBC article](#) for details.

**Government shutdown continues** – The government has been mostly shut down for more than four weeks now, with apparently no high-level talks about how to resolve the conflicts; the House has been in recess since mid-September. Proposals to pay specific groups of federal employees – those still working, or those at specific agencies – and to continue funding specific programs – such as SNAP benefits – have not passed the Senate. The impacts of the shutdown will be felt more widely this week as federal employees except for troops get no October paycheck, the Administration is not using a contingency fund to pay SNAP benefits on November 1 so 42 million beneficiaries will be without income for food, some federally supported programs that had been kept open this month with leftover funds will shut down, and Obamacare health care premiums for 2026 get posted that do not include a subsidy that

is expiring. These actions result from choices that Congress and the Administration are making. When there is a will to spend federal funds – for instance, for billions of dollars of tax breaks in Republicans' bill this summer, for an emergency response or financial bailout – or to cut funds – for instance, for student loans, for research, for SNAP benefits or Medicaid - Congress can pass legislation that spends more or cuts funding, or that provides a tax break or tax increase.

**Fact sheets from House Appropriations Committee Republicans and Democrats** – Yesterday both House Appropriations Committee Democrats and Republicans posted material that bolster their opposing positions:

Republican press release listing 300+ groups supporting the House-passed funding bill to reopen the government – The [press release](#) lists hundreds of organizations that support the House-passed bill, including many representing agricultural and business interests, the airline industry, chambers of commerce, veterans groups, and conservative interest organizations.

Democratic [fact sheet](#) about how Administration actions “make their shutdown more painful” – The Democratic fact sheet lists three ways that the Administration's actions are making the shutdown more painful for Americans: the mass layoffs announced in early October (now paused due to the District Court judge mentioned above, but I'd expect the Administration to appeal); executive orders to cancel funding to specific cities or state led by Democrats; and delaying or withholding funding for programs that have a source of funding available, like SNAP and some emergency assistance programs.

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**Three years ago, NRCSA began a Principal Search Service.** This service is patterned after our successful Superintendent Search Service. Two options are available. Both options will involve NRCSA consultants recruiting candidates for the position. One option will involve the NRCSA consultant making background calls, while the reduced version of the service will place that role with the Superintendent. If you are interested in getting more information about the service now, please contact Jack. Here is a brochure outlining the service.

[NRCSA Principal Search Brochure](#)

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**Chadron State College Special Education Para-to-Teacher Program Initiative.**

**Purpose:** This “Grow Your Own” Special Education Teacher program is designed to provide school districts with the opportunity to cultivate and participate in the training of their para-professionals who wish to continue their education to become special education teachers.

**Who:** Any individual who holds a minimum of an Associate’s Degree (or equivalent credit hours) from an accredited higher education institution, and who is employed as a para-professional within a school district. **What:** Chadron State will provide required course work and enrichment activities via online, face-to-face (via Zoom), and on the job experiential learning, leading to a Bachelor’s in Education Degree, and a Nebraska Teaching Certificate with an endorsement in Special Education (grades PK-12). With administrator input, program course work will be tailored to best fit your district practices and expectations. Each course will be offered in an 8-week format, with 12-13 credit hours to be completed each 16 week semester.

**How:** Program participants will be advised, monitored, and supported by CSC faculty/staff, and a CSC Education Program liaison is specifically assigned to facilitate their progress. District para-professionals may enter the program at any time in the academic year.

**When:** once participants reach their senior academic year they will embark on completing their capstone course work, via online and Zoom class sessions. This course work has been pared down considerably with the understanding and assumption that these student teachers will be learning “on-the-job”. For example, one section covers classroom management practices. Clearly, one can argue and attest that these student teacher interns are learning more about managing a classroom from being mentored by veteran teachers within your school, and observing them in action. This is the belief and learning approach embraced during this senior year. However, to ensure and assess concept learning, Chadron State faculty will be meeting with your student teacher cohort twice per week for 1.5 hours, via Zoom conferencing technology.

**Graduation:** At the completion of this program students/candidates graduate from Chadron State College, and apply for teaching licensure resulting in a valid initial teaching certificate with and endorsement in PK-12 Special Education. Chadron State’s education program is nationally and State accredited. As such, interstate certification reciprocity is not a problem.

**Things for your consideration:**

- 1) To qualify for this program participants must hold at least an Associate’s Degree or the equivalent in college credit hours. *(CSC will work with those applicants to provide them with the needed coursework leading up to program entry).*
- 2) Districts must agree to maintain para-professional employment throughout the course of the program—including during the student teaching experience.

Please contact Dr. Adam Fette for more program information, at [afette@csc.edu](mailto:afette@csc.edu).

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**NRCSA developed a corporate sponsorship/partnership program.** The program is designed to provide our corporate partners with more opportunities for contact with the decision makers in our member school districts, ESUs, and the colleges through increased exposure. Corporate partners are able to choose among three levels of sponsorship: Purple Ribbon Partners, Blue Ribbon Friends, and Red Ribbon Sponsors. Different forms of contact with our members are made available in each of the three levels.

We are very pleased to partner with our corporate sponsors, and NRCSA is so very thankful that each of you has chosen to partner with us.

 apptegy × schoolceo

# We Take Them All

## What It Takes to Reach All in Your District

Over the years, SchoolCEO has published nearly 200 podcast episodes. While we've spotlighted many illuminating perspectives, one of the most impactful was Jamie Vollmer's "blueberry story."

Vollmer is not an educator; he's a businessman. He used to run the Great Midwestern Ice Cream Company—once lauded by People magazine as the best ice cream in America. Way back in 1988, he accepted an invitation to speak to Iowa teachers about what was wrong with schools. He came in with three assumptions: First, that schools needed to change; second, that the people inside were the problem; and third, that if they'd just run schools like businesses, everything would be fine. Those assumptions wouldn't last for long.

Fifteen minutes into Vollmer's presentation, the teachers stopped grading papers and started glaring. When he opened for questions, a 27-year veteran English teacher stood up. She asked about his ice cream ingredients—only the finest, naturally. She asked what he'd do if a shipment of blueberries arrived below his standards. "I'd send them back," Vollmer said.

"That's right. You would send them back. We can never send back our blueberries," she said.

**"We take them all—big, small, rich, poor, hungry, abused, brilliant, creative, curious, cautious, frightened, with ADHD, with English as their second language. We take them all. And that's why it's not a business. It's school."**

Ever since, Vollmer has been an advocate for public schools and the "all means all" mandate and mission, sharing his blueberry story in his speeches and workshops across the nation.

"All means all" applies to more than just students. When you promise to serve all students, your communication systems need to reach all families, all stakeholders, your broader school community, everyone.

Not just those who are ripe for engagement. But delivering on that promise takes more than just commitment—it takes the right tools.

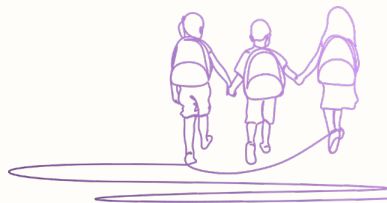
Every one of your countless stakeholders has their own challenges and realities, and they're all happening simultaneously. On any given evening, a parent might be checking their phone for schedule changes. A grandmother may be navigating your school app for the first time. A Spanish-speaking family may be running district communication through a third-party translation tool, hoping it's accurate. This is what "all means all" actually looks like in practice: simultaneous communication with stakeholders who experience your district in completely different ways.

That teacher was right—as public schools, you don't choose your students. You don't choose your families. That means you have a responsibility to communicate with all your families effectively, not just those who are easy to reach. When your communication infrastructure fails to serve everyone, it creates a two-tier system where privileged families get information effortlessly while vulnerable and disengaged families have to navigate fragmented chaos to get it.

### The Complexity Tax

Without integration, every communication tool you adopt adds to that chaos and actually reduces your reach. One vendor for your website. Another for parent notifications. A third for staff portals. A fourth for social media. A fifth for brand management. A sixth for community engagement. A seventh for board reporting. Seven logins, seven vendor relationships, seven points of failure.

Call it the complexity tax. The families who pay highest are your most vulnerable—the very "blueberries" the teacher was talking about. The grandmother can't navigate seven platforms. The hourly worker misses a notification because it went to the wrong channel. The English language learner's family keeps missing details because they were lost in translation.



Scan here to listen to our interview with Jamie Vollmer on the **SchoolCEO Podcast.**



This isn't a technology problem. It's an equity problem disguised as a technology problem. You can't send back the blueberries your community sends you—nor would you want to. So you must build infrastructure that enables you to actually reach them.

### What "All-In" Infrastructure Looks Like

Districts that work with Aptegey have made a decision that honors the blueberry principle: If they're taking all students (and they must), they need systems that reach all families. Aptegey's platform isn't yet another tool—it's a foundation for district communication that reaches all and delivers on education's inclusive mandate.

#### 🔗 All In on Reach.

Whether a facility emergency strikes at 5:52 a.m. or you want to celebrate a student success, a single administrative action lets your message reach each stakeholder group exactly as it should. You can send app notifications to connected families or make phone calls for those without smartphones. You can brief staff with role-specific instructions, send the board alerts or update your entire community. You can even provide culturally contextualized translations for multilingual households—all from one system. No family is left wondering if they missed something. No "blueberry" gets left behind because they couldn't navigate your seven-vendor maze.

#### 📣 All In on Brand.

Your brand isn't your logo; it's your values. The teacher in the blueberry story was defending a fundamental value: We serve everyone. Unified infrastructure means your communication reflects that value consistently. Every message, every channel, every stakeholder group receives information that says "You belong here"—not "Figure out our system or get left behind." Vendor sprawl and unknown logos push the very people you want close to you further away. That's why Aptegey puts your district's brand—not our own—at the center of all communication.

#### 🔒 All In on Safety.

At its heart, communication is about building trust. That's why Aptegey has always invested in best-in-class security for websites and data. In 2025, we launched AI-powered moderation that proactively keeps staff, students and families safe. Not only does this feature prevent unsafe

communication, it also saves administrators countless hours in the process.

This isn't just about choosing a vendor. It's about recognizing that mission-critical functions require mission-appropriate infrastructure. When your foundational promise is "We take them all," your communication systems must operationalize that promise every single day.

### The Question Facing Every District

Most superintendents know their communication infrastructure has gaps. They've lived the 5:52 a.m. crisis. They've watched levy information fail to reach voters. They've seen new families excluded—not by policy, but by systems that didn't engage them.

So the question isn't whether your systems have gaps. The question is: How much longer will you let your communication undermine the "we take them all" promise? Every day that your most vulnerable families struggle to navigate multiple fragmented systems, every day that privileged families receive information effortlessly by contrast, is another day "we take them all" remains aspiration rather than operational reality.

Aptegey has partnered with more than a third of all U.S. public school districts and many individual schools. We're all in on your mission: to serve every student by reaching every family, building community trust, and making sure that "all means all" is possible.

The teacher in the blueberry story was right: This isn't a business. It's school. In business, you can send back the blueberries. In public education, you take them all. And that's exactly why your communication infrastructure must be better, more sophisticated and more inclusive than any business would ever need—to reach them all.

Meet with Aptegey and see how our communications platform can help you go all in on reaching and engaging your entire community.

#### Request a Demo

Discuss a strategy for your district to reach everybody, on brand, and safely.

[aptegey.com/demo](https://aptegey.com/demo)



# Purple Ribbon Partners



### **Apptegy**

Alex Brownstein  
2201 Brookwood Dr, Suite 115  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
Phone: (832) 722.3053  
conferenceteam@apptegy.com



CORNHUSKER  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRUCKS

### **Cornhusker International Trucks**

Russ Folts  
3131 Cornhusker Hwy  
Lincoln, NE 68504  
Phone: (402) 304-4016  
russ.folts@cornhuskerinternational.com



### **Cheever Construction**

Doug Klute  
3425 N 44th St  
Lincoln, NE 68504  
Phone: (402) 477-6745  
dklute@cheeverconstruction.com



### **DA Davidson**

Paul Grieger  
450 Regency Parkway, Suite 400  
Omaha, NE 68114  
Phone: (402) 392-7984  
pgrieger@dadco.com



### **Clark Enersen Partners**

Steve Miller  
1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
Phone: (402) 430-3803  
steve.miller@clarkenersen.com



### **DLR Group**

Emily O'keeffe  
6457 Frances St, Suite 200  
Omaha, NE 68106  
Phone: (402) 393-4100  
eokeeffe@dlrgroup.com



### **CMBA Architects**

Troy Keilig  
208 N Pine ST, Ste 301  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
Phone: (308) 384-4444  
keilig.t@cmbaarchitects.com



### **Facility Advocates**

Dave Raymond  
3738 S 149th St, Suite 102  
Omaha, NE 68144  
Phone: (402) 206-8777  
draymond@facilityadvocates.com



# Purple Ribbon Partners



construction | the people you build with

## **MCL Construction**

Travis Justice  
14558 Portal Circle  
Omaha, NE 68138  
Phone: (402) 339-2221  
tkj@mcconstruction.com



## **Network For Educator Effectiveness (NEE)**

Marc Doss  
288 Maguire Blvd  
Columbia, MO 65211  
Phone: (844) 793-4357  
dossm@missouri.edu



Roofing and Building Maintenance

## **Tremco Roofing**

Jim Wolfsohn  
3735 Green Road  
Beachwood, OH 44122  
Phone: (909) 302-0617  
jim.jwolfsohn@tremcoinc.com



## **Voss Lighting**

Mike Little  
4624 S 140th St  
Omaha, NE 68137  
Phone; (402) 850-9789  
mike.little@vosslighting.com



**WILKINS**

ARCHITECTURE | DESIGN | PLANNING

## **Wilkins Architecture, Design, Planning**

Jacob Sertich  
2204 University Dr, Suite 130  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Phone: (308) 237-5787  
jsertich@wilkinsadp.com

## Contact Information

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### **NRCSA**

Jack Moles, Executive Director  
(402) 335-7732  
[jmoles@nrcea.net](mailto:jmoles@nrcea.net)

Jeff Bundy, Office Manager  
(402) 202-6028  
[jbundy@nrcea.net](mailto:jbundy@nrcea.net)

### **Legislative Contacts**

#### **U.S. Senators**

[Deb Fischer](#)

[Pete Ricketts](#)

#### **U.S. House of Representatives**

[Don Bacon](#)

[Mike Flood](#)

[Adrian Smith](#)

#### **Nebraska Governor**

[Jim Pillen](#)

#### **NE State Senators**

[Bob Andersen, Dist 49](#)

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## *NRCSA Programs*

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[Planning Support Service](#)

[Scholarship and Awards Programs](#)

[Superintendent Search Service](#)

[USBank OneCard Program](#)



*NRCSA Rural Community Schools Association*  
*440 S 13th St, Suite B*  
*Lincoln, NE 68508*



[www.nrcsa.net](http://www.nrcsa.net)



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